

# LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE

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Volume II, Number 21

October 16, 2014

## GM Report: Coop Shows Operating Loss, New Squad Created, Demographic Study Put Off

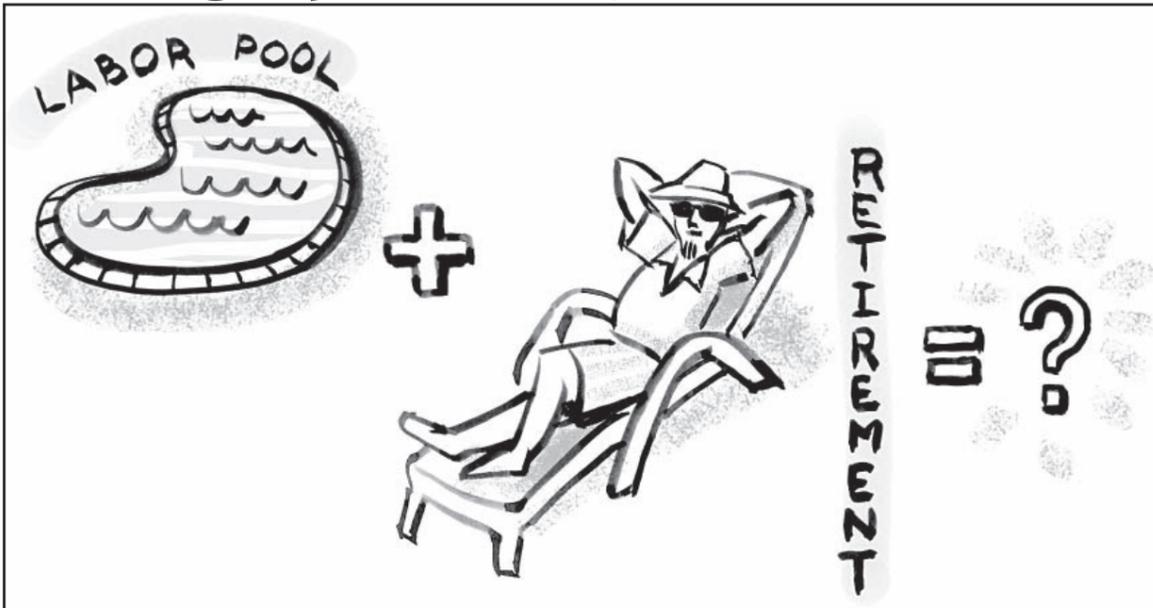


ILLUSTRATION BY DEBORAH TINT

By Thomas Matthews

The Sept. 30 General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop was largely devoted to two proposals, both of which asked the membership for permission to study topics of interest to the community. One passed overwhelmingly, the other was tabled for future consideration.

The meeting, chaired by Carl Arnold, was called to order right on time. No one offered remarks during the Open Forum, so we moved swiftly into the Coordinator and Committee Reports.

### Coordinator and Committee Reports

General Coordinator Mike Eakin presented the financial report.

Total sales were up slightly, but operating expenses had

increased more than sales (meaning we made less “profit”) with the result that the Coop showed an operating loss of \$221,551 for the 32 weeks prior to Sept. 14, as opposed to an operating profit of \$148,630 for the previous year. “We may lose a bit of money this year,” Mike acknowledged.

IT Coordinator Matt Kleiman and website redesign team member Mark Gallops presented results from the Coop’s Web site survey, which solicited member feedback on how they used the site ([www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com)) and what suggestions they had for improvements. Of our 16,000 members, just over 1,500 took the survey. Of the respondents, 64 percent were women, and the average tenure was 7.4 years, with 53 per-

cent of members with 5 years or less, and 13 percent with 15 years or more.

“Most members don’t use the Web site regularly,” Gallops reported. Eleven percent never do, and 41 percent visit the site a few times per year. Most visits are to research general information (hours, for example, or produce prices) and for issues concerning members’ shifts.

Almost 1,100 members offered suggestions on how to improve the site. The leading request was for improvements in the shift swap process (39 percent), which Gallops noted was the greatest “pain point” for members. Enabling members to check their work shift status came next at 27 percent. Apparently, the site seems most useful as a func-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## The Eden Foods Boycott: When Food, Health, Religion, and Politics Mix

By Alison Rose Levy

On August 26, 2014, the Coop General Meeting discussed the proposal to participate in a nationwide boycott of Eden Foods, a long time food producer that provides the Coop seventy products. In alliance with the June 2014 Hobby Lobby ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court, the natural food company sought to exclude its employees from health care coverage for abortion and contraception, provisions in the Affordable Care Act that don’t accord with the Eden CEO Michael Potter’s religious beliefs.

Eden Foods, a pioneering healthy foods company, in business since 1969, has long championed organic foods as well as GMO labeling. Potter is a devout Catholic who holds strong views.

Notes Bill Moyers, “At a time of unprecedented political polarization... ordinary citizens have to be aware of the politics of the companies they patronize—some of the dollars they spend will end up influencing politicians whose values may not reflect their own.

But a company’s political leanings aren’t always easy to discern. Eden Foods, for example, markets itself as a progressive company, so many health food fans were surprised to learn that it had joined Hobby Lobby.”

In response, San Francisco’s 40-year-old Other Avenues Coop has removed all Eden Foods. Seattle’s Central Coop removed 80% of Eden Foods from their shelves. Fifty-seven percent of shoppers at Madison, Wisconsin’s Willy Street stores voted to remove Eden products. North Carolina’s Weaver Market has dropped many Eden Foods. Philadelphia’s Weaver’s Way Market is still on the fence.

Even though Eden began as a coop, its attempts to control employees health care “has fallen short of our cooperative values,” writes Kirstin Moore, director of Willy Street in an open letter to Potter. “Please stop allowing personal values to get in the way of the common ground you share with your diverse array of customers and help

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### Next General Meeting on October 28

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The October General Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 28, 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

**Tue, Oct 28 • PSFC October General Meeting**  
7:00 p.m. at MS 51

**Tue, Nov 4 • Agenda Committee Meeting** 8:00 p.m.

**Thu, Nov 6 • Food Class: The Secrets of Healthy Indian Cooking** 7:30 p.m.

**Fri, Nov 7 • Film Night: Hit & Stay** 7:00 p.m.

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

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# GM Report

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tional tool to help members navigate shifts and shopping; using it to build a digital community or engage with wider issues outside the store drew little support.

The next step, Gallops said, is to convene focus groups of members and staff to discuss, elaborate and refine the survey results and consider possible next steps. For updates and further information, check the blog posts published on [new.foodcoop.com](http://new.foodcoop.com).

## Agenda Items

The Hearing Officers Committee is one of the few Coop

committees whose members must be approved by a vote of the General Meeting, because of its involvement in disciplinary issues. Its role is to follow up on investigations by the Disciplinary Committee to determine if a Coop rule has been violated and, if so, what penalty to impose.

Monique Bowen, who has been a Coop member for 12 years, is a member of the Board of Directors, and is currently serving her third term on the Hearing Committee. She stood unopposed for reelection. The results were 179 in favor, 3 opposed and 4 abstentions.

General Coordinator Joe Holtz proposed that the Gen-

eral Meeting scheduled for Dec. 30, 2014, be cancelled. He explained this was due to calendar quirks and is not unprecedented. The Chair noted that December meetings have generally drawn low attendance. The vote in favor was overwhelming.

## Research on International Trade Agreements: Yes

Susan Metz, a longtime member, proposed that a new committee be formed called the International Trade Education Squad, and that seven members be granted work-slot credit to work with it.

"We've been doing this work voluntarily for more than a year," Susan explained. "It is fair for us to get credit for the work we do because we as a community benefit from the effort."

This proposal was discussed at the July GM, and many of the same issues were rehashed before the vote. Though allotted 30 minutes, this agenda item consumed just over an hour of the meeting.

Supporters largely agreed with Susan on two main assertions. The trade agreements, between the U.S. and other nations, are opaque and highly likely to have a negative impact on food policies supported by the Coop, thus justifying the need for research to decide whether "individual or collective action" may be called for. In addition, the Coop's Mission Statement is broad enough to encompass research like this and compensate it with work slot credit.

Opponents countered that the issue is tangential to the Coop's primary focus, and potentially divisive. "I'm uncomfortable with assertions about 'our values,'" Coop member Anita said. "My values may be different. I joined for good food at low prices. I feel this proposal goes beyond the Mission Statement."

General Coordinator Joe Holtz voiced support for both education and activism, on this issue and in general, but asked, "Why can't activists be activists without work slot credit?"

A show of hands appeared to show the proposal had passed, but, to be sure, a count of raised hands was taken. The vote was announced as 110 in favor, 54 opposed.

## Research on Coop Demographics: Not Yet

David Laibman presented a proposal to study member characteristics pertinent to the Coop's retirement policy.



ILLUSTRATION BY DEBORAH TINT

He asked the General Meeting to authorize a survey that would gather information on members' current ages, and their years of service, in order to understand the potential impact on the labor pool of the current retirement policy, and whether change might be beneficial.

The current retirement policy, as detailed in the Membership Handbook, offers two options, approved by different General Meetings. Members who have completed 20 years of service may retire at 65 years of age; members who have completed 30 years of service may retire at 60. (Retirement is never mandatory.)

"Nobody knows what the effects of the existing policy will be over the next two to ten years," Laibman said. "This is a proposal for a study. Nothing is on the table regarding the policy or changing the policy."

The issue is clearly sensitive. Discussion of Laibman's idea during the April GM was contentious. It generated numerous letters to the *Gazette*, a follow-up article by a *Gazette* reporter, and a Member Submission by Laibman.

Opposition seems to be founded on three points. First, there's a sense that Laibman's ultimate goal is to ease retirement rules (he joined the Coop in 2009, when he was 66 years old), possibly exacerbating an already troublesome shortage of workers to run the store. Second, the belief

that "if you can shop, you can work" seems widespread, expressed as a matter of fairness and justice. Finally, there is suspicion of a survey that might be considered an intrusion on members' privacy.

Laibman attempted to respond to these criticisms by recusing himself from the actual survey, offering to amend the language of his proposal and insisting that he was asking for information, not any particular policy change.

At 9:31 (by this reporter's watch), the Chair cut off discussion, even though only 20 minutes of the allotted 30 had been used. There was then some confusion as to whether a vote was in order. The Chair asked for a motion to extend the meeting by 15 minutes; it was defeated. A motion was made to table the vote; it passed. "This proposal will go back to the agenda committee for further review," noted the Chair.

## Unwrapped-Up

The Board of Directors approved all the GM's decisions, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:38. Even though, technically, seven minutes remained on the meeting schedule, no Wrap-Up session was held. This generally encompasses the mundane business of ride-shares, but also the rarely used, but potentially productive, opportunity to reflect on the conduct of the meeting. ■

# Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
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53	54	55		56		57	58					
59			60				61			62	63	64
65							66			67		
68							69			70		

- Across**
- Good name for an investment advisor?
  - Flavor-enhancing additive
  - Kind of priest
  - Snoopy, to Charlie
  - Capt.'s guess
  - Capital of Sicily
  - One of the Titans
  - Deceiving
  - Creations in Word, for short
  - Pained cries
  - Seemingly forever
  - One way for people to be out
  - Yellowfin tuna, on menus
  - Napoleonic law
  - Shakespeare character played by Ralph Fiennes in a 2011 film
  - Wife of Augustus
  - Sitcom planet
  - Paisley or Pitt
  - Midmonth date
  - God for whom a month is named
  - Rain gutter site
  - Radio host Boortz
  - Ocean State sch.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Edibles (food shop on "The Facts of Life")
  - Ursus \_\_\_\_\_ (black bear)
  - Sturm \_\_\_\_\_ Drang
  - Jiffy
  - With class
  - Zookeeper's main squeeze?
  - Two-time loser to DDE
  - Fargo's home: Abbr.
  - Passed effortlessly
  - What some vaccinations prevent
  - Country singer Blake
  - Own, to Burns
  - Carpenter \_\_\_\_\_
  - Get the better of
  - Radical org. of the '60s
  - "Holy cow!"
- Down**
- 2012 Facebook event, in brief
  - DVR button
  - Took off the table?
  - One of the Islas Baleares
  - Plaster finish
  - Knee-slapper
  - Crosses dangerously
  - "24" actress Cuthbert
  - Pres. Obama, once
  - Prod
  - "If \_\_\_\_\_ believe ..."
  - Bugs, e.g.
  - West Bank grp.
  - Hubbub
  - Run-D.M.C.'s "You Be \_\_\_\_\_"
  - "Haven't a clue"
  - Early morning hr.
  - Not up
  - Ancient land SE of Lesbos
  - Sch. named for an evangelist
  - Giggle-producing celestial name ... even though it ends just as many other words do, including 16-, 28-, 39-, 45- and 61-Across
  - Idiot \_\_\_\_\_
  - Key chain?
  - Since: Sp.
  - Part of a kid's lunch from home
  - Path of a pop-up
  - Ritzy residences
  - Lecture, in a way
  - Last innings
  - Like Dracula
  - Rap sheet abbr.
  - Don Juan's kiss
  - Obama's birthplace
  - "I'd hate to break up \_\_\_\_\_"
  - Roget entry: Abbr.
  - Dobby, e.g., in the Harry Potter books
  - Catch
  - Colorful card game
  - Hog's home

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

## Eden Foods

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

us return our focus to the high quality of your food."

Based on the discussion at the August 26 GM, many Coop members agree. But how to bring this message through to a vote? To decide whether or not to boycott Eden, members must request the Agenda Committee to schedule a vote at an upcoming General Meeting. So far no such vote has been scheduled.

### What is the Hobby Lobby Decision?

In June 2014, in a narrow majority, the U.S. Supreme Court gave the retail chain, Hobby Lobby "the right to exempt themselves from certain provisions of the Affordable Care Act... Hobby Lobby, a closely held corporation, a secular, for-profit business...

gious beliefs and are free to do so.

### Implications

This country was founded by those seeking religious freedom. Most Americans still agree that everyone retains the right to practice their religion. The two principles concerning religion foundational to the legal structure of the U.S. republic remain core rights to this day:

1. The First Amendment of the Constitution (part of the Bill of Rights) grants all people the freedom to practice their religion.

2. The First Amendment also encodes the separation of church and state, which, as Founding Father Thomas Jefferson stated, means, "building a wall of separation of church and state."

The freedom to practice a religion means that believers

tal consent, that action would not grant his Baha'i employer the right to withhold vacation leave for the honeymoon. Why? Because U.S. law supersedes religious law. In order to guarantee each individual's freedom of religion, we must also assure that people are not forced to follow the tenets of another's religion.

Since the Baha'i are a religious minority, they have slight power to impose their beliefs. But the laws of the land apply to everyone. The separation of church and state was designed for all religions, major and minor.

Here's another example: In Christian Science, disease is believed to be a mental error rather than physical disorder. The sick should be treated, not by medicine, but by a form of prayer that seeks to correct the beliefs responsible for the illusion of ill health.

Due to this belief, if someone sought to impose medical treatment on a practitioner of Christian Science, that would violate that person's rights to practice their religion. But what if your employer were a Christian Scientist, who sought to deny your health insurance coverage based on his beliefs?

If your employer were a Scientologist (a religion which deplores psychiatry and psychotherapy) would she have the right to deny you insurance-covered psychotherapy or reimbursement for anti-depressant medications prescribed by your doctor?

Today, some employers tell their employees how to vote in public elections, as Gordon Lafer, Associate Professor at the University of Oregon details in a recent article. The Founders of the Constitution "were particularly concerned that employees might be subject to the undue influence of those who controlled their economic fate." As Alexander Hamilton warned, "In the main, power over a man's support is power over his will."

Prior to the Hobby Lobby decision, the law did not permit employers to intercede in their employees' medical care. Nor could employers determine employees' investments in a 401K. Nor prescribe what people eat or drink, based upon the boss's religious beliefs. (Some religions proscribe certain foods.)

But the new ruling may change things. Following the Hobby Lobby decision, in a dissenting opinion, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg called it "a decision of startling breadth."

Judge Alito, writing for the majority, countered, "Our holding

is very specific. We do not hold that...commercial enterprises can 'opt out of any law...they judge incompatible with their sincerely held religious beliefs."

Few people foresaw the far-reaching impact of the Supreme Court's Citizens United decision that granted personhood to corporations. "The Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, a conservative public-interest legal group, is dedicating itself to expanding

the reach of the Hobby Lobby decision," Toobin reports.

Ginsburg, he says, "was right: the decision is opening the door for the religiously observant to claim privileges, that are not available to anyone else."

Sadly, for those of us who would prefer to keep politics away from our health care, food, and democracy, fundamental changes in U.S. law are political. ■

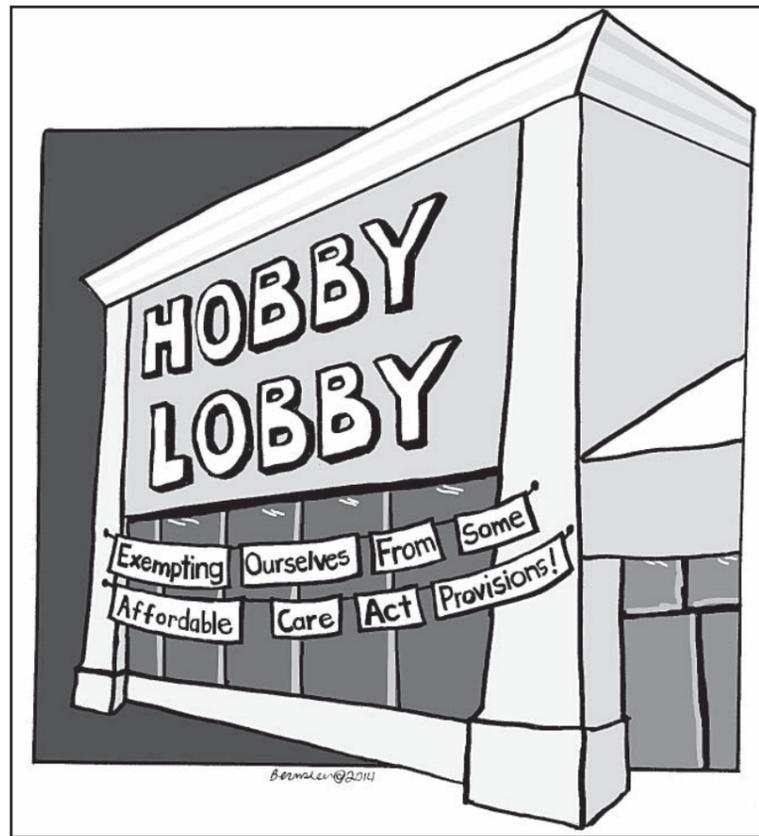


ILLUSTRATION BY LYNN BERNSTEIN

could deny employer-paid insurance coverage" for contraception and abortion services, explains Jeffrey Toobin in the October 2014 *New Yorker*.

The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists has gone on record stating that birth control is essential health care because it allows "women to time and space their pregnancies, it reduces fetal, infant, and maternal morbidity and mortality. Contraception prevents unintended pregnancies, thereby reducing the need for abortion as well as preventing a potential worsening of preexisting health conditions, such as diabetes or heart disease."

By medical definition, these services are health care. Some may prefer to opt out of such treatments, due to their reli-

are free to go to their church, synagogue, mosque, temple, or Wicca ceremony, and worship accordingly. Non-believers are similarly free not to believe or worship.

The separation of church and state imparts a clear distinction between the rights of individuals on matters of religion that affect themselves alone, and the laws governing everyone.

That is why, prior to Hobby Lobby, employers were not permitted by law to impose their religious beliefs. For example, in the Baha'i religion, people wishing to marry must first obtain parental consent.

Despite his own beliefs, a Baha'i employer may not impose that requirement on his employees. If a newly wed employee fails to obtain paren-

Attention  
children's  
book  
writers and  
illustrators!

The Food Coop's Fun Committee is considering a future children's book fair event and wants to find a pool of children's book writers and illustrators who might be interested in participation.

If you are and are interested, please contact Tasha Paley at [tashapal@gmail.com](mailto:tashapal@gmail.com)



**VALET BIKE PARKING  
IS HERE ON  
SATURDAYS &  
SUNDAYS!**

*strollers & scooters  
& carts too!*



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

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

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

No locks, no worries, no theft.

Service operates rain or shine.

Look for us in front of the yellow wall.

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

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



**PSFC  
Shop & Cycle  
Committee**

# A New Co-op Organizing Effort Is Taking Root in Central Brooklyn

By Frank Haberle

Taking a hands-on approach to address health equity issues, longtime residents of the Central Brooklyn neighborhoods are coming together to develop a new food cooperative with an aim to make fresh, healthy food more accessible and affordable for longtime community residents of Central Brooklyn. Local residents of these communities now have the opportunity to express their ideas and interest in the new co-op through an on-line community survey, available now through mid-November 2014.

Currently in the planning and development phase, the Central Brooklyn Food Co-op, projected to open its doors in 2016, is taking shape through the vision and input of a food co-op coordinating committee composed of local, community-based activists. The food co-op was originally organized and incubated by the Brooklyn Movement Center (a community organizing group based in Bedford-Stuyvesant and Crown Heights), and is also supported by North East Brooklyn Housing Development Corporation and other community based organizations. Over the past 15 months, the food co-op coordinating committee has been operating through three committees and has conducted an outreach campaign and accessed technical assistance from existing Brooklyn co-ops, including the Park Slope Food Coop, to explore and understand different co-op business and financial models. The Central Brooklyn Food Co-op launched its community survey this past summer with a two-fold purpose: 1) to identify shopping patterns and food buying preferences among Central Brooklyn community members, and 2) to conduct outreach in the community that raises awareness for the Central Brooklyn Food Co-op project. The Central Brooklyn Food Co-op is inviting Bed-Stuy and Crown Heights residents to take part in the survey online before mid-November 2014.

Bedford-Stuyvesant and Crown Heights have seen significant gentrification in the past decade, but they are still home to a majority of lower-to-moderate-income communities and communities of color who have lived in these neighborhoods for generations. According to the most recent census data, the median income of Bedford-Stuyvesant households is \$34,735, versus a citywide average of \$51,865. Neighboring Crown Heights has a median household income of \$37,687. The Central Brooklyn Food Co-op's business and planning committee has found through research that fresh and affordable food options are few and far between in Central Brooklyn neighborhoods.

The bigger grocery stores rarely offer fresh vegetables or organic products, focusing on cheaper, unhealthy foods. The few "green and healthy markets" that have popped up in Bed-Stuy and Crown Heights offer specialty "gourmet" organic products and health foods, but at very high prices.

## By the People, For the People—Food Sovereignty

The issue of food sovereignty—meaning that com-



PHOTO BY BMC

**Harvir Kaur is part of the movement to start a food coop serving Bedford-Stuyvesant and Crown Heights.**

munity members take charge of their food supply and build a more just food system by bringing healthier, affordable food options into the neighborhoods—has gained traction in Central Brooklyn. The Brooklyn Movement Center's community organizing efforts are led by Mark Winston-Griffith, a longtime resident of Crown Heights, along with a range of community members. The Brooklyn Movement Center brings residents of Bed-Stuy and Crown



PHOTO BY VERALYN WILLIAMS

**Mark Winston Griffith, community activist.**

Heights together to identify issues of importance to them, to build power and to improve conditions in their community. Food Sovereignty is one priority issue area of BMC. In addition to incubating the development of the new Central Brooklyn Food Co-op, the Brooklyn Movement Center provides an online food justice tool kit where residents can identify green spaces, community gardens, community-supported agriculture programs and other resources in Central Brooklyn, while also providing opportunities for residents to take action on food sovereignty issues.

The co-op organizing project is being coordinated by the BMC's Food Sovereignty Organizer Harvir Kaur, who joined the organization in March 2013. "Food sovereignty issues are ingrained in DNA," says Harvir. "Food is who I am, and it is how I grew up." Harvir was excited to take on an internship opportunity with BMC to help lead the food co-op organizing effort.

## A Step-by-Step Process

The development of the Central Brooklyn Food Co-op began over a year ago, when the Brooklyn Movement Center reached out to local co-ops, including the Park Slope Food Coop, for information. "When we hosted our first community meeting, the Park Slope Food Coop gave us a great start, doing a mailing to inform its 1,000 members who live in our community districts of our plans to start a food co-op organizing effort for Central Brooklyn and invite them to the meeting," reports Harvir. Forty Central Brooklyn community

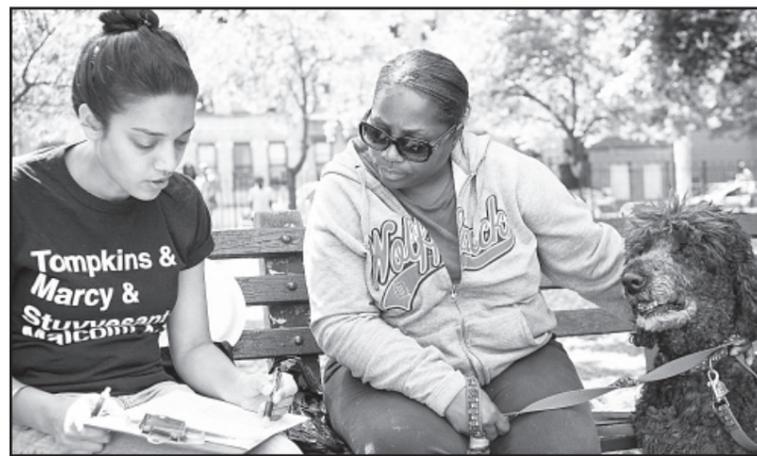


PHOTO BY MURRAY COX

**Harvir Kaur discussing the proposed Central Brooklyn Food Co-op with an interested member of the community.**

members joined their neighbors at the first meeting organized through a "Grub Party," which are potluck gatherings where the Brooklyn Movement Center engages residents of Central Brooklyn in conversations around inequities that exist within the food system and possible solution in addressing those inequities.

With a commitment to finding a business model that meets the community's needs and its vision of economic and racial justice, the Central Brooklyn Food Co-op held a food co-op business models teach-in session in March 2014. "We held a teach-in around the different food co-op business models for our food co-op coordinating committee members to engage in a conversation with folks from Bushwick, Greene Hill, and Park Slope Food Coops around their different food co-op business models and the advantages and challenges of their different co-op models," Harvir says.

The pieces for the Central Brooklyn Food Co-op are now coming together. The business model is now in development. While a mission statement and core value statement are now being finalized, a location for the new coop has yet to be determined but will be somewhere in Bed-Stuy or northern Crown Heights. The Central Brooklyn Food Co-op's outreach and membership committee developed a strong plan for community engagement in June 2014 and have been hitting the pavement since then, engaging with their neighbors about the food co-op initiative through the community survey.

The current survey, conducted on the street over the past three months, has recently been launched on-line. "This summer, we began with street surveys to collect information and build our base," Harvir continues. "We've held community survey training sessions throughout the summer in order to train interested folks from our community who were interested in being part of the

outreach campaign in how to conduct the community survey and how to communicate about our organizing effort to our community members. We have conducted outreach in more than 20 locations—in front of food pantries, supermarkets and at transportation hubs and have collected over 200 surveys on the street."

With the survey now on-line, the Central Brooklyn Food Co-op has already collected another 100 surveys. "Our goal is 500 surveys," says Harvir. "We're going to wrap-up our survey street outreach effort by the end of October, and hope to hit our goal of 500 surveys with our on-line survey by mid-November. But our outreach campaign will continue as we continue to develop the Central Brooklyn Food Co-op and beyond." ■

*If you are a resident of Central Brooklyn, would like to have a say in shaping the new Central Brooklyn Food Co-op, please participate in the survey by November 15: It can be accessed on-line here: [www.nyu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_cBYa7sIN-3juzt0pd](http://www.nyu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_cBYa7sIN-3juzt0pd).*

*To learn more about the Brooklyn Movement Center and get directly involved in its Food Co-op Coordinating Committee please contact Harvir Kaur at [hkaur@brooklynmovement-center.org](mailto:hkaur@brooklynmovement-center.org) or (718) 771-7000.*

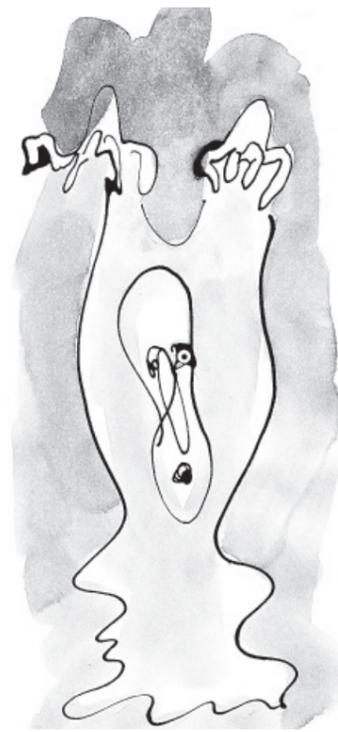


ILLUSTRATION BY ETHAN PETTIT

SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

# Fracking, Food and Climate Change

By Tom Angotti

The incredible turnout of food justice activists at the historic People's Climate March on September 21, 2014 was uplifting and unprecedented. Among the nearly 400,000 marchers, the food justice contingent was large and loud. Banners and chants communicated awareness that the potential for catastrophic climate change threatens access to safe food, especially for those who have fewer resources and alternatives.

Also prominent throughout the march were many groups and activists calling for a ban on fracking. But what is fracking and what does it have to do with climate change and food justice? The Park Slope Food Coop has joined a growing movement in the state and around the nation to ban fracking. What does it have to do with us?

## Fracking and Climate Change

Fracking stands for hydraulic fracturing, a technique for extracting natural gas from deep underground pockets, generally in areas with loose shale formations. Companies that use fracking dig straight down and horizontally, using large amounts of water under high pressure—that's why it's called hydraulic fracturing—to loosen the layers of rock.

The water is often mixed with a chemical cocktail that expedites the process.

Natural gas is touted as the "clean fossil fuel" and a real alternative to the nation's dependence on petroleum. However, natural gas is still a major and growing source of greenhouse gas emissions. Its expanded use will help forestall efforts to make structural changes in an economy that is hooked on the burning of fossil fuels. Fracking is producing a new set of environmental and public health risks. It has contaminated and drawn down underground aquifers used for drinking water and irrigation. Fracking can release volatile organic compounds that increase ground-level ozone levels, which endanger human health and reduce the production of farm crops.

Fortunately for us, there is now no fracking in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut (though Pennsylvania has plenty of it). While our sister states in the metropolitan region have few natural gas deposits, New York State could potentially become a haven for gas drilling. Corporations have already signed leases with many upstate property owners. The only thing that holds them back now is a statewide moratorium on fracking, which could be lifted if the governor

determines that there will be no significant negative environmental impacts (as claimed by the fossil fuel industry). The state Health Department is currently reviewing this and has not yet made a recommendation. After this November's gubernatorial election, the Governor may very well act. Yet another danger is the virtually uncontrolled increase in gas pipelines throughout the region, such as the Rockaway pipeline and the high-pressure Spectra pipeline from New Jersey to New York City. These bring other risks to public health and safety.

## Fracking and Food Safety

The New York moratorium on fracking would not have been possible without the extensive organizing by environmental and consumer groups. Our Food Coop has supported the moratorium and opposed fracking.

In the May 6, 2010, issue of the *Linewaiters' Gazette* an article by Ed Levy, "Gas Drilling Update," identified the issues with fracking. At the May 25, 2010, General Meeting, the PSFC Environmental Committee proposed that the Coop support the statewide ban on fracking. It was approved by an overwhelming majority. On June 21, 2012 General Coordinator Joe Holtz submitted an Amicus Brief in two court cases, *Anschutz v. Town of Dryden* and *Cooperstown Holstein Corp. v. Town of Middlefield*. These cases challenged fracking bans by local governments in upstate New York. The court upheld the right of the municipalities to ban fracking

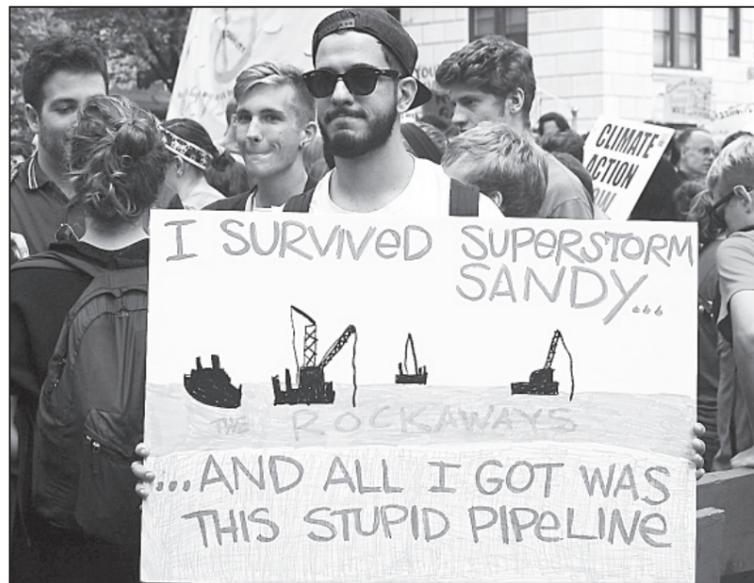


PHOTO BY TOM ANGOTTI

The PSFC is a long-time supporter of the Pride of New York program to promote fresh, local food. Fracking places the safety of this supply at risk.

ing through local ordinances.

In a recent communication, Holtz said that during the last fiscal year the Coop spent \$9.6 million on produce, of which about 30% is locally grown, and "far more than half of the local total was from New York State." Why is this? In his brief, Holtz said that members prefer local produce, and buying local also promotes long-term food security. The PSFC is a long-time supporter of the

Pride of New York program to promote fresh, local food. Fracking places the safety of this supply at risk.

The Food Coop has joined Food Not Fracking ([www.foodnotfracking.org](http://www.foodnotfracking.org)) and many organizations are part of the New Yorkers Against Fracking Coalition ([www.nyagainstfracking.org](http://www.nyagainstfracking.org)). You can help to permanently ban fracking, keep our food safe and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. ■

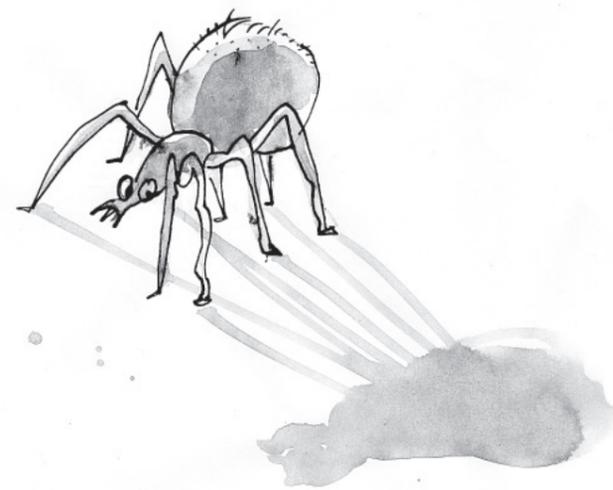


ILLUSTRATION BY ETHAN PETTIT

**FOOD MATTERS**  
A free series sponsored by Prospect Farm and Brooklyn Commune

**FOOD COOPERATIVES:  
HEALTHY FOOD AND COMMUNITY**

**JOE HOLTZ, Park Slope Food Coop**  
**D.K. HOLLAND, Green Hill Coop, Ft. Greene**  
**JACK O'CONNELL, Windsor Terrace Food Coop**  
**TOM ANGOTTI, Prospect Farm, Moderator**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 6:30 PM**  
**Brooklyn Commune**

601 Greenwood Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11218 (Corner of Prospect Ave. Ft. Hamilton Pkwy stop on the F/G)

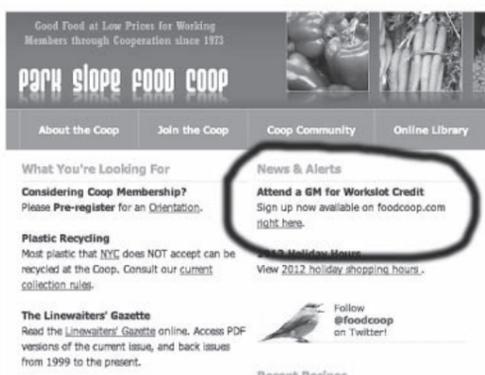




Prospect Farm: 1194 Prospect Avenue, Windsor Terrace  
[www.facebook.com/ProspectFarmBK](http://www.facebook.com/ProspectFarmBK) [www.prospectfarm.org](http://www.prospectfarm.org)



**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

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community calendar listings are free. Please submit your event listing in 50 words or less to [GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop](mailto:GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop).

Submission deadlines are the same as for classified ads. Please refer to the Coop Calendar in the center of this issue.

### THU, OCT 16

7 p.m. Book Launch: *Brooklyn Spirits* by Peter Fornatale & Chris Wertz with Bridget Firtle & Steve DeAngelo. *Brooklyn Spirits: Craft Cocktails and Stories from the World's Hippest Borough*, is the first distillery-to-glass cocktail book. At The powerHouse Arena, 37 Main st. Bklyn. For info call 718-666-3049. Rsvp: Rsvp@powerhousearena.com.

### SAT, OCT 18

8 p.m. Peoples' Voice Cafe: Young Political Songwriters Night: Alexandra Bradbury; Ben

Grosscup; Emma Graves. At the Community Church of NY Unitarian Universalist, 40 E. 35 St. For info call 212-787-3903 or see [www.peoplesvoicecafe.org](http://www.peoplesvoicecafe.org). Suggested donation \$18, member \$10.

### WED, OCT 22

7 p.m. Book Launch: *At Home in the Whole Food Kitchen* by Amy Chaplin who joins us for her sophisticated vegetarian cookbook release. At the powerHouse Arena, 37 Main St. Bklyn. For info call 718-666-3049. Rsvp: Rsvp@powerhousearena.com.

### SUN, NOV 9

7:30 p.m. Beginner Swing Dance class with Arturo, most Wednesdays. Introduction to dancing fundamentals. No partners necessary. At the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture. For more info: [www.dancingturo.com](http://www.dancingturo.com) or 917-292-1404.

4 p.m. BPL Chamber Players present: Randall Scarlatta, baritone Benjamin Hochman, piano. F. Schubert: Die Schoene Muelerin at the Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Center for Contemporary Culture Central Library, 10 Grand Army Plaza, Bklyn. Admission free.

# FOLLOW!

the Food Coop on

twitter & Instagram  
&  
Pinterest @foodcoop



ILLUSTRATIONS BY ETHAN PETTIT

## 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 Fl., New York, NY 10018

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



## The Park Slope Food Coop is looking for a Font Server Administrator

who will administer Universal Type Server 4 for Macintosh. This is a workslot, not a paid position. We have seven workstations using UTS, and we are also using Adobe CC and Quark 8. Currently workstations are using OS 10.7.5, but we have plans to update shortly to OS 10.8. Updating, maintenance and testing of UTS to work with current versions of OS plus

Adobe CC and Quark 8 are required. The Coop currently uses the UTS extensis font server to produce a bi-weekly newsletter and internal documents. Hours are as needed, for FTOP credit.

Contact: [ann\\_herpel@psfc.coop](mailto:ann_herpel@psfc.coop).



## CALLING EXPERIENCED INDEXERS!

Help the Archives Committee create a subject index of the notes that have been taken at every General Meeting from 1976 to the present. From administrative decisions to committee reports to product sale debates, these GM notes need an index to make one of the Coop's most important primary sources more accessible.

This is a temporary project and can be done for FTOP or make-up credit. If you're interested, please e-mail [archivecommittee@psfc.coop](mailto:archivecommittee@psfc.coop) by November 1 and tell us about your interest and skills in indexing, as well as how long you've been a Coop member.



## MEMBER SUBMISSION

## The Gubernatorial Election: Fake and Real Choices

By David Barouh

The approaching gubernatorial election will play a crucial role in the state's direction, for better or worse. Yet the American two-party "tradition" and its media coverage severely curtail political options. Major media usually ignore or ridicule the existence of alternative political philosophies, fostering among voters capitulation and disinterest. "Voting the bums out" becomes impossible, and citizens lose their leverage.

Coop committees work on issues crucial to the Coop—and the state's burgeoning agriculture—such as GMO labeling, fracking, and food justice. A Coop letter to the governor stated it would *reconsider* its strong patronage of that agriculture were fracking endorsed. But exclusively Democratic/Republican administrations don't readily tolerate directions that undermine corporate interests—and corporate funding.

Alternative candidates exist, however, having fought their way onto ballots, often overcoming intentionally labyrinthine legal obstacles. Here's a brief survey of the ballot-qualified gubernatorial candidates, two "traditional" (read: "corporate") and three alternatives:

*The Corporate Parties: Andrew Cuomo, Rob Astorino*

Democrat Cuomo has continued a *moratorium* on fracking introduced by predecessor David Paterson pending more "study"—now five years and running. Fully aware of the protest tsunami he'd unleash by endorsing fracking, he has delayed a decision, apparently waiting until this election concludes and his presidential possibilities become clearer. Republican Astorino endorses fracking.

Cuomo has avoided discussing GMO labeling. Astorino endorses it. Cuomo's agricultural initiatives appear more fully formed than Astorino's. Both involve grants, tax incentives, and the like. Both have avoided commenting on the rights of farm-workers.

Both have avoided free trade issues. But their parties' leaders have consistently undermined labeling and food justice, and endorsed authoritarian

trade deals. Both candidates would lower corporate taxes.

Cuomo displayed malfeasance when he disbanded his Moreland Commission on Corruption after it began investigating his own administration.

*The Green Party: Howie Hawkins*

Anti-war, community-justice, environmental, and labor activist since 1967, when he was 15, Hawkins founded anti-apartheid divestment and anti-nuclear alliances, and a workers' cooperative specializing in energy efficiency, solar and wind installation. He unloads trucks at UPS, is an active Teamsters Union member, board secretary of Eat to Live Food Cooperative, and published author.

Active in electoral politics, always supporting alternatives to corporate-funded candidates, he co-founded the US Green Party in 1984. He's campaigned for numerous federal, state, and local offices. His strong showing in the 2010 gubernatorial election secured the Green Party's ballot status for the first time in 14 years.

The centerpiece of the party's platform is the Green New Deal, based on FDR's Great Depression namesake

legislation—mostly abandoned by today's Democrats. It calls for extensive public employment to build 100% green-energy infrastructure by 2030, single-payer public healthcare, fully funded public education, including free tuition for CUNY and SUNY, a \$15/hr minimum wage indexed to productivity, and progressive taxes and budgets, including restoration of the now-rebated stock transfer tax.

The party's detailed Sustainable Agriculture and Food Justice segment includes a statewide fracking *ban*, GMO labeling and statewide GMO *moratorium*, transition to organic agriculture, re-legalization of hemp growing and research, and a farmworker bill of rights.

The party's platform can be perused at [www.HowieHawkins.org](http://www.HowieHawkins.org). Oh, and the Greens accept no corporate funding!

*The Libertarian Party: Michael McDermott*

A Long Island real estate broker and developer, McDermott served on the Hauppauge School Board and stood for Congress in 2012. There's no comment about fracking, GMO labeling, or food-justice issues on his website, but the party's

national website generally opposes government regulations, advising a "no" vote on California's GMO-labeling referendum.

The Libertarian platform favors free-market trade solutions. In general, it advocates individual liberty except for interference with others' rights by force or fraud. Government's role is to protect life, liberty, and property, not interfere with the voluntary and contractual relations of individuals, or with individuals' choices, including speech, religion marriage, recreational activities, and abortion choices.

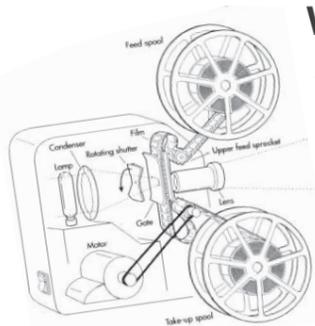
This party, like the Greens has consistently stood its own candidates rather than cross-endorsing Democrat or Republicans to win ballot status. Having yet to achieve the required 50,000 votes Libertarians have admirably petitioned their way onto the ballot every four years since 1974. Read their platform at [www.ny.lp.org](http://www.ny.lp.org).

*The Sapient Party: Steve Cohn*  
Described as an attor

ney and Tea Party activist, Cohn's further details are oddly absent. The party's principles are: integrity, flat tax, immigration reform, energy independence, term limits, "America's right to defend its values," "foreign aid with American supervision," job creation and economic growth. The website doesn't elaborate on these points and lacks further internet presence. It seems, unfortunately, not ready for prime time. [www.sapientparty.com](http://www.sapientparty.com). ■



## 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).**

# FANTASTIC FOOD DRIVE!

The Park Slope Food Coop recently collected an unprecedented 63 boxes of food drive donations for the CHIPS Soup Kitchen, 200 Fourth Ave. This is impressive, fantastic, and much higher than our typical collections. Thank you to all members who donated. The Food Coop's contributions do make a difference.

See [chipsonline.org](http://chipsonline.org) for information on how to make financial donations to CHIPS.

Since 1971, CHIPS has relied on the generosity of individuals like you to provide 103,000 nutritious breakfasts and lunches every year, to shelter and counsel young mothers and their infant and toddler children. CHIPS is a non-profit, tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions are tax-deductible and directly support the Soup Kitchen and the shelter for young mothers and their children.

  
**CHIPS**  
FOOD, FRIENDSHIP AND HOPE SINCE 1971

**COOP HOURS**

**Office Hours:**

Monday through Thursday  
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Shopping Hours:**

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

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

**Childcare Hours:**

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

**Telephone:**

718-622-0560

**Web address:**

www.foodcoop.com

**LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE**

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

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

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

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Friday, November 21, 8:00 p.m.**

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



**PROSPECT CONCERTS**



Come join **Barry Bryson**, bandleader and trumpeter of the Swing Street Orchestra, and fabulous Coop jazz musicians for a night of big-band swing-dance music.



- Barry Bryson**—Trumpet/Leader
- Emily Asher**—Trombone
- Lisa Parrott**—Alto Sax
- Jenny Hill**—Tenor Sax
- Cynthia Hilts**—Piano
- Alexis Cuadrado**—Bass
- Rob Garcia**—Drums
- Tom Beckham**—Vibraphone
- Dave Phelps**—Guitar
- Marje Wagner**—Vocal



There will also be free dance lessons with professional dance instructor **Arturo Perez**, who will be partnered by **Carolynn Murphy**.

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

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

**RETURN POLICY**



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

**REQUIRED FOR ANY RETURN**

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

**CAN I EXCHANGE MY ITEM?**

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

**CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?**

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

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- Editor (production): Regina Mahone
- Puzzle Master: David Levinson Wilk
- Final Proofreader: Nancy Rosenberg
- Index: Len Neufeld
- Advertisement: Eric Bishop

**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.

Miranda Alquist	Eleanor Crockett	Darnelle Kjoller	Ute Saibou	Georgia Vendryes-
Chloe Asselin	Yayah Donatien	Jordan Lord	Rashada F. Samuels	Weathers
Dana Behnke	Benin Ford	Christian Maychack	Rochelle Samuels	Phillip Viens
Nicola Chemotti	Robert Halas	Kevin McLeod	Bridget Scallen	Megan Wade
Joseph Coish	Jessica Haselkorn	Renee Millington	Benjamin Smyser	Gabrielle Winkler
Tami Colbath	Daniel Herr	Mark Osmond	Kelsey Tanner	Katharine Winkler
Pat Cooke	Jeremy Kamps	Hannah Ronson		

**COOP CALENDAR****New Member Orientations**

Attending an Orientation is the first step toward Coop membership. Pre-registration is required for all of the three weekly New Member Orientations.

To pre-register, visit [foodcoop.com](http://foodcoop.com) or contact the Membership Office. Visit in person or call 718-622-0560 during office hours.

Have questions about Orientation? Please visit [www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com) and look at the "Join the Coop" page for answers to frequently asked questions.

**The Coop on the Internet**

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

**The Coop on Cable TV**

*Inside the Park Slope Food Coop*

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

**General Meeting Info**

**Tue, OCTOBER 28**

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

**TUE, NOVEMBER 4**

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the November 18 General Meeting.

**Gazette Deadlines****Letters & Voluntary Articles:**

Oct. 30 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, October 20  
Nov. 13 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, November 3

**CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:**

Oct. 30 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, October 22  
Nov. 13 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, November 5

**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, October 28, 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

oct 17  
fri 7 pm

## Miracles In the E.R.

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

oct 17  
fri 8 pmAnnie Keating,  
Stephanie Jenkins

Talent spotted by BBC Radio 2's Bob Harris, **Annie Keating** appeared live on the Bob Harris show in 2008 and 2011 and has gone on to perform at leading national and international festivals including Take Root (Netherlands), the Glasgow Americana Festival (Scotland), the NJ Folk Festival, NXNE in Canada, NEMO and MEANY music fests and the Mountain Stage NewSong finals. She has performed on the bill with the John Hiatt, Dan Bern, Bon Iver, Hot Club of Cowtown, Anne Heaton, Boris McCutcheon and Shannon McNally. Keating is currently finishing recording her sixth independent CD release due out later this year. She will join other incredible Coop musicians to put on a true singer-songwriter, alt-country/americana evening of original songs (for fans of Lucinda Williams, Gillian Welch, Bob Dylan, Patty Griffin, John Prine and Joni Mitchell)... don't miss this trio acoustic show! **Stephanie Jenkins** grew up in a musical family in Manhattan's Upper West Side. She started playing old-time banjo at 16 and has never looked back. Now a Brooklynite, Steph works in documentary film and plays with local all-girl stringband The Calamity Janes, as well as Ithaca-based bands The Pearly Snaps and Evil City Stringband. She'll be joined by her brother, Reid Jenkins. **Concert takes place at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Park West (at 2nd St.), \$10, doors open at 7:45. Prospect Concerts is a monthly musical fundraising partnership of the Coop and the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture.**

oct 18  
sat 12 pm

## Women &amp; Finance

Women worry about financial security. Stop feeling intimidated by the jargon or overwhelmed by the subject matter. Get the information and guidance you need. Discussion will include managing debt, building savings, and protecting against risk and unexpected events. Our presenter makes it easy by sharing information to help you understand your current financial standing and your future financial needs. During this educational workshop for women, expect: to understand your current financial situation and future financial needs; to be empowered to make informed financial decisions to protect your financial future. All attendees receive a complimentary workbook that will reinforce what you've learned and keep you focused to reach your goals. Long-time Coop member **Mary Blanchett** is a financial service professional with New York Life Insurance and NYLIFE Securities LLC. Mary helps her clients with tax-free retirement options, reducing vulnerability and starting estate planning.

oct 18  
sat 3 pmFossil Fuel Divest/  
Reinvestment Meeting

We are stuck in a system where living a normal life means creating an unsustainable amount of pollution. Solutions abound, but powerful fossil interests make them very difficult and only accessible to those of us with extra time and resources to go against the grain. It does not make any sense for New York to invest in those

companies that perpetuate this oppressive fossil fuel system. With one of the largest municipal pension funds in the world, New Yorkers again have a unique opportunity for local action. The City Council will be voting on a resolution of support for a process that pulls city funds out of fossil fuel companies and re-invests them in a greener New York—creating jobs and making NYC more resilient to Sandy-like storms. Additionally, when actions like the People's Climate March work and greenhouse gasses are controlled, fossil fuel companies will lose much of their value. We will be discussing how those of us at the Coop can help. For more information, contact Coop member **Devin Judge-Lord** at Devin.JL@gmail.com.

oct 19  
sun 12 pm

## Posture &amp; Health

How the Alexander Technique can help your pain. Pain can make us feel helpless, frustrated, and less of the person that we'd like to be. This workshop will help you discover an upright, natural posture that distributes weight effectively so you can feel less pain and more energy. The Alexander Technique is a century-old method for improving one's 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. After a serious injury left him unable to work, or even carry out household tasks like cleaning dishes, he began studying the Alexander Technique. His return to health, as well as his experience with the physical, mental, and emotional aspects of pain, inspired him to help others.

oct 19  
sun 7 pmAnd When I Die: The Musical!  
A Funeral Planning Cabaret

Hesitating over end-of-life decisions? You're not alone—but don't die wondering! Learn about advance directives, funeral consumer choices and your next steps at this unique seminar-in-song. Ample time for Q&A and follow-up resources provided. The only requirement is the willingness to accept that you will not live forever in your current form. Coop member, chaplain and end-of-life sustainability activist **Regina Sandler-Phillips** is the founder of a Park Slope-based natural burial cooperative, which includes many other Coop members among its 70+ volunteers. Regina's work has been featured in *The New York Times*, and in the books *Parting Ways* (2011) and *Saying Goodbye to Someone You Love* (2010).

oct 24  
fri 7 pmImprove Your Health With  
Taoist Tai Chi

Can you benefit from the regular practice of the Taoist Tai Chi™ Arts? Well, first answer this question: do you have stress in your life? If you answered "yes"—and really, who didn't?—we'd like to introduce you to a form of moving meditation that is both a health-promoting exercise and an incredible stress reliever, for both the body and the mind. Taoist Tai Chi™ takes a holistic approach to good health. Learn the first few moves of the 108-move Tai Chi set, which can bring a wide range of health benefits to the muscular, skeletal and circulatory systems, with a soothing effect on the mind. In the hectic pace of today's society, that's a balance that can benefit us all. Longtime Coop member **Aaron Kirtz** invites you to a demonstration as a member of the International Taoist Tai Chi Society™, which has just started classes in Brooklyn. Please wear loose and comfortable clothing and comfortable shoes. Kirtz has been practicing Taoist Tai Chi™ for 13 years and is a Continuing Instructor in Training.

oct 25  
sat 10:30 am

## Mind Meets Body

An integrative hypnosis workshop about investigating the absolute connection between brain and heart to inspire great change and power in the body, thus in the mind and world too! Learn how to transform the charge of your emotions as you locate where they register in your anatomy and kinesthetic awareness. Learn to trust that your body is working in your favor. Change patterns which no longer serve you, quickly! Through self-hypnosis tools to change the patterns in the brain, body meets mind in a profound way and

*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.

# oct 17–nov 7 2014

perhaps even falls in love. **Shandoah Goldman** is a Coop member circa 2009 and Park Slope-based Shiatsu practitioner and Integrative Hypnotist, specializing in teaching her clients about their bodies intrinsic movement.

## oct 25 sat 1 pm

### Help Your Kids Succeed In Math

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

## oct 25 sat 4 pm

### New Paradigm Multidimensional Transformation

Discuss the energy of Shamballa, build vortexes, do clearing meditation, and receive activations calling on the Ascended Masters and Archangels for their healing love and light. Join **Esme Carino** for two hours to introduce New Paradigm Multidimensional Transformation. Carino is a New Paradigm MDT practitioner, an Angel Therapist and a Coop member.

## oct 26 sun 7 pm

### The Heated History of Cremation

This tour of cremation's history and its impact on the future of the funeral will take us from mankind's earliest known cremation in Australia 32 thousand years ago, to pagan cremations in ancient Rome, to a discussion of how Judaism's consistent objection to cremation led to 1,500 years of Christian burial. Mark Twain, Walt Whitman, Madame Helena Blavatsky, Jessica Mitford, Ann Landers and Reverend Billy Graham will all make appearances in this engaging, sometimes jolly talk. In the end, you'll learn how to choose an end-of-life mode of disposition that expresses your most deeply held beliefs and values. Who knew that woven into cremation's story were so many hotly contested views on how to face death, and so much passion regarding what's really right for the earth and all of civilization. Coop member **Amy Cunningham** was a magazine writer and blogger until 2007 when her father's memorial service got her invested in helping folks plan more meaningful end-of-life services. She is now a licensed funeral director who sustains a blog called TheInspiredFuneral.com.

## oct 28 tue 7 pm

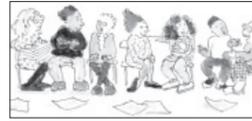
### iHelp Sandy Stress Relief

For those who are still experiencing distress as a result of Superstorm Sandy, we have iHelp Sandy Stress Relief through on-line CBT programs that are offered free of charge. Qualified program users can be survivors of Superstorm Sandy, live in a Sandy-impacted community or have been directly impacted in any way by Superstorm Sandy. This gives you access to free, confidential and effective, online programs that use cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) to help you regain a sense of emotional well-being. CBT is a tried, tested and effective way for people to learn new skills that help to overcome the distress that arises after a disaster. Most programs completed in 4 to 10 weeks. Shown to be as effective as face-to-face therapy. Confidential and secure. Available anytime, anywhere. 24/7/365 support through telephone, text and chat. **Lynn Kaplan**, Psy.D., is senior program manager for

iHelp Sandy Stress Relief at MHA of NYC and Food Coop Member since 1993. **Katherine Polanco** is outreach and engagement counselor for iHelp Sandy Stress Relief at MHA of NYC.

## oct 28 tue 7 pm

### PSFC OCT General Meeting



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

**Meeting location: MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.**

**Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.**

**I. Member Arrival and Meeting Warm-Up**

**II. Open Forum**

**III. Coordinator and Committee Reports**

**IV. Meeting Agenda**

**Item 1: Annual Agenda Committee Election (20 minutes)**

**Election:** Two current committee members will stand for re-election and the committee will present one additional candidate to fill a current opening. All candidates will serve two-year terms. —submitted by the Agenda Committee

**Item 2: Coca-Cola Boycott Renewal (15 minutes)**

**Proposal:** The Coop should continue its boycott of Coca-Cola products.

—submitted by Lew Friedman

**Item 3: Personnel Committee Election (20 minutes)**

**Election:** Three candidates for the Personnel Committee will be presented to the General Meeting for election. The Personnel Committee goes through an extensive interviewing process. There are no nominations from the floor.

—submitted by the Personnel Committee

**Item 4: An Open Letter to Eden Foods (35 minutes)**

**Proposal:** Send a letter of concern to Eden Foods about the ACA lawsuit and the reproductive healthcare of their employees. —submitted by Lisa Guido

**V. Board of Directors Meeting**

**VI. Wrap-Up.** Includes member sign-in for workslot credit.

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

## oct 31 fri 7 pm

### Consciously Aging

It takes a community to grow older consciously! Honest talk and connection for women 55+. Who will join this community? Women 55+ who are inspired by others and are very curious about how they can shape their later lives according to their personal desires and life's challenges. What will be explored? The focus is on issues of aging, including your hopes and dreams, stresses, opportunities, and whatever concerns you as an older adult, such as resolving loss, illness, transitions, loneliness, finding your place in the world, and any unfinished business. The aim is to enhance the quality of your life, wherever you are on your life journey. Long-time Coop member **Margo Steinfeld**, LCSW, MA, CGP, is a licensed clinical social worker and certified group therapist. Call 718-783-5066 for further information.

## nov 1 sat 12 pm

### Qi Gong to Protect the Joints and Bones

Get in touch with your inner Dragon, Tiger or Bear at this fun and relaxing Qi Gong workshop. We will practice stretches that benefit the whole musculo-skeletal system and learn a simple massage to reduce pain. No experience necessary. **Ann Reibel-Coyne** is a NYS-licensed acupuncturist and a Coop member. She is currently practicing acupuncture at Shambhala Yoga & Dance and teaching Qi Gong at Spoke the Hub (both in Brooklyn).

## still to come

nov 1 Reality, Truth and Conscious Light

nov 4 Agenda Committee Meeting

nov 6 Food Class

nov 7 Film Night



## THANK YOU

### TO THE EDITOR,

This letter is a public thank you to an anonymous member who was very kind and generous to me on a night when I fell ill while shopping. In June 2010. This experience has stayed with me, so I'm writing now.

A tall man found me disoriented and weepy, feverish and coughing so much I could barely talk. He suggested that I go to the ER and I declined. Later I learned that I had been having an asthma attack, but at the time all I wanted was to go home, sleep and drink tea.

So this member helped me

finish putting groceries in my cart, walked me to the register, sat me down, unloaded my groceries, boxed my groceries, swiped my card, entered my PIN number, called me a car, waited outside the car, brought my groceries out, and helped me into the car.

He also paid for the car home. I cried with gratitude and overwhelm, and have kept this experience of true kindness in my pocket ever since. Thank you to you, whoever you are, who have given of yourself without expectations of anything in return. I aspire to your grace and strength.

*Love and respect,  
Alison Wonderland B.*



## 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.

## BDS/MIDDLE EAST

### ANTHROPOLOGISTS CALL FOR ACADEMIC BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

#### MEMBERS:

**As of October 3, 2014, 360 anthropologists from around the world endorsed** a boycott of Israeli academic institutions. Among the signatories are 13 academics from the City University of New York, 13 from Columbia University, nine from Harvard University and eight from Yale University. The statement was posted on October 1 with 231 signatories and a call for others to add their names to the list. ([www.anthroboycott.wordpress.com](http://www.anthroboycott.wordpress.com))

We, the undersigned anthropologists voice our opposition to ongoing Israeli violations of Palestinian rights, including Israeli military occupation of Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem, and to boycott Israeli academic institutions that are complicit in these violations. Anthropologists join the growing number of academics in U.S. academic associations: the American Studies Association, the Association for Asian American Studies, the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association and a group of Middle Eastern studies professors.

"Israel's recent military assault on Gaza is only the latest reminder that the world's governments and mainstream media do not hold Israel accountable for its violations of international law." Anthropologists study problems of power, oppression, and cultural hegemony. "We have a moral responsibility to speak out and demand accountability from Israel

and our own governments."

Anthropology and Human Rights: Anthropologists have a disciplinary tradition of support for anti-colonial and human rights struggles (an important departure from anthropology's historical complicity with colonialism). In its 1999 Declaration on Anthropology and Human Rights, the American Anthropological Association affirmed the ethical responsibility of anthropologists to protest and oppose actions by any culture or society that denies or permits the denial of people or peoples of their full realization of humanity.

Israel's ongoing violations: seven year siege of Gaza, severely restricting the movement of peoples and goods in/out of the territory; Palestinians being dispossessed of their lands and livelihoods throughout the West Bank and East Jerusalem; Israel's separation barrier curtailing Palestinian freedom of movement; Palestinians subjected to systematic violations of their right to higher education and academic freedom on both sides of the Green Line; Israel's recent abuses on Palestinian universities: raided Al Quds University in Jerusalem, the Arab American University in Jenin, and Birzeit University near Ramallah; Israel bombed much of the Islamic University of Gaza.

Boycott is the only non-violent form of pressure that could persuade Israelis to call for meaningful change. After decades of cooperation, the military occupation and violations persist. Israel's academic institutions remain complicit with occupation and oppression of Palestinians: Tel Aviv University, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Bar Ilan University,

Haifa University, Technion and Ben Gurion University.

We pledge not to collaborate on projects, events, not to teach, attend conferences or publish in journals in Israel. Normal relations will resume when Israel ends its siege of Gaza, its occupation and colonization of all Arab lands occupied (June 1967), dismantles settlements and wall, recognizes the fundamental rights of Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel, and adheres to UN Resolution 194 regarding rights of Palestinian refugees.

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

## IN CELEBRATION

### DEAR EDITOR,

It's a little late, but in celebration of Al-Quds Day, I'd like to present some voices of congratulations for Iran's annual anti-Israel parade.

Source: Times of Israel online.

**Kazem Moussavi, spokesperson of the Iranian Green Party in Germany.** "The thousands marching today [in the Al-Quds Day march] are not representative of the millions of Muslims around the world. The Iranian freedom movement stands against radical Islamic movements. We stand with the Israelis and against Hamas."

**Various voices from a self-described counter-demonstration against fascism.** "Free Gaza from Hamas!" "Long live Israel!" "No God, No State, No Emirate!"

**Fabian Wolf, 21, a German student, waving a large red and black flag with "Anti-fascist Action" written across it.** "I'm here because I'm afraid of the wave of anti-Semitism that is supported by left-





## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

wing groups. Not everyone in the left is anti-Israel and anti-Semitic."

**Stefan Liebich, representative of Die Linke in the German Bundestag.** "It is very important that our party is present in this demonstration. In the last years we had anti-Semitic actions [by members of Die Linke]. We send a strong message against them. It is a terrible mistake to support demonstrations without criticism of Hamas. I am ashamed of these demonstrations. The clear majority of our party has a different opinion. We defend Israel's right to exist. We support Israel's right to defend itself, but are critical of certain policies. The left needs to be reflective and reexamine its views on Israel. The minority is loud, and I hate it!"

**Florian Lorenz, German Social Democratic Party.** "The chants of 'Israel child murderer' and blaming everything on Israel follows an anti-Semitic tradition. We can see that the values and structures of Nazism isn't over. The German left has gone through a significant change in its outlook since the fall of Communism and the advent of a new western world order. They realized that **anti-Zionism and an almost naive affirmation of national liberation movements like the Palestinians is not possible any more. As leftists, it is a duty to fight an anti-Semitic, misogynist, and homophobic worldview. You have to stand up to this.**" (emphasis added).

*Jesse Rosenfeld*

## BDS IS AN INGENUOUS MARKETING PLOY!

### DEAR EDITOR,

Why is BDS not BDSI (Boycott, Divest, Sanction, Israel)? Because to justify singling out Israel for punishment it must be portrayed as unique in its punish-worthiness.

**By studying the statements made in the Gazette over time by PSFC members I was able to extract objective criteria by which one can decide when to punish a country. By doing so, I have identified a few**

### dozen countries that are worthy of BDS!

Over the next 6 years I will present cases against these offenders and campaign for the PSFC to officially BDS them. **I apologize in advance for the trees that will needlessly be cut down.**

First Turkey: winner of the most imprisoned journalists awards by the BBC and Al Jazeera for two years straight. More than China and ahead of 2nd place Iran. One has to wonder what are they hiding from their own citizens. Maybe the world-acknowledged murder of 1.5 million Armenians, or the **ethnic cleansing of Christians** (as described in the BBC article Turkey's Religious Ghost Town 8/14), decades of oppression of the Kurds (to the point where they were not allowed to use certain letters of the alphabet in naming their children (read up it is true!), or the current world-condemned **occupation of Cyprus** (UN resolution 367) and its ethnic cleansing by moving Turks to live in Cyprus. There is more but that is a good start. Turkey is supported by the U.S. with advanced military capabilities such as **F-15 fighter jets**. It also sells in the PSFC, for example, the spice Sumac. **BDST!**

China: the world's largest prison with about 1 billion inhabitants. China oppresses its Muslim Uighur population, tortures it's Falun Gong spiritual adherents, arrests and imprisons journalists, bloggers, and artists. It is **now threatening its neighbors** including India, Vietnam, Philippines. China currently **occupies Tibet** (search condemnations by the US Senate and EU Parliament despite Chinese UN veto power) and has **destroyed its culture**, exiling many, and transferring Chinese instead. All that is left for Tibetans is to **set themselves on fire** which they have been doing in increasing numbers. It's now in the midst of crushing the peaceful demonstrations in Hong Kong where 7 million people do not want to fall under the boots of dictatorship. The US enables China's crimes by its addiction to cheap labor (in many cases prison labor—NPR 3/14).

Made in China is prevalent at the PSFC. **If there ever was an opportunity for the PSFC to make a statement it is here! BDSC!**

Russia: crushed its Chechen minorities in Grozny by destroying much of the city, attacked Georgia, invaded Ukraine, disenfranchised its Saami arctic indigenous population, and imprisons artists. Putin Fear No Art is a recent trending meme on the Internet. **We may not sell many Russian wares at the Coop but we can make a statement and advocate boycotting the Lukoil gas stations in Brooklyn. BDSR!**

*Gil Ronen  
Breukeleners for Peacerer  
Together we will force peace  
around the world!*

## OPEN LETTER TO BDS SUPPORTERS

### TO THE EDITOR.

Dear BDS Supporters:

You expressed "deep sadness" because you and your friends are called "haters." I do not think that you are a "hater" although I do not agree with your point of view. You call yourselves "Human Rights Activists."

I know "Human Rights Activists"!

Martin Luther King was human rights activist. He represented people who endured slavery and segregation. Yet, he never called for BDS. He surely did not call for destruction of the state that brought so much pain to him and his people. He dreamed of society where everyone is equal.

There is long list of people who are "Human Rights Activists."

Nelson Mandela, Leo Tolstoy, Daniel Pearl, James Foley and many others who worked toward betterment of human conditions.

You and your friends are not of them. Yet, not everything is lost. You and your friends can still visit Israel and Gaza so you can see for yourself what was going on there.

In Israel visit Knesset and watch live how Arab member of the Knesset bashes Israel, participate in the largest Israeli Pride Parade in the world. Join the demonstration of the far left.

You will see that the Arab member of Knesset still keeps his job and the homosexuals in Israel still go on with their lives unmolested. You can join the far right to protest oppressive Israel and personally greet more than three thousands rockets coming at you from Gaza.

Go to kibbutzim located on the border. The kibbutznicks will accept you as they accept everybody. But now the cry of "Gas the Jews" has once again been heard in Europe.

Go to your beloved Gaza. You will wait in long lines at the crossing points. Remember, Israel imposed blockade that you oppose very much. In any given day, there are many trucks with so-called humanitarian aid going to Gaza. These are the trucks full of cement and construction machineries, for the tunnels so the Palestinians can kill and kidnap as many Israelis as they can. There are trucks full of cash, so Hamas can control the civilians in Gaza, and buy weapons. Some of the money comes from the U.S. taxpayers like you and me.

While in Gaza, tell them that you are Americans, Jews and homosexuals. O, they love Americans, remember how they were dancing with joy, celebrating September 11 attack? The Palestinians, of course, love the Jews and homosexuals! Visit the UN run schools where Hamas stores rockets, the hospitals and hotels used by Hamas to launch rockets to Israel. Attend the school where the Palestinian children are prepared for suicide bomber career.

If after all, you manage to stay alive you can come back and claim that you are the "Human Rights Activists."

*Respectfully yours,  
Fanya Vasilevsky*

## REPORTER INTIMIDATION I

### DEAR EDITORS,

Reporter Sreenivasan Jain was one of the few, and courageous, reporters during the Israel-Gaza conflict who described in detail how Hamas planted rocket launchers in and next to civilian populations while

fighting Israel. Remember that Sreenivasan is equally critical of Israel's incursion into Gaza, and (even though I differ with him on that) he can be seen as an objective voice in the conflict. His updated criticisms of Hamas are in an addendum on NDTV's website (see below):

**(NTDV.com, 8.7.14)** "We had all of it on tape, but wrestled with the dilemma of what to do with it. Two considerations weighed on our mind. One, the fear which hobbles the reporting such material: **fear of reprisals from Hamas against us and those who worked with us**, fear of inviting an Israeli response on the spot (these have been known to miss). Two, we needed to be 100 % sure that this was a rocket launch site. So we did nothing, setting off on our assignment for the day, mulling over the material in our possession.

"The next morning was meant to be our last in Gaza, and the day when a 72-hour ceasefire was meant to bring some relief to the area. As we woke early to pack—stealing tense glances at the 'rocket' patch—the final step was enacted. With minutes left for the ceasefire to kick in, flurries of Hamas rockets were fired. At about 7:52 am, this patch of earth was activated; the rockets took off with a bang and a plume of smoke. We managed to catch it on video just seconds after. By then the men who assembled it had long gone."

He states further: "The rocket we saw, in all probability, must have been the one of the 1000s that landed in open areas. **But by firing these rockets from civilian areas, they threaten the people of Gaza more than anyone else: that was the simple point of this report.**"

Mr. Jain speaks of fear of reprisal by Hamas for reporting the facts. *Gazette* editors should be aware of this before publishing letters that demonize Israel as the sole perpetrator in this conflict. Perhaps a note of professional support under each demonizing letter that says, "Reporter intimidation is against everything that we as professionals

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

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



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

**BDS/MIDDLE EAST**

stand for. Reports that come from Gaza are known to be self-censored for fear of reprisal and cannot be construed as fact."

*Malka Stern*

**REPORTER INTIMIDATION 2****DEAR EDITOR:**

On Al-Jazeera TV, 8.19.2014, EGYPTIAN author Magdi Khali bravely confronted a Hamas spokesman, describing what the spokesperson replied to those accusations on live TV by saying: "We should clean our own home before we confront back." Mr. Khali replied, "Are you threatening to eliminate us, you terrorist? Are you threatening me, you terrorist?" This should alert the editors of the *Gazette* that any number of human rights violations by Hamas could have happened to journalists in Israel and nearly everywhere else also operate under threats according to Foreign Press Association bulletin shortage of critics among Israelis themselves who are equally unafraid. I have read people's call to the editors to

take a professional solidarity stance on reporter intimidation. I think it's wrong that reporters are intimidated by Hamas because they can't report the truth. I think the editors of the *Gazette* should take this into consideration.

*Nancy Spitalnick*

**REPORTER INTIMIDATION 3****DEAR EDITORS,**

The Arab world sees how Hamas' hides in hospitals and sacrifices children to "win" a war with Israel. Why can't BDS?

(Al-Jazeera TV, 8.19.2014) Egyptian author/researcher Magdi Khali confronting a Hamas spokesman:

Magdi Khali: "How many casualties were caused by Hamas missiles that landed in Gaza by mistake? Those missiles caused many more casualties than they caused in Israel. For example, a missile landed in the Al-Shati refugee camp, killing 10 children. Another missile landed on Al-Shifa Hospital, killing four children. Then they defused an unexploded Israeli missile without knowing the basics of how to do it, and as a result six people were killed

including an American journalist...My [Hamas] colleague has said we have won the moral high ground. Is it moral to launch missiles from hospitals, from schools, from bedrooms, from mosques, and from the roof of a church where Gazans had found refuge? The church's bishop was interviewed on CBN and said: "From the roof of this church, Hamas members are launching missiles at Israel. We welcomed them in our church but they began launching missiles at Israel from the roof." Is the moral high ground my colleague is talking about? Is it moral for Hamas leaders to hide in Al-Shifa hospital, thus risking the lives of regular people? Is this moral high ground? They are fleeing like rats, hiding behind patients in Gaza hospitals. Is it moral for Hamas leaders to hide behind these patients? They garner sympathy over the corpses of children. This is part of the strategy of the Islamists. They consider sympathy garnered over the corpses of children to be a victory... The whole world knows that Hamas does not care about the spirit of humanity. They do not care about the chil-

dren, about their people, about the losses, about the destruction of their country, or about the number of casualties. We are talking about a group like ISIS. What kind of honor is it if it is at the expense of children's corpses? You don't know the meaning of life. All you know is the meaning of death. You constitute an enterprise of destruction in the region. You are wreaking destruction in Palestine. You don't know the meaning of life. Go and die, brother. But don't make others die instead. If you want to die – go and die. Let Khaled Mash'al die. Let Haniya and Al-Zahhar die. Just don't let the children die."

Hamas spokesperson: "We should clean our own home before we confront the occupation. These people must be eliminated even before the Zionists are eliminated because they stab us in the back."

Magdi Khali: "Are you threatening to eliminate us, you terrorist? Are you threatening me, you terrorist?"

Editors, any story from now on that is sourced from Gaza should be given this addendum by the your staff: "Gazette editors are aware of intimidation of reporters on the ground in Gaza by Hamas, and stand firmly against it. The above piece cannot be guaranteed as factual." *Gazette* editors have claimed many times to be professionals, how soon can you prove it because journalists' lives are in the balance?

*Ulrich Gradinger*

**HOSPITALS AND CHURCHES****DEAR EDITORS,**

More evidence is surfacing that Hamas fired rockets from civilian areas such as hospitals to attack Israel last summer and intimidated reporters in order to cover their tracks.

(*CBN News, 2014*) Archbishop Alexios of the Saint Porphyrios church revealed important information to the media in spite of Hamas threats: "He took CBN news to the roof terrace outside his office. He showed us how militants reportedly used the church compound to launch rockets into Israel. **He refused to discuss details on camera for security reasons.**" He also said, "Whatever Hamas says we must obey or face consequences."

(*Lebanon's Mayadeen TV, 2014*) Isra Al-Mudallal, head of Hamas' Foreign Relations Information Ministry: Interviewer: "How did you maintain contact with foreign journalists and how did you convey your point of view to them?" Al-Mudallal: "When they were conducting interviews or when they went on location to report, they would focus on filming the places where missiles were launched. Thus they were collaborating with the occupation. These journalists were deported from the Gaza Strip. **The security agencies would go have a chat with these people. They would give them some time to change their message, one way or another...** Even under these difficult circumstances [of war] we managed to reach them and tell them what they were doing was anything but professional journalism and that it was immoral."

(*Italian journalist Gabriele Barbat, Twitter, 7.29.2014*) on who actually fired missiles at a school and hospital in Gaza: "Out of #Gaza far from #Hamas retaliation: misfired rocket killed children yday in Shati. Witness: militants rushed and cleared debris."

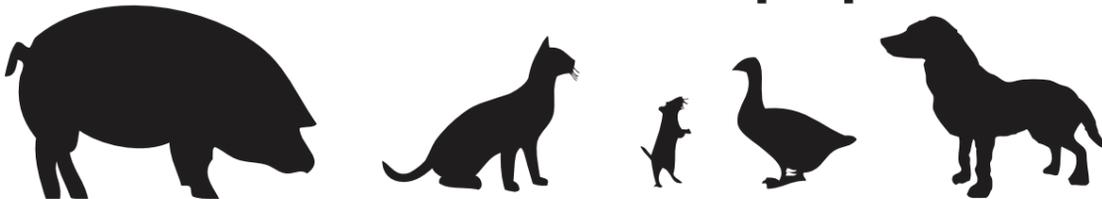
Professionals should speak up for one another. Do the *Gazette* editors have an opinion on this intimidation?

*Meir Rosenberger*



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](https://twitter.com/psfcanimals)**



Current Guides:  
Eggs (next to egg case)  
Milk (next to milk case)  
Animal Testing



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

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**CHILD CARE**

EULALEE BECKFORD CHILDCARE SERV. 917-586-3023. eulaleebeckford@hotmail.com. Certified with 10 yrs+ experience nanny looking for full/part time childcare position. Resume & recommendations available upon request.



**HOUSING AVAILABLE**

Large, bright bed/sitting room in Prospect Heights brownstone available to a mature, responsible, friendly person from late Nov. thru early Feb. Share kitchen + bath with retired teacher + a sweet, long-haired cat. Moderate rent includes bills + internet. Susan at susanlists@yahoo.com or 718-636-9089.



UNIQUE AND CHARMING c1825 country house 20 mins from Woodstock. 2 beds, 1 bath, with separate 2-story new timber frame studio, summer house, garage/workshop, storage and wood sheds, stone patios and walls, established garden. \$299,000. Call Jayne 845-657-4107 for photos, specs, app't.

**MERCHANDISE NON-COMMERCIAL**

LIVE COOPERATIVELY 30s couple looking to buy and coop structure building with others in Bklyn. Open to all ideas. We have down payment \$, you should too. Lee 917-822-6522.



**SERVICES AVAILABLE**

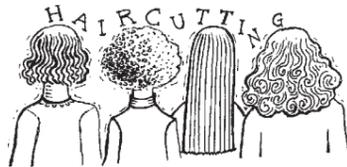
ATTORNEY—Personal Injury Emphasis—36 years experience in all aspects of injury law. Individual attention provided for entire case. Free phone or office consultations. Prompt, courteous communications. 24-year Park Slope Food Coop member; Park Slope resident; downtown Brooklyn office. Tom Guccione, 718-596-4184, also at www.tguccionelaw.com.

MADISON AVENUE HAIRCUTTER is right around the corner from the food 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.

PAINTING, PLASTERING & WALL-PAPERING. Over 25 yrs of doing the finest prep & finish work. Mesh & skim coating. All work guaranteed. Call Fred Becker @ 347-661-6634.



HAIRCUTS, HAIRCUTS, HAIRCUTS. Color highlights, lowlights, hot oil treatments in the convenience of your home or mine. Adults \$40-45, kids \$20-25. Call Lenora: 718-857-2215.

**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.

**BROOKLYN FREE SCHOOL** Open Houses:  
Oct 22, 6pm  
Nov 19, 6pm

To learn more about our unique Pre-K thru High School program, visit [brooklynfreeschool.org](http://brooklynfreeschool.org)

FOOD & ENVIRONMENT REPORTING NETWORK  
Monday **NOV. 3** 2014 **LIVE**

**FERN TALKS & EATS**

Food stories with eats, drinks and performances.

[www.ferntalkseats.com](http://www.ferntalkseats.com)

**Crossword Answers**

I	R	A		M	S	G		J	E	S	U	I	T		
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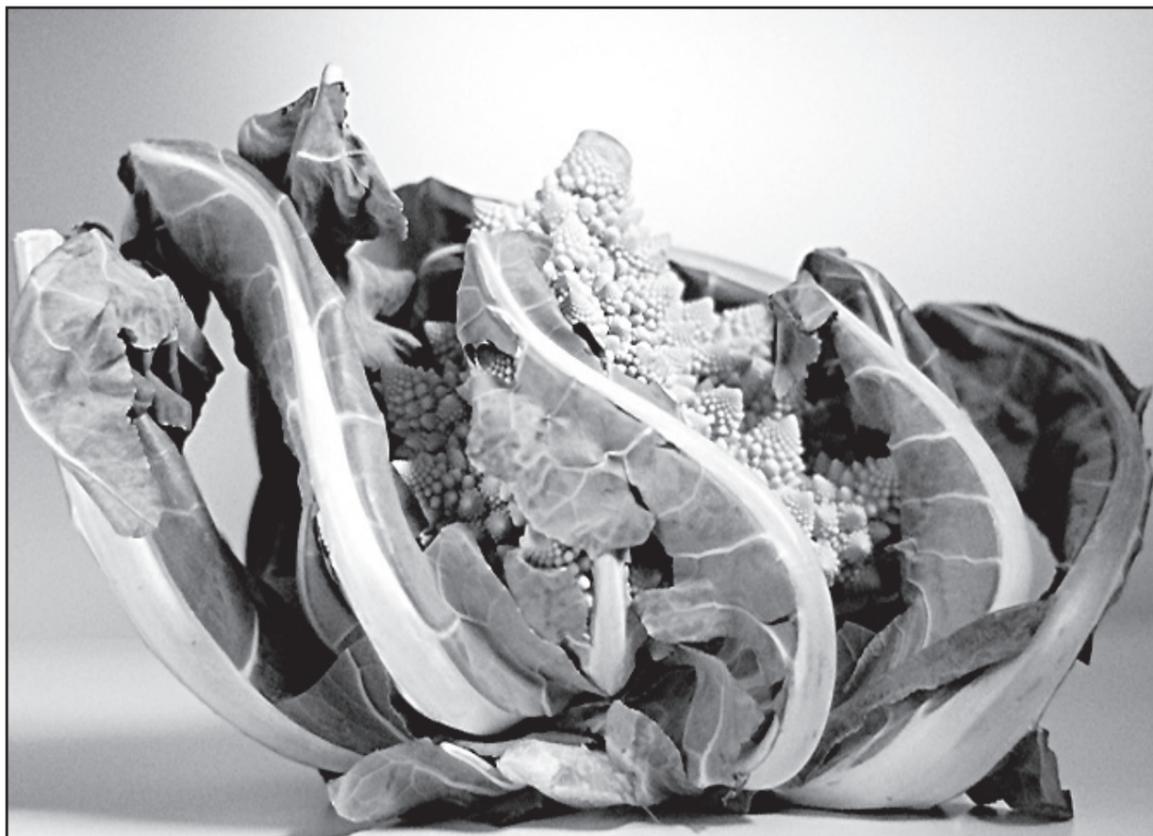


PHOTO BY KEVIN RYAN



☆☆☆☆ **EXCITING WORKSLOT OPPORTUNITIES** ☆☆☆☆

## Receiving Produce

**Monday-Friday, 5 to 7:30 a.m.**

The Coop is looking for members to work in the produce area. Responsibilities include: lifting boxes, unloading deliveries, stacking boxes in the basement. You should be willing to get or have wet hands while you are working. Boxes usually weigh between 2-20 lbs., a few may weigh up to 50 lbs.



## Laundry and Toy Cleaning

**Saturday, Sunday, 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.**

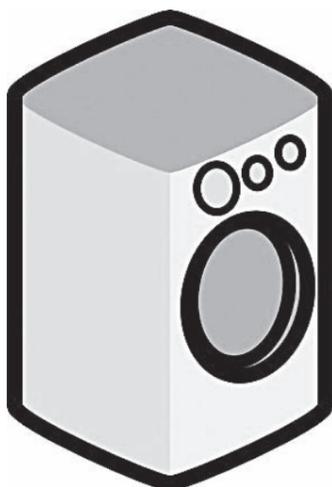
This workslot has two responsibilities. You will load laundry into dryer, fold it and redistribute it around the Coop. While the laundry is washing/drying, you will clean toys in the childcare room. You will be working with a partner on these tasks.



## Vitamin Assistant

**Saturday, 6 to 8:45 p.m.**

Are you a detail-oriented worker who can work independently and in a busy environment? The Coop's vitamin buyer needs you to help her check in orders, organize the vitamin supply area in the basement and on the shopping floor, label vitamins and supplements, and other related tasks. If you are interested in this workslot, please contact the Membership Office for more information.



## Office Set-Up

**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

Need an early riser with lots of energy to do a variety of physical tasks including: setting up tables and chairs, buying food and 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.



## General Meeting Set-Up

**Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.**

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](mailto: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](mailto:adriana_becerra@psfc.coop).

## Bathroom Cleaning

**Wednesday, 12 to 2 p.m.**

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

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following members for referring friends who joined the Coop in the last four weeks.

Cordelia Alquist  
David Alquist  
Vanessa Anspaugh  
Stefan Bauer  
Wagaye Bauer  
Marc Beallor  
Tanyth Ann Berkeley  
Heather Best  
Julia Bloch  
Raj Bond  
Mikki Brammer  
Susan Bricker  
Naima Brown  
Rich Carmona  
Elaine Su Hui Chew  
Nicholas Chua  
Sarah Colbath  
Lindsay Comstock  
Nicole Crook  
Patricia Daly  
Talmie de Shimadai  
Rimjhim Dey  
Sandra DiPillo

Fernanda Dobal  
Kathleen Donnelly  
Alexander Ebin  
Josh Ehrenberg  
Benelita Tina Elie  
Elisabeth Elkind  
Shanthony Exum  
Ellen Fishman  
Nicole Friedman  
Anne-Laure Gilard  
Lucy Gillespie  
Kathleen Goodwin  
Kate Greenfield  
Allison Grossman  
Mark Gurvis  
Guillaume Haeringer  
Clayton Hartmann  
Marc Hauser  
Margaret Heidenry  
Britt Henriksson  
Lynn Hodenfield  
Marlee Ickowicz  
Adam Jaffee

Tristan Jean  
Becky Johnson  
Laura Kaplan  
Laurie Kellogg  
Sarah Kervin  
Trixie Kioko  
Andrew Kjoller  
Anna Kukla  
Amit Kumar  
Anjuli Lebowitz  
Michelle Lewin  
Courtney Lewis  
Eric Magnus  
Ani Mason  
Daria Mazey  
Rebekah Meltzer  
Jesper Meyer  
Javontae Miller  
Julie Miller  
B. Wade Moody  
Veena Muthusamy  
Anna Nadal Burgues  
Sophie Oberfield

Tanya Olszewski  
Kristin Oppenheim  
Patrick Paine  
Jesse Phillips-Fein  
Harrison Piperato-Roberts  
Leah Pomerantz  
Jennifer Preissel  
James Ray  
Raisa Rexer  
Shelly Ronen  
Monica Rose  
Nica Ross  
Randy Roth  
Rina Roth  
Jude Rubenstein  
Julia Rubin  
Naftali Rutter  
Marceline Saibou  
Sarah Schmidt  
Elanor Schoomer  
Meryl Schwartz  
Nicole Simon

Scott Stamper  
Lauren Stephens-Davidowitz  
Debbie Stevens  
Theadora Stutsman  
Casilda Suarez-Hesketh  
Alena Svyatova  
Suzanna Talbot  
Julia Thompson  
Sophia Tu  
Rachel Van Tosh  
Jonathan Vandenburg  
Joan Vendryes  
Kate Warther  
Evan Weiss  
Eric White  
Tim White  
Miles Wick  
Lillian Wischik  
Ria Yoshida  
David Zimmerman  
Iwana Zych  
Piotr Zych