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Volume II, Number 22

October 30, 2014

Coop Climate Marchers Plan Further Activism



ILLUSTRATION BY ROD MORRISON

By Hayley Gorenberg

The record-shattering turnout for the Climate March included multitudes of Park Slope Food Coop members. Unmistakably, concerns about climate change motivate a huge swath of the PSFC. But now that the crowd has dis-

persed and the UN has met, we're left with the question: What next?

Several Coop members are helping to provide answers.

Brooklyn Food Coalition leader Nancy Romer helped draw together the Food Justice contingent of the

September 21 march, drawing more than 200 people to the "Solutions" section of the event, not only from local boroughs but from Washington DC, Rochester, Detroit and beyond. Romer emphasizes the need to further develop the themes the

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Making the PSFC a Better Place One Sticker At a Time

By Taigi Smith

Around the globe, the Park Slope Food Coop has become a legendary place. Known for its no-nonsense rules and regulations, our beloved Coop has earned a reputation. Forget the organic fruits and vegetables, for they are no longer the only thing that makes this place special. It's the members' personalities that make the PSFC unique—the oddballs, creative types, manic mothers, old school hippies and die-hard foodies that make our Coop the stuff of legend. Purple kale and organic Brussels sprouts are a dime a dozen in Park Slope. Non-members have often called the Coop a cult. And I agree—we are a "cult" of personality. And Joel Cohen is one of our members.

For more than a decade, Joel Cohen has toiled away as "door checker," on various Wednesday nights. But during his shifts, he does more than count bags and mark receipts with a highlighter. Joel makes sure that every person he meets that night is



PHOTO BY KEVIN RYAN

Joel Cohen, "The Sticker Dude"

offered a small, free gift. "While I'm there, I give out stickers, greeting cards, memo pads...a lotta of memo pads," says Cohen who estimates he's printed enough stickers to give out for a lifetime. Just call him The Sticker Dude, "NOT the Sticker Man," says Cohen with a hearty chuckle. "I'm member 23230. The Sticker Dude. In the spirit of the Coop, I give the stickers away for free." Gratis. Free of charge. For Nothing.

It could be argued that the Sticker Dude is the

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Next General Meeting on November 18

The November General Meeting will be on Tuesday, November 18, one week early, due to the Thanksgiving holiday. The GM begins at 7:00 p.m. at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. The Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.

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

Coop Event Highlights

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.

Tue, Nov 11 • Safe Food Committee Film Night: GMO OMG 7:00 p.m.

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

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Coop Climate

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contingent knit together: sustainable organic or agro-ecological growing methods, decreased use of fossil fuels, living wages for farmers and other food workers, and “food as a right for all.”

A unifying conclusion, Romer posits, is a focus on the soil itself. “Enriched organic and agro-ecological soil is the only known way of pulling carbon from the atmosphere and sinking it in the soil. So advancing healthy soil everywhere that can sink carbon is a potentially enormous contribution from the food sector,” says Romer.

“Many people very much engaged in food justice work don’t see the connections between sustainability and hunger and food worker rights.”
—Nancy Romer

Romer knows there’s an educational curve to get people to follow to this soil-based solution. “Frankly I don’t think most of our Coop members understand it. They think healthy and local food, which is good. But they don’t understand the power of the organic and agro-ecological message, soil and the role of plants to pull carbon out of the air and sequester it in the soil. If we took it seriously, it would be a huge fix—expanding agro-ecological processes on all our land.”

She does not discount opposing fossil fuels. “That has to end, and we have to substitute renewables, but there’s a huge role for soil and agriculture.”

To promote these goals, Romer, a Coop member since the late 1970s, led a debriefing potluck dinner for the Food Justice marching contingent in mid-October. Eschewing the creation of a new organization, the attendees would rather knit together a loose network of community organizations to create educational events tying food justice to climate change, with the intent of deepening knowledge and action. It will also devise a calendar of events in NYC at the intersection of food justice and climate change, and welcomes additional participants to join in by e-mailing

climatechangebfc@gmail.com.

Romer hopes marchers will unite with the New York City Food Forum, a coalition of dozens of local groups, to promote city policy in favor of progressively increasing the percentage of locally produced food purchased by the city. Networked but distinct, Romer hopes the Food Justice contingent from the Climate March will be unfettered by organizations and thus more free to articulate anti-corporate politics. “We can’t get anywhere with these huge corporations and agribusinesses. They’re killing us.”

She envisions a shared vision for gardens, food pantries, food workers’ rights organizations, faith organizations and school food projects. The efforts are widespread, decentralized. “It engages a lot of people, which is beautiful. That’s what you want in a social movement. The downside of that is that most people don’t consider themselves in a social movement. Many people very much engaged in food justice work don’t have that language, they don’t call it ‘food justice.’ They don’t automatically see the connections between sustainability and hunger and food worker rights. They often know one part of the elephant, but they aren’t familiar with the whole elephant.”

Labor educator and immigrant rights activist Partha Banerjee is another Coop member who sees the connection among disparate parts of a rising movement. Banerjee himself embodies connectedness. A trained biologist with a doctorate, he switched careers and became a labor organizer and educator. In that capacity he represented the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 3 and worked on the Climate March’s labor committee for months leading to the event. He noted that about 75 labor unions endorsed the march, an alignment between environmental and labor activists he called “unprecedented.”

The watershed in connections moved him. “For the first time we were able to impress upon organized labor that you cannot just turn a blind eye,” he said. The message that came through was that labor unions “have to be

a part of this extremely critically important issue and really have to join hands with the environmental activists and food activists, because this is an important part of the big picture. Can you just work for the present and not think about the future generations? Can you not do something constructive even after going through



PHOTOS BY LISA COHEN

Partha Banerjee, a member of the Brooklyn Food Coalition and the PSFC, is a labor educator.

Sandy and other disasters that happened right in front of our eyes? Can you not make a connection between global warming and climate change and immigration and public transportation? Very happily we were able to do that. We marched together shoulder to shoulder.”

In addition to networking with Romer, Banerjee will travel to Cornell University on Halloween, where an international team of labor unions will meet together to take stock post-march. He concluded, “A lot of things are happening that never happened before.”

Environmental connections run in his family. His wife, Mukti Banerjee, who teaches Indian cooking classes at the Coop as an outgrowth of her business, Mukti’s Kitchen, recently traveled with Partha Banerjee and Romer to India to meet with food and environmental activists there.

Yet another facet of his identity, that of first-generation immigrant, spurs Partha Banerjee to promote

outreach to immigrant communities and people of color. Many immigrant communities and communities of color simply are not informed about the food they eat,” he says. “They don’t know where the foods are coming from, they don’t know how bad and harmful all the junk food places are. On one hand they have lack of education, and on the other hand, even if they are more informed and more educated, they are impoverished and have no choice.” Banerjee points out that the Coop can be a local antidote, making organic food affordable—and thus available. “They think they can’t afford these places,” he said. “There must be active outreach to underprivileged communities so they know you can work, and you can get good food, and you can make some serious lifestyle changes. If we want to create a sustainable environment and we want to create healthy food and lifestyle choices, then we really should create for everyone, not just for one community or the other.”

Fellow Brooklyn Food Coalition member Kate Newberger helped establish the food contingent for the march and also plans to continue her post-march activism with new network connections.

“If we want to create a sustainable environment... we really should create for everyone, not just for one community or the other.”
—Partha Banerjee

Her environmental interests bloomed early. “I’ve been concerned about the climate since I was 10 years old,” explains Newberger. “A family friend told me about these concepts of ‘population explosion’ and ‘global warming,’ and they scared me to death! Fifteen years ago, when we would have a strange weather pattern, I would tell people it was global warming and they’d look at me strangely.” That reaction changed, but dire realizations, while motivating, left her ready for a dose of inspiration, which she got through the march. “It was such a beautiful event, to see so many of us there marching for the planet,” she says.

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Nancy Romer with Joe Holtz, who also spoke at the Climate March.

Cheating On the Food Coop: Confessions of Two-Timing Members

By Allison Pennell

In one of its 30 different definitions, *The Urban Dictionary* terms a relationship as “the ability to put up with someone else’s bullshit for a long period of time,” a long period of time being “more than five dates.”

So it is with the Park Slope Food Coop that the definition of terms depends on the member’s personal philosophy, which is as varied as the plethora of jargon terms I ran across for this article. Relationships at the Food Coop, as in life, run from codependent to booty call, friend with benefits to keeper, good on paper to soul mate.

Is two-timing the Food Coop with other grocers cheating and cause for self-flagellation and repentance or just the way things have to be in a world where you want some fresh fish or other stuff not readily available at the Coop?

James Poniewozik considers himself and the Coop to be in an “open relationship.” He warms to the topic by adding, “We’re grown-ups, and we understand that sometimes we need to meet our needs elsewhere. There’s no guilt. Guilt is for squares.” And in summation: “80-90% of my food needs I can satisfy at the Coop. Beyond that, the Coop doesn’t ask me who I see when we’re not together, and I don’t ask it.”

Is this why that *Huffy Post* guy keeps saying that Brooklyn is the new Paris? And also I freaking love this man. Platonically, of course.

In truth, Poniewozik and wife do most of their grocery shopping at the Food Coop “I joined the Coop because I wanted the best groceries I could get in this neighborhood—the amazing produce, the ridiculous amount of dairy, baked goods, bargain-priced beer—and to get it dirt-cheap.”

As with almost every member I interviewed, he goes elsewhere for meat



ILLUSTRATIONS BY CATHY WASSYLENKO

and fish. He’s not a fan of the hit or miss Coop offerings, although he makes an exception for Gabe the Fish Babe’s stuff, which he loves but hasn’t seen for a while.

It must be noted that while professing to be all liberated and above guilt, Poniewozik professes his love for Costco with the all caps rebel cry of a closeted guilty partner, “YEAH I SAID IT.” It should be noted that I was asked for my article pitch as I was going up the humongous ramp at Costco, an occasional shopping experience I undertake with equal parts fascination and horror. And like my new virtual crush JP, I go for the meat and fish and because I CARE about fine cuisine. Unlike him, though, I have an abiding affection for Key Food and other local grocery stores he deems “crap” and painful to enter.

Park Sloper Julie Markes openly admits her chronic cheating on the Food Coop is all about convenience and self-proclaimed sheer laziness. She jokingly asked for a pseudonym before fessing up that more months than not, the only time she shops at the Food Coop is after her shift. She is in mourning for Met Foods at the moment because it was the closest, albeit she’s far too cheery and native Californian to dress in black. And most days, she says, you can find her in the aisles of Key Food because it’s closer and less crowded. And no, she isn’t

convinced that the redesign of the shopping floor has made much of a difference to her overall shopping experience.

When I ask her why she stays a member, she says (and I think she really meant it) that she stays because she likes the chocolate croissants and cleaning the Coop bathrooms. Seriously, she LOVES her shift partner in maintenance and would miss her if she broke up with the Coop. When she



does shop at the Coop, she says she always enjoys it and wonders why she doesn’t come more often.

Julie’s dog meadow buddy Jen chimed in that she doesn’t feel guilty for hitting up Union Market on occasion; she just feels ripped off because the prices are so much higher.

Wendy Newton says she is personally in a very committed relationship with the Coop but cannot say the same for her husband Peter

who has no similar compunction or fidelity. She sees no need to shop elsewhere: likes the routine of knowing what to expect, what she will find, what it costs, that I can trust it’s good. And without kids in the house, she says it’s easier to adjust with the seasons and work with what’s available.

She used to go to Costco for paper goods and shelf items but stopped because it was more trouble than it was worth and who really needs a year’s worth of TP and paper towels in a NYC apartment?

Is two-timing the Food Coop with other grocers cheating and cause for self-flagellation and repentance or just the way things have to be?

Kristen Uhrich, a single mother of three, cheats everyday with no guilt whatsoever. Sometimes she just doesn’t want to deal with the scene and the crowds, and sometimes it’s just too expensive to buy organic or she wants some fruit that may not be in season. Alternately, Synnove Trier wouldn’t dream of cheating on the Coop with another grocer. A member for 33 years, she can’t imagine living without it and seldom shops elsewhere.

Justine Henning’s family breaks out with the eco-friendly hypoallergenic Food Coop detergents and breaks with the Coop to buy Ivory Snow at Key Food. (Likewise!) She gets her fish elsewhere, which she doesn’t consider cheating. She sometimes balks at the Coop crowds but says that getting older has helped her see it as an opportunity to “calm down, slow down and learn to keep a sense of humor.”

And as one who has seen the other side having returned early from temporary leave exile, Henning says that while Fairway’s produce was ostensibly the same, it was all older, tasted less good, lasted less long and was basically not the keeper that the Coop is.

Beverly Leffers has a house and follows a pattern of food fidelity but price chopping for everything else like paper goods, laundry detergents and canned goods. She once did a comparative study with BJ’s and found it was a much better deal. And there’s the fish. If there is a message anywhere in this article, it was the almost universal appeal for a fresh fish counter at least one to two days a week.

And there you have it. From the chronically unfaithful to ‘til death do us part, relationships with the Coop are as varied as its membership. ■

Sudoku

Sudoku is a puzzle. You are presented with a 9x9 grid of squares, and that grid is divided into 3x3 zones.

You solve the puzzle by filling the empty squares with single-digit numbers so that every zone, column and row uses each of the numbers from 1 to 9.

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

Puzzle author: James Vasile. For answers, see page 14.



One Sticker

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

last of a dying breed—he's a Park Slope mensch who gives away small gifts simply because it makes people feel good. "Basically, I give them away. I don't sell them anywhere. You can't buy them on my website," says The Sticker Dude, who describes himself as an artist, musician, singer and performer.

When he's not giving away stickers, the Sticker Dude

thrown away.

I put my images on this so-called waste paper and use it to make memo pads and stickers," says Cohen who first began handing out free stickers at Grateful Dead concerts back in 1989. "There are images and texts on each pad—what I call pieces of utilitarian art," says Sticker Dude who estimates he's created more than 2000 stickers. "I enjoy producing them and designing them," adds Cohen, who admits he cannot draw. In fact, just about

food for thought and it's free. Come get a free sticker! No fat, no calories, no GMOs," are the words that you'll hear as the Sticker Dude counts your bags and checks your receipts. "Sometimes I recite poetry from the stickers. I do make some political statements. A couple of my stickers do comment on Republicans," muses Cohen. "For the most part, I try to focus on art and psychology, good versus evil."

But Cohen's desire to enhance the overall shopping experience at the Coop doesn't stop at stickers. The self-proclaimed conceptual artist also puts on a live acoustic performance before and after his shifts. "I play music on the floor right near the shelf with the boxes, usually before and after my shift. I bring my guitar or my banjo and I just get up and sing a few songs. I ask that people tell the squad leader if they like my music. I do 20 minutes to one-half hour of songs," explains Cohen.

"I'm member 23230.

The Sticker Dude.

*In the spirit of the Coop,
I give the stickers away
for free."*

—The Sticker Dude

Sharing his gifts with others is just a part of life for the Sticker Dude who plays the open mic circuit three or four nights a week around Brooklyn and New York City. Not bad for a 65 year old semi-retiree. "I don't sing hearts and flowers. I do mostly contemporary, topical songwriters. I like to do socially concerned art. I



Joel Cohen, "The Sticker Dude," serenading the produce aisles.

runs Ragged Edge press with his wife, Diane. Started more than 30 years ago, the company caters to small businesses and non-profit organizations. To make his stickers and memo pads, Cohen uses leftover paper from big printing jobs. "A lot of the items I make are made on post industrial waste, so it virtually costs nothing to print these beautiful designs. Printers have to print jobs on standard sized paper but very often, a client's job isn't a standard size, it's an odd size. There's usually waste paper on the end that would normally get

every sticker the Sticker Dude gives away part of a creative collaboration. "80% of the drawings are done by Thomas Kerr, an art professor at St. John's University," says the Sticker Dude who originally sent people free stickers in the mail. "My background is in mail art, which is the free exchange of art through the mail."

By giving away tiny pieces of art, the Sticker Dude aims to enhance the overall shopping experience one free sticker at a time. "I say that over there you get food for sustenance and you pay for it, but over here, you get



PHOTOS BY KEVIN RYAN

Sticker Dude stickers.

don't do any one thing."

When asked about his favorite food item at the Coop, the Sticker Dude has this to say. "Don't ask me about my favorite food. Ask me about the people. The food processing in the basement is a genius idea. People get together to care about each other, talking to

each other," says the Sticker Dude, who knows just as much as anyone that the Coop is less about the food and more about the people. "I think the whole Coop is phenomenal. The people, the spirit of the Coop—the whole system and organization of the Coop is what's genius." ■

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**Every Saturday,
April 5–November 22,
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**and
Every Sunday,
April 6–November 23,
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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.

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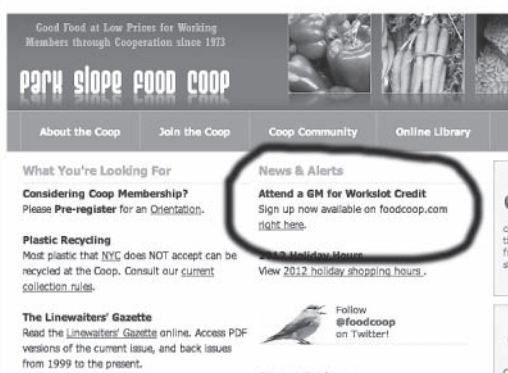
Look for us in front of the yellow wall.

**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.



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



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

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



◆ **Call the Membership Office**

SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

Plow-to-Plate Movie Series Presents: *GMO OMG*

By Adam Rabiner

Walk down any aisle in the Park Slope Food Coop and you'll surely notice the stickers indicating that the products therein contain No GMOs (genetically modified organisms). These labels result from countless hours of research spent by the GMO Labeling Squad whose members cull the latest information from the Non-GMO Project, a non-profit education group. But why is an entire squad dedicated to this single-minded task? Why is this transparency so important? Jeremy Seifert's documentary, *GMO OMG*, answers these questions.

GMO OMG presumes we know nothing about GMOs, which when the film came out in 2013 was true for a wide swath of the population. In an early scene he takes to the streets, camera in hand, asking anyone he meets if they knew whether they ate GMOs. The most common response was "GM what?"

At that point Seifert himself knew little about GMOs, but what little he knew spooked him. He became interested partly because his six-year-old son, Finn, had been fascinated by and collecting seeds since he was three. Also, he had two other younger children, Scout and Pearl, and was worried about the chemicals all his kids were exposed to and the food they were eating. In many respects *GMO OMG* is his family's quest to get to the bottom of this issue.

GMOs can very quickly get scientifically complicated, but at its core, it's a food that has been genetically altered

by man rather than nature. There are two types: pesticide producers (for example a corn that produces a toxin lethal to insects) and herbicide resisters (like a soy plant that is unharmed by something like Monsanto's Roundup). Seifert's primary concern, and the one that remained inconclusive and unanswered until the end of the film, was whether GMOs are harmful to humans. But Seifert found plenty not to like anyway.

His first beef was the total lack of awareness in the United States about GMOs. When he explained what GMOs were to the clueless people on the streets and asked them whether they had a right to know if their food contained GMOs they all said they should. His film explores the food labeling issue and the resistance of companies like Monsanto that threaten to sue states that have passed food labeling ordinances and therefore are forced to back down to avoid costly litigation.

While consumers in the United States may not have a right to opt out, Seifert discovers that others have chosen to do so. He heads to Haiti after its massive earthquake and discovers that peasant farmers there had refused 475 tons of Monsanto-donated corn ("seeds of death") and burned it. The corn came up red and withered and was pulled up and thrown out, but more significantly, the Haitians realized that this corn was a "gift to destroy you, who you are, a way of life and culture." For unlike traditional varieties that can be planted each year,

Monsanto's came with a price. It could be planted just one time and new seed had to be purchased each year. Other countries seeing a similar threat to their food sovereignty include South Africa, Mexico, India and Italy.

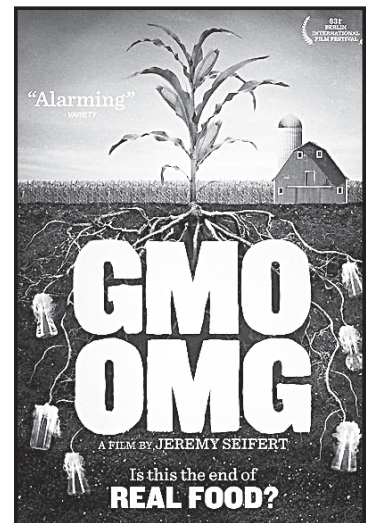
Seifert is also bothered by the ethical, even spiritual implications of GMOs. He draws parallels between seeds and stars, owned by none and shared by all. Should private companies be allowed to patent life and play god? He wonders where the U.S. protesters are and suspects that their absence can partly be explained by the stealthy way that Monsanto and the industry have stifled the debate and contributed to an ignorance of issues such as the loss of seed diversity.

GMO OMG covers a lot more ground—the pervasiveness of GMOs in corn, cotton, canola, soy, sugar beets; the growth of acres dedicated to GMO crops in

the U.S. and worldwide; the escalation in the costs of seeds; the dying of small-scale family farms globally; the myth that GMO crops are needed to feed a hungry planet; and other issues—before he circles back to his main worry, whether GMOs are harming him and his family.

At the end of the film Seifert says goodbye to his wife and three children and flies to France to interview Gilles-Eric Seralini, a professor of molecular biology at the University of Caen. In 2012 Seralini found that lab rats fed Roundup-resistant corn developed tumors while the control group did not and concluded the corn was toxic. Predictably, Seralini's research has been criticized, but shouldn't it cause us to pause and conduct further studies, Seifert wonders?

The Food and Drug Administration may still be on fast forward as far as GMOs are concerned. As are,



of course, those companies that profit from GMOs such as the large chemical and seed companies Monsanto, Dupont, and Syngenta. But Maine and Connecticut have passed food-labeling laws. And in this little part of Brooklyn, we have the Food Labeling Squad who day after day, has its finger on that pause button. ■

GMO OMG will show on Tuesday, November 11, 7 p.m. Park Slope Food Coop, 782 Union St., 2nd floor. Free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

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



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KOCH CERTIFIED ORGANIC (PENNSYLVANIA)
8 TO 24 LBS., \$4.37 LB. WEDS 11/19

(FROZEN) WISE KOSHER CERTIFIED ORGANIC TURKEY
(PENNSYLVANIA) 10-22 LBS., \$4.96 LB. THURS 11/20

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MEMBER SUBMISSION

Never Again

By Thomas Cox

Little by little, our non-Jewish neighbors had begun stealing things from us. Their behavior was deemed acceptable because we were Jews.

The above is part of a description of events in the small town of Kolucharki, Czechoslovakia as it was occupied by Nazis 70 years ago. It was written in 2012 by Fritzie Fritzshall, Holocaust survivor and President, Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center. She goes on to say,

The Museum has a "Power of One" campaign that emphasizes each of us has the power and responsibility to speak up for what is right. Every one of us can make a difference.

I hope and trust that all of us at PSFC will agree with this last sentiment, and deplore the stealing described in the first paragraph, the theft of personal property, and the illegal occupation of one country by another leading up to the Holocaust.

In the October 6 issue of *The New Yorker*, there is a short

book review of *My Grandfather's Gallery*, by Anne Sinclair. The book describes the long efforts of the renowned Jewish art dealer Paul Rosenberg to recover possession of his property stolen during the Second World War.

Most of us have probably read about many instances of similar thefts, and have applauded the eventual justice when restitution occurs. We want to, as Ms. Fritzshall notes, "speak up for what is right." We have international laws protecting human rights and property rights—for all, not for a select few. And beyond that, we know that it is morally indefensible for a powerful government to act in the interests of some, at the expense of others. We call that racism, and we condemn it wherever it occurs—in South Africa, Germany, Czechoslovakia, America, Israel or Palestine. Whether the theft is of art or books or homes or water or agricultural lands, taken from the less-powerful ethnicity X, by the more-powerful ethnicity Y, it is illegal and wrong and unjust.

If we simply move the location of the prefix "non-" in the first paragraph, we have a concise description of the crux of the ongoing Palestinian "Nakba" (catastrophe): *Little by little, our Jewish neighbors had begun stealing things from us. Their behavior was deemed acceptable because we were non-Jews.*

In the past few days we have seen the remarkable landslide win, by a stunning 274 to 12 votes, for the motion in the UK Parliament to recognize the Palestinian state. This turn-about came in part because of extreme frustration with recent land confiscations by Israel—land taken from Christian and Muslim Palestinians for the benefit of Jews. Richard Ottaway, chairman of the UK Foreign Affairs Select Committee, stated that he had always "stood by Israel through thick and thin," but he expressed his "anger over the behavior

of Israel," calling to mind the recent annexation of 950 acres of Palestinian land which had outraged him "more than anything else in my political life." He went on to warn Israelis: "if [Israel] is losing people like me it is going to be losing a lot of people."

We have a call from Palestinian civil society to aid them in the restitution of personal property that was wrongfully and illegally taken from them, and to join them in calling for an end to the military occupation of their lands. The Palestinian people need our help to regain land and other personal property that was confiscated in 1948, and through similar thefts that have occurred every year since then. These thefts are as wrong as the thefts described by Fritzie Fritzshall and Anne Sinclair. Palestinians also want full equality under the law and an end to the sys-

tem of one ethnicity having dominance over another.

The Palestinian people have instituted a campaign with three goals, all non-violent and in accordance with international law: an end to the occupation of Arab lands occupied by Israel since 1967; full equality for Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel; and the right of Palestinian refugees displaced or expelled during conflict in the region to return to their homes and properties as stipulated in UN Resolution 194.

Our choice is either to support their call or allow the status quo of injustice to prevail. Individuals can help by refusing to buy SodaStream products, produced in illegally occupied Palestine on illegally confiscated Palestinian land. Then we can demand that the Coop no longer carry these products. ■

The Agenda Committee is urgently seeking new members!

Join the Committee and help set the monthly General Meeting agenda.

Requirements:
.....

- ◆ Attend monthly Committee meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at 8:00 p.m.
- ◆ Attend at least five General Meetings per year
- ◆ Have a cooperative spirit and willingness to work in a collaborative committee environment
- ◆ Be interested in the ongoing business of the Coop
- ◆ Have a good attendance record

If interested, contact Ann Herpel at 718-622-0560 or ann_herpel@psfc.coop. The Committee will interview applicants before submitting candidates to the GM for election. We are seeking an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop's membership.

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

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

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

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

How can you donate?

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

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

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.



Coop Climate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

"It gave me hope that living a 'green lifestyle' is not a passing fad for people."

A Coop member for 11 years, Newberger graduates next May with a master's degree in public health with a concentration in nutrition. "I hope that my future job entails both food/nutrition and environmental education," she says. "To me, they are inextricably linked."

Obviously Romer is also

focused on the future, in a way that has intensified as she closes in on retiring from her work as a psychology professor at Brooklyn College. At 67, she figures that with luck, "I've got 20 good years left and I'm gonna fight like hell those 20 years, because I don't want to leave this planet a mess. We owe it to all of ourselves to do something about it. We can't wait. I can't imagine going out feeling that I didn't do just about everything that I could." ■



PHOTO BY LISA COHEN

Brooklyn Food Coalition leader Nancy Romer shopping at the Coop.

PSFC Construction Committee Needs Another Welder

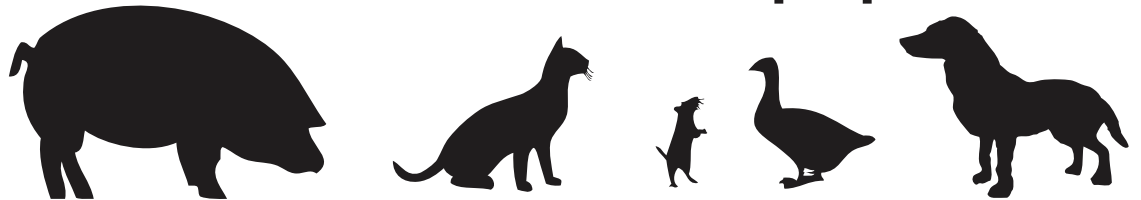
The PSFC Construction Committee has an opening for an additional welder. The job includes picking up a variety of items in need of repair (u-boats, hollywood carts, street carts, conveyor stands, loading-zone signs, etc.) in your own vehicle, taking them to your own shop, repairing them and returning them to the Coop, and, of course, reporting your hours to General Coordinator Mike Eakin, or his backup. The Coop reimburses for supplies and excess electric-demand charges.

E-mail: ibraim_dauti@psfc.coop



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

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



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

Find us here!

Blog: www.psfcanimals.blogspot.com

Twitter: [@psfcanimals](https://twitter.com/psfcanimals)

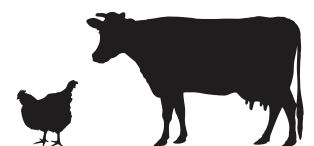
Current Guides:

Eggs (next to egg case)

Milk (next to milk case)

Animal Testing

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



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.

Edgar Abad	Sarah Carr	Lawrence Hall	Colleen Kelly	Spencer Merolla	Sophie Rigaux	Arielle Teitcher
Brian Adler	Denise Cermanski	Jessica Hardie	Miranda Knutson	Jacquelyn Meyers	J. Cameron Ringness	Jaclyn Tjijto
Kirsten Adler	Derval Connell	Eliana Hecht	Patty Koster	Eugene Millerman	Trudy Roberts	Nathan Todd
Luis Aguilar-Moreno	Elizabeth Esser-Stuart	Yuko Horiguchi	Stephanie Leary	Talie Morgensztern	Joanna Rooney	Stefanie Todd
Sandrine Asmani-Allen	Caleb Fountain	Nicholas Hotto	Pamela Lee	Jeremy Ortman	Ana Acevedo Sanchez	Eric Van Gelder
Albert Bachand	Renaut Fritsch	Mark Houtzager	Taryn Lesser	David Ostrowski	Jay Saper	Catherine Wagler
Priyanka Basnet	John Furtado	Rachel Hsiung	Lucia Lezama	Karen Ostrowski	Mira Scarvalone	Mike Was
Cyril Bennouna	Hannah Gallogly	Miriam Ingvarson	Shane Liebling	Edwin Padilla Villa	Katherine Schnakenberg	Oliver Wellington
Amanda Boege	Julie Gaynin	Naoko Iwata	Julissa Llosa	Harold Padilla-Villa	Yasmin Schwartz	Priya Wellington
Joelle Bonnouvier	Barry Gelda	Ann Jacobson	Ronald Lodetti	Anastasia Pickett	Lucas Shiller	Lindsay Willemain
Haya Brant	Andrew Gibson	Alberto Carpio Jimenez	Lasse Lorenzen	Rebecca Popuch	Marques Simmons	Cameron Williams
Emmanuelle Brossard	Peter Gonzalez Jr	Lucy Jordan	Joe Manning	Alyssa Proujansky	Vadim Sitchkar	Guilia Wolthuis
Whitney Buckholz	Paige Gottheim	Amol Kaikini	Signe Mathiasen	Elan Raffel	Andrew Smith	Joris Wynendaele
Irene Bunis	Molly Griffard	Mumtaj Kaikini	Edward Maxwell	Jonathan Reinharth	Stephen Sosnowski	Dara Yaskil
Maren Bush	John Gross	Yuri Kazepov	Matt Meiners	Isabel Reyes	David Stein	Muriel Zawick

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:



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.



Marje Wagner

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

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

RETURN POLICY



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

REQUIRED FOR ANY RETURN

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

CAN I EXCHANGE MY ITEM?

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

CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?

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

NEVER
RETURNABLE

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

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

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

RETURNABLE

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

This Issue Prepared By:

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COOP CALENDAR

New Member Orientations

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

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

The Coop on the Internet

www.foodcoop.com

The Coop on Cable TV

Inside the Park Slope Food Coop

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

General Meeting Info

TUE, NOVEMBER 4

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.
Submissions will be considered for the November 18 General Meeting.

Tue, NOVEMBER 18

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

Gazette Deadlines

Letters & Voluntary Articles:

Nov. 13 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, November 3
Nov. 27 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, November 17

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Nov. 13 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, November 5
Nov. 27 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, November 19



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, November 18, 7:00 p.m.

The General Meeting is regularly held on the last Tuesday of each month. November's meeting is one week earlier, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

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 pro-cessed 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 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).

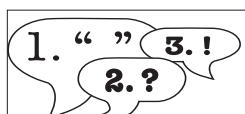
nov 1
sat 3:30 pm

Reality, Truth and Conscious Light

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

nov 4
tue 8 pm

Agenda Committee Meeting



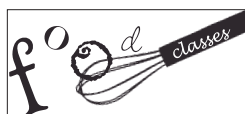
The Committee reviews pending agenda items and creates the agenda for this month's General Meeting. Drop by and talk with committee members face-to-face between 8:00 and 8:15 p.m. Before submitting an item, read "How to Develop an Agenda Item for the

General Meeting" and fill out the General Meeting Agenda Item Submission Form, both available from the Membership Office or at foodcoop.com.

The next General Meeting will be held one week earlier (due to the Thanksgiving holiday), on Tuesday, November 18, 7 p.m., at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.

nov 6
thu 7:30 pm

Food Class: The Secrets of Healthy Indian Cooking



Introduction to Indian spices and foods and some of the health benefits associated with these foods. The class will provide a foundation for balancing flavors. Chef **Mukti Banerjee** is a native of Bengali, India, and learned her

craft from her mother, aunts and grandmothers. Mukti honors this tradition in her popular Mukti's Kitchen classes in her home. Her focus is on healthy vegetarian Indian cooking that is enjoyable to prepare. Mukti has taught at the Park Slope Food Coop among other venues and was recently featured in *Edible Brooklyn*. She has also been reviewed by Yelp. **Menu includes:** *suka rajma* (red kidney beans with onions, ginger and tomatoes); *aloo gobi rasha* (cauliflower, potatoes and pea curry); *vegetable pulao* (basmati rice with carrots, onions and aromatic spices). **ASL interpreter may be available upon advance request. If you would like to request an ASL interpreter, please contact Ginger Jung in the Membership Office by October 23. Materials fee: \$4. Food classes are coordinated by Coop member Susan Baldassano.**

nov 7
fri 7 pm

Film Night: Hit & Stay



On May 17, 1968, nine Catholic activists entered a Selective Service office in suburban Catonsville, MD, dragged stacks of Draft Board records out into the parking lot, and set them on fire with homemade napalm. They then prayed, and waited to be arrested. In doing so, they kindled a wave of civil disobedience actions against the

Vietnam War across the country. *Hit & Stay* tells the story of the Catonsville Nine and those who joined them and escalated their protests through interviews with the participants (Milwaukee 14, DC Nine, New York Eight, Boston Eight, and more) as well as observers ranging from political critic Noam Chomsky to historian Howard Zinn. As this group went either to prison to serve their time or underground to tangle with the FBI, they ultimately helped change America's mind about the war. *Hit & Stay* won audience awards at the Chicago Underground Film Fest and the Minneapolis Underground Film Fest as well as the best documentary award at the Sidewalk Moving Picture Fest in 2013. **Joe Tropea** (director, producer, writer) is a public historian, writer, musician, and filmmaker. He has been making films and videos for nearly two decades. This is his feature directorial debut. **Skizz Cyzyk** (director, editor, director of photography, writer) has held positions at MicroCineFest, Maryland Film Festival, Slamdance, and Atlanta Film Festival. A filmmaker since 1983, his previous films include *Freaks In Love*, *Little Castles*, *Managers' Corner*, and music videos for Beach House, Young Fresh Fellows, and many others.

To book a Film Night, contact Gabriel Rhodes, gabrielrhodes@me.com.

nov 8
sat 12 pm

The Blueprint For Financial Success

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

nov 9
sun 12 pm

Bag-Making Event



Join the Coop's **Environmental Committee** in a fun hands-on crafternoon of reusable bag making! Ditching the plastic roll bags for produce can be a great way to use up discarded t-shirts, sheets, and other lightweight fabrics into simple-to-cut-and-sew bags you can reuse again and again. This is a drop-in

event, so come when you can, stay to make a bag or two, and go downstairs to put your bags to immediate use. Supplies will be provided, but if you have clean, lightweight textiles you'd like to repurpose into bags, excess thread of any color, or want to bring your sewing machine along, do feel free!

For more information on these and other events, visit the Coop's website: foodcoop.com

All events take place at the Park Slope Food Coop unless otherwise noted. Nonmembers are welcome to attend workshops.
Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop.

oct 31—dec 19 2014

nov 11
tue 7 pm

Safe Food Committee Film Night: GMO OMG



Director and concerned father Jeremy Seifert is in search of answers. How do GMOs affect our children, the health of our planet, and our freedom of choice? And the ultimate question: is it even possible to reject the current food system or have we lost something we can't gain back? These and other questions take Seifert on a journey from his family's table to Haiti, Paris, Norway, and the lobby of Monsanto, from which he is unceremoniously ejected. Along the way we gain insight into a growing concern to citizens the world over: what's on your plate?

nov 14
fri 7 pm

Wordsprouts: Nonviolent Communication Workshop



Get ready for Thanksgiving and the December holidays with a communication workshop with **Dian Killian**, co-author of *Connecting Across Differences: Finding Common Ground with Anyone, Anywhere, Anytime* and the author of *Urban Empathy: True Life Adventures of Compassion on the Streets of NY*. Killian, a certified trainer with the International Center for Nonviolent Communication, will lead a workshop about practicing empathy and compassionate communication in every-day challenging situations—including the holidays with your family! She will share stories from her book, *Urban Empathy*, and some practical exercises and tips to help make being heard and connecting with others easier!

nov 16
sun 12 pm

Create Painted Rock Gardens

Calling all children! The Tree Care Squad needs your help to create painted rock gardens in the winter tree beds on Union Street. Roll up your sleeves, grab a paintbrush, and come paint rocks. Parents welcomed. For more information, contact treepep@gmail.com.

nov 18
tue 7 pm

PSFC NOV General Meeting



Meeting Agenda to be announced. For information on how to place an item on the Agenda, please see the center pages of the *Linewaiters' Gazette*. The Agenda Committee minutes and the status of pending agenda items are available in the Coop office. **Meeting location:** MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. Enter on Fourth St. cul-de-sac. Fourth St. entrance is handicap-accessible.

nov 21
fri 7 pm

Cheese Class

We invite Coop members to learn more about the wonderful cheeses the Coop has to offer. This event will be limited to 30 people on a first-come, first-seated basis. It will be like musical chairs—come and claim your seat—there should be room for you. We bring a guest speaker each time and explore cheeses together. This workshop is brought to you by Coop member **Aaron Kirtz**, who has worked in the cheese industry since 2003, and sells cheese to the Coop via Forever Cheese. Aaron actually got his job through the Coop, where as a Food Processor he met many cheeses and then members of Forever Cheese, who hired him for a sales position.

nov 21
fri 8 pm

Swing Street Orchestra: Barry Bryson, Marje Wagner



Come join **Barry Bryson**, band-leader 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 Carolyn Murphy. **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.**



dec 2
tue 8 pm

Agenda Committee Meeting



The Committee reviews pending agenda items and creates the agenda for future General Meetings. Drop by and talk with committee members face-to-face between 8:00 and 8:15 p.m. Before submitting an item, read "How to Develop an Agenda Item for the General Meeting" and fill out the General Meeting Agenda Item Submission Form, both available from the Membership Office or at foodcoop.com. **The next General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 27, 7 p.m., at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts. No General Meeting will be held in December.**

still to come

dec 4

Food Class

dec 9

Safe Food Committee Film Night

dec 5

Film Night

dec 19

Reality, Truth & Conscious Light

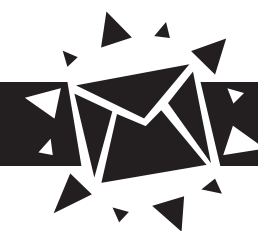
dec 7

Sound for Meditation & Health

dec 19

Prospect Concerts

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



RETHINKING THE COOP RETIREMENT POLICY

TO THE EDITOR:

At the September Coop meeting, the question of whether to have a demographic study relating to the Coop retirement policy was again raised. Members voiced concern that non-working seniors would be “freeloaders” and therefore there was no need or justification for a demographic study.

I am still surprised with the Coop’s retirement rules, which are so unlike other Coop policies, especially the family friendly rules in place for parents of newborns and young children. Looking around the auditorium at the meeting, I saw mostly young and early middle-aged faces, with relatively few older people in attendance. I see the same youthful faces when I shop at the Coop, with few very elderly people in the store. Since that particular agenda item related to proposed data collection, I would like to contribute a data point for Coop members’ consideration: only once in the last twelve months have I seen an elderly person using a walking cane on the shopping floor of the Coop. On the streets in our neighborhood, I see many more elderly with canes or walkers.

I suspect the Coop’s retirement policy has shaped the Coop membership, pushing

out the frail elderly, those who are not disabled, but are not winners of the genetic lottery of aging. I find a general lack of understanding of the difference between frailty and disability when retirement policies are being debated at Coop meetings. Frailty is a condition of high vulnerability for adverse health outcomes, which is not the same as disability. Demanding an elderly member be “disabled” to be released from work shifts is misguided, and requiring work from very frail elderly members subjects those members to unnecessary stress and risk.

I have never heard a complaint about the “free ride” given to children of Coop members. We do not require extra shifts from members with children. On the contrary, we give parental leave to families of newborns and provide childcare upstairs for older children as well. Demanding extra work shifts from parents of young children would probably drive those families out of the Coop.

Just to be clear, I am not advocating a change in the family friendly policies. But why when it comes to discussing needs of seniors do we pretend to have an “age blind” Coop? Or are we only age blind in the sense that we find seniors within the Coop not worthy of our concern?

I congratulate the seniors who can continue working to age 80 or older. However, if a senior is beginning to find the

monthly work shifts too stressful or difficult, how can we justify forcing that person to quit membership at the Coop? The often repeated “if you can shop, you can work” attitude has had its impact: the frail elderly don’t shop at the Coop. But why can’t we have a more humane and thoughtful retirement policy, one that allows the Coop membership to reflect our neighborhood, frail elderly included?

Sincerely,
Jennifer Epelbaum

THANK YOU TO A KIND AND GENEROUS MEMBER

TO THE EDITOR:

Hi, I wanted to let you know about a very unique experience I had at the Coop last Sunday evening. While at the cashier in the express line I realized I had left my debit card at home. My bill was \$32 and I only had \$20 cash. I told the cashier I would remove some items and pay for \$20 worth of groceries. After I said this a woman by the name of Paris graciously offered to pay the difference for me. When I asked her if I could have her address so I could mail her a check she told me something along the lines of “this is my chance to do something nice for someone, which I don’t often have a chance to do. Now you can do something nice for someone else.” I was floored by her generosity and

kindness. I think this is a great example of the kind of community we have at the Coop and what makes the Coop such a special place to be a part of. Thought I’d share this with you so it could be shared in the next *Linewaiters’ Gazette*.

Regards,
Chris Henrick

ENTRANCE CHECK-IN—WHY DO WE NEED IT?

TO THE EDITOR:

Sunday, October, 19, about 11:45 a.m.

At the entrance desks, one worker was busy with a member who had questions. I approached the other desk and patiently waited for the entrance worker to clear the computer screen after the person before me walked on.

I waited and waited. But the worker’s eyes were looking down. I asked if she was ready. Then she looked up from her mobile screen and facilitated my entry. As we talked, her hands got busy knitting. Meanwhile, the shopping squad leader sitting next to her was oblivious to how this entrance worker was doing on her shift.

I talked to both the entrance worker and the squad leader. Now, it’s time to talk to the entire membership.

Hey, everyone: Most of us all enjoy the social part of working our Coop shift. But does that mean we should focus primarily on our personal business while we are on the shift? Is the entrance check-in a less important part and a less necessary part of the cooperation than lifting boxes, stocking shelves, checking out, counting money, etc.? Should we let anyone into the shopping area anytime during shopping hours?

All critical questions for our cooperation to have a working, thriving Park Slope Food Coop!

Thank you,
Marion Yuen

INTERNATIONAL TRADE EDUCATION SQUAD

TO THE EDITOR:

At the last general meeting, the membership approved the formation of an International Trade Education Squad “to keep members informed about how they affect our ability to maintain our values and real-

ize the goals of the Park Slope Food Coop.” The committee was approved to have seven members for two years. That is 500 1/2 hours of member labor. That is a lot of hours. I have difficulty grasping how the 500 1/2 hours will be spent educating us. And not spent on committee members socializing.

No Trans-Pacific free-trade agreement has been announced. There are only “leaks.” One can easily find them on the web. I asked Susan Metz if the members would give back their hours if the actual treaty had none of the horrors seen in the leaks. Susan assured the meeting that she would personally work off the hours if it turned out that way.

Don Wiss

SIR RICHARD’S

TO THE EDITOR:

Like many items in the vitamin/supplement aisle, the Coop’s choice of condom brands seems to change irregularly and without much communication to members. This requires some flexibility on the part of the shopper, who needs to be willing to accept one brand in the place of another if they want to purchase that particular kind of product at the Coop. This isn’t too much of a burden, except recently in the case of Sir Richard’s condoms.

A recent purchase of Sir Richard’s revealed not one, not two, but three brand new condoms had holes or tears. That goes beyond accident to a quality control issue. The Coop should immediately assess whether other boxes of Sir Richard’s in stock have this issue and if so remove them. It would also be wise if the Coop reexamined its policies for stocking reproductive health items for quality control issues to assure that Coop members can trust the items they find at our store.

Coop members who purchase these items should always inspect them before use, of course, but anyone who wants to trust a product to actually perform its function should reconsider purchasing Sir Richard’s in particular.

Thanks,
Love in Cooperation

Coordinator’s note: We have forwarded your letter and concern to the appropriate PSFC product buyer. Thank you for writing.

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

Anonymity

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

Fairness

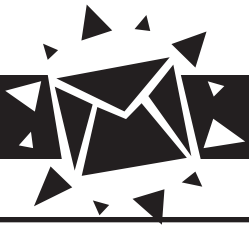
In order to provide fair, comprehensive, factual coverage:

1. The *Gazette* will not publish hearsay—that is, allegations not based on the author’s first-hand observation.
2. Nor will we publish accusations that are not specific or are not substantiated by factual assertions.
3. Copies of submissions that make substantive accusations against specific individuals will be given to those persons to enable them to write a response, and both submissions and response will be published simultaneously. This means that the original submission may not appear until the issue after the one for which it was submitted.

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

Respect

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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BDS/MIDDLE EAST

BDS TOPIC

TO THE EDITOR:

Ran across and read an old (July 10, 2014) *Gazette* issue wherein one of the letters to the editor made a couple of points I take issue with. The letter was in the BDS Topics section and it basically repeated the trope that PSFC is all about good healthy food and healthy food related advocacy—period. I would beg to differ. To my understanding, PSFC grew out of a time and a movement of countercultural thinkers and actors who cared enough about charting a different course, going against the status quo and, yes the founders manifested that spirit in a Food Coop, but a Food Coop that has a foundation in social consciousness and social justice. Otherwise, why bother to weigh in on something like apartheid, or to pursue fair trade. They could have made it all about eat, drink and be merry, but they didn't. So I guess it's a Food Coop for eaters with a conscience. Oh, and one more thing—we never voted NOT to be a part of BDS. What would have been a vote on that issue was manipulated into a vote on whether to take a vote. Perhaps if we had all been allowed to vote on the issue, we wouldn't still be devoting pages to BDS topics.

Stephanie Wright

INTIMIDATION OF JOURNALISTS

TO THE EDITOR:

Several letters were written in the September 4, October 2, and October 16 issues asking about your stance on intimidation of journalists covering war conflicts.

Since no response was evident in the September 18, October 2, or October 16 issues, I hope that the forthcoming issue with this very letter will have been long enough for you to reveal your official or even your personal position. Do you have one?

Jesse Rosenfeld

STOP PUBLISHING LETTERS NOT RELATED TO THE COOP

TO THE EDITOR:

For a more complete understanding of this letter, you may want to skip to the last paragraph.

In the history of science many things may vie for the title of the greatest discovery of all time. Inherently such a simplistic ranking is not possible, but it does at least convey a sense that some discoveries stand out as truly transformative. In my personal pantheon, no idea in science is more profound, elegant and ground shaking than Darwin's theory of Evolution. The idea, unlike so much of science, is readily understandable, indeed almost simplistic. Yet its simplicity only enhances one sense of awe when one considers how such a simple idea can lead to such profound insights.

So let us begin an exploration of the concept of evolution and reveal the amazing multi-faceted ramifications of this idea. I will conclude this installment of this thrilling series of letters with that wonderful quote by the evolutionary biologist Theodosius Dobzhansky: **"Nothing in Biology Makes Sense Except in the Light of Evolution"**

Why did I write the above paragraphs? THIS IS A PROTEST letter to the editors of the *Gazette*. Like, I suspect, many other Coop members, I am thoroughly sick of reading literally pages of "BDS Middle East" letters. It is beyond bizarre that we continue to focus on this topic, long after a lengthy debate, followed by an expensive vote where the BDS idea was defeated. Enough! It is my understanding that the editors have taken, what I believe to be a misguided policy, of printing any letter, so long as it meets the published guidelines for letters as stated in the *Gazette*. The editors refuse to use editorial discretion and say, "Hmmm....this letter is not related in any substantial way to the business of the Coop, but it is not racist, sexist, otherwise discrimi-

natory, and not derogatory or insulting, so we feel that we must publish it."

Therefore I will submit my irrelevant letters to the Coop and demand that they be published as well. I will promptly stop writing my drivel, when the editors stop the practice of publishing the BDS letter section. Furthermore, I would like to urge all like minded Coop members to submit their own irrelevant letters to the Coop. Write on any subject you care to, just be sure that like the BDS/Israeli-Palestine problem, that your letter be irrelevant to any reasonable understanding of what belongs in the Coop's newspaper. Please include at the end a statement to the effect that the following letter is a protest against the BDS letter policy of the Coop. Hopefully if the editors are inundated with enough letters they will realize that they should not publish every letter. While publishing all letters has the patina of fairness and prevents any accusations by disgruntled rejected letter writers of discrimination, deciding what gets published is IN FACT the job of an editor! Do your job editors!

Eric Eisenstadt

THE REAL ISRAELI 'PEACE' POLICY; BDS ACTIONS: WALES, AUSTRALIA

TO THE EDITOR:

The article: *Ethnic Cleansing by All Means: The Real Israeli "Peace" Policy*, is written by Ilan Pappé, Israeli historian (University of Exeter), author of the landmark work: *The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine*, and Samer Jaber, political activist and researcher. Judaism, a religion, became a nation through the Zionist project that produced Israel. Ethnic cleansing remains the consistent overall strategy used by Israel from 1947 to the present. It has proven both cruel and effective.

The ethnic cleansing of 700,000+ Palestinians from Palestine, not permitted to return (1947-1949),

produced the Palestinian Catastrophe, the Nakba. Israel introduced the European, fast-growing pine to create parks to hide ruins of hundreds of destroyed Palestinian villages. After Israel occupied the West Bank and Jerusalem in 1967, pine trees again were planted to cover over the new wave of destroyed villages.

Another means for covering ethnic cleansing was renaming some Palestinian villages as Jewish settlements, Hebrewizing their Arabic names: Lubyia became Kibbutz Lavi, Asqalan became Israeli city of Ashkelon.

Colonization, "settlements," became the principal means of ethnic cleansing with Israeli expansion into the West Bank. Colonization has annexed large parts of the illegally occupied territory to Israel. Other means of ethnic cleansing imprison nearby Palestinian areas with wires, fences and gates. In Israel: Palestinian citizens, who survived the Nakba, are confined by a "spatial master plan" that disallows any building permits, or expansion of the area where they reside.

The "segregation wall" is another means of ethnic cleansing. Israel surrounds major Palestinian communities in the West Bank combined with Israeli controlled border crossings. Israeli settlers are connected with major Israeli cities by highways bypassing Palestinian villages/towns.

The siege/blockade of the Gaza Strip (1.8 million people) since 2006 is the worst

method of ethnic cleansing. Rationalized by Israel as a security measure, "in truth it is part of their ethnic cleansing strategy that, in this case, can easily turn into a genocidal policy. No wonder Palestinians there resist ethnic cleansing with all they have."

The strategy of ethnic cleansing is marketed to the Israeli public as "preserving Jewish identity," creating a "national consensus." To the world it is marketed as "Israel's need for security."

Wales: Gwynedd Council (north Wales) voted October 9 to block all trade relations with Israel, condemning the "over-reaction and savageness" used by Israel in Gaza. Largely symbolic: area does not trade with Israel. Other UK councils made decisions not to invest in occupation-linked companies like Veolia.

Australia: Professor Marcelo Svirsky, (University of Wollongong), walked 10 days (178 miles) from Sydney to Canberra delivering a petition to be read in Parliament on October 27: asking the Australian Government to honor their obligations under international law through boycott, divestment and sanctions of Israel over its illegal, discriminatory and cruel policies toward Palestinians. A former Israeli refuse-nik, soldier of conscience, Svirsky refused to participate in Israel's belligerent and cruel occupation that daily perpetuates inhuman suffering on Palestinians.

Mary Buchwald

BrooklynForPeace.org

PSFC members for BDS

www.psfcbds.wordpress.com



CLASSIFIEDS

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AVAILABLE

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.

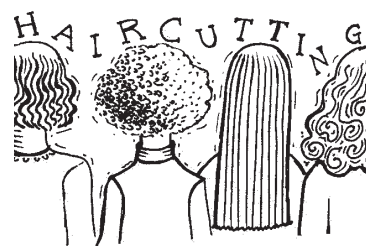
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EXPRESS MOVES. One flat price for the entire move! No deceptive hourly estimates! Careful, experienced mover. Everything quilt padded. No extra charge for wardrobes and packing tape. Specialist in walkups. Thousands of satisfied customers. Great Coop 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.

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SERVICES-HEALTH

DAILY PSYCHOLOGICAL TIPS for weight loss, cancer management and parenting. www.DrHaber.com www.facebook.com/drsandrahaber.

VACATION RENTALS

PRESIDENT'S WK SKI VACATION Eden Utah! Spend the week in a 1 BR Apt in a fantastic resort- Wolf Creek Village. Winter snow coats thousands of acres of groomed trails - Powder Mountain, Snowbasin & Wolf Creek. Qu bed in BR, Qu pull out couch in LR, full kit, hot tub/whirlpool, fireplace, sauna, gym. 2/13-2/20/15. Book directly, it's \$1,327 - I'm asking \$950.00 including tax. Joan 718-208-8686.

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

Rolie Polie Guacamole

FALL HOMECOMING CONCERT

Saturday, November 15, 2014

SHAPESHIFTER LAB - 18 Whitwell Place

Doors 10:45 | Show @ 11am

Pre-order Tkts: \$12ea or Family of 4 \$40

At Door Tkts: \$15ea (ages 1+)

www.roliepolieguacamole.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community calendar listings are free. Please submit your event listing in 50 words or less to GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop.

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

FRI, NOV 7

8-11 p.m. SWING DANCE NIGHT - Park Slope - JITTERBUG JAM with Flying Home and Arturo Perez. Dance lessons with Arturo Perez followed by live '30s and '40s swing music from Flying Home with guest singer Molly Ryan! BSEC, 53 Prospect Park West. More Info: www.brooklynswingdance.com.

SAT, NOV 8

4-5 p.m. Sunday Suppers, the wildly popular Brooklyn-based cooking club, featuring Karen

Mordechai with tasting by Melissa Vaughan. POWERHOUSE on 8th: 1111 Eighth Ave. BKLYN. For more info call 718-801-8375. RSVP: rsvp@powerhouseon8th.com.

SUN, NOV 9

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

SUN, NOV 16

8 a.m. Invitation to CNYC Housing Conference, join UHAB, coop and condo building leaders at the conference, which offers 75 seminars and 45 exhibits. Baruch College, 55 Lexington Ave, corner of E. 24th St. For more info contact Emily at 212-479-3319 or ng@uhab.org. Conference Brochure: www.cnyc.org/pdf/34th_OnLine_Brochure.pdf.

Qi Gong class *with Ann Reibel, L.Ac.*

Mondays from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

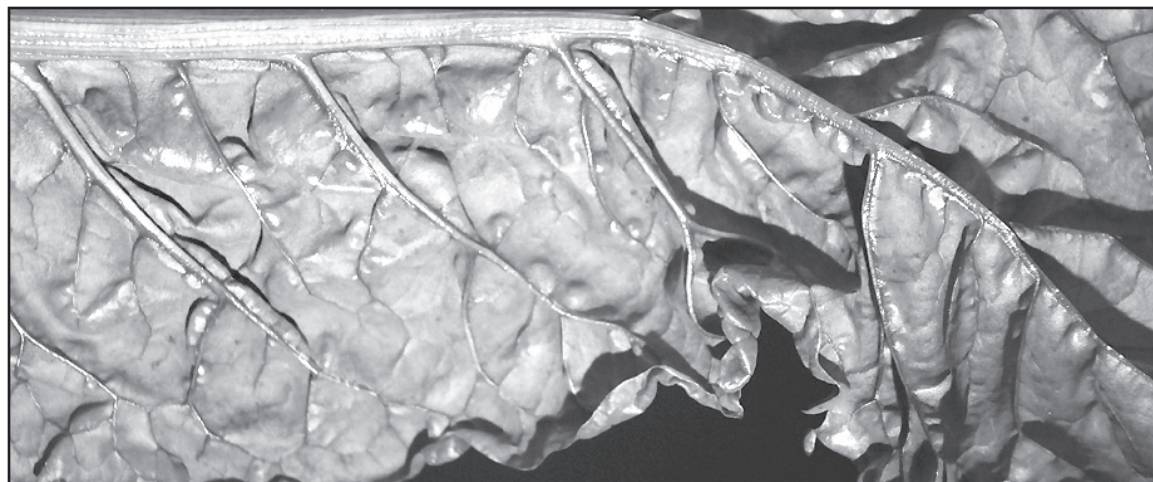
@ Spoke the Hub, 748 Union St.

For more information & to register see: www.QiAnnie.com
text/call: 347-461-2028



Solution to this issue's sudoku puzzle

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



PSFC's Steady Relationship with CHiPS

On early Monday mornings, Janice Lebby, the kitchen manager at CHiPS, meets grocery laden U-boats as they arrive from the Park Slope Food Coop (PSFC). With the help of volunteers, Janice sorts the shipments. Their contents vary, but there are always plenty of fresh vegetables and fruits, usually dairy, eggs, bread, and frozen meats—essential ingredients for the eleven o'clock lunch rush. Occasionally, the shipments will even contain prepared foods as well, like chicken salad or tofu sandwiches that will be distributed to appreciative guests in takeaway bag lunches from 1 to 3 p.m.

The CHiPS soup kitchen has always depended on the generosity of its donors to be able to pursue its community mission. Located just up the hill on Union Street, the Park Slope Food Coop—one of the largest grocery cooperatives in the country—has maintained a relationship with CHiPS since the early '70s, when both institutions were founded. Though the soup kitchen also receives donations from many area restaurants, PSFC currently ensures deliveries of fresh supplies three times a week, accounting for around eighty percent of the food served in the CHiPS dining room.

"The PSFC is a tremendous backbone for CHiPS. They have been holding us up!" Added Denise Scaravella, CHiPS Executive Director.

Beyond groceries, the Coop boosts CHiPS with a volunteer workforce. The basic food cooperative model works by eliminating staffing costs, resulting in steep discounts on groceries for its members as well as group control over store practices and stocking decisions. To achieve this the store is staffed by the members themselves who are required to work 2 hours and 45 minutes every four weeks to remain in good standing. PSFC has grown over the years, and is now comprised of some 16,000 members. Completing shifts at CHiPS towards the monthly quota became an option in the early 2000s. Camille Scuria, Membership Coordinator at the Coop, now sends over 28 volunteers a week, usually between four and six people, two shifts a day on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday.

There are many indications that the volunteers enjoy their shifts at CHiPS. For one thing, turnover is low, with some choosing to complete their shifts at CHiPS over the store for a decade or more. A large part is due to the gratitude expressed

by CHiPS staff and patrons.

Stephanie Russell-Kraft, a PSFC volunteer, especially likes being in a dynamic environment.

"What I enjoy most about my shift is that, along with getting to work in a kitchen (I have a Saturday morning shift), I've had the chance to meet a wide variety of people from the area that I'd otherwise never get to see," Stephanie said, "During my last shift, I folded napkins around forks for an hour and a half while chatting with a returned Peace Corps volunteer. The time before that, I spent two hours making fruit salad in the kitchen. It's always different."

After all these years, it has become a dependable and bountiful relationship. Lebby recalls a time when the kitchen ran out of lettuce. It wasn't a delivery day, but Lebby was still able to call the PSFC for an emergency shipment. They responded quickly, not only with lettuce, but all kinds of leafy greens in addition to string beans and prepackaged salads.

Publicly, the partnership demonstrates the PSFC's commitment to the community and

social responsibility, while for CHiPS it draws attention to the service being performed there and invests individual Coop members into the welfare of the venerable organization. Periodically the Coop holds food drives for the soup kitchen, asking for non-perishable foods. Beyond kitchen shifts, PSFC volunteers have helped set up the website, the newsletter, fundraising efforts, and elevated CHiPS' community profile on their own time.

The PSFC's investment in CHiPS means that on Saturdays Janice Lebby has prep duties to delegate to team leaders and other volunteers, cleaning lettuce, chopping carrots, seasoning and roasting meat. Some show up with kitchen skills and even contribute recipes, others learn on the spot, all so that there are meals ready on the hot line by lunch. CHiPS relies on PSFC to make this a dependable daily practice, a routine that last year served over 100,000 free, nutritious meals to those in need within the community. ■

Reprinted from the CHiPS newsletter.

FOLLOW:
the Food Coop on

twitter & Instagram
& Pinterest @foodcoop

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 by November 1 and tell us about your interest and skills in indexing, as well as how long you've been a Coop member.



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.

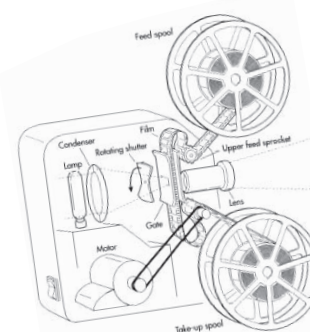
See chipsonline.org for information on how to make financial donations to CHIPS.

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.



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.

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

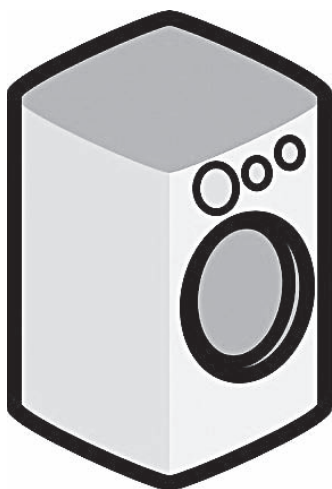
Receiving Produce Monday-Friday, 5 to 7:30 a.m.

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.



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.



Laundry and Toy Cleaning Friday, 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.

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

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

Entrance Desk

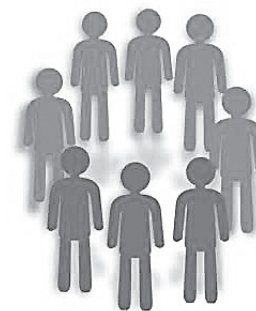
Wednesday 5:45 to 8:00 a.m.

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

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.



Van/Truck Driver for GM Delivery/Pick-up Last Tuesday night each 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.

Thanksgiving Day Shopping Hours 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.



**THE MEMBERSHIP OFFICE IS
CLOSED ON THANKSGIVING DAY.**