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Volume HH, Number 17

August 22, 2013

## BARCELONA FOOD COOPS



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIAN DENTZ

**Germinal is a federation of four food coops located in different neighborhoods of Barcelona.**

By Brian Dentz

Shortly after General Francisco Franco claimed victory at the end of The Spanish Civil War, many socialist and anarchist movements were banished in Spanish society or driven underground. Cooperative movements, both industrial and agricultural, were numerous before the war. While many industrial coops were left intact, the farmer-consumer cooperative movement in Barcelona was vanquished by the new fascist state, according to Enric Berenguer of the external relations commission of Germinal, the largest food coop today in Barcelona.

Germinal, Cooperativa de consum de productes ecobiològics (organic food consumer's cooperative, as it's written in Catalan), was founded 20 years ago. It now exists as a federation of four food coops in different neighborhoods in Barcelona providing organic food to its working members. "The idea of the neighborhood is very important," Berenguer explained when discussing Barcelona. "Each neighborhood is very different...four locations work better because

each one can maintain their autonomy."

In the Barcelona metropolitan area there are an estimated 100 organic food coops, mostly serving the neighborhoods they are in. Many are small, and not visible from the street, with a membership of 10-20 families. A family, not individuals, is the way food coop membership is counted in Barcelona. Other coops are much larger, serving upwards of 120 families.

Germinal's membership now stands at 140 families. This translates to approximately 500 individuals. Each of Germinal's neighborhood stores or locals has an estimated 53 to 210 individual members each. Three times per year, the members of all four locals unite for a general meeting. El Farró, Berenguer's local, meets every 45 days. Each local's organizational structure is identical and is obligated to adhere to Germinal's ideals and principals. But at each local's individual meeting, they make many autonomous decisions such as what products to make available to its members.

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## The General Meeting Of July 30, 2013

By Thomas Matthews

The General Meeting that took place on July 30 was long and eventful, with passionate presentations, a suspenseful vote, a heated dispute and a good deal of constructive self-criticism.

It began, however, with a conspicuous absence. The meeting's chairperson, Imani Q'ryn, welcomed attendees, then asked "Is the *Gazette* reporter here? If so, would you raise your hand?" There was a moment of silence. "I guess they haven't arrived yet. Is the meeting being taped?"

Fortunately, the meeting was taped, because no *Gazette* reporter attended. This report is written from the tapes. They were remarkably audible, but, of course, lack pertinent visual detail and, at times, left issues unclear. The *Gazette* staff apologizes for this mix-up.

The meeting began with the Open Forum, which brought forth a number of suggestions and complaints. "I don't want to sound like a cranky pants, but..."—members were bothered by people working with ear buds in;

people working distracted by smartphones; people working in open-toed shoes; people working with big hair. "Hygiene is an issue," advised a vitamin worker.

Imani thanked everyone for their observations. "If you feel strongly about these issues, please bring them to the Agenda Committee and see if it can be put on the formal agenda of a General Meeting."

*Membership is down slightly, but average sales per member are up about 5%, and we are turning over our inventory at a rate of 78 times per year.*

### Coordinators' Reports

There were reports from four General Coordinators.

Tricia Leith, standing in for Mike Eakin, gave the financial report. She cautioned that the year-over-year numbers in the handouts weren't strictly comparable, since one reflected a 20-week period,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

### Next General Meeting on August 27

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The August General Meeting will be on Tuesday, August 27, at 7:00 p.m. at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. The Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.

The agenda is in this *Gazette*, on the Coop website at [www.foodcoop.com](http://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.

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## Coop Event Highlights

**Thu, Sep 5 • Food Class: Healthy Indian Cuisine** 7:30 p.m.

**Fri, Sep 6 • Film Night: Darkon** 7:30 p.m.

**Tue, Sep 10 • Safe Food Committee Film Night: What's For Dinner** 7:00 p.m.

**Sat, Sep 14 • Wordsprouts: Back-to-School Discussion** 4:00 p.m.

**Sat, Sep 28 • Coop 40th Anniversary Party** 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.

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

# BARCELONA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

El Farró has a membership limit of 50 families. To join El Farró, one has to wait for another family to leave to open a membership slot.

Germinal has no paid employees, although this might change, according to Berenguer. There are five work comissions (commissions), each family provides one person to fulfill a duty in one comissió. Some of them might seem familiar to PSFC members: Comissió de Compres i Control de Qualitat (purchasing and quality control), Comissió d'Infraestructura (infrastructure), Comissió d'Administració (administration), Comissió de Relacions Internes (internal relations), Comissió de Relacions Externes (external relations). On a recent hot July afternoon, Cristian Perez was picking up his plastic crate of pre-ordered organic vegetables and fruit. "The quality is better," he said. "The shapes feel more natural." Cristian is in the Comissió de Compres i Control de Qualitat (purchasing and quality control). Every week he takes inventory of his assigned 15 products, which include garbage bags, tissues and baby wipes, then he places orders via e-mail with three distributors. He cites the low prices and cooperative ideology for why he joined Germinal nine months ago.

The decisions made at the general meetings are arrived at by a form of consensus, not the vote of a majority. If there are people who do not agree with the majority's desire, a discus-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRIAN DENTZ

El Farró is one of the four locales of the Germinal food coop.

sion continues until a compromise everyone can agree on is reached. The idea, as Berenguer explains, is not to impose decisions on any individual members, not to make any members feel left out of the process. When asked about seeking a resolution in a relatively small group compared to a large group, Berenguer reflects, "When there is a problem in a small group, it's equally difficult."

Some of El Farró's commissions have a relationship with its sister commissions in the other locals. Germinal's four locals together use its volume of purchasing power to secure lower prices. They also exchange information regarding suppliers. Germinal's Comissió de Relacions Externes (external relations) is also mandated to work to influence the larger society on issues relating to food and the environment among other topics.

To cover the operating expenses of Germinal, each family pays 35 Euros (about \$46), three times per year. All

the products sold are marked up 20% above wholesale. Germinal estimates that its prices are between 15-20% lower than commercial markets selling organic food.

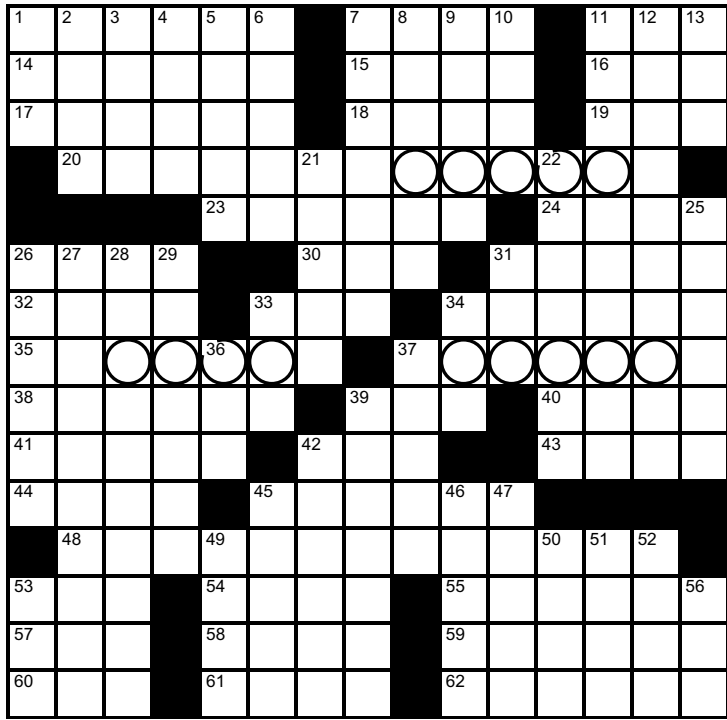
*"It's important to have a good relationship with the farmers..."*

*It's mutual, we pay honest prices and try to have a transparent relationship."*

Each week, members of El Farró order their perishable foods, including vegetables, fruit, meat, dairy and bread via their website. The system stops taking orders Saturday at midnight sharp. An Excel sheet is then generated for each member of the Comissió de Compres i Control de Qualitat (purchasing and quality control). They place the orders with their vendors. The food arrives at the local on Tuesday afternoon when three members are waiting to receive the deliveries. The team divides the perishables as per each family's order into permanently assigned plastic boxes, which are labeled with the family's name (and often picture). On Wednesday evening the families pick up their orders and can also purchase nonperishable items kept in stock in the local.

Karel Geldhof, an El Farró member for three years, was picking up his order for his family of four on this recent hot July day. He is on the Comissió de Compres i Control de Qualitat (purchasing and quality control), and is responsible for buying cheese from two local cheese makers. He personally travels to the farms in the Pyrenees to meet with the farmers and investigate the farm practices and the process used to produce the cheese. "It's important to have a good relationship with the farmers... It's mutual, we pay honest prices and try to have a

## Crossword Puzzle



### Across

1. Car introduced in 1908 "for the great multitude"
7. Some email attachments
11. Campfire residue
14. "The Story of \_\_\_\_" (1975 Truffaut film)
15. Croft of video games
16. Key above Caps Lock
17. Private aye?
18. TV journalist Burnett
19. Notable 1969 bride
20. Argentine soccer star of the 1980s-90s
23. Soccer shot
24. Harmless cysts
26. Give \_\_\_\_ on the back
30. Cartoon character who cries "You eediot!"
31. Climber's observation
32. Kemo \_\_\_\_
33. Give a leg up
34. Somewhat
35. What the first caller might be on
37. Beyond repair
38. Ravens
39. Sample
40. Work like a dog
41. Bother a lot
42. Chiang \_\_\_\_ -shek
43. "\_\_\_\_ plata" (Montana's motto)
44. Show stopper?
45. "Twist and shake and set it and play!" game
48. Lyric in a 1968 Rolling Stones hit that defines the groups of circled letters in this puzzle's grid
53. "\_\_\_\_ was saying ..."
54. Kunis of "Black Swan"
55. Its logo features two eighth notes
57. Tyler of "The Lord of the Rings"
58. Face-to-face exam
59. Former's opposite
60. Consumed
61. German photographer \_\_\_\_ Bing
62. Size up

### Down

1. Fifth of 12
2. Pigged out (on)
3. He loved Lucy
4. "If all \_\_\_\_ fails ..."
5. "Gone With the Wind" Oscar winner
6. Severe pang
7. Said "Guilty," e.g.
8. "Black Swan" director Aronofsky
9. Brother in a hood?
10. Beach blanket?
11. Arrived, say
12. Starting point of the Chisholm Trail
13. "Girls" airer
21. Raymond's mother on "Everybody Loves Raymond"
22. Because of
25. Without risk
26. Like italics
27. Stopped by
28. Rare blood type
29. Driving surfaces
31. Man: Lat.
33. Opposite of a ques.
34. Mary \_\_\_\_ cosmetics
36. Mel of Cooperstown
37. Odin's wife
39. Common house event before moving from chlamydia
42. Over half of them reportedly suffer from chlamydia
45. Certain hip-hop dancer
46. Boxer Ali
47. These, in Madrid
49. Opposite of yours, in Tours
50. Moxie
51. Initial stake
52. Gets the gist
53. \_\_\_\_ carte
56. Jun. grads

Puzzle author: David Levinson Wilk. For answers, see page 16.



Perishable foods waiting to be picked up by one of El Farró's members.

transparent relationship."

These relationships between consumer and farmer and the visits to the farm are all part of the Comissió de Compres i Control de Qualitat (purchasing and quality control) member's job and overseen by Germinal's central oversight.

In the Mediterranean climate of Catalonia, the farming season runs all year round. One doesn't have to travel far from Barcelona to go to small farms. Buying local and in season, which is part of the mandate of Germin-

nal, leaves many options throughout the year. Many of the smaller farms that are not officially certified as biològic (organic) are considered acceptable by Germinal, as they are able to build a personal relationship with the producers and verify their practices.

While Geldhof was discussing a recent visit to one of the farms where he orders cheese from each week, he laughed when telling how the farmer told him the names and gave a short description of each of the 17 cows. ■



# Babes and Dogfish

**How one woman's campaign for honest seafood brought underappreciated fish to the Coop**

By Danielle Uchitelle

I'll bet the last time you ate seafood it was one of a half dozen ubiquitous sorts of fish: salmon, cod, sea bass, halibut, maybe one or two others. But isn't it odd that the ocean, teeming with tens of thousands of different fish species, could somehow manage to churn out, year after year, all the salmon, cod, sea bass and halibut that anyone cared to buy, and could do it at any time of the year? The truth is that, as many investigative reports have confirmed, rampant mislabeling and thawed fish masquerading as fresh are just two of the strategies that allow consumers to delude themselves into forgetting that the ocean is an untamed wilderness, not a factory farm. While we're all fixated on salmon and cod, driving up prices and depleting fish populations, what about all those other fish swarming around our shores that, for mostly cultural reasons, we never think of as food?

Gabrielle Stommel, a.k.a. Gabe the Fish Babe, has a different approach to seafood. The daughter of a commercial fisherman and granddaughter of a famous oceanographer, Gabe has made it her mission to bring abundant, underutilized fish species to local chefs and, as of recently, to the Park Slope Food Coop. "I want everyone to have the chance to eat wild fish caught in local waters," Gabe told me one recent afternoon during a break in her dawn-to-dusk workday. "I'm trying to get people to open their minds and eat outside the box!"

Growing up in a fishing family, Gabe witnessed first-hand the changes impacting the lives of independent fishermen like her father. "My dad busted his back for years as a fisherman, and it kept getting harder and harder. When I was 25, he sold his last hand-made fishing boat and quit commercial fishing. A lot of his generation feels the same way he did, and they're getting out of the business." But Gabe feels that it wasn't the economy or the environment that seems to be bringing an end

her father's way of life, but simply the way we eat. "The way we eat fish in America has not caught up with the way we're required to fish," noted Gabe, referring to the national regulations designed to protect against overfishing. That, in turn, leads to what Gabe sees as an epidemic of mislabeling and flat-out falsehood on the part of food purveyors. "I went into Whole Foods one day and saw some cod for

How can we change our approach to fish? Gabe thinks it all has to do with extending the "eat local" model into the world of seafood. "People who demand local food, they're the ones who will have more open minds about what kinds of fish they eat," said Gabe. And not just locally caught fish, but the kinds of fish that are local, seasonal and abundant. And that brings us to the dogfish.

## Garbage or Gourmet?

Which fish gets considered a delicacy and which one is snubbed as garbage fish is entirely a cultural construct. Many of us know the tale of the formerly shunned Patagonian toothfish that was re-branded as Chilean sea bass and went from plentiful to endangered in a decade. The ocean is teaming with seafood Cinderellas waiting for consumers to upgrade them from garbage fish to prized dinner entrée. Gabe has made it her life's work to promote these unloved species, and it's not just altruism on behalf of the underdogfish, either. "Right now, local fishermen are only allowed to catch 50 pounds per day of black

sea bass, but they're allowed to fish as much as they want of porgies," notes Gabe. "The problem is that people are not used to eating porgies. People just don't know how good it is."

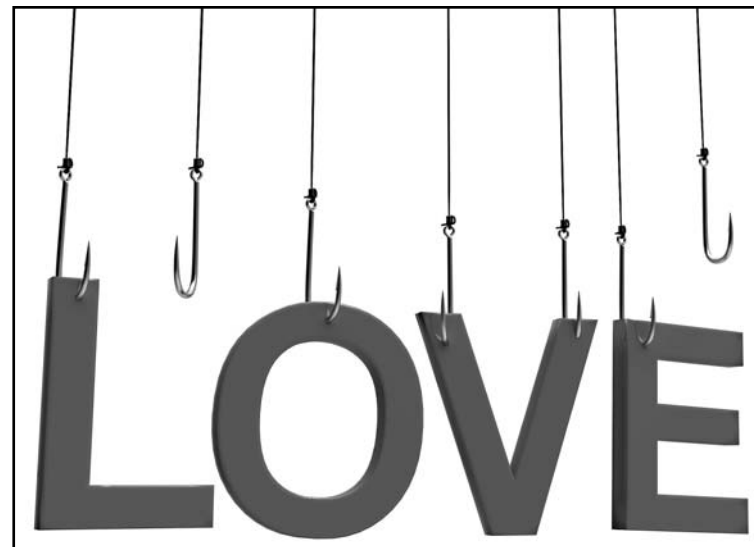
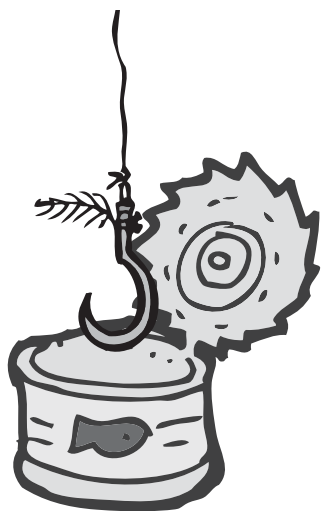
## Babe on a Mission

"I truly believe that everything in the ocean is delicious as long as it's fresh and seasonal," Gabe rhapsodized. "It's a wonderful way to eat. Fish is one of the last wild proteins available to us, and even that might not be around forever." Gabe's stock includes dogfish, sea robins, porgies, bluefish and other species that abound in the local waters of the East coast. While much of her fish goes to celebrity chefs in Manhattan, Gabe recently began peddling her wares at the Coop as well. This has turned out to be a benefit for both Gabe and Coop shoppers. "At first I wanted to sell fresh fish at the Food Coop, but Receiving Coordinator Jackie Memenza



**Blackfish is one of the local fish varieties supplied by Gabe Stommel.**

sale, and it looked horrible. It's probably from Iceland and it's probably frozen [and thawed], but it wasn't labeled that way at all." Gabe thinks we all have to face the reality that fish have seasons just like fruits and vegetables do. "We're all mature enough to understand that if a fish comes to the store from far away and in a time when it isn't available locally, it was previously frozen. You've got to get real about that."



ILLUSTRATIONS BY MICHAEL J. COHEN

talked me into selling frozen fish, and it's been a win for everyone: the fishermen have a new market for their fish, it's abundant so it's always affordable, and I get to introduce more consumers to these underutilized species."

To Gabe, sustainable fishing isn't just a food fad but a way to restore balance to the seas. "It's kind of creepy how we've changed the ocean and this is one way we can fix it," she reflected. "We have too much of a responsibility to just keep fishing and eating the way we've always done." Coop shoppers can happily

shoulder their part of the responsibility, as it simply means broadening our fish-eating habits beyond cod and salmon. And trust the Babe, because she knows her fish. "Eat what I tell you is sustainable and eat in season," Gabe admonished. With so much delicious and fairly priced Fish Babe seafood choices available in the Coop freezer, this is easy advice to take. ■

*Editor's note:* There is a temporary interruption of supply while Gabe the Fish Babe is reorganizing the operation. We hope it will resume shortly.

**The Coop is looking for one member to represent the Coop on the Steering Committee of a newly-forming, citywide solidarity/cooperative sector organization.**

**Project expected to last through May 2014.**

**Interested members must have excellent attendance, been a member for 5+ years, have a thorough knowledge of the Coop's member-owned and -operated culture and values, and professional experience in strategic planning.**

**Travel to/from meetings, attendance at meeting and any additional committee work included in workslot credit.**

**If you are interested or have further questions, please contact Ann Herpel or Joe Holtz at 718-622-0560 or [ann\\_herpel@psfc.coop](mailto:ann_herpel@psfc.coop).**



**What Is That? How Do I Use It?**

**Ask Me Questions About Coop Foods**

**Monday, August 26, 12 to 2:45 p.m.**

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

**Look for tour leaders in produce aisle.**



## July GM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the other a 24-week period. However, she noted some key figures.

The gross margin for the 20 weeks to June 23, 2013, was 16.71%, about one point lower than the ideal of 17.7%, which she attributed to damaged goods and shrinkage (i.e. theft). Store expenses were up because we spent about \$60,000 on upgrading our refrigeration systems, at the behest of a member group who is working with the Coop on energy-efficiency issues. Tricia said the investment will have a payback of about three and half years. Membership is down slightly, but average sales per member are up about 5%, and we are turning over our inventory at a rate of 78 times per year. "That's a crazy number!" The meeting broke into applause.

Ann Herpel reminded everyone that there will be no new member orientation meetings until Sept. 4, in an attempt to manage the num-

ber of members. She also noted that, contrary to Coop myth, there are FTOP shifts available, especially in the 5:00-8:00 a.m. slots. "These are important shifts because they help bring food into the store," she said. "And you get a preview of the wonderful produce that will be for sale that day."

Speaking of produce, Allen Zimmerman gave his usual witty and informative rundown on what special stuff he's been stocking. He highly recommended the Sycamore honeydew from Turlock Farms and the fresh shiso leaf from Hepworth Farms.

"People think I know a lot about produce," Allen noted. "But my mentor was Joe Holtz, who tried to teach me everything he knows. Last week, I told him we were getting an item in for the first time in 10 years and asked him to name it. And he said, well, it can't be Caroline Harris plums. It must be Laroda plums. And he was right! In three seconds, with one clue!"

The meeting broke into applause again. "We generally

discourage applause," said Imani, "but I can totally understand why he got it."

Joe tossed the compliment back to Allen, then made a few observations about the Coop's pension plan for its employees. It's a defined-benefit plan, which means that the risks lie with the employer, not the employee, to grow the assets to pay for the promised benefits. But the Coop has been doing a remarkable job investing the pension fund.

"The Coop has had about \$3 million to invest since the plan was adopted in 1993," he said. "And over the 20 years, that has turned into \$6.5 million, an internal rate of return for the life of the plan of 11.22%."

Pat, an office worker, asked who were the pension trustees making these investment decisions and "are you financial geniuses?" Joe responded that there was one other trustee, who was elected at a General Meeting—George Haywood, a professional investor. "He does the research, we discuss the options and we decide

together whether we want to go ahead."

### Agenda Items

There were three items on the agenda, two for discussion, and one a proposal requiring a vote.

The first discussion item, brought by Zachary Schulman, explored ways to support New York's dairy industry by working with an organization called "Milk Not Jails" ([www.milknotjails.wordpress.com](http://www.milknotjails.wordpress.com)).

As Zachary, a member since 2008, explained it, "Part of the Coop's mission is to support local food producers. Most of New York's farming is dairy farming, but farms are going under or being forced to consolidate. Rural towns are accepting prisons as their new industry. 'Milk Not Jails' [MNJ] wants to reform the prison system, and use the money saved to support small local farms."

He proposed that the Coop could purchase dairy products from MNJ instead of commercial suppliers, could allow Coop members to earn shift credit for working with MNJ (which has an office in Brooklyn), could publicly endorse MNJ's policy agenda and could create a special project to advance the MNJ campaign.

Members raised a number of points and questions. Overall sentiment seemed positive about MNJ's general objectives, but skeptical, or at least confused, about their specific policy proposals and organizational structures. Lauren Melodia, founder of MNJ, attempted to clarify some issues, and Imani brought the discussion to an end.

The second item was submitted by Helen Zuman, a six-year member who works in Receiving. She proposed that the Coop donate \$50,000 to Cayuga Pure Organics (CPO) to help them rebuild their beanery after a devastating fire shut them down in May. Along with \$142,000 CPO has already raised, this donation would allow them to get back into business.

CPO is "the only major supplier of locally grown organic dried beans in the Northeast," Helen said. "They are a keystone in the local food system. The Coop has been buying from them for four years and we sell several hundred pounds of their beans each week. This rebuild will ensure the Coop has a more secure access to the goods we want to sell, and will further our mission to support the local food shed."

Helen closed her eloquent,

passionate presentation by asking the Coop to open its heart and its checkbook. "We have the chance tonight to make a profound difference in the life of local food. We have the chance to give a great gift. Let's help Cayuga get the beanery built."

During the discussion that followed, members were supportive of CPO's goals and sympathetic to their needs. Some urged passage of the proposal; others asked whether a mix of loans and gifts might be more prudent. However, General Coordinators Allen Zimmerman, Ann Herpel and Joe Holtz all advised against the proposal, both for the precedent it would set—Allen noted that we had never donated money to a farm before—and on its merits.

"They're great farmers, but they're not great businesspeople," Ann said. "If we were going to set the precedent of giving this kind of money, we would need to know more about their finances and their future."

A motion to table the proposal, to allow for more discussion, was proposed and voted on; it failed. Then after more discussion, the proposal itself was put to a vote. "The motion fails," reported Imani. Alas, no count was announced, as the vote was lopsided—many more hands rose against the proposal than for it, so votes were not formally counted.

The third agenda item, presented by Barbara Mazor, concerned workshop presentations that might express or promote bias, and procedures that could ensure they didn't.

The meeting was running long, and Imani announced that "the presenter is making a motion to extend the meeting by 15 minutes." Barbara interjected, "I've waited 17 months to have this agenda item come!" There was a vote. "The motion fails," said Imani. She suggested starting the presentation, then making another motion during the discussion.

Barbara made her presentation. She explained that the Coop is founded and depends on mutual good will and respect. "Bias is not protected speech in the Coop." The workshops take place inside the Coop, and despite a published disclaimer that "Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop," Barbara asserted that by providing the venue the Coop is implicitly approving the workshop.

## Coop Job Opening: Membership Coordinator

### Description:

The Coop is hiring a Membership Coordinator to fill an afternoon/evening and weekend schedule. Membership Coordinators divide their time between shifts of approximately 6 hours in the Membership Office, Technical Support shifts of approximately 6.5 hours working on the shopping floor, and oversight/coordination of the Coop's administrative functions. Applicants must have excellent communication, organizational, administrative and people skills, as well as patience, comfort with computer technology, and the ability to do detailed record keeping. Applicants should be able to remain calm in hectic surroundings, oversee the work of others, teach and explain procedures, delegate work, give feedback, pay attention to several things at once and maintain high standards of accuracy.

As a retail business, the Coop's busiest times are during traditional holiday seasons. Applicants must be prepared to work during many of the holiday periods, particularly in the winter.

**Hours:** Approx. 40 hours in 5 days/week: Thursday–Monday. Weekday schedule will be afternoon/evening hours (some shifts until 11:00 p.m.). Saturday and Sunday hours will vary, though shifts are between 5 and 8 hours in length.

**Wages:** \$25.80/hour.

**Benefits:**

- Paid Holidays: July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day
- Paid Health and Personal Time: 11 days per year
- Paid Vacation: three weeks per year increasing in the 4th, 8th & 11th years
- Health Insurance\*
- Dental and Vision Plan\*
- Pension Plan\*
- Life Insurance\*
- 401(k) Plan
- TransitChek Program
- Flexible Spending Account

\*Benefits with no payroll deduction.

### Prerequisite:

Must be a current member of the Park Slope Food Coop for at least six months immediately prior to application.

No Membership Office experience necessary to submit application materials. However, in order to be considered for an interview applicants must have worked at least four shifts in the Membership Office. After submitting your materials, if you wish to schedule shifts in the Office please contact the Coop at [hc-membershipcoordinator@psfc.coop](mailto:hc-membershipcoordinator@psfc.coop). Please put "Schedule Shifts" in the subject field.

### How to Apply:

Please provide your resumé along with a cover letter explaining your relevant qualifications, skills and experience. Materials will only be accepted electronically via e-mail to [hc-membershipcoordinator@psfc.coop](mailto:hc-membershipcoordinator@psfc.coop). Please put "Membership Coordinator" in the subject field. Applicants will receive an e-mail acknowledging receipt of their materials. Please do not call the Membership Office to check on the status of your application. Applications will be reviewed and interviews scheduled on a rolling basis until the position has been filled. If you applied to a previous Coop job offering, please re-submit your materials.

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





Barbara proposed to develop some process to prevent bias before it was disseminated. Workshops should be posted well in advance. People who felt the content of workshops would promote bias should be able to register an objection. There should be a transparent procedure to weigh the objection and a group should make a consensual decision about whether the workshop disseminated bias and should be cancelled. "No one should be made to feel like an 'other' at our Coop."

After some discussion about how to define bias and whether workshop presentations were already being scrutinized, Tom, a member who works in Childcare, stood to speak.

*"No one should be made to feel like an 'other' at our Coop."*

"The issue has to come out of the closet right now," he said, his voice thick with emotion. "This is about Israel and Palestine. Barbara has been a big advocate for Israel no matter what, and a lot of us would like to see something less biased. Let's talk about human rights for all people."

The tape recorded the sound of the presenter's voice, interjecting. "Shut up, Barbara!" Tom snapped. The crowd gasped and buzzed. Imani asked for cooperation and respect. Tom apologized, and after some further digression about the Middle East, concluded, "I'm all for the end of bias, but we're not going to have it with this proposal."

The discussion continued. Some felt that "disagreement is not necessarily bias." One member said that the workshops are like a college campus: "If one speaks to your interests, you go. If not, you don't."

Others agreed that work-

shops should be subject to the same policies and values as the General Meeting and the Coop itself. "The proposal may not be ideal, but I think it's a starting point for a discussion about how we share this space and come to agreements about what is presented within it. We should all have a voice."

"It's 9:30," Imani said, "And that ends the agenda portion of the meeting."

#### Board of Directors Meeting and Wrap-Up

Jesse Rosenfeld, Secretary of the Coop, announced "There are no minutes this month. I will do two sets of minutes for the next meeting. Apologies."

Board member Eunju Lee asked how many of the six Board members were present. There were four. Since there were no minutes to vote on, she moved to vote on whether the Board would accept the advice of the meeting as expressed in their vote with regards to the proposal in agenda item two, the donation to CPO. "Please raise your hand." A pause. "That's it." No vote was announced, but the implication is that, as is standard procedure, the Board accepted the meeting's decision.

There were a number of comments about the meeting's procedural issues during the wrap-up, mostly related to a sense that there was too much to cover in the allotted time.

Some criticized the Chair for allowing discussion on certain items to go on too long; others criticized the Agenda Committee for putting too much on the docket; still others felt the Coordinators' reports should have been shortened given the numerous and complex member items.

After an unnamed member urged the Agenda and Chair Committees to work together better, Imani adjourned the meeting. ■

#### Attention Web Developers

Do you want to help build the new PSFC website and fulfill your Coop work requirement at the same time? The Coop IT staff is doing a survey of our membership to determine the popularity of various web technologies. Based on the results of the survey we'll be working with members to begin new development on foodcoop.com. If web development work for the Coop sounds good to you, please take the survey by either scanning the QR code above, or visiting: <http://websurvey.foodcoop.com/>



## ★ EXCITING WORKSLOT OPPORTUNITIES ★

### Bathroom Cleaning

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 12 to 2 p.m.

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

### Office Set-up

Monday, 6 to 8:30 a.m.

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

### Maintenance

Commando Crew

Sunday, 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

This squad works a 6-hour shift, once every 12 weeks. These squads are supervised by a paid staff member, Ibraim Dauti, who will assign members various cleaning and maintenance projects throughout the Coop that are done best during the hours when the Coop is closed. A few examples of projects would be mopping the Shopping, Receiving and Office floors; vacuuming staircases, offices and beams; cleaning the produce cases, etc. This workslot involves physical and dirty work and working to help maintain a high standard of cleanliness in the Coop. (Note: Members of this squad say the shift goes quickly because they work steadily throughout the shift. Mid-way through the shift members take 30-minute break.)

### Office Data Entry

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.

### Entrance Desk

Friday, 5:45 to 8:15 a.m.

Supervised by Membership Coordinators, you will be staffing the entrance desk in hours of the weekday before the Coop is open to shoppers. Primarily you will be checking in working members, informing them of their member and household status, and handing out entrance desk slips to members who need them. Entrance workers provide an essential member service and must be welcoming, polite, able to read and interpret information on the entrance-desk screen, and able to clearly convey information about member status directly to members. Entrance workers also provide a key security function, and must remain alert throughout the shift, which may have slow periods. Therefore reading, writing, talking on the phone, texting, etc. is not allowed. Punctuality and good attendance will be essential, as you will be the only Entrance worker scheduled at this time of day. Paid Membership Coordinators will be present to train you on your first (and second) shift, and then to support you and answer questions going forward.

## Members Sought for PSFC Personnel Committee

If you know how to work collaboratively and believe you could make a contribution to the Coop, we would love to hear from you. The Personnel Committee is an elected group of members that serves in an advisory capacity to the General Coordinators (the Coop's collective managerial team), supporting them with/in performance evaluations, succession planning, developing human resources policies and in the hiring/termination of General Coordinators when/if either of those actions is necessary.

We would like the Personnel Committee to reflect the diversity of the Coop. We are especially interested in people who have skills in finance, running a business, upper-level management, organizational development, personnel and human resources. Applicants should have a minimum of one year of Coop membership immediately prior to applying, experience doing workshifts at the Coop, and excellent attendance.

The Personnel Committee meets with the General Coordinators on the third Tuesday of every month from 5:30 to 7:15 p.m. Additional work outside the meetings is also required.

If you are interested, please do the following two things: e-mail your resume and a letter explaining why you would like to be part of the committee to [pc.psfc@gmail.com](mailto:pc.psfc@gmail.com), and go to <http://bit.ly/120Dn2s> to fill out a short questionnaire.

## MEMBER SUBMISSION

# Something Wicked This Way Comes: The Trans Pacific Partnership

By Alice Joyce-Alcala

Remember studying Macbeth in high school and encountering those diabolically evil weird sisters chanting and cavorting maniacally upon a deserted heath? In case you've forgotten, they're the really bad broads famous for casting the spell responsible for reversing human and natural law, turning good to evil, and evil to good, affording the witches a never-ending banquet of suffering upon which to feast.

But in these modern times, who needs witches to cast spells when multinational corporations can hire a crop of corporate lawyers to negotiate secret trade agreements crafted to enrich the few and impoverish the many?

The Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) is a nascent trade organization of which

most Americans are unaware. The governments of Chile, Australia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Vietnam, Singapore and the U.S. are negotiating the terms of the TPP. For those of us who remember the millions of American jobs that evaporated once NAFTA was signed into law, and the thousands of Mexican farmers who became impoverished when they could not compete with cheaper imported U.S. corn, the TPP is cause for alarm.

If signed into law, the terms of the TPP will become the standard to which each member country is held. It is therefore very disturbing that neither Congress, the press nor the public have had access to the negotiations. Even more disturbing is that approval for the TPP is on a "Fast Track," (an initia-

tive of the Nixon administration which strips Congress of its authority to control the content of a trade deal and hands it over to the executive branch) and is scheduled to be signed into law by the President this fall unless the public wakes up and stops it.

## A Small Taste of the TPP's Approach to Food Safety

- The TPP would require the U.S. to import food that does not meet U.S. safety food standards.
- Domestic food inspection would be outsourced to other countries.
- Labels identifying geneti-

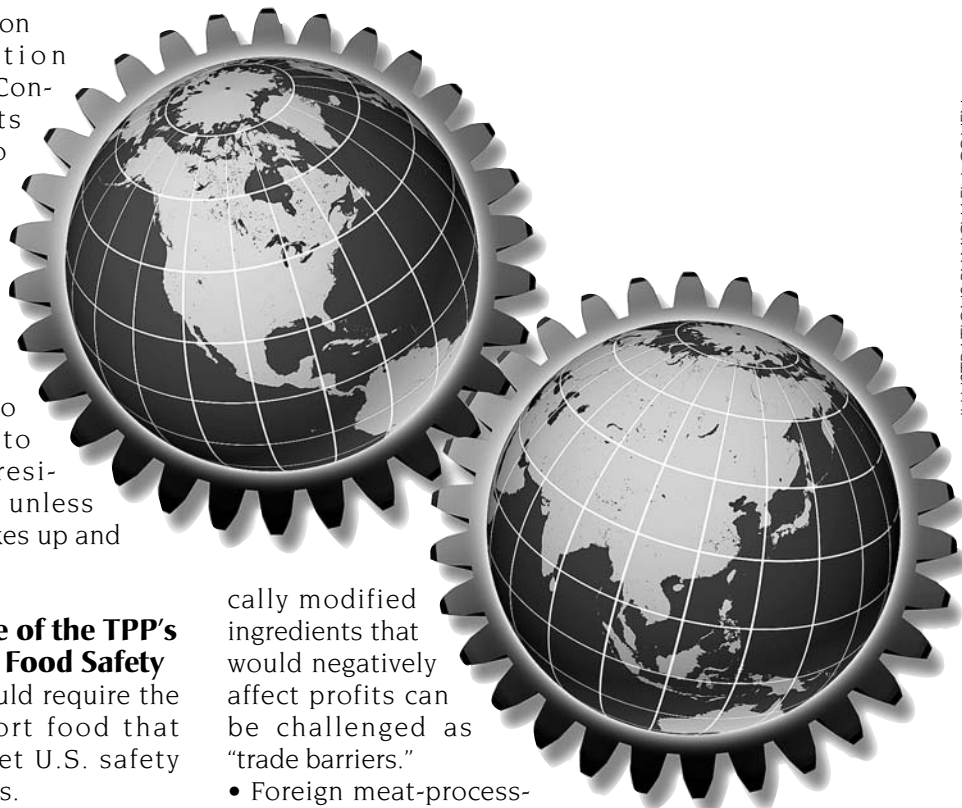
cally modified ingredients that would negatively affect profits can be challenged as "trade barriers."

- Foreign meat-processing corporations operating in the U.S. can legally challenge U.S. policies.
- U.S. safety rules on pesticides and additives that are higher than international standards would be subject to challenge as "illegal trade barriers."

- More than 600 trade advisors have access.

The TPP, if passed, will cover 40% of the global economy.

To learn more about the TPP, plan to attend the Coop GM on Tuesday August 27. ■



ILLUSTRATIONS BY MICHAEL J. COHEN

## Coop Job Opening: Java/Web Software Developer

### Description:

The Park Slope Food Coop has an immediate opening for a Java/Web Software Developer. You will be joining our staff of two Java developers and a network/system administrator. Our staff prefers to build software and services using open source and open standards.

Specific responsibilities include (in conjunction with team members):

- Participate in designing a new application framework for the Coop.
- Lead the makeover of the foodcoop.com website.
- Create documentation, including code and procedures, to share your knowledge and responsibilities with other team members.
- As a member of the team, help with everyday technical issues (e.g., printers, usage issues, workstation maintenance, etc.)

### Requirements:

#### Required Experience

- Must have a BA/BS in computer science/engineering or equivalent experience.
- Capable of designing, developing, and integrating a wide variety of software components.
- Knowledge of a standard end-to-end development process, including version control, build scripts, and automated testing.

#### Required Skills

- Proficiency in Java in a Linux, Unix or Mac environment.
- Web application development experience using technologies such as HTML, JavaScript, CSS on the client and PHP, Perl, Python, Ruby, or Java on the server.
- Database design and implementation experience (MySQL preferred).

#### Desirable Skills

- Development experience using Eclipse.
- Server-side development with Java using technologies such as JDBC, Spring, Servlets, etc.
- Linux/Unix shell scripting.
- Drupal experience.

### Employment & Benefit Details:

- Work week: 40 hours; flexible schedule
  - Salary: \$87,260.88 per year
  - Paid Vacation: 5 weeks per year
  - Paid Holidays: July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day
  - Paid Health and Personal Time: 11 days per year
  - Health Insurance\*
  - Dental and Vision Plan\*
  - Pension Plan\*
  - Life Insurance\*
  - 401(k) Plan
  - TransitChek Program
  - Flexible Spending Account
- \*Benefits with no payroll deduction.

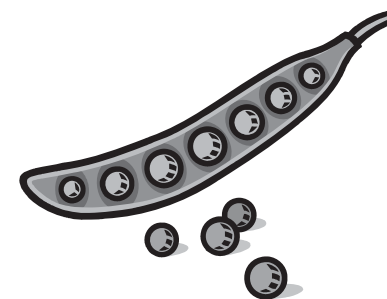
### Prerequisite:

Must be a current member of the Park Slope Food Coop for at least six months immediately prior to application.

### How to Apply:

Please e-mail a cover letter with your resumé to hc-programmer@psfc.coop. All members who submit both a cover letter and resumé will receive a response. Please do not call the office to check on the status of your application.

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



## JOIN US! and earn FTOP

**Lefferts Community Food Co-op** is a new co-op in the Prospect Lefferts Gardens area that is working toward retail hours, renovating our space, and launching our membership campaign.

We urgently need an **experienced bookkeeper** on a FTOP/volunteer basis to advise us and help establish a proper accounting system (Quickbooks). Must be familiar with retail accounting conventions and financial statement preparation

If you are interested, please contact us at:  
**info@leffertsfoodcoop.org**

#### Join us at:

Meetup Group: [www.meetup.com/plgfoodcoop](http://www.meetup.com/plgfoodcoop)

f [leffertsfoodcoop](https://www.facebook.com/leffertsfoodcoop)

@leffertsfood

www.leffertsfoodcoop.org

**www.leffertsfoodcoop.org**





## MEMBER SUBMISSION

## The End of Civility

By Sylvia Lowenthal

Agenda items that try to address what it means to be a welcoming community that respects diversity and inclusiveness—supposedly core values of the Coop—are typically met with an onslaught from BDS supporters who view all such discussions as threats to their sense of entitlement to a permanent base of operation at the Coop. And this was on full view at the July General Meeting where the following proposal was presented for discussion: “Workshop presentations may not be used for the promotion of bias or include speakers associated with organizations, movements or media that promote bias.” In other words the Coop should not provide a platform to individuals and groups whose premises and goals are offensive with respect to identity categories such as gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, national origin and ethnicity. The presentation was followed by a handful of opposing comments, and the content and tone of the objections tell a story in and of themselves.

The very first comment came as no surprise, an undisguised attempt to change the subject from workshops and respect to a debate about the alleged sins of Israel, the obsession-du jour of the contemporary radical left. When the presenter objected, the opponent told her to “shut up,” inspiring a roar of disapproval from the audience. And this wasn’t the first instance of such below-the-belt behavior by BDS advocates. At one meeting, a pro-boycott speaker refused to yield the floor so that others could take their turns; at another, an anonymous voice from the audience called the speaker a “Zionist racist.” And at a conference organized by anti-boycott Coop members, a hostile audience member interrupted a speaker in the middle of her presentation and accused her of lying.

These are some of the pre-

ferred tactics of BDS advocates who even while defending their own unconditional right to free speech are about little else than silencing the voices of Israeli cultural, academic and political figures via boycotts and organized disruptions of events. Little wonder they have difficulty with the concept of respect for diversity.

The next two speakers—one who, for no discernable reason, used gestures and a tone of voice signaling utter exasperation with the presenter, the other who, apropos of nothing, felt it necessary to identify himself as a Jew—mistook what was clearly a preliminary discussion for a final proposal and ignored the larger issue to quibble about the word “etc.” which followed a number of relevant identity categories enumerated during the presentation. No such objection has ever been made to the word “etc.” in the existing workshop guidelines, which include: “No one should be made to feel unwelcome at a workshop due to religion, race, gender, sexual orientation, etc.” Another speaker raised the obstacle of defining “bias,” never an issue when members voted overwhelmingly to form a diversity committee to address “bias” at the Coop. Another member objected to any potential constraint on “academic freedom,” a strange idea since obviously a food coop isn’t a college or university. (Unfortunately the discussion was limited to 15 minutes, due to miscalculations about scheduling, and allowed no time to respond to any of these comments.)

In this context, consider as well two tweets on the “PSFC Members for BDS” website in anticipation of the meeting: “Don’t let Zionists squelch dissent,” referring, presumably, to all of us anti-boycott, anti-free-speech, racist Zionists. And another: “Item at this Tues GM suggests censoring events that ‘promote bias.’ There go the anti-fracking programs, we guess.” That

someone thinks activism against fracking might be viewed as a bias issue dims any hope of having meaningful discourse about respect for diversity.

General Meetings are now events where words like “etc.” and “bias” become time-wasting obstacles to honest discussions about how core Coop values have been subjugated to an imagined inalienable right to a permanent platform for vilifying Israel and denying its right to exist. Over the years we’ve seen a coarsening of Coop culture attributable to members who insist on promoting their propaganda despite repeated, responsibly researched refutations, no matter the cost to community respect and cohesion. And what is the value of any of this to the Coop Community? None. ■

## 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.

## SUN, AUG 25

11 a.m., Damo I Jin—a “tendon-changing” form of Chi Kung (“life-force energy practice”)—continues in Prospect Park, through the summer and fall. Newcomers are welcome to join the class any week. For more info, contact quicksilverdance@yahoo.com or 212-946-1537.

Three Collaborative’s Climate Change Play, *Extreme Whether*, with Zach Grenier (*The Good Wife*) and *Talkback* with Dr. Jennifer Francis, Arctic Ice Scientist, Cherry Lane Theater, 38 Commerce St., New York. RSVP: company@cherrylanetheatre.or212.989.2020 Free tickets, reservations suggested.

## THU, SEP 12

Party for Farmworkers and Food Justice, Live on the Edge of Food Justice. Join Rural & Migrant Ministry to celebrate justice for farmworkers with a night of food, live music, and mixing. Ticket includes speaker, drink voucher and market spread catered by Haven’s Kitchen. For tickets info: www.farmworkers.bpt.me/ or 845-309-8420.

## WED, AUG 28

6:30 p.m. Herbal Workshop: Herbs for Trauma; sponsored by Sustainable Flatbush, Location: 2103 Kenmore Terrace, on the Flatbush Reformed Church Property.

## TUE, SEP 10

2 p.m. Staged Reading of Theater

We’re throwing a party to celebrate the Coop’s 40th birthday!  
**Food! Music! Drinks!**  
AND a raffle to support the Fund for New Food Coops

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 28, 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

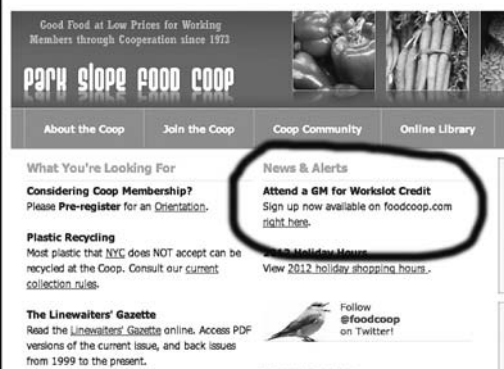
We need FTOP workers to help the week of September 24, especially on September 28/29.

We are also looking for DJs for workslot credit  
Facepainters  
Musical acts

If you are interested, send an e-mail to loancommittee@psfc.coop, or just sign up in the Membership Office.

We need fabulous items to raffle and sell at the Cash n Carry table.  
Please e-mail loancommittee@psfc.coop if you would like to make a donation.  
Write •40th in the subject line.

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



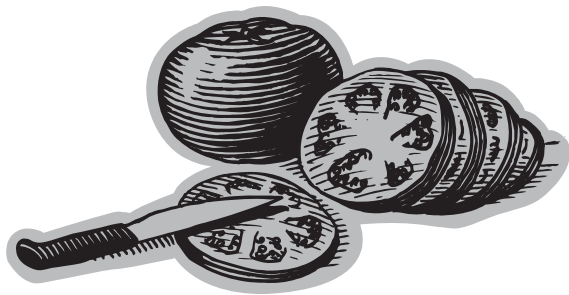
◆ On the Coop's website  
(www.foodcoop.com)



◆ Add your name to the sign-up sheet in the ground floor elevator lobby



◆ Call the Membership Office





## COOP HOURS

### 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

# LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE

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

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

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

### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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

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

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

**Committee Reports:** Maximum 1,000 words.

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

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

**Digital Submissions:** We welcome digital submissions. The e-mail address for submissions is [GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop](mailto:GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop). Drop disks in the wallpocket described above. Receipt of your submissions will be acknowledged on the deadline day.

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

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

Friday, September 20, 8:00 p.m.

The Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture  
and the Park Slope Food Coop present:



## PROSPECT CONCERTS



**Rob Garcia's Soap Box featuring Jean Rohe.** "A prime mover in the current Brooklyn jazz scene..." (*Time Out-New York*) drummer/composer Rob Garcia leads this group featuring vocalist/composer Jean Rohe. They will perform unique arrangements of songs with a story to tell and a message to deliver covering such songwriters as Leonard Cohen, Bob Dylan, Woody Guthrie as well as original material by Rob and

Jean. "Garcia is a drummer of invention, grace and considerable fire." (*Downbeat*) "Ms. Rohe is a confident young singer whose compositions tend toward a literate and imploring tone." (Nate Chinen, *New York Times*) "There are plenty of talented artists out there, but what sets Jean Rohe apart are the suppleness of her voice, the integrity of her vision, and the grace she shows in her wide-ranging journeys across the musical landscape." (John Platt, WFUV New York)

**Ilusha Tsinadze** hasn't been on work alert in a couple months now. Cashiering is his favorite shift so far, but nothing comes close to getting credit for playing a concert. Tonight he presents some of his favorite acoustic music with some of his favorite Coop musicians.



[www.ProspectConcerts.tumblr.com](http://www.ProspectConcerts.tumblr.com)

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

## RETURN POLICY



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

### REQUIRED FOR ANY RETURN

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

### CAN I EXCHANGE MY ITEM?

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

## CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?

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

NEVER  
RETURNABLE

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

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

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

RETURNABLE

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

### This Issue Prepared By:

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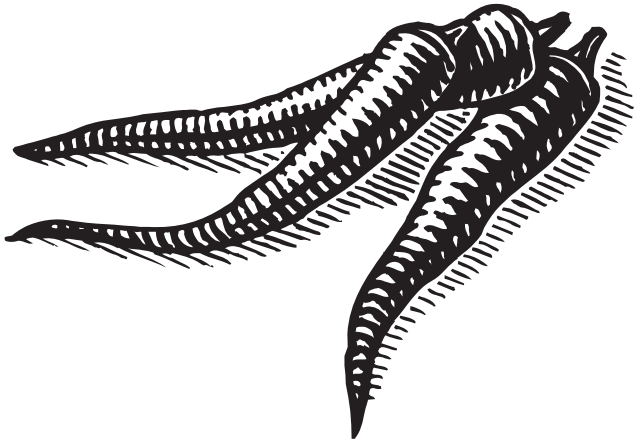




WELCOME!

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.

Amankae Ambia	Mary Franklin	Gianna LoScerbo	Danika Rahn	Daniel Soltis
Barbara Anderson	Derek Gregory	Gabriel Luft	Kyle Ranson-Walsh	Balint Somodi
Shawn K. Barnett	Elisa Hernandez	Janita Maria	Red Robinson	William Sterling
Nadia Bartolucci	Laila Hicks	John McCarthy	Griselda Rodriguez	Daniel Sucher
Sam Bradford	Sophia Holly	Kristen McElhiney	Anistla Rugama	Valentin Taubin
Amy Brown	Rachel Howard	Tess McNamara	Max Sather	Jason Tottenham
Jeff Brown	Erika Inwald	Ezekiel A. Melquist	Patrick Schubert	Tony Zhong Wang
Ieda Calich	Bryan Jacobs	Lisa Mings	Damion Searls	Francesca Zanghi
Lale Can	Julia Kingsland	Amy Pagliarini	Danielle Searls	Morgan Zwelein
Stephanie Chaplin	Marlene Koury	Faran Peterson	Bob Shields	
Dov Denebeim	Erika Krystian	Kristin Poor	Kenji Shinagawa	
John Eckert	Phillip Laskaris	Kathy Price	Lisette Silva-Sanchez	
Winn Frankland	Batsheva Lieder	Joshua Radding	Idris Solomon	



COOP CALENDAR

New Member Orientations

Attending an Orientation is the first step toward Coop membership. Pre-registration is required for all of the three weekly New Member Orientations. To pre-register, visit [foodcoop.com](http://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](http://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](http://www.foodcoop.com)

The Coop on Cable TV

Inside the Park Slope Food Coop

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

General Meeting Info

TUE, AUGUST 27

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, SEPTEMBER 3

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 7:30 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the September 24 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

Sep 5 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Aug 26  
Sep 19 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Sep 9

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Sep 5 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Aug 28  
Sep 19 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Sep 11

ALL ABOUT THE GENERAL MEETING

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, August 27, 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

**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.

Attend a GM and Receive Work Credit

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

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

• Advance Sign-up required:

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

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

• Two GM attendance credits per year:

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

• Certain Squads not eligible:

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

• Attend the entire GM:

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

• Signing in at the Meeting:

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

• Being Absent from the GM:

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

Park Slope Food Coop Mission Statement

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

park slope  
FOOD COOP

## calendar of events

aug 27  
tue 7 pm

## PSFC AUG General Meeting



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

**Meeting location:** 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**

**II. Open Forum**

**III. Coordinator and Committee Reports**

**IV. Meeting Agenda**

**Item 1:** Amendment to 2006 Retiree Health Benefits Plan (20 minutes)

**Proposal:** Amending Retiree Health Benefits to reflect new names of Medicare health plans and Medicare Part D. This is an amendment to clarify language, not a change of intent. —submitted by the General Coordinators

**Item 2:** Letter to Elected Officials Regarding Free Trade Agreements (40 minutes)

**Discussion:** That a letter from the officers of the Park Slope Food Coop be sent to all elected officials representing Brooklyn to express our intense concern about the current secret negotiations of “free trade” agreements, the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), that could damage food safety regulations in the U.S. —submitted by Marsha Champlin, Susan Johnson and Susan Metz

**V. Board of Directors Meeting**

**VI. Wrap-Up.** 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.

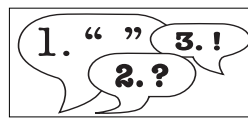
aug 30  
fri 7 pm

## Cheese Class

We invite Coop members to learn more about the wonderful cheeses the Coop has to offer. This event will be limited to 30 people on a first-come, first-seated basis. Our guest speaker will be Sergio Hernandez of Bklyn Larder. He personally selects all the cheeses, meats and grocery items and tastes and develops recipes for all the prepared foods sold at the counter. Sergio started working with food at 15. His culinary career took him to Vermont by the time he was 22, where Sergio gained a whole new appreciation for seasonality, local farms and small-production dairy and cheese. Sergio moved to New York City in 2004, and met the owners of Franny's. The trio immediately connected and Sergio became their first general manager at this now-celebrated Park Slope eatery. 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.

sep 3  
tue 7:30 pm

## Agenda Committee Meeting



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

Before submitting an item, read “How to Develop an Agenda

Item for the General Meeting” and fill out the General Meeting Agenda Item Submission Form, both available from the Membership Office or at foodcoop.com. **The next**

**General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 24, 7 p.m., at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.**

sep 5  
thu 7:30 pm

## Food Class: Let Me Teach You Healthy Indian Cuisine



A demonstration of healthy, vegetarian Indian cuisine and a discussion of some of the health benefits of the ingredients, including Ayurvedic principles. Learn the basics of incorporating and balancing Indian spices. Chef **Mukti Banerjee** grew up in Bengali with both North and East Indian food and cultural traditions. She desires to

share her passion for Indian food and to empower her students to cook healthy Indian cuisine. Chef Banerjee feels she is honoring and paying tribute to her teachers: her mother, aunts and grandmothers. She decided to create Mukti's Kitchen upon the insistence of her appreciative friends and family. *Menu includes: mixed vegetable korma; vegetable pulao; chan dal with coconut.*

**ASL interpreter may be available upon advance request. Please contact Ginger Jung in the Membership Office by August 22 to make a request.**

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

sep 6  
fri 7 pm

## Film Night: Darkon



*Darkon* is a documentary feature that follows the real-life adventures of an unusual group of weekend “warrior knights”—fantasy role-playing gamers whose live-action “battleground” is modern-day Baltimore re-imagined as a make-believe medieval world named *Darkon*. These live-action gamers combine the physical drama of historical re-enactments with character-driven storylines, inspired in part by such perennial-favorite fantasy epics as the legends of King Arthur, *Lord of the Rings*, and the saga of *Conan the Barbarian*. As role players, these gamers create alter-egos with rich emotional, psychological, and social lives. They costume themselves and physically act out their characters' exploits, both in intimate court intrigue and camp-outs, and in panoramic battle scenarios involving competitive strategies, convincingly real props, and full contact “combat.” SeeThink Films is an award-winning production company based in New York. SeeThink is currently developing a slate of narrative films based on original screenplays. SeeThink partners are: Andrew Neel, Luke Meyer, Tom Davis and Ethan Palmer.

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

sep 7  
sat 8 am–9 pm

## A Portrait of the Coop at 40

If you visually present to the world in some strong or mannered or prescribed way, if you feel that you, in some way, enrich the diversity of our community by sending out some kind of visual signal, either through some innate physical quality or as a result of experiences you have lived through or through aesthetic choices made consciously by you, please volunteer to be photographed as part of the making of a record of our diverse membership as we celebrate 40 years of the Park Slope Food Coop. You will receive a high-resolution digital copy of your portrait. Coop member **Martyn Gallina-Jones** is a British photographer who moved to Brooklyn in 1984, assisted Arnold Newman, Annie Liebowitz amongst others, and began his own career in 1990.

sep 8  
sun 7 pm

## Tai Chi Chuan for Beginners

Tai Chi is a meditation, health exercise and martial art all in one and is well known for reducing stress and increasing overall physical and emotional vitality. This workshop will explore Tai Chi through simple exercises that develop relaxed, calm alertness and increased energy. No movement experience necessary; workshop is designed for any level of fitness ability. Numerous studies indicate that Tai Chi improves balance, blood-lipid levels, better sleep patterns, nutrient digestion and even increased resistance to shingles. Other studies note that it reduces falls, anxiety levels, as well as fibromyalgia pain and fatigue. Long-time Coop member **Tom Daly** began studying Tai Chi in 1982 with Maggie Newman, a senior student of Professor Cheng Man-Ch'ing. Tom began teaching his own classes in 1990 and currently teaches private group classes at Chelsea Studios.

sep 10  
tue 7 pm

## Safe Food Committee Film Night: What's For Dinner?



*What's For Dinner?* follows the rapid rise of animal-product consumption in China, where consumption of pork—the country's most popular meat—has doubled over the past 10 years. Since China opened its doors to foreign agribusiness, both Western and home-grown fast food chains are now commonplace in urban

**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.**



# aug 27–oct 1 2013

areas, and contribute to a \$28-billion-a-year business in the country. Can people in the developing world eat as much meat and dairy as people in the industrialized countries without destroying the planet? And do they really want to? *What's For Dinner?* sheds new light on the climate, public health, food security, workers' rights, and ethical concerns.

**sep 14**  
sat 10:30 am

## How to Ace the SAT

The SAT is a super-important test that influences a high school student's future. But fortunately, there are many ways to prepare for the test and send your student's scores through the roof. Strategies include deciding which questions to omit, multiple-choice strategy, fun vocabulary-building games, essay structure, and much more. Children and friends of Coop members are warmly welcome! **Nataliya** is a Coop member and has been an SAT tutor for years, producing great results and instilling confidence in high schoolers. She currently teaches SAT Prep in the City University of New York.

**sep 14**  
sat 1 pm

## BodyTalk: 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. Please join Jean Chuang Menges, Advanced Certified BodyTalk practitioner and licensed acupuncturist, for a free hands-on 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**.

**sep 14**  
sat 4 pm

## Wordsprouts: Back-to-School Discussion



Children are most welcome! **Lauren Thompson** is the author of more than 30 children's picture books, including the *New York Times* bestseller, *Polar Bear Night*, and the popular *Little Quack* and *Mouse's First* series. She was also a children's-book editor for 18 years before leaving office life to write full-time. **Adam Marcus** has been a member of the PSFC since 1999. He has been a New York City Teaching Fellow with for the NYCDOE for 12 years. In 2009, he took over the defunct school library program at P.S. 32K and raised \$500,000 to renovate and expand the space into a vital working library. He has taught pre-K, kindergarten (in his school's Asperger program), and grades 3-5. **Erin Clarke** is an executive editor at Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Random House Children's Books. She works on a wide range of projects, from picture books to young-adult fiction. Books she has edited include the #1 *New York Times* bestseller *The Book Thief*, by Markus Zusak, and the #1 *New York Times* bestseller *Wonder*, by R. J. Palacio.

To book a Wordsprouts, contact Paula Bernstein, [wordsproutspsf@gmail.com](mailto:wordsproutspsf@gmail.com).

**sep 15**  
sun 12 pm

## How to Have a Flat Tummy!

You've dieted, tried vegetarianism, cut out gluten, dairy...still there's a little (or big!) bulge in your belly. Nutrition Response Testing is a non-invasive system of ana-

lyzing the body to determine the underlying causes of ill or non-optimum health. Digestive disturbances are often one of the body's first "warning signs" that nutrition has been compromised and bloating and indigestion are some of the most common symptoms we see in our practice. By identifying the underlying causes of imbalance, we are able to identify the exact right nutrition and slowly bring the body back to balance. From bloating and gas to Irritable Bowel Syndrome, constipation, colitis, your body knows how to correct itself. And once we identify what's getting in the way, it will do just that! **Diane Paxton**, MS, LAc, is the owner and principal of Inner Fire Integrative Health Services, with offices in Manhattan and Park Slope. She is also a long-time Coop member.

**sep 20**  
fri 8 pm

## Rob Garcia's Soap Box and Ilusha Tsinadze

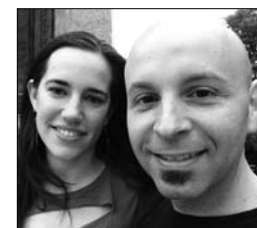


**Rob Garcia's Soap Box** featuring **Jean Rohe**. "A prime mover in the current Brooklyn jazz scene..." (*Time Out-New York*) drummer/com-

poser Rob Garcia leads this group featuring vocalist/composer Jean Rohe. They will perform unique arrangements of songs with a story to tell and a message to deliver covering such songwriters as Leonard Cohen, Bob Dylan, Woody Guthrie as well as original material by Rob and Jean.

"Garcia is a drummer of invention, grace and considerable fire." (*Downbeat*) "Ms. Rohe is a confident young singer whose compositions tend toward a literate and imploring tone." (Nate Chinen, *New York Times*) "There are plenty of talented artists out there, but what sets Jean Rohe apart are the suppleness of her voice, the integrity of her vision, and the grace she shows in her wide-ranging journeys across the musical landscape." (John Platt, WFUV New York). **Ilusha Tsinadze** hasn't been on work alert in a couple months now. Cashiering is his favorite shift so far, but nothing comes close to getting credit for playing a concert. Tonight he presents some of his favorite acoustic music with some of his favorite Coop musicians.

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



**sep 21**  
sat 2 pm

## What the Tooth Fairy Never Knew!

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

## still to come

**sep 22** Handling Your Child's Anger

**sep 28–29** Food Drive to Benefit CHIPS Soup Kitchen

**sep 24** PSFC SEPTEMBER General Meeting

**sep 29** It's Your Funeral

**sep 24** Meet Your Mind

**oct 1** Everyday Kitchen Improvisation

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## HELPING CAYUGA PURE ORGANICS

## TO THE EDITOR:

I am sure by now most people are aware that the Coop has placed two donation boxes—one in the Membership Office and the other at the Cashiers' Station—to collect money for Cayuga Pure Organics. What some of you may not know is that at the July GM there was a proposal for the Coop to give Cayuga a \$50,000 donation. It was voted down by attending members. This agenda item may not have gotten as much attention as last year's vote about the BDS movement, but Cayuga's situation has a much more direct affect for our Coop.

I am the Coop's Bulk Buyer and I started our relationship with Cayuga Pure Organics roughly six years ago. The sales agent of CPO approached me at that time to buy New York State-grown local organic black beans and possibly other products. Up to that time the only black beans available to us from United Natural Foods were from China. To date, CPO is only one of two farms in NYS growing and selling organic black beans available for us to buy. Since most members, myself included, were not comfortable with the Chinese black beans, the decision to switch was pretty much a no-brainer.

Over the years we have gotten pinto, kidney, navy, merlot and a variety of heirloom beans from CPO. In addition, they introduced us to Freekeh before it was popular and made available to us through Farmer Ground (a neighbor of CPO) various grains and flours.

For the record, I want to say that I

agree with the decision for the Coop not to give CPO a donation. My reasons are pretty much the same as the General Coordinators'. This was not an easy decision to come to, knowing the importance of the products CPO provides to us, as well as that we live in a time when the life of every local farm is so vital to why most of us are Coop members. This is why I felt such a strong need to write this letter.

I am a firm believer in living my life in an individually pro-active way. To quote Ghandi, "Be the change you wish to see in the world." So when I first heard from CPO about their fire, I immediately asked if we could start a donation box for them before they had a chance to ask us (and by the way they never did). I know many members like myself would like to continue buying products from CPO and want to see them survive well into the future. So on your next visit to the Coop, if you have not yet, please make a donation. A member said to me recently that if every member donated \$3, there is the \$50,000.

In peace,  
Ron Zisa, Bulk Buyer



## AUGUST GM TO DISCUSS 'FREE TRADE AGREEMENT' THAT WOULD THREATEN FOOD SAFETY

## TO THE EDITOR AND THE MEMBERSHIP:

Public policy is customarily made by government, also called the state. Policy is made in the form of laws by the legislative branch. Laws are backed up by the police and the courts as well as multiple administrative agencies that implement, investigate, and regulate. At the August GM we will discuss a radical policy proposal in the form of a new "Free Trade Agreement" (FTA) called the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). FTAs have legal standing and have a heavy impact on communities being able to create public policy in the U.S. and the other countries that sign these agreements. As members of the Coop, we are particularly concerned about enforceable policy affecting food safety.

You will rarely read about the specifics of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations in *The New York Times* or hear debates on NPR. Trade ministers of 12 countries are negotiating in secret, accompanied by about 600 U.S. advisors, most from corporations and industry coalitions. Though called trade agreements, the deals include a bunch of guarantees to protect an investor's right to make money. Framers hope that in September the U.S. Congress will approve President Obama's request for "Fast Track Authority" and then quickly pass the TPP.

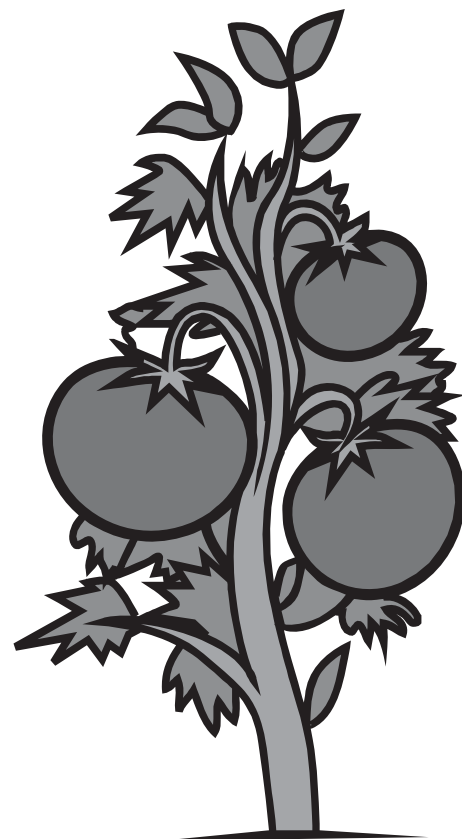
"Fast Track Authority" means that the voluminous agreement with intricate language (covering intellectual property rights and the Internet, pharmaceutical patents and generic AIDS meds, fossil fuel extraction and pipelines as well as agriculture and food safety) will be put into the hands of Congress members with very little time to study the policy implications, much less to discuss and debate them publically. "Fast Track" also means Congress will vote the entire package up or down without the authority to make any changes.

One stipulation in each FTA (i.e. NAFTA and DR-CAFTA) creates an investor's tribunal. This court holds the "right" to make a profit on an even plane—no, actually above—a government's authority and responsibility to protect people and the land. A corporation might bring a case before such a tribunal and sue a country for an enormous sum of money in a court whose judges are not responsible to any population nor elected body.

Members of Congress are expected to vote on "Fast Track" for the TPP soon after they reconvene in September. Corporate America will be lobbying hard. Representatives are now in their districts. This is our chance to insist that they slow down the

process, voting NO on Fast Track. Then, we can study the text of this agreement and debate the policy implications. Once the far-reaching policy implications of this terrible agreement, it will shrivel and die in the light and heat of public outrage.

Susan Metz



## FOOD SAFETY AND THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

## DEAR FELLOW COOP MEMBERS,

I urge you to attend the Aug. 27 GM to find out more about the important food safety issues arising from the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and other huge trade agreements such as the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP, aka TAFTA, Trans-Atlantic Free Trade Agreement). All of these constitute a great corporate takeover of economic power and of democracy itself. The following list of annotated links will help you understand the issues and facts ahead of time:

(1) [www.exposhetpp.org/TPP\\_Would\\_Undermine\\_Food\\_Safety.pdf](http://www.exposhetpp.org/TPP_Would_Undermine_Food_Safety.pdf)

An excellent one-page summary of the basic problems that TPP poses for food safety. One thing that shoots out at me is that the harmonization of standards (not necessarily to the lowest standard, I think) could lead to any higher standards by individual countries being challenged as "illegal trade barriers".

(2) [www.alternet.org/print/food/secret-trade-agreements-threaten-food-safety](http://www.alternet.org/print/food/secret-trade-agreements-threaten-food-safety)

This is the article that was passed out before the Coop's annual meeting which struck a chord with attendees. Excellent comprehensive summary that covers all facets of the TTP, not just on food safety. By the way, the case mentioned of Mexico losing in a

## 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](mailto:GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop) or on disk.

## Anonymity

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

## Fairness

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, fac-

tual coverage:

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

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

3. Copies of submissions that make substantive accusations against specific individuals will be given to those persons to enable them to write a response, and both submissions and response will be published simultaneously. This means that the original submission may not appear until the issue after the one for which it was submitted.

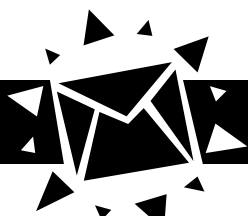
The above applies to both articles and letters. The only exceptions will be articles by *Gazette* reporters which will be required to include the response within the article itself.

## Respect

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



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



tribunal decision is where it wanted to ban imports of high fructose corn syrup in favor of domestically produced sugar.

(3) [www.delauero.house.gov/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=406:-delauero-food-safety-critical-issue-in-upcoming-trade-talks&catid=7:2011-press-releases&Itemid=23](http://www.delauero.house.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=406:-delauero-food-safety-critical-issue-in-upcoming-trade-talks&catid=7:2011-press-releases&Itemid=23)

A two-and-a-half page, well-argued statement of concern by Congresswoman DeLauro. One point that gets across for me is that past trade agreements always increase imports, and the FDA had limited capacity for inspecting food coming from countries with lax safety standards, like Vietnam.

(4) [www.citizen.org/documents/TPP-and-the-environment.pdf](http://www.citizen.org/documents/TPP-and-the-environment.pdf)

A readable and eye-catching four-page summary of how corporations have used investor-state settlement dispute clauses to circumvent environmental laws.

(5) [www.citizen.org/fast-track](http://www.citizen.org/fast-track)

A summary and history of Fast Track and why it is undemocratic.

(6) [www.iatp.org/documents/who%E2%80%99s-at-the-table-demanding-answers-on-agriculture-in-the-trans-pacific-partnership](http://www.iatp.org/documents/who%E2%80%99s-at-the-table-demanding-answers-on-agriculture-in-the-trans-pacific-partnership)

Really worth studying. Examines other food issues which the other articles don't quite mention, including the possible non-regulation of potentially dangerous new food-processing technologies.

Another interesting document to study by the same author is: [www.citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.185.1286&rep=rep1&type=pdf](http://www.citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.185.1286&rep=rep1&type=pdf)

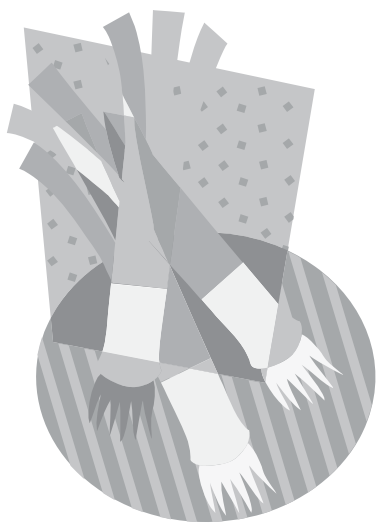
What struck me about this study is that the consumption of processed foods and the rate of obesity in Mexico has risen since NAFTA.

(7) [www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2013/04/21/national/fearing-the-worst-if-japan-joins-the-tpp/](http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2013/04/21/national/fearing-the-worst-if-japan-joins-the-tpp/)

An interesting perspective from Japan, which has one of the highest food safety laws. But the part that struck me most is that their high protection of their rice farmers also preserves a cultural connection between rice farmers and the poorer Japanese.

Thank you for your interest and concern!

Marsha Champlin



## BUY NY LEGISLATION— PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP MEMO OF SUPPORT

### DEAR MEMBERS,

In keeping with our policy of supporting local agriculture, I have written the following letter to Governor Cuomo. Please consider taking the time to write to the Governor about supporting this legislation. The NRDC sums it up succinctly: "The Natural Resources Defense Council supports S.4061/A.5102 as a good first step in strengthening New York's regional food system and growing our rural economies. By encouraging and measuring state agency purchasing of New York State agricultural products, this measure can lay the groundwork for future legislation that contains sustainability criteria and concrete purchasing targets for state agencies."

**The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of New York State, NYS State Capitol Building, Albany, NY 12224**

Dear Governor Cuomo:

I am writing in support of S.4061/A.5102 and to encourage you to sign this important legislation into law. At the Park Slope Food Coop, our 16,000 members buy \$48 million worth of food each year—and there is a significant interest in local food. Operating since 1973, we've seen how this strong demand for local food can help grow local farms and businesses across New York. This legislation is an important first step in similarly using New York State's purchasing power to support local food and New York farmers.

We applaud your efforts to support local food producers and manufacturers and to encourage economic development in our region—including existing policies to buy local, the Yogurt Summit, and significant funding for food hubs. S.4061/a.5102 clearly complements these existing local food efforts; and the data collection component of this bill is critically important to further advancing these policies.

It is also important that we understand how New York food dollars are spent. This legislation will bring increased transparency and unlock the potential of state dollars to achieve multiple economic goals.

New York universities and other institutions have declared their intentions to favor local produce and goods. This kind of clear demand can help farmers and food entrepreneurs across the state grow their businesses, sustain their local economies, and provide fresh, healthy food to more New Yorkers.

You have an opportunity with this legislation to further advance these efforts. The first step is to identify New York's existing baseline and determine how much local food state agencies are currently procuring, thus allowing us to set meaningful goals to

expand the purchase of New York produced foods over the long term.

Cc: Patrick Hooker, Deputy Secretary for Agriculture and Markets ([patrick.hooker@exec.nyc.gov](mailto:patrick.hooker@exec.nyc.gov)) and Larry Schwartz ([Lawrence.schwartz@exec.ny.gov](mailto:Lawrence.schwartz@exec.ny.gov))

Respectfully submitted,  
Joe Holtz  
General Manager  
Park Slope Food Coop

## CHIPS HISTORY

### TO THE EDITOR:

The 7/25/13 article on CHIPS misleadingly conflated its early history. Not to diminish the contribution of Mary Maloney, the outgoing Director, who has done a remarkable job of stabilizing, networking, and growing this Park Slope treasure!

CHIPS was founded in 1972, shortly before the Food Coop was founded. It grew from a prayer group meeting in the brownstone home of freelance writer Paul Wilkes and his wife Joy Carol Haupt. A dozen people met and worshipped there with a priest from Saint Francis Xavier Church on Sixth Ave., Ron Petroski. Inspired by his example, they opened a storefront at 219 Sixth Ave. to help neighbors in need. This storefront moved once or twice before finding a more lasting home at the present location.

Five years later, in 1977, inspired by the house of hospitality model of the New York Catholic Worker movement, a young doctor from CHIPS, Ed Mohler, and a Brooklyn College instructor from Flatbush, Jacques Travers, pooled their money to buy a house for homeless people at 314 Fourth St. Jacques and I lived there and helped those who lived with us as guests, sometimes until they could get on their own and sometimes for the rest of their lives. Like the Coop, we developed guidelines.

In about 1980, Ed and Jacques sold the house to CHIPS, putting it legally under the CHIPS umbrella. Jacques and I both became members of the Food Coop, and older members may remember tall, lean Jackie Elins com-

ing with Jacques and smoking cigarettes outside while waiting for Jacques to finish his work shift. The house only survived Jacques' death in 1987 by four years, closing in 1991. It really functioned on a different model from that of CHIPS.

During the 1980s, CHIPS was governed by a loose board of volunteers. Others, too, came to prepare food, distribute clothing from a large clothing room in the basement, and stay overnight with men shipped from the Partnership for the Homeless. It was a shoestring organization run out of pocket and from donations. The first director for about a year was George Carlin, who left to be a priest in the Philippines. He was followed for quite a few years by a much-loved Sister of Sion from Canada, Pauline Shtuka. She was followed briefly by a young Mennonite couple, Deborah Reumann and her husband Steve Siebert. I have a video of CHIPS at that time.

I remember much talk with the landlord about acquiring the property from him, but he was cautious. As the program on the lower floor grew, he opened three upstairs floors to three Little Sisters of the Gospel, a Little Brother, and a Worker Priest, Pierre Raphael, who had come from France and Belgium via Manhattan and had a ministry to prisoners at Rikers Island and their families. The Sisters eventually opened a floor to single expectant mothers. And CHIPS helped start Samaritan House, now closed, on Prospect Ave., for abused women and children.

This was 1987.

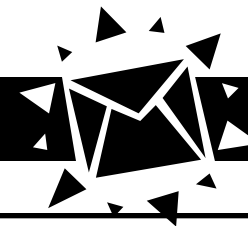
Daniel Marshall



**No New Member  
Orientations will be held  
from Sunday, August 4  
thru Monday, September 2.**

**Orientations will resume on the normal  
schedule as of Wednesday, September 4 at  
10 a.m. (Seats for that Orientation will be  
available on [foodcoop.com](http://foodcoop.com) as of  
Wednesday, August 21 at 10 a.m.)**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



## BDS TOPICS:

## THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STORY

## TO THE EDITOR:

**Official Palestinian Authority daily acknowledged Israeli hospital's medical care for Palestinian children and training of doctors.** In a report about the first visit to Jerusalem Hadassah Hospital by PA Health Minister, Hani Abdeen, the daily noted that 30% of child patients are Palestinians, and that the hospital is training sixty West Bank physicians and interns to treat pediatric cancer before returning to work in Palestinian areas. Hospital Director Yaval Weiss said, "We relate to patients without regard to nationality and religion. We treat Muslims, Christians, Jews, and other nationalities without bias." [Al-Hayat Al-Jadida]

**Israel maintains a corridor for transferring medical patients and about 200 medical staff members each month out of Gaza.** Thousands of patients and their companions leave Gaza for medical treatment in Israel each year. Jerusalem's Hadassah Medical Organization donates \$3 million annually to treat them. Israel also helps transfer Jordanian doctors into Gaza and ships trucks of medical supplies and equipment there. Palestinians have often exploited medical care arrangements to carry out terror attacks. [Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs: mfe.gov.il]

**Israel continues assisting Syrian civilians injured in their country's bloody conflict.** Israel Defense Forces set up a field hospital in Israeli-held Golan Heights treating Syrians with light/moderate injuries. Over 100 seriously injured civilians were taken to Israeli hospitals. Most were men with gunshot wounds, but recently more are civilians, including women and children, most with head injuries, alone and traumatized. The Hospital Director said, "They wake up in a few days hearing a strange language. Their first question is 'Where am I?' There is an initial shock when they learn they are in Israel." Days after a 13-year-old girl arrived for treatment, her aunt was secretly brought in. Asked what she will say when she goes home, the aunt replied, "I won't say I was in Israel. It is forbidden to be here." In another reported incident a Syrian doctor attached a note to a severely injured man explaining that Israeli doctors' help was needed to save his life. Iranian state media has blasted Israel's treating injured Syrians as a plot to promote terrorism and "make sure this war is continuous." [JewishNew-Online; New York Times]

**Israel volunteer group "On the Road to Recovery" provides trans-**

**portation for West Bank Palestinian children and adults to Israeli hospitals.** Although the PA allows patients to leave for medical treatment, West Bank healthcare is limited, expensive, and, for many families, unaffordable. For the group's founder, Yuval Roth, the service is a way to recover from personal tragedy. In 1993 his brother Udi was kidnapped and killed by Hamas. After his loss he found a way to channel his anger into peace by joining a group of bereaved families of Israelis and Palestinians, "Parents Circles – Families Forum," and befriended many Palestinians. He learned that all shared a common need: access to Israeli healthcare facilities. Today his transportation group has grown to 200 drivers. Roth coordinates the efforts and covers gasoline costs with donations received. [CNN]

Ruth Bolletino

## INTERVIEW WITH ZIAD DOUEIRI ABOUT HIS FILM 'THE ATTACK'

## TO THE EDITOR:

In the July 25 edition of the *Gazette*, Sylvia Lowenthal quoted the Lebanese director Ziad Doueiri speaking to the television interviewer Charlie Rose about the development of his feelings toward Jews and Israelis. Ms. Lowenthal seems pleased that he may have a deeper understanding of the feelings of Jews and Israelis than he had as a younger person from a country that has been repeatedly attacked and brutalized by the Israeli military. I would encourage her and other Coop members to see another interview with Mr. Ziad that was done by *Beyond Cinema* magazine. It can be seen online at [youtu.be/ns5SaJb90-y](http://youtu.be/ns5SaJb90-y) or just Google "Interviews with Ziad Doueiri." In this interview he discusses the complex process of making the film *The Attack*, writing the script, getting the funding, casting, filming, critical reaction to it, etc. In the course of this interview he speaks (minute 23-24) of the commonplace knowledge he believes Israelis have "when they look at themselves... in the mirror in the morning" that the occupation of Palestine is "unethical."

I encourage readers to see the movie, which focuses on the struggle of an Israeli Palestinian secular Muslim surgeon to understand why his Palestinian Christian wife decided to be a suicide bomber. I think it is a problem that of so few films about Palestine that are distributed this one focuses on suicide bombing. The Palestinian struggle against Israeli persecution and occupation has now moved to the non-violent campaign for Boycott Divestment and Sanctions.

The film is not grounded in any

particular year. Also, Mr. Doueiri does not really clarify why suicide bombing became a Palestinian tactic in the early part of this century, what it was that the bombers were reacting to. But it does show the alienation of Israeli Palestinians, even those as "successful" as the film's main character is. This is a man who is never fully accepted in Israeli society. And his wife apparently was extremely alienated herself. The mystery does not seem to be solved of how she comes to the decision to do this horrible act. The 2002 Israeli massacre of hundreds of Palestinians in Jenin is suggested as a factor in that decision.

I hope that seeing this film will help Coop members to understand more about why the Park Slope Food Coop Members for Boycott Divestment and Sanctions exists.

Naomi Brussel

## ISRAEL'S CONTENTIOUS PRAWER PLAN: DEMOLISHES 35 BEDOUIN VILLAGES, RELOCATES 30,000-70,000 BEDOUIN CITIZENS OF ISRAEL OFF ANCESTRAL LAND IN THE NEGEV

## MEMBERS:

The Praver Plan, Israel's first comprehensive five-year plan to ensure the Negev/al-Naqab will have a majority Jewish population (on 800,000,000 square meters of confiscated Bedouin land) became law by a narrow vote in late 2012.

It was sent to the Knesset (Parliament) for modification January 2013. In the first of three readings, before implementation, it passed 43 to 40, June 24. The tone of Palestinian outrage in the Knesset has continued, echoed by Palestinian groups beyond the Knesset.

Note: cited as Praver-Begin Plan (the newest version by Minister Benny Begin). The 35 Bedouin villages Israel designates "unrecognized" (most predate the state of Israel) receive no municipal services: water, electricity, sewage, education, roads and health care. In Israel, Bedouin often slandered as "criminal" and "uncivilized" nomads.

**Major Protests to 'STOP PRAWER-BEGIN PLAN NOW! July 15 and August 1.** July 15 designated national 'Day of Rage:' protests coordinated in cities, towns, at busy street junctions across Israel, West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem; a general strike shuttered banks, local authorities, private businesses in solidarity with the Bedouin. In Israel: main marches in Beersheba, Jaffa, Sakhnin; 1,000s of protesters turned out.

Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch harshly condemned Israel's use of "excessive" force against its citizens in peaceful protests. In Beersheba and Sakhnin mounted police charged crowds, trampling people, fired tear gas, stun grenades, "stink water" used to disperse crowds; protesters injured; dozens arrested.

August 1 designated a second "Day of Rage;" called for solidarity groups worldwide to organize actions, events, petitions to oppose the Praver Plan. In Israel: hundreds of Bedouin and activists (majority: young men and women) gathered along the Tel Aviv-Beersheba highway: police confrontation after barrier breached. Over 750 protesters in Arara-Wadi Ara area to block Route 65 confronted by 400 police: horses, stun grenades, tear gas, baton beatings causing injuries; arrests. West Bank: activists on buses from Ramallah to join protest at Hizma checkpoint stopped by police: protest held in place, surrounded by police using sound bombs, tear gas, rubber bullets. East Jerusalem: 300 gathered at Damascus Gate. Mounted police charged activists, tear gas.

Global actions in solidarity with Bedouin held: Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco Aden, Mauritania, Brazil, Amsterdam, London, Canada, Ireland, Washington, D.C., Spain.

**Reactions to Praver Plan:** It violates the UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous People, articles 8, 10: No forced relocation of Bedouin from their lands without prior and informed consent. Praver Plan criticized by EU (European Parliament), UN Human Rights: Navi Pillay, Rabbis for Human Rights (North America), Theodore Bikel (iconic "Tevye"), 90 Canadian writers: (Margaret Atwood).

The BDS movement calls for the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions of Israel until 'Israel recognizes the fundamental rights of the Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel to full equality.' (Omar Barghouti, BDS).

Sources: Allison Deger, Asa Winstanley, Ma'an, +972, Alex Kane, Abirkopt.

Mary Buchwald  
Brooklyn For Peace  
PSFC members for BDS  
[www.psfcdbds.wordpress.com](http://www.psfcdbds.wordpress.com)

## POLITICAL CORRECTNESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

## TO THE EDITOR:

Our July General Meeting included a discussion on a Workshop Guidelines submission, "Workshop presentations may not be used for the promotion of bias or include speakers associated with organizations, movements or media that promote bias." One responder correctly noted



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

that his opposition to GMO foods would be considered biased by proponents of GMO.

When my turn came I gave my opinion that the proposal was a thinly veiled attempt to stifle discussion on Palestinian human rights. As I was speaking, the presenter walked in front of me and started talking. I reacted, "Shut up, Barbara." After many audible gasps from those in attendance, I apologized. I went on to note basic information about the Praver Plan: In late June the Israeli Knesset approved the first reading of this plan—a blueprint for removing 40,000 Bedouin people from their ancestral homeland in the Negev Desert. Of course I was technically "off-topic" and was forced to cut my words short.

Now I'm wondering if I should withdraw my apology. Are we coop members so politically correct as to be shocked by the words "shut up," said to someone speaking out of turn, but so comfortably removed from concern for basic human rights that not one person (other than a good friend) expressed any concern for the plight of Bedouin people?

We coop members should be leading the way in issues of human and worker rights. Instead we seem to be so worried about hurting the feelings of those supporting "Israel-right-or-wrong" that we hold back from confronting the ongoing deplorable cruelties. We can be compassionate towards those fearful of losing their place of safety, but we can't support

their disregard for the safety and rights of others.

For those of you who think you can comfortably respond "yes, but this has nothing to do with our food coop," please note our trafficking in SodaStream products. SodaStream is an Israeli company with a plant in occupied Palestine, in contravention of international law. The plant is built on stolen land, outside the borders of Israel. SodaStream is being boycotted by Jewish Voice for Peace, United Methodist Kairos Response, Israel Palestine Mission Network of the Presbyterian Church USA, Episcopal Peace Fellowship National Executive Council, and many other groups. Yet we go on selling SodaStream products right here at the coop.

Please Google "Praver Plan" and "SodaStream," then form your own opinions. You might be inspired to join with one of the many groups opposing the colonization of Palestine, the land confiscations and home demolitions, and the theft of water and minerals. We have a group right here, Park Slope Food Coop Members for Boycott Divestment and Sanctions, that would welcome new members.

Thomas Cox

## BIAS SPEECH AND COOP WORKSHOPS

## TO THE EDITOR:

I came to the July GM to recom-

mend that the same code of behavior expected between members within our Coop be extended to the use of the workshop space. Just as bias speech is not protected speech in our Coop, so workshop presentations should not be used for the promotion of bias or include speakers associated with organizations, movements or media that promote bias. I also recommended that there be a transparent process for a Coop member to raise an objection to a proposed workshop, present evidence supporting the objection, and have some sort of impartial panel make a determination of whether or not the proposed workshop exceeded the boundaries of civil discourse for our Coop.

I defined bias as statements, attitudes or behaviors that demean, vilify, disproportionately condemn, deny equality, or advocate harm to members of a group on the basis of their race, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, gender, ethnicity, etc. Biased content can be recognized by any of the following:

- Using sweeping generalizations and lack of specifics.
- Being factually incorrect or factually incomplete.
- Making conclusions unsupported by evidence or ignoring refutation of conclusions.
- Being internally inconsistent or contradictory.

Consider these statements: "X are the splinters under the skin of humanity" and "only the non-X-ish X

is worthy of redemption." Substitute for "X" whatever group(s) you identify with or feel affinity with and consider whether the author of such statements should be welcomed as a speaker in your Coop. I submitted this discussion item to the Agenda Committee in January 2012 following the announcement of workshop featuring the author of those statements.

It would seem straightforward.

But one Coop member, Tom, recognized me from my involvement in opposing the BDS initiative last year. Instead of addressing the agenda item when called on to comment, he used it as an opportunity to engage in a personal attack upon me and to attempt to change the subject. He was out of order. When I tried to get the chair's attention to call a point of order, Tom snarled "Shut up!" pointing his finger at me and leaning toward me as if ready to pounce. The sudden display of aggression startled the usually staid Coop General Meeting audience.

Ironically, Tom's behavior illustrates the importance of excluding bias speech from Coop workshops. It was a BDS workshop in the Coop that hosted the speaker who wrote "Jews are the splinters under the fingernails of humanity." Tom's behavior violated all codes of GM conduct and etiquette. I believe Tom's behavior in our Coop is not unrelated to the bias speech that was hosted in our Coop workshop. It is unacceptable.

Barbara Mazor

## CLASSIFIEDS

## BED &amp; BREAKFAST

THE HOUSE ON 3rd ST. B&B-serving the Slope for over 20 yrs. Parlor floor-thru apt. sleeps 5 in comfort & privacy, queen bed, bath, double living room, kitchenette, outdoor deck. Visit our website at house-on3st.com. Click our FB link or call Jane at 718-788-7171. Ask about bargains for last minute bookings. Let us host you!

## CLASSES/GROUPS

Teen Percussion Ensemble In a class of 5, gain rhythmic skills on drums and percussion, and improvise together in a supportive environment. Beginners Tues; Intermediate/Adv. Thurs 3:30-5, Sept-Dec. Show with professional musicians. See [www.michaellevanssounds.com](http://www.michaellevanssounds.com), e-mail: Michael Evans: [meswirls@earthlink.net](mailto:meswirls@earthlink.net) 347-248-9076.

## COMMERCIAL SPACE

Hudson Rivertown Storefront available Main St. Irvington N.Y. 1,000 sq. ft. exposed brick, hardwood floors, new mechanicals, historic building. Across from school, near Croton Aqueduct hiking trail. Attract customers from several rivertowns. \$3,500/mo. Contact Coop member Ruth Katz: 917-583-1384.

## HOUSING FOR SALE

Vacation cottage 3/2 on 1 acre on great South Bay E. Patchogue for sale. Solar-heat pool, perennial gardens, views, water sports. Near towns of Bellport and Patchogue with cultural and nature activities. Only one hour from NYC. Contact: [Riva.Rosenfielda@yahoo.com](mailto:Riva.Rosenfielda@yahoo.com) or 718-768-9610.

## 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](http://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 sat-

isfied 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. In the convenience of your home or mine. Adults: \$35-\$40; Kids: \$15-\$20; Call Leonora at 718-857-2215.

Bandwagon seeking passengers for \$10 Rideshare to La Guardia Airport through Labor Day. Great Rates to JFK as well. Save Gas, Reduce Coz, meet someone new! Sign up at [www.bandwagon.io](http://www.bandwagon.io) today!

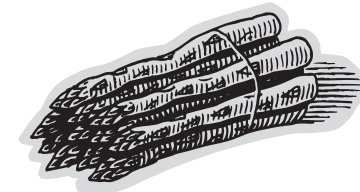
## SERVICES HEALTH

HOLISTIC DENTISTRY in Manhattan (SoHo). Dr. Stephen R. Goldberg provides comprehensive family dental care using non-mer-

cury fillings, crowns, dentures, thorough cleanings, non-surgical gum treatments with minimal X-rays. For a free initial exam in a nutrition-oriented practice and for insurance information, please call 212-505-5055.

## 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/bungalow-shop](http://www.reynoldshills.org/bungalow-shop). Contact Mel 347-307-4642 or [melgarfinkle@yahoo.com](mailto:melgarfinkle@yahoo.com).



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Coop Job Opening:  
Receiving Coordinator: Produce Buyer

Description:

The Park Slope Food Coop is seeking two people to become Receiving Coordinators and join the produce buying team. These are career positions. Under the supervision of a General Coordinator/Lead Buyer, team members are responsible for purchasing the Coop's fresh produce in a fast-paced environment driven by high sales volume. The produce buying team makes and coordinates complex buying decisions, negotiates prices, nurtures vendor relationships, and maintains the high quality and extensive selection of produce available to our members. The produce buying team must respect and promote local/sustainable/ethical principles.

Specific responsibilities include (in conjunction with team members):

- Continue our longstanding buying practices: high quality, low prices, fair return to farmers.
- Analyze and monitor sales history to create accurate orders.
- Check deliveries for accuracy, freshness, appearance and flavor. Reject poor quality produce upon delivery.
- Maintain accurate assessment of inventory through quality assessment and inventory checks.
- Review invoices for accuracy, price changes and make adjustments for shortages and overages, coordinate returns and track credits due from suppliers.
- Prepare/authorize/enter vendor payment information into the Coop's accounting system.
- Communicate ordering deadlines and changes in delivery time to relevant staff.
- Share responsibility for daily setting and maintenance of the produce aisle: supervising and directing the work of other staff and members to provide a fresh, bountiful, attractive produce display and accurate up-to-date price signage.
- Regular supervision and training of members working in the produce aisle. Contribute to the development of a robust, ongoing training program aimed at increasing overall knowledge among and support of members working in the produce aisle.
- Be knowledgeable about organic, local and national produce issues. Understand organic produce and Organic Standards Act. Understand integrated pest management and other minimal treatments. Understand irradiation, genetic modification and conventional production.
- Communicate with members about product availability and use, produce trends, new products and interesting facts in person, over the phone, in the *Linewaiters' Gazette*, at General Meetings and on foodcoop.com.
- Continue to expand product knowledge.

Requirements:

Required Skills

- Handle multiple demands, work under pressure, meet deadlines, and follow-through.
- Skillfully delegate work, and manage and motivate others.
- Professional level verbal and written communication skills.
- Attention to detail and good organizational skills.
- Excellent interpersonal skills. Able to cooperate with a diverse group of co-workers and members.
- Supervision and/or training.
- Flexibility, openness, willingness to learn and take on new responsibilities.
- Facility with computers, Macintosh a plus.
- Comfortable with math. Knowledge of weights, and measures.
- Ability to lift or move up to 50 lbs. repeatedly, every day.

Desirable Skills

- Professional experience working with produce and/or purchasing and negotiating skills.
- Knowledge of produce varieties and growing seasons.
- Experience in planning, developing and implementing systems, procedures and policies.

Work Environment:

Buying produce at the Coop is taxing, both physically and mentally. Ours is a fast-paced environment driven by high sales volume (14 times the national average per square foot overall, more than 100,000 pounds of produce sold per week) and limited selling space. These positions will involve juggling competing priorities under very tight and inflexible deadlines, intense physical activity such as lifting, standing for long periods, working inside produce coolers, working outside in all weather, maneuvering in small crowded spaces, working in noisy environments near loud equipment. Staff offices are crowded and require working in close physical proximity to others. Our staff must be able to focus on details while attending to our paging system, phones and radios, member questions and the ambient noise created by the work of other staff and members.

Hours:

Monday-Friday, approximately eight hours a day. At least three days will start between 4:30 and 5:00 a.m. We strive to create jobs that can be completed within 40 hours a week. Based on the needs and intensity of produce work, these positions may frequently require more than 40 hours a week, in particular during the training period, busy times of the year and during vacation coverage. In addition, there is an expectation that produce buyers will make themselves available to our vendors via phone and e-mail outside of normal working hours.

Wages:

\$25.80 per hour

Benefits:

- Paid Holidays: July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day
- Paid Vacation: three weeks per year increasing in the 4th, 8th & 11th years
- Paid Health and Personal time: 11 days
- Health Insurance
- Dental and Vision Plan
- Pension Plan
- 401(k) plan
- TransitChek program
- Flexible Spending Account

\*Some benefits will be fully funded by the Coop

Prerequisite:

Must be a current member of the Park Slope Food Coop for at least one continuous year immediately prior to application.

How to Apply:

Provide your resumé along with a cover letter explaining your relevant qualifications, skills and experience. Materials will only be accepted via e-mail to: hc-producecoordinator@psfc.coop and put "Produce Buyer" in the subject field.

Applicants will receive an e-mail acknowledging receipt of their materials. Please do not call the Membership Office to check on the status of your application. Applications will be reviewed and interviews scheduled on a rolling basis until the position has been filled. If you applied to a previous Coop job offering, please re-submit your materials.

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

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.

*This is completely different from anything I have ever done.*  
— David, age 15 on his school trip to Tanzania

  
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rideshares to JFK, and \$10 fares to  
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Crossword Answers

M	O	D	E	L	T		P	D	F	S		A	S	H
A	D	E	L	E	H		L	A	R	A		T	A	B
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