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February 19, 2015

A Legacy of Integrity and Passion for Produce

By Hayley Gorenberg

General Coordinator and chief produce buyer Allen Zimmerman says frankly that while he'd be thrilled to work for the Coop "till the day I die," but two recoveries from cancer have moved him to retire April 17, a few weeks after he turns 65, and 27 years after he arrived to work his first day as a Coop staffer.

"I have a list of busted body parts," Zimmerman said, recounting a particularly arduous operation to rebuild his tongue using flesh grafted from his inner forearm. "The surgeries I had were really profound," he said. "I don't know how I'll wear out."

"A lot of people don't like to talk about cancer," he continued, "but I do." His openness has spurred many Coop members to speak with him about their own experiences. "They come up to me and say to me, in some version or another, 'Can I tell you my story?'"

Coop founder Joe Holtz remembers the first chapter of Zimmerman's Coop story, which started in 1988. "He was excited about the mission of the Coop, and he stayed excited. He just loves it. From day one he was an incredibly dedicated employee. The 16,000 owners of the Coop couldn't find a better employee."

Holtz continued, "The produce job is a very challenging job. It's so variable. You see a peach that comes in and you

immediately call the supplier and say, 'That peach that came in today—can I get it tomorrow, because it's fantastic!' And your whole plan about peaches goes out the window. You really need to understand that. How do you

nine years. "He remembers an amazing amount of detail on what to order when," she said, remarking that Zimmerman will call a supplier during citrus season if he doesn't see an item on a price list and thinks it's high time it should have

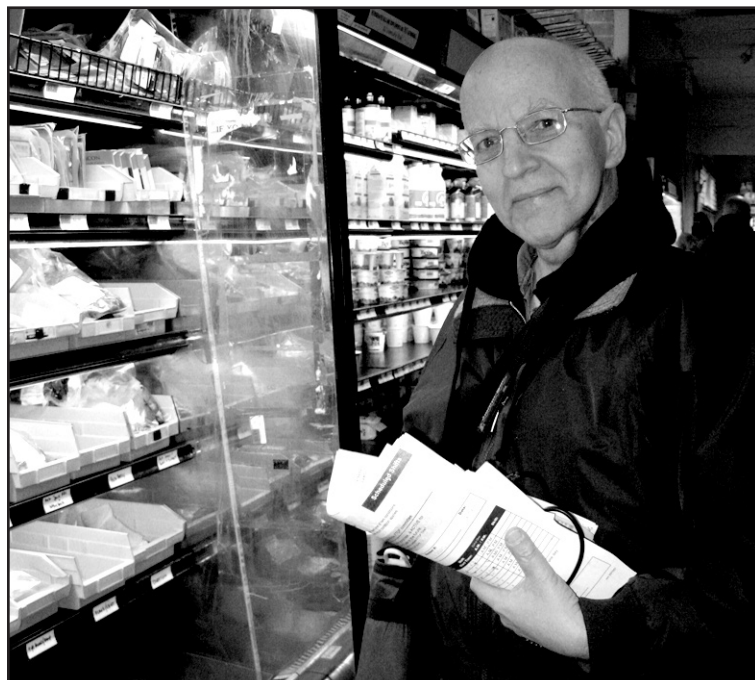


PHOTO BY LISA COHEN

Allen Zimmerman, General Coordinator and Produce Buyer is retiring after 27 extraordinary years as a Coop staffer.

learn that? You learn it by remembering all the different things that happened to you. You learn from your mistakes. Some people learn fast, and Allen just took everything in. It's very impressive."

"It's like he's got a computer in his brain," said Julie Gabriel, a Coop buyer who's worked with Zimmerman for the past

been offered. "He's demanding and can be very exacting," she said. "One of the things he's telling the other buyers is that we should be passionate if we want to get the great produce items in."

Holtz offered that Zimmerman's brain might actually outstrip computing abilities:

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Coop-ocalypse Now: The Day Before the Storm and the Day After



PHOTO BY LINDA EWING

Lining up for emergency Snowmageddon shopping.

By Allison Pennell

It's getting hard to keep track of the number of unprecedented, historic, top five, storm of the century storms the city has prepped for in the last several years. New Yorkers in general and Food

Coop members in particular are already well trained in how to wait in lines. But the two day run-up to January 27's touted Snowmageddon 2015 unleashed—even by Thanksgiving shopping standards—a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Next General Meeting on February 24

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

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

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Coop Event Highlights

Thu, Mar 5 • Food Class: Kitchen Pharmacy 7:30 p.m.

Fri, Mar 6 • Film Night: 1964 7:00 p.m.

Tue, Mar 10 • Safe Food Committee Film Night: Seeds of Death 7:00 p.m.

Fri, Mar 13 • Wordsprouts 7:00 p.m.

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

A Legacy of Integrity

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"What if it's the most beautiful broccoli you've seen in a year? You've gotta get enough, and he knows that. What if broccoli is average, but you couldn't get cauliflower? How does not having lacinato kale affect our other two kales? How does lack of Brussels sprouts one week, not through any fault of your own, affect anything else? When quality goes down, do we just drop out? When is it not good enough for us? Is it gonna be sunny, hot, rainy or cold? Allen was taking in all these factors and coming up to me and saying, 'Hey, Joe! Guess what? We sold 140 cases of broccoli. That's the most we ever sold and you know what? I was ready! And we don't have a whole lot left over, but we had enough! Isn't that great?'"

When Zimmerman first came to work as a buyer he bought products across the board, he recalled, "cheese, imported foods, light bulbs," and applied his experience purchasing books, including entire estate libraries, to working for the Coop. From Zimmerman's point of view, "buying is a skill. I'm a good buyer."

He identified key components to his buying philos-

centrally aligned with sustainable farming. It's a value he's attempted to share and infuse throughout the Coop's buying team, including the team of four new and experienced buyers who will continue to direct the Coop's produce purchasing. "Teaching numbers and seasons is easy," compared to "teaching people to feel farmers' work is valued." But the latter is simply at the crux of the Coop's needs, since "if there are no

"We're balancing sustainability, affordability, economy, purity, safety," he said. "These are powerful forces that move people."

farms there's no food, so you have to respect farmers."

That respect fuels loyalty from farms central to stocking shelves, and Zimmerman avers that the Coop's commitment to being "transparent and completely honest" keeps relationships strong. For example, the morning of our interview, Zimmerman said he had called a supplier to request cancelling a credit to the Coop for eight cases of carrots, which the supplier hadn't detected had actually arrived. The supplier was surprised to get the call, but Zimmerman declined to take pride in it, opining, "It's not much of a brag to say we're

merman said. "Early on, the Coop had to be a scrupulously on-time payer." The model stuck, to a large degree because "good business and ethics go hand-in-hand." While Zimmerman truly believes the Coop's integrity strengthens buyer-seller relationships, he additionally offered, "It's also a wildly better way to live your life."

Two years ago Zimmerman and the Coop began contemplating his retirement and the transition for produce buying. One year ago, Zimmerman began energetically focusing on teaching. "All I did was be a talking textbook!" Half a year ago, he stopped buying, and focused on other buyers in the team, "scrutinizing, and possibly being a pain in the ass."

He remarks that the team easily got a handle on numbers, and that more sophisticated probing quickly followed. "My earlier questions 'Where?' 'What?' and 'How much?' Now I ask 'Why?' more often."

And while, in the Coop world, Zimmerman recognizes "the star power of buyers," he stressed that the Coop's produce offerings depend on a team, including receiving coordinators and others. "It takes a giant network of people to keep this operation running."

Reflecting on his hopes for the Coop's future, Zimmerman said, "I wish people were more adventurous, and sometimes I wish [the Coop] were more adventurous. It felt like decades to get people to think of trying pomelo. It seems like we just had to patiently support some of our favorite fruits for a long time."

Zimmerman's years of passion for produce shined through as he quickly warmed to the subject of exploring new varieties. He revels "when I turn people onto fruits that they haven't had before. Open your mind up to new possibilities! Just try one new food!" Moved to show, not simply tell, during an interview he offered taste comparisons of different varieties of oranges and a new source of blueberries.

He branded navel orange or clementines "delicious, but they're a one-note fruit," contrasting them with the "complex flavor, with lots going on" of a recent crop of non-organic Sunkist blood oranges. "It was spectacular. Our membership jumped all over them. I could taste raspberries, I could taste grapes. I felt like I could taste a rich wine, there was so much going on in each mouthful. You could live for those mouthfuls!"

In addition to glorying in succulent varieties of produce, Zimmerman recognizes future challenges, including the question of whether Coop member will prefer organics from western states or minimally treated local fruits. "There's lots of discussion about members wanting more organic rather than minimally treated local

and he predicted, "I think we'll look back and think we were smart to keep local farms alive, as California gets closer and closer to running out of water. The major prejudice I bring with me is around sustainability. I think the decision to keep local family farmers alive is turning out to be a good one."

But as visionary as his con-



PHOTO BY LISA COHEN

Produce Buying Team.

cerns about family farms may be, Zimmerman's climate concerns are not global, but rather micro. As he puts it: "We're weekly worrying about enough salad mix."

In sum, "We're balancing sustainability, affordability, economy, purity, safety," he said. "These are powerful forces that move people."

As he barrels toward retirement, Zimmerman projected doing less, and doing differently. "I'd like to explore maybe for an hour, maybe for a week, being bored," he said. "I want to experience the sense of relief of being offline." He mused about a greater connection to Barge-music, the Brooklyn Academy of Music, the New York Philharmonic, the Museum of Modern Art. "I feel like I want to visit every place I've ever been, again—and then the other 99% I wouldn't mind seeing." ■

To make the issue more complex, Zimmerman pointed out "the reality of farming in a high-humidity climate and keeping local farming alive." That is, New York's climate conducive to apple-growing, including naturally occurring precipitation, may also necessitate some treatment of the fruit to ward off insects, while an arid state may not need to spray at all. But production in the latter climate may deplete the soil, and the growing process and transportation chain result in a larger carbon footprint. In contrast, one could buy from "a New York State farmer using what they deem the least amount (of chemicals) possible and try to improve soil in ways the West Coast organic factories can't do. So who did the right thing by the planet is arguable."

Zimmerman worries about the food supply, too. He noted that weather is more extreme,

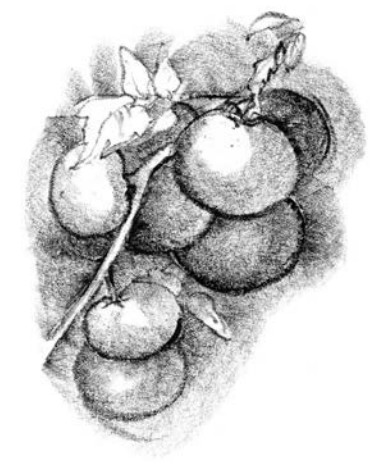


ILLUSTRATION BY CATHY WASSYLENKO



PHOTO BY LISA COHEN

The Produce Buying Team (left to right): Julie Gabriel, Allen Zimmerman, Ana Gallo, Joe Szladak and Kris Marx.

ophy: respect for the seller, abiding integrity and painstaking accuracy. "I've always respected the asking price," he said. "I'm not a haggler. I had two positions: yes or no. If you have buying power, 'no' is negotiating power."

He continued, "You have to bring to that buying integrity." Zimmerman reflected that he's always considered it "good to give fair value." He considers that tenet

not going to steal."

The supplier asked Zimmerman, "How come you report more overages than any other store?" Zimmerman lingered in potent silence, and the supplier came up with the answer: "I get it. You're the ones who tell us."

The Coop built itself by, of necessity, becoming "really careful and accurate," to earn sellers' trust of the fledgling cooperative business, Zim-

Coop-ocalypse

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

glut of members anxious to stock up.

Gallows tweets and information exchanges were coming fast and furious starting Sunday.

By Sunday evening, a member called @sugarpond tweeted “the situation at the Food Coop has now been elevated to Defcon 11 (politely) forming a line down the block. I am a Navy Seal Team 6 level shopper and was in and out of there in 2 shakes. #escaroleisthenewkale” Of course somebody—in this case “radical” bike lane advocate Eric McClure—had to point out that Defcon numbers get lower the worse it gets so the whole spiel was factually challenged but, whatever, sugarpond is apparently a WNYC journalist and not, in reality, a retired Navy Seal.

By 8:15 a.m. on Monday, January 26, all the shopping carts were taken. Lines began to stretch down the block outside just to get in the door in order to head upstairs to the waiting room with your laminated number. Say what you will, this place runs like a well-oiled machine even in a time of controlled chaos.

When reliably unshakable staffer Debbie Parker arrived at 9:30, things were already in hand for crowd management. She was soon on the intercom gently suggesting that maybe we didn’t all need five loaves of bread and three dozen eggs. “For people just coming in, if you’re not shopping for the month and you can just do one basket and then go to the express checkout, that

would be good.”

Perceptions on how it went differed as radically as they tend to at the Food Coop. Adam Bernstein, who worked a makeup in receiving Monday morning, said it was his craziest shift in 17 years of membership. “It was totally manic: Completely packed with lots of pushing, some laughing and fender benders, but mostly frustration.”

Alternately, “It was very orderly. It reminded me of Japan,” Food Coop shopper Laila Biali, told DNA Info. Biali arrived around 9:00 a.m. and was in and out—lines notwithstanding—in under an hour.

Many longtime members like Victoria Morey took a look at the lines of 50 plus outside the store and promptly kept walking. “On 5th Ave, I paid \$5.99 for a half gallon of organic fat free milk.” Other grocers were not without their calamities. Whole Foods on Gowanus was out of everything, including kale. Gothamist had a photo compendium called “Everyone In NYC Is Currently On Line At the Grocery Store.” Its founder and non-member, Jake Dobkin, was jealous of his member parents who wouldn’t even share their groceries in a time of emergency for fear of the consequences.

Verily, kale jokes abounded along with the “WE’RE ALL GOING TO DIE” memes. Someone wrote that the “reduced rations wouldn’t kill me but lack of coffee might take out those I live with.” Others joked about the line to get in the line to get in the line. Sigh. True that.

Resident know-it-all-be-

cause-he-does member James Poniewozik told me that storm panic shopping is for suckers. He got his out of the way on Friday. But New Yorkers thrive on our weather dramas. He didn’t get to share in the singular joys of the guy hosting a French Wes Anderson-related sing-along on line. Spoilsport.

“It was a great team effort with staff and members and we really saw the effect of the additional checkouts,” said staffer Matt Hoagland who helped man the upstairs waiting room among other traffic management operations on Jan 26. “For my part, after a crazy day like that I usually just feel drained, but when I got home I felt really good. We did a good job.”

Debbie Parker was also gratified that it went as well as it did, all things considered. She herself noticed a vast improvement from the Coop’s functioning pre-Sandy when “I couldn’t stand being in the store and navigating from aisle to aisle was a nightmare.” Parker knew they’d done okay when a notoriously temperamental member entered complaining, then later grabbed her by the upper arms and grinned, “I just wanted to let you know that you’re doing a great job. I’m finished.” Phew.

While the carts were often spoken for and the Coop was certainly at capacity, the lines went a lot faster than in the past thanks to the remodeling, the shopping floor staff support and aid from members who braved the weather to do their shifts. By mid afternoon, the bread aisle was cleaned out, but the milk fridge was still reportedly full.

Sunday, the 25th, saw sales of \$206,750 from 2,800 individual transactions. General Coordinator Tricia Leith says that this is \$48,000 more in sales than your average Sunday. By the time the Coop closed early on Monday, the 26th at 8:00 p.m., sales were at approximately \$173,400 and there had been 2,571 transactions. That’s \$27,000 more than most given Mondays.

The day of reckoning itself, Tuesday the 27th, dawned with an underwhelming five to eight inches of snow and not the calamity that had led to Governor Cuomo’s mandatory shut down of the MTA and untold hours of advance doom-casting from former soap opera star turned weatherman Lonnie Quinn. Before long, National Weather Service meteorologists had issued a public apology for the storm missing New

LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE

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PHOTO BY IAN SMITH

Tuesday became a crowd-free shopping day.

York and Mayor de Blasio was doing dramatic readings from *The Onion's* lampooning of his blizzard forecast.

Also that Tuesday, member Jean Sung was the only one shopping, literally, at a little before 9:00 a.m. Sales for the day were only \$47,000 and there were a couple thousand fewer shoppers than the day before. Julie Zimmerman, who worked her receiving shift at the same time, said it was the quietest she’d ever seen the Coop. Both she and shopping squad member Ian Smith said, in the end, it was a surprisingly average shift and neither could remember a single remarkable thing besides

the Marie Celeste vibe first thing.

After the first few deadly quiet and thoroughly anticlimactic hours, the traffic picked up a bit. In all, 1,126 sales were transacted. Julie Zimmerman said that unlike nearly every other area market, the Coop was prepared. “The shelves seemed quite unaffected by the crowds of the previous day, they were very full. The produce and bread folks, the aisles where I restocked the most shelves, both planned very well to maintain people’s access to fresh affordable food. It was great. ■



PHOTO BY KRISTIN UHRICH

Coopers made a run on bread, but milk supplies remained steady.

MEMBER SUBMISSION

Cooperation among Jews and Arabs: No Boycotting Required

By Jesse Rosenfeld

There are people in this world who have every right to be at odds with each other. Yet they are coming together to work for peace. Please enjoy the following:

In November of 2014, thousands of young Jews and Arabs gathered in Jerusalem to participate in the "Simply Singing" initiative at Beit Hillel. Food trucks provided pan-Middle Eastern fare. Organizers provided poetry dancing and DJ's from both Arab and Israeli dance scenes. Google "Yemen Blues" for one of the most exciting World Music bands around today.

In December of 2014, Aziz Abu Sarah spoke at the Limud UK Jewish Learning Conference at Warwick University. A former Fatah organizer and violent protester, Mr. Abu Sarah has turned peace activist and conflict resolution worker. Condemning boycotts of Israel he said, "If you go to places where you don't agree with what they're saying, it forces you to see other sides. It doesn't mean you agree."

On January 18, approximately 200 people gathered at the Grand Synagogue in Tunis to pay tribute to Yoav Hattab, the young Tunisian Jew who was killed in the attack on a kosher supermarket in Paris some weeks ago. The crowd, which was comprised of different religious groups and nationalities, lit candles in honor of Hattab, sang the Tunisian national anthem and chanted "Viva Tunisia!"

In January of 2015, The Palestine Football Association granted two soccer players international transfer certificates (ITCs), allowing them to leave the Palestinian league and play in Israel. Mohammad Zuabi will be allowed to move from his Palestinian team of Shabab Yatta to the northern Israeli club of Sandala Gilboa, part of the fourth tier of the Israeli soccer league system. Mohammad Fudi will leave his Hebron team in favor of the Beitar Tel Aviv-Ramla club, playing in the second tier of the Israeli system.

On Feb. 1, 2015, British and French imams plus representatives of the Jewish umbrella group CRIF met in Paris to bolster solidari-

ty after the horrible Charlie Hebdo attacks.

Palestinian academic, Dr. Mohammed S. Dajani Daoudi, has published his own moderation manifesto, called "Wasatia." Derived from the Arabic word "wasat" for "middle of the road," it means "middle ground," "centrism," "balance," "moderation," "justice." Dr. Dajani teaches at Al-Quds University. While he is aware that "...young people are vulnerable to extremist ideologies such as boycotting and demonizing Israel...", he sees his students responding to his ideas, especially through the American Studies program which he chairs. He also runs a successful three-way parallel partnership involving Tel Aviv University, Al-Quds, and Oberlin College students, building a network of young believers in democracy, moderation and coexistence. For years, we in the US have overlooked (in our ignorance) or ignored (in a simple-minded knee-jerk response against cooperation between Palestinians and Israelis) such moderate voices. They exist, and it's time to listen to them instead of divisive elements who think "normalization" is a dirty word.

People the world over are performing the hard-nosed business of cooperating with those they disagree with because, hey, it's just the right thing to do. Boycotting Israel is in the exact opposite spirit of that. Yet Carol Wald and Thomas Cox have written that boycotting Israel, the safest country in the Middle East for all religions, represents "our" values. Which group is right? Boycotting Israel, or Jews and Arabs throughout the Maghreb and Europe cooperating against the backdrop of violence? The answer is clear. Cooperating produces things people can hold and build upon. The alternative will leave you with, literally, nothing

It's time to change the conversation. Finally. ■



COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Proposed Removal of Plastic Roll Bags Threatens Coop Sustainability

By Ann Herpel, General Coordinator

The General Coordinators have closely followed the Environmental Committee's proposals to remove plastic roll bags from the Coop. In their 2013 GM presentation, the removal was phrased as a "phase out" of the "free distribution" of plastic roll bags. The newly worded agenda item, to be discussed at the February 24 General Meeting, proposes the permanent removal of plastic roll bags eight weeks after a future GM vote (if it passes).

While the language has changed, the goal remains the same. If passed, the clear bags—roll bags—now found in the Coop's produce, bulk and bread, will no longer be available to members. The GCs have grave concerns about the impact on our collectively owned business if the removal of roll bags is approved. We strongly urge members to attend the February 24 GM and contribute to the conversation.

As the financial and administrative stewards of the Coop, one of our roles is to help members understand how decisions made at the GM impact our bottom line and sustainability. The Coop has a long history of deciding to implement policies and practices that reduce our environmental footprint. But we balance any decision with an understanding of the cost (not simply financial) to the Coop. The GCs are concerned that removing roll bags would have momentous consequences for Coop operations and finances. We believe members might not be thinking enough about the possible downsides of the elimination of roll bags. We want to present some sound reasons to be opposed to the goal of removing roll bags from the Coop.

1. Supporting local farms: The farmers who supply us with the bounty of our local region use minimal packaging. Some produce from Hepworth Farms arrives in reusable harvest crates (returned weekly to Hepworth). Our gorgeous mushroom selection is boxed in open, cardboard flats. Farmers send us local spring greens—arugula, baby kale, mizuna, spinach, mustard—in large 5-lb. plastic bags, an

efficient way to deliver lots of greens with minimal packaging. Members need a roll bag or their own bag to purchase these products. We are concerned that if roll bags are no longer available and members do not bring an alternative bag (or refuse to spend money purchasing alternative bags), members will choose other produce packaged in heavier plastic clamshells, bags or cups. What are the impacts of this decision? First, the Coop sells less local food—which means the Coop buys less from local farmers, directly impacting their financial health. Second, members' choices of pre-packaged produce involves heavier plastic packaging. More plastic is used for the same weight of product. How is that a better environmental choice?

2. Reducing food waste: Lightweight, durable plastic bags help to reduce food waste by keeping food fresher longer. Reducing food waste is another important environmental goal because discarded fresh food both contributes to the production of greenhouse gas in the waste stream and "wastes" the energy invested in growing and transporting that food. The carbon footprint of our food involves more than the plastic bag used to convey food home. Our environmental responsibility extends to reducing our overall waste.

3. Buying from the bulk and produce aisles saves money while using minimal packaging: Each week, Coop members buy 145,000 pounds of produce, plus 12,000 pounds from the self-serve bulk bins. Buying in bulk and cooking at home are the best ways to save money. Plastic roll bags play a key role in selling this enormous quantity of fresh—much of it locally produced—food. The amount of plastic used to convey these products is insignificant in proportion to the pounds of fresh foods we enjoy weekly. Eliminating roll bags would make shopping more difficult for our bulk and produce buying members—members whose plastic packaging environmental impact is already very low. This could discourage members from purchasing these minimally packaged goods.

4. Avoiding any negative

impacts on our common shopping experience: When food is put into bags that are not transparent—many roll bag alternatives are not—checkout workers work more slowly, opening and closing bags to verify the contents. Slowing down the checkout process contributes to longer lines. As member-owners, we must be concerned about making decisions that will create more unpleasant shopping experiences or lead members to consider leaving the Coop.

5. Protecting the Coop's bottom line: In an August 2012 member-designed and -conducted survey, 36 percent of members reported that they would either delay their purchase or purchase the item elsewhere if plastic roll bags were not available in the Coop. As member-owners we should be greatly concerned if we adopt policies that have a direct, negative impact on the Coop's finances. The success and viability of the Coop depends on member-owners spending their hard-earned dollars at the Coop. When members shop regularly at the Coop, our sales volume increases, helping us to secure discounts from our suppliers. Greater discounts contribute to our low prices.

At the April 2013 GM—when the phase-out of roll bags was first discussed—a member asked how this proposal was different than the Coop's decision to eliminate plastic t-shirt style shopping bags in 2007. There are two significant differences. First, in 2007, only 24% of members were using the plastic single-use shopping bags. Currently, 78% of members use plastic roll bags. We are potentially putting the Coop at risk if we assume that 78% of Coop member-owners can readily adopt the habit of bringing ALL the needed alternative bags each and every time they shop at the Coop.

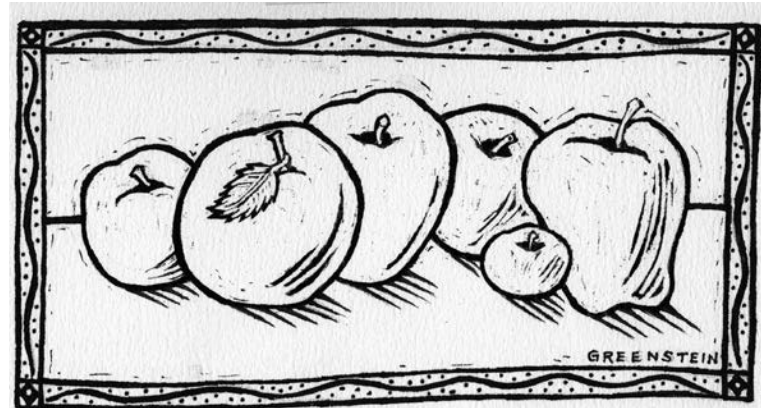
Second, free boxes were available to shoppers to convey groceries after the elimination of the shopping bags. There are no free, readily available alternatives to the plastic roll bag. All alternatives suggested by the Environmental Committee are an added expense to individual member-owners. The Committee recommends that members

bring bags with them each time they shop. They are even encouraging members to continue, if they wish, to use plastic bags—simply not the ones provided by the Coop. While some members will attempt to bring bags, many will inevitably fail to bring an adequate number of reusable bags each time they shop. The cost of the plastic roll bags we now use to minimally package, transport and protect our food will transfer from the

Coop to individual members, many times over.

We believe Coop efforts should be focused on the reuse and reduction of roll bags, not elimination. Currently, Coop staff is working with the Signage Committee to improve communication with members around plastic roll bag usage. Roll bags are reusable many times; bring back the ones you've taken on previous trips. Greater reuse helps to minimize the initial

environmental cost of producing the bag. Think before pulling multiple bags from the roll—take only what you need. Our Coop's efforts should be directed towards education, not elimination. Members can become even more environmentally conscious shoppers without relying on a GM-mandated rule that would force all member-owners into a change that poses serious financial and operational risks to the Coop. ■



Board of Directors Election

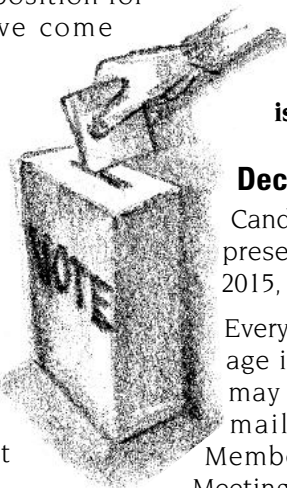
The General Meeting & The Board of Directors

From our inception in 1973 to the present, the monthly General Meeting has been the decision-making body of the Coop. Since the Coop incorporated in 1977, we have been legally required to have a Board of Directors.

The Bylaws of the Park Slope Food Coop state: "The portion of the Board of Directors meeting that is devoted to receiving the advice of the members shall be known as the General Meeting.... The members who gather to give advice to the directors may choose to vote in order to express their support or opposition for any of the issues that have come before the meeting."

Duties of the Directors

The Board of Directors is comprised of five elected Coop members and the senior General Coordinator present. Members serve three-year terms. Members of the Board are expected to attend GMs monthly. They receive Coop work credit for their attendance.



The Board of Directors conducts votes at the end of every GM whether to accept the advice of the members that night. Members of the Board are required to act legally and responsibly.

Openings

There are two openings on the Board. Each position is for a term of three years.

Candidate Deadline

If you wish to place your name into nomination, you must declare your candidacy by submitting a statement of up to 750 words to: gazettesubmissions@psfc.coop. Please include a small photo for publication in the *Linewaiters' Gazette* and the member proxy mailing. **Deadline for candidacy submission is Sunday, March 1, 2015.**

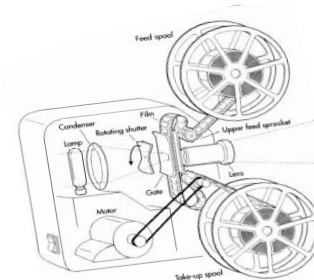
Deciding and Voting

Candidates will have the opportunity to present their platform at the March 31, 2015, General Meeting.

Every member will receive a proxy package in the mail in late May. Members may vote by returning their ballot by mail or by bringing it to the Coop. Members may also vote at the Annual Meeting on June 30, 2015.

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.

WORD SPROUTS

THE PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP'S READING SERIES

**Are you a writer?
Do you want FTOP credit?**

Wordsprouts, the Food Coop's reading series, is looking for you, for its monthly events in the second-floor meeting room.

Please contact the organizers at wordsproutspsf@gmail.com.

*"Forget the terms of his, hers, yours and mine,
Just indiscriminately serve this earth and all mankind."*

~ Hari Simran Singh Khalsa ~

**Celebrating the Light and Life of
Hari Simran Singh Khalsa**

March 8, 2015
1:00 to 3:00 PM
Refreshments following
The Picnic House, Prospect Park
Brooklyn, New York

**Please let us know if you are coming:
gurusuryakaurkhalsa@gmail.com or 718-369-6674**

SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

Fracking Victory and Local Food: What's Next?

By Tom Angotti

New Yorkers had more to celebrate than the holidays this year. After six years of campaigning and pressures by environmental and safe food advocates, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced that New York State's ban of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) would continue indefinitely. This was especially welcome news for the New Yorkers who petitioned, demonstrated and lobbied to prohibit fracking in the state. A Quinnipiac poll shows that 55% of New Yorkers oppose fracking in the state. The Park Slope Food Coop, a member of the Food Not Fracking coalition, can be proud to have played a role in this historic victory.

Fracking is a technique that penetrates deep shale formations with high-pressure jets that may combine water and chemicals. It extracts natural gas—incorrectly touted as “clean” energy—and has created an array of environmental and public health risks, including toxic waste water and contaminated water supplies. In recent years, corporations signed leases with property owners in upstate New York in the expectation that the state's moratorium would lapse. Some of these leases were with farmers who were enticed by the prospect of big profits. The companies and some landowners went to local governments and courts, charging that a fracking ban would interfere with their property rights. However, most farmers recognized the potential threats to their land and advocates for local healthy food, including the Food Coop, joined in. In the long term, fracking would have jeopardized the production of safe food in New York State while reaping benefits for a few companies and landowners, for a while.

Next Challenges

The fracking ban was a big victory but the fight is not over yet. Lying ahead are several major challenges, including the proposals for more gas pipelines in the state and the disposal of toxic wastes. There is also the challenge of developing alternative, more sustainable forms of energy. For local farmers, of course, the economic problems remain: government heavily

subsidizes large corporate food producers, leaving the state's small farmers at a competitive disadvantage, which is pushing them to produce for the small, more exclusive markets.

The Constitution pipeline proposal would connect a gas pipeline in eastern Pennsylvania with Schoharie County in New York. It would cut through farmland and pristine landscapes and there would be compressor stations approximately every 40 miles. Gas pipelines tend to be poorly maintained and subject to dangerous leakage. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is currently holding public hearings in upstate New York on the Constitution pipeline and although opposition is strong, the gas industry is investing heavily to amplify the voices of a minority of landowners. There are scores of other pipelines planned across the state.

Another battle is being waged by farmers and residents in the Seneca Lake region. Gas Free Seneca is opposing a proposal to build a storage facility for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) at Seneca Lake. LPG is a noxious fossil fuel and leaks can have serious environmental impacts. There is also the Spectra project affecting Westchester, Rockland and Putnam Counties in New York, which would expand compressor stations, increasing the capacity to handle gas. Closer to home, Liberty Natural Gas is proposing a giant deep water port 19 miles offshore from Jones Beach. If approved this could jeopardize alternative proposals to build wind turbines. Many fear that it would be used to export gas from fracking in Pennsylvania and beyond. The U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Maritime Administration are currently reviewing the project.

Food Not Fracking says there are 40 gas infrastructure projects in the region that threaten the environment and local food. So while we can celebrate this historic victory, the challenge going forward will be to broaden the consensus that public health concerns must be part of decisions about energy, leading us to end the state's dependence on fossil fuels. ■

Coop Job Opening:

General Coordinator: Purchasing/Receiving Supervisor

Description:

The General Coordinating (GC) team is the Park Slope Food Coop's top level of management. The GC team provides long-term planning, financial stewardship, management of Coop daily operations including the member-labor system, and supervision of paid staff.

We are seeking a qualified applicant to join the GC team with specific responsibility for supervising the Coop's purchasing, receiving, storing and displaying of merchandise. The qualified candidate will be a self-starter and critical thinker who is able to provide leadership in strategic planning and in project implementation. He/she will also have excellent oral and written communication skills, good organizational skills, and be open to working in a cooperative, collaborative environment.

The Park Slope Food Coop is a 16,000 working member-only organization started in 1973 in Park Slope, Brooklyn, NY, with annual sales of \$49 million in 6,000 square feet of selling space and 70+ paid employee-members.

Specific responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Oversight and coordination of our product selection, purchasing, receiving, merchandising and storage of goods
- Shared supervision of 40+ Receiving Coordinators
- Enhancement, formalization and implementation of the Coop's long-term purchasing guidelines with ongoing education of both staff and members of guidelines and practices
- High level management of our retail operations including deliveries, storage, purchasing, inventory and product selection

Desired skills/experience:

- Retail experience in the grocery industry with knowledge of natural, organic, fair trade and local foods, producer cooperatives and industry trends
- Purchasing experience, including broker relationships and negotiations
- Strong analytic skills and facility with numbers relating to margins, pricing, turnover, volume buying
- Demonstrated leadership, supervisory, and team-building skills with the ability to formulate workplace policies and training programs
- Ability to contribute to and utilize the PSFC's evolving IT and proprietary inventory systems
- Interest in and knowledge of environmental impact and sustainability of farming, food production, packaging and transport as well as food safety issues and practices
- Experience managing multiple priorities, working under pressure, and meeting tight deadlines
- Experience in a cooperative or collective organization
- High energy with capability to move between three floors, lift, stand and work outside

Hours: Average work week of 45-50 hours, including availability for evening and weekend work when needed.

Wages: The General Coordinator salary is \$88,700.

Benefits: Generous benefits package including health, dental, and a defined benefit pension plan.

How to Apply:

Please send a cover letter, resumé, and three professional references to pc.psfc@gmail.com and go to <http://goo.gl/0Xx2j9> to complete a short questionnaire. No phone calls please. Applicants will receive an e-mail acknowledging receipt of their materials. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and will continue until the position has been filled.

The Park Slope Food Coop is an equal opportunity employer.

WIN A BRAND NEW BIKE!

Purchase a \$5 raffle ticket in the Membership Office for a chance to win one of the bikes hanging above the express checkouts. Proceeds will be used to support start-up Coops using our member-labor model through the Fund for New Food Coops.

Raffle winners will be announced at the March 31 General Meeting.

GOOD LUCK!

Do-It-Yourself Skincare: Pure and Simple

By Taigi Smith

When marketing executive Rene Brinkley isn't promoting television shows for a major cable television network, she can often be found mixing homemade body products in her Prospect Heights kitchen. It's a passion she developed after joining the Park Slope Food Coop almost five years ago. Rene started scrutinizing the body products she liked and discovered that many of the toiletries she used regularly were riddled with chemicals and additives.

Before long, Brinkley decided that the products she puts ON her body are just as important as the food she puts INTO her body. "Being in the Coop raised my level of consciousness," says Rene who joined because she became concerned with the quality of her food and disillusioned with the breakdown of the American food chain. "Ultimately, there is a journey

I use every day and I make a body scrub that I use once a week to exfoliate my skin...to keep it young," says the wrinkle-free, 30-something.

Rene's homemade body cream's main product is pure Shea butter, which is not sold at the Coop. Rene often travels to Atlantic Avenue to purchase the natural moisturizer in its purest form. "Beyond Shea butter, my lotion contains coconut oil, sweet almond oil and essential oils that add a nice scent." Rene battles dry skin, especially in the winter, and she finds her oil-based products very moisturizing. "It absorbs into the skin pretty fast and I use it every day." Rene also makes an oil-based cleanser that she uses instead of store-bought make-up remover.

"I don't want people to think I have a lot of time to sit around making skincare products. All of the items

sugar scrub in a beauty store can cost as much as \$50.

Rene often travels to tropical regions and says the amount of chemicals in conventional bug repellents scared her into creating her own. "I made the decision not to spend my money on products that contained additives I couldn't pronounce or recognize." After making several batches of skin lubricants using NOW essential oils purchased from the PSFC, Rene set out to make a batch of mosquito repellent. She was traveling to the Amazon jungle and had become terrified of contracting Dengue fever from mosquitoes. "I used NOW lemon and eucalyptus oil to make my homemade mosquito spray." The recipe, which she found on the Internet, worked wonders. "The CDC says this recipe is almost as good as DEET. I mixed in lavender, rosemary, and witch hazel," which were purchased from the PSFC. "I didn't get one mosquito bite," adds Rene who will be mixing up another batch for a trip she's taking to Dubai this month.

Like many African-American women, Rene wears her hair natural, meaning she has made the choice not to put chemicals in her hair. "For black women, hair can be a very complicated, product driven, experience," says Rene who conditions her hair with a homemade braid spray. "I looked up a recipe online. The key ingredient is glycerin, which I purchase at the Coop. The spray also contains Aloe Vera juice and tea tree oil."

As she gently touches her lips, Rene says, "I also make lip balm. Winter is brutal on the lips and my lip balm is easy to make," says Rene who is single and needs to keep her lips kissable. "Most lip balms are filled with crap. The base of my lip balm is beeswax, coconut oil, and Shea butter. You'll realize that you can use the same basic products to make body products. I use a lot of essential oils, sweet almond oil, and coconut oil. Sweet almond oil and lavender become the bases of many of my products." Rene says there are literally hundreds of recipes for body products online. YouTube has also proven to be a great place to find recipes. "The lavender oil was the first essential oil I purchased, and I was shocked by the high price. But it seems to never run out, you can use it forever." In fact, Rene even

used the lavender oil to create a soothing room spray. "Mix water with a few drops of lavender. Spray it around your home and it will smell like a spa...it smells really, really nice."

While Rene's day job keeps her busy, she often dreams of starting her own natural skincare line. "I made a few products for gifts and people really liked them. I'm also open to teaching other people how to make these products."

It's been almost two years since the do-it-yourself beauty maven has purchased conventional body products from a drugstore and she's

convinced she'll never do it again. "I think people should be concerned about what they put in their bodies and on their bodies. If you can't pronounce something that you're eating or putting on your body, then you should probably be concerned about that. It's very expensive to buy natural products." And for those who want to make their own products but are just too busy, Rene has this to say: "Get over not having enough time. You find the time to do things that are important to you...Period." ■

ILLUSTRATION BY CATHY WASSYLENKO



- org. brown sugar
- essential oils
- sweet almond oil



- coconut oil
- sweet almond oil
- essential oils



- coconut oil
- sweet almond oil
- (shea butter)*



- lemon oil
- eucalyptus oil

* = not available at PSFC

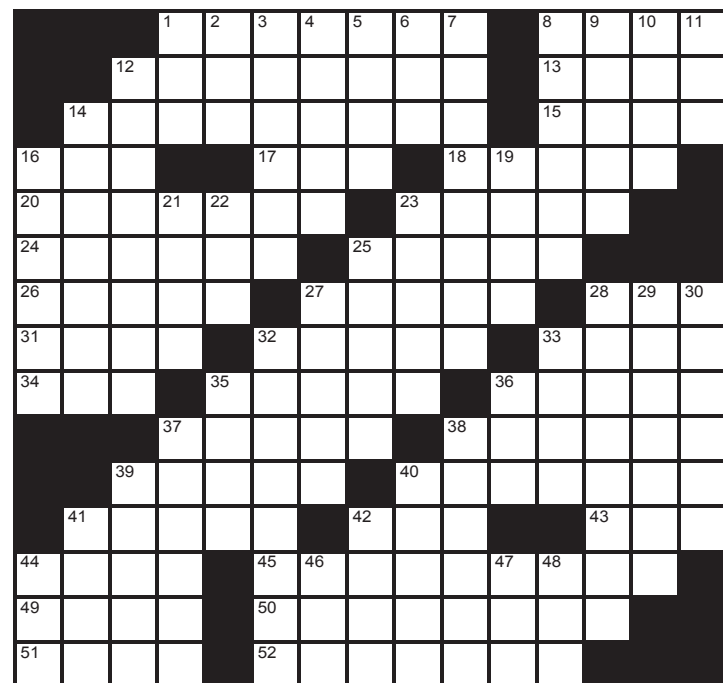
List of products for Do-It-Yourself Skincare

you go on when you join the PSFC," she says. "My journey started at the produce line," recalls Rene, who eventually started exploring the bulk aisle, too. Within months she became obsessed with organic food and natural products and thus started down the road of homemade skincare. "Your skin is your biggest organ and exploring the essential oils aisle is a great place to find ingredients that nourish that organ."

"I make a body cream that

are easy and fast to make," says Rene. In addition to being more pure, homemade products are also easier on the wallet. A penny-pincher at heart, the cost effectiveness associated with making her own products is a huge bonus. "A lot of those organic and natural skincare products can be really expensive," she says. Rene's homemade body scrub, which she uses once a week, includes organic brown sugar, essential oils and sweet almond oil. A jar of organic

Crossword Puzzle



Across

- Garnier product
- "This crossword's theme is so funny! I can't get enough of it!"
- Not fully noticed
- Neural transmitter
- What the brands Chaser, PreToxx and RU 21 claim they can remedy
- Fam. members
- Prosciutto, e.g.
- "Fresh Air" ailer
- Rapper with the 2002 #1 hit "Hot in Herre"
- Kind of court
- Where the Styx flows
- "____ Gonzales" (1955 Oscar winner for Best Animated Short Film)
- Its name comes from the Arabic for "forbidden place"
- Does some logrolling
- New _____, Connecticut
- Contains
- "Cheers" actor Roger
- Made a bundle?
- Greasy spoon order
- JFK: New York :: _____: Chicago
- Eye color
- Scolding, nagging sort
- Proverbial speedsters
- Good thing to have at a tearjerker
- Piano players?
- They do a lot of peddling
- Abrasive
- "Open the pod bay doors, _____" (from "2001: A Space Odyssey")
- Brooklyn pro
- Come (from)
- Forsakers of the faith
- "Alice's Restaurant" singer Guthrie
- Rendered less intense
- TV's "How _____ Your Mother"
- Blows a gasket

Down

- Solo on screen
- "Solve for x" subj.
- "I wish!"
- Sends regrets, perhaps
- Blacktail or whitetail
- Norah Jones's "Tell _____ Mama"
- Trapped
- Big Apple neighborhood
- Skating jumps
- _____ Bible
- Response: Abbr.
- Slowed down
- Not so gloomy
- Company that makes Scrabble
- Genesis locale
- Coral reef dwellers
- Billboards, e.g.
- First president of the Czech Republic
- 1971 Oscar winner for "Theme from 'Shaft'"
- Fogs
- Listened up, quaintly
- Shoots for the moon
- Most withdrawn
- Construction crew
- Aaron of Cooperstown
- Geiger of Geiger counter fame
- Hem and _____
- Trollop
- Summer top
- Selassie of Ethiopia
- Metal fasteners
- Mistreatment
- _____ office
- Japanese "yes"
- Third of September?
- "Right you _____!"
- "Cheers" actor Danson

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

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, March 20, 8:00 p.m.

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



PROSPECT CONCERTS

Flying Home presents a tribute to Benny Goodman and Gene Krupa with an expanded ensemble for a special night of swing dancing! Performing swing hits of the '30s, '40s, and '50s, Flying Home carries on the hot style and "light on their feet" approach to swing music made famous by the Goodman and Krupa Ensembles. Covering popular classics and lost gems of the early days of jazz, Flying Home explores the repertoire that



made these two swing greats a musical force for more than 40 years. If you love swing, and love to dance, you won't want to miss it!



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

Park Slope
FOOD COOP

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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Are you a lighting designer?

Do you know a lighting designer?

Do you know someone who knows a lighting designer?

Do you know someone who knows someone who knows a lighting designer?

The Coop is looking for a member who is a lighting designer or an architect with lighting experience to work with the Energy Efficiency Committee to help improve the quality and energy efficiency of the lighting in the Coop.

If interested, or if you know someone who's interested, please contact the committee by going to the Contact Us page on [foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com) — <http://www.foodcoop.com/?page=contact> — and select "Workslot Needs" from the "Person to Contact" dropdown menu.

FTOP work credit will be given.

FOLLOW!

the Food Coop on



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, FEBRUARY 24

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, MARCH 3

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the March 31 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

Mar. 5 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, February 23
Mar. 19 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, March 9

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Mar. 5 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, February 25
Mar. 19 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, March 11

ALL ABOUT THE GENERAL MEETING

Our Governing Structure

From our inception in 1973 to the present, the open monthly General Meetings have been at the center of the Coop's decision-making process. Since the Coop incorporated in 1977, we have been legally required to have a Board of Directors. The Coop continued the tradition of General Meetings by requiring the Board to have open meetings and to receive the advice of the members at General Meetings. The Board of Directors, which is required to act legally and responsibly, has approved almost every General Meeting decision at the end of every General Meeting. Board members are elected at the Annual Meeting in June. Copies of the Coop's bylaws are available at the Coop Community Corner and at every General Meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 24, 7:00 p.m.

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

Location

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

• Squads eligible for credit:

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:

After the meeting the Chair will provide the Workslot Credit Attendance Sheet.

• Being Absent from the GM:

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

Park Slope Food Coop Mission Statement

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

park slope
FOOD COOP

calendar of events

feb 20
fri 6:30 pm

Environmental Impact of TPP

Please join us for the first Public Education Forum on International Trade. The Forum will shed light on potential environmental repercussions of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). The TPP is a trade agreement among 12 countries, including the U.S., that is currently being negotiated behind closed doors. President Obama plans to fast track the TPP through Congress later this year. Given the lack of coverage by the mainstream media, the Forum intends to educate the public on this shadowy agreement. The first in a series of educational forums on international trade agreements, this event will focus on environmental impact. Guest speakers will be in attendance to answer your questions. This forum is presented by the International Trade Education Squad.

feb 20
fri 8 pm

Harmonic Insurgence, RASHMI



Harmonic Insurgence has been singing about peace, freedom, justice, and social change since 2003. With the rich harmonies and intricate rhythms of direc-

tor Gene Glickman's arrangements, the singers—Laurie Bennett, Ellen Davidson, Lupe Family, Mara Goodman, Nancy Hoch, Mark Karwowski, Jenny Knight, Dennis Marshall, and Marie Robinson—present folk, reggae, blues, labor and love songs. Tonight their songs address current challenges in the struggle for social justice, including government spying, protecting the environment, police brutality and racism. Come get out of the cold and rekindle your conviction that another world is possible. Hailing from Dallas, **RASHMI**, now a Brooklyn resident and proud Food Coop member, has performed her original music in Austin, Dallas, Toronto, Philadelphia and Los Angeles. In New York, she plays at Rockwood Music Hall, The Rock Shop and The Way Station. Her songs have been commissioned for film and dance/theatre. Her melodic country-rock sound is unique, with her varied and diverse influences, and sound great acoustic or with a band. Get her album, *Rainstorm*, available on www.cdbaby.com and on www.rashmisingh.com. Follow her on www.facebook.com/everythingrashmi to hear about her upcoming album.

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.



feb 22
sun 12 pm

Mindfulness & the Alexander Technique

You will be exposed to two powerful methods for working with stuck patterns of physical tension and stress. Through the Alexander Technique, we will explore fixation in the body, which could be manifesting as pain or stiffness. Through a simple meditation practice, we will take a look at fixation in the mind. Can we better deal with stress and anxiety by living less up in our head? By utilizing both the Alexander Technique and meditation, you can develop a set of skills for examining and transforming stuck patterns in your life. This workshop will consist of experiential exercises, brief discussion, and optional hands-on guidance. Coop member **Dan Cayer** is a nationally certified Alexander Technique teacher working in the field of pain, injury, and stress. After a serious injury left him unable to work, or even carry out household tasks like cleaning dishes, he began studying the Alexander Technique. His return to health, as well as his experience with the physical, mental, and emotional aspects of pain, inspired him to help others.

feb 24
tue 7 pm

PSFC FEB General Meeting



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

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

I. Member Arrival and Meeting Warm-Up

II. Open Forum

III. Coordinator and Committee Reports

IV. Meeting Agenda

Item 1: Partnership with Terra Cycle Recycling (30 minutes)

Discussion: Provide members an opportunity to recycle waste from certain items sold at the Coop not currently recycled by NYC waste management.

—submitted by the Environmental Committee

Item 2: Branch Location Study Committee (30 minutes)

Discussion: To form a committee of members to study the feasibility of opening a new branch of the Coop in addition to our existing location.

—submitted by Jonathan Farber

Item 3: Proposal to Remove Plastic Roll Bags from the Shopping Floor (30 minutes)

Discussion: The Environmental Committee proposes to permanently remove the plastic roll bags from the shopping floor eight weeks from the date of the GM vote.

—submitted by the Environmental Committee

V. Board of Directors Meeting

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

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

feb 21
sat 12 pm

It's Your Funeral

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

mar 3
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, March 31, 7 p.m., at MS 51, 350 Fifth Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.

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.

feb 20–apr 14 2015

mar 5
thu 7:30 pm

Food Class: Kitchen Pharmacy



Some simple ingredients in your kitchen help you treat minor ailments. In this class you will learn how some food preparations can strengthen your immune system.

Chef Hideyo was born and raised in Tokyo, where she was trained as a sushi chef. She has also worked as a Japanese chef and a pastry chef in New York City. She graduated from the Institute of Integrative Nutrition and Natural Gourmet Institute. Currently, she is working as a chef instructor at the Natural Gourmet Institute. She is also working as a private chef and a health coach. She specializes in cooking vegan, gluten-free and refined sugar-free food. She also specializes in cooking a wide variety of fish and in finding new and healthier ways to prepare seafood. *Menu includes: brown rice miso porridge; simmered azuki beans and kabocha squash; burdock root with ground sesame seeds; apple kuzu drink.*

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 February 19.

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

mar 6
fri 7 pm

Film Night: 1964



1964 was the year the Beatles came to America, Cassius Clay became Muhammad Ali, and three civil rights workers were murdered in Mississippi. It was the year when Berkeley students rose up in protest, African Americans fought back against injustice in Harlem, and Barry Goldwater's conservative revolution took over the

Republican Party. In myriad ways, 1964 was the year when Americans faced choices: between the liberalism of Lyndon Johnson or Barry Goldwater's grass-roots conservatism, between support or opposition to the civil rights movement, between an embrace of the emerging counterculture or a defense of traditional values. Editor and Coop member **Amy Foote** will be in attendance for a Q&A after the screening. Foote is a freelance editor based in Brooklyn. Her editing credits include *Mavis!* (premiering at SXSW in March 2015), HBO's *A Matter of Taste: Serving Up Paul Liebrandt*; the Emmy-nominated, HBO documentary film *Finishing Heaven*; *The Least of These: Family Detention In America* (SXSW/Snag Films); and PBS Independent Lens' *For Once In My Life*, which won the Audience Award at SXSW, Sarasota, Nashville, and Port Townsend.

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

mar 7
sat 5 pm

Coop Kids' Variety Show



Event takes place at Old First Church, Carroll St. & Seventh Ave. Types of acts include: piano, singing, guitar, drums, cello, hip-hop, tap, tae kwon do, a monologue, saxophone, a jazz band, modern dance, and rock 'n roll. Performers in alphabetical order: Jude Batiste, Nadia and Sabine Benjamin, Ella

Sophia Daillie, Finley Dreyer, Luke Dunlavey, Maeve Fishel, James Gelman, David Gratz, Olivia Hay-Rubin, Penelope Hinchey, Malkhut Hinds-Bernard, Ikhar Hinds, Eli Jort, Anita Mae Kahan, Ammer Khalifa, Antonia King, Will Lach, Asmara Lance, Gianluca Lance, Vaishali Lerner, Naomi Levy, Matthew Louie, Ronan Meils, Max Miller, Luc and Leila Mieville, Jordan Nass-deMause, Ana and Elan Rabiner, Julian Raheb, Sam Reiss, Eliza and Hazel Seki, Benny Sherman, Eric Stern, Margareta Stern, Krishna Venkatesh, Mia Weiss and Virginia Panarello. Refreshments for sale. Nonmembers welcome.

Event takes place at Old First Church, Carroll St. & Seventh Ave. Admission: \$10 adults; \$5 kids 12-18; free kids under 12.

mar 10
tue 7 pm

Safe Food Committee Film Night: Seeds of Death



The global launch of a second Green Revolution, spearheaded by genetic engineering corporations such as Monsanto and DuPont, shows every sign of being as catastrophic as the first revolution. *Seeds*

of Death: Unveiling the Lies of GMOs, by award-winning documentary film director Gary Null, takes on the seed cartel's propaganda and political influence to expose a fabric of lies and deceit now threatening the safety and life of every species. The film's message is clear: the future of food security that relies upon GMOs will devastate the planet and create catastrophic health and food crises for the world population.

mar 13
fri 7 pm

Wordsprouts



Readers to be announced. Wordsprouts is the Park Slope Food Coop's reading series. All Wordsprouts participants are Coop members. Refreshments will be served.

Bookings: John Donohue, wordsproutspfc@gmail.com.

mar 15
sun 12 pm

And When I Die: The Musical! A Funeral Planning Cabaret

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

still to come

mar 20

Prospect Concerts

apr 7

Agenda Committee Meeting

mar 27

Cheese Class

apr 10

Wordsprouts

mar 31

PSFC MARCH General Meeting

apr 11–12

Food Drive to Benefit CHIPS Soup Kitchen

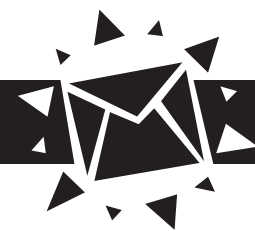
mar 31

Eating Vegan Workshop

apr 14

Safe Food Committee Film Night

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



BETTER TREATMENT AND RESPECT OF BIKE RACKS IN FRONT OF PSFC REQUESTED

TO THE EDITORS:

Even before I became a member of the Park Slope Food Coop years ago, I thought of the PSFC as an “ahead of the curve” bike friendly business, especially because so many of my hardcore cycling friends were members already.

Recently though, I have noticed every time there is a snow storm, whoever is shoveling the snow, dumps piles of it on the bikes racks, making them either inaccessible or dangerous to use.

Two racks are still disabled from a snow storm that occurred on January 27, 2015 as of this writing on February 8, 2015, while none of the sidewalks or parking spots in front of PSFC are still obstructed by snow.

I would like to see this policy changed ASAP, as many of the PSFC members and staff are year round cyclists who need easy access to bicycle racks to do their shopping at the PSFC.

I cannot think of any good reason to continue the policy of disabling the bicycle racks in front of the PSFC and hope to never see it occur again.

Stephen Arthur

CALL CONGRESS TODAY AND TOMORROW AND THE NEXT DAY TO SAY NO ON FAST TRACK FOR THE TRANS PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (TPP)

TO THE EDITORS:

The Capital Switchboard number is 202-224-3121. Ask for your representative. Tell her/him that we insist on having the text so we can publicly debate the 29 chapters since only 7 of them deal with tariffs and other traditional trade issues. Mention that you are a member of the Park Slope Food Coop (16,400 members) which is participating in the campaign for Fair Trade, not Free Trade. Leave your full name and address. Ask for a written response.

Then, make three calls to folks in other parts of

the US. Tell them that within the next few months the Congress will vote on giving President Obama expedited authority to send the entire package to Congress with 90 days to study it and then cast one vote—yes or no—on the entire package. Stipulations will control regulation of food safety, fossil fuel extraction, drug prices and Internet access, among other aspects of the lives of people in the 12 nations negotiating the treaty. The treaty would set up a court system that gives a corporation equal legal status with a nation-state, including the authority to sue a government claiming cash penalties if the country, state or locality passes any law restricting what the corporate investors feel is their right to make money.

Written behind locked doors by trade representatives with the advice of 600 corporate representatives, some of the text was leaked. We know the devastating results of NAFTA in Mexico and of the Colombian Free Trade Agreement there. Nobel prizewinner in economics Joseph Stiglitz, among others, has been outspoken in exposing all the damage these agreements cause.

The President and corporate lobbyists are all over Congress members these days with every carrot and stick in clear evidence. Strong opposition comes from the popular movements—labor, environmental, student, faith groups and advocacy organizations. Also, much of the radical right opposes giving the President anything. Sierra Club and Public Citizen Global Trade Watch have taken the leadership in organizing and maintaining accessible websites.

We have had victories. Check YouTube for “This is What Democracy Looks Like”, the documentary about the Seattle protests in 1999 which crippled the World Trade Organization. The docudrama, “The Battle of Seattle” is a slightly romanticized version. In Quebec, a few years later, the Free Trade of the Americas agreement was defeated. We stopped Fast Track in the last session of Congress. There is resistance in all 12 countries where multi-nationals are pressuring governments to accept world law establishing crude corporate capitalism for the foreseeable future.

The International Trade Education Squad was established by the Coop's General Meeting in September. We will continue to inform and organize. We have a mailbox in the membership office. Join us and join the campaign. Our self-organized, independent and participatory Coop shows that another path is possible.

Susan Metz

A THANK YOU TO FELLOW MEMBERS

TO THE EDITORS:

I'm taking this time and space to thank all of you who have helped me by reaching up to that high shelf I could not reach to get the thing I needed. Also to those of you walkers who kindly pushed the cart full of food, upon request, with a, “Sure no problem, where to?”

These folks epitomize “the Coop spirit” for which I am most grateful. You are each good folk.

With appreciation,
Lenore Fineberg



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.

EXPERIENCED ORGANIZERS, DESIGNERS, AND PROJECT MANAGERS NEEDED!

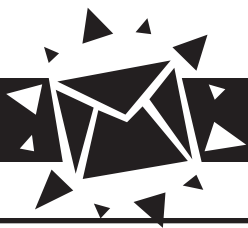


As part of Principle 6, Cooperation Among Cooperatives, the Food Coop is supporting the burgeoning Cooperative Economics Alliance of NYC (CEANYC) to build and expand the solidarity and cooperative economy in the five boroughs.

Coop members with the following skills can receive FTOP credit for filling the following recurring roles:

- web and graphic design • website development
- outreach and community organizing
- project management and meeting facilitation
- secretary and treasurer duties

We are seeking members who reflect the diversity of the Coop. E-mail ceanycorganizers@gmail.com with a resume or portfolio and why you would like to support cooperation in NYC.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BDS/MIDDLE EAST

MIDDLE EAST
POLITICS DO NOT
BELONG IN THE
GAZETTE

TO THE EDITORS:

I agree with letter writers who say that interminable arguments about Middle East politics do not belong in this official publication of the Park Slope Food Coop. By this time we know that one side is right and the other side is wrong and that one side tells the truth and the other side tells lies. No one's opinion will change.

The so-called BDS letters violate the first of the Letters Fairness policy, that "The Gazette will not publish hearsay—that is, allegations not based on the author's first-hand observation." Most of the letters cite conflicting sources that cannot be independently verified. These sources are certainly not "the author's first-hand observation(s)."

As an alternative to publishing such letters, perhaps some space on the staircase bulletin boards can be designated for political opinions and announcements that can stay up for the same amount of time allowed for housing and items for sale listings.

The bi-weekly letter writers can arrange a time and place to present their opposing arguments for discussion and the workshop can be listed in the Calendar of Events. "Views expressed by the presenter do

not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop."

All sides are free to be in front of the Coop to distribute leaflets to members and non-members.

The best letter that I have seen is the one written in the January 8. Rather than expressing an opinion the letter refers us to 13 sources of information regarding Palestine and Israel. We can form our own opinions based on what we find in these and other sources.

Paul Friedman

INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL OF
COMICS WAS
ASKED TO CUT
TIES WITH
SODASTREAM

TO THE EDITORS:

An open letter delivered to the director of the 42nd Annual International Festival of Comics at Angoulême, France, January 29, called for dropping all ties with the Israeli company SodaStream as long as Israel continues to deny Palestinians their rights. More than 80 cartoonists, illustrators, writers, editors, distributors, translators, critics and workers in the comic book industry, from more than 20 countries, had signed the letter.

The letter extends its call to "people of conscience from countries all over the world." The PSFC's mission statement does "seek to avoid products that depend on the exploita-

tion of others." SodaStream has a factory built in the illegal settlement of Ma'ale Adumim in the West Bank on stolen Palestinian land. Israel's on-going occupation is based on a systematic policy of ethnically cleansing Palestinian communities to build additional illegal Jewish settlements. De-shelving SodaStream would end our financial support to a company contributing to the economy of Israel which conducted a brutal military assault against a civilian population in Gaza in the summer of 2014 resulting in over 2,100 deaths, including over 500 children.

One of the several cartoonists who authored the open letter was Ethan Heitner, a Brooklyn-based comic artist. The group also released an accompanying statement at the opening of the Festival urging artists, in the aftermath of the horrific acts of violence at Charlie Hebdo, to commit their endeavors "for a world where the dignity, freedom and equality of all people are respected and promoted." At the Coop, de-shelving SodaStream would be "one important step toward that vision."

Source: www.imemc.org for the open letter.

Mary Buchwald
BrooklynForPeace.org
PSFC member for BDS
www.psfcbds.wordpress.com

THE FIRST—AND
ONLY

TO THE EDITORS:

Continuing the unceasing and inevitably futile attempts by a handful of Coop members to convince us to boycott Israel, the most recent submission began with the statement that the Olympia Food Co-op was the first in the U.S. to support the BDS boycott.

The writer neglected to add that Olympia is also the only food co-op in the U.S. to do so.

Israel boycotts have been attempted in many food co-ops in the country. In every one where members had the chance to vote, they rejected boycott calls, often citing the Olympia vote as an example of what NOT to do.

Here is one published report of the situation: "One category of retailer where the boycotters stood a chance for success was food co-ops

which fit the profile of a BDS target (progressive organizations with loose governing structures). But even here the only success they can claim was the Olympia Food Co-op in Washington, where BDSers (true to fashion) got their boycott passed in the dead of night behind the backs of members. At every other food co-op where a boycott has been proposed in the light of day (such as Sacramento, Seattle, and Port Townsend) it has been soundly rejected." (www.divestthis.com/2011/11/world-to-bds-but-you-are-losers.html) The People's Food Co-op of Ann Arbor, Michigan also overwhelmingly rejected a boycott proposal.

When the Sacramento Co-op rejected the boycott, its Policy Committee members stated that the boycott would conflict with the fundamental principles of the cooperative movement. (www.stopbds.com/?page_id=833)

The Davis Food Co-op Board cited several reasons for rejecting BDS: (1) The boycott initiative "has produced a tense and uneasy atmosphere at the Coop." (2) The initiative would entail that the co-op accept BDS's characterization and judgment of Israel and its government's actions, requiring the coop to accept BDS tactics as its own. In that case co-op operations would be determined by a political movement whose objectives have nothing to do with the co-op itself. 3) The initiative is counter to principles on which the coop was founded. (ibid.)

Now, three years after PSFC's decisive vote against holding a referendum on boycotting Israel, those considerations voiced by other coops are still relevant for us. BDS is indeed counter to cooperative principles and it creates divisiveness.

No reputable publication would accept the defamatory, unfounded, distorted, anti-Israel and anti-Jewish hate speech found in every issue of the Gazette. The right of free speech is not the right of hate speech. It should be stopped once and for all.

Ruth Bolletino

WHERE DO WE
STAND?

TO THE EDITORS:

It's no surprise that the

Coop's BDS campaign has made opposition shriller lately. After all, a former Israeli Prime Minister has also shown clear signs of twitchiness on the subject—yes, Ehud Barak worries aloud over a global movement increasingly fueled by uncensored visual data. Gruesome color photographs and video clips, which, thankfully, Gazette readers are spared here—if you can stomach it, though, watch the now infamous YouTube video showing IDF soldiers having a laugh, while they shoot a Palestinian kid at play. The recent (automatic) demand for censorship in these pages is to be expected. Sad but true—we're up against a false binary, a bizarre, pervasive and tired claim that equates supporting basic human rights with "anti-Semitism." Why should anyone feel the slightest compunction (or worse, shame) about defending Israel's victims and condemning its nationalist racism—especially after this summer's massacre, which left over 500 children dead? But perhaps we require data from more official sources... Well, a UNICEF report shows that Israel is guilty of torturing Palestinian minors with grim, systematic zeal... so it's not just a case of demented individuals fancying a bit of target practice. And please stop resorting to the " Hamas rockets" reply—three dead Israeli civilians against over two thousand dead Palestinian civilians; it's an inexcusable ratio, even if it is typical of these so-called wars. No, the rockets are a convenient pretext. Israeli scholar Ilan Pappé describes the Holy Land's ongoing crimes as "incremental genocide."

We should have a clear mandate in a case like this—does "never again" apply to every genocide, or doesn't it? We need a common standard, a universal rule regarding boycotts. SodaStream, a company operating on stolen land, must, it seems to me, be boycotted under any set of ethical guidelines. So I'm joining the chorus to call for a vote on the narrow subject of a company profiting from Palestinian pain.

Where do we stand?

Daniel Riccuito

ADDITIONAL NEW POLICIES
ON LETTERS AND
MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

In the interest of promoting civil discourse and upholding the main purpose of letter and member submissions to the *Linewaiters' Gazette*, the Editorial Board of the Gazette has created additional policies for "Letters to the Editor" and member submissions:

Letters and member submissions cannot contain gratuitous personalization—that is, needlessly identifying a Coop member and directing the substance of the letter/article to him or her, as in a polemical debate. Letters and articles should deal mainly with ideas and not persons. Letter/article writers will be asked to reword their submissions in accordance with this guideline.

Letters and member submissions must be mainly (that is 75% or more) original writing, and the opinion of the writer. Submissions that are essentially cut-and-paste, pass-along writing from other publications will be rejected, and the writer asked to re-submit with original writing.

Punctuation and Formatting Disclaimer:

Because of typesetting-software limitations and the compressed schedule of producing each *Linewaiters' Gazette* issue, there is no guarantee that special formatting, including boldface, italics and underlining, will be reproduced accurately.

—The Editors, *Linewaiters' Gazette*

WHAT'S BEING COLLECTED:

1) Plastic sandwich bags and small plastic bulk bags (NOT large roll or shopping bags)

2) Baby food pouches & caps (any brand)

3) Cereal bag liners (plastic liners from cereal, crackers, bulk cereal bags, and similar liners)

4) Energy bar wrappers (any brand)

5) Toothpaste tubes & caps (any brand)

6) Brita water filters & components

NOTE: No need to clean, rinse, or remove stickers.

NOW YOU CAN RECYCLE MORE!

The Environmental Committee is promoting a new partnership between the PSFC and **TerraCycle**, an innovative recycling company that transforms hard to recycle waste into new products- keeping more waste out of landfills.

We will be presenting a proposal for discussion at the January General Meeting and holding preliminary collections in January and February.

Save up your eligible waste for upcoming collection dates.

QUESTIONS: ecokvetch@yahoo.com

LEARN MORE: www.terracycle.com

WHEN:

January 24th
2pm - 4pm

February 28th
2pm - 4pm

WHERE:

In front of the Coop
or inside if the
weather is frigid.



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.

THU, FEB 19

7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Book Sale-Premium Preview Sale-\$20 admission. Tens of thousands of new & used books, DVDs, CDs & records. Most books priced at \$1 or \$2. Park Slope United Methodist Church. 6th Avenue at 8th Street. (Book donations welcome; details at www.parkslopeumc.org.)

FRI, FEB 20

7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Book Sale-Preview Sale: \$5 admission. See 2/19/15 date for more info.

SAT, FEB 21

9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Book Sale-Free admission. Tens of thousands of new & used books, DVDs, CDs & records. Terrific Children's Room. Also Sunday 2/22/15 12:30 to 5:00 p.m. (details at www.parkslopeumc.org.)

MON, FEB 23

6:30 p.m. World Social Justice Day, at the farm-to-table women-owned restaurant Wild in Williamsburg, an evening celebrating Sustainable Sisterhood. We are doers and movers, who believe that collaborating, supporting, and investing in each other is A Feminist Act. At Wild Brooklyn on 340 Bedford Avenue. For more info: <http://sustainable-sisterhood.splashthat.com/>.

SAT, FEB 28

8 p.m. Peoples' Voice Cafe: MacDougal Street Rent Party Reunion Hoot. At The Community Church of NY Unitarian Universalist, 40 East 35th St. For info call 212-787-3903 or see www.peoplesvoicecafe.org. Suggested donation \$18, member \$10.

FRI, MAR 6

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 singers. First Friday of every month! BSEC, 53 Prospect Park West. More Info: www.brooklynswingdance.com.

SAT, MAR 7

4 p.m. Cookbook tasting and book signing for: The Soup Club Cookbook by Courtney Allison, Tina Carr, Caroline Laskow, and Julie Peacock. Tastings prepared by Melissa Vaughan, author of The New Brooklyn Cookbook at the powerhouse; 1111 8th Ave. Bklyn, NY 11215. For more info, call 718.666.3049. RSVP appreciated: rsvp@powerhouseon8th.com.

SUN, MAR 29

4 p.m. BPL Chamber Players present: Susan Rotholz, flute; Eliot Bailen, cello; Margaret Kampmeier, piano at the Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Center for Contemporary Culture Central Library. 10 Grand Army Plaza BKLYN. Admission Free.



Crossword Answers

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

CLASSIFIEDS

BED & BREAKFAST

HOUSE ON 3RD ST. B+B. Parlor floor thru apt. Sleeps 4. Wi-fi, kitchenette, deck, 12' ceilings, private bath. Visit our website, houseon3st.com, or call us, 718-788-7171. Enjoy modern comfort in true Park Slope style. Grandparents are our specialty!

Large sunny room with en suite bath, in home with old-fashioned charm and modern amenities. near Q, B, 3 trains. Call Margaret at 718-622-2897.

CLASSES/GROUPS

BROOKLYN ARTS FOR KIDS Summer Arts Camp is an exciting visual and performing arts experience for ages 7 to 11 from June 29 to July 18, 2015. Kids create in an art studio and in Prospect Park. The path of discovery culminates in a final show. Located in Windsor Terrace. Info @ www.brooklynartsforkids.com and 917-326-0867.

SERVICES AVAILABLE

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

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.

NEED AN ELECTRICIAN Call Art Cabrera of Horizon, Est. 1983, original coop member #225 and electrician. Residential special-

ist. Rewiring, new circuitry. Add a switch or rewire your whole home. Troubleshooting specialist, fans, low voltage, bells and rewiring light fixtures. Call 718-965-0327 or call 646-239-5197.

MADISON AVENUE HAIRCUTTER is right around the corner from the food coop, so if you would like a really good haircut at a decent price, please call Maggie at 718-783-2154. I charge \$60.

SERVICES-HEALTH

Teens and Self-esteem group forming. Teenage girls and boys frequently have lots of self-esteem issues. Pressures on them seem to be larger than in previous generations. Issues with appearance, weight, academic and social problems are very common and groups can be a great way for them to meet and talk and address these issues. Call G. Ness, LCSW, 718-789-6739.

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.

Math Tutor

I am a NYS-certified/NYC-licensed math teacher with 23 years experience. I provide clear, precise explanations to develop problem-solving skills, while building confidence and ease in the world of math. I have successfully tutored students for Regents, SAT, GRE and all school levels. For remediation or enrichment, traditional or common-core, call David Cohen at 917.679.5193 or go to www.mathtutor.nyc for more information

CALL FOR VIDEO PROFESSIONALS to join the video team for the new Park Slope Food Coop Web site.

We will be producing videos for the new Park Slope Food Coop Web site.

In line with the mission of the new Web site, the videos will offer more information to members and educate the public about the Coop. We are looking for members who currently work professionally as:

- Video shooters (who have their own equipment that they can use for the Coop videos)
- Sound recorders (who have their own equipment they can use)
- Producers • Directors • Editors • Composers • Sound mixers

If you are interested in FTOP earning work credit by sharing your expertise to help produce awesome videos for the Coop's new Web site, please send an e-mail with a brief statement describing your qualifications or a CV to:

jdressner@gmail.com

TECH HELP

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

www.tech11215.com

Call Dan: 718-930-2286 • info@tech11215.com

CALLING ALL FAMILIES!

The Workmen's Circle Invites You to Celebrate

Tu B'Shevat

the Jewish New Year for the Trees

The Berkeley Carroll School • 152 Sterling Pl., March 1, 2-4pm

Join us for our FREE cultural event filled with food, music, art projects and social justice!

RSVP required with Sandy Cheiten
scheiten@circle.org, 646-291-8374

www.circle.org

PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO SHOP AT GREENE HILL FOOD CO-OP.

GREENE HILL FOOD CO-OP IS OPENING ITS DOORS TO PSFC MEMBERS.

JUST SHOW YOUR PSFC MEMBERSHIP CARD AT THE DOOR.

park slope
FOOD COOP

&

GREENE
HILL
FOOD CO-OP

18 Putnam Ave., Brooklyn (bet. Grand Ave. & Downing St.)
greenehillfood.coop



PHOTO BY ALEX MARQUEZ

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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.

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.

STORE EQUIPMENT CLEANING
Monday, Wednesday, 6 to 8 a.m.

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

ENTRANCE DESK
Wednesday, Friday, 5:45 to 8 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.

BATHROOM CLEANING
Friday, 12 to 2 p.m.

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

LAUNDRY AND TOY CLEANING
Saturday, 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

This workslot has two responsibilities. You will load laundry into dryer, fold it and redistribute it around the Coop. While the laundry is washing/drying, you will clean toys in the childcare room. You will be working with a partner on these tasks. Please contact Annette or Jana in the Membership Office for further information.

GENERAL MEETING SET-UP
Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.

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

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.					
Rasheeda Abdullah	Loic Chappoz	Richard Evans	Elizabeth Hurst	Hassan Momammed	Molly Saffer
Malka Reyna	Sanou Cisse	Douglas Friend	Kara Ilardo	Aimee Monko	Jacqueline Scheider
Albukerk	Richard Cohen	Meghan Gabriel	Matthew Ilardo	Mei Ng	Allison Scheinfeld
Akini Alexander	Hannah Coleman	Brian Gallagher	Erik Jansen	Sade Nickels	Josh Schwartzman
Jonathan Aurbrey	Giada Crispiels	Marina Galstyan	Katie Jansen	Abby Nightingale	Anna Sharratt
Mercy Awah	Ellen Cunningham	M. Gemma Gambee	Lawren Joyce	Johnson	David Sharratt
Darryl Banks	Alyson D'Souza	Aliza Gazek	Michael Joyce	Ruth-Ellen	Rachel Silberstein
Miriam Barlow	Steve Dacey	Zach Geller	Michael Jungman	Nightingale	Kate Ormiston
Phil Barlow	Aaron Dai	Anita Gill	Inbal Kedom	Tara O'Con	Smith
Theresia Bauer	Michael Danatz	Stacy Giunta	Teresa Kokaislova	Jane O'Hara	Nikki Smith
Kay Bekele	Megan Davenport	Jana Catalina	Kaj Kraus	Louisa Oakes	Jeffrey Sprycha
Katie Bellezza	Sophia M. Davis	Glaese	Fabienne Lasserre	Fumie Ono	Tali Stolzenberg-
Igor Berjan	Suzanne DeBlasie	Christopher	Bly Lauritano-	Dana Panepinto	Myers
Louise Bernard	Chloe Delgado	Glemaud	Werner	Genevieve Parker	Zoë Stopak-Behr
Miroslava Beskydova	Julio Delgado	Docious Godfrey	Brian Leaver	Joseph Pearson	Jillian Switzer
Kimberley Blanchot	Rick DeMarco	Michael Gold	Chelsey Lepage	Grace Pelletier	Hanayo Takai
Thomas Bollier	Suzanne DeMarco	Adam Goldstein	Jenna Levine	Deanna Pinzon	Naomi Tataille
John Bovell	Alyssa Dennis	Loma Grady	Angela Lowe	Crystelle Reola	Rebecca Teran
David Brenner	Carolyn Dennis	Julia Graham	Oleh Lyashuk	Ronnie Ricker	Melissa Thoen
Lisa Brenner	Hope DeSouza	Ashley Grant	Sarah Manning	Alex Rindler	Akiko Togumi
Andrea Britz	George Dickson	Lauren Hamersmith	Danny Martinez	Unique Robinson	Carol Van Atten
Marissa Brostoff	Quynh Do	Matt Harding	Marci McAvoy	Lucy Robson	Beatrice Witter
Nicole Brunelle	Malik Doyle	Melodye Harvey	Matt McAvoy	Amy Rondinel	Rina Yarra
Jennifer Bruno	Deborah Duenas	Blythe Hawthorne-	Cody McBurnett	Joanna Ross-Tash	Shay Yemini
Anna Casper	David Edwards	Loizeaux	Lennox McIntyre	Nydia Rowe	
Alison Chang	Lynn Evans	Theodore Hilton	Richard Meehan	Aimee Rubenstein	

