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# **Coop Grapples with News Of Arsenic in Rice**

Lacking FDA Guidance, Consumers Must Protect Themselves

By Willow Lawson

Rice, that humble and healthy staple, has suddenly found itself in the company of foods like tuna, red meat and vegetable shortening—foods scientists say we should eat in moderation. A study released last month found that rice grown in the United States often contains levels of the carcinogen arsenic that far exceed levels allowed in drinking water.

The bad news is that organic rice, the kind the Park Slope Food Coop sells by the ton, is not immune to arsenic contamination. Even rice that is carefully farmed without pesticides can wind up with high levels of the poison. That's because arsenic has multiple sources-it can naturally occur in soil or water, or be the lingering residue from decades-ago pesticide use. Rice plants are also extraordinarily adept at soaking Rice has an affinity for absorbing naturally up available arsenic occurring arsenic in the soil.

much more so than other grains, such as wheat or oats, grown in the same soil.

Another complication for consumers is the fact that rice usually contains two different kinds of arsenic: organic and inorganic. Organic arsenic is not harmful. However, inorganic arsenic—which is the focus of this story—is stored in the human body and is known to cause skin, lung, bladder and kidney cancers. It is con-

sidered especially bad for children. Inorganic arsenic is the form that concerns the Environmental Protection Agency, which caps the allowable level at 10 parts per billion (ppb) in drinking water. New Jersey has an even stricter limit of 5 ppb.

When researchers find arsenic in food, as they have been doing for decades now, the U.S. government doesn't do much about it. So when a huge study of rice products by Consumer

now, the U.S. government doesn't do much about it. So when a huge study of rice products by Consumer Reports magazine last month found "worrisome" levels of arsenic in everything from baby food to organic rice sold by Whole Foods, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) didn't tell consumers that many rice products

could be harmful to their health or that of their children. It didn't issue an alert to avoid certain products or recommend that they be removed from grocery store shelves. Despite pressure from

consumer advocacy groups, the FDA has not indicated any plans to regulate arsenic levels in food, although it did announce that it has tested rice for arsenic for about 20 years.

The FDA does monitor food for some health risks. The Coop keeps a close watch on those warnings. Most often, they warn of bacterial contamination of meat, cheese and processed

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Dr. Bronner's Pure Castile Soap varieties—lavender, tea tree and almond—on sale at the Coop.

# The Expanding Legacy Of Dr. Bronner

By Lily Rothman

 $E^{
m manuel}$  Heilbronner, the original Dr. Bronner of Dr. Bronner's Magic Soaps, was born in 1908—and the company he founded, starting with liquid peppermint soap, has grown into a major force in the natural body-care world. Dr. Bronner's products, with their distinctive labels, their tiny lettering spelling out a philosophy of peace and cleanliness, can be found at the Coop and all over the world. Mike Bronner, Emanuel Heilbronner's grandson and current vicepresident of the family business, spoke to the Linewaiters' Gazette about the company's history and the importance of natural products.

#### Gazette: Could you tell us the story of how your grandfather started the company, and how it grew to what it is today?

We're a third-generation soap-making company here in America; we go five generations if you go back to Germany, where my great-grandfather was basically a soap boiler. He studied to be a soap boiler through the

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#### **Next General Meeting on October 30**

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month.\* The next General Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 30, at 7:00 p.m. Location to be announced.

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

\* Exceptions will be posted.

# Coop Event Highlights

Fri, Oct 5 • Film Night:
Granito: How to Nail a Dictator 7:00 p.m.

Tue, Oct 9 • Safe Food Committee Film Night: Groundswell 7:00 p.m.

Sat-Sun, • Food Drive to Benefit CHIPS Soup Kitchen Oct 13-14 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Fri, Oct 19 • Wordsprouts: Dad Bloggers Talk Food, Family and Writing 7:00 p.m.

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

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#### **Arsenic in Rice**

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foods. In August, the FDA warned that a brand of ricotta salata cheese sold by the Coop might have been tainted with listeria. The Coop's computerized sales records allowed staffers to look up the some 300 members who had bought the cheese, call them and tell them not to eat it. The Coop's twitter feed (@foodcoop) also alerted its nearly 4,000 followers to the recall

> A study released last month found that rice grown in the United States often contains levels of the carcinogen arsenic that far exceed levels allowed in drinking water.

"We try to keep our eyes and our ears open," said Joe Holtz, a General Coordinator and one of the Coop's original founders. "When [problems] reach our ears, we take them seriously."

When it comes to arsenic, however, the Coop's leadership and consumers everywhere are left without clear ways to protect themselves. In 2011, when the news media focused heavily on arsenic found in various kinds of apple juices, Coop staffers studied the issue and removed one brand from Coop shelves. Last February, after the apple juice controversy faded, an independent Dartmouth College study found high levels of arsenic in 15 baby foods, including the organic baby formula, Baby's Only, that the Coop sells. The main ingredient, brown rice syrup, was heavily contaminated by arsenic,

according to the study. Despite coverage by ABCNews.com, National Public Radio and other media outlets, that information never reached the Coop staff. No members brought it to their attention. The FDA didn't issue any alert. At the time, Nature's One, the maker of Baby's Only, disputed the findings and said their own tests found only "traces" of the carcinogen. (This reporter, whose son had previously consumed the formula and saw that it remained on the shelves, assumed the Coop had investigated and found that the formula passed muster.)

Holtz says the Coop doesn't have the resources to conduct its own lab tests of the food it sells and noted that the staff relies on members to forward news that may fly under their radar. "We try to select things carefully...We don't have to have anything that's not quality." Holtz noted that the Coop has never car-



#### The Arsenic Avoidance Diet

It's impossible to entirely escape arsenic in the environment. It's in the air, water and soil. But you can take steps to avoid it.

- 1. Vary your diet, especially grains.
- 2. Limit children's intake of processed rice products and rice drinks.
- 3. Investigate the sources of your rice products, especially if you eat a glutenfree diet or eat a lot of rice.
- 4. Avoid rice grown in the southern United States.



ried products made with artificial colors because of conflicting science on their safety. "We don't trust the government to tell us what's safe. The government is interested in corporations and their financial solvency. The finan- cial incentive and the safety of food—they should never be

Consumer Reports, an independent non-profit group, found that rice grown in Texas, Louisiana, Missouri and Arkansas generally had higher levels of arsenic than rice grown elsewhere. For the time being, that may assuage Coop members as eight of the 10 rices sold in the bulk section come from Lundberg Family Farms, an organic grower in California. The other two are from Thailand, said Holtz.

Lundberg has a three-year plan to test all their rice crops, soil and water. They say they will make the results public after all the data have been collected years from now. Consumer Reports tested two Lundberg products—a white basmati rice and a short-grain brown rice. The basmati scored on the lower end of the safety scale for inorganic arsenic, while the brown rice was moderately high. That jibes with the pattern seen across the study—brown rice tends to be higher in arsenic than white rice because the arsenic is concentrated in the hull of the rice grain, which is the part that's removed to make brown rice into white rice.

These are the kinds of details that consumers shouldn't have to research before buying rice in the supermarket, said Patty Lovera, the assistant director of Food & Water Watch, a Washington, DC- based environmental watchdog group that's been pressuring the FDA to test for, and limit, arsenic in food. "They have so aggressively denied the [arsenic] problem that it's been appalling," she charged. "It's time for them to figure this out. Set some levels. Corporations will figure out how to meet those standards.

In the meantime, what's a person to do? Lovera suggests writing to government officials, or, better yet, talking to them in person and asking them to pressure the FDA on arsenic standards. "It's an election year. Your legislators are at home campaigning," said Lovera.

Two days after Consumer Reports issued its study, Reps. Rosa DeLauro of Connecticut, Frank Pallone, Jr. of New Jersey and Nita Lowey of New York announced a House bill that would require the Food and Drug Administration to set permissible levels of arsenic in foods containing rice. That same day, South Korea announced that it would halt its import of U.S. rice until further studies were conducted.

For more information and a list of products tested, go to: www.consumerreports.org/cro/ arsenicinfood.htm.

The Park Slope Food Coop's Reading Series

# **Attention Writers:** Wordsprouts Wants You!

Are you a novelist, poet, playwright, songwriter, essayist, journalist, or blogger? Are you looking for a forum where you can promote your work or get feedback? Do you want to moderate a panel or teach a writers' workshop? Po you want to meet fellow Coop writers?

Wordsprouts, the Park Slope Food Coop's reading series, is looking for writers who are members of the Coop. Even if you're not ready to commit to an upcoming event, drop us a line and let us know you're out there!

E-mail paulabernstein@gmail.com.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# **Natural Beauty Is More Than** Skin Deep, Thanks to Suki Skincare

By Liz Welch

**S**uki Kramer had really sensitive skin—which would have allergic reactions or breakouts when she used certain over-the-counter products, including high-end ones and those from health food stores that claimed to be all-natural. So she decided to start experimenting in her kitchen with her own line of skin care, using 100% natural products. That was 10 years ago. She incorporated her Northampton, MAbased company, Suki's Skincare, in 2002, and currently employs 20 people (19 are women) and sells more 65 products in 800 stores worldwide—including the Coop since 2005. And she remains the company's lead chemist. "Suki has worked with top chemists worldwide over the years to come up with her own line of products that are scientifically proven to be effective," says Heather Welch Smith, the sales director of Suki Skincare. "Our ingredients are 100% pure and synthetic free, which means they are readily available to your skin, which is able to suck them in and utilize them. When they are 100% synthetic free, then your body can work with it rather than against it."

I know this from personal experience. Always eager to

find an effective cleaning system and facial cream for my own sensitive skin, I was intrigued by the pristine white and yellow boxes that sit at the end of the vitamin aisle, across from the Coop's collection of glassware and cloth napkins. And more to the point, I love that I can do most of my shopping in one spot; I already buy all our family shampoos, soaps and dental care products from the Coop. I decided to add skin care as well. I bought Suki's Balancing Day Lotion—and noticed a difference within days. To start, my skin, with its frustrating mix of dryness in certain areas, and oiliness in others, soaked up the light lemony rose-scented cream. It felt better, akin to when I am thirsty and guzzle a glass of water. But even more extraordinary was that within a few days, I noticed a remarkable difference: my skin was more supple. It, dare I say, actually glowed. As a tired 43-year-old mother of an already-walking one-yearold girl, I was so impressed. One friend asked if I had been on vacation. Another simply seemed shocked when she saw me. "What did you do?" she asked. "You look great!"

Suki was the only new addition in my life, so I looked her products up online and imme-

diately fell in love with her "beauty is individual" premise and all-natural promise. "We're all individuals—everyone's skin is different," Welch Smith explains. "Suki believes in rituals when it comes to taking care of yourself and your skin. And needing to ask and demand honest information from the companies.'

"Our ingredients are 100% pure and synthetic free, which means they are readily available to your skin, which is able to suck them in and utilize them."

My ritual has grown. It start-

ed with the daily moisturizer and now includes the creamy foaming cleanser, which I use every night before applying my latest Suki addiction: Suki's Pure Facial Moisture Nourishing Oil, which I bought by accident, thinking it was the cream. The cleanser, which comes in an easy-to-use pump, foams up with water and leaves my skin feeling silky smooth. Intrigued, I checked out the ingredients: the anthocyanins and polyphenols are derived from acai oil and the gentle alpha hydroxy acid comes from apple juice. Sounds like it would be delicious on a salad, which is Suki's whole point. "She is totally committed to her customers knowing that what they put on their skin is actually good for their body," Welch Smith says. Apple enzymes, for instance, both speed cell turnover and minimize pores. The ingredients in the Nourishing Oil are equally delightful-made of from echinacea and chamomile extractions. I use this summergarden-sounding potion every night. And then my morning routine—a dose of her daily moisturizer post shower—has ingredients than include white willow, from which Suki derives a natural salicylic acid, which acts as a powerful anti-oxidant. Green tea, cranberry fruit, pumpkin and mushrooms are also listed on her Advanced Science ingredient list, alongside their specific effect on the skin. Her Active Organics list, which includes chamomile (antiinflammatory), echinacea (natural antibiotic), rosemary (toning), goldenseal (promotes healing), sage (gentle astringent) and rose (vitamin-packed anti-oxidant, prevents aging), could double as a dream garden. But besides the poetic images her labels inspire, their effectiveness is why Suki is about to celebrate her 10th year in business. "We are as dedicated to scientifically proving our products as we are to ensuring our customers know exactly what is in them and why they work," Welch Smith explains. In fact, an independent lab tested and evaluated the efficacy of Suki's mature skin care products in an eight-week study of 32 women between the ages of 41 and 60 and found that 84% saw improved appearance of their skin.

ents with natural advanced cosmeceuticals and my original high-potency botanic concentrate. We hand-select raw materials—each ingredient and the final formula is clinically tested to outperform leading synthetic brands."

In keeping with other Coop tenets, Suki not only sources local ingredients, but she is dedicated to having a low impact on the environment. Her manufacturing process emits as little carbon output as possible and her company's products are shipped at the site of production, right from pouring, guaranteeing the highest level of quality and freshness. Her packaging





Suki Skincare products use high-quality ingredients and practice good environmental policies.

The company's diehard stance against synthetics is in part why their products are so effective. "Some people cannot absorb synthetics," Welch Smith explains. "So the product winds up sitting on top of the skin rather than penetrating it." The instant glow I experience after applying the Moisturizing Oil is an example of how effective Suki products are. And the science-meets-nature approach is proven in how they use natural ingredients. "We use pure botanicals, like rose, comfrey and arnica," Welch Smith explains. "But we take it to the next level." As Suki herself explains on her website: "I set out to revolutionize the skincare industry using the purest of ingredi-

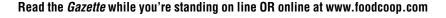
is composed mainly of glass and aluminum containers, instead of toxic plastic, and vegetable inks and recyclable materials are used for shipping and packaging. Not surprisingly, Suki does not test on animals—and she ensures that none of her suppliers do either. And while many of her products are vegan, those that do contain beeswax are from apiaries that do not harm bees or burn hives. This explains an e-mail from Jane Larkworthy, a dear friend and the legendary beauty editor at W magazine. When I emailed her to ask if she had heard of Suki products, she responded: "I know this, my stepdaughter is a huge fan. And a vegan. Need anything else?" ■

# Sudoku

Sudoku is a puzzle. You are presented with a 9x9 grid of squares, and that grid is divided into 3x3 zones. You solve the puzzle by filling the empty squares with single-digit numbers so that every zone, column and row uses each of the numbers from 1 to 9.

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

Puzzle author: James Vasile. For answers, see page 15.





#### Dr. Bronner

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

guild system and got his license to make soap back in 1858. My great-grandfather also made soap. We were a Jewish family, and they had done really well: they had two soap factories in Heilbronn, which is where my name comes from. My grandfather also became a soap maker, but he saw the writing on the wall pretty early on. He left Germany around 1929. His parents stayed behind and the last letter my grandfather ever got from his dad was all blacked out because it was heavily censored. It came from one of the camps and it basically said, "You were right." He never heard from them again. The soap factory in Germany, they were forced to sell it for a dollar.

My grandfather in America decided to give up soap making and decided to go on a mission for truth and peace. He came up with the Moral ABC, which is a way in which people of different faiths can recognize their similarities and acknowledge differences, and understand it's all the same divine source. He basically starts talking on soapboxes in Los Angeles. For the people who came to hear him, he made bottles of peppermint soap, a clear unlabeled bottle, and handed them out as thank-you presents. People started coming for the soap instead of to listen to him; they would take the soap and leave. So he started printing his philosophy on the bottle, so when they take the soap home they'll be stuck in the shower with it.

#### Was he a doctor?

No. He was a soap maker from Germany. He had a thick German accent, he was pretty intense. He had his own philosophy—no one really questioned him!

# Did you always know you would go into the family business?

No. Now Dr. Bronner's is a pretty big thing, but growing up it was a very small business, and had actually gone bankrupt. It entered bankruptcy protection in the early '90s. He tried to tell the IRS that the company was a religion, so he didn't have to pay taxes. But the IRS didn't go for that. He was my crazy grandfather who, when I was five years



Mike Bronner is the grandson of Emanuel Heilbronner, aka Dr. Bronner, and the vice president of Dr. Bronner's Magic Soaps, sold at the Coop.

old, sat me down and talked for two hours about guiding the world. I never really thought it was a career path! But then I got to high school and my father helped my grandfather get out of bankruptcy. I started to appreciate my grandfather more, on an adult level, and I had to sow my wild oats after college, and then realized I wanted to be part of the international expansion of the company. By that time my grandfather and my father had passed away, and the company was being run by my brother and my mom. I joined in 2000.

> "We're expanding a lot into places where a few years ago we never thought we'd be, like Target."

# And besides the labels, what makes the soaps special?

We use vegetable oils. That was the meaning of the words "Pure Castile," by the time my grandfather used it in 1948. Originally, that word had meant "coming from Castilian olive oil" but it evolved to separate ours from stuff based off tallow or petrochemicals. We're able to accomplish this great functionality without using any petrochemicals or synthetics, and the secret is the right combination of the fatty oils that we use. For example, we use coconut oil, which gives you that wonderful lather, but it can be a little drying. So on the flip side you have olive oil and hemp oil and jojoba, that gives more of a

dense lather but it's also soft on the skin. For our products, we are also certified organic to the food standard, so even though we would never advise you to eat our soap—you might get a little tummy ache—it's actually certified.

# In *Inc.* magazine a few months ago, an article about your company stated that you've averaged 19% annual growth over the last five years. Do you predict that that growth will continue?

We're expanding a lot into places where a few years ago we never thought we'd be, like Target. And then of course there are a lot more customers going into the natural stores, so we're doing well there. We'll probably end the year with a growth of about 15%.

# Are you planning any new products?

I do a lot of work on the international side, and I see things in places like Japan and Korea that we're not so focused on here. In those places our products are much more a premium skincare item, so we'll launch a whole skin-care regimen. I've come up with a whole regimen, like toners, organic face lotions, hand creams, those kinds of things that we sell overseas. Maybe at some point we'd bring them here too, as well as fragrances like green tea and cherry blossom. But in terms of America, we're looking at more household items, like detergent and toothpaste. We're not ready to announce anything quite

# Have you had offers from large corporations to buy you out?

There have been quite a few offers. They usually don't make it past the answering machine. If you become a publicly traded company, it becomes very difficult to devote your profits to endeavors that don't raise the value of the company. We basically donate 3% of all revenue, which means over a third of all profits, to charity. That's one of the things you can't do if you have outside investors looking for a return on investment.

# You mentioned that one of the things helping your business is that customers are more interested in natural products. Why do you think that is?

First of all, people are just becoming more concerned about what they use and their relationship to the environment, from climate

change to the risks of certain components of conventional food and conventional body-care. Beyond that, I think especially with the recession, it drove a lot of people to seek out a healthier lifestyle. They were getting fired from jobs, they were losing their health insurance. It probably is that people were like, "If I get sick I don't have any recourse, so I better do everything I can not to be sick." That deals a lot with organics and vitamins and holistic health. I don't know if you see that in your Coop.

# Our membership is always growing.

You never know when that tipping point is for a person. They first hear about a product and it's kind of hokey, you think it's just for hippies, but eventually enough information gets through that people realize there's something very real about it. Not just real, but dire and important.



# 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

#### COORDINATOR'S CORNER

### **Do Not Block the Firehouse**

By Dr. Warren Spielberg, Coop Liaison to the FDNY, and Joe Holtz, General Manager

About a month ago, a livery car blocked the entrance to the firehouse. Because of this impediment, the Squad 1 engine could not get to an emergency in a timely manner.

This is not the first time that this or a similar incident has occurred. Unfortunately, vehicles often block the entrance to the squad firehouse. This occurs in many ways. Trucks double park and make it impossible for the engine to leave or enter the firehouse. Livery cabs come too early for pickups and park around the entrance of the Coop or the firehouse. Cars coming to pick up groceries STAND for too long in the PICK-UP-ONLY ZONE, forcing other traffic to double park, which will also impede the egress of the engine. Access-A-Ride vehicles stop directly in front of the firehouse and unload passengers in a process that is very time consuming.

The Coop strives to

keep prices low for our

membership. Mini-

mizing 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.

It is CRUCIAL that we not block the firehouse or impede the work of Squad 1 in any manner. We are neighbors with a very busy fire station. They perform more than 3,000 runs per year, and it is not unusual for them to go out every 20 or so minutes on busy days. The emergency they cannot get to affects everyone in our community. Please follow the simple list below:

#### DO's

- 1. Try not to drive to the
- 2. If you do drive, look for parking away from the Coop. Then use our cart return workers to transport your groceries to your vehicle.
- 3. If you do wish to park close to the Coop, use the garage at the corner of Union and Seventh Avenues. The Coop has arranged a special rate for members there.
- 4. If you pick up your groceries by car, do not STAND in the zone. You can remain in the loading zone only while you are loading.
  - 5. Sidewalk managers are

REQUIRED FOR ANY RETURN

1. The Paid-In-Full receipt MUST

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.

NEVER

RETURNABLE

RETURNABLE

RETURNABLE

required to keep the zone clear. If they ask you to move your car, please comply immediately and politely.

Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY

#### DON'T's

- 1. Do not call for a cab when you are in the Coop. Some members have been known to call for a livery cab while they are still on line to pay for their groceries. If you do that, then the car will sit in the loading zone or in front of the firehouse to wait for you. This will cause a potentially dangerous situation.
- 2. Do not under any circumstances park in front of the firehouse, for even "just a second." A Coop member once did this only to forget his or her keys inside the Coop when called out to move the car. A "second" soon became 10 minutes of blockage.
- 3. Do not double park near the Coop. This will make it impossible for the ENGINE to pass around you either way from the Coop.
- 4. Do not park across the street. These spots are reserved for firefighters.

Blockages to the entrance of the firehouse are a serious matter. We have recently received visits from the fire officials who are deeply concerned by this issue. Over the years we have done a great deal to correct this situation. But we still have a way to go.

Thank you for your cooperation. ■



# 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.

# BAY RIDGE FOOD CO-OP

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

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

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

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

PSFC members receive FTOP credit for their work!

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

# **CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?**

RETURN POLICY park slope 5000 C000

Produce\* Bulk\* (incl. Coop-bagged bulk) Seasonal Holiday Items Cheese\* Special Orders Books Calendars Refrigerated Supplements

Juicers & Oils \*A buyer is available during the week-Sushi

ONLY IF SPOILED Refrigerated Goods (not listed above) BEFORE Frozen Goods **EXPIRATION DATE** Meat & Fish Packaging/label Bread nust be present-ed for refund.

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

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

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



Call the Membership Office

**-**�



#### ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT

# **Environmental Committee Members' Views on Plastic Bags**

By Regina Weiss

The Environmental Committee has been working for more than a year on a proposal to phase out the giveaway of disposable plastic bags from the Coop. In this Committee update, members decided to share a few personal thoughts about what this means to them.

"PLASTIC + FRACKING. Supporters of the fracking ban don't always recognize the plastic connection. As New York State moves closer to embracing industrialized, non-renewable energy production in our pristine watersheds and farmlands, the Coop's phase-out of plastic bags is even more relevant. The majority of polyethylene for the Coop's PLASTIC packaging is born from NATURAL GAS. Consuming plastic packaging keeps the oil, natural gas and chemical corporations in business. Reducing our reliance on plastic in all its forms is a subtle but meaningful vote against fracking."—Jenna

"At some point in your life you learn enough information about the consequences of something you're doing that you can no longer continue doing it with a clear conscience. It's a sort of ignorance/intelligence tipping point. Smoking, toxic fertilizer, BPA, high fructose corn syrup, GMOs, conflict diamonds...you gradually learn what these things mean. And you're damn glad you learned. The same happened to me with plastic bags. At one point, I didn't give them a second thought. Then I learned about them, what they mean in the wider context. So I stopped using them. It's that simple."—Eric

"I can shop, decorate, earn and yearn all I want, but when it comes down to it, when I'm even barely conscious of others and the world around me. that's when I feel best. Did I join the Coop to save money? You bet. To get high quality food and organically grown foods? You bet. But the underlying fabric of the Coop, woven into its very purpose, is environmental consciousness. Did I ALWAYS use bags to shop which are reusable and made without further harming our Fragile-World-Which-Is-In-Trouble? NOPE. But when I learned how I was adding to the problem by throwing away lots of plastic bags in my day to day, I decided to do something else which makes me feel good."—Wagg

"Before I joined the Coop's Environmental Committee, I was mindful about what foods I purchased but not about my shopping practices. After hearing about the environmental impact of all these plastic bags and then learning how easy it was to shop without those plastic bags, I made the switch in my own shopping routine. I am now committed to helping other Coop members evolve their own participation in the Coop community. And as one of the largest Coops in the U.S., I do feel strongly that we should set an example."—Ilyana

"I expect the Coop to function according to the core principles of our Mission Statement, which affirms a triple bottom line of social, environmental, and financial accountability. Speed and convenience have never been core Coop principles, and our addiction to them is destroying the planet. In maintaining bags for multiple uses, I am simply taking my rightful place among billions of people around the world who have lived sustainably throughout the ages. It's a very small price to pay for doing the right thing."—Regina Sandler-Phillips

"There are so many things in life we can't change, or at least not easily. It's easy to feel powerless in the face of global warming, wars, cancer. When there is something I can do in my everyday life that will have a positive impact, I try to do it. I know that I'm just one person saying no to disposable plastic bags, but if my fellow Coop members join me, that will be over two million less plastic bags a year. And then of course we can inspire others to follow our example. We can make a difference."—Cynthia

"Only when I viewed Chris Jordan's photo of a baby bird carcass, stomach so distended with plastic it had died, did the many info-bits I'd received about plastic start affecting my behavior. Suddenly I got it: I killed that bird, and I will change. When I began to examine my relationship with and reduce my use of plastic, those random bits of info started coalescing into a pattern that made sense. Our radical misuse of plastic where it's not needed wildlife; trashes streetscapes, beaches, and woods; poisons water and soil; undermines our health; and deepens our addiction to fossil fuels. Gradually I realized that plastic is a huge issue, its fingers deep in our psyches and our lives. We are blind to what we're doing. The Coop's providing plastic bags exemplifies and enables our blindness, even as it worsens the problems caused by plastic overuse. We need to do better for ourselves and our planet."—Judy

"The world's environment has changed so dramatically for the worse in just the short time I've been here on Earth that I feel there really is no excuse for placing my shortterm convenience over doing everything I can to slow the destruction of the planet that sustains me. It's taken months for the habit of changing the way I shop to take root so that it's now something I don't really need to think about. That shortterm adjustment seems a tiny price to pay for the decades ahead when I won't be adding to our overflowing landfills and strangling birds and dolphins with plastic bags I used for a few days and discarded."—Regina Weiss

"From the beginning of my Coop experience, I was used to bringing my own bags, since when I joined the PSFC, the store did not provide any free bags (neither produce bags nor shopping bags). Even after that changed, I felt I was cheating any time I used a bag from the Coop. In reducing my overall plastic use, it made sense to start by eliminating bags used only for the brief time I walk home from the Coop. I simply carry a few lightweight reusable bags in my purse for any unplanned shopping."—Eileen ■





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

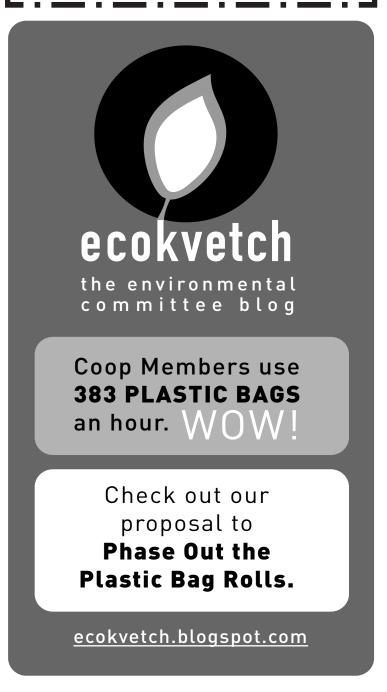
Coop members can leave their bikes with our valet parking service, which is like a coat check for bikes. Working members will check in and watch your bike for you.

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

No locks, no worries, no theft. Service operates rain or shine. Look for us in front of the yellow wall. (Note: no bike check-in after 7:30 p.m.)

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





#### **-**�

#### SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

### Plow-to-Plate Movie Series Presents: Groundswell

By Adam Rabiner

The 2010 documentary Gasland was the opening cinematic salvo against hydraulic fracturing, a controversial method of extracting

natural gas deposits from underground rock formations, at a time when few of us knew anything about hydrofracking or fracking. It's now 2012, Joshua Fox is busy working on

his anti-fracking sequel, Gasland 2, and other filmmakers have joined the fray. October's Plow to Plate event will feature several clips from a work in progress. Groundswell: Protecting Our Children's Air and Water, a documentary unfolding, will be hosted by Associate Producer Dave Walczak and feature a Q & A via Skype with producer/director Renard Cohen.

Gasland was a highly personal and somewhat quixotic exposé. It educated the public about a clear and imminent danger and had great shock value: if nothing else, people will remember the scene where a man held a lighter up to his running faucet and lit

his tap water on fire.

Groundswell educates as well, but since much of the ground has already been laid, the film is free to focus more prominently on the growing anti-fracking movement as well as on issues that were not dealt with in depth by Fox's groundbreaking film—for example, the heavy traffic—or fraffic—associated with this method of extraction.

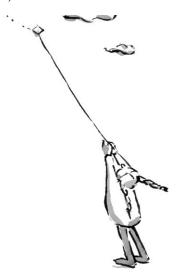
Pine Creek Valley, Pennsylvania has a bucolic appearance and a peaceful name, but now it's anything but. Triaxles, 18 wheelers and pickup trucks form convoys in both directions down the narrow country roads passing at the rate of one per minute—50 to

60 per hour. Every 24 hours, seven days a week, 750-1,500 large, heavy vehicles snake to and fro from the gas sites, hauling supplies and equipment and removing waste. As bad as this seems, it is only the beginning of the gridlock nightmare. There are fewer than 50 wells in the area with 1,000 more planned. Sitting in traffic, David Kagan laments, "I wanted to grow old here..."

Kagan is choking back tears of frustration and anger and Groundswell, as its name implies, chronicles both ordinary folk and celebrities as they channel this emotion into concrete action. Actor and activist Mark Ruffalo, musician John Sebastian and now-noted filmmaker Joshua Fox all speak out at public hearings. And a rag-tag team of citizens wearing black Tshirts and carrying black umbrellas with anti-fracking messages tails Governor Cuomo for a full 45 minutes at the New York State Fair in Syracuse, singing "Stop, in the name of love, before you frack NY," and "I love New York, don't frack New York" (to the tune of the old ad jingle) and chanting "No fracking way" and "Hey hey, Cuomo, hydrofracking's gotta go." It's a funny segment, and if nothing else, the word "fracking" lends itself well to anti-industry messaging. The uncomfortable governor must endure this all with a public smile and no comment.

In New York State, the moratorium on fracking is about to end. But this issue is far from settled. Come out and meet these filmmakers and become part of the groundswell.

Watch Groundswell: Protecting Our Children's Air and Water on Tuesday, October 9, 7 p.m., Park Slope Food Coop, 782 Union Street, 2nd floor. Refreshments will be served.



# 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.

## IOIN 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

What Is That? How Po I Use It?

Ask Me Questions
About Coop Foods

Monday, October 15, 12 to 2:45 p.m.

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

Look for tour leaders in produce aisle.

DO YOU LIKE DESIGNING FLYERS? HOW ARE YOU AT MARKETING? DO YOU LIKE SOCIAL NETWORKING? ARE YOU A WEB DEVELOPER? CAN YOU WRITE PHP?

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO USE WORDPRESS? DO YOU LIKE TABLING AT EVENTS? DO YOU LIKE RESEARCHING FOOD? DO YOU NEED FTOP CREDIT? DO YOU LIKE COMMUNITY, EATING GOOD FOOD, AND FUN? COME HANG OUT WITH THE BUSHWICK FOOD COOP

AND GET WORK CREDIT!

A BUYING CLUB AND CSA

ARE SATIATING US WHILE

WE WORK TOWARDS

MAKING THE DREAM

OF HAVING OUR

OWN STOREFRONT A

REALLY INVESTED IN

OUR COLLECTIVE GOAL

OF BRINGING AFFORDABLE,

LOCAL AND ORGANIC FOOD TO

THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF BUSHWICK. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP, PLEASE EMAIL US AT **WORKSHIFT@BUSHWICKFOODCOOP.ORG**.



# **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

#### COOP HOURS

#### **Office Hours:**

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

#### **Shopping Hours:**

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

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

#### **Childcare Hours:**

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

#### **Telephone:**

718-622-0560

#### Web address:

www.foodcoop.com

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 oth-

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

#### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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

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

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

Committee Reports: Maximum 1,000 words.

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

Submissions on Paper: Typed or very legibly handwritten and placed in the wallpocket labeled "Editor" on the second floor at the base of the ramp.

Digital Submissions: We welcome digital submissions. Drop disks in the wallpocket described above. The email address for submissions is GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop. Receipt of your submissions will be acknowledged on the deadline day.

Classified & Display Ads: Ads may only be placed by and on behalf of Coop members. Classified ads are prepaid at \$15 per insertion, business card ads at \$30. (Ads in the "Merchandise-Non-commercial" category are free.) All ads must be written on a submission form (available in a wallpocket on the first floor near the elevator). Classified ads may be up to 315 characters and spaces. Display ads must be camera-ready and business card size (2"x3.5").

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

#### Friday, Oct 19, 8:00 p.m.

The Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture the Bloom Rark Slope Food Coop present:



# PROSPECT CONCERTS



Park Slope local singer and guitarist Mamie Minch sounds something like a well-fleshed-out 78-rpm record. She's known around town for her Piedmont-style fingerpicking chops, her big deep voice and her self-penned antiquesounding songs. She's played music all over the world and Brooklyn, with all kinds of excellent people, including Dayna Kurtz, the Roulette Sisters, Jimbo Mathis and CW Stoneking.

**Wool & Grant**. Two veteran singer/songwriters with a mutual passion for songs, stories, harmonies and guitars. Bev Grant and Ina May Wool create a musical alchemy of fire and feistiness, wisdom and wit, rocking clear-eyed political songs along with a window on to their travels—on the road and around the heart.



#### www.ProspectConcerts.tumblr.com

53 Prospect Park West [at 2nd Street] • \$10 • 8pm [doors open at 7:45] Performers are Park Slope Food Coop members and receive Coop workslot credit. **Booking: Bev Grant, 718-788-3741** 

PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP 782 Union St., Brooklyn, NY 11215 (btwn 6th & 7th Av.) • (718) 622-0560

#### Monthly on the...

**Second Saturday** OCTOBER 13 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

**Third Thursday** OCTOBER 18 7:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.

Last Sunday OCTOBER 28 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

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

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

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

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

#### PLASTIC MUST BE COMPLETELY CLEAN & DRY

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



#### **This Issue Prepared By:**

Coordinating Editors:: Stephanie Golden

Erik Lewis Editors (development): Diane Aronson

> Petra Lewis Reporters: Willow Lawson

> > Lily Rothman

Liz Welch

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Preproduction: Sura Wagman

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Desktop Publishing: Joe Banish

David Mandl

Dana Rouse

Editor (production): Michal Hershkovitz

Puzzle Master: James Vasile

Final Proofreader: Teresa Theophano

Index: Len Neufeld

Advertising: Mary Robb



Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY

#### **Plastics Recycling**

#### Saturday or 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.

#### **Bathroom Cleaning**

#### Thursday, 12 to 2 p.m.

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

#### **Store Equipment Cleaning** Monday, 6 to 8 a.m.

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

#### Office Set-up

6 to 8:30 a.m.

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

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

This work slot has two responsibilities. You will load laundry into dryer, fold it and redistribute it around the Coop. While the laundry is washing/drying, you will clean toys in the childcare room. You will be working with a partner on these tasks. Please contact Annette or Jana in the Membership Office for further information.

# COP CALENDAR

#### **New Member Orientations**

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

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

#### The Coop on the Internet

www.foodcoop.com

#### The Coop on Cable TV

#### Inside the Park Slope Food Coop

FRIDAYS 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Channels: 56 (Time-Warner), 69 (CableVision), 84 (RCN), 44 (Verizon), and live streaming on the Web: www.bricartsmedia.org/ community-media/bcat-tv-network.

#### **General Meeting Info**

#### **TUE, OCTOBER 30**

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

#### **TUE, NOVEMBER 6**

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m. Submissions will be considered for the Nov 27 General Meeting.

#### **Gazette Deadlines**

#### **LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:**

12:00 p.m., Mon, Oct 8 Oct 18 issue: Nov 1 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Oct 22

#### **CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:**

Oct 18 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Oct 10 Nov 1 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Oct 24

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

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

#### • Two GM attendance credits per year:

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

#### Certain Squads not eligible:

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

#### • Attend the entire GM:

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

#### Signing in at the Meeting:

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

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

#### • Being Absent from the GM:

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

#### **Park Slope Food Coop** Mission Statement

The Park Slope Food Coop is a member-owned and operated food store—an alternative to commercial profit-oriented business. As members, we contribute our labor: working together builds trust through cooperation and teamwork and enables us to keep prices as low as possible within the context of our values and principles. Only members may shop, and we share responsibilities and benefits equally. We strive to be a responsible and ethical employer and neighbor. We are a buying agent for our members and not a selling agent for any industry. We are a part of and support the cooperative movement. We offer a diversity of products with an emphasis on organic, minimally processed and healthful foods. We seek to avoid products that depend on the exploitation of others. We support 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.

#### A L L A B O U T THE GENERAL MEETING

## **Our Governing Structure**

From our inception in 1973 to the present, the open monthly General Meetings, to which all members are invited, have been at the center of the Coop's 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,** October 30, 7:00 p.m.

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

#### Location

To be announced

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

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

# **Meeting Format**

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

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

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

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

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

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



# park slope FOOD COOP

# calengar-of-events

oct 4 thu 7:30 pm

# Food Class: Elegant Autumn **Hors D'oeuvres to Impress**



Fall has arrived and with the holiday season upon us, now is the time to get inspired for the abundance of gatherings on your calendar. Chef Olivia Roszkowski will show how easy it is to turn seasonal fare into sophisticated small bites for

your next evening soiree. She will demonstrate not only how to create chic hors d'oeuvres using bountiful produce available this time of year, but will also discuss how, with great time management, you too can be a guest at your own dinner party. After completing the Chef Training Program at the Natural Gourmet Institute for Health and Culinary Arts, Olivia worked as a line cook at Jean Georges' Mercer Kitchen, David Chang's Momofuku Ssam Bar, as well as Danny Meyer's Union Square Events. Menu includes: Belgian endive filled with brussel sprouts, apple and chevre\*; walnut salad in a spiced walnut vinaigrette; creamy fall squash bisque with crispy kale chips; sweet potato latkes with pear-fennel marmalade and crème fraiche\*; miniature pumpkin pecan pie w/whipped cream\*.

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

oct 5

### Film Night: Granito: How to **Nail a Dictator**



Sometimes a film makes history; it doesn't just document it. So it is with *Granito: How to Nail a Dictator*, the astonishing new film by Pamela Yates. Part political thriller, part memoir, Yates transports us back in time through a riveting, haunting tale of genocide and returns to the present with a cast of characters joined by destiny and the quest to bring a malevolent dictator to

justice. Paul Van Zyl, key project advisor on Granito: How To Nail A Dictator, will lead a Q&A after the screening of the film. Paul has advised countries around the world on how to facilitate transitions to peace and democracy following periods of mass atrocity and human rights abuse. From 1995-98, Paul, a South African, served as the executive secretary of South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which was charged with investigating Apartheid era crimes. He helped to establish the commission, develop its structure and modus operandi, and manage its operations.

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

oct 9 tue 7 pm

### Safe Food Committee Film Night: Groundswell



We are in a social, political and intellectual battle over the risks large corporations are taking with our water and the water of our to PLATE children and grandchildren. Threats to our water, air, and soil inherent in the natural-gas-drilling practice of "fracking" are being met with an increasingly vocal groundswell of resistance.

Groundswell Protecting our Children's Water takes us into the lives and communities of the people who are being directly and indirectly affected by hydraulic fracturing. The film follows ordinary people who've been turned into community activists to fight for their rights. This is a true David-and-Goliath story about passion, money, power, and rage, whose outcome has yet to be determined.

oct 13 sat 5 pm

### **Effective Tools for Rapid Personal Transformation**

Are you being present? Are you being yourself? Are you in your own reality? 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.

# oct 13-14 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.

# Wordsprouts: Dad Bloggers Talk Food, Family and Writing

Featuring John Donohue, editor of the bestselling book Man with a Pan, and stay-at-home dad blogger Brian Gresko. Donohue, an editor at *The New Yorker*, has been passionate The Park Slope Food Coop's Reading Series about food all his life. He worked at a retail fish market when

he was in college and was a short-order cook after graduation. He blogs about the cooking he does for his family at www.stayatstovedad.com. Gresko is stay-at-home dad and writer. He has contributed to The Huffington Post, The Atlantic, The Daily Beast, Salon, The Paris Review Daily, The Millions and Glimmer Train Stories. Keep up with him at briangresko.com.

To book a Wordsprouts, contact Paula Bernstein, paulabernstein@gmail.com.

oct 19 fri 8 pm

# Mamie Minch, Wool & Grant



Park Slope local singer and guitarist Mamie Minch sounds something like a well-fleshed-out 78-rpm record. She's known around town for her

Piedmont-style fingerpicking chops, her big deep voice and her self-penned antique-sounding songs. She's played music all over the world and Brooklyn, with all kinds of excellent people, including Dayna Kurtz, the Roulette Sisters, Jimbo Mathis and CW Stoneking. Wool & Grant: two veteran singer/songwriters with a mutual passion for songs, stories, harmonies and guitars. Bev Grant and Ina May Wool create a musical alchemy of fire and feistiness, wisdom and wit, rocking clear-eyed political songs along with a window on to their travels—on the road and around the heart.





Concert takes place at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Park West (at 2nd St.), \$10, doors open at 7:45. Prospect Concerts is a monthly musical fundraising partnership of the Coop and the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture. To book a Prospect Concert event, contact Bev Grant, 718-788-3741.

sat 3 pm

# Thyroid Problems, Fibroids, **Cysts and PMS**

Participants will learn five effective, natural ways to eliminate fibroids, cysts and PMS. We will explain the underlying causes of hypothyroidism and hormonal imbalance, how to resolve them, and how to boost energy and clarity through beneficial diet, appropriate exercise, and the use of natural supplements. This class will provide the supportive environment participants need to identify and implement the changes that will improve their health. Pre-registration suggested. To register, e-mail GreenGemHealth@gmail.com or call (646) 483-4571. Rebecca Curtis is a certified Holistic Health Coach. Mary Hart, M.S., L.Ac., is a nationally board-certified acupuncturist.

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

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

# oct4-nov27272

oct 27 sat 7:30 pm

### It's Your Funeral

Planning for your own demise now (as opposed to later) is a practice that can enable you to live in the moment, face your own mortality with courage—and create an end-oflife service that reflects your values. Join Coop member Amy Cunningham, former journalist and graduate of the American Academy McAllister Institute of Funeral Service, in a conversation about fascinating advancements within the funeral business. The talk will cover how to plan a low-cost, back-to-basics funeral or memorial service, as well as offer information on green cemeteries near New York City, cremation pros and cons, wicker caskets, biodegradable urns, blended-faith/alternative ceremonies, and more. You'll get a glimmer of what funerals of the future might look like—and leave with planning literature for yourself or for someone you love.

oct 30

# **PSFC OCT General Meeting**



Meeting Agenda to be announced. For information on how to place an item on the Agenda, please see the center pages of the *Linewaiters' Gazette*. The Agenda Committee minutes and the status of pending agenda items are available in the

Coop office. Meeting location to be announced.

nov 1 thu 7:30 pm

# Food Class: Seasonal Recipes **To Boost Immunity**



Autumn's harvest is bursting with immune-boosting fruits and vegetables. Join chef Maggie Callahan as she showcases three delicious seasonal recipes that will decrease inflamma-

10, Coordinator tion and boost the immune system. Maggie is a private chef and cooking instructor, baker and a graduate of the Natural Gourmet Institute for Health and Culinary Arts. She specializes in preparing clean food for both adults and children. She is currently in the process of becoming a certified Nutritional Therapy Practitioner and spends a great deal of time researching nutrion's role in good health. Menu includes: warm brussel sprout salad; autumn vegetable and bean stew; spiced pear and cranberry muffins..

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

# Film Night: A Night of Japanese **Films and Food Tasting**



Two films will be shown. Green Mountain Girls Farm: Sustainability in Action (length 18:05), showcases a sustainable farm in Vermont, started by two women who used to work for environmental groups, then decided to grow food for their immediate community as part of their an environ-

mental act. The farm practices relational farming, inviting visitors to share and enjoy their farm and its products—connecting people to farms so they can source high-quality, healthy, well-raised food. Screening will be accompanied by samples of their pasture-raised, healthy meats and vegetables as well as cheese and caramel produced by others who belong to their neighboring cooperative called Floating Bridge Food and Farms Cooperative. The farmers will be present to discuss how they sustainably raise poultry, pork, goat, vegetables, eggs and milk on their diversified farm in Vermont. Filmmaker Iki Nakagawa was born in Tokyo and moved to NYC in 1989. Her work has been presented in Europe, the U.S. and the Middle East. She's produced many videos about sustainable practices including some about the PSFC. Cold Shutdown: Fukushima One Year After (length 36:00), showcases the Fukushima Dai-Ichi disaster, the biggest nuclear catastrophe since Chernobyl, which has contaminated thousands of square miles of Japan with fallout. Faced with a government urging them to stay put and keep quiet, ordinarily calm Japanese citizens must take matters into their own hands. Cold Shutdown is a short visit with the citizens of Fukushima Prefecture as they struggle to protect the lives of their children and themselves, setting up radiation testing sites and food distribution centers and occupying the grounds of the Ministry of Trade in Tokyo. Filmmaker Martin Lucas is an artist, educator and media activist living in Brooklyn. To book a Film Night, contact Faye Lederman, squeezestone@hotmail.com.

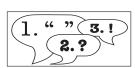
nov 4 sun 12 pm

# A Workshop on Research

Are you frustrated by how long it takes to find useful information about a given topic? Overwhelmed by the Internet and all the data out there? Unsure when to trust a source? Unable to translate your information needs to concrete queries? Learn about the current information environment and how to navigate its layers for more fruitful searching sessions. Whether you're a student, a community activist, an independent journalist or just someone who wants to be more efficient, come for research tips and tricks (and bring your own to share)! Arpita Bose is a medical librarian and director of a hospital library in Brooklyn. She has taught numerous workshops in consumer health for librarians in New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and Pennsylvania. Melissa Morrone is a public librarian in Brooklyn. She has presented and conducted workshops at a variety of venues.

tue 8 pm

# **Agenda Committee Meeting**



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

Item for the General Meeting" and fill out the General Meeting Agenda Item Submission Form, both available from the Membership Office or at foodcoop.com. The next General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 27, 7 p.m., at a location to be announced.

nov 11 Benefits of Art Therapy for Your Child

nov 18 Workshop for Grandparents

Safe Food Committee Film Night

What the Tooth Fairy Never Knew

nov 16 Prospect Concerts

nov 27 PSFC NOVEMBER General Meeting

nov 16-17 Blood Drive

nov 27 Are You New to Medicare?

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



# ECONOMIC CRISIS FACING PALESTINIANS UNDER ISRAELI OCCUPATION

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**COOP MEMBERS:** 

#### **Protests Erupt in West Bank**

Beginning September 4<sup>th</sup>, lasting two weeks, thousands of Palestinians protested against the Palestinian Authority's (PA) escalating prices on basic commodities, including fuel. Taxi and bus drivers blocked roads. Students and teachers organized strikes across major cities in the West Bank. Some protesters burned tires. Violent clashes took place in Hebron and Nablus.

# **Emergency Economic Package Issued to Quell Protests**

- Cancelled recent increase in prices of diesel fuel, kerosene and cooking gas;
- Reduced recent value-added tax bringing down cost of food;
- PA paid its 153,000 employees half their August salaries immediately, the remainder within a week;
- Cut salaries of ministers and other high-level officials to make up for revenue losses.

# Ongoing Financial Crisis for Palestinian Authority

Israeli obstacles placed on the Palestinian economy result in PA's reliance on foreign aid. There is a current shortfall of \$400 million. Delays of donor aid from the U.S. and Arab countries contributed to the austerity measures imposed on the Palestinian people.

# Responding to PA'S Financial Crisis

T O

R S

- Israel sent \$60 million (import taxes collected by Israel belonging to the PA):
- Israel notified Europe and U.S. to send aid:
- The World Bank transferred \$14.3 million.

#### **Protesters Demand Changes to Paris Protocol and Oslo Accords**

The Oslo Accords: signed in 1993, was a five-year interim agreement until the establishment of a Palestinian state. The Palestinian Authority was created to begin state building. West Bank was divided into distinct areas:

- Large urban areas and rural villages (A and B) handed to Palestinians to 'administer control.'
- Area C, 62 percent of the West Bank handed to Israel temporarily but never transferred to Palestinian jurisdiction;
- Water agreements were signed; Israel maintained control over 80% of West Bank water resources.

The Oslo Accords provided a costfree occupation with the PA doing Israel's administrative and security work. Israel has a donor community to pick up the bill.

**The Paris Protocol:** financial agreements signed in 1993 specified existing practices:

- A single tax zone under Israeli control;
- Prices for goods and services tied to Israeli market (although wages of Palestinians were around a third of Israelis);
- PA to keep Palestinian markets open to Israeli goods.

# Palestinian economist, Sam Bahour: blame for the current econport nomic crisis in the West Bank ng to belonged to "the Paris Protocol"

D

and Israel's occupation. The issue is the framework of occupation that is causing economic hardship, not a tax increase here or tax increase there."

IT

OR

# IMF-World Bank Reports on Palestinian Economic Crisis

- Israeli occupation is the major source of economic crisis;
- Reforms needed by PA: create an Agriculture Development Bank: provide credit, risk sharing and investment in agriculture and manufacturing to Palestinians;
- Area C: Israel should provide building permits, access to water and resources for Palestinian development in 62% of West Bank.

#### Equal Exchange: Palestinian 100% Organic Extra Virgin Olive Oil at PSFC

Mary Buchwald, Brooklyn For Peace PSFC members for BDS www.psfcbds.wordpress.com

# NEW PRISM ON BDS: THE LIGHT-FILLED STUDIO OF FAKHORY

#### DEAR EDITOR.

Mr. Mazen Fakhory, resident of the West Bank and professional potter, along with his three silent business cronies entered their third year of traitorous economic cooperation with Israel. His handmade pottery items featuring floral motifs in Mediterranean colors, and sold in Israeli souvenir shops, look suspiciously like he is trying to get on with his life and achieve economic independence. By refusing our membership requirements to remain a true Palestinian totally identifying as a victim and living off international aid vouchers-Mr. Fakhory is sticking a giant middle finger in the PSFC Boycott, Divestment, and Sanction movement's face. And we mean a really really fat one.

We at the PSFC-Boycott Divestment and Sanctions Citizen Identification Bureau (PSFCBDSCIB) are officially appalled at this collaboration in Pottery Apartheid (Potty-Theid); this posture of innocence, this



#### LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

#### Anonymity

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

#### **Fairness**

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, fac-

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.

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.

# Follow the Food Coop on



@foodcoop

#### TH $\mathbf{T}$ E R S 0 EDITOR T

cynical artist's "Hey-man-l-just-workwith-clay" excuse; this pro-peace, probusiness, anti-boycott attempt to feed one's own family. Through earning money, no less. We at the PSFCBDSCIB charge that he cannot be a member of Palestinian Civil Society, which includes every Palestinian even though we lost the sign-up sheet and can't prove that anymore. Because a true Palestinian would fill his dictated role: to gloriously sweep away the final crumbs of the racist, fascist, pinkwashing, greenwashing, yellowwashing, purplescrubbing, paisley-scouring, polka-dot bleaching, Ziocaine-sniffing gangster regime, and he's just not carrying our baggage. Therefore we summon him immediately to our Verification Department under the Egyptian/ Israeli border to surrender his passbook for inspection. If he continues to mock us, day after day after day after day, our only option is to lock arms around the PottyTheid factory until he steps back into line and resumes neglecting his children, his wife, his clan, his honor, and his common sense. Until then he is only providing a crucial fig-leaf to the colonialist, nationalist, regionalist, municipalist, post-modernist, martini with a twist (oh forget it, you get the idea) state of IsraHell. Strong medicine, but we will have no choice as he selfishly undermines our campaign to promote alienation and mutual ignorance between two peoples, the surest path to peace. No really, it is. We read that somewhere on the Internet.

\*"Hebron, West Bank—The lightfilled studio of Fakhory is an oasis of calm in the midst of the busy commercial city of Hebron, in the southern part of the West Bank. Here, Mr. Mazen Fakhory and his staff of three, produce handmade pottery items, featuring floral motives in Mediterranean colors. Pottery is an ancient craft in Palestine, much like glassblowing and embroidery. Mr. Fakhory's family passed down the secrets of this trade from generation to generation, resulting in over 400 types of different items, from hand-painted tiles to colorful plates, bowls and vases...The company deals mainly with Israeli traders who sell the decorative items in souvenir shops. A limited quantity is sold directly in the local market, through Fakhory's shop in Hebron. Often, handicraft export sales are achieved in an ad hoc fashion, relying on sales at trade shows."

\*www.fnmd.ps/etemplate.php?id=93 Jesse Rosenfeld



#### **GOOD RIDDANCE, SUMMER**

Sunny days, burning rays, Three whole months of them, Boiling and baking your pallid skin, Making for seasonal phlegm.

Cancers forming on your cheeks, Shoulders and legs, Give them time and they will grow, Big as Easter eggs.

Beaches provide, a few will say, Cooling winds and water Plus a place to tan your face— What you shouldn't oughter.

Holiday from the stress of work? Doesn't compare with the tension Caused by static lines for the plane Or cars in traffic suspension.

Take the time to study obits And you'll see this period Leads the others in number of deaths By many and many a myriad.

So join the ranks of summer bashers, Folks whose numbers swell, Those bemoaning they've endured One more season in hell.

Leon Freilich

#### NO MORE DRUG WAR

#### TO THE EDITOR,

"NO MORE DRUG WAR" chanted the 40 Mexican caravanistas through Harlem. We added voices from throughout the megopolis. That hot evening of September 6th, our march startled folks catching a breeze along 125th Street, and lit recognition. They know the guys from the block inside for a joint—who uses, who profits, who suffers. They know the plague of addiction, violence and corruption as well as the Mexicans.

The Caravan for Peace with Dignity and Justice with poet Javier Sicilia leading, his son shot dead for being in the wrong place. They crossed 26 U.S. cities and finally the Apple and the Capital. I had been waiting forever to chant "NO MORE DRUG WAR."

Addiction is one of humanity's challenges. Consciousness contains pain. Feelings hurt. We take something to alleviate, or experiment for a new experience. Try it out. Friends do. Then, multiple jeopardy: a habit, a chemical to dull over the emotional ache, and the crew using. The law prohibits, so the lawless dominate.

Some professionals enable those with money and connections by serving uppers, downers, blockers et al. Neighborhood liquor stores offer variety. On the street get weed and white powders to nod out or become omnipotent. All bring major bucks to producers. Add pharmaceutical industry profits to the earnings of the

They buy politicians, paying for mass media campaigns as we sit and blank out in front of the TV where each add costs several lives. They use too. Wall Streeters scurry around the trading floor coked into invincibility. Americas contaminated. Prohibition breeds violence. U.S. made guns in trembling hands—police, army, private security, narcos, common bandits, the bewildered and the pissed off. Get a pistol at the corner bodega—new or used.

I smoked pot mornings and evenings for 13 years tending two aging ailing parents, their only child with a long, heavy work schedule. To get off took a community of mutual aid. Thank you Moshe and Sharon. Professional psychotherapy for the duration. Thank you Marc. There's a lump of hash somewhere in the house that has finally lost its magnetism as I enter the third stage.

I believe in the Anonymous Twelve Steps. Dedicate to a higher power as you define it, with comrades, a mentor, and day by day—a community in recovery to offer others. For me, Playback Theatre creates community one personal story at a time. Thank you Jonathan and Jo.

Chanting at the top of my voice "NO MORE DRUG WAR," I struggle towards fulfilling my humanity; responsible to/for myself, my loves, my neighbors, the moment, the movement, the marchers, the poet, the planet, the future.

Susan Metz

#### **RESPONSE TO GAZETTE GM REPORT**

#### TO THE EDITOR:

In her report on my proposal at the August GM, ("Developing Guidelines for Political Action Initiatives..."), Danielle Uchitelle writes that it was "motivated...by the shared experience of the recent BDS drama." A similar claim was made by Carl, of the Chair Committee, at the meeting itself. Since neither of these persons either interviewed me, or asked me that question directly, I must take exception to that assumption about my motives, especially when it is stated as fact in the Gazette.

I opposed the BDS proposal, and in fact used it as one relevant example of the kind of proposal which I believed should not be voted on by the Coop (although I respected the right of members to bring the issue to the attention of the membership). However, that issue was not the primary focus of my presentation. There had been so much discussion of the "precedent" for the Coop to engage in boycotts and other political actions that I decided to look into some of

In doing so, I found that there had been two types of such actions in our history: those within the scope of the Coop's core concerns as a business, and those which went beyond that even when they were very meaningful to some members. The examples I used at the meeting included the California Grapes and the Flaum Distributors boycotts on the one hand, and the Colorado boycott as well as the BDS proposal on the other. I continue to believe that the Coop needs to work out guidelines which assure the right of members to bring up issues which concern them, while limiting actions which compel us to take positions on issues better left to other political agencies.

Most of that did not find a place in the report in the Gazette. Emotions may well have been stirred at the meeting, but that was not my goal. The reporter certainly captured those emotions in her remarks on member responses, but she did a disservice to my proposal by framing it totally within the context of the BDS issue.

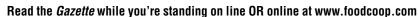
Unlike the reporter, however, I will not attempt to define her motives for doing so.

Michael Rieman









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#### 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.

#### FRI, OCT 5

7 p.m. Flags of Hope," a flagmaking event in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, will memorialize those who have been lost to domestic violence. Art supplies, speakers, refreshments and a self defense demonstration by the Center for Anti-Violence Education will be provided. Location: Park Slope United Methodist Church, 410 6th Ave & 8th St. RSVP: 718-499-2151.



#### SAT, OCT 6

8 p.m. Jolie Rickman Tribute Concert featuring Colleen Kattau and Some Guys, Wool and Grant, Barry Kornhauser, Jamie McCallum.Tickets are \$18, \$10 for members. Noboy will be turned away. Peoples' Voice Cafe at the Community Church of NYUU, 40 east 35th st. NY NY www.peoplesvoicecafe.org.

#### SUN, OCT 14

4 p.m. BPL Chamber players present An Extremely Rare Performance! The Finckel Cello Quartet: Chris Finckel, Violoncello, David Finckel, Violoncello, Michael Finckel, Violoncello, Adam

Grabois, Violoncello Admission is free; Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Center for Contemporary Culture at the Central Library.

9-10:30 a.m. Caregivers' Support Group for Aging Parents meets Sunday, 10/14 from 9:00 - 10:30am at the Park Slope United Methodist Church, 410 6th Ave. & 8th St., Bklyn. Monthly informal meeting to share experiences caring for parents & elders on dementia, elder law, long-distance, etc. If interested, contact Doris: dstrugatz.nyc.rr.com.





#### MEMBER SUBMISSION

# A People's History of the *Linewaiters' Gazette*: Part II, 'Editorial Independence'

By David Barouh

[Editor's note: This article originally appeared in the September 20 issue with typographical errors. It is being reprinted now in its correct version.]

My most negative experiences have to do with something that I would not change the essence of...a free and open and transparent press that is run by members...It is essential that we print virtually anything and everything.

—Joe Holtz, PSFC General Manager interviewed in Missoula Community Food Coop newsletter (reprinted Linewaiters' Gazette, 10/11/2007). Joe said this about what he considered unfair attacks on himself and other staff in the Gazette.

# "Free Press" vs. "Editorial Independence"

Early in Coop history, at the 10/16/1977 General Meeting, a resolution was presented by the Coop's Coordinators, including its only paid member, Joe Holtz. It resolved to have that free, open, and transparent press, stating:

"No article will be edited by the *Linewaiters' Gazette* without consent of the author."

The resolution was reaffirmed several times in *Gazette* articles and internal documents. At the 4/29/2003 GM, *Gazette* editor Ed Levy described the paper as a "vox pop [people's voice] for members." But its preferred term in articles and letters has become "editorial independence," a subtle but crucial distinction.

The Gazette is published using Coop labor and resources, and has forged an admirable independence from the potentially censoring hand of management. But at least since the 1980's, it has formulated guidelines affecting member expression independent of GM approval as well. Coordinating Editor Erik Lewis proclaimed at the 11/26/2002 GM that editorial meetings were "how policy has been made over nearly thirty years," consigning GM resolutions and oversight to quaint and forgotten artifacts locked away in Coop file cabi-

# Is the *Gazette* a "Free Press"?

The Gazette prints committee reports, member articles and letters, but the first two are routinely edited for content. Until recently, those changes —often deletions—were made without notice to writers. At the 4/29/2003 GM, a member asked whether policies existed for editors "to get clearance for proposed changes." With the 1977 resolution still standing, if now ignored, long-time Coordinating Editor Stephanie

Golden responded: "There aren't hard and fast rules. Some tension in the editing process seems inevitable." That "tension" of course refers to who controls the article's content—writer or editor. Stephanie Golden's answer was clearly the editor.

After the 8/25/2009 GM discussion where animated member sentiment was that writers should control their writing—and despite past protestations of "tight schedules" and "production deadlines"—the Gazette changed policies, requiring editors to "confer" with writers about changes.

But "conferring" is not "consent." The editors made that clear in their 12/29/2011 Committee Report "Gazette Editorial Policies," declaring:

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

It also stated that: "Editors are not required to do extensive line editing on MSAs [Member Submitted Articles]," which would seem to imply that their primary function is to edit content—in other words, to act as censors, something they would almost certainly deny.

#### What About Letters?

The Gazette's long-time policy of printing all letters

without editing—perversely, not even for obvious typos—has often been invoked to proclaim the Gazette a "Free Press."

But at the 4/29/2003 GM, it was pointed out that the notice in every issue only says the *Gazette* "welcomes" letters, and that since most publications "welcome" letters but print few, and usually just fragments of those, people might feel they "wouldn't run anyway."

Only after that—some thirty years into the Gazette's existence—did the submission guidelines begin to inform members that all letters would be printed. Nonetheless, the paper still changes titles and subheadings, key factors influencing content, and without conferring with or even notifying authors, a policy known only by those who have been subjected to it.

One might justly wonder about the *Gazette*'s mania over content while not editing let-

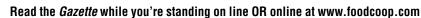
ters for typos, allowing writers to look bad and further discrediting the letters section as a place for sounding off and little more. And why is the professed "vox pop" limited to letters—and even that fudged—and not to articles and committee reports, efforts usually involving much research and effort?

#### **Coop Melee**

Members from the outset have wanted a newsletter that's a free press. But the editors seem to have had other ideas. The result was a battle-royal with management and members over control of content, with members taking it on the chin while not realizing they were even combatants. The editors scored two knockouts in one fight.

The conclusion appears inescapable that a publication whose "final authority" on content is not individual writers but the editors—actually the *individual editor*, as stated in "Gazette Editorial Policies"—is simply not a free press, not a "vox pop for members."





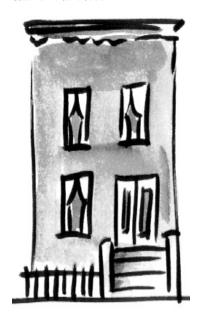
#### CLASSIFIEDS

#### **BED & BREAKFAST**

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

#### COMMERCIAL **SPACE**

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



#### HOUSING **AVAILABLE**

Sublet a large furnished bedroom, bath and kitchen in a lovely Prospect Heights brownstone from October 27th through December 20th. One sweet, pretty cat also resident. Be tidy, responsible and friendly. Price negotiable. Be prepared to supply references and a deposit. Call Susan 718-636-9089. Please say your name and number twice in a clear voice.

# 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 609-468-0885 for more info.

#### **PEOPLE** MEETING

We are interested in forming a writers' cooperative in Brooklyn which would cover local issues of concern. For more info about our upcoming meeting or to express interest, please e-mail Nikolas at senhorsmurf@hotmail.com.



#### **PETS**

Can you board my cat in your home from October 27th through December 20th? Muffin is sweet and pretty. She will retreat around other cats. I'll pay. Call Susan 718-636-9089. Please say your name and number twice in a clear voice.

#### SERVICES **AVAILABLE**

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

ATTORNEY—Personal Injury Emphasis—34 years experience in all aspects of injury law. Individual attention provided for entire case. Free phone or office consultations. Prompt, courteous communications. 23-year Park Slope Food Coop member; Park Slope resident; downtown Brooklyn office. Tom Guccione, 718-596-4184, also at www.tguccionelaw.com.

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 @

HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS Color, high lights, low lights in the convenience of your or mine. Adults \$35.00-\$40.00, kids \$15.00. Call Leonora 718-857-2215.

MADISON AVENUE HAIRCUTTER is right around the corner from the food Co-op, so if you would like a really good haircut at a decent price, please call Maggie at 718-783-2154, I charge \$60.00.

EDITOR FOR HIRE, Tap into 20 years of experience writing and editing propsals, reports, studies, analyses, media advisories, testimony, statements, propaganda, and other prose. Untangle it. Clarify it. Tighten it up. Pumphouse. Projects@verizon.net 718-768-1023.

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



HOLISTIC DENTISTRY in Manhattan (SOHO). Dr. Stephen R. Goldberg provides comprehensive family dental care using non-mercury fillings, crowns, dentures, thorough cleanings, non-surgical gum treatments with minimal Xrays. 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-

#### ADVERTISE ON THE WEB

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

#### **To Submit Classified or Display Ads:**

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

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

# MAC HE

House calls in Park Slope and vicinity

Trouble-shooting, Consulting and Coaching No problem too large or too small

Dan: 718-930-2286 | dan@mac11215.com

www.mac11215.com



258-7882. Insurance reimbursable, Medicare accepted.

#### 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.



Solution to this issue's sudoku puzzle								
9	5	2	8	4	6	7	3	1
7	6	1	3	2	5	9	4	8
4	3	8	9	7	1	5	2	6
1	9	6	2	3	4	8	7	5
3	4	7	5	9	8	1	6	2
8	2	5	6	1	7	4	9	3
6	1	9	7	5	2	3	8	4
5	8	3	4	6	9	2	1	7
2	7	4	1	8	3	6	5	9

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

#### 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.

Matt Aronoff Judy Bankman Oded Ben-Nun Eric Bet Jonathan Bigelow Nofar Blueshtein Molly Bossardt Nora Bosworth Marine Boudeau Tara Brennan Sam Brumbaugh Amy Bush Clara Lucia Campoli Helga Just Christoffersen Jean-Francois Collard Galaxy Craze Courtenay Deginder Lauren Denitzio Lyndol Descant

Olga Deshchenko

Amalle Dublon

Gina Erdmann

Bob Filbin Lindsay Fletcher Sonia Gaind-Krishnan Brian Gannon Zachary Genin Sylvia Gentilcore Katie Gillett Joey Goldsmith Charlotte Greve Sonia Grout De Beaufort Marla Guzman Lamia Harper Caitlin Iennings John Jennings Erin Johnson Marvsia Ionsson Melissa Kaplan-Macey Prudence Katze Katherine Keene Zekhan Kerr

Braden King

Cheryl Kremkow

Nikhil Krishnan Marguerite Ladd Moshe Leeds Nechama Dina Leeds Angelo Lucadamo James Macey Abigail Marcus Simon Marcussw Carolina Martinez-Perez William McCormack Noel Mendez Kay Naito Liz Neves Kate Northway Toby O'Brien Dayton O'Connor Kailee O'Sullivan Michael Palms Emily Parker Tracy V. Pierre Ariel Poland Alice Randall

Rebecca Rasch Kathleen Richards Rayna Rogowsky Michael J. Sclanfani Noah Smith Elizabeth Socc Denes Szalai Denesne Szalai Carol Taylor Peter Taylor Phil Taylor Charles Thomas Rachel Van Yosh Aida Verdes Mimi Visser Dylan Watson Heather West Michael Widman Lee Wilson Amy Zimmer

# Members Sought for PSFC Personnel Committee

If you know how to work effectively with others and believe you could make a contribution to the well-being and professional growth of our General Coordinators, we would love to hear from you.

We are looking for members to join our committee. We are especially interested in people who have skills in management, personnel, human resources, organizational development and/or team development.

The Personnel Committee was formed in 1980 when the General Meeting decided to elect a small group of people who could be in touch and work with the General Coordinators on an ongoing basis. Committee responsibilities are to:

- 1. Review the work of the General Coordinators, individually and as a group;
- 2. Discuss and address problems affecting personnel;
- **3.** Interview candidates and make recommendations for General Coordinator positions; and
- **4.** Report to the membership either at General Meetings or in Gazette articles about our committee work.
- **5.** Work with General Coordinators on succession planning strategies.

This is a Coop work slot. We meet regularly every four weeks, usually on a Tuesday from 5:30 to 7:15 p.m. However, to respond to the workload, we periodically must meet more frequently, and we try to be as flexible as possible with scheduling.

We would like the Personnel Committee to reflect the diversity of the Coop.

Please send us your resume and a letter explaining why you would like to be part of the committee. We prefer to receive applications by e-mail at pc.psfc@gmail.com.

If you do not have access to e-mail please send your materials to the Personnel Committee c/o Park Slope Food Coop, 782 Union St., Brooklyn, NY 11215.

