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Ink System
Contains no petroleum oil

Volume II, Number 9

May 1, 2014

MEMBER SUBMISSION

Toilets for People: A New Perspective on An Old Sanitation Issue

By Avromi Kanal

Composting toilets, which use the aerobic process to treat excreta instead of flushing with water, have been in use for many years. Toilets for People (TfP), a startup based in Brooklyn, has developed an affordable, sustainable composting toilet targeted at people in the developing world.

In my third year of medical school at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, I joined Toilets for People, in an effort to be part of a solution to one of the most fundamental and equally critical issues in global health—access to clean, uncontaminated water. There are over 2.5 billion people who do not have access to a decent toilet that works. One in three people in the world are regularly faced with the choice of using overflowing pit latrines or defecating in the open. The consequences to public health, safety and economic prosperity are dire.

TfP founder and president, Jason Kass, describes the origins of his design for the “CRAPPER”—Compact, Rotating, Aerobic, Pollution Prevention Excreta Reducer.

“In April 2012, I was in one of those places in rural El Salvador. I was using concrete to build above ground vault latrines with Engineers without Borders. An early rainy season washed away the

roads and any hopes of materials being delivered. But we had promised toilets to several families, so I started brainstorming alternatives. At my home in Vermont, I

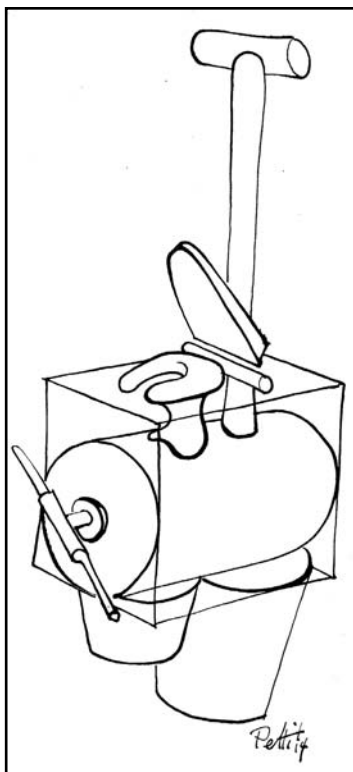


ILLUSTRATION BY ETHAN PETTIT

have been using a composting toilet for years, so I decided to replicate that \$1500 model using locally available materials. Three days later we had a prototype of the CRAPPER and the idea for Toilets for People was born.”

Many design tweaks later, we think we’ve landed on something pretty great: An

attractive, privately owned, indoor composting toilet that costs under \$200 per unit. TfP has applied the same composting toilet technology that has been the industry standard in North America and Europe since the 1970’s and made it available for the first time to people in the developing world.

Our innovative design allows people in developing countries to enjoy the close-to-home toilet convenience that we Westerners take for granted.

Here’s how it works:

Our design starts with a composting barrel that spins, much like a garden composter. When the drum spins, the waste is aerated, which is essential for the microorganisms that eat the waste and make the compost. The user just needs to add dry cover material—dry leaves, saw dust or peanut husks work perfectly—after they use the toilet. The composting process reduces the volume of waste by 80%, mitigates odors and reduces the presence of dangerous pathogens.

When the drum is full (after about three months, depending on usage), it’s time to empty out some compost. The drum is spun with the waste door open, and some of the decomposed waste falls out into a container underneath, where it sits to dry. Once dry, the compost in the bucket can be safely buried outside with wood ash added as a disin-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

My Home Is Someone’s Workplace: Building a Better Environment For Domestic Workers In Park Slope



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIR CARE PLEDGE CAMPAIGN

Gayle Kirshenbaum and her son, Aaron, showed their support for the Fair Care Pledge campaign, which was launched in Brooklyn on April 10 by Hand in Hand: The Domestic Employers Network.

By Frank Haberle

On Thursday, April 10, at a gathering in Shapeshifter Lab in Gowanus, the national organization Hand in Hand:

The Domestic Employers Network and its community partners launched a new initiative, My Home is Someone’s Work-

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Next General Meeting on May 27

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The May General Meeting will be on Tuesday, May 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.

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

Coop Event Highlights

Thu, May 1 • Food Class: Spring Vegetables With Gluten-Free Vegan Protein 7:30 p.m.

Fri, May 2 • Film Night: Lucky 7:30 p.m.

Tue, May 13 • Safe Food Committee Film Night: Brooklyn Farmer 7:00 p.m.

Thu, Jun 5 • Food Class: Healthy and Quick Recipes With An Indian Twist 7:30 p.m.

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

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Toilets

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fectant. The last step is simply to cover the hole over with dirt. Wood or charcoal ash naturally has a high pH, which creates a caustic environment, killing remaining pathogens.

This innovative three-step treatment process, which employs biological (aerobic composting in the drum), physical (drying out the compost in the drop down chamber) and chemical (burying the compost with caustic ash) processes, turns disease-causing, pathogen-rich human poop into a safe waste product that can be disposed of without negatively impacting the environment or propagating disease.

In 2014, TFP continues to deploy the CRAPPER in the field by partnering with respected non-profit organizations. We train local craft-persons how to build CRAPPER composting toilets. Using this open-source technology, they can then build these toilets for their own families or as a money-making enterprise.

These composting toilets can be installed near the family's home, providing for safe access for all family members and friends. Once the toilets are in place, TFP follows up with our in-country NGO partners and users to get feedback on how they like their new toilet.

For further feedback, I am leading an independent research expedition this summer to explore the CRAPPER's impact on the health and lifestyles of five families to receive CRAPPER toilets in Iquitos, Peru, this summer. Results are expect-

ed in mid-2015.

TFP is always looking for new partners—if you know of an NGO working in a community that needs hygienic toi-

lets, please contact TFP at info@toiletsforpeople.com.

For more information, visit Toilets for People on the Web: www.toiletsforpeople.com. ■

VALET BIKE PARKING IS HERE ON SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS!

strollers & scooters & carts too!



**Every Saturday,
April 5–November 22,
1:00–5:15 p.m.
and
Every Sunday,
April 6–November 23,
3:30–7:45 p.m.**

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

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

No locks, no worries, no theft.

Service operates rain or shine.

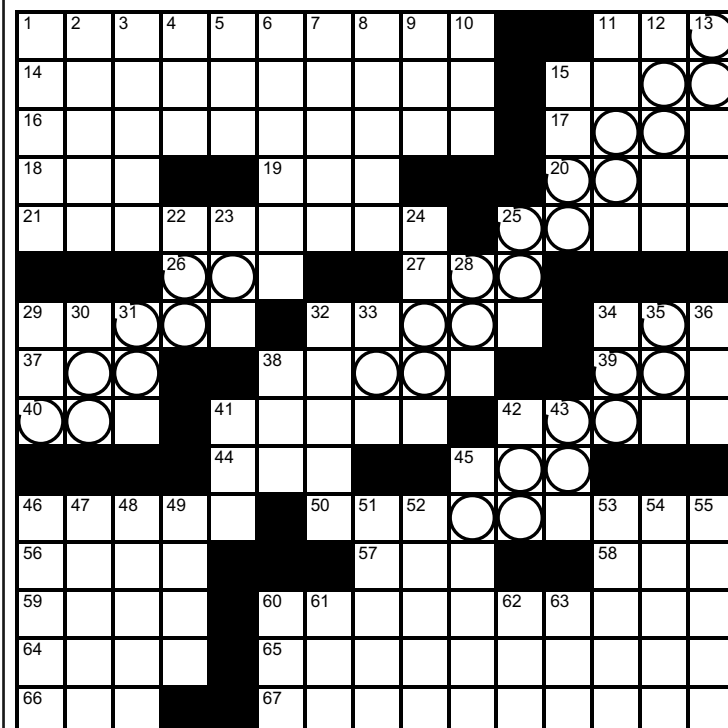
Look for us in front of the yellow wall.

Note: no bike check-in on Saturdays after 5 p.m. or Sundays after 7:30 p.m.

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



Crossword Puzzle



Across

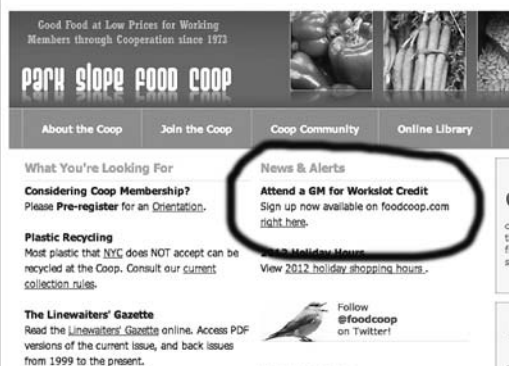
1. Jackpot
11. Fish and chips fish
14. Question after a public shellacking
15. ___ con leche
16. Like a broken record
17. American ___
18. Inc., abroad
19. Part of USNA: Abbr.
20. Stuck in ___
21. Pointed to
25. Some South Africans
26. ___ Plains, Ill.
27. Itemized bill: Abbr.
29. Stanford QB drafted #1 in 1983
32. Throng
34. Jesus, for one
37. Minister's moniker
38. Lethal snake
39. Bauxite, e.g.
40. Paraguayan author Augusto ___
41. As a joke, he submitted to his editor Big X, little x, XXX. Someday, kiddies, you will learn about SEX
42. Fuel for piston-engine aircraft
44. Positively Entertaining cable channel
45. Suffix with fiend
46. Ethnomusicologist Alan
50. Seinfeld episode in which Elaine says I'm never eating here again
56. Sacha Baron Cohen character
57. 12/31, e.g.
58. Imitate
59. Yard pest
60. Steps up ... or what's featured in this puzzle's three areas of circles
64. Newspaper section
65. Request to a cabby
66. They may be dirt: Abbr.
67. Help to prepare dinner, say

Down

1. ___ X (2003 Lisa Kudrow comedy)
2. There's ___ every crowd!
3. Used a Smith Corona
4. Garden shed item
5. Dr. for the neck up
6. Isabella and Maria Luisa, e.g.
7. Allow to attack
8. Antipasto tidbit
9. seaQuest ___ (1990s series)
10. Wide shoe spec
11. Inner circle
12. Flags ___ Fathers (2006 film)
13. Shoulder muscles, for short
15. Ta-ta!
22. Civil rights advocate ___ B. Wells
23. 1970s Dodgers All-Star Ron
24. Some gowns on Oscar night
25. Hanes alternative
28. Straight Outta Compton rap group
29. Go wrong
30. Barack Obama's sign
31. State since 1863: Abbr.
32. Dracula, for one
33. NFL ball carriers
34. Treadmill setting
35. Disco ___
36. Rushmore director Anderson
38. Jobs' job, once
41. Local news hour
42. Pac-12 team, for short
43. Kind of tape
45. Portugal's peninsula
46. Kardashian spouse ___ Odom
47. Psalm starter
48. Jackson of the Modern Jazz Quartet and others
49. Years and years
51. Gets better
52. Things released from Pandora's box
53. Swiss city on the Rhine
54. Lincoln Center offering
55. Acted like a sycophant
60. Wharf locale: Abbr.
61. Yours, in Italy
62. Brain and spinal cord: Abbr.
63. Inventor's cry

Puzzle author: David Levinson Wilk. For answers, see page 6.

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

What Is That? How Do I Use It?

Ask Me Questions About Coop Foods

Every Monday, 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.

My Home Is

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

place. Hand in Hand, which in eight years has been building and gaining traction in the Park Slope community through the work of local activists (including many Park Slope Food Coop members), seeks to engage employers of domestic workers (which includes nan-

tics can lay the foundation for a long-lasting, mutually respectful relationship with a domestic worker."

Although she is no longer an employer of a domestic worker, Gayle continues to serve as a member of the National Leadership Team of Hand in Hand, and is helping to launch the Fair Care Pledge campaign. "My Home is Someone's Workplace

Brad Lander (who attended the first meeting of parents eight years ago that led to the launch of Hand in Hand), Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams and NYC Public Advocate Letitia "Tish" James, who spoke of her own mother serving as a domestic worker when she was a child, and later how her mother was cared for in her last years by a home attendant with whom Ms. James has maintained a relationship. Filmmaker Julie Dressner, a Park Slope resident who also attended the first meeting eight years ago, remembered how important it was then to meet other parents facing the same dilemma with child care. "When I joined Hand in Hand," she said, "I realized that I was not the only person who wanted to be a good employer, but I was not sure what that meant. Hand In Hand gave me the place to work with others, to get answers to my questions."

Supporting Domestic Workers and their Employers, Locally and Nationally

Currently, there are over 250,000 domestic workers in New York City, most of whom are immigrant women. Despite this large number, the rights of domestic workers were largely overlooked until New York State passed the Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights in 2010. "Hand in Hand works in coalition with the National Domestic Workers Alliance," Gayle explains. "We are working together to support implementation of the New York Domestic Workers Bill of Rights, the landmark law passed in 2010, and we promote additional best practices. The Domestic Worker's Bill of Rights, in particular, has helped build awareness for employers for the rights of workers in their homes."

Hand in Hand grew out of the campaign to pass this bill, and is now asking New York employers of domestic workers to take it a step further by taking the pledge. In addition to the Fair Care Pledge, Hand in Hand provides important resources and tools to help families understand the rights of their domestic workers as well as their own. An online checklist available on their website helps families create a basic understanding of their responsibilities and rights as employers. A publication developed by Hand in Hand, *A Guide to Developing a Work Agreement with a Child Care Provider*, outlines how families can

focus preliminary discussions with potential hires, strengthen communication with employees and develop a formal work agreement that specifies terms of employment. Hand in Hand is now a national organization, working with local and National partners like the National Domestic Workers Alliance and JFREJ to improve conditions for domestic workers across the country.

Connecting to the Coop Community

"I definitely feel there's a relationship between my work with Hand in Hand and my membership in the Coop," Gayle says. "For me, Coop

movement with the workers who provide that care."

Gayle feels there are ample opportunities for Coop members to get involved in the Hand in Hand movement. "I hope to see Coop members who are or have been employers getting involved by signing the Fair Care Pledge and helping us meet our goal of 1,000 pledgers in the next year," she says. "We also hope Coop members can help spread the word about My Home is Someone's Workplace by hosting house meetings or facilitating connections to preschools, religions institutions and those providing services to new or expecting parents, as well as supporting our cam-



Gayle Kirshenbaum, founding member of Hand in Hand, at home.

nies, child care providers, house cleaners and home attendants for seniors and people with disabilities) to take the "Fair Care Pledge," promising that more families will be fair and respectful to domestic workers. The Fair Care Pledge provides the groundwork for employers who want to work together to transform the domestic workplace to benefit the workers as well as the families who employ them. Hand in Hand's goal is to have 1,000 Park Slope families commit to the Fair Care Pledge by the end of 2014.

Gayle Kirshenbaum, a Coop member and a dedicated member of the food processing team, is one of the Coop members involved in Hand in Hand. "I became a founding member of Hand in Hand due to my own experience as a domestic employer," Gayle remembers. "When my son was born and I hired a part-time nanny, I really wished I'd had guidance about how to become an employer in my own home. I wanted to be a good employer but I didn't know what that looked like. I felt pretty confused and overwhelmed. I wanted to help build an organization that would help people know what it means to be a fair employer and understand that good prac-

will ensure that new parents, individuals and families hiring support for themselves or their aging parents will have the guidance they need to do the right thing," Gayle adds. "We hope our project and our new website will help employers by answering the kinds of questions I had about pay and time off."

A Successful Start to a Growing Movement

The launch event for My Home is Someone's Workplace was attended by an estimated 130 family members, domestic workers and community activists, including representatives from organizations that have fought for the rights of domestic workers for years. While these organizations—the National Domestic Workers Alliance, Caring Across Generations, A Better Balance: the Work and Family Legal Center and Jews for Racial and Economic Justice (JFREJ)—have focused largely on the needs and the rights of the domestic workers, Hand in Hand: the Domestic Employers Network has focused its efforts on educating and organizing the employers of domestic workers, contributing to a mutually-supportive working.

Speakers at the event included Councilmember



membership is about seeing the possibility for community in the daily effort to feed ourselves and care for our families, the environment and the local economy. Hand in Hand was founded by a group of us who found connection in our daily efforts to figure out care for our kids or elderly parents and who wanted to build community and a strong labor

campaigns for policies that promote fair jobs and affordable childcare and in-home support for all."

To learn more about Hand in Hand: the Domestic Employers' Network, how to get involved in the My Home is Someone's Workplace initiative and to sign the Fair Care Pledge, please visit domesticemployers.org. ■

PRODUCTION EDITOR Please Apply



Workslot Description

The *Linewaiters' Gazette* is looking for a Production Editor. Work every eight weeks on a Sunday with the *Gazette* production team. You must have perfect attendance, be detail-oriented, and work well with others. You will be proofreading/editing the *Gazette* pages as they are being developed.

For More Information

If you would like to speak to an editor or another reporter to learn more about the job, please contact Annette Laskaris in the Membership Office or e-mail her at annette_laskaris@psfc.coop.

Collective Courage: Coops and the Black Community

By Ed Levy

Cooperatives are not a modern discovery by radicals, hippies, vegetarians and dropouts in the Sixties. Coops in fact have a long lineage, and intentional communities based on cooperation, like Oneida and Spring Farm and New Philadelphia, sprang up throughout American history. Far less well known are the cooperatives that played a role in the struggle for survival of Black communities in the U.S. These included, after the Civil

War, mutual aid and beneficial societies that provided members with building and loan funds and with sickness, widow and orphan, and death benefits; cooperative enterprises like handcrafts and weaving, many involving Black women predominately, which pooled scarce resources and profits. Even before the Civil War, cooperative associations rescued fugitive slaves or bought slaves their freedom. During Reconstruction, Black communities, already marginalized, lived remotely, organizing themselves along cooperative lines. Many of the most notable African American thinkers and activists were also leaders in the Black cooperative movement—including W.E.B. DuBois, A. Philip Randolph, George Schuyler, Marcus Garvey, Nannie Helen Burroughs and Fannie Lou Hamer. Working out of the limelight, civil rights organizer Ella Jo Baker promoted cooperative ven-

tures while focusing on inequality and gendered hierarchy within the civil rights movement itself, which she felt mirrored too closely the organizational model of the Black church—a largely female membership with a strong male leadership. She is famous for saying, “Strong people do not need strong leaders.” Baker began her work with the NAACP but went on to help form the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and the Student

Collective Courage

The story of the Black cooperative movement has been documented in a new book, *Collective Courage: A Conversation on Cooperation in African American Communities*,

ple make for themselves

These themes were heard at an event at the Bowery Poetry Club on April 8 hosted by SolidarityNYC and Grassroots Economic Organizing (GEO), featuring professor Nembhard, Farah Tanis and Estaban Kelly.

Nembhard is associate professor in the department of Africana studies at John Jay College and a co-founder of the U.S. Solidarity Economy Network, the Eastern Conference for Workplace Democracy and the Democracy Collaborative. She said that when she investigated this little known and largely undocumented history, people told her “Black people don’t do coops.” Her book is in a sense a retelling of the Black experience in America, from the point of view of grassroots collective economic activity and organizing. Activist and author Gar Alperovitz called *Collective Courage* a “pathbreaking book,” one that “opens a door on a critical history of Black history and cooperative history in general.” And William Darity, Jr. of Duke University called Nembhard’s book “a refreshing antidote to the straitjacket on our imagination.”

ensures women’s safety in public spaces. Right Rides offers women, LGBTQ and gender nonconforming individuals a free, late-night ride home to ensure their safety in high-risk areas. Right Rides is also a founding member of New Yorkers for Safe Transit, the only coalition in the city dedicated to raising awareness of gender-based violence in mass transit.

Tanis also serves on the board of Haki Yetu (“Our Right” in Swahili) which works with survivors of rape in the Congo, and is advisor to the New Americans Leadership Project, which prepares immigrants for civic leadership and political participation. Tanis has received many awards, including a 2007 Extraordinary Woman Award and two New York City Council Proclamations. She is a 2012 U.S. Human Rights Institute Fellow.

Farah feels she is alive “to be a part of creating a new, more just world, to promulgate the living legacy of great Black women who’ve traveled this road before me and write a new chapter in Black feminism that makes it explicit that Black women can be unified, are powerful beyond measure, and they can work to turn this world right side up again. Like our Black feminist foremothers, we may not be able to accomplish all of it in this lifetime.” The process, she says, is like trying to open a tightly shut jar of sweet jam: “Sometimes several folks have to try, and they loosen the lid, before finally one actually opens it.”

Introducing and moderating was Estaban Kelly, an impassioned leader in the food justice and coop movements. Kelly served as vice president of the U.S. Federation of Worker Coops (www.usworker.coop), was board president of North American Students of Cooperation (NASCO) and was inducted into NASCO’s hall of fame in 2011. He was recently appointed to the boards of the Cooperative Development Foundation (CDF) and the National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA). Kelly was appointed to the Food Policy Advisory Council of the Philadelphia Mayor’s Office of Sustainability. He is also a founder and core trainer with AORTA (the Anti-Oppression Resource & Training Alliance), a worker coop whose consulting supports organizations fighting for social justice and a solidarity economy (www.aortacollective.org). ■

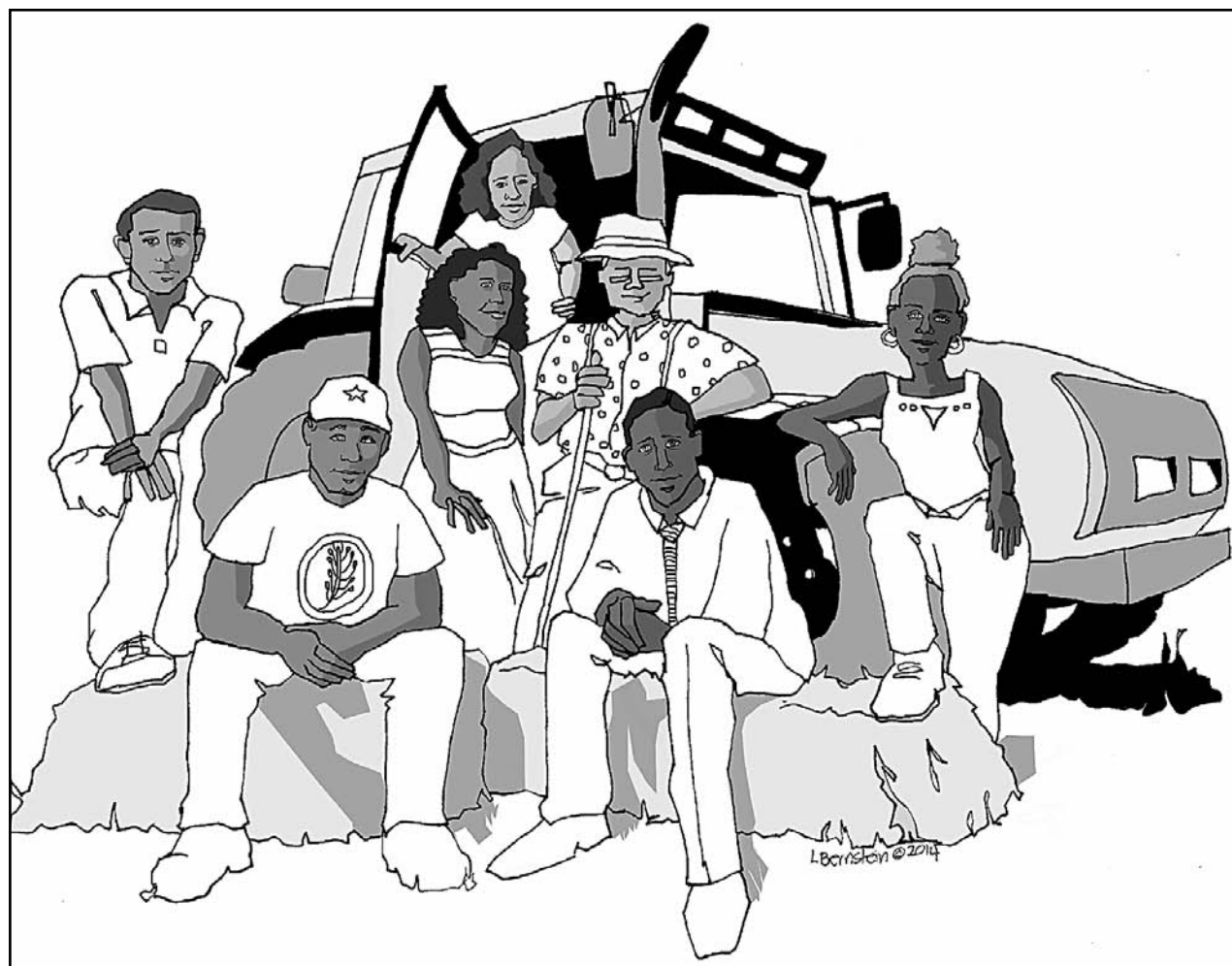


ILLUSTRATION BY LYNN BERNSTEIN

War, mutual aid and beneficial societies that provided members with building and loan funds and with sickness, widow and orphan, and death benefits; cooperative enterprises like handcrafts and weaving, many involving Black women predominately, which pooled scarce resources and profits. Even before the Civil War, cooperative associations rescued fugitive slaves or bought slaves their freedom. During Reconstruction, Black communities, already marginalized, lived remotely, organizing themselves along cooperative lines.

Many of the most notable African American thinkers and activists were also leaders in the Black cooperative movement—including W.E.B. DuBois, A. Philip Randolph, George Schuyler, Marcus Garvey, Nannie Helen Burroughs and Fannie Lou Hamer. Working out of the limelight, civil rights organizer Ella Jo Baker promoted cooperative ven-

Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). Those organizations started 22 coops and credit unions and the Federation of Southern Cooperatives and Land Assistance Fund. The Federation continues to develop cooperatives and credit unions, protect and expand the landholdings of Black family farmers, and advocate and support policies that benefit family farmers and low income rural communities. The Federation serves 75 cooperatives across the South, comprising more than 20,000 families and is the most important organization serving the dwindling number of Black farmers in the South and their purchasing and marketing coops. In its earliest days, the Federation had among its members handcraft coops, like the Freedom Quilting Bee of Alberta (Alabama).

As it was with the freedom rides and sit-ins and marches

by scholar and activist Jessica Gordon Nembhard. It is the first such major study of the topic since W. E. B. DuBois’s 1907 *Economic Co-operation Among Negro Americans*. Cooperation and cooperatives were—and still are in Nembhard’s view—an integral part of the tale of survival and endurance of those deprived of their land, liberty, culture and history and constituted a positive and creative response to that deprivation. Moreover, asserts Nembhard, cooperatives offer us a model for economic revitalization in the 21st century—not just for the Black community but society at large. In fact, as she and others have argued, the idea of cooperative societies may have been seen as an extension of the American ethos of plurality and diversity and liberty in religion, speech and thought, extended to economics and to the economic arrangements peo-

Farah Tanis and Black Women’s Blueprint

Sharing the stage that afternoon with Nembhard was Black feminist and human rights activist Farah Tanis, an eloquent and impassioned veteran of many social justice movements. She is currently the director of Black Women’s Blueprint (www.blackwomens-blueprint.com), a civil and human rights organization composed of both men and women. The primary purpose of Blueprint is “to develop a culture where women of African descent are fully empowered and where gender, race and other disparities are erased. We engage in progressive research, historical documentation, support movement building, and organize on social justice issues steeped in the struggles of Black women within their communities and within dominant culture.”

Tanis also serves on the boards of Right Rides, which

The Elevation of the Coconut

By Alison Rose Levy

The coconut is sacred in India. Lakshmi, the Indian goddess of love and wealth, is depicted holding a coconut. So traditional an offering in all major Hindu rituals, even fishermen, before they set forth, offer a coconut to the waters in the hope of increasing yields. And breaking a coconut before beginning any new activity is said to attract the blessings of the gods and goddesses.

What happens to the coconut when it goes to the West, and what happens to the cultures that grow and produce it?

Google “coconut + water + environment” on the Internet and you will find page after page of information on coconut’s health benefits, and also, article after article skeptically questioning those claims. You can readily learn how coconuts are harvested via visual depictions of *Cocos nucifera*, (the Latin species name for the coconut) with its inner and outer shells and all of its component parts. But with all of the claims and counter-claims and the obsessive focus on whether coconut water is sufficiently beneficial for first world consumers like us, there is little information

saturated fats, such as the coconut’s, have anti-inflammatory effects. Other research has confirmed that coconut oil does NOT contribute to elevated cholesterol levels, a former medical credo, now discredited: agris.fao.org/agris-search/search.do?f=1998/PH/PH98005.xml;PH1997011100

But what about the impact of Western coconut use? The answer seems to be: It depends on the company producing the coconut products.

Where Do the Coconut Products We Enjoy Come From?

Coconut water, which the Coop offers via several brands, is harvested from “young coconuts,” at approximately 11 months of growth. At this stage, the young (also called “green”) coconut is still housed within its substantial green outer husk. When the Coop sells fresh green coconuts (located in the fruit section) the green outer husk has been carved away, revealing the outer white shell (visible through a plastic wrapping). To drink from a young coconut, you first chop off the top. The Coop also sells mature coconuts (in the lowest shelf of the vegetable

ucts, including coconut milk and cream used in Thai, Indian and Latin American cuisine) is made from the dry white meat of the mature coconut. Coconut oil is also extracted from this meat. Coconut shells are used to make everything from anti-inflammatory teas to matting. The hard shells and husks are also burned as fuel, and used as insulation. In traditional societies, the coconut is one of the earth’s great gifts to humans.

Coconut Oil

In Western societies, the oil is a core building block of sodium lauryl sulfate, a surfactant and foaming agent, used in soaps, shampoos, detergents and cleansers. Coconut oil is the main ingredient in Dr. Bronner’s All-One Soap, the classic all purpose soap, shampoo and cleaner, which launched back in 1948. With succeeding generations, the Bronner family has branched out into a full range of product lines, many coconut based.

To assure that Dr. Bronner products are made with organic and ethically sourced coconut oil, in 2006 the company committed to sourcing



rather pay that fractional amount more to know that products are produced in ways that support the traditional farmers and communities.” The company partners with the Serendipol project in Sri Lanka, regarded as one of the foremost sources of organic and Fair Trade virgin coconut oil internationally. In addition to using the cosmetic grade oils in its products, Dr. Bronner’s also expanded into food grade coconut oil. Its virgin coconut oil product is a bestseller in that category. While Dr. Bronner’s products use only mature coconuts, there are different factors at play for coconut water, derived from young coconuts.

Coconut Water Everywhere

“[Coconut water] is viewed as a healthy product,” analyst Jonas Feliciano told the publication, *Beverage Industry*. “It’s viewed as a natural product, so consumers are flocking to it based on those benefits.”

According to Feliciano, the top three brands—Vita Coco, New York; Zico, El Segundo, Calif.; and O.N.E. Coconut Water, Los Angeles—experienced 100 percent growth from 2011 to 2012.

The Naked brand coconut water (available at the Coop in aisle two) carries the Fair Trade USA labels. Naked, (owned by PepsiCo) was so designated in February 2014, but there is controversy about whether the company truly meets the Fair Trade standards.

“Fair Trade is for small farmers and small producers who are democratically organized. If you take the democracy out you have traditional aid or world bank develop-

ment or what the TransFair USA and the European certifiers are now trying to call Fair Trade... If you want the fastest supply chain that produces the most tea or coffee or bananas at commercial terms you have entered into some socially responsible product world of which there are many examples. It just ain’t Fair Trade, and it won’t have the same positive benefits.” So says Rink Dickinson, Equal Exchange Co-Founder and Co-Director (www.equalexchange.coop/fair-trade).

But for Naked and other multinational companies, coconut water is the new trendy sports drink. “If you’re more hydrated, you feel more energetic, so all of those trends converge on the coconut water category, and contribute to its gaining popularity,” explains Sarah Theodore, global drinks analyst for Mintel Food & Drink.

Back home in the tropics, this global market expansion for their staple food has impacted traditional communities. The young coconut contains coconut water and a jelly-like meat, both of which are a part of the local diet. According to Bob Sterling, the owner of International Harvest, which does business in these regions, when multinationals enter local economies to meet their supply needs, they export the water from young coconuts but discard the nourishing meat. As new demand for product drives up coconut pricing, it induces scarcity of young coconuts. The end result, says Sterling, is that “the indigenous people end up paying more for their subsistence food.” ■

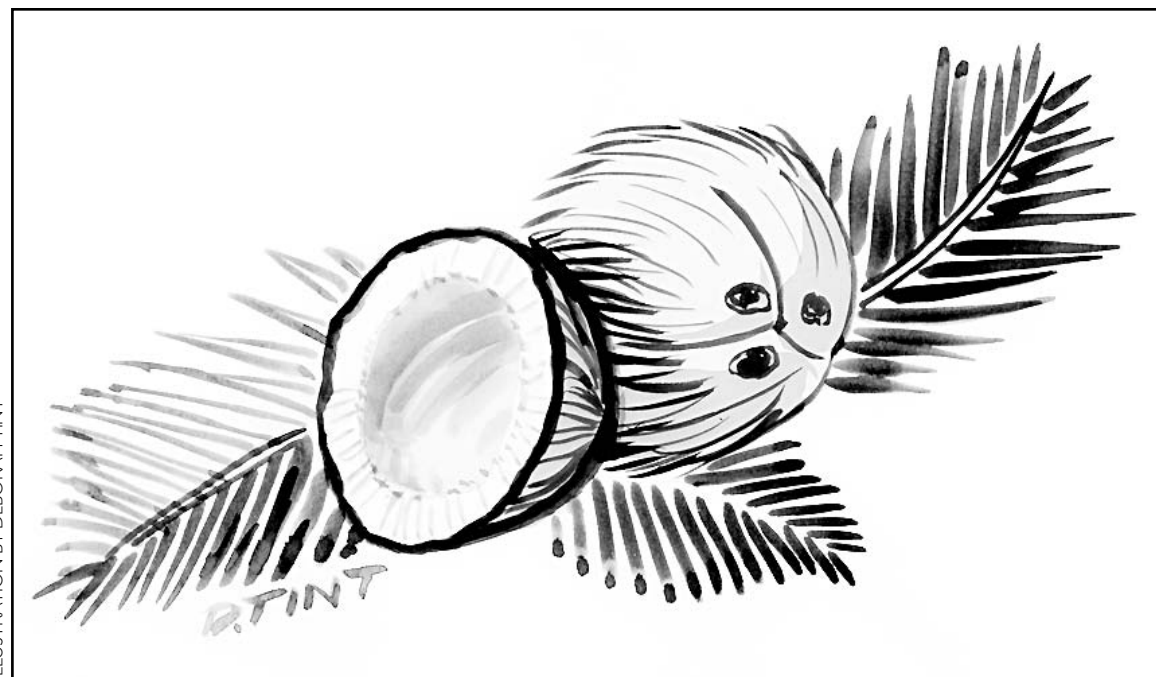


ILLUSTRATION BY DEBORAH TINT

about whether or not coconut water’s new popularity is good for the local farmers in traditional communities who grow the coconut.

Coconut fat, once suspect, is now a health boon, thanks in part to the work of Mary Enig, Ph.D., a pioneering lipids researcher, with whom (in full disclosure), I wrote *Eat Fat, Lose Fat* nearly a decade ago. Enig’s research revealed that the trans-fats and polyunsaturated oils long touted as “heart-healthy” contribute to inflammation, while mono-

aisle.) Mature coconuts are husk-free, revealing the nut-colored and hairy brown coconut shell. Before the enthusiasm for coconuts erupted over the last decade, these brown mature coconuts were the only ones that most Americans knew, except for people whose families came from tropical climes where coconut palms grow. In these regions, coconuts serve as a traditional food source.

Grated coconut (and a range of other coconut prod-

major raw materials from certified Fair Trade and organic projects around the world. The goal is guaranteeing fair prices, living wages and community benefits for farmers, workers and their families. The oil is extracted by engines powered by burning coconut shells. Much of the remaining husks are given to the local communities. According to company President David Bronner, a grandson of the founder, it’s both ethical and profitable to make that investment. “Our customers would



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Next Steps with Regards to the Proposal to Reduce Plastic Roll Bag Use (Proposal) Moving Forward

By Rosemary Calderon

Despite the defeat of the Proposal, we learned much from this process. Support and encouragement came from many members to keep this Proposal alive and moving forward. A difference of only 91 votes with over 600 votes cast (57.4% to 42.6%) demonstrated a clear base of members supporting the reduction of plastic roll bag use at the Coop. Additionally, various members informed us they voted against the Proposal because 1) it didn't go far enough for a complete ban; and/or 2) a perceived punitive cost associated with the continued availability of plastic roll bags. These "negative votes" combined with those for the proposal suggests a full ban on plastic roll bags may be a more appealing proposal—one that we feel compelled to submit in response to this contingent of the membership. In tandem with a submission for a full ban proposal, we will continue our efforts to educate the membership on the importance of reducing the use of plastic roll bags.

Partnership with General Coordinators (GCs)

The recent article in the March 20 Gazette reviewing the Proposal and vote gave strong testament to the ongoing educational efforts of the Environmental Committee regarding the importance of reducing plastic roll bag use. Imagine the impact that could happen in reducing plastic

roll bag use if the GCs were in full partnership with the efforts of the Environmental Committee to support, promote, and demonstrate leadership in this effort.

We were impressed with the energy, directedness and Coop resources the GCs harnessed in educating the membership about the proposed 20 cent charge per bag. The Environmental Committee openly invites the GCs to put forth the same level of Coop time and resources towards continuous education regarding the reduction and reuse of plastic roll bags.

Per the GCs February 6 Coordinator's Corner, they offered many good suggestions for membership education, including:

A) Embracing the mantra "Reduce, reuse, recycle!"

B) Emphasizing the following:

- don't take more bags than you need;
- buy products in the bulk aisle to avoid the excessive materials of packaged goods;
- think twice before putting produce items like bananas or avocados in a plastic bag;
- reuse the plastic roll bag—it is durable and washable;
- bring bags (roll bags or alternative) each time you shop.
- Reinvigorating the honor system for paying for plastic roll bags.

Again in the February 20

The General Coordinators Respond:

We disagree with the assertion in the Environmental Committee Report that the General Coordinators are principally responsible for creating and implementing a Coop-wide education campaign to reduce or eliminate plastic roll bags at the Coop. It is our understanding that the Environmental Committee's mandate includes leading the effort to educate the membership about the issues their committee is concerned with. According to the Coop's Environmental Policy "the Coop, through the Environmental Committee, will make every effort to educate members on environmental concerns through Gazette articles and reprinted handouts, fact sheets, orientation sheets, displays, lectures, and workshops." In practice, all Coop issue-oriented committees assume primary responsibility for educating members. The General Coordinators (and the paid staff as a whole) have a long history of cooperating with issue-oriented committees to assist in implementing committee-designed educational efforts. The paid staff is responsible for many areas of Coop operations and need to prioritize its time and resources to best serve the Coop and Coop membership. In principle, paid staff should not be doing work that can be, and has been, effectively accomplished by member committees.

In addition, we feel uncomfortable that members might conclude from reading the Committee Report that the GCs were not supportive of efforts to reduce plastic roll bag use. In preparation for both General Meetings, where plastic roll bags were on the agenda, the GCs made concrete suggestions about how members could reduce their plastic roll bag use. We presented these ideas as alternatives to the Environmental Committee's proposals to either eliminate or establish a charge for the plastic bags. We hoped the Committee would embrace and promote our ideas in a campaign they initiated. Instead, the Committee focused its efforts on urging members to vote "yes" on their proposals. In the absence of a committee-led educational campaign, our literature attempted to communicate a course of action we thought would be financially and operationally feasible, cooperative and beneficial for the Coop and the environment. ■

Gazette Coordinator's Corner, the GCs wrote:

"education and voluntary Cooperative efforts should be given a chance" and "an educational campaign to engage members in voluntary plastic roll bag reduction should be attempted."

Such an education campaign would be FANTASTIC. The Environmental Committee is and has been ready to be full partners in this effort. These are all great messages and in sync with the spirit of the Proposal.

Our proposal to eliminate/reduce plastic roll bags has been known to the GCs for two years, and yet, where is the mindful signage? Where are these reminders and educational messages posted or shared on the overhead paging system? When will the GCs openly and fervently embrace their own recommendations to implement a wide scale education campaign throughout the Coop? It would be hugely helpful and impressive to have:

- 1) a message over the paging system two to three times an hour reminding shoppers to consider whether they really need to be using plastic roll bags;
- 2) reminders posted on all the checkout stands encouraging members use less new roll bags next time they shop;
- 3) an education message on the big chalk board

emphasizing the importance of using less plastic roll bags;

- 4) reminders in the work shift sign in logs encouraging members to bring in their own bags, reuse bags, use other sustainable bags; and
- 5) seriously re-invigorate the honor system for payment of new plastic roll bags.

Let's work closely together to make this ongoing education campaign a success.

Other Creative Solutions

Members have good ideas to reduce/eliminate the use of plastic roll bags as shared at the February GM and in the March 20 Gazette. For example, designing a method for measuring tare weight of alternative containers and suggesting a myriad of creative ideas for alternatives to plastic roll bags. We salute your creativity, commitment, and "can do" attitude.

Conclusion

As indicated in the GCs statements, the Coop has a very commendable history in promoting environmentally sound practices since its inception. We applaud this record; for many members it's a very important reason for joining the Coop. That the Coop sees value in having an Environmental Committee speaks volumes to its commitment to furthering this part of the

Coop's mission. Despite all the packaging the Coop prevents by selling bulk goods and minimally packaged goods, using 2,500,000 plastic bags a year is a still A LOT of plastic bags. There is no doubt or argument that we, as a Coop, are likely ahead of the eco-conscious curve. But why stop there? Why are we not on a continual improvement plan? As a committee, we feel the phase out of plastic roll bags is on the horizon. More and more cities are prohibiting the use of plastic carry bags and plastic water bottles. Why not be leaders in this movement as we are in other environmentally sound practices? No doubt there will be glitches in implementation, necessary changes in shopping practices, disgruntlement in some for having such a policy, and perhaps, for some members a resignation from the Coop. However, there will also be others who join for such progressive environmental policies. Moreover, other Coops and businesses will follow suit with their own bans once they see it can be done. There is immeasurable positive impact to model for others that life can go on without plastic roll bags. We can be proud that we are the small pebble that starts the ripple effect of changing the way business is done. ■

Crossword Answers

M	O	T	H	E	R	L	O	D	E			C	O	D				
A	N	Y	O	N	E	E	L	S	E			C	A	F	E			
R	E	P	E	T	I	T	I	V	E			I	D	O	L			
C	I	E				N	A	V				A	R	U	T			
I	N	D	I	C	A	T	E	D			B	O	E	R	S			
			D	E	S				I	N	V							
E	L	W	A	Y			C	R	O	W	D			J	E	W		
R	E	V					C	O	B	R	A			O	R	E		
R	O	A				S	E	U	S	S			A	V	G	A	S	
						I	O	N				I	S	H				
L	O	M	A	X					T	H	E	B	U	S	B	O	Y	
A	L	I	G						E	V	E				A	P	E	
M	O	L	E						S	T	A	I	R	C	A	S	E	S
A	R	T	S						P	U	L	L	I	N	H	E	R	E
R	D	S							T	O	S	S	A	S	A	L	A	D



SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

Plow-to-Plate Movie Series Presents: *Brooklyn Farmer*

By Adam Rabiner

Brooklyn Farmer is a short documentary about a group of farmers known as Brooklyn Grange who operate the world's largest rooftop farm which just happens to be, you guessed it, in our very own back yard here in Brooklyn. Well, truthfully, Brooklyn Grange runs two farms. The first is 43,000 square feet (about an acre) and is actually located in Northern Boulevard in Long Island City, Queens. The second, though, is located on the roof of Brooklyn Navy Yard Building no. 3. Covering 65,000 square feet, its installation in 2012 is the focus of this film. These two farms comprise 2.5 acres and produce over 50,000 pounds of (according to their website) organically grown vegetables each year—about 75 different crops, all consumed locally. Brooklyn Grange also operates the City's largest apiary, consisting of over 30 honeybee hives.

Brooklyn Farmer features six members of the Brooklyn Grange: Head Farmer Ben Flanner, Farm Managers Matt Jefferson and Michael Meier, Founding Partner and Communications/Media Manager Anastasia Cole Plakias, Chief Operating Officer Gwen Schantz, and Apiary Director

Chase Emmons. None sit down to be formally interviewed (they are too busy for that, working to get the Brooklyn Navy Yard farm up and running in time for the May harvest), but you hear from them during business meetings, while overseeing the construction project, planting tomato plants or hosting a visit of Mayor Bloomberg and his entourage.

The crew wears many hats and share common concerns, core values, beliefs and passions. These include growing nutritious, tasty, local and sustainable food. All view themselves as environmentalists improving air quality, landfills and waterways through green roofs and composting. The recycling ethos concretely manifests itself in farm operations. The team scrounges plastic crates from City Winery to use as planters and transplants a wild bee colony from a city fire hydrant to a hive in their apiary. But their respective roles on the farm also slant their day-to-day preoccupations in different directions. Naturally, Head Farmer Ben frets more about the health of the plants while COO Gwen is thinking a lot about the farms' Return on Investment and profitability.

Two years post filming,

Brooklyn Grange has proven to be a fiscally sustainable for-profit enterprise and an urban farming model. Brooklyn Grange—much like the Park Slope Food Coop's efforts to replicate its own model of success—is now teaching others in New York City and elsewhere how to go about greening the 1,000s of empty acres hidden on rooftops. It's grown from one paid employee (Ben) to six full time workers, several part time workers and many volunteers. It sells wholesale to many local restaurants such as Vinegar Hill House, to retailers such as Brooklyn Kitchen, and to two caterers. It sells directly to consumers through a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) membership that currently has a waiting list, at McGolrick Park's Down to Earth Farmers



Market in Greenpoint, and to those who shop at the LIC farm. School kids visit the farm for hands-on educational workshops. In hindsight, Gwen needn't have worried.

Nor Ben, a trained Industrial Engineer who used to crunch numbers at E-Trade. He measures success slightly differently asking: are we supporting ourselves, can we keep it going? Is it working, viable? Are we teaching, learning and

having fun? Even back in 2012 he answered "yes." Ben and his young colleagues—several like him, with business and technology backgrounds—are clearly where they belong, farming the Brooklyn Grange, obviously a labor of love. ■

Brooklyn Farmer will show on Tuesday, May 13, 7 p.m. Park Slope Food Coop, 782 Union St., 2nd floor. Free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Looking to help new coops form in Brooklyn while getting a tax deduction?

Support the Fund for New Coops—a project of the Park Slope Food Coop.

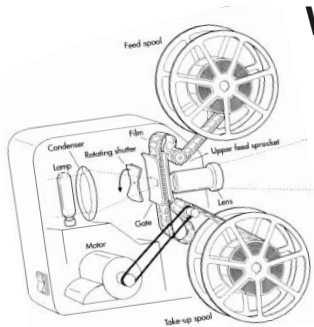
**THE FUND FOR
NEW FOOD COOPS**
a Project of the Park Slope Food Coop

The Fund for New Coops will make low-interest loans to start-up coops that use the full-member labor model like ours. Loans will be extended to qualified start-ups to address problems and maximize the chances that start-ups will flourish.

How can you donate?

- Use the scannable Fund for New Coops donation cards available on the shopping floor
- Donate directly from the Coop's website, foodcoop.com. Follow the link for the Fund for New Coops and select the DONATE button
- Mail a check—made out to the Fund for New Food Coops—to:
FJC, 520 Eighth Ave., 20th Flr., New York, NY 10018

Help nascent coops that want to use our model: Contribute today!

ARE YOU A
BROOKLYN-BASED
FILMMAKER?

Would you like to
screen your work
at the Coop?

Then submit your film
for possible inclusion
in the Coop's
Friday Film Night
Screening Series.

If you're a Coop member you'll receive one FTOP credit for screening and offering a Q+A with your film. If you're not a member, it's still a chance to spread the word about your work and build your fan base by screening for a local audience.

We accept documentary and fiction, both features and shorts (we program shorts as a group).

Please e-mail **Faye Lederman** for details at squeezestone@hotmail.com or mail your DVD to:
**Faye Lederman, 2000 Linwood Ave, #9E
Fort Lee, NJ 07024**

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, and go to <http://bit.ly/120Dn2s> to fill out a short questionnaire.



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 through 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. 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, May 16, 8:00 p.m.

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



PROSPECT CONCERTS



After last year's resounding success, reunite for an entire evening of Brazilian delight! SAMBA! Groove to the music of women rockin' the house with the pulsing sounds of Carnaval! Join members of **Paprika** and **Batala** in their triumphant return to Prospect Concerts, celebrating the lilting melodies of bossa nova and the heart-thumping, infectious rhythms of samba.



Our fearless dance leaders will have everyone moving to the rhythms of Brazil! The chairs will be arranged for dancing and grooving—we dare you to stay in your seats! Your show for the evening features Robin Burdulis, Terry Dame, Viva DeConcini, Deinya, Dawn Drake, Vanessa Roe, Anne Pope, Rita Silva, Michelle Williams and Simone Woodyear.

www.facebook.com/ProspectConcerts

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-
ed for refund.

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

RETURNABLE

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

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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.

Areni Agbabian	Chana Cohen	Emma Eriksson	Bora Lee	Ami Paradise	Daniela Sanchez	Jenina Villanueva
Robert Ali	Clinton Cox	Barbara Escort	Ming Ting Lee	Erika Payne	Elena Scampini	Minh Anh Vo
Rick Andrews	James Currie	Ligia Fernandez	Chase Leger	Ian Payne	Victor Schuft	Ana Vuk-Pavlovic
Irina Avtsin	Alex Del Giudice	Gordana Fleckner	Regina Mahone	Sunny Payson	Nicole Shore	Greg Walters
Katerina Barry	Ping Del Giudice	Kate Flinner	Peter McArthur	Jenny Pearlman	Alana Smith	Elaine Wang
Cesar Benoit	Thomas	Lauren Fouda	Chandtisse McClaurin	Sope Phang	Kari Stuart	Dylan Wong
Beatriz Blum	Deming-Henes	Corrine Furman	Matthew Menendez	Lorenzo Pontiggia	Carey Tan	Christo Wood
David Blum	Jean-Philippe	Jessica Gath	Kyle Miller	Joshua Powell	Jacqueline	Kenichiro Yamamoto
Sonja Blum	Desjardins	Leonard Gershfeld	Susan Misra	Diana Reilly	Taylor-Mozer	
Richard Boone	Mary Dillon	Daniel Guralnick	Carlota Montealegre	Edwin Rodriguez	Michael Taylor-Mozer	
Sarah Bronstein	Nicholas Doyle	Ambar Gutierrez	Nicholas Newcomb	Emanuel	Joseph Teskey	
Deborah Celmor	LaToya Duncan	Elizabeth Haaker	Amanda Nichols	Romero-Guzman	Angelica Thornhill	
Christopher Choi	Cirocco Dunlap	Nicole Jackson	Julie Olson	Amit Sachdeva	Lysa Aya Trenier	
Juan Ciro	Michelle Dupré	Jonathan Jungblut	Andrew Otto	Ayman Saidi	Toisha Tucker	



COOP CALENDAR

New Member Orientations

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

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

The Coop on the Internet
www.foodcoop.com

The Coop on Cable TV
Inside the Park Slope Food Coop

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

General Meeting Info

TUE, MAY 6

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

TUE, MAY 27

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

May 15 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, May 5
May 29 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, May 19

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

May 15 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, May 7
May 29 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, May 21

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,
May 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 p.m.) (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

may 1
thu 7:30 pm**Food Class: Spring Veggies w/
Gluten-Free Vegan Protein**

Susan Baldassano, Coordinator

Learn how to cook healthy vegan and gluten-free food and discuss the health benefits. Learn how to make “nofu” which is similar to tofu but made without soy. No one will be able to guess the ingredients! All ingredients are from our Food Coop. Chef **Hideyo** was born and raised in Tokyo, where she was trained as a sushi chef. She has also worked as a Japanese Chef and a Pastry Chef in New York City. She graduated from the Institute of Integrative Nutrition and Natural Gourmet Institute and is working as a chef instructor there. She is also working as a private chef and a health coach. She specializes in cooking vegan, gluten-free and refined sugar-free food. She also specializes in cooking a wide variety of fish and in finding new and healthier ways to prepare seafood. *Menu includes: baked green pea falafel; chickpea “nofu” (soyless tofu made with chickpeas); roasted rhubarb and asparagus salad; fava bean mousse.* **ASL interpreter may be available upon advance request. If you would like to request an ASL interpreter, please contact Ginger Jung in the Membership Office by April 17. Materials fee: \$4. Food classes are coordinated by Coop member Susan Baldassano.**

may 2
fri 7:30 pm**Film Night: Lucky**

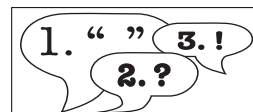
Lucky Torres grew up as an orphan in a system that made her feel like a nobody, but she has big dreams of becoming somebody. We find her in her twenties, moving from shelter to shelter, struggling to provide for herself and her young son. Through Lucky's story, myriad social issues come to light, such as the failures of foster care, abuse, systemic poverty and homelessness. *Lucky* is an unflinching exposé of broken systems and the damaged people that they spit out. In her directorial debut, **Laura Checkoway** defies convention and delivers a particularly candid and engaging portrait of Lucky Torres, an unforgettable woman who haunts us, stirs us, and dares us to look again. Journalist Laura Checkoway has penned revealing celebrity profiles and investigative features for numerous publications including *Rolling Stone*, *The Village Voice*, *Complex*, *Spin*, and is the former senior editor of *Vibe* magazine. Her first book, *My Infamous Life: The Autobiography of Mobb Deep's Prodigy*, was published by Simon & Schuster in 2011 and short-listed as one of the best music books of the year by NPR. She's directed and produced documentary segments for PBS World, Google and Scion/Toyota. *Lucky* is her first feature-length documentary. **To book a Film Night, contact Gabriel Rhodes, gabrielrhodes@me.com.**

may 3
sat 12 pm**SAT or ACT:
Which One Is Right For Me?**

The ACT is easier. Take the SAT in June, it's easier. Not all schools accept the ACT. Have you heard any one of these rumors? All of them, perhaps? If you want to find out what's true about the SAT and the ACT, the differences between them, what a good score is, and the best time for your child to take the test, come to my free workshop. In addition to these questions, I'll also address: When should you guess? Should you read the passages first, or the questions? **Nataliya Ostrovskaya** is a Coop member and has been a test prep and academic tutor for a many years. She works for several private tutoring companies, and currently teaches an SAT prep course at the City University of New York.

may 3
sat 2 pm**Help Your Kids
Succeed In Math**

If your kids are struggling with math, come learn some simple practices that can boost their cognitive skills, as well as their attitude. This workshop brings you the latest findings in neuroscience and psychology on how to increase brain power and emotional resilience, along with practical steps to implement them in daily life. Here are the main tools we'll discuss: cognitive-motor exercises, meditation, and how to cultivate a growth mindset. We will also have a chance to practice these during the workshop! Presented by **David Wolovsky**, a Coop member since birth. He is a math teacher, tutor, and curriculum innovator, as well as a Positive Psychology coach.

may 6
tue 8 pm**Agenda Committee Meeting**

The Committee reviews pending agenda items and creates the agenda for this month's General Meeting. Drop by and talk with committee members face-to-face between 8:00 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, May 27, 7 p.m., at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.**

may 13
tue 7 pm**Safe Food Committee Film Night:
Brooklyn Farmer**

Brooklyn Farmer is a documentary about Brooklyn Grange, a group of for-profit urban farmers in NYC setting out to build the world's largest rooftop farm. It explores the unique challenges facing Brooklyn Grange as it endeavors to run a commercially viable farm within the landscape of New York City.

The film follows head farmer Ben Flanner and CEO Gwen Schantz as their growing operation expands from Long Island City, Queens, to a second roof in the Brooklyn Navy Yards, and the team confronts the realities inherent in operating the world's largest rooftop farm in one of the world's biggest cities.

may 16
fri 6:30 pm**An Update About
Fast Track Legislation**

An update about Fast Track legislation in Congress, status of negotiations of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TTP) and the Trans-Atlantic Free Trade Agreement (TAFTA) and strategies to forward “Fair Trade” policies which will protect health and safety, human rights and labor rights, and the environment. Focusing on food and agriculture and on the environment, we will begin with a video for discussion and build a strategy together. Bring questions, concerns and suggestions to this informative, stimulating and inspiring session. **Susan Metz** is presenting on behalf of Coop members organized against fast track legislation. A Coop member since 1980, she was a Shopping Squad Leader for 22 years before retiring from that responsibility.

may 16
fri 8 pm**Paprika & Batala: Samba!**

After last year's resounding success, reunite for an entire evening of Brazilian delight! **SAMBA!** Groove to the music of women rockin' the house with the pulsing sounds of Carnaval! Join members of **Paprika** and **Batala** in their triumphant return to Prospect Concerts, celebrating the lilting melodies of bossa nova and the heart-thumping, infectious rhythms of samba. Our fearless dance leaders will have everyone moving to the rhythms of Brazil! The chairs will be arranged for dancing and grooving—we dare you to stay in your seats! Your show for the evening features Robin Burdulis, Terry Dame, Viva DeConcini, Deinya, Dawn Drake, Vanessa Roe, Anne Pope, Rita Silva, Michelle Williams and Simone Woodyear.

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.



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.

may 1–jun 20 2014

may 17
sat 12 pm

The Blueprint for Financial Success

Research shows that more Americans are focused on getting their finances in order, but they need guidance. Get the guidance you need. Stop feeling intimidated by the jargon or overwhelmed by the subject matter. Discussion will include managing debt, building savings, and protecting against risk and unexpected events. All attendees will receive a complimentary workbook that will reinforce what you've learned, to keep you focused to reach your goals. Long-time Coop member **Mary Blanchett** is a financial services professional. She helps her clients with tax-free retirement options, reducing vulnerability and starting estate planning. Mary makes it easy by sharing information to help you build a strong financial foundation to achieve financial security.

may 18
sun 7 pm

That's Not Trash!

Creative ways to extend the life of your clothing. The onset of fast fashion has many of us overloaded with dated, torn, and ill-fitting purchases that tempt us to toss them. Let's discuss how to give our fashion rejects another chance and keep them out of the landfill. This will be an active discussion. Feel free to bring something that you can't part with (but never wear) and we will problem-solve together. We will also review some basic mending skills including darning and patching. After 10 years designing apparel, **Libby Chisholm Fearnley** is an advocate for change in the textile industry; she wants to show industry insiders that acting responsibly is attainable and profitable. She has recently completed a Certificate in Sustainable Design at FIT. A Coop member since 2010, she is passionate about consumer education and believes that a partnership between companies and their consumers is essential.

may 23
fri 7:30 pm

Miracles In the E.R.

One day a loved one, a family member or we ourselves will land in the E.R. or elsewhere in a hospital. How can we meet this challenge wisely? In this workshop we'll explore using breathing techniques, mindfulness, and loving-kindness meditation to find strength, courage, and hope in a medical crisis. Coop member **Mina Hamilton** is a yoga therapist, meditation teacher, and life coach. She is the author of the book, *Serenity To Go: Calming Techniques for Your Hectic Life*. Mina recently spent 12 hours in the E.R. at Mt. Sinai Hospital.

may 24
sat 12 pm

It's Your Funeral

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

may 27
tue 7 pm

PSFC MAY General Meeting



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

Coop office. **Meeting location: MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.**

may 30
fri 6:30–7:45 pm

Cultivating Community Voices

A creative, community-building workshop, offering various vocal, sound-based techniques for strengthening community-organizing efforts. Based on fundamental elements of music and sound healing, this creative and expressive approach emphasizes collective vocal techniques, deep listening practices, as well as collaborative improvisation to empower individual and collective voices. Practices of rhythm, harmony, and dynamics refine awareness of group synergy and balance. No musical or singing experience necessary. **Stephanie Rooker** has been a Coop member for almost 10 years. She is the founder of Voice Journey Sound Center, a super-dork for sound healing and ethnomusicology, and a SeaSnax junkie.

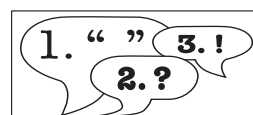
jun 1
sun 12 pm

Seasonal Allergies

Seasonal allergies got you down? Is a walk through the Botanical Garden in June your worst nightmare? Join me for an informative discussion on how to calm your allergy symptoms and relieve the yearly misery of watery eyes, itchy nose and constant sneezing. Nutrition Response Testing is a precise analytical tool that helps us determine the root of your allergic symptoms and calm your immune system's over-response to substances like mold, pollen, specific foods, etc. Complementary mini-health check for all participants. Bring your Claritin, Benadryl, Nasonex and learn about a safe, natural alternative approach to clearing allergies for good. **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.

jun 3
tue 8 pm

Agenda Committee Meeting



The Committee reviews pending agenda items and creates the agenda for this month's General Meeting. Drop by and talk with committee members face-to-face between 8:00 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, June 24, 7 p.m., at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.**

jun 5
thu 7:30 pm

Food Class: Healthy and Quick Recipes With An Indian Twist



Breakfast recipes with an introduction to Indian ingredients and flavor profiles. Chef **Shruti Mishra** is a graduate of the Natural Gourmet Institute and is currently pursuing a Nutrition course from the Institute of Integrative Nutrition. Shruti's food philosophy is to eat a balanced diet, buy from local organic sources and cook and eat with your loved ones around. Shruti works as a private chef, teacher and consultant helping clients learn how to eat a healthier diet with delicious, easy-to-prepare recipes. *Menu includes: mixed lentil crepe with roasted veggies; poha (full-flavored flattened rice); uttapam with coconut peanut chutney (semolina pancake); refreshing jaljeera (mint water with raw fennel seeds and cumin seeds).*

ASL interpreter may be available upon advance request. If you would like to request an ASL interpreter, please contact Ginger Jung in the Membership Office by May 22. Materials fee: \$4. Food classes are coordinated by Coop member Susan Baldassano.

still to come

jun 6 *Film Night*

jun 8 *And When I Die: The Musical!*

jun 10 *Safe Food Committee Film Night*

jun 13 *Wordsprouts*

jun 14–15 *Food Drive to Benefit CHIPS Soup Kitchen*

jun 20 *Reality, Truth and Conscious Light*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**SUPPORT NYS
FARMWORKERS'
BILL****TO THE EDITOR:**

Thanks to everyone who participated in the discussion at the March 25th General Meeting, at which a resolution passed in support of the Farmworkers Fair Practices Act, A.1792-A (Nolan), S.1792

(Espaillat). The movement begun by Cesar Chavez to grant those who harvest our food the same rights and protections the rest of us enjoy (dramatized in the film *bio* just released) needs to become state law here in New York.

If you support this cause, please urge your State Senator to support this bill. In addition, a Farmworker Albany Day is planned for Monday, May 5,

with buses leaving that morning at 6:30 AM from in front of St. John the Divine Cathedral. To reserve a seat, call RMM at 845-4585-8627. For more information about this issue, please contact the Justice for Farmworkers Campaign at www.ruralmigrantministry.org or the Brooklyn Food Coalition, www.brooklynfood-coalition.org.

Steven Beck

**HOMEOPATHIC
REMEDIES – NOT!****DEAR MEMBERS:**

This is a followup to my earlier post suggesting the Coop stop offering homeopathic “remedies”. The government of Australia has officially declared homeopathic treatments useless: www.popsoci.com/article/science/australia-declares-homeopathy-useless?dom=PSC&loc=topstories&con=australia-declares-homeopathy-useless

Paul Contursi

responsibility of elected representative bodies. These agreements give a corporation legal status equal to that of a government. FTAs create courts in which a corporation may bring a national or state or local government before a private tribunal run by corporate lawyers. A corporation can sue to collect a fine from a government that tries to regulate how the corporation makes money.

Look back over the *Gazette* for information about how the TPP would affect access to the internet or to medicines for AIDS. We have kept you informed also by holding regular popular education discussions in the meeting room on Friday evenings.

On May 16th we will discuss how the TPP would restrict our ability to regulate extractive industries, particularly corporations determined to frack NY State. Injecting a poisonous soup of chemicals and huge amounts of water deep into the ground under farms and towns to crack rocks so that natural gas can escape, be captured, piped through NYC and sold at a big profit in Asia or Europe would earn these corporate investors plenty.

We hope the Fair Trade Group will evolve into a squad so that participants writing for the *Gazette* and planning these sessions receive work-slot credit. Consider this for your work-slot. Help us develop the procedures. Join us on May 16th. Bring the issue into your faith, school, union or community group. Watch for the item on the agenda of an up-coming General Meeting. For more information you can contact me at 718-636-9089.

In solidarity and with hope,
Susan Metz

**LETTERS POLICY**

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

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

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

Anonymity

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

Fairness

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, factual coverage:

1. The *Gazette* will not publish hearsay—that is, allegations not based on the author's first-hand observation.
2. Nor will we publish accusations that are not specific or are not substantiated by factual assertions.
3. Copies of submissions that make substantive accusations against specific individuals will be given to those persons to enable them to write a response, and both submissions and response will be published simultaneously.

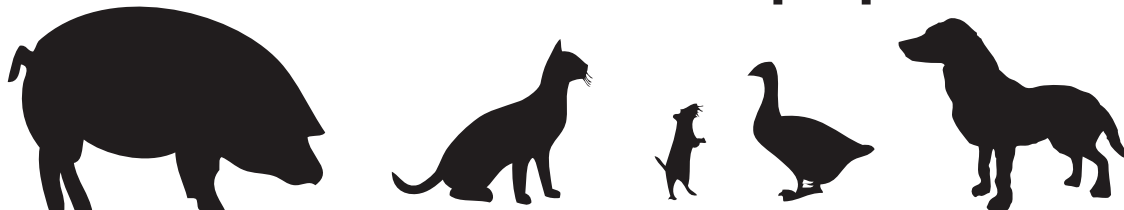
This means that the original submission may not appear until the issue after the one for which it was submitted. The above applies to both articles and letters. The only exceptions will be articles by *Gazette* reporters which will be required to include the response within the article itself.

Respect

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

Did you ever wonder exactly what those humane claims on product labels at the Coop mean? Or want to confirm which items we carry are not tested on animals?

The Animal Welfare Committee provides transparent animal welfare information about the Coop's products.



We work with staff, the Coop's vendors and external research resources to provide species- and issue-specific information for YOU, the Coop member. You can find us online at our blog and twitter account and you can find our guides all around the Coop, next to their relevant products!

Find us here!

Blog: www.psfcanimals.blogspot.com

Twitter: @psfcanimals

Current Guides:

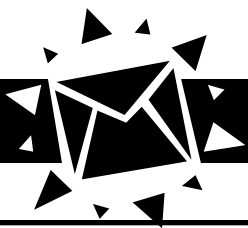
Eggs (next to egg case)

Milk (next to milk case)

Animal Testing

(aisle 5, closest to the back of the aisle)





L E T T E R S T O T H E E D I T O R

BDS TOPICS:

WATER JUSTICE FOR PALESTINIANS! ARGENTINA BOYCOTTS MEKOROT, ISRAEL'S NATIONAL WATER COMPANY

MEMBERS:

To highlight the plight of Palestinians in the West Bank and Israel, denied access to an adequate water supply, Friends of the Earth Palestine co-organized with other Palestinian organizations the **'First International Week of Action against Mekorot between 22 March 2014, World Water Day, and 30 March 2014, when Palestinians mark Land Day. Take a stand for water justice.'**

Since the 1950's, Mekorot, Israel's state-owned water company, has been responsible for water rights violations and discrimination. It directed the Jordan River from the West Bank and Jordan to serve Israeli communities, depriving Palestinians access to water.

Average consumption of water by each Palestinian (West Bank) is 70 litres per day (well below 100 litres recommended by the World Health Organization). Israeli consumption is 300 litres. Mekorot has refused to supply water to Palestinian communities inside Israel despite an Israeli high court ruling recognizing their right to water. A French parliamentary report called these policies 'water apartheid.'

Mekorot partners with the Jewish National Fund plan to forcefully remove 40,000 Bedouin Palestinian citizens of Israel from their homes into reserves; their lands to be used for Jewish-only settlements in the Negev.

Mekorot and the Occupied West Bank: Since 1967, Mekorot has supplied water to illegal Jewish settlements while denying Palestinians water justice. Mekorot rations water routinely in the summer to Palestinians reducing water by 70% in places. Palestinian villages see water pipes to settlements passing through their land without supplying them with water. Mekorot works with the Israeli army to confiscate irrigation pipes from Palestinian farmers, destroying the water supply sources. In 2012, 60 water and sanitation structures were demolished belonging to Palestinians. Water injustice for Palestinians is described in UN and Amnesty International reports.

Mekorot expands globally: In 2005 Mekorot signed lucrative contracts in US, Mexico, India, Cypress, Uganda, Brazil. Civic groups, outraged by their governments turning a

blind eye to Mekorot's gross violations of international law and Palestinian human rights, initiated campaigns to kick Mekorot out in Argentina, Italy, Greece and Portugal. In December 2013, Vitens, a major Dutch company providing water to 5.4 million people, withdrew from an agreement with Mekorot in protest against the company's operations in the West Bank.

Mekorot and Buenos Aires, Argentina: In 2011, after the governor's visit to Israel, a contract worth \$170m to build a regional water treatment plant was awarded to a consortium including Mekorot. A campaign, opposing the contract, *Mekorot Out of Argentina*, included local unions, civil society organizations, parliament members, Stop the Wall. After three years, a lengthy report said the plan with Mekorot will prove to be costly for Argentina. Water specialists have stated that the underground water sources in Buenos Aires are excellent and cheaper than the Mekorot project, which will drive up the water bill for 225,000 residents by 33%.

In December 2013, the decision was made to suspend Mekorot's plan. It was verified March 7. (www.bdsmovement.net/tag/mekorot)

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

GLOBAL ANTI-BDS MOVEMENT EMPOWERS PALESTINIANS ON LAND DAY, AND EVERYDAY, IN 2014

DEAR EDITORS,

"Tel Aviv joined the ranks of the world's leading financial centers, placing 32nd in a field of 79 on the Global Financial Centres Index... The city passed an initiative to promote investment in the financial sector, while Citigroup and Barclays established financial research centers there... Tel Aviv's ranking places it ahead of Munich, Rome, Stockholm, Amsterdam and Milan." (International Business Times)

"Bagir, (the Israeli clothier), has over 1,000 employees. The company is one of the largest formal-wear makers in the British market. 12.5 percent of British men wear a Bagir-manufactured suit, marketed under brand names such as Brooks Brothers, Jay Godfrey, John Lewis, House of Fraser and Burton... Bagir sold \$33.4 million of shares on Tuesday in its first day of trading on London's AIM." (Shamah)

"The pending litigation between Israeli Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd and Pfizer over Celebrex has

reached a settlement. In the agreement, Teva would be able to produce and sell a generic version of Celebrex, Pfizer's flagship pain medication starting December of this year." (Lawyer Herald)

The UN's International Labour Organization praised the Histadrut-PGFTU cooperation as "a unique example of co-operation providing a basis for reinvigorated partnership" between Israelis and Palestinians. (ilo.org)

Checkmarx made the 2014 Red Herring Europe Tech Awards. Altair, Appsee, B.I.S, CoolaData, Dynamic Yield, Everything.me, Flash, Feedvisor, Ginger, Imonomy, and sixteen others also made the list. (redherring.com)

"Checkmarx, (the Israeli tech firm) has dozens of customers around the world, including Salesforce.com, the US Army, Samsung, Deutsche Telekom, Deloitte, PwC, Atlassian, LivePerson and Playtech." All of these firms use the company's technology to check their in-house and server software, preventing security debacles such as Heartbleed. (Shamah)

"At this week's MIPTV Media Market in Cannes, France, which officially kicked off on Sunday, Israeli production companies Armoza Formats and Keshet Media Group have already closed major deals for TV formats to be developed and distributed in the United States, Canada, France and Thailand." (Haaretz)

All companies, company branches, and organizations mentioned above that are located in Israel employ or partner with Palestinian Arabs.

How has BDS contributed to the Palestinian economy, Palestinian rights, and education?

Being anti-Israel does not necessarily turn one pro-Palestinian. Shouting anti-Israel slogans or organizing Israel Apartheid Week in the US and Canada does not necessarily make a person pro-Palestinian. But promoting good government and reform in the Palestinian territories does make one pro-Palestinian. (Khaled Abu Toameh)

This is why I still advocate codifying 80% membership approval for utilizing our boycott guideline. While BDS was certainly a catalyst for this call, PSFC cannot be associated with any boycott movement that demonizes opponents while harming those they claim to represent. Such movements mock PSFC's founding principles of inclusion without political prejudice.

It's time to change the conversation. Finally.

Jesse Rosenfeld

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL LOSES ITS WAY

TO THE EDITORS,

Gazette coverage (via Buchwald,

4/17/14) of an 87-page report from the notoriously anti-Israel Amnesty International: "Trigger-Happy: Israel's Use of Excessive Force in the West Bank" conjures images of an Israeli Wild West, with soldiers randomly shooting at peaceful Palestinian civilians in acts perpetrated "as a matter of policy", implying planned, wanton taking of life.

According to multiple sources* including NGO Monitor** (summarized below) which "provides information and analysis, promotes accountability, and supports discussion on the reports and activities of NGOs claiming to advance human rights", Amnesty's accusations are "reckless, blatantly biased, and reflect the lack of a credible research fact-finding methodology." Amnesty "lacks the expertise and credibility to analyze or assign blame for deaths in the context of violent confrontations in the West Bank [T]he allegations in this report repeat unverifiable Palestinian 'testimony'."

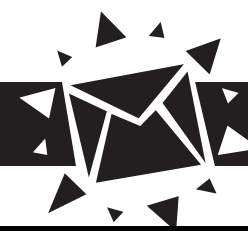
"Amnesty makes numerous non-specific claims without any supporting evidence, such as 'Palestinians killed by Israeli soldiers did not appear to be posing a direct and immediate threat to life'...." But in contradiction even NGO B'Tselem acknowledged that the majority of Palestinian casualties occurred during combat or violent clashes and confrontations with Israeli security personnel. Amnesty, in removing essential context and abusing the term "civilian", has further demonstrated its lack of credibility.

Amnesty's research team on Israel consists of two individuals with known anti-Israel activism, rather than military and legal expertise. "In the current report, no definitions or comparative data is provided to support Amnesty's politicized allegations that Israeli forces are 'trigger happy' and 'reckless.' In fact, a review of police conduct around the world reveals that Israeli police and military conduct is far more restrained, considering the constant state of armed conflict and the sheer number of lethal situations that justify the use of deadly force, including violent riots and terror attacks".

If the Coop chooses to publish on a subject as complex and sensitive as the I/P conflict, then editors are professionally and ethically bound to evaluate the credibility of submitted material. Instead this responsibility is ignored under the guise of fostering a "collegial debate", as one editor described it. It should be clear by now that the methods and goals of BDS are offensive to many Coop members. After three years of debate, 1000 members voted to oust it from the Coop by denying a referendum. Why then, after two more years, is the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Coop sponsoring BDS vilifications of Israel and when will it end, because I'd like to feel good about this Coop again. After almost 40 years of membership, I wish there were an alternative to the Park Slope Food Coop that takes seriously its mission of inclusiveness and leaves foreign affairs at the door.

*NGOs Make War on Israel (<http://www.meforum.org/633/ngos-make-war-on-israel>); Media Shills For "Trigger Happy Amnesty Report" (<http://honestreporting.com/media-shills-for-trigger-happy-amnesty-report>); Amnesty International: Discover the Networks (<http://www.discoverthenetworks.org/groupProfile.asp?grpId=6185>); Amnesty International Has No Charity for Israel (http://www.american-thinker.com/2014/03/no_charity_for_israel.html); The Company BDS Keeps: Amnesty International (http://www.foodcoop.com/files_lwg/lwg_2011_11_03_vFF_n21.pdf); http://en.wiki-pedia.org/wiki/Criticism_of_Amnesty_International.

**Amnesty International Report Reflects Lack of Expertise and Methodology (http://ngo-monitor.org/article/amnesty_international_report_reflects_lack_of_expertise_and_methodology).

Sylvia Lowenthal

"REPAIRING THE WORLD"

TO THE EDITORS AND READERS:

Over 150 million Europeans hold deeply anti-Semitic views, according to scholar Manfred Gerstenfeld's *Demonizing Israel and the Jews*. Just in the last few months: Hitler's *Mein Kampf* became among Amazon's best sellers; the Nazi salute, the "quenelle," is sweeping across Europe; violence against Jews and Jewish institutions is escalating from France to Ukraine.

A survey by the EU Fundamental Rights Agency revealed 67% of European Jews find anti-Semitism having a major impact on their lives (i.e., causing them to avoid attending Jewish events or services, or wearing Jewish symbols).

John Kerry condemned as "grotesque" the recent distribution of leaflets demanding that eastern Ukraine Jews register with a self-proclaimed local authority or face deportation.

In the U.S. FBI statistics (most recently for 2012) show 6,573 hate-crimes reported (undoubtedly a fraction of what occurred). Most were motivated by race, about 20% by victims' perceived religion and about the same number by victims' presumed sexual orientation. Of reli-

gion-motivated hate crimes, 65% were targeted at Jews; 11% at Muslims.

Last month a hate-obsessed Kansas City extremist opened fire outside a Jewish community center, then drove to a Jewish retirement home and did it again. Three people were killed. As it happened, all were Christian. The mayor said that while the action was wrong, he agreed with the shooter's views.

In 2013 most violent U.S. anti-Semitic incidents were in NY state. In NYC physical attacks on Jews tripled. Most, 87, were in Brooklyn. "Jews were targeted because they are Jews," said Anti-Defamation League regional director.

BDS' vicious propaganda contributes significantly to growing anti-Jewish hate. BDS is an international organized strategy whose covert aim is to rid the world of its only Jewish state. Although Jews have lived for three millennia in Israel, which absorbed thousands of Jews displaced from Arab countries, Jewish Israelis are portrayed as "occupiers" and "colonists." Although Israel's Arabs have more rights than in any Arab country, Israel is accused of apartheid, racism and ethnic cleansing. BDS' distortions and fabrications transcend reality, history and logic.

Israel is demonized: every crazy accusation is believed (i.e., medieval Jews are accused of poisoning wells and making matzah from Christian blood). A double standard is applied: Israel's every self-defensive action is scrutinized, while horrendous human rights violations by other countries, many in the Arab-Muslim world, are ignored. Israel's enemies argue that its evil is so inherent that, unlike any other country, it should not exist.

At an interfaith service after the Kansas shootings, U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder said, "The Jewish religion speaks of *tikkun olam*: repairing the world. This concept is relevant to any faith"... but "there are times when the world seems fractured beyond repair."

One of those times is now. Peace is a long way off. Here, in the part of the world where we live, BDS activists along with Gazette editors who continue publishing their insidious fabrications are deepening the fracture, not healing it. For those of us committed to *tikkun olam*, opposing BDS is a responsibility—and a privilege.

Ruth Bolletino



EXPERIENCED REPORTERS Please Apply



Workslot Description

We have four distinct *Linewaiters' Gazette* teams—each producing an issue every eight weeks. You will develop and produce an article about the Coop in cooperation with your team's editor every eight weeks.

For More Information

If you would like to speak to an editor or another reporter to learn more about the job, please contact Annette Laskaris in the Membership Office or e-mail her at annette_laskaris@psfc.coop.

To Apply

Please send a letter of application and two writing samples at least 800 words long (one sample must be a reported interview, *not* a Q&A) to annette_laskaris@psfc.coop. Your letter should state your qualifications, your Coop history, relevant experience and why you would like to report for the Coop. Your application will be acknowledged and forwarded to the coordinating editors, Stephanie Golden and Erik Lewis.

Seeking to Diversify the Gazette Staff

The *Gazette* is looking for qualified reporters. We are interested in using this opportunity to diversify our staff. We believe that we can enrich the quality of the *Gazette* and serve the membership better with a reporting and editing staff that more closely resembles the mix of Coop members.

BROOKLYN COALITION

Do you know where your food comes from?

What's food justice all about?

Is food in your community affordable?

How do we create a better food system?

JOIN THE CONVERSATION!

Brooklyn Food Coalition Membership Event

When: Saturday, May 3rd, 12-3pm

Where: 17 Eastern Pkwy, Brooklyn, NY (Union Temple)

All are welcome! Please **RSVP here** or call 347.688.0223

Lunch @noon. Join us for an afternoon of activity, engagement and building with friends, allies, members (& future members) of the BFC! Childcare services available.

☆ EXCITING WORKSLOT OPPORTUNITIES ☆

Kitchen Cleaning

Friday, 9 to 11 a.m.

Deep clean all three kitchens in the Coop: childcare, meeting room and staff room. You will work independently to clean countertops, cabinets, drawers, kitchen equipment, sinks and refrigerators. Must be reliable as you are the only person coming to do this job on your day. Contact Adriana Becerra, Membership Coordinator, adriana_becerra@psfc.coop.

Laundry and Toy Cleaning

Thursday and Saturday, 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

This workslot has two responsibilities. You will load laundry into dryer, fold it and redistribute it around the Coop. While the laundry is washing/drying, you will clean toys in the childcare room. You will be working with a partner on these tasks.

Bathroom Cleaning

Monday-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.

Check Store Supplies

Monday, 6 to 8:30 a.m.

This workslot is responsible for restocking supplies on the shopping floor, at checkout lanes, entrance desks and the

cashier stations, and in the basement. This is a task- and detailed-oriented job, ideal for someone who likes working independently and is pro-active. Please speak to Alex in the Membership Office or contact him at alex_marquez@psfc.coop if you are interested.

Store Equipment Cleaning

Monday and Wednesday, 6 to 8 a.m.

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

Bank Run

Monday and Thursday, 11:00 a.m.

This job is task-oriented, not time-oriented. Working with a partner, you will assemble materials for Coop cashiers. Requires a six-month commitment, complete dependability in attendance, and great accuracy. Contact Kathy Hieatt, Bookkeeping Coordinator, kathy_hieatt@psfc.coop.

General Meeting Set-Up

Tuesday, early evening

Adaptable, physically energetic, team workers with excellent attendance needed to help set up and break down the space where the General Meeting is held. Contact Adriana Becerra, Membership Coordinator, adriana_becerra@psfc.coop.

To Submit Classified or Display Ads:

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

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

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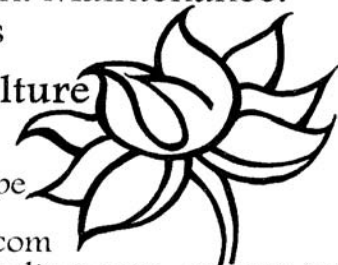
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Do you want your old Coop attendance records?

Up until September 2009, the Coop kept attendance on index cards.

If you were a Coop member before then, we may still have your old partial or complete cards.

If you would like to have this as a souvenir, please come to the Membership Office and ask for it. If we have it, it's yours!

We will be recycling them shortly.

Math Tutor

I am a caring, patient, NYS-certified/NYC-licensed math teacher with 23 years experience. I provide clear, precise explanations to develop problem-solving skills while building confidence and ease in the world of mathematics. I have successfully tutored students for Regents Exams, SAT, GRE, and all school levels. I can help you or your child no matter what problems you have. **Call David Cohen at (718) 857-5968.**



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

CLASSIFIEDS

HOUSING
AVAILABLE

A Lovely home in Prospect Lefferts Gardens. This single-family house is fully detached, has beautiful original detail, approx. 1,680 sq. ft., 6 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, needs repair. Asking price \$899k. Call Karen at 718-734-5678

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 consulta-

tions. Prompt, courteous communications. 23-year Park Slope Food Coop member; Park Slope resident; downtown Brooklyn office. Tom Guccione, 718-596-4184, also at www.tguccionelaw.com.

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

EXPRESS MOVES. One flat price for the entire move! No deceptive hourly estimates! Careful, experienced mover. Everything quilt padded. No extra charge for

wardrobes and packing tape. Specialist in walkups. Thousands of satisfied customers. Great Coop references. 718-670-7071.

Do you or a senior you love need to move? Are you eager to get organized? Paper Moon Moves is a senior move management company helping New Yorkers to: get organized; sell, donate or discard things no longer needed; and manage moves. Call 917-374-1525 for a free consultation!

HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS color, highlights, low lights in the convenience of your home or mine. Adults \$35-\$40/ Kids \$15-

\$20. Call Leonora 718-857-2215.

SAT TestPrep. 15+ years of experience. Math, critical reading, and writing. Streamlined, personalized program. Reasonable rates. Package deals with deeper discounts available. Local references. First session free! Call 917-208-4388. Upcoming test dates: May 3 & June 7. There's still time to prepare, so call now!

VACATION RENTALS

3-SEASON BUNGALOWS Studio, 1- and 2-BR houses in historic bungalow community near Peekskill and the Hudson River, 1 hour NYC. Pool, tennis, organic community garden, social hall w/internet, social activities. \$25k-\$87k. www.reynoldshills.org/bungalowshop. Contact Mel: 347-307-4642, melgarfinkel@yahoo.com, or 347-715-3735.

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.

SAT, MAY 10

4 p.m. Music Festival for All Ages: Local Musicians Band Together to Honor Rachel Bisesx and Common Ground Center in Vermont at the Common Ground Center. Call for info 802.453.2592 or visit www.cgcv.org.

SUN, MAY 11

4 p.m. BPL Chamber Players at the Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Center, Central Library, 10 Grand Army Plaza, featuring The Horszowski Trio: violinist Jesse Mills, cellist Raman Ramakrishnan, pianist Rieko Aizawa.

SAT, MAY 17

6:30 p.m. Everyone on your feet for the...BLUEGRASS FAMILY SQUARE DANCE...featuring The Ebony Hillbillies. PLACE: Esplanade Plaza (Access: Liberty Street) Battery Park City, Lower Manhattan. COST: FREE! No experience or partner necessary. All ages welcome. Info: bpcparks.org.

8 p.m. Peoples' Voice Cafe: 50th Anniversary Tribute to Freedom Summer. At The Community Church of New York Unitarian

Universalist, 40 East 35th St. NY. Wheelchair-accessible. For info 212-787-3903 or see www.peoplesvoicecafe.org. Donation: \$18 general/\$10 members/more if you choose, less if you can't/no one turned away.

TUE, MAY 20

7 p.m. The powerHouse Arena invites you to a book launch & discussion: *Coolhaus Ice Cream Book* by Natasha Case and Freya Estreller. Maker of "the best ice cream sandwiches in culinary history" (*Vogue*) Share recipes and samples for bold flavored ice cream sandwiches. 37 Main Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201 For info call 718.666.3049 rsvp@powerhousearena.com.

SUN, JUN 1

11 a.m. Punch-a thon in Prospect Park. CAE's Punch-a-thon is a fundraiser that supports community participation through the physical activity of punching to raise funds to prevent violence and promote self-defense. For more info: caeny.org or call 718-799-1775. Also t-shirt design contest for Punch-a-thon ending May 12th.



Coop members Lloyd Hicks, left, and Tom Twente working on composting bins in Washington Park. The bins will compost Food Coop scraps for the park's gardens.



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