

Established  
1973

# LINEWAITERS'

## GAZETTE



Volume II, Number 12

June 12, 2014

## May GM Okays Website Redesign Survey, Fills Committee Slots

By Kristin Wartman

On an unseasonably hot night, the air-conditioned auditorium at M.S. 51 was a relief for the Coop's May General Meeting. The meeting chair, Imani O'ryn, introduced the Chair Committee and laid out the general procedure for the meeting for all in attendance. There were no contributions to the open forum, so the committee reports began with a review of the Coop's financial statement. General Coordinator Mike Eakin read the financial report and stated that the Coop's sales are barely higher than the previous year, which he thinks may be a result of "a certain store that opened down the street from the Coop, which some of you may have visited," adding that, "Coop members are going there for this and that, which may be affecting our sales."

### Possible Garage Conversion a Coop-wide Concern

Next up, General Coordinator Joe Holtz reported that he received an e-mail from a Coop neighbor who is concerned about the proposal to convert the parking garage that is up the street from the Coop (on the same side) into 7,000 square feet of retail with 28 apartments above it. The neighbor is concerned that the loss of the current 230 parking spots in the garage will create more congestion and parking prob-



IT Coordinator Matt Kleiman is one of the web team members.

lems for the neighborhood. Holtz also added that with the added retail space there would be additional delivery trucks on the block, which has already been a problem for the fire station next door to the Coop. According to Holtz, there was a meeting that the developer failed to publicize but there will be a New York City Board of Appeals meeting on June 17 and a land use meeting on June 26.

Holtz also announced the replacement of 56 feet of refrigeration for fruit and vegetables at the Coop. The new system has stainless steel shelving and a row of lights on the valance, an improvement over the previous system—one with shelf lights that sometimes when the misters were spraying

produced "a smell that caused some Coop members to call the fire department," Holtz said. The new system has a fogging system rather than a misting system because members were also concerned about the produce getting too wet, Holtz said. The overall capacity of the new system will be greater than the previous one and is considered a repair. The new system cost \$65,000 plus tax.

Biko Koenig from the Brooklyn Food Coalition announced that it is seeking members to join the coalition and get FTOP credits. Most recently, the group had a forum on GMO legislation May 7, and on June 1 the group presented the Brooklyn Summer Food Festival.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Members' Summer Fun Can Be Serious for the Coop

By Lily Rothman

It's right there in the Coop's mission statement: "as members, we contribute our labor." But few people would argue that contributing labor seems like more work than usual sometimes. That's particularly true this time of year. After an endless-seeming winter full of cold weekends at home, the spring and summer can bring a run of holiday weekends, weddings, trips out of town, beach days, parties. But there is, of course, one thing that doesn't change: Coop shifts.

### Member Strategies for Keeping Workslots Current

Just because the workslot persists does not mean that everyone is equally able to meet that obligation. Every summer, the Coop tends to "shrink." Sales go down with fewer shoppers shopping and fewer workers working. Members and staffers have developed a range of ways to deal with that seasonal shift.

Take, for example, Robert LaBlanc, a member of the

maintenance squad who was completing his shift on a recent Sunday. LaBlanc has figured out a way to go away most weekends and not end up with a run of make-ups: schedule an afternoon shift so you can get back in time. "The only time it's a real pain in the neck is the Sunday afternoon of a three-day weekend," he said.

Other receiving squad members working at the same time have their own tactics. They had practice earlier in the year. As David Ranzino pointed out, while stocking a freezer case, they had to work on Easter. Ranzino said he normally tried to use the online swap system—available through the "Classifieds" section of [www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com)—to arrange to change weekends if he won't be able to make his shift. Or, in the case of Easter, if he couldn't find a swap, he would discuss it with his shift leader in advance and try to negotiate one make-up only. Meanwhile, Yukiko Sakamoto, busy unboxing avocados, said that she tries to plan

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

### Annual & General Meeting on June 24

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The June Annual & General Meeting will be on Tuesday, June 24, at 7:00 p.m. at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. The Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.

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

## Coop Event Highlights

**Fri, Jun 13 • Wordsprouts: Celebrate Father's Day**  
With Author Brian Gresko 7:00 p.m.

**Sat-Sun, • Food Drive to Benefit CHIPS Soup Kitchen**  
Jun 14-15 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

**Tue, Jul 8 • Safe Food Committee Film Night:**  
*Nothing Like Chocolate* 7:00 p.m.

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

## IN THIS ISSUE

Coordinator's Corner: Garage Closing at 800 Union	3
Fed Up with Our Sugar High	5
Safe Food Committee Report: Urban Gardening	6
Coop Calendar, Governance Information, Mission Statement	9
Calendar of Events	10
Animal Welfare Committee Report: Guide to Coop Eggs	12
Letters to the Editor	13
Classifieds	14
Exciting Workslot Opportunities	15
Board of Directors Candidate's Statement	16

# Website

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

## Filling, Adding Slots on Two Committees

Three items were on the meeting agenda; the first was the reelection of two current committee members to the Revolving Loan Committee. Rachel Porter of the committee explained to the members in attendance what the committee does. "We have a fund for new coops and we support coops like ours," she said, adding that, "there are currently only three coops like ours in the world." She said that there are around 500 coops but only three that are full-member coops with no tiered buying system. The Coop donates \$20,000 each year to the Fund for New Coops and members can make individual donations as well. Porter said that there are currently four coops that could make an application for a loan in 2015.

*What does a cooperative experience look like on the web?*

The committee sought to reelect Glenn Brill and Wendy Fleischer who would serve three years if reelected. There was a motion to do a hand vote for reelection and both were reelected to the committee.

Robert Matson of the Hearing Administration Committee requested that the General Meeting approve the expansion of the current committee size from five to eight people. Matson cited



ILLUSTRATIONS BY DIANE MILLER

the fact that although rare, when hearings do come up, they place a tremendous time burden on the current members and if one or more members are unavailable, the commitment then rests on the remaining members.

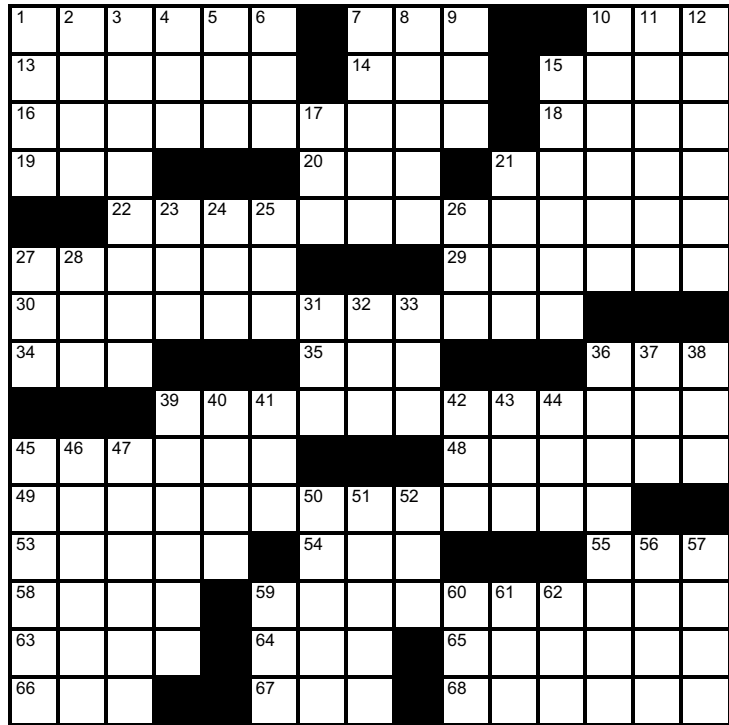
By adding three more members, he said, it would ensure that no one member was unfairly burdened. The Hearing Committee's tasks are: working with the Disciplinary Committee, calling Coop members to serve on a hearing panel and to be present for hearings. Matson

added that although there hasn't been a hearing in two and a half years, when there is one, it can require members to work somewhere between two and 13 shifts in a month. The request to increase the size of the committee passed unanimously by a show of hands.

## PSFC Website Redesign Survey Proposal Passes

The final item on the agenda was the proposal to survey the membership for a redesign of the Coop's website. Web team members, which include staffers Martin Beauchamp and Matt Kleiman and Coop member Jeremy Zilar, presented a slide show and discussed how they would like to survey the members to create a new website. "What does a cooperative experience look like on the web?" asked Zilar. Some of the ideas the team presented were as follows: To enable greater accessibility for members, to design by cooperation, transparency by design and to keep the cooperative spirit alive. The proposal was to release a survey to the whole Coop, and if the survey is approved, then the team would launch a site about designing the new website; since the GM, the website has been launched, and the URL is new.foodcoop.com. Several members had questions before going to a vote. Maribeth Batcha of the Chair Committee asked how they would ensure that people weren't filling out more than one survey. The team responded that it would be based on the honor system but that they would also check mem-

# Crossword Puzzle



### Across

- 100%
- He played Sam on Cheers
- Unfortunate
- Wilde of Cowboys & Aliens
- Crew team implement
- Inside of a paper towel roll
- Piety
- Burden
- Let's ...
- Before, in verse
- TV series with the tagline One sick bastard
- Actor who plays Jacob in the Twilight movies
- Kind of notebook
- That cuts me to the quick
- Condiment often provided at an Indian restaurant
- Yule
- WSW's opposite
- PBS' Science Kid
- Big Nudes photographer
- Benedictine monk who founded Scholasticism
- Afghanistan's national airline
- NBA announcer's cry after exclaiming Swish!
- Wyle and Webster
- Kellogg's Cracklin' Bran
- Goth relative
- Not working
- Magazine since 1984 ... or what you may call yourself by looking over a correctly-solved 16-, 22-, 30-, 39- or 49-Across
- Valley where David slew Goliath
- Jim Beam product
- Life of Pi director
- Line part: Abbr.
- Guitar innovator Paul
- Seek the approval of

### Down

- Pea holders
- Peter Fonda title character who says The bees and I have an understanding
- More than interesting
- Bolivian president Morales
- She plays Watson on TV's Elementary
- China's Sun -sen
- is human ...
- Prop for Picasso
- OBs, e.g.
- George H.W. Bush's chief of staff John
- Rehab candidate
- Gobi, e.g.
- Like a big grin
- Prefix with conservative or liberal
- Political Discourses author David
- Neighbor of Braz.
- Ming who played for the Shanghai Sharks
- Cousin of Inc.
- Rhone feeder
- Tee sizes, on signs
- Kung chicken
- Haw's partner
- Three-time Burmese prime minister
- Vietnam War's offensive
- As expressly said
- Charged particle
- CSI evidence, often
- Villain's laugh
- Yale students, informally
- Alphabet string
- Baseballer with a W on his cap
- Directional suffix
- Golfer Michelle who turned pro at age 15
- John Denver's Song
- It may be glass or cellophane
- 1953 film
- Singer of the #1 hit Somebody That I Used to Know
- Sources of woe
- Beehive State native
- Track
- Subject of Weird Al Yankovic's The White Stuff
- It appears at the top of a page
- Genre for Eazy-E and Heavy D
- Print option: Abbr.
- Lord, in Turkish

Puzzle author: David Levinson Wilk. For answers, see page 15.



## COORDINATOR'S CORNER

## Garage Closing at 800 Union—What Is to Be Done?

*The International Principles of Cooperation call for cooperatives to have “Concern for Community” and for cooperatives to “work for the sustainable development of their communities.” In addition, our Mission Statement calls for us to be a responsible neighbor. In the coming weeks the General Coordinators will be discussing what our Coop’s response might be to the issue our neighbor Jon Derow has alerted us to. Please read Jon’s letter below, printed here with his permission, and please consider attending the Community Board 6 Land Use Committee meeting. —Joe Holtz, General Coordinator/General Manager*

### Massive Garage Conversion in Park Slope: 798-804 Union St.

By Jon Derow

On May 22, at a meeting of the CB6 Land Use Committee, the owners of the garage at 798-804 Union St. (between Sixth and Seventh Aves.) presented their plans to convert the building to 28 residential units and 7,000+ square feet of street-level retail. The meeting was sparsely attended as the developer had, in violation of CB6 bylaws, neglected to leaflet the surrounding properties within 500 feet of their building. The developer claimed ignorance of this requirement. Fortunately, a concerned neighbor posted information about the meeting on the lampposts on Union St. and neighbors were alerted.

The presentation by the developer claimed that the 28 luxury residences and 7,000+ square feet of street-level retail would benefit the neighborhood, but failed to indicate how or why.

#### Parking

The garage currently houses 230 cars and the loss of those off-street parking places will have a significant negative impact on the neighborhood. Thirteen spots are taken by rentable Zipcars. It is estimated that each Zipcar takes 15 personally owned vehicles off the road.<sup>1</sup> Those Zipcars equal 195 additional privately owned cars on our streets.

The garage also offers parking for the 16,300 members of the Park Slope Food Coop. Losing this parking location will mean even more cars circling the neighborhood in search of parking. A 2007 Transportation Alternatives study of Park Slope found that 45% of all neighborhood traffic was cars in search of parking.<sup>2</sup> In addition to the frustration and pollution that will be a byproduct of additional traffic congestion, the loss of off-street parking will likely result in more illegal double-parking by members when loading groceries.

#### Traffic

The developer claimed that eliminating the garage would improve traffic on Union Street but failed to present any data or study to support this contention, maintaining that a traffic study “is not required.” As a 20-year resident of Union St., I have firsthand knowledge of the traffic situation and know that the primary problem is commercial delivery trucks, often double-parked on Union St. We already have the Park Slope Food Coop, Laytners and restaurants on both sides of the street. During the morning rush hour and continuing through the late afternoon, traffic often comes to a standstill due to double-parked delivery trucks. The block’s only legal delivery area is in front of the Coop, and unloading semi-trailers usually fill that space. Trucks delivering to new retail location(s) at the current garage may well double-park on the south side of Union St. This is also a safety issue, since the fire trucks from Squad 1 at 788 Union St. require easy egress and frequently run into traffic blockages, especially when turning right on Union St. toward Seventh Ave.

The developer has given no information about the prospective retail tenant, though the 7,000+ square feet of space will appeal to a national chain that can pay Park Slope’s commonly high rents. Regardless of the eventual retail tenant, this portion of Union St. cannot accommodate the additional truck traffic required to continually restock 7,000+ square feet of retail space.

#### School

The developer also failed to explain how adding 28 families to the P.S. 321 elementary school zone would benefit the community, though it is certainly a benefit that would be emphasized to prospective buyers. This school is already



**The garage currently houses 230 cars and the loss of those off-street parking places will have a significant negative impact on the neighborhood.**

severely overcrowded. There are currently 1,475 students in a building with an FDNY-certified maximum occupancy of 1,000.

#### Size

Anyone who looks down Union St. from the corner of Seventh Ave. can see that the garage dwarfs all buildings on the block. According to data on PropertyShark.com, the garage site has an allowable Floor Area Ratio (FAR) of 3.0 on a lot that is 8,685 square feet. This means a maximum usable floor area of 26,055 sq. ft., but the current usable floor area for the garage is 52,631 sq. ft. If the owners wish to change this building’s use, to the community’s detriment, they should at least be required to reduce the building size by 26,576 sq. ft. to bring it into compliance with the local zoning.

Additionally, the site is zoned R6A, which according to the NYC Department of Planning requires that, in addition to a maximum FAR of 3.0 above a maximum base height of 60 feet, the building must be set back by at least 10 feet on a wide street and 15 feet on a narrow street before rising to its maximum height of 70 feet. Union Street, at less than 75 feet across, is considered a “nar-

row street.” The developer is clearly aware of these restrictions and has ignored them; the architect’s elevation for the façade has notations (in the copy submitted to CB6 they appear in a font so small that it is illegible without magnification) for both the maximum base height and maximum building height, and then exceeds both.

Returning to the issue of parking, R6A zoning states that, “Off-street parking, which is not allowed in front of a building, is required for 50% of a building’s dwelling units, or can be waived if five or fewer spaces are required.” The developer’s plan complies with none of the R6A requirements: the FAR is 6.06 (double the maximum), the current building height is 94 feet (24 feet above the maximum), there is no setback, and there is no parking provided.

#### Conclusion

The garage is a necessary part of the neighborhood’s traffic management and usually runs at capacity. Zoning laws were put in place to protect the neighborhood from a project such as this: one that provides no tangible benefit to the residents, but a big payday to the developer and owner at our expense. The

neighborhood, and Union St. in particular, does not need more luxury housing and a retail site that will further increase truck traffic.

To many, the most infuriating failure of the evening was the developer only presenting images of the current and proposed facades. Though the developer promised to e-mail plans and elevations to concerned neighbors who supplied e-mail addresses, that has not yet occurred.

At the conclusion of the question-and-answer session, the CB6 Land Use Committee decided that, based on the fact that the community was not informed as required in advance of the meeting and that so many questions were unanswered by the developer, the proposal would be revisited at their next meeting, tentatively scheduled for June 26 at 6 p.m. at Old First Reformed Church (729 Carroll St.).

In the meantime, the conversion plan will be presented to the NYC Board of Standards and Appeals on June 17. ■

<sup>1</sup> [www.cmap.illinois.gov/documents/10180/49508/Car+Sharing+Strategy+Analysis.pdf/5dc698b2-0a75-4848-baa5-28637127cbe2](http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/documents/10180/49508/Car+Sharing+Strategy+Analysis.pdf/5dc698b2-0a75-4848-baa5-28637127cbe2).

<sup>2</sup> [www.transalt.org/files/news/reports/nova-cancy.pdf](http://www.transalt.org/files/news/reports/nova-cancy.pdf).



## Summer Fun

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vacations so they don't overlap with shifts, when it is possible. (Sakamoto added that she travels all year, so it's not just a summer thing.) Then there's the ultimate choice for flexibility: FTOP. Jill Schultz, shelving sodas, was only about two months into membership and had already planned how to work around the fact that she was heading into a summer graphic-design program that would leave her unavailable until the fall. "This week I've done three shifts," she said, "so I'm set for three months."

### Planned Temporary Leave a Possibility, Too

Even those choices—swaps, make-ups, FTOP—are only a portion of the ways the Coop makes it possible for members to enjoy their summers with-

out a suspension. The other is going on leave, an option many members choose. At the end of June, when school lets out, the number of members taking time off from the Coop will start to increase from its average during the rest of the year; several hundred people take a leave each summer, says General Coordinator Jessica Robinson. In order to qualify for a leave—which means that the member neither shops nor works for a period of time, but doesn't have to rejoin from scratch when he or she wants to return—prior notice must be given that at least two work cycles have to be missed. For a leave of absence with a definite date of return, the member's workslot is reserved for him or her to come back to; because the Coop's membership accounting system returns the member to the shift automatically,



**Members Summer Shift Tips** Jill Schultz, FTOP member, is banking shifts three months ahead and has done them in a week. David Ranzino normally tries to use the online swap system—available through the “classifieds” section of [www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com). James Dubreze didn't think having a shift in the summer was any harder than any other time would be. Yukiko Sakamoto always tries to plan vacations so they didn't overlap with shifts, when it was possible.

PHOTO COLLAGE BY WILLIAM FARRINGTON

## 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.



there needs to be an exact date of return from the start. There's also an option for a vague return date, where the member gives up their place on a work squad in exchange for not having to provide a return date.

Those conveniences aren't there just to make it nice for members. A member simply missing shifts is far more detrimental than a member taking a planned three-month leave.

### Workslot Absenteeism Causes Coop Problems

The reason has to do with one of the biggest banes of Coop management: unpredictability. The organization's operation depends on being able to predict how much food will be purchased, how many workers will show up and how many people will be shopping, at any given time. Leaves of absence can be taken into account when crunching those numbers, but absenteeism is what Robinson calls “a guessing game.” There are no exact numbers available on seasonal rates of absenteeism, says Robinson, though the average rate across the board is about 23 percent, based on a 40-week study conducted a few years ago. But, anecdotally, she says that the guessing game can be complicated by summer mainstays like holiday weekends, end-of-school-year special events and warm weather. (Holiday weekends are not so bad on Robinson's end,

though, since they're predictably unpredictable: office workers will call members with shifts on those weekends and try to find out in advance who'll be missing, something that's fairly easy to predict especially when it's a holiday that falls on the same day of the week every year. Great weather, on the other hand, can't be accounted for in advance, much as meteorologists may try.)

*One thing that doesn't change: Coop shifts.*

And the ripples don't stop at a missed shift.

“Absenteeism, it's a challenge, especially when added to the other side of things,” says Robinson, “which is the make-up policy.”

Robinson isn't referring to the make-up problem that members themselves are likely to encounter, which is the hassle of having to work double the shifts to compensate. The make-up problem with which she's concerned is, again, a matter of predictability. That's because people who need to do make-ups have a tendency, somewhat unsurprisingly, to try to complete those shifts all at the same time. Couldn't make your Monday early-morning shift because you had too much fun over the weekend? You're not likely to show up to do your make-up on another Monday early morning when someone else just happens

to be absent. That's the case for everyone who misses a shift. So, though absenteeism may be fairly well distributed across shifts at a given time of year, make-ups are not; the same number of shifts get done but in an unpredictable fashion. “That problem tends to be more extreme at extreme times,” adds Robinson, referring to early mornings and late nights.

The consequences of that unpredictability are what you see when it seems like you can't get your shopping cart through the aisle because there are so many people working a shopping shift at one time, and, at the other extreme, when you come to shop at an off-peak hour and there aren't enough people to work the registers. The consequences continue behind the scenes, too. A good example is when the food processing that needs to get done on a summer Friday evening ends up done by staffers rather than by absent member workers, which means that there's nobody there to do what those staffers are actually supposed to be doing.

It's not always easy to find staffers to fill the gaps left by members off enjoying their summers, and Robinson acknowledges that the reason for that is the most unpredictable one of all—and even if it's felt more acutely in the summer, it's there all year round. “It's the same reason: life,” Robinson says. “People have lives.” ■

# Fed Up with Our Sugar High

By Joanne Colan

**F**ed Up is the film the food industry doesn't want you to see, say executive producers Katie Couric and Laurie David (producer of the Oscar-winning documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*), who dish up a supersized helping of dirty secrets in their hour-and-a-half-long indictment of the American food industry. Directed by Stephanie Soechtig and in select theaters since May 9, the tell-it-like-it-is documentary explores a decades-old problem that's become America's fastest-rising epidemic: obesity.

While a lot of the subject matter is nothing new—soda and junk food are bad, calories are not created equal, food labeling is misleading, diets don't work, sugar is addictive—narrator Katie Couric sets the film's agenda right from get-go with the provocative if somewhat hyperbolic pronouncement that everything we have been told about food and exercise for the past 30 years is false and that "our whole approach to this epidemic has been dead wrong."

## Obesity: Making It Personal by Detailing Teens' Struggles

To throw weight behind her statement, and give this otherwise newsreel-style documentary a touch of heartfelt storytelling, *Fed Up* follows four obese teenagers over a two-year period. Weighing in at over 1,000 lbs. combined, Brady, Joe, Wesley and Maggie star in "average fat kid today" roles, struggling with a desperate outlook. One that's shared by an alarming number of overweight and obese children and adolescents. According to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), the epidemic now affects more than one-third of the country's children and adolescents. And counting...

Private video-diary segments and home/school/doctor's office footage plainly let us know that the film's featured four teens are not just fed up, they're dying. (Or, to put it in more medical terms, they're facing a multitude of obesity- and metabolic-syndrome-related health complications, not least of which is a significantly shortened life span.) But before dismissing them as out-of-control gluttons who need to eat less and exercise more, *Fed Up* exam-

ines what got them fat in the first place, why their efforts to eat less and exercise more prove ineffective and who, if not "the fatties" themselves, is really to blame.

## A Policy Debacle Decades in the Making

The film's finger pointing begins with Senator George McGovern's 1977 "McGovern Report." The report outlined new healthy nutritional and dietary goals for the United States and recommended eating more fruits, vegetables and whole grains, and less meat, egg and dairy. Sensible advice. However, the "eat less" recommendation infuriated the cattle, egg, dairy and sugar industries, who pressured McGovern's Nutrition Committee until it was forced to revise and water down its guidelines (demoting it in the process to a subcommittee). *Fed Up* builds a strong case against

chief among them) and become hooked on sugar like helpless class A drug addicts—no joke. For nonbelievers, *Fed Up* cites this study: 90 cocaine-and-sugar addicted lab rats were offered the choice between water laced with cocaine and water laced with sugar. Only four of the 90 rats chose cocaine. The rest chose only sugar, time and time again.

*An hour-and-a-half-long indictment of the American food industry.*

## Thin Outside but Fat Inside?

If the main culprit in *Fed Up* is sugar and its focal point, obesity, you might think thin moviegoers are immune. You'd think wrong. Enter TOFI or, thin on the outside fat inside, a phenomenon allegedly affecting 40 percent



these (and pretty much all) Big Food industries, laying blame for the country's rising obesity crisis on the collusion between big business and big government.

The film cites a number of other cases where capitulation to Big Food and corporate interests won over public health. In 2006, for example, the WHO (the United Nations World Health Organization) modified a new report outlining dietary guidelines when the United States threatened to withdraw financial support if the new guidelines stood. According to the film, then-Secretary of Health and Human Services, Tommy G. Thompson, flew to Geneva and threatened the WHO to get the job done in person.

The film takes a hard look at the past 35 years to see just how the business of loading pseudo-healthy packaged foods with empty and harmful calories—in accordance with USDA-approved guidelines—took hold. We're shown how we've been duped by dishonest good-for-you labels ("low fat"

of thin people. Poor diet doesn't show the same on everyone so it's possible to appear within normal weight range, while organs are being suffocated by thick paddings of fat, causing the body's normal regulating and hormonal mechanisms to behave erratically. A new silent killer, TOFI can lead to diabetes, heart disease and stroke.

## Fed Up Offers a Super-Size Helping of Stats

Like a close-up in the film of sugar-laden peanut butter being spread on white bread, *Fed Up* lays the facts on thick. A look at some of those stats: one example of how lobbyists for Big Food and Big Ag have influenced U.S. dietary guidelines is the absence of the daily recommendation percentage of sugar on all food packaging. Government subsidies of corn-based sweeteners have amounted to over \$8 billion since 1995; in 2012, Americans consumed an average of 765 grams of sugar every five days, or 130 pounds each year; there is overwhelming evidence of the link between obesity and the con-



ILLUSTRATIONS BY M. COLEMAN

sumption of sweetened beverages. Two-thirds of Americans were overweight or obese in 2010 and at the current rate, 95 percent of Americans will be so within two decades. In 2012, over half of all U.S. school districts served fast-food options only. It will take a 110-lb. child 75 minutes of bike riding to burn off the calories in one 20-oz. bottle of soda; children's exposure to junk food ads increased 60 percent from 2008 to 2010 alone; 98 percent of food-related ads that children view (3,920/year) are for products high in fat, sugar, sodium. Latino children see 49 percent more television ads on Spanish-language television for sugary drinks and energy drinks compared with their white counterparts; one in five black children ages two to 19 is obese, compared with approximately one in seven white children; almost 45 percent of overweight or obese children ages 10 to 17 are poor.

Hailed as "the film the food industry doesn't want you to see" (and you should see it to see why), *Fed Up* doesn't lack for critics, backlash and even a dedicated website refuting the film's claims. Not surprisingly,

much of that criticism comes directly from the food industry, including the Grocery Manufacturers Association and the International Food Information Council, both funded by the very companies *Fed Up* talks about: Kraft, General Mills, Kellogg, Coca-Cola, Nestlé and McDonald's. Nonetheless, folks are seeing the movie. It took in an average of \$7,000 per U.S. theater on opening weekend, according to movie industry researcher Nash Information Services. This positioned *Fed Up* as doing "very well but not spectacularly," per Nash Information Services president Bruce Nash. (By comparison, *Food Inc.* took in an average of \$20,000 per theater when it opened in 2008.) To date, *Fed Up* has grossed over \$800,000 and is set to open in more theaters over the summer. Whether Big Food manages to successfully influence box-office receipts or not, we owe it to ourselves to get informed; demand healthy food for all; and support documentaries, organizations and independent groups striving for truth and justice. If you haven't already, go see *Fed Up*. Oh... and skip the soda and popcorn, while you're at it. ■





## SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

## Urban Gardening and Soil Contamination

By the Brooklyn Backyard Brigade

Are you considering growing fruits and vegetables in your backyard or a community garden? Are you concerned about what might be in the soil? You should be.

Soil outside residences and in community gardens in New York City often contains heavy metals such as chromium, lead, nickel, copper, zinc, cadmium, arsenic and mercury. Contamination is often due to historical reasons: old paint chips, gasoline-engine emissions prior to the 1980s, arsenic-bearing pesticides from pressure-treated wood and/or industrial activities at or near the

site. Contaminants are most concentrated in northern Brooklyn neighborhoods, including Greenpoint, Bushwick and Williamsburg. But wherever you are in New York City, assume the soil is contaminated until you test it and determine that it's safe.

Heavy metals in the soil not only contaminate produce, they can also be inhaled or ingested by people who are gardening. Touching soil is not a high-risk activity, but it's important to wash your hands, including under the nails, after gardening. Children are the most vulnerable to lead poisoning and other effects of contamination, so be especially

careful if you're a parent or guardian.

### Get Your Soil Tested

First, have the soil tested. Here in Brooklyn, you have two options:

- Brooklyn College's Environmental Sciences Analytical Center will test the soil for a small fee. They'll also test the heavy metal content of your vegetables, fruits and herbs so you can determine what you might need to do to make your produce safe. Visit [www.testmysoil.brooklyn.edu](http://www.testmysoil.brooklyn.edu) or call 718-951-5000, ext. 2647.

- Cornell University's Nutrient Analysis laboratory also offers soil analysis for a small fee. Visit [www.cnal.cals.cornell.edu](http://www.cnal.cals.cornell.edu)

for more information on requesting Total Elementary Analysis. You can also send an email to [eab13@cornell.edu](mailto:eab13@cornell.edu) or call 607-255-5410.

### Making Your Backyard Safe

If a soil test shows little or no contamination, you're good to grow. If the soil sample reveals contamination, you have several options:

- You can choose to grow types of produce that are less likely to absorb contaminants.

- You can use a raised bed so your garden doesn't have contact with the contaminated soil.

- You can enrich the soil.
- You can plant crops that help clean the soil.

- You can replace the soil.

Since there are no consistent guidelines for safe levels of soil contamination, and because different labs use different thresholds, you may choose to take some of these precautions even if the soil is tested and is said to be fine—especially if you have children or pets.

### Grow Safer Produce

If the soil is contaminated with lead, the safest kinds of produce to grow are fruiting plants like tomatoes, squash, beans, corn and eggplant, because the part of the plant that is eaten tends not to accumulate lead. The most easily contaminated are leafy plants like herbs and greens, because they leach lead from the soil, as well as root vegetables like potatoes and carrots, because contaminated soil clings to them, increasing the risk that you'll ingest the contaminants when you eat them. If you choose to grow leafy greens or root vegetables, remember to remove outside leaves and peel roots. Wash all vegetables thoroughly.

### Create a Raised Bed or Use Containers

If you want to grow more vulnerable crops like leafy greens or root vegetables, or if the soil is too contaminated to grow even the safest plants, you can create a raised bed, which is a garden separated from the ground soil by a barrier.

With basic carpentry skills you can build a wooden frame, line it with landscaping fabric and fill it with clean soil, compost and manure. You can also grow in containers such as posts, crates and wooden boxes by filling them with clean soil. If you choose the container-garden route, you should take the precautionary measure of covering the contaminated soil by paving, planting ground covers or heavily mulching over it. Leaving dry, contaminated soil exposed can allow lead-bearing dust into the air where it could be ingested.

### Enrich the Soil

You can also change the quality of the soil. If you mix in compost, mulch and uncontaminated soil, you can reduce the concentration of contaminants. Alkalizing soil by adding lime or compost can also help increase its pH level. When the pH level of the soil rises above 7, lead bonds with soil particles, making the lead less likely to be absorbed by plants and by the human body.

### Cleanse the Soil

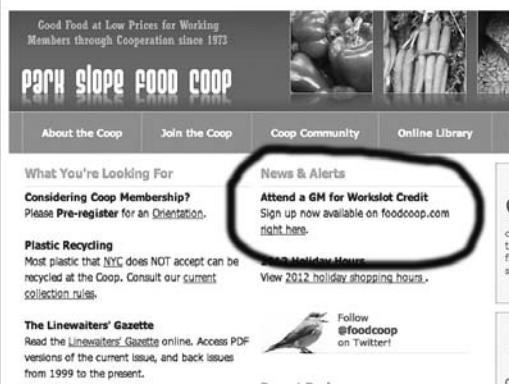
Another option is to cleanse the soil naturally by planting Indian mustard and spinach for a couple of seasons. Growing these plants for just three months can significantly reduce the lead content in the soil. If you plant these to cleanse the soil, remember to harvest and dispose of them as toxic waste. Leaching lead from the soil in this way will significantly reduce your risk of exposure; however, the soil may still not be safe enough to grow produce in, especially if you're feeding children. After several plantings of greens have your soil tested to see whether it is still contaminated.

### Replace the Soil

The most drastic and costly option is to have your soil replaced with new, uncontaminated soil. This usually involves having several feet of soil dug out and replaced with clean soil. Once the soil has been replaced you can cover the yard with new sod or plant a garden.

Please contact us at [brooklynbackyard@gmail.com](mailto:brooklynbackyard@gmail.com) with any questions. ■

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](http://www.foodcoop.com))

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



◆ Call the Membership Office

## 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.psf@gmail.com](mailto:pc.psf@gmail.com), and go to <http://bit.ly/120Dn2s> to fill out a short questionnaire.

## MEMBER SUBMISSION

## The Campaign to Reform the *Gazette*: Assessing the New Guidelines

By David Barouh

With the new editorial policies approved at the 4/29/2014 GM, the *Linewaiters' Gazette* has been induced to change practices that had long disadvantaged the rights of member-writers. The current reform campaign began with a 2009 General Meeting discussion initiated by former Coop Secretary Elizabeth Tobier, which revealed a rash of indiscriminate cuts to member content. After that meeting, the *Gazette* deemed it prudent to modify that much-detested practice. The editors are now required to at least consult writers about changes.

With the newly approved policies, the *Gazette* will no longer routinely change the titles of member articles and letters, and there will be a review process for editor-writer disputes, an improvement from the bad old days when individual editors—with whatever their idiosyncratic prejudices—had free reign to cut content, usually without notice, or reject entire pieces. Those editorial prerogatives (illegitimate, as it turned out) bred editorial overreach and indifference, and lead to legendary poor judgments for which it was always the writer who looked bad.

While an improvement, the review process is *not* independent, being carried out by fellow *Gazette* editors. The editor's point of view will be represented, but the writer's won't. In addition, the claim of *final control* over member content, which the editors had long exercised without GM authorization, was grandfathered in, overturning the 10/16/1977 GM resolution that required the *writer's permission* to edit content. To what degree group loyalty and peer pressure will affect the editors' decisions remains to be seen. But it would be understandable to envision benefit of the doubt going to the editor.

Nonetheless, it ends the absolute control of the *individual* editor over member-writers, and introduces additional layers of review to consider their case. Hopefully it plants in the editors' minds the thought

that they cannot just routinely have their way with writers. Hope for better work from the *Gazette's* editors has a short shelf life, but it's all there is for now.

### A Word About "Respect"

Some might think that editor "final control" is a good thing—that we can't just publish *anything*. However, it represents professional paternalism for a largely fictitious problem. There's the old story about the censor who, after watching a risqué film 25 times, determined that it was pornographic, and therefore the public couldn't watch it. Scanning for "objectionable" material, no matter how appealing to some and no matter the good intentions, is the very definition of censorship, with its target population the Coop's highly literate membership.

At the 4/29/2014 GM, Coordinating Editor Erik Lewis claimed—falsely—that content is cut only for reasons of "disrespect and libel." In my experience and that of many members I've spoken to (and undoubtedly many more that I

haven't), most content has been cut for other reasons, usually of the editor's devising.

In fact, disrespectful dialogue is more likely to be published than not. Lewis himself justified this in his "editor's note" of 3/24/2011 defending the choice to publish a letter that seemed to violate *Gazette* policies. Stated Lewis: "In these matters of political opinion and slant [how he described accusations of 'bigotry, dishonesty, and anti-semitism'—without supporting evidence—toward another Coop member] we must allow greater latitude and err on the side of allowing people a platform to disseminate their ideas and political opinions."

A rational respect policy is a reasonable idea, but more as a rule of thumb than a power to be wielded. It needs a more precise definition than it has gotten from the *Gazette*, and most importantly, needs an *independent* review process to be fair. It has up till now served to preserve the editors' professional prerogatives, i.e., control over content.

Editors know grammar

and spelling, and more importantly, style and clarity of writing. This is where they can be of real help to member-writers. Unfortunately, this is exactly what they *don't do* for members. Rather, they scan for the aforementioned "objectionable material" of which they are no better judges than any other member.

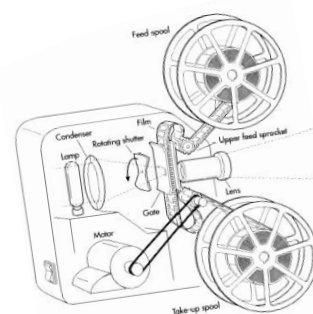
"Censorship reflects a society's lack of confidence in itself.

It is a hallmark of an authoritarian regime."—Potter Stewart, Associate Justice, U.S. Supreme Court.

All-in-all, these reforms are an improvement. We only wish the editors—especially the Coordinating Editors—better appreciate that however many professionals constitute their committee, the *Gazette* is their workslot—not their property. ■

## 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 Gabriel Rhodes for details at [gabrielrhodes@me.com](mailto:gabrielrhodes@me.com).**



Please protect your feet and toes while working your shift at the Coop by not wearing sandals or other open-toed footwear.

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





**COOP HOURS****Office Hours:**

Monday through Thursday

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Friday &amp; 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](mailto:GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop). Drop disks in the wallpocket described above. Receipt of your submissions will be acknowledged on the deadline day.

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

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

# SUMMERTIME

## DON'T FORGET YOUR COOP SHIFT!



If you plan on being away during one of your workslots, please make arrangements to have your shift covered.

One way to do it is to use the Shift Swap at [www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com)!

If you plan on being away for eight weeks or more, contact the Membership Office to take a leave of absence.

## YOUR CO-WORKERS WILL LOVE YOU FOR IT!

## 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 presented for refund.

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

**RETURNABLE**

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

**This Issue Prepared By:**

Coordinating Editors: Stephanie Golden  
Erik Lewis

Editors (development): Diane Aronson  
Petra Lewis

Reporters: Joanne Colan  
Kristin Wartman

Art Director (development): Valerie Trucchia

Illustrators: M. Coleman  
Diane Miller

Photographers: William Farrington  
Caroline Mardok

Thumbnails: Kristin Lilley

Preproduction: Sura Wagman

Photoshop: Steve Farnsworth

Art Director (production): Dilhan Kushan

Desktop Publishing: Joe Banish  
Dana Rouse  
David Mandl

Editor (production): Regina Mahone

Puzzle Master: David Levinson Wilk

Final Proofreader: Lisa Schorr

Index: Len Neufeld

Advertising: Mary Robb



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.

Lisa Alexandre Matt Arturi Elizabeth Bailey Jessica Banslaben Christina Barbato James Beck Susannah Bernard Peter Berwick Pik Yee Berwick Melissa Beuoy Nathan Blum Dana Borne Raffaella Braga Samantha Brenner Richard Brown Jordan Bruner Michael Carl Budd Jennifer Budner Robert Calore	Everard Campbell Alice Cardozo Nicole Cecere Tina Cerro Xumin Chang Michelle Chong Sabrina Clery David Cohen Sarah Collier Chris Combs Alvaro JR Cortes Courtade Critchell David Critchell Francina Cyrus-Walker Nathan Darrow Megan De Armond Gabriel Delsignore Corina Dennison	Meir Duannee Orit Duannee Liz Eisenberg Shika Entis Lauren Fischer Klemens Gasser Angela Gembrin Karen Gerwin-Stoopack Emma K Giaquinto Kristi Goldade Marcus Graf von Rittberg Christine Graham Tanja Grunert April Gu Debra Guss Alan Hagins Sharon Harms	Carl Harris Nozomi Harris Molly Hass-Hooven Anne Hayes Sonya Henderson Lily Henley Alexandra Herboche Danielle Herman Ruthanne Heyward Louise Holmes Susan Hyon Tenaja Jordan Erin Kenny Carmen Kimper Junior B. Kimper Jennifer Kurland Lody Lambert Justin Lane Brooke Larimer	Darci Larsen Thaisa Lemos Sandi Levine Megan Linebarger Justin Link Minga Lohman Christopher Lucier Esther Lykes Evan Ma Abdou Mahamadou-Abdou Peter Mandel Qiushi (Andrew) Mao Stephanie Marandi Hagit Marcus Charles McDougald Julia Miller William Miller Maisie Morten	Matthew Morten Brittany Mroczek Grace Odogbili David Olesh Matthew Penrose Mignon Pereria Alexandra Perez-Maspons Gina Pham Jacopo Pischedda Kyla Quinn Shelley Ranii Curtis (Sonny) Ratcliff Sarathi Ray Mary Reilly Jennifer Reilson Tatiana Reis Ancil Richardson	Velcrow (Stevan) Ripper Gregory Robinson Daniel Rocha Michelle Rosa Monge Maggie Ross David Santander David Scheller Tanzeen Shahabuddin Jonathan Shao Michael Simmon Kendra Smith Anna Smukowski Kristin Soerianata Emily Southwick Jack Spross Sarah Spross Phillip Stafford Tricia Stanley	Hannah Stern Michael Stoopack Margaret Sutton Trevor Sutton Ronald Tirino Peace Twesigye Ramya Varma Peter Vega Sarah Vergin January Vernon Ethan Weglein Duncan Wickel Marcelline Williams Daniel Winnick Betsy Witten Shao-Ying Wu
---	--	---	--	---	--	--	---

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, JUNE 24  
ANNUAL & GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, JULY 1  
AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.  
Submissions will be considered for the July 29 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines  
LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:  
June 26 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, June 16  
July 10 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, June 30

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:  
June 26 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, June 18  
July 10 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, July 2

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,  
June 24, 7:00 p.m.

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

Location

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

How to Place an Item  
on the Agenda

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

Meeting Format

**Warm Up (7:00 p.m.)** • Meet the Coordinators • Enjoy some Coop snacks • Submit Open Forum items • Explore meeting literature  
**Open Forum (7:15 p.m.)** Open Forum is a time for members to bring brief items to the General Meeting. If an item is more than brief, it can be submitted to the Agenda Committee as an item for a future GM.  
**Reports (7:30 p.m.)** • Financial Report • Coordinators' Report • Committee Reports  
**Agenda (8:00 p.m.)**  
The agenda is posted at the Coop Community Corner and may also appear elsewhere in this issue.  
**Wrap Up (9:30-9:45)** (unless there is a vote to extend the meeting) • Meeting evaluation • Board of Directors vote • Announcements, etc.

Attend a GM  
and Receive Work Credit

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

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

- Advance Sign-up required:**  
To be eligible for workslot credit, you must add your name to the sign-up sheet in the elevator lobby. The sign-ups sheet is available all month long, except for the day of the meeting when you have until 5 p.m. to sign up. On the day of the meeting, the sign-up sheet is kept in the Membership Office.  
Some restrictions to this program do apply. Please see below for details.
- Two GM attendance credits per year:**  
Each member may take advantage of the GM-for-workslot-credit program two times per calendar year.
- Certain Squads not eligible:**  
Eligible: Shopping, Receiving/Stocking, Food Processing, Office, Maintenance, Inventory, Construction, and FTOP committees. (Some Committees are omitted because covering absent members is too difficult.)
- Attend the entire GM:**  
In order to earn workslot credit you must be present for the entire meeting.
- Signing in at the Meeting:**
  1. After the meeting the Chair will provide the Workslot Credit Attendance Sheet.
  2. Please also sign in the attendance book that is passed around during the meeting.
- Being Absent from the GM:**  
It is possible to cancel without penalty. We do ask that you remove your name if you know cannot attend. Please do not call the Membership Office with GM cancellations.

Park Slope Food Coop  
Mission Statement

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

park slope  
FOOD COOP

## calendar of events

jun 13  
fri 7 pmWordsprouts: Celebrate Father's  
Day and Meet Brian Gresko

*When I First Held You: 22 Critically Acclaimed Writers Talk About the Triumphs, Challenges, and Transformative Experience of Fatherhood.* Becoming a father can be one of the most profoundly exhilarating, terrifying, life-changing occasions in a man's life. In this incomparable collection of thought-provoking essays, 22 of today's masterful writers get straight to the heart of modern fatherhood. From making that ultimate decision to having a kid to making it through the birth, to tangling with a toddler mid-tantrum, and eventually letting a teen loose in the world, these fathers explore every facet of fatherhood and show how being a father changed the way they saw the world—and themselves. Coop member **Brian Gresko** is the editor of this anthology. His work has appeared in *Poets & Writers Magazine*, *Glimmer Train Stories*, and *The Brooklyn Rail*. To book a *Wordsprouts*, contact **John Donohue**, [wordsproutspfc@gmail.com](mailto:wordsproutspfc@gmail.com).

jun 14-15  
sat-sun 9 am-7 pmFood Drive to Benefit  
CHIPS Soup Kitchen

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

jun 20  
fri 7:30 pmReality, Truth and  
Conscious Light

A new film and discussion on the Life, Teaching, and Living Spiritual Presence of Avatar Adi Da Samraj and the unique Way that he offers that radically differs from—and yet perfectly completes, for all time—the world's great spiritual traditions. You will be introduced to Adi Da's core teaching on the true nature of reality, the illusion of the separate self, and the nature of human suffering. You will have the opportunity to experience Adi Da's transformative Spiritual Presence through His Teaching and videos, hear stories from long-time devotees of Adi Da, and see never-published discourses of him speaking. Presented by Coop member **Wilson Dunagan** and Dennis Cocco, Director of Education at Adidam New York. Both are long-time students of Adi Da Samraj and the Way of the Heart that he has given for all.

jun 24  
tue 7 pmPSFC JUNE Annual and  
General Meeting

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

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

## I. Member Arrival and Meeting Warm-Up

## II. Annual Meeting Agenda:

## Item 1: Presentation of Audited Financial Statement

**Report & Vote:** The Coop's outside auditor, Cornick, Garber & Sandler, LLP, will present the audited financial statement for the year ended February 2, 2014. Following the presentation, members will have the opportunity to pose questions to the auditor. Members will then vote whether to accept the audited statement.

## Item 2: Board of Directors Election

**Election:** One three-year term is open. The candidate will make a brief presentation to the meeting prior to the vote.

## III. General Meeting Agenda:

## Item 1: Renewing the Services of the Auditor

**Proposal:** To retain the services of Cornick, Garber & Sandler, LLP, to perform an audit of the Coop for the fiscal year ending February 1, 2015.

—submitted by the General Coordinators

## Item 2: Election of Officers

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

## IV. Board of Directors Meeting

## V. Wrap-Up. Includes member sign-in for workslot credit.

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

jun 27  
fri 7 pm

## Cheese Class

We invite Coop members to learn more about the wonderful cheeses the Coop has to offer. This event will be limited to 30 people on a first-come, first-seated basis. It will be like musical chairs—come and claim your seat—there should be room for you. Guest speaker Michelle Loayza began her career in cheese behind the counters of Murray's in the West Village, while completing an M.A. in Food Studies at NYU. She now works for Forever Cheese, an importer of specialty foods and cheeses from Italy, Spain, Portugal and Croatia, and enjoys writing about food (cheese included) on the side. This workshop is brought to you by Coop member **Aaron Kirtz**, who has worked in the cheese industry since 2003, and sells cheese to the Coop via Forever Cheese.

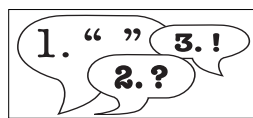
jun 29  
sun 12 pm

## Compassion &amp; Vitality

Bringing the Alexander Technique to chronic pain. Pain can make us feel helpless, frustrated, and less of the person that we'd like to be. Physically, pain tends to also have a shrinking effect: we tighten our muscles around the discomfort and stiffen our bodies to either numb or protect against further injury. In this workshop, you will be introduced to a set of skills to respond differently to pain, so that it can become a wake-up call to expand and grow rather than retreat and shrink. The Alexander Technique is a century-old method for improving one's mind-body coordination, balance, and well-being. Coop member **Dan Cayer** is a nationally certified Alexander Technique teacher working in the field of pain, injury, and stress. His personal experience with the physical, mental, and emotional aspects of pain, inspired him to help others.

jul 1  
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](http://foodcoop.com). **The next General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 29, 7 p.m., at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.**

jul 8  
tue 7 pmSafe Food Committee Film Night:  
Nothing Like Chocolate

Deep in the rain forests of Grenada, anarchist chocolatier Mott Green seeks solutions to the problems of a ravaged global chocolate industry. Solar power, employee shareholding and small-scale antique equipment turn out delicious chocolate in the hamlet of Hermitage, Grenada.

**For more information on these and other events, visit the Coop's website: [foodcoop.com](http://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.



# jun 13—sep 13 2014

Finding hope in an industry entrenched in enslaved child labor, irresponsible corporate greed, and tasteless, synthetic products, *Nothing like Chocolate* reveals the compelling story of the relentless Green, founder of the Grenada Chocolate Company. *Nothing Like Chocolate* traces the continued growth of Mott's co-operative, exposing the practices and politics of how chocolate has moved worldwide from a sacred plant to corporate blasphemy.

**jul 11**  
fri 6:30 pm

## An Update About Fast Track Legislation

An update about 'Fast Track' for 'Free Trade' legislation in Congress with a focus on how passing the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) would affect internet access. IT heads take note. We will also discuss the proposal to form a Coop Fair Trade Committee that would offer work-slot credit to continue this campaign. Bring questions, concerns and suggestions to this informative and stimulating session. **Susan Metz** is presenting on behalf of the Coop Fair Trade Group. A member since 1980, she was a Shopping Squad Leader for 22 years before retiring. Her letters appear regularly in the Coop's *Linewaiters' Gazette* and other prestigious publications.

**jul 12**  
sat 11 am

## BioGeometry: A Natural Energy Solution

The electricity that powers our increasingly "wired" planet and the rapid spread of cell towers, WiFi and other modern technological and architectural conveniences, have created energy interactions that disturb and create imbalances in the environment and our bodies. The effects are subtle, but noticeable. In fact, many of our modern diseases and energy imbalances can be traced back to the effects of these energy disturbances. BioGeometry offers a solution to these energy interaction problems. Join Jean Chuang Menges, M.S., L.Ac, Adv CBP, as she explores and discusses the role of natural energy systems, the negative effects of electricity and other energy stressors, and how the principles of BioGeometry are being used to effect change in architecture, telecom networks, industrial design, and health systems. Talk moderated by Coop member and BodyTalk Access Technician **Stephanie Krause**.

**jul 19**  
sat 11 am

## Fighting Fatigue

Are you dragging your body around? Waking up not feeling rested? Coffee not helping with that midday slump? Fatigue is one of the most commonly reported symptoms in the United States. Millions of Americans are getting a full night's rest yet waking up sluggish and relying on coffee and other stimulants to get through the day. Join us for a look at why your body might be fatigued. Nutrition Response Testing is a safe, effective analysis for determining what is causing your body's symptoms and what specific nutrition will help bring it back to balance. Participants will receive a complimentary health check. **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.

**jul 29**  
tue 7 pm

## PSFC JULY 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.**

**aug 1**  
fri 7 pm

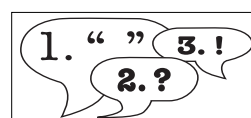
## Film Night



Film to be announced.  
To book a Film Night, contact **Gabriel Rhodes**,  
[gabrielrhodes@me.com](mailto:gabrielrhodes@me.com).

**aug 5**  
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](http://foodcoop.com). **The next General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 26, 7 p.m., at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.**

**aug 12**  
tue 7 pm

## Safe Food Committee Film Night



Film to be announced.

**aug 26**  
tue 7 pm

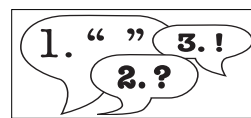
## PSFC AUG General Meeting



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.**

**sep 2**  
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](http://foodcoop.com). **The next General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 30, 7 p.m., at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.**

## still to come

**sep 4** Food Class

**sep 9** Safe Food Committee Film Night

**sep 5** Film Night

**sep 13** New Paradigm MDT



ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT

Members' Guide to Coop Eggs

By Jesse Oldham, Animal Welfare Committee

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](http://www.psfcanimals.blogspot.com)  
Twitter: @psfcanimals

Current Guides

Eggs (next to egg case) - REPRINTED HERE  
Milk (next to milk case)  
Animal Testing (aisle 5, closest to the back of the aisle)

MEMBERS' GUIDE TO COOP EGGS\*

Ever wonder what the labels on your egg carton really mean? Want to buy eggs from hens that are well-treated? The Animal Welfare Committee researched each provider. Vendors are ranked. Those with the best animal welfare practices are listed closest to the top.

VENDOR NAME	HENS' DIET	HENS' LIVING SPACE	FORCED-MOLTING	FATE OF MALE CHICKS	DEBEAKING OR BEAK TRIMMING	HENS' LIFESPAN	# OF EGGS PRODUCED HEN/YEAR	# OF HENS PER FARM	SLAUGHTER TRANSPORT
Grindstone (family farms including Hersbergers)	Vegetarian	• Pastured hens • Cage-free • Shelter provided	No	Answer not given***	No	12 - 36 months	250 - 300	50 - 500	Slaughtered and consumed on site
Lancaster (coop of 7 family farms)	Organic (certified)	• Pastured hens • Cage-free • Shelter provided	No	Answer not given***	No	12 - 18 months	290	500 - 1,500	Hens sent 10-15 mins away, some mobile unit, some sent to NYC (live market)
Sunnyside Duck Eggs	Vegetarian GMO free	• Pastured ducks with pond access • Cage-free • Indoor space: 13 sq. ft/duck	No	Answer not given***	No	12 months	N/A	60	Hens sold live at auction. Transport 30-45 mins.
Hidden Camp	Organic (certified) Some soy free	• Pastured hens • Cage-free • Indoor space: 2.75 sq. ft/hen	No	Answer not given***	Yes	18 - 20 months	250 - 300	3,500	Transport approx. 10 miles
Giving Nature**	Organic (certified)	• Pasture access • Cage-free • Indoor space: 1.25-1.5 sq. ft/hen • Outdoor: 3-5 sq. ft/hen	No	Killed at hatchery	Yes	17 months	250	7,000 - 14,000	Transport 2 hours (hens used for soup)
Nature's Yoke** (coop of 20 small farms)	Vegetarian Organic (certified) + non-organic	• Pasture access • Cage-free • Indoor space: 1.25-1.5 sq. ft/hen	No	Killed at hatchery	Yes	18 months	Answer not given	1,000 - 18,000	Transport varies by farm
Alderfer	Vegetarian Organic (certified) + non-organic	• Outdoor deck access • Cage-free • Indoor space: 1.5-1.75 sq. ft/hen	No	Killed at hatchery	Yes	14 months	240 over lifetime	5,000 - 20,000	Transport 2 hours (sold to live markets in NYC)
Organic Valley (egg whites)	Organic (certified)	• One access pt to pasture/2500 hens • Cage-free • Indoor space: 1.75 sq. ft/hen	Yes	Answer not given***	Yes	16.5 months	360	Average flock 5,300	Transport 12 hours
All Whites (Michael Foods) (carton)	Conventional	• Battery cages • At least 1.75 sq. ft/hen	Yes	Answer not given***	Yes	18 - 24 months	Answer not given	Answer not given	Answer not given
Egg Beaters (Con Agra) (carton)	Conventional	• Battery cages: 9 x 9 inches • Cage-free: 1-1.5 sq. ft/hen	Yes	Answer not given***	Yes	18 - 24 months	Answer not given	Answer not given	Answer not given

\* Glossary of label terms on reverse      \*\* See [certifiedhumane.org](http://certifiedhumane.org) for details of these vendors' practices      \*\*\* Common industry practice is to destroy male chicks at hatchery

**ROUGHLY 95 % OF ALL EGGS SOLD IN THE U.S. ARE PRODUCED BY CAGED HENS**

For more information about the treatment of hens in egg production, visit: [humane.society.org/issues/confinement\\_farm/facts/guide\\_egg\\_labels.html](http://humane.society.org/issues/confinement_farm/facts/guide_egg_labels.html) and [farmsanctuary.org/learn/factory-farming/chickens-used-for-eggs](http://farmsanctuary.org/learn/factory-farming/chickens-used-for-eggs)  
Guide sources: Humane Society of the United States, producer claims, Farm Sanctuary, Wikipedia, Progressive Pastured

Check out the Animal Welfare Committee's blog at [psfcanimals.blogspot.com](http://psfcanimals.blogspot.com).

Updated 3/20/2013

The Chart Explained: We Asked the Farmers

**Hens' diet?** An organic, hormone-and GMO-free diet is beneficial, but has no direct bearing on animal welfare.

**Hens' living space?** Pasture-raised allows hens: to express natural behaviors, the company of other hens and space to move around. Typically, "free-range" or "free-roaming" hens are un-caged indoors with some outdoor access; however there are no specifications for duration, or quality of outdoor access.

**Forced-molting?** Forced-molting artificially provokes an entire flock into molt. This increases egg production and causes stress to the hens. Methods include withdrawing food for 7-14 days, providing a low-density diet and/or restricting light. During molt, hens stop producing eggs for two weeks. This allows the reproductive tracts to rejuvenate.

**Fate of male chicks?** Almost all hens in commercial operations are purchased from hatcheries that dispose of male chicks shortly after hatching (methods include suffocation, gassing and grinding).

**Debeaking/beak trimming/toe clipping?** Chicks on factory farms are debeaked/trimmed by having a portion of their beak seared or clipped off. This practice is meant to prevent behaviors that result from the stress of confinement but may cause hens chronic pain and an inability to eat. Toe clipping is the amputation of a bird's toes just behind the claw. None of the Co-op's vendors practice toe clipping except All Whites and Egg Beaters, for which information was not provided.

**Hens' lifespan?** The natural lifespan of an industry chicken would be 5-8 years. However, when egg production declines after 1-2 years, hens are "spent" and sent to slaughter to be consumed as meat.

**Number of eggs produced per hen?** Many hens are bred and/or artificially induced to yield high egg productions (250-350 eggs annually, compared to 100 eggs a century ago). This is an output they can only sustain for 1.5 years.

**Transport to slaughter?** Transport to slaughter causes great stress with food, water and space deprivation. Chickens are exempt from the Humane Slaughter Act, a federal law requiring animals to be rendered insensible to pain before slaughter. Even hens raised under high-welfare conditions may end up at slaughterhouses practicing cruel handling and "botched kills." On-farm (mobile) slaughter is preferable; there is no transport and conditions may be more closely monitored.

COOP LABELS:

**Vegetarian diet:** Feed does not contain animal byproducts.

**Enriched with Omega 3 fatty acids:** (through feed). May be beneficial for humans but has no bearing on animal welfare.

**Antibiotic free/ Hormone free:** Hens not given antibiotics/hormones. Hormones have not been approved by the FDA for use in this context, so label is superfluous.

**Free-range/Free-roaming hens:** USDA has not defined "free-range/roaming" for egg production. Typically, these hens are un-caged indoors with some outdoor access; however there are no specifications for duration, or quality of outdoor access. Since they are not caged, they may engage in many natural behaviors.

**Cage free:** Hens are un-caged inside barns or warehouses, but may not have outdoor access. They can engage in natural behaviors such as walking, nesting and spreading their wings. Beak cutting is permitted. No third-party auditing.

**Progressive Pastured:** Farms must provide a minimum of 50% green vegetation in the pasture area. Farmers progressively increase the area of pasture access.

**Organic:** No pesticides or synthetic fertilizer/chemicals, antibiotics, hormones, feed additives or GMOs for animals.

**Pesticide-free:** Feed is made from grains raised in soil without the use of pesticides.

**USDA Egg Organic:** Hens are un-caged inside barns or warehouses and outdoor access is required, but the amount, duration, and quality of access is undefined. They are fed an organic, all-vegetarian diet free of antibiotics and pesticides.

**Pennsylvania certified organic:** A USDA-accredited organic certifying agency that educates and certifies growers, processors and handlers of organic crops, wild crops, livestock and livestock products in PA and adjoining states.

**Certified Humane:** The birds are un-caged inside barns or warehouses, but may be kept indoors at all times. They must be able to perform natural behaviors such as nesting, perching, and dust bathing. There are requirements for stocking density and number of perches and nesting boxes. Forced molting through starvation is prohibited, but beak cutting is allowed.

**Kosher:** Eggs must be from kosher fowl (e.g. chickens, ducks, geese). Eggs must not contain blood spots.

**Pastured:** Theoretically, pastured is the gold standard. Pasture-raised hens have ample space for movement and the ability to engage in all natural behaviors. Label is not well-regulated and pasture access may be minimal.

THE GAZETTE INDEXES

If you are interested in the history of the Coop or in when and how particular subjects have been discussed in the Gazette...

Send an e-mail to Len Neufeld, Gazette indexer, at [lenneufeld@verizon.net](mailto:lenneufeld@verizon.net), to request PDF files of either or both of the following indexes:

An alphabetized list of the titles of all articles published in the Gazette from 1995 to the present, with issue dates.

An alphabetized list of all subjects (including people's names) discussed in Gazette articles from 1995 to the present, with article titles, issue dates, and page numbers.

Many of the Gazette issues referenced in these indexes are available as PDFs on the Coop's website.

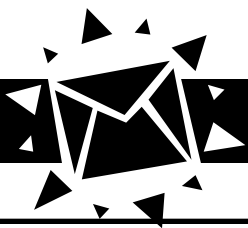
Follow the Food Coop on



@foodcoop







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

## BDS TOPICS:

## DEPAUL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS PASS REFERENDUM ON DIVESTMENT

## TO THE EDITORS AND MEMBERS:

The following referendum was passed in May 2014 by the student body of DePaul University in Chicago.

"Through its mutual funds, DePaul University invests in corporations that manufacture weapons and provide surveillance technology to the Israeli government, army and prison services. Corporations like Hewlett-Packard, Boeing, Lockheed Martin and Caterpillar profit from Israel's violation of the human rights of Palestinians and minorities within Israel. They violate people's right to life, movement, healthcare, education and freedom.

"Do you think that DePaul should follow socially responsible investment practices and divest from companies that profit from Israel's discriminatory practices and human rights violations?"

The vote was Yes 1575, No 1333: 54% to 46%.

The referendum was initiated by the group DePaul Divest. During its campaign, DePaul Divest faced opposition from the Zionist group StandWithUs, which, with the help of the Israeli consulate general in Chicago, organized "information" sessions on the DePaul campus. During this process DePaul Divest explained, in an article in the campus newspaper, that the pro-Israel group was intimidating and misinforming students. DePaul Divest refuted accusations, among others, that the referendum was anti-Semitic and that it would have the effect of defunding Jewish student groups at DePaul.

(For more info on these events, see the websites [mondoweiss.net](http://mondoweiss.net) and [electronicintifada.net](http://electronicintifada.net).)

This victory at DePaul is part of nationwide student actions in the United States to join the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement in support of Palestinian liberation.

Park Slope Food Coop members can also participate in the BDS movement by boycotting Israeli products, such as the water carbonation system SodaStream.

Naomi Brussel  
[psfcbds.wordpress.com](http://psfcbds.wordpress.com)

## "SOLITARY CONFINEMENT FOR PALESTINIAN CHILDREN IN ISRAELI MILITARY DETENTION"

## DEAR MEMBERS:

The report, May 1, 2014, by Defence for Children International—Palestine.

(DCI-Palestine) found 21.4 percent of cases of Palestinian children recorded in 2013 were subjected to solitary confinement as part of the interrogation process by the Israeli military detention system. This represents an increase of two percent from 2012.

DCI-Palestine, an independent child rights organization, is dedicated to defending and promoting the rights of children living in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, provides free legal assistance to children, collects evidence and conducts advocacy.

DCI-Palestine collected 98 sworn affidavits from Palestinian children aged 12 to 17 in 2013. The disturbing findings in the report are based on 40 solitary confinements documented in 2013. Children held in solitary confinement spent an average of 10 days in isolation. The longest period of confinement documented in a single case was 29 days in 2012 and 28 days in 2013.

**Ill-treatment and complaints in 40 cases of solitary confinement in 2013:** 34 out of 40 (85 percent) arrested in violent night raids by heavily armed Israeli soldiers; homes searched, members showed identification cards. Parent then told child must accompany the soldiers. 38 out of 40 (95 percent) not told the reason for arrest. Palestinian children are overwhelming accused of throwing stones, an offense that can potentially lead to a sentence of up to 20 years. The child's hands are tied with plastic cords behind his back, blindfolded and taken to an interrogation facility inside Israel.

22 out of 40 (55 percent) experienced some form of physical violence during arrest, transfer or interrogation.

And 30 out of 40 (75 percent) were subjected to verbal abuse, humiliation, intimidation during arrest, transfer, interrogation; 39 out of 40 (97.5 percent) denied legal counsel; 35 out of 40 (87.5 percent) strip searched during transfer or at detention facility.

**Isolation cell:** 6.5 x 10 feet, sleeping: on concrete bed, on floor or thin mattress, "dirty, foul smelling"; no window, dim yellow bulb constantly on; meals passed through a flap in door; cell walls gray with sharp protrusions, painful to lean against.

**Interrogations:** 31 out of 40 (77.5

percent) reported position abuse; forced to sit in a low metal chair, hands and feet cuffed to chair, for long hours; subjected to repeated, prolonged interrogations, threats, intimidation, inducement, shouting, information on family, neighbors to coerce confessions. A child transferred to a prison cell with an adult cellmate (informant), where attempts to fool or coerce child to incriminate individuals is being taped by interrogators, used against the child.

**The Report:** "The imposition of solitary confinement of any duration on juveniles is cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment and violates article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and article 16 of the Convention Against Torture." International law is clear that juveniles need and are entitled to special protections, safeguards and care due to their status as children. Report submitted to seven UN bodies.

Sources: Ali Abunimah, [www.dci-palestine.org](http://www.dci-palestine.org), [jifjp.com](http://jifjp.com)

Mary Buchwald  
[BrooklynForPeace.org](http://BrooklynForPeace.org)  
PSFC members for BDS  
[www.psfcbds.wordpress.com](http://www.psfcbds.wordpress.com)

## GLOBAL EMBRACE OF ISRAELI COMPANIES

## DEAR MEMBERS:

All Israeli companies and organizations mentioned in the following snippets employ or partner with Palestinian Arabs.

"At Google's Tel Aviv Campus over 170 entrepreneurs, and many more following the live stream, gathered to

hear from a panel of accomplished and influential serial entrepreneurs. **Between Valleys** is all about connecting entrepreneurs and startups from Israel's wadi and the Silicon Valley with different skills and fostering an environment for them to help each other," explained **Your Start App** founder Yisrael Gross. **LogoUI**, **Caanan Partners**, and **Catch Media** were only a few of the participants. (Tripolsky)

"**The Israeli film 'Zero Motivation'** on Thursday took home top accolades in the form of the Best Narrative Feature prize at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York. The film, a modestly budgeted comic take on boredom and postponed dreams among young women in the Israeli Defense Forces, also nabbed the festival's Nora Ephron Prize. 'Zero Motivation' is the debut feature-length effort for writer-director Talya Lavie." (Times of Israel)

"**Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority** on Monday inked an agreement to build a long-anticipated pipeline from the Red Sea to the Dead Sea...Representatives of the three parties to the agreement gathered at the World Bank in Washington for an official signing ceremony. A desalination plant in the Jordanian city of Aqaba...will produce drinking water. Israel is to receive around 30-50 million cubic meters, for the benefit of the port city of Eilat and communities in the arid Arava region, while Jordan will use 30 million cubic meters for its own southern areas." (Yaakov)

How has BDS at PSFC contributed to the Palestinian economy or Palestinian rights?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

## LETTERS POLICY

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

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

You may submit on paper, typed or very legibly handwritten, or via email to [GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop](mailto:GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop) or on disk.

## Anonymity

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

## Fairness

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, 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.

## CLASSIFIEDS

## BED &amp; BREAKFAST

HOUSE ON 3RD ST AT 6TH AVE  
Parlor floor thru sleeps 4 in privacy, AC, wifi, kitchenette, deck, 12' ceilings, \$170 a night for 2. Visit our site at [houseon3st.com](http://houseon3st.com) or call us, 718-788-7171. Enjoy modern comfort in true Park Slope style. Grandparents our specialty! We want to be your hosts in the Slope.

## CLASSES/GROUPS

DRUM AND HAND DRUM  
LESSONS Study drumset and

hand drums with a world class professional. Over 20 years experience in NYC and around the world. Jazz, rock, funk, hiphop, world sensibilities. References, reasonable rates. Your place or mine. If it's not fun, what's the point?! 917-769-6240.

HOUSING  
AVAILABLE

SEEKING ROOMMATE for quiet Bay Ridge apt. Private bedroom. Lots of storage. Easy commute to Manhattan. \$850 monthly includes all utilities. Please email [jbnyy224@yahoo.com](mailto:jbnyy224@yahoo.com).

SERVICES  
AVAILABLE

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

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.

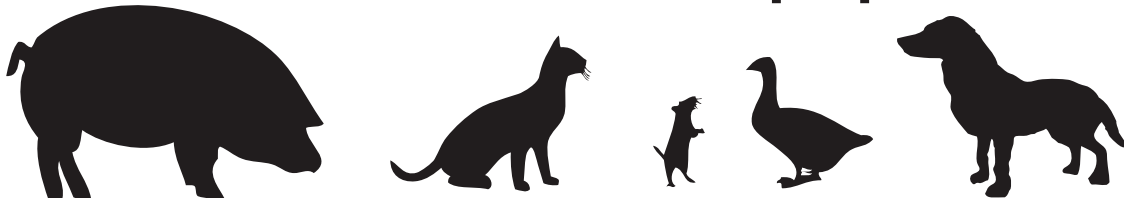
Do you or a senior you love need to move? Are you eager to get organized? Paper Moon Moves is a senior move management company helping New Yorkers to: get organized; sell, donate or discard things no longer needed; and manage moves. Call 917-374-1525 for a free consultation!

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/bungalow-shop](http://www.reynoldshills.org/bungalow-shop). Contact Mel: 347-307-4642, [melgarfinkel@yahoo.com](mailto:melgarfinkel@yahoo.com), or 347-715-3735.

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!

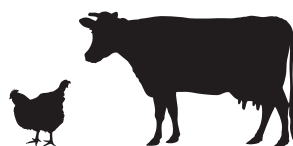
**Find us here!**

**Blog:** [www.psfcanimals.blogspot.com](http://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)

## 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.*



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.



**EXCITING WORKSLOT OPPORTUNITIES****Office Set-up****Monday-Wednesday, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

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

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

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

**Laundry and Toy Cleaning****Saturday and Sunday, 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.

**Check Store Supplies****Monday, 9 to 11:45 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.

**Office Data Entry****Saturday, 3:30 to 6:15 p.m.**

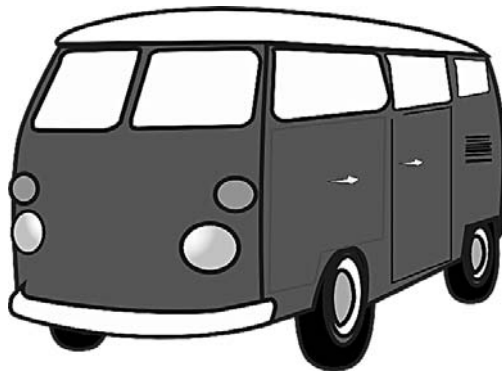
Must have been a member for at least one year with excellent attendance. Are you a stickler for details and accurate on the computer? Do you like working independently? If this sounds like you, then Office Data Entry will be your perfect shift. Please speak to Ginger Jung in the Membership Office (or put a note in her mailbox) prior to the first shift for more information and to schedule training. You must make a six-month commitment to this workslot.

**Bank Run****Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday, 11 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.

**Van/Truck Driver for GM Delivery/Pick-Up****Last Tuesday night of the month**

Member with a van or truck needed to pick up and load the team of workers and gear from the Coop at 5:30 p.m. and drop them off at the local General Meeting venue (currently M.S. 51) and help unload. Then, be on call to return to venue for pick-up and loading of workers and gear between hours of 8:45-10 p.m., and drive back to Coop. You must be dependable, with good attendance. 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.

**BROWNSTONE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES***"tech support for people"*

Mac, Windows, phones, tablets and more.....

**www.tech11215.com**

718-930-2286 • info@tech11215.com

BROOKLYN

**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.**

**Crossword Answers**

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



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

One three-year term on the Board is open. To vote you may use a proxy or attend the Food Coop Annual Meeting on June 24, 2014.

Every member will receive a proxy package in the mail in late May.

You will have the opportunity to meet the candidate at the June 24 Annual Meeting. Candidate statement follows:

### BILL PENNER



I am writing to ask for your support for reelection as one of the six members of the Board of Directors of the Coop.

I have been a member of the Board of Directors for 8 years, I also serve on the receiving committee as a squad leader. Outside of the Coop, I am an architect with my own practice in Brooklyn and before receiving my degree in architecture, I apprenticed as a chef and cooked professionally for 6 years. The Coop is an important part of my life, it is a place where I connect with my passion for food and see the significance of food and food production in our society as a cultural, environmental, and economic force of incredible importance.

Because the Coop is a corporation, it is required to have a board of directors. Our Board of Directors meets every month in public at the General Meeting. Unlike most corporations, the Coop is unusual in that it relies on a town hall style of governance for the majority of its policy decisions. At our General Meeting, any Coop member can bring an item for dis-

cussion or make a proposal to be debated and voted on by the Coop membership present. At the end of the General Meeting, the Board of Directors votes on taking the advice of the membership. This is how the Coop combines its corporate structure with its town hall style of democracy.

In my opinion, there is often confusion as to the primary role of the Board of Directors within the Coop's decision making process. I believe an important distinction is that the Board's role is one of oversight rather than one of advocacy. Each member of the Board of Directors has a responsibility to act for the benefit of the Coop as a whole not to any one constituency or group. Proposals covering many different topics are presented, debated and voted on by all members present at the General Meeting. However, when the Board of Directors votes, I base my decision to the best of my ability on three criteria: 1) Will a proposal ratified by the General Meeting jeopardize the financial health of the Coop? 2) Will the proposal expose the Coop to unnecessary legal risk? 3) Does the proposal violate the spirit of the Coop's own by-laws? Historically, it has been extremely rare that the Board of Directors votes to overturn a decision made at a General meeting. I believe that this is testament to the

strength of our democratic process and the commitment both the members and the paid staff place on contributing to that process. The current Board of Directors is a diverse group of talented and dedicated people and I am honored to work with them on behalf of all members of the Coop.

The Coop just celebrated its 40th anniversary. I see the coming years as very important to prepare and lay the groundwork for our next 40 years of cooperation. There will be management changes that need to be addressed and planned for. Further, the Coop is more diverse than ever, and it will take a concerted effort to remain responsible to our cooperative mission and our commitment to inclusiveness for all people of different cultural and economic backgrounds without succumbing to divisive politics and all or nothing viewpoints.

As I have in the past, I have ended this letter with a dedication to the late President of the Board of Directors Israel Fishman. Israel used to say that the Coop saved his life—the different viewpoints and different people all working together for a common purpose gave him the perspective and patience to see beyond himself towards what was really important. I still think of this more than ever each time I attend a General Meeting and when I shop. ■

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### BULK-PACKAGING REQUEST

#### TO EVERYONE WHO PACKAGES SPICES:

Please do NOT use the spice label to close the baggie, by taping the open edge under the label. This results in two problems: The baggie inevitably rips open when trying to remove the label (in order to open the bag) AND the label is no longer readable, making the name and date unavailable. Thanks!

Ruth Klein

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

#### BDS TOPICS CONTINUED:

As Palestinian journalist Khaled Abu Toameh says:

"In recent years there has been a significant rise in the number of non-Palestinians who describe themselves as 'pro-Palestinian' activists. In their view, inciting against Israel on a university campus or publishing 'anti-Zionist' material on the Internet is sufficient to earn them the title of 'pro-Palestinian'. It is time for the 'pro-Palestinian' camp in

the West to reconsider its policies and tactics. It is time for this camp to listen to the authentic voices of the Palestinians—those that are shouting day and night that the Palestinians want good leaders and an end to lawlessness, anarchy and financial corruption."

PSFC founding principles cannot support boycott movements that demonize and lie about one side yet do nothing for the people they claim to represent. Therefore we should codify a minimum 80% GM vote *policy* to enact official boycotts, and dispense with the unofficial 51% *suggestion*.

Meanwhile, Israel's economy marches on: "Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group's 21-page report entitled 'The Unknown Hi-Tech Venture Powerhouse of the Mideast: The Current Situation and Future Outlook for Israel's Economy' highlighted Israel being a bright spot in an otherwise troubled region, whose economy continued to grow even in the wake of the U.S. banking crisis of 2008, thanks to well-managed fiscal and monetary policies." (Kenichi Hartman)

It's time to change the conversation. Finally.

Jesse Rosenfeld

### 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](http://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!

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 four leaders in produce aisle.

