

Volume HH, Number 12

June 13, 2013

# **GM Bags Debate**

Overflow Crowd Postpones the General Meeting Vote on Plastic Bags



GM was a packed house and then some.

### By Danielle Uchitelle

f you've ever tried to force two quarts of bulk rolled oats into a one-quart plastic bag, you'll have some idea of the scene during the first hour of the May 28 General Meeting. Held in the usually capacious MS 51 auditorium, a crush of Coop members squeezed themselves into every available seat, filled all the standing room outside the auditorium, and created a line stretching down the block as member interest in a proposed phaseout of free plastic bags caught

GM organizers off guard and presented an immediate dilemma: how do you hold a debate and vote among an estimated 700 members when only about 400 can see the presentations and hear the debate?

"This is not a ban. Shoppers can always reuse their plastic bags. What we are proposing is a six-month phaseout of the Coop providing free plastic bags." —Jenna Spevack,

Environmental Committee

After a delayed start, the evening's Chair began gamely trying to accommodate the crowd, rearranging the agenda on the fly so that the Environmental Committee proposal could be discussed first. But before the discussion could begin, it became clear that the most immediate issue wasn't the debate itself but how to manage the press of members who

where between beehive and hornets' nest. The Chair announced that Jenna Spevack from the Environmental Committee could come up to the front of the room to begin her presentation. As a well-polished PowerPoint presenta-

announced Board of Directors member Bill

Penner. Referring to the huge number who

stood waiting in the hallways and lined up in

the street, he asked, "How do we let people

ing gives advice to the Board," continued Bill,

"and this requires people to be present at the

meeting—or at least that's my interpretation.

We can't have two classes of voters, those who

have heard the presentations and those who

have not."

The packed room

was set abuzz, at a

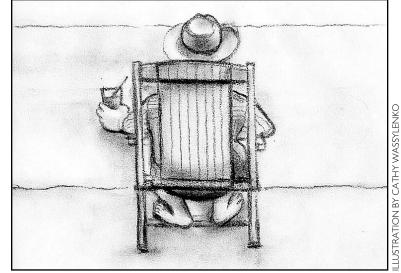
sound level some-

"According to the bylaws, the General Meet-

participate who are not in this room?"

tion flashed up on the screen, Jenna started by trying to clarify what she considered to be misinformation about the proposal. "This is not a ban," she insisted. "Shoppers can always reuse their plastic bags. What we are proposing is a six-month phaseout of the Coop providing free plastic bags." Pictures of little children stand-CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

# **Retirement of a Longtime Coop Member: Three Decades** As an Attendance Worker



### By Hayley Gorenberg

fter three decades as an Aattendance worker, recording who showed up for shifts and who missed the mark, Coop veteran Bill Mills summed up, "My story is less a story of excited moments than a story of long protracted work and watching the parade go by.'

A law librarian by trade, Mills was apparently sized up for the attendance assignment from the get-go, and he has stuck with the job, which indeed suited him, for nearly 400 shifts. "For my money, it's better than hauling around bags of broccoli. This kind of detail-oriented job appeals to something in me. They matched me up with it 30 years ago, and I've never had the desire to do anything else." Of course, the work itself is simply data entry, "and data entry work...it is what it is," he said. "You develop a CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

### Next General & Annual Meeting on June 25

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The June General & Annual Meeting will be on Tuesday, June 25, at 7:00 p.m. at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. Enter on Fourth St. cul-desac. The Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.

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

had come out to participate. "We have a question as to how to treat the proceedings,"

	Fri, Jun 14• Wordsprouts: Group Reading: Love, Romance, Responsibility 7:00 p.m.
Соор	Tue, Jul 9• Safe Food Committee Film Night: Eat This New York 7:00 p.m.
Event	Thu, Fri, Sat • See What the PAFCU Offers   Jul 25-27 4 - 6 p.m., Thu & Fri; 10 a.m 12:30 p.m., Sat
Highlights	Fri, Sat• See What the PAFCU OffersAug 9-104 - 6 p.m., Fri; 10 a.m 12:30 p.m., Sat
	Look for additional information about these and other events in this issue.

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### Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY

# GM Bags

ing before mountains of trash and oil-covered waterfowl flashed accusingly on the screen as Jenna spoke of "a lifetime of plastic consumption" and "environmental devastation."

It was just after the part about environmental devastation that a commotion broke out in the back of the auditorium. "There are hundreds of people in the hallway trying to get into the room!" shouted someone. At this point the meeting Chair stood up and exclaimed, "The Board is trying to decide how to involve them. We've stopped the clock." True to his word, he leaned over a large clock that was ticking



Coop members outside the auditorium listen as the Board proposes to table the plastic bag vote.

ing outside. When this airline-like approach failed to entice any takers, Bill proposed what was probably the only other workable solution: that the entire topic be tabled until a larger venue could be found. Duly seconded, the proposal was voted over!" as a large portion of the room boiled up and out the door.

First to the microphone was General Coordinator Mike Eakin with the financial report. He proceeded to lull the remaining attendees with his soothing recitation of the Coop's latest gross margin and inventory turnover rate. Whatever devastation we've visited on the environment with our free plastic bags, at least the Coop appears to be in good financial shape.

Mike was followed by General Coordinator Allen Zimmerman, the Coop's muchloved produce buyer, who educated the attendees with an informative lesson in plant biology to explain why garlic scapes arrive so much later in the Spring than many

Next, the Chair called for

## **Hearing Administration Committee** is seeking new members

The HAC performs administrative functions necessary to arrange and facilitate disciplinary hearings, coordinating with the Coop's Disciplinary Committee and the Hearing Officers Committee.

> Applicants should be detail-oriented, comfortable working by e-mail and telephone; they should be Coop members for at least one year and

ronmental Committee stood up and attempted to continue where her colleague had left off, telling attendees to be sure to carefully read the wording of the bag proposal. But when a member got up to ask a question, another member pointed out that this seemed merely a resumption of the now-deferred bag debate in the guise of a committee report. The Chair agreed and tabled the committee's presentation.

Having no additional committee reports, the agenda moved on to a vote to renew the terms of two members of the Revolving Loan Committee. Rachel Porter from that there didn't seem to be much support for stopping the vote; in fact, by this time members seemed impatient to get the entire proceedings over with, and a number asked if we could just dispense with the time-consuming process of passing out and tallying the alreadyprinted paper ballots that were sitting in bundles on the Chair's tabletop. When this was assented to, a hand tally was taken and the two candidates, Harriet Joynes and Kathy Martino, were reelected to their committee.

The final agenda items included the approval of the previous meeting's minutes,



Members file out of MS 51 after learning that the vote will be postponed.

committee presented the names of the two candidates who were seeking reelection; regrettably, neither was in attendance to speak on their own behalf. "Why are we being asked to vote when we don't know who we're voting for?" asked one attendee. But

and the Board votes to ratify the actions taken during the night's meeting. As members drifted off into the rainy night, the Chair asked if there were any final comments about the conduct of the meeting, but by then there were not many attendees left to respond. ■





To save time, it was decided that there would be a hand vote, instead of using the pre-printed ballots, for the Revolving Loan Committee election.

away on the table and tapped a button on top. Board member Bill again took the microphone and announced a novel strategy for sorting out the crowd, offering work slot credit for anyone in the auditorium who would give up their seat to someone standon by a show of hands and passed overwhelmingly.

Once the air was let out of this particular bag, the Chair scrambled to get the meeting back on track, calling for the monthly General Coordinators' reports, while insisting plaintively, "The meeting isn't other vegetables: they're the flowering part of the garlic, and flowering comes late in the growth cycle, hence the continued scapelessness of the produce aisle.

committee reports. Regina Sandler-Phillips of the Envi-

have excellent attendance records.

Members of the HAC work on an as-needed basis, only when hearings are required, and earn FTOP credit. Therefore these members must maintain regular Coop shifts or be FTOP members in good standing.

The nature of this work requires that all members maintain strict confidentiality with respect to all matters on which they work.

> We are seeking an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop membership at large.

Those interested should telephone Rachel Garber at 718-218-3925.

 PHP programming ◆ MySQL

Remember you can gift your FTOP credit to another "active" member of the Food Coop.

If you are interested in this initiative, please send your resume or details of vour relevant work experience to the following e-mail address: gerald\_barker@psfc.coop

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### Retirement

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



rhythm for it. Your finger memorizes how to do it."

#### **Oh. the Drama!**

Mills did confess to fomenting a peculiar bit of excitement around make-ups. "When I first got started, attendance was done on 3x5 cards, and on 3x5 cards you had a little more drama, because not only were you entering whether they were present or absent, but if they had owed for a month and hadn't made up their time you also suspended them. If they missed two shifts, not only did you suspend them, but you took them off their squad. That was the drama, if you will."

The attendance drama deepened and became personal for him and his wife, Liz Evans (also about to retire after 30 years of a mix of different shifts), when their younger daughter, Martha, repopulated their nest for a year after graduating college. Mills and Evans insisted Martha comply with the letter of Coop law and join. "God, did she resent it!" Mills recalled. "So she was leading an unsettled life and was missing work slots, and then we would really get furious that we would be on alert or suspended because of her." Marking Martha absent one Sunday, Mills realized his diligence was likely yielding a family suspension, but he gritted his teeth and took the blow in the name of "attendance integrity." As he said, "That's what a good attendance worker is supposed to do. I've always been scrupulous, and I've never given anyone a pass based on the fact that I knew them...or was related to them!" He paused and mused, "I guess they could pay us off. That would

be great. Like payola!" His own particular family shift strife culminated in a simple solution: "Finally, she moved out. So that's how we

"When I walk into the Coop I feel comfortable, I feel at home."

### In the Beginning

solved that."

Mills recalled that he and Evans spent months on a waiting list in the early 1980s before they were finally admitted to the Coop as members 4618 and 4619. But the wait was worth it, in terms of prices and quality of food. Had the term "food desert" been in common parlance back then, Mills thinks applying it to Park Slope would have been appropriate. He remembers with distaste the neighborhood outlets that existed at the time, including one that went out of business and had its shelves stripped bare, at which point the accumulated filth that remained rendered him and Evans "horrified we

ever had to shop there!" Obviously Mills' three decades included great expansions at the Coop, but overall, he maintained, "I don't think it's changed that much. When I walk into the Coop I feel comfortable, I feel at home. I feel comfortable in the sense that I enjoy the company of the people I'm shopping with, and I enjoy the people I'm working with. If that had not been true 25, 30 years ago, I would have stopped being a member." He continued, "I think it has the same spirit that it's always had. Radical politics were a little more mainstream in the '80s, and '90s. That's been damped down in the past decades, and that's equally true at the Coop. But it's always neighborhood people, so you really have no standing to complain about the population of the Food Coop, because it's not as if large number of Upper East Siders are getting in their taxies and coming here. It 's us!"



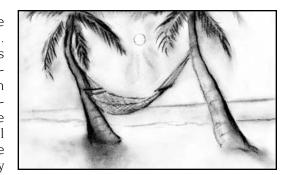
Speaking of Coop politics, Mills admits neither he nor his wife has ever attended a General Meeting. But he's by no means apolitical about PSFC. "I get angry at the press coverage of the Park Slope Food Coop, because to some extent it's all being done by people who are both insiders and out-

siders at the same time They're insiders in that they probably live within easy walking distance of the Coop, and they all live here because God knows they wouldn't live in

any more exotic locations in Brooklyn, so it's an easy thing for them to walk down and get a scoop for their paper. But they're outsiders, because they don't seem to know what the Coop is all about, and they don't know what they're reporting. I find myself getting angry and laughing at the same time, because they've left out so much, and they write about the Coop and its eccentricities without really knowing what it is!"

#### **Retirement Run-Up**

Coop members can retire if they accrue 30 years of cumulative service and are at least 60 years old. Mills, who turned 63 this month, claimed his enthusiastic chatter about the Coop at cocktail parties had misled people to believe he'd never leave his attendance post. "Based on my willingness to blather on about the Coop...people made the erroneous assumption that I would not retire." The meticulous librarian assessed that choice as lacking any logic whatsoever. "I said to them,



'I'm not crazy. If I can shop at the Park Slope Food Coop without working, I'm going to stop working. I really do enjoy the camaraderie of the office, but not enough that I'm going to come to bathe in it."

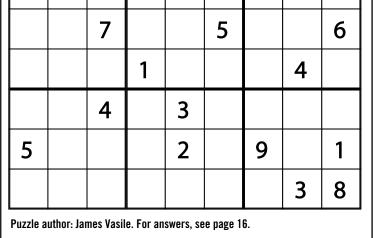
Weeks shy of Mills' retirement, staff member Lewanika Forde-Senghor wrote, "Bill has worked attendance all of his Coop life. I think his is an amazing story of dedication to doing a job consistently well over 30 years." It's apparently a very specific match. On a couple of occasions when Mills' wife was ill, he filled in, but believes he was deemed unsuitable for most other work. "They took one look at me and stuck me at the exit door."

His retirement has triggered some reflection. "I guess the Park Slope Food Coop is going to be the first thing I will ever have retired from," Mills said. "So I guess you call it practice for a broader retirement, and ultimately checking out into the old-age home." He cackled, "This is the first step of a downward journey!" ■



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. **^** 

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



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### A.O. Scott Loves the Food Coop Q. & A. With the New York Times Film Critic & Coop Member



Film critic A.O. Scott.

#### By Allison Pennell

■don't know why but every Lime I think of Tony Scott, aka A.O. Scott of The New York Times, my heart breaks out in song... specifically, that dinner party scene in Beetlejuice where Dick Cavett and a tableful of other VIPs belt out Day-O. And then I can't get "A-O, me say A-A-A-OHHH-HH" out of my head for a really long time.

He has that effect on you: kind of a droll, slightly absurdist, witty dinner party possibly attended by a whackadoodle demon or Norman Mailer. I think I was with Tony at Park Slope's Starbucks when we watched a Coop walker on roller skates take a lengthy coffee break. I'm pretty sure I once watched the Oscars with him and that Juliette Binoche was dressed like a dominatrix. And he and his wife Justine are two of my favorite people to run into while perusing organic produce at the Coop.

Tony is the Dick Cavett of our times, although in this case he let me do the interviewing.

**AP:** So, I'm thinking if you

AO: I joined the Coop around the time my first child was born, which I'm somewhat shocked to say was almost 17 years ago, and started out working in Childcare. I kept the same shift for something like 10 years, but when my kids began doing other stuff on Saturday mornings I moved on, briefly to a Shopping squad and then to Food Processing, where I cut up cheese with the other laidback basement people.

**AP:** Does the world need

**Chadwick Matlin** @ChadwickMatlin



@brooklynbreeder Romcom idea: dueling food coop general meeting tweeter/reporters hate then love. "It's Organic" starring Rudd and Lawrence.

A screen grab from a tweet joking about the possibility of a feature film romantic comedy based on the Food Coopstarring Paul Rudd and Jennifer Lawrence.

this movie? Would you review it? Direct it? If you were pitching a movie about the Food Coop, what would it be?

to come to their sense and end this folly.

**AP:** Did this happen on your block? Can you work up **AO:** I'm surprised this a lather of righteous, spitty my block, and I don't think it's related to the GoogaMooga (or to the fact that I happen to live there). My main objection to the GoogaMooga is not that it encourages the foodie pretentiousness or public cretinism but that it pimps out precious public space for commercial purposes, and denies Brooklyn residents the full use of a park that, last I checked, belongs to all of us. Is that spitty enough?

**AP:** Do you miss anything whatsoever about living in Park Slope now that you have been exiled to the other side of the park?

AO: I spend enough time in the Slope not to miss it too much, but I can also escape some of its more annoying aspects and people. Since my "exile" includes a driveway I feel like I have the freedom of the borough in ways I didn't when I lived in the Slope. where the convenience of various amenities discouraged venturing into other neighborhoods.

AP: When was the last time you entered the Food Coop? How often do you come?

AO: I do most of the family grocery shopping, so I'm there at least once a week for the big haul. Usually on weekends, unfortunately, but sometimes on a Monday or Thursday morning, which is thrilling.

AP: What is the most ridiculous loudspeaker announcement/exchange you've heard?

AO: I'm amazed that some of the products we carry exist, though I sometimes think that the people paging about them are playing an elaborate prank. "And we're working on the Parmigiano right now, so please be patient."

AP: What's the most memorable thing that's happened to you at the Food Coop?

AO: I bought a non-organic Hass avocado by mistake.

**AP:** Do you love the Food

Coop? What do you love

My guacamole suffered.

most about it?

AO: I love the Coop without reservation, and I'm consistently dismayed that it's an easy target for the scorn of the ignorant and insecure, including some who work at my paper. I love that whenever I'm in there I run into at least one person I know, usually someone I am glad to see. I love the quality and variety of the food, and the fact that I know where almost all of it comes from. And I love how well the place functions, in spite of how complicated it is as an organization and how many different things the members want from it.

"If I had to pitch a Coop movie it would be a slow, sad, Neo-realist fable involving cheese. Really though, the place cries out for longer-form, serial treatment. A workplace sitcom like 'The Office' would *work, or else a competitive* reality show."

**AP:** What are you pissed at the Food Coop about?

**AO:** Sometimes people get too hung up on the rules, though on the other hand people also sometimes treat the rules too casually. The art of Coop membership is figuring out just how seriously to take it. I was not happy about the whole melodrama about boycotting Israeli products. The idea that the Coop, with its diverse membership, should in effect take sides in a faraway war struck me as deeply misguided. I'm sure the issue will come up again but I really hope it doesn't.

**AP:** What is a typical shopping experience like for you? Do you cheat on the Coop with any other supermarkets?

AO: I try to beat the crowds on Saturday or Sunday morning, but often end up enduring a line that stretches at least to the end of the freezer aisle. That is the big weekly four- or five-box shop that covers meals and snacks for the family (and pets). I sometimes shop at other places, but rarely. I almost always miss the Coop when I do. Compared to cheese boutiques and gourmet stores the prices at PSFC are much lower and the atmosphere less precious. When I shop at supermarkets, even supposedly hip ones like Fairway, Whole Foods

say, and I hope it encourages the Prospect Park Alliance and other responsible parties

the rain was sweet, I must

anti-hero drama about the

tormented inner life and

criminal secrets of an out-

cheese buyer. Yuri could

totally be the next Walter

from the GoogaMooga rain-

out yet? I know you were real-

**AP:** Have you recovered

AO: The karmic justice of

White or Tony Soprano.

ly looking forward to it.

mild-mannered

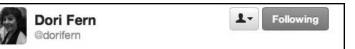
wardly

agreed to do this interview that you actually may do your shifts and not send your kids or Justine. I've been trying to picture your shift. I imagined you first in Childcare. Ha. Then, I moved on to the Office followed by you convening a meeting of the Brooklyn Food Conference. But now I'm thinking you're either a Cashier or down with the groovy, laid-back people filling nut bags in the basement. So which is it?

movie does not already exist and that I haven't already reviewed it. Directing is not my thing—I'm barely bossy enough to function as a Squad Leader—but if I had to pitch a Coop movie it would be a slow, sad, Neo-realist fable involving cheese. Really though, the place cries out for longer-form, serial treatment. A workplace sitcom like "The Office" would work, or else a competitive reality show. Or a premium-cable

indignation for us again?

AO: Actually, impromptu urination is not a rare event on



Here's what @GoogaMooga means to me and my PLG neighbors right about now: drunk man-boy heading to train w/2 drunk girlfriends pees...

A screen grab from a tweet talking about Prospect Lefferts Gardens and GoogaMooga.

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and Trader Joes, I'm put off by the aggressive marketing and also the exploited labor, both of which are almost entirely absent from the Coop.

**AP:** Worst song/musical genre playing on the shopping floor? Best?

**AO:** As long as it's not the same pop music that my kids inflict on me in the car I'm happy. Country and Western is my favorite music these days.

**AP:** Do you stock up like a survivalist in times of potential/maybe disaster? Wait in line to even get in the joint?

**AO:** No. I am the grasshopper in Aesop's fable. Hoping my friends and neighbors are ants.

**AP:** Do you drink Kombucha?

**AO:** I once brought some Kombucha to a video shoot as a joke, but I don't usually drink it. I like Six Points beer, though. Especially the one called Resin. That has to be good for you, right? Probiotic?

**AP:** Would you ever wear one of those apron/schmata checkout helper outfits?

**AO:** I wear an apron and bandana in the basement, though lately I've taken to bringing my own hat.

**AP:** When was the last time you went to the Pavilion movie theater? Have you ever been to the Sheepshead Bay cinema men's room? It's awful—went in by accident last weekend while being dragged by teenaged boys to see *The Rock* and Marky Mark. I walked out loving those muscle-bound numbskulls. How could you diss them?

**AO:** I'd much rather go to Court Street than the Pavilion, which is one of the worst movie theaters in America. I like the Alpine in Bay Ridge. And if you re-read my review of *Pain and Gain* you'll see that I liked it too. It's a bracingly honest look at American values. And seeing Wahlberg in the Calvin Klein skivvies again made me weirdly nostalgic. **AP:** Do you actually go to work at that fancy NYT building or do you work from home? Is it a horrible place, like a Scoobie Doo ghostly cruise ship episode?

**AO:** I write at home mostly, or in undisclosed Brooklyn coffee shops. I go into the Times building for meetings or to shoot video in the cafeteria, which is like a high-rise airport lounge (in a good way). It's not so horrible, but I'm glad I don't have to go in every day.

**AP:** Do you watch TV? Can you please tell me why I'm supposed to keep watching Don Draper? Isn't Walter the greatest character ever? Were you a fan of Nancy Botwin? "Girls," though because of a conflict of interest I should recuse myself from saying more about that show. I watch "Portlandia," "Louis," "Nurse Jackie," "Project Runway," "Workaholics" and "New Girl." I miss "Friday Night Lights," "The Office" and "30 Rock." Have not yet latched onto "Game of Thrones" or "The Americans."

**AP:** What are your five favorite items to buy at the Coop?

**AO:** That yogurt that comes in glass jars. Peaches in the summer. Apples in the Fall. Six Point beer. The smelliest cheese Yuri is peddling. Savoy cabbage. Marcona almonds. That's seven



New York Times film critic still hates GoogaMooga: "Olmsted is spinning in his grave."

Would you agree that Girls is genius? What are you watching? "Survivor"? "The Voice"? "Downton"? "Hoarders"? Give me something...

**AO:** I tend to catch up late with television, and bingewatch shows a few years after everyone else has been talking about them. I think "Mad Men" is in the process of revealing that it's actually never been as good as everyone thought. "Breaking Bad" so far may be even better than everyone thinks. I liked "Weeds" okay until it got silly and baroque, though I am always susceptible to the spacey, passive-aggressive, mildly kinky charm of Mary-Louise Parker. I agree about



PHOTO BY ROD MORRISON

Tony Scott used to work on the Cheese Squad but was known to make horrendous labeling errors!

already. Stop me any time. Hot pepper sesame oil. Equal Exchange French Roast coffee.

**AP:** Do you ever go to General Meetings and if so please describe your "feelings."

**AO:** I have never been to one, for which I "feel" enormous gratitude.

**AP:** How would you improve the running of the Coop? Do you think we need so very many workers, for instance? Have an opinion on line management?

**AO:** I don't like being urged to have someone else unload or pack my groceries, and I try to politely refuse when that is offered. I'm not sure line management accomplishes much, though crowding and slowmoving lines are big problems, especially on weekends (though I can remember when the Coop was half the size and much less automated and things were a lot worse). In general, I'm impressed with the way the place runs, especially with respect to the management of inventory.

**AP**: Did you hear about the time some shiftless member locked some compatriots in by accident so he could get home to watch a "Castle" rerun and they had to call the 78th to break them out? I made that last part up; maybe they called the Squad Leader. Anyway, was that secretly you?

**AO:** I think you're making all of that up. ■



Are you looking for a more meaningful way to gain Coop work credit? Are you interested in issues of diversity within the Coop? Do you have experience in conflict resolution and using mediation to resolve disputes? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, we should talk to you about joining the Diversity and Equality Committee (DEC). Come to our open house for prospective members on June 13 at 6 p.m.

The DEC seeks to create a more welcoming place for all members. We address diversity, bias, and discrimination at the Coop through a number of activities including training, awareness-raising initiatives, biascomplaint investigations and special events that aim to build community among Coop members. We are currently looking for new members.

You are encouraged to contact us if you are a member who has:

- Been in good standing for at least one year
- An interest/experience in diversity issues
- Good interpersonal skills



**Follow the Food Coop** 

The ability to follow through on tasks independently

We have monthly meetings as a group, but also have additional subcommittee/project work that requires more time than a typical work shift. You can bank any additional time worked as FTOP credit for the future. Members with mediation skills can join us as FTOP members and participate as needed.

We welcome members of all ethnicities, nationalities, races, religion and sexual orientation. In order to maintain the diversity of our committee, Asians and Latinos are particularly encouraged to apply.

Interested? Please contact Jasmina Nikolov (jasmina1@gmail.com) or join us for an Open House on Thursday, June 13 at 6 p.m. in the upstairs conference room (please RSVP so that we have enough snacks).

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6 🖚 June 13, 2013

Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY

#### MEMBER SUBMISSION

### **Boycotts and Hypocrisy**

### By Sylvia Lowenthal The Academic Boycott

n a recent letter, a BDS advocate (Buchwald, 5/30/ 13) supported ending joint programs with Israeli institutions, justified by unsupported claims about "infringements of the right to education of Palestinian students and the academic freedom of Palestinian scholars and students." Yet Omar Barghouti, a founder of BDS and PACBI-the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel-himself has attended and received a Masters Degree (in Ethics) from Tel-Aviv University. He justified his choice at a recent Q&A at Loyola Law School: "Oppressed people don't have a choice of where they go to school," this despite a couple of dozen colleges/universities in Gaza and the West Bank and his past attendance at Columbia University, suggesting that indeed he had many alternatives. Note that despite tens of thousands of petitioners

calling for Barghouti's expulsion, Zvi Galil, Rector of Tel Aviv University, successfully defended him from calls for his expulsion as a radical, so that even Barghouti, who seeks not only the boycott of the very institution he attends but also the demise of the Jewish state, receives sanctuary from discrimination at an Israeli University, continuing to enjoy the academic freedoms he seeks to deny Israeli academics.

While a claim has been made that the academic boycott applies only to Israeli institutions and not to individual academics (Buchwald 5/30/13), this is against the evidence: applicants for academic positions have been subjected to litmus tests on the Israeli/ Palestinian conflict and Israeli academics have in fact been boycotted as individuals (examples follow). And of course it is also impossible to separate the boycott of the institution

from the inevitable effects on the academics within it, the shift in language to the institution being solely to divert attention from the fact that what they are advocating is discrimination against Israeli thinkers, easily seen from the language of the BRICUP (British Committee for the Universities of Palestine) proposal: "Refusing research collaborations with Israeli institutions or to referee papers or grant applications issuing from such institutions," since it is individual Israeli academics, not institutions, who write and submit papers and grants.<sup>[2]</sup>

An Australian-Israeli biomathematics professor denied publication in a science journal because of his Tel Aviv University address.<sup>[3]</sup>

A Hebrew University professor denied acceptance by the University of Sydney Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies to undertake academic work in Arab-Jewish peace studies.<sup>[3]</sup>

Two Israeli academics removed from the editorial boards of journals due to their affiliation with Israeli institutions.<sup>[4]</sup>

An Israeli student who applied to a Ph.D. program told by a professor "no way would I take on somebody who had served in the Israeli army."[5]

Note that despite the recent academic boycotts that have been celebrated in these pages (Buchwald 5/30/13), the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) has stated: "In view of the Association's long-standing commitment to the free exchange of ideas, we oppose academic boycotts" and "We especially oppose selective academic boycotts that entail an ideological litmus test."<sup>[6]</sup> The AAUP is joined in these sentiments by SPME (Scholars for Peace in the Middle East) and by several dozen Nobel Laureates.<sup>[7]</sup>

### **Calls to Divest from Companies that Benefit** Palestinians

It's been claimed as a BDS "watershed victory" (Buchwald, 7/26/12, 2/14/13) that pension fund TIAA-CREF sold \$72M of Caterpillar stock from its Social Choice funds due to pressure from the boycott movement because the company sells bulldozers to Israel. However this is false and has been denied by TIAA-CREF: their decision "is due instead to other factors. These include its ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) rating downgrade [by MSCI] resulting from employee health and safety, labor relations, and toxic releases."<sup>[8-10]</sup> Furthermore, TIAA-CREF recently received approval from the SEC to "take no action" on another boycott proposal.[11] And even as BDS promotes boycotting Caterpillar in the interests of Palestinians, there is a Palestinian Caterpillar dealer in Ramallah (Palestinian Tractor and Equipment Co. Ltd.) which is engaged in commercial transactions with the Palestinian Authority itself.[12-13] From their website: "Palestinian Tractor is a truly Palestinian enterprise and is set to play a leading role in the country's economic and industrial development, as well as training and development to its Palestinian staff." (See also If the Sodastream Boycott Succeeds, Palestinians Lose 5/2/13.) ■

#### References

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- <sup>121</sup>www.engageonline.wordpress.com/2013/02/27/the-myth-of-the-institutional-boycott-jon-pike/
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- <sup>15</sup>www.isurvived.org/2Queries/Q1-DrWilkiesLab-NoJews.html
- <sup>16</sup>/www.aaup.org/news/aaup-statement-academic-boycotts
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- <sup>19</sup>www.msci.com/insights/responsible\_investing/qa\_removal\_of\_caterpillar\_from\_several\_msci\_esg\_indices.html#more
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- <sup>112</sup>/www.elderofziyon.blogspot.com/2012/06/pa-buys-caterpillar-equipment-bds-and.html
- <sup>[13]</sup>www.palestinian-tractor.ps/ptec/about\_comm.asp

To receive workslot credit for attending the monthly General Meeting, members must sign up in advance in one of the following three ways:



Looking for something new?



On the Coop's website

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



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

### MEMBER SUBMISSION

### The Role of the Board of Directors At the May GM

By Bill Penner President, Board of Directors

At our last General Meeting, I made a motion on behalf of the Coop's Board of Directors to table the proposal to phase out the distribution of plastic roll bags. The motion was approved by a large majority and the plastic bag proposal will now be discussed at a future General Meeting (GM). In the interest of transparency, this letter discusses some of the background leading to the Board's decision to make this motion.

All members are encouraged to attend our monthly GM. In addition, Coop members are allowed to receive work slot credit twice per year by signing up in advance and attending a GM. In the week leading up to our last GM, interest in the plastic bag topic increased substantially as evidenced by the number of members signing up to receive work slot credit for the GM. Several days before the GM, it was clear that many more members had signed up than we had the legal capacity to accommodate at our regular meeting location, the auditorium at Middle School 51.

Moving the GM to a suitable larger venue at such short notice was not possible. Canceling the GM was not practical in terms of notifying all interested parties, as well as, the important fact that each GM

serves as one of the 10 meetings of the Board of Directors required by the Coop's By-Laws, scheduling a makeup GM would have been difficult. Historically, we have had up to a 50% no-show rate of people who had signed up in advance for work slot credit at a GM, in addition, the weather on the meeting day was stormy with heavy rain. No one could say with any certainty how many members would ultimately show up. I do not have an exact tally but approximately several hundred over our capacity of 400 persons arrived.

The Board of Directors believed that it was most important for everyone who came to be able to participate in the discussion and hear the views presented. Article VI of the Coop's Bylaws states in part: "The directors shall inform those members who shall be pre-

sent of the nature of the business to come before the directors and receive the advice of the members on such matters..." To hear as many views as possible, we believed the preferable solution was a motion to wait and move the discussion to a larger forum at a future GM. Members who had signed up for work slot credit were allowed to receive credit for attending the GM even if they chose not to stay for the remaining agenda items.

Much work and preparation goes into creating an open and thorough discussion at our GM, I hope that those who felt disappointed will understand the care and effort by members and staff to make each GM run smoothly and allow for the fullest discussion possible. I look forward to seeing all interested members again when this topic is presented at a future GM. ■

### 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.

The Coop Needs Planners & Workers for Every five years the Coop celebrates our birthday and this year we are 40 years old.

Earn FTOP credit to coordinate, plan and staff the Coop's Fall birthday party.

# ecokvetch

committee blog

Coop Members use 383 PLASTIC BAGS an hour. WOW!

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

ecokvetch.blogspot.com

Support GMO

Labeling in NYS!

Assembly Bill A3525

Senate Bill S3835

**GMO** 

Labeling

Here

Transgenics, the Coop, and You

GMO

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This year the party's theme will be "supporting new coops in our model." Proceeds from the party will support the Coop's Fund for New Food Coops. The party coordinator will work with the Loan Committee to select a venue, decor, food, entertainment and fundraising activities. Party workers will help in planning and will help as needed the week before the party, the day of the party and cleaning up after the party. We are looking for members who are willing to work alone and together to make this autumn party a success. If you are interested, please send an inquiry specifying your interests and skills to loancommittee@psfc.coop.



Contact your state legislators before June 20, demand they support these bills, and join the movement: GMOFREENY.NET

This notice is brought to you by the GMO Shelf Labeling Committee of the PSFC: www.gmodanger.wordpress.com

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

#### 8 🔊 June 13, 2013

### Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY



**Office Hours:** Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Friday & Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. **Shopping Hours**: Monday–Friday 8:00 a.m. to 10:00\* p.m. Saturday 6:00 a.m. to 10:00\* p.m. Sunday 6:00 a.m. to 7:30\* p.m.

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

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

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



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

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

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

#### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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

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

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

Committee Reports: Maximum 1,000 words.

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



### **RETURN POLIC**

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



### CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?

Bulk\* fincl. Coop-bagged bulk Produce\* Cheese\* Seasonal Holiday Items Books Special Orders

#### This Issue Prepared By:

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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.

RETURNABLE Calendars Refrigerated Supplements Juicers & Oils \*A buyer is available during the week Sushi days to discuss your concern RETURNABLE ONLY IF SPOILED Refrigerated Goods (not listed above) BEFORE Frozen Goods EXPIRATION DATE Meat & Fish Packaging/labe nust be present Bread ed for refund Items not listed above that are unopened RETURNABLE 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.

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

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June 13, 2013 💌 9

#### 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. M. Celia Arias Lauren Cruz Maya Gur Jackson Kent **Trevor Preston** Maria Van Horn Maral Arslanian Jamie Hardy Jonathan Vandenburgh Natalia Mori Cruz Mariko Koyamatsu Peter Reiner Sara Haskelewitch Kayla Bensing Roosvelt Delancy Korin Levi Raisa Rexer Abigail Williams Gordon Hatchett Kiki Williams Lauren Bentlev Rido Doves Matthew Lima Osiris Rodriguez Justin Blinder Erik Duron Janice Heinemann Malikah Lind Justin Rose Anna Wolk Juanita Boddie Aaron Epelbaum Drew Hendrickson Ronald E. Major Leon Rybner Daniel Wolkowitz Jennifer Epelbaum Sharon Yamauchi Pedro Borges Eugenio Hernadez Nakevah Martin Yukiko Sakamoto Catherine Bright Villasante Dusan Sekulovic Yonathan Epelbaum Henry McMahon Aubrey Zich Helena Hill Paul Essling David Buchbut Rebecca Miller Ramona Sekulovic Sarah Kalen Flynn Maha Hussain Kevin Moehringer Thea Shaw Caitlin Bumpas Michael Castiglione Marina Fridman Rybner Kyoko Ito Samantha Muilenburg Jennifer Shirazi Christie Izzo Pamela Giaroli Sophie Christenberry Teresa O'Neill Nima Shirazi Jody Churchfield Nicholas Goddard Samuel Jaffe Goldstein Whitney Parkerton Celina Su Nicholas Cizek Nirmala Gpoinath-Zella Pirello Leonard T. Jordan Jr. Henna Taylor Jody Polleck Karyn Comeau Delancy Jeremy Kahn Joshua Van Horn

# COPCALENDAR

#### **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

community-media/bcat-tv-network.

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/

### **General Meeting Info**

**TUE, JUNE 25** GENERAL & ANNUAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

#### TUE, JULY 2

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 7:30 p.m. Submissions will be considered for the July 30 General Meeting.

### **Gazette Deadlines**

**LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:** 12:00 p.m., Mon, Jun 17 Jun 27 issue: Jul 11 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Jul 1

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

Jun 27 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Jun 19 7:00 p.m., Wed, Jul 3 Jul 11 issue:

### 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:

### 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.

#### ALL Авоит ΗE GENERAL МЕЕТ Π N G

### **Our Governing Structure**

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

### Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 25, 7:00 p.m.

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

### Location

MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.

### 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 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

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

### Agenda (8:00 p.m.)

The agenda is posted at 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) • Meeting evaluation • Board of Directors vote • Announcements, etc.

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10 🔊 June 13, 2013

### park slope FOOD COOP

# calendar of events

### **jun 14** fri 7 pm

### *Wordsprouts:* Group Reading: Love, Romance, Responsibility

**Barbara Agosin** began writing as a means of therapy after her husband was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease. An essayist and poet, her work focuses on everyday events as well as life within the circle of love and loss that is Alzheimer's. Barbara is a member of the Monday Writer's Group in Park Slope and a SoulCollage® facilitator. Brooklyn-based storyteller **Robin Bady** has been called, "gutsy, big hearted, and street smart," and "a force of nature." She draws from world tales, current events, oral histories, literature, ghostly experiences and her own life to create a repertoire shaped by her commitment to justice. Bady is the recipient of the 2012 JJ Reneaux Emerging Artist Grant Award given by the National Storytelling Network. **Fran Hawthorne** has spent more than 25 years covering healthcare, politics, finance, and the nexus of business and social issues. Her fifth book, *Ethical Chic: The Inside Story of the Companies We Think We Love*, has just been named one of the best books of 2012 by Library Journal. Hawthorne writes regularly for *The New York Times, Newsday, The Scientist*, and other publications. **To book a Wordsprouts, contact Paula Bernstein, wordsproutspsfc@gmail.com**.

### jun 15 sat 2 pm The New Language of Health

BodyTalk utilizes state-of-the-art energy medicine to optimize the body's internal communications. This extremely gentle hands-on modality helps the body to operate more efficiently and more effectively respond to any kind of injury or illness. Non-invasive, completely safe and easily integrated into other healthcare regimes, BodyTalk can change the way you look at healthcare forever. Please join Jean Chuang Menges, Advanced Certified BodyTalk practitioner and licensed acupuncturist, for a free handson workshop to experience the incredible benefits of this exciting healthcare phenomenon. Participants will learn a simple, quick and powerful BodyTalk Cortices Technique to help balance the brain, reduce stress, relieve pain, improve sleep, and boost mental focus and clarity. You will also learn how the BodyTalk Access Health Routine can benefit yourself and others and receive a full Access session. Talk moderated by Coop member and BodyTalk Access Technician **Stephanie Krause**.

### jun 16 sun 12 pm Reclaiming Legal Standing To Ban Fracking

Concerned about fracking and the future viability of New York State's food shed and eco-systems? Heard reports that fracking contaminates water and pollutes air? Worried about effects another Hurricane Sandy could have on the Rockaway Pipeline? Concerned that Spectra, whose pipeline was prematurely installed in the densely populated West Village, has a dismal safety record? Want to learn how to protect your borough and the rest of NYC? The Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund has guided numerous communities through the process of banning corporate practices by stripping corporate personhood from corporations and returning legal standing to the people where it belongs. The aim of this workshop is to place a Citizens' Initiative based on the work of CELDF on the ballot for the November 2013 election. Coop member **Alice Joyce** has been working to ban fracking since 2009.



### Creating Health with the Foods of the Season

Using the five elements of Chinese medicine. The element corresponding to summer is fire. Balancing the fire element leads us to greater creativity, love, laughter and joy, builds our charisma and enhances our social abilities. In our discussion we will explore what food choices and preparation techniques will feed our fire. This will also apply to giving us guidelines necessary to handle summer's heat, strengthening our health and increasing our vitality. Emphasis will be placed on foods available at the Coop. Questions and discussion at the end will be welcome. Let's get ready for summer! **Dan Becker** is a dietary health counselor and holistic chef. He has studied with many of the leading macrobiotic teachers throughout the U.S. He spent four years in China studying traditional Chinese medicine at the Nanjing University of Traditional Chinese Medicine. He has been consulting on diet with natural foods for more than 20 years.



### PSFC JUNE Annual and General Meeting



The Annual Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. followed by the GM. Meeting location: MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.

I. Member Arrival and Meeting Warm-Up (7:00-7:15)

Please read materials relevant to the meeting that are available at the entrance tables.

### II. Annual Meeting Agenda:

Item #1: Presentation of Audited Financial Statement

**Report & Vote:** The Coop's outside auditor, Cornick, Garber & Sandler, LLP, will present the audited financial statement for the year ended February 3, 2013. Following the presentation, members will have the opportunity to pose questions to the auditor. Members will then vote whether to accept the audited statement.

#### Item #2: Board of Directors Election

**Election:** Two three-year terms are open. The candidates will make brief presentations to the meeting prior to the vote.

### III. General Meeting Agenda:

Item #1: Renewing the Services of the Auditor

**Proposal:** To retain the services of Cornick, Garber & Sandler, LLP, to perform an audit of the Coop for the fiscal year ending February 2, 2014.

—submitted by the General Coordinators

### Item #2: Election of Officers

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

### **IV.Board of Directors Meeting** (9:30)

V.Wrap-Up (9:30-9:45) Includes member sign-in for workslot credit.

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.



### **Cheese Class**

We invite Coop members to learn more about the wonderful cheeses the Coop has to offer. All you have to do is come hungry and we will feed you free cheese at the Coop. This event will be limited to 30 people on a first-come, first-seated basis. It will be like musical chairs—come and claim your seat—those left standing will have to wait until next time. The plan for these sessions is to bring a guest speaker each time and explore cheeses together. So trust your palate and tell us your experiences as we go on this journey together. Our first guest speaker will be Jen Lopez, who works at Forever Cheese, an importer of cheese and specialty foods from Spain, Italy, Portugal and Croatia. This workshop is brought to you by Coop member **Aaron Kirtz**, who has worked in the cheese industry since 2003, and sells cheese to the Coop via Forever Cheese.



### It's Your Funeral

Planning for your own death 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-of-life service that reflects your values. 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, biodegradable urns, blended-faith/alter-native 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. Coop member **Amy Cunningham** is a licensed funeral director at Greenwood Heights Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc., a full-service funeral home on Fourth Avenue in Brooklyn.

### 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.

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

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June 13, 2013 🖛 11





### **Parents: Do Your Children Ever 'Push Your Buttons'?**

Share stories and hear perspectives that can help you "keep your wits about you" while raising your children. Sharon C. Peters, MA, is the director of Parents Helping Parents and a step, birth, and adoptive parent. In her work she meets with individual families and leads workshops at her Park Slope office and for schools and community organizations throughout New York. She is a grateful long-time Coop member.

### iul 2 tue 8 pm

### **Agenda Committee Meeting**



The Committee reviews pending agenda items and creates the " **3.** ] agenda for this month's General Meeting. Drop by and talk with committee members face-to-face between 8 and 8:15 p.m. Before submitting an item, read "How to Develop an Agenda

Item for the General Meeting" and fill out the General Meeting Agenda Item Submission Form, both available from the Membership Office or at foodcoop.com. The next General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 30, 7 p.m., at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.

### iul 9 tue 7 pm

### Safe Food Committee Film Night: Ingredients



Best friends and aspiring restaurateurs Billy Phelps and John McCormick attempt to open a New York City eatery as some of to PLATE the city's best-known restaurateurs recall their own days of struggle in this documentary called Eat This New York, from filmmakers Kate Novak and Andrew Rossi. From financial

crises to kitchen problems and issues that nearly derail the venture before doors even open for business, Phelps and McCormick keep the dream alive by converting an old check-cashing shop into a retro speakeasy.



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

### jul 14 sun 12 pm

### **Home Sweet Solar: Brooklyn Energy**

New Yorkers are the third largest producers of solar energy in the United States. Financial incentives from the government and increased market share of photovoltaic panels are two of the main factors driving this movement. Angelica Ramdhari and Matthew Myshkin are Coop members and solar enthusiasts out in the field who will explore the myths and secrets surrounding solar energy, and show how it is working within the unique Brooklyn dynamic with innovative design. You will learn the roles played by the Department of Buildings, Fire Department of New York, Landmarks Preservation Commission, and Con Edison in planning solar systems, and the subsidies available that make going solar a smart, clean investment. And most of all, you take away insight on the solar capacity of your own roof!



### See What the PAFCU Offers

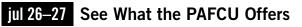
Representatives from People's Alliance Federal Credit Union will be at the Park Slope Food Coop in the Meeting Room to sign up members for credit union membership. Learn about: \$5 minimum savings balance; loans starting at 2.99%; holiday club account; debit/Visa cards; mobile/text message banking; no-fee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

Representatives from the PAFCU will also meet at the Coop on July 26 and July 27.

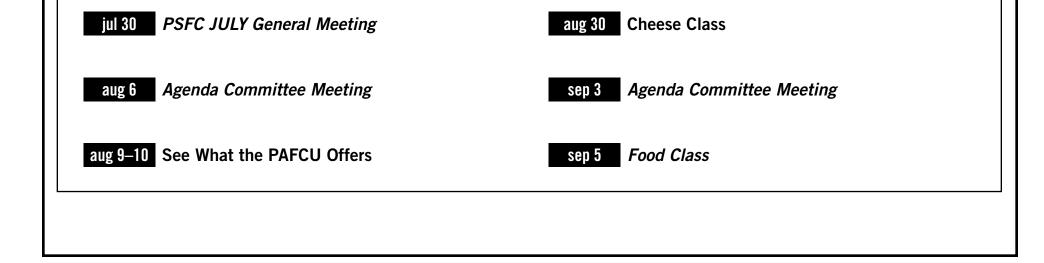
#### **Reclaiming Legal Standing** jul 26 fri 1 pm **To Ban Fracking**

Concerned about fracking and the future viability of New York State's food shed and eco-systems? Heard reports that fracking contaminates water and pollutes air? Worried about effects another Hurricane Sandy could have on the Rockaway Pipeline? Concerned that Spectra, whose pipeline was prematurely installed in the densely populated West Village, has a dismal safety record? Want to learn how to protect your borough and the rest of NYC? The Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund has guided numerous communities through the process of banning corporate practices by stripping corporate personhood from corporations and returning legal standing to the people where it belongs. The aim of this workshop is to place a Citizens' Initiative based on the work of CELDF on the ballot for the November 2013 election. Coop member Alice Joyce has been working to ban fracking since 2009.





aug 27 PSFC AUGUST General Meeting



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### TO THE EDITOR

### DEAR LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE EDITOR:

Hi, I hope you are well—the newsletter is great most of the time, always interesting, sometimes entertaining and light-hearted, sometimes controversial (a good channel for members to express opinions, etc.).

I am writing now however to disagree with your choice of a frontpage story back in January 2013: "Car 54, Where Are You?" [January 24, 2013]. The lesser of two problems for me: why two women when the dispute was, it seems, between a woman and a man?

More important, to put such a story on the front page, what must any visitors that day have thought, what impression did they get, especially those using limo service? Something controversial, by all means, but a screaming match between two members? We're not competing with the News or the Post here!

Thanks very much for your attention: keep up the good work, both editorial teams.

Gaye Leslie

P.S. "Symbiotic Relationship" is too strong a word = Eastern (and Family) are just as often called.

### TO LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE

#### TO THE EDITOR:

While shopping yesterday we stood in front of the bread shelves on the bagel side of the aisle and started reading through all the ingredients of the many fresh breads on display. We were looking for bread that was made with organic flour. We were extremely surprised to realize that very few of the available selection is made with organic flour and that none of the nonorganic flour ingredients stated that the flour was non GMO wheat—does this mean the flours were GMO?

We think it would be a good idea for the Coop to actively search for more breads using organic flour as right now the selection is less than half for organic flour. And, I might mention that the Grand Army Plaza farmers market does offer freshly made organic bread. Why don't we have it available too? The only breads we found to have organic flour were not freshly made bread.

Along the same avenue of thought we looked at the deli selections and again found almost none of the available items had any organic ingredients. Can't the buyer of this area offer items made from organic ingredients? There are many Coop members who want organic ingredients and would be willing to pay extra for them.

On another topic: recently when working as a cashier I needed to call tech support. The Coop employee who came to help me could not refrain from an overdose of sarcasm and ill humor to sort out my problem. I think this attitude from her was entirely unwarranted and even though she is an employee, she should treat members with some amount of kindliness. She certainly found me to be very tiresome, and I found her to be shockingly unpleas-

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

#### tual coverage:

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

2. Nor will we publish accusations that are not specific or are not substantiated by factual assertions.

3. Copies of submissions that make substantive accusations against specific individuals will be given to those persons to enable them to write a response, and both submissions and response will be published simultaneously. This means that the original submission may not appear until the issue after the one for which it was submitted. ant. Is there any way this employee could have her nasty humor curtailed when working with a member of the Coop? Shouldn't her supervisor speak to her about her attitude as I was just doing my shift per normal and needed a little help to sort out an error?

A Coop member for over 20 years and still counting!

G. McCleave

### CONSIDERING A COOPERATIVE EDUCATION AND STUDY SQUAD

#### **TO THE EDITOR:**

Three expectations of Coop membership are shopping, working and governing as co-owners. Sharing decision-making is challenging! Each of us has some responsibility. Our input is necessary to arrive at policy and then to implement it.

The General Meeting has functioned as direct democracy since 1973 when about 35 households formed the Coop. Now we are about 16,400 with about 65 paid employees. A Cooperative Study and Education Squad can coordinate research into our evolution and also into how other large self-organized enterprises make decisions. Then the group can stimulate discussions. Our governance mechanisms can evolve while maintaining the original intention of participatory democracy.

Group decision-making fascinates me. I was a high school teacher and union activist for 30 years. My graduate work is in Social Foundations of Education. I joined in 1980, was a Shopping Squad Leader for 15 years, and I helped write the Coop Mission Statement. Here is one experience that informs my willingness to come out of Coop retirement to work on this project.

During the late '80s, Shopping Squad Tuesday B4 started offering one work slot credit for a member to attend a GM. The condition was that s/he would report back during the following squad meeting. Our regular squad meeting lasted 15 minutes



during the changeover at the end of our shift. We reviewed our functioning and decided how to improve. We discussed Coop issues, and we checked in with each other personally. I believe that squad still has meetings. It was the expectation then, and most squads did.

After I retired in 1996, I switched to a day shift and soon became co-leader. I couldn't convince the core group to remain for a meeting. Some time in there, the expectation changed. Most workers, when relieved by a member of the next squad, simply left.

Without squad meetings, members have no regular time to reflect and discuss experiences and proposals. It's harder to form on-going relationships with squad mates. Work can become alienated without input into conditions.

I doubt whether it's feasible to reinstitute regular squad meetings. However, without them, I cannot imagine that one work slot credit to attend one GM each year represents the best way for so many of us to collaborate on policy and organizational decisions. Witness the number of computers and magazines on laps in the back of the auditorium when those attending are receiving work credit to pay attention and contribute to a General Meeting. Individual responsibility and also institutional expectations are factors.

I plan to help organize a Cooperative Study and Education Squad. Governance process can be brought into our community for discussion. The idea was well received during a discussion at the August 2011 GM. An upcoming GM can constitute the new Squad. Let's do this together. Contact me at 718-636-9089. And stay tuned.

> In solidarity, Susan Metz

### **RECOVERY OF MY PURSE**

#### TO THE GAZETTE:

On Wednesday, May 23, we received a call from the Food Coop, my purse that held my Coop card, credit and debit cards, had been brought to the

## Please protect your feet and toes while

#### Anonymity

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

#### Fairness

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, fac-

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

### Respect

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

### Thanks for your cooperation, The Park Slope Food Coop

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office. It had been found in the street in front of the Coop, it probably fell from my bicycle basket.

To the Good Samaritan a big thank you, so many good people are walking around!

There is hope in the City. Thank you, thank you.

Claudine Michaud

### PLASTIC RECYCLING

#### **TO THE EDITOR:**

With the end of the Coop's plastic recycling collection, I want to thank all those who organized and worked on this effort. It was great to have the ability to easily recycle some of the plastics that we use.

Stewart Pravda

### PLASTICS AT THE COOP: AN APPRECIATION FOR RECYCLING

### **DEAR EDITOR:**

As a four-year former member of the Recycling Squad and its educational/outreach efforts, I want to express my deep appreciation for the work of Sara Bloomberg, Deane Norton, Mira Grice Sheff and all the others who have braved the elements over many years to promote plastics recycling at the Coop.

Now that NYC has taken over recycling of all rigid plastics, it's time to return our Coop attention to the crucial environmental priorities of (1) REDUCE and (2) REUSE.

The average 7,000 plastic roll bags that the Coop distributes freely every day (2.5 million every year) are designated as non-recyclable trash by the newly expanded City program.

Per year, that's about 200 plastic roll bags for each of the ~12,480 Coop members who use them meaning that most of these bags are soon relegated to trash pickup.

"Since the closure of the city's last waste dump (the Fresh Kills landfill on Staten Island), the cost of trash disposal has skyrocketed," reports Eric Goldstein, Director of New York City Environment for the National Resources Defense Council (NRDC).

"Most of New York City's trash travels to out-of-state landfills in Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Virginia. In FY '14, city taxpayers will be spending over \$330 million to cover the costs of landfilling at th[ese] facilities.' NRDC's Goldstein has also explained that "Plastic roll bags generally have the same problems that all plastic bags do-they frequently jam equipment at recycling sorting facilities and therefore are not accepted in the city's curbside collection recycling program." Five years ago, the Coop demonstrated environmental leadership in phasing out the free distribution of plastic shopping ("T-shirt") bags.

Despite fears harbored at the time by the General Coordinators and others, the Coop adapted quickly to this change which soon became a non-issue.

It's time to demonstrate this same environmental commitment and leadership in relation to plastic roll bags, which are no longer accepted for recycling by either the Coop or the City. In appreciation and cooperation, Regina Sandler-Phillips

**Editor's note:** The General Coordinators say they co-sponsored and co-wrote the proposal to eliminate plastic t-shirt bags for the May 27th 2008 GM.

### GREETINGS

#### **TO THE EDITOR:**

As a way to help find cures and more effective treatments to fight cancer I, Susan Lipman, am participating in a fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society through Team In Training. I will be participating in a sports endurance event, running in the 26K Marathon held in NY on November 3. With your support I can improve the quality of life for patients and their families. Donations support research which helps develop new treatments for blood cancer, which in turn help a wide variety of cancer patients. Donations also go to patient services.

\$50 will register one person to be a bone marrow donor.

\$75 will provide HLA (bone marrow) typing for a family member of a patient with leukemia.

\$100 will pay for the cost of four patients' chemotherapy drug prescription co-payments.

\$300 will train 25 peer volunteers who can provide emotional support to newly diagnosed patients.

\$1,000 allows patients to meet with healthcare specialists to design and discuss their disease, treatment plan and prepare them with the info they will need during the treatment process.

\$2,000 provides patients with a one-month supply of Gleevec, a lifesaving treatment developed with LLS funding.

Any amount is a dollar closer to a cure for cancer and is greatly appreciated.

Please use the following link and make your donation in support of my efforts with Team In Training and help advance the research for cures. After you log onto the website go to the donate button and search for my name and make your donations: www.teamintraining.org/firsttimehere/lls\_mtools/.

Check donations should be made out to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society with my name written in the memo section. To submit checks please call 917-685-1894.

> Thank you for your support, Susan Lipman

ference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), The Palestinian Economy in East Jerusalem: Enduring Annexation, Isolation and Disintegration; (2) Association for Civil Right in Israel (ACRI), East Jerusalem, Facts and Figures.

**EAST JERUSALEM:** largest Palestinian population center (371,844); includes the Old City and holy sites of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Historically, Jerusalem has been the economic, political and cultural center of life for the entire Palestinian population.

Israel occupied East Jerusalem after the 1967 war. In 1980, Israel passed the Jerusalem Law: "Jerusalem, complete and united (with West Jerusalem) is the capital of Israel," formalizing Israel's prior unilateral annexation.

The declaration was determined to be "null and void" by UN Security Council Resolution 478. Under international law, East Jerusalem is considered occupied territory. Palestinians are protected under the Fourth Geneva Convention.

Israel adopted a policy (1973) to maintain a "demographic balance" in Jerusalem, an attempt to limit Palestinian residents to 26.5% of the total population. Israel built numerous illegal Jewish-only settlements inside and in a ring around East Jerusalem. **UNCTAD:** Palestinians in East Jerusalem have the legal status: "permanent residents," restricting their access to housing, employment, education, health services and representation in the city. Pre-1993 (Oslo Accords), East Jerusalem's economy constituted 15% of the Palestinian economy (West Bank and Gaza), progressively shrinking to 7%. Israel's illegal separation wall (began 2003) isolated East Jerusalem from the West

Bank. Lost trade and employment opportunities for East Jerusalem exceeded \$1 billion with an additional \$200 million per year. The economy of East Jerusalem, no longer integrated with the West Bank or Israeli economy, is left "to fend for itself in a developmental limbo." The soaring poverty levels of Palestinians were closely linked to increasing economic isolation. In 2013, 79.5% of East Jerusalem residents and 85% of children live below the poverty line—the worst rate of all time.

**ACRI:** Shortage of 1,000+ classrooms in East Jerusalem for Palestinians; shortage of pre-kindergartens; 12th grade dropout rate is 40%. Israel expropriated one-third of Palestinian land in East Jerusalem. Since 1967, Israel demolished 2,000 houses.

House demolitions between 2004-2013 left 1,746 Palestinians (945 minors) homeless (B'tselem). 95% of Palestinian applications for a building permit are rejected (Bimkom). 33% of all Palestinian homes lack permits, potentially placing 93,100+ residents at risk for displacement (Ma'an). Insufficient medical and mental health services; Shortage of sewage pipes; Many residents not connected to urban water system; Insufficient post offices, mail delivery: infrequent and irregular. ALICE WALKER: "Boycott of Israel and Israeli institutions (not individuals) is the only option left to people who cannot bear the unconscionable harm Israel inflicts every day on the people of Palestine, whose major 'crime' is that they exist in their own land, land that Israel wants to control as its own." Mary Buchwald Brooklyn For Peace PSFC members for BDS www.psfcbds.wordpress.com

### **BDS TOPICS:**

### LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE

### TO THE EDITOR,

The open-minded among us may be interested to know that an investigation by the UN (which almost never sides with Israel) determined that Israel's naval blockage of Gaza is both legal and appropriate. Furthermore, Israel facilitates the delivery of massive amounts of food and medicine to the people of Gaza despite the fact that the strip is controlled by terrorists sworn to Israel's destruction.

If life is becoming unbearable for Gazans, it is largely because Hamas has turned Gaza into a Taliban-like Islamic mini-state.

One would expect that Hamas' edict to ban books deemed "contrary to Islam" would trigger an outcry from a group such as BDS that presumably values freedom of expression. Alas, I doubt that BDS cares as much about the fate of Gazans as it seeks endless opportunities to bash Israel.

> Sincerely, Robert Blumenthal

### EAST JERUSALEM: 85 PERCENT OF PALESTINIAN CHILDREN LIVE BELOW THE POVERTY LINE; ALICE WALKER ON BOYCOTT

### **COOP MEMBERS:**

Two important reports (May, 2013) shed light on Palestinians living under Israeli occupation in East Jerusalem: (1) United Nations Con-

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

Two, three-year terms on the Board are open. To vote you may use a proxy or attend the Food Coop Annual Meeting on June 25, 2013. Every member will receive a proxy package in the mail in late May. You will have the opportunity to meet the candidates at the March 19 GM and also at the June 25 Annual Meeting. Candidate Statements (unedited and presented in alphabetical order):

### **DEENA HAYS**



I am writing to ask you to elect me to the Park Slope Food Coop Board of Directors. I am a longstanding member of the Park slope Food Coop and have learned much listening to other members, observing work and shopping at the Coop and doing a work shift as I expect all members have. I ask for your vote

because I have spent my life developing myself such to handle my life as a business. In my judgement what is needed for the Board of Director position is to interact with those in attendance at the meeting such the membership is able to draw the appropriate conclusions for themselves as to if it is wise to offer specific advice for acceptance.

Should the membership choose to offer the advice much to the silent objection of the Board of Director, in knowing myself and the Coop, could I comment or ask a question to create an awareness that would have not otherwise occurred? Could I create a recognition of what is unknown, unconsidered, or overlooked such a more wise course could be considered?

It is my hope to talk with the membership and design with them what is considered to be the platform needed to make the Coop what the membership needs it to be. I currently have a petition to the United States Congress at http://deena-kristihaysworksforyou.webs.com/. Select the more option then petition to Congress. It is my hope all members of the PSFC will support the petition, sign it at the March 19, 2013 meeting, and make use of the seminars listed on the need-petition results page. We need the Park Slope Food Coop to meet our needs. I need to know what my platform should be to meet your needs. It is my hope through interacting with the membership at the meeting March 19, 2013 together we will determine how to decide what my platform should be.

Thank you for your consideration and I hope to receive your vote!

### **ZOEY LASKARIS**



At the ripe old age of five I made the conscious decision to join the Food Coop. I worked the childcare shift, responsibly eating bagels and awaiting the arrival of my mother who also happened to be working shifts. I am approaching 28 years old and I haven't strayed far, I became the co-squad leader of

my receiving shift three years ago and I still enjoy eating bagels. With the following statement I seek your vote in the upcoming election as a candidate to serve on the Board of Directors.

The late Barry Commoner, a pioneer of environmentalism and my close mentor, taught me to respect voices of dissent, and when necessary, to embody them. General Meetings are a platform where a vast variety of opinions are expressed. As Board member I will deeply consider the value in all of them before routinely honoring the voice of the majority.

After earning an MPH in Environmental and Occu-

### pational Health, I began to work as the director of a three-year study monitoring the cardiovascular health effects among World Trade Center responders. In conducting this job, I am foremost responsible for the ethical treatment of 6,000 individuals. Beyond this, the maintenance and statistical analysis of a flux of sensitive data and ensuring that we are in compliance with the guidelines of our fiscal plan rest in my hands. I have had to practice a keen sense of foresight, organization, and decision-making when carrying out this position. I will apply this knowledge if given the opportunity to serve on the board.

My personal life reflects my dedication to the values of the Coop. As an avid bicyclist, commuting 30 miles a day year round, to and from my office in Queens, and as someone who loves to cook and bake, I too cherish the availability and taste of excellent food. Beyond the Coop, I support local farmers that use organic growing practices as a worker and currently a friendly helping hand at the Grand Army farmer's market. Engaging in communities beyond the Coop with socially and environmentally conscious behaviors not only spreads the ideals that the Coop works hard to maintain, but it can show you that my dedication to those ideals goes far beyond purchasing good food.

The Coop's growing faction of young members need a representative who is closely connected with their ideas and who can carry on the torch. If you are a new Coop member who is excited to be part of the Coop, but feels a lack of respect on account of your "new member" status—I will stand for you. The Coop's large constituency of old-timers who have earned a place of seniority by participating in the development of the Coop from its roots needs someone to sit on the Board with an innate understanding of its foundation—I will stand for you. I have grown up with the Coop, I am young, I have practice in making responsible decisions, and I have ideas of what the Coop does well and how it can improve. Tired of advocating for the Coop and aiding people in understanding the Coop's rules at dinner parties, I am moved to seek a formal position as a Board member in order to help guide the resolutions that will form the Coop's future. My candidacy is endorsed by the General Coordinators and I have received encouragement to run from members of the Coop's community. I would greatly appreciate your support in granting me the opportunity to serve with the other members already on the Coop's Board. Thank you. ■

SARA MATTHEWS



In 1992 I was having dinner with friends in Park Slope, and I thought the mixed nuts they were serving were delicious, among other things. They explained that the nuts had come from the Food Coop, and shortly thereafter, my husband and I became members.

I had no idea what a wonderful community I was joining. I originally worked FTOP on the Receiving Committee's early morning shift, lugging boxes of vegetables around in the basement with Denney and some of the other great Receiving Coordinators. Later, around 2000, I worked as one of the designers on the Renovation Committee, when we doubled the size of the Coop with a \$1.5-million renovation that transformed the physical space, and allowed us to more than double our membership. Working on this project taught me many valuable lessons about the Coop's needs and goals, about idea gener-

ation and conflict resolution in a group setting, and about how much work it really takes to make such an ambitious dream come true.

Once the renovation was complete, I looked for a new work slot. I was fortunate to join the Sign Committee, where I have served as Co-Chair for a number of years. Our group of graphic designers is working to reduce visual chaos in the Coop, by upgrading the signs and communications all around the Coop. Once again, the projects require a deep understanding of how the Coop works, and how to improve its functionality given the needs of its members and the structure of its organization.

During these two decades at the Coop, I have learned about the physical spaces we inhabit, the goods we sell, and the ins and outs of how the Coop operates on a daily basis. I have also had the opportunity to get to know many of the Coordinators. I respect their work and our incredible Coop that they have helped to guide into almost 40 years of successful existence. I believe in the mission of the Coop, where we share responsibilities and cooperate with each other to achieve our goal of providing members with wholesome, healthy food for their families.

I believe that the members' opinions as voted at the General Meeting are paramount. However, if it happened that decisions made by the General Meeting were illegal or irresponsible, I would not be in favor of ratifying them.

I am originally from Atlanta, Georgia, where I earned a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from Georgia Tech. For over 20 years I have worked as a wine photographer, traveling to wine regions all over the world. I have had seven books of my photography published, and have done a number of solo exhibitions of my work, most recently in Mendoza, Argentina. People I meet on my travels often ask me where in the world I would most like to live, since I have been fortunate enough to see so much of it. I can answer honestly in one word: Brooklyn. I love my neighborhood, my borough and my city, and the Food Coop is one of the big reasons why. I hope you will consider voting for me to become a Member of the Board of Directors of the Park Slope Food Coop. I have been endorsed by the General Coordinators and would be honored to serve on the Board as your representative.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16



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CLASSIFIEDS

June 13, 2013 🖛 15

LARGE SUNNY ROOM with private bath, queen bed, WiFi, smoke-free; with or w/out breakfast; close to Q, B, 2, 3 stations; long- or short-term stays considered. Margaret - 718-622-2897. Please leave message.

**BED & BREAKFAST** 

### HOUSING WANTED

APT SHARE OR ROOM Sept. 2013 thru Aug. 2014 for German student (19-year-old female) volunteer at social svcs agency serving Holocaust survivors. Prgm pays rent - 650/month. Student buys / prepares own food; needs kitchen access. Contact: Beth Zeidel at Selfhelp Comm Svcs: 212-971-5475 or bzeidel@ selfhelp.net.

### VACATION RENTALS

HAVEN OFF THE HUDSON Friendly, historic 3-season wooded community in Westchester County. Coop offers hiking, tennis, pool, wifi, café, organic community garden, social activities. Beautiful Hudson riverfront nearby. Studio, 1- and 2-bedroom cottages, \$25K-160K. www.reynoldshills.org/bungalowshop. Contact Mel 347-307-4642 or melgarfinkle@yahoo.com.

Vacation Rental in Catskills. Family-friendly Lake Huntington summer community. Many Coop members. Lake, pool, tennis, basketball, beautiful grounds, activities for children. Bright, renovated bungalow with deck and gas grill. Available July 21-Aug 19, \$775 per week, 2-week minimum. Ralph. Engelman@gmail.com 718-488-1009.

### SERVICES AVAILABLE

ATTORNEY—Personal Injury Emphasis—35 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.

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

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.

PAINTING & WALLPAPERING -Mesh & Plaster those cracked walls & ceilings. Over 20 yrs experience doing the finest prep & finish work. One room or an entire house. Free estimates. Fred Becker 718-853-0750.

HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS. Color, high lights, low lights, oil treatments in the convenience of your home or mine. Adults cuts \$35-40. Kids Cuts \$15. Call Leonora 718-857-2215.

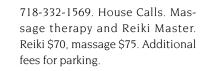
The Artful Dodger Painting Co. has served the NY metro area for over 30 years. "Everything with paint" from wall prep to fine details. Fully insured, EPA certified and on the Benjamin Moore advisory board. Free estimates and color consultation reasonable rates! Call 646-734-0899 email: eyegrease@earthlink.net.

RESTORATION Did you break a special vase or chip enamel jewelry? I restore pottery and small objects (antique or just treasured) made of enamel, ivory, horn, tortoise, some plastics and wood, etc. Estimates cheerfully given. References available. Near the Coop. Roberta: 718-623-6777 or rgordon42@nyc.rr.com.

SERVICES

HEALTH

212-505-5055.



CALLING ALL HOLISTIC HEAL-ERS. You are invited to join a newly forming Holistic healers cooperative. To find out more visit www.spiritfreedom.org sfmc page or call/email Heidi at 646-242-8477 dancewithheidi @hotmail.com.

### VACATIONS

NORTH FORK COTTAGE Bright cozy 1 bdrm, bath, livingrm, kitchen apt on quiet country road in East Marion, close to sound and bay beaches, farmstands. A/C, W/D, WiFi, composting. Kayak and bicycles. Pets upon approval. June-Oct monthly and weekly rentals, starting \$1,000/wk. Security, references. 917-499-6320. rlsimmen@gmail.com.

### **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.



### 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.

### THU, JUN 13

10 p.m. Attention Benny Goodman Fans! FLYING HOME returns to Park Slope for a night of classic 30s and 40s swing with new arrangements from the BG small ensembles! Barbes - 376 Ninth St. @ Sixth Ave \$10 sugteens and college students. Don't sell Brooklyn Heights and Pacific Branches.

### SUN, JUN 16

7 p.m. Commemorate the 60th anniversary of Ethel and Julius Rosenbergs' executions with a benefit event at The Town Hall in New York City, entitled, "Carry it Forward: Celebrate the Children of Resistance." With Angela Davis, Eve Ensler, and Cotter Smith, among others. Full infor-

mation at www.rfc.org /cifevent.

SAT, JUN 22

1 p.m. and 5 p.m. FREE! Theatri-

cal Production. Street Scene by

Elmer Rice (Pulitzer Prize 1929) Brave New World Repertory Theatre Company (bravenewworldrep.org) is presenting two site-specific performances in front of 570 Fifth St. in Park Slope (between Eighth Ave. and Prospect Park West).

APIST. SML Helping Hands.

gested donation. Info at www.flyinghomeband.com.

### SAT, JUN 15

11 a.m.-1 p.m. Citizens Defending Libraries along with Lynn's Kids International are having a Kids For Libraries Rally in front of the Brooklyn Heights Library, 280 Cadman Plaza. Bring your kids, a book or blanket, invite

### SAT, JUN 29

2-4 p.m. Sour Power: Learn How to Make Sauerkraut and Probiotic Veggies for Vibrant Health! Third Root Community Health Center, 380 Marlborough Rd., \$25-\$35 sliding scale. To register, e-mail: registrations@thirdroot.org. More info at: www.thirdroot.org/events workshops/#sourpower.



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

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

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

### IMANI Q'RYN



I was elected to the Board of Directors of the Food Coop almost eight years ago. I am honored to have served in this capacity. Now, I respectfully seek your vote to allow me to continue in this position.

I've lived in Fort Greene for over 30 years. I'm a classically trained singer and work as an

independent real estate broker. My partner and I have lived together for 25 years and we have two cats.

I joined the Coop in 1998 when I started eating organic food. I couldn't afford not to join! I love the Coop, its energy, the diversity of the membership, the ideals of cooperation and democracy and above all the beautiful food at unbelievable prices. The Coop is a reflection of what's possible in the world. It's a privilege to be a part of it.

I also serve as a member of the Chair Committee, which chairs the General Meeting on the last Tuesday of each month. For me one of the best parts of the General Meeting is the committee reports which inform us about issues not only affecting the Coop but the environment, our health, local farmers and even other countries to name but a few of the topics that have been covered. It has hit home a number of times that what we do, what we eat, has an impact on the world. Each of us makes a difference.

I started going to the General Meetings about 11 years ago. Initially, I went for work slot credit and was surprised to discover that the meeting was small compared to the vast size of our membership and that the diversity which I saw while shopping at the Coop was not powerfully reflected in the meeting. I thought to myself, "Here is the decision-making body of the Coop and only a few members are making these decisions and even fewer people of color. "

I wondered, "What can I do to encourage greater diversity and participation in the meeting?" I live by the words of Gandhi who said, "Be the change you seek to see in the world." I decided to join the Chair Committee soon after my first meeting. I have been committed to making all people feel welcomed at the meeting, being fair and open to all sides of an issue and to being clear on the policies and how the meeting is run. I am encouraged that in the last few years our General Meeting attendance has grown significantly due to a change in the work slot credit policy,

Since being on the Chair Committee involves being at the General Meeting, which is also the Board Meeting, there is no conflict in my holding both of these positions. When I found out that there was a precedent of a Board member also being on the Chair Committee I decided to stay with the Chair Committee. The Chair Committee is in need of new members and my leaving could put a strain on the other members. If you have interest in being on the Chair Committee please let us know.

In closing, I have intimate experience with Coop policies, procedures and the workings of the Board of Directors. I think our cooperative process works and as a Board member I respect the members' deliberations and will strive to ensure that the General Meeting remains the highest decision-making body in the Coop. I will also continue to encourage diversity in the General Meeting as well as all aspects of the Coop.

I welcome members to contact me by e-mail at iqrealtysales@aol.com. My candidacy has been endorsed by the General Coordinators of the Coop and I welcome that support. Please vote for me. Thank you for your consideration.

### The Role of the Board

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

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

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

### **THE ELECTION PROCESS**

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

If you submit a proxy but come to the Annual Meeting in person, your proxy will be returned to you when you register. Members who have a current membership as of Saturday, June 15, 2013, are eligible to vote in the election of Directors at the Annual Meeting either in person or by proxy.

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

### $m \reta$ exciting workslot opportunities $^{1}$

### Wall Chart Updating Sunday, 8 to 10:45 a.m.

This is the perfect job for a detail-oriented person who likes a quiet and pleasant work environment. You will be trained by a staff person who will always be available to answer questions. You are part of a team of 2 to 3 people, but you will work on your own. Please speak to Camille Scuria if you would like more information. She can be reached at camille\_scuria@psfc.coop or call the Membership Office, Sunday through Wednesday to speak to her.

### Office Set-up Monday-Thursday, 6 to 8:30 a.m.

Need an early riser with lots of energy to do a variety of physical tasks including: setting up tables and chairs, buying food and suptask- and detail-oriented job, ideal for someone who likes working independently and is pro-active. Please speak to Alex in the Membership Office or contact him at alex\_marquez@psfc.coop if you are interested.

### 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 Data Entry**

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



plies, labeling and putting away food and supplies, recycling, washing dishes and making coffee. Sound like your dream come true? This job might be for you. Please speak to Adriana or Cynthia in the Membership Office for more information.

### Check Store Supplies Monday, 6 to 8:30 a.m.

This workslot is responsible for restocking supplies on the Shopping floor, at checkout lanes, entrance desks and the cashier stations, and in the basement. This is a **Thursday and Friday, 4 to 6:45 p.m.** Must have been a member for at least one year with excellent attendance. Are you a stickler for details and accurate on the computer? Do you like working independently? If this sounds like you, then Office Data Entry will be your perfect shift. Please speak to Ginger Jung in the Membership Office (or put a note in her mailbox) prior to the first shift for more information and schedule training. Must make a six-month commitment to this workslot.

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