# INEWAITE S' GAZETTE

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# Members Weigh Supermajority for Boycotts; PSFC May Join Coop of Coops



Members voting on joining the NCG, a "coop of coops."

By Ed Levy

The July GM met in the sweltering hot auditorium of St. Francis Xavier on President Street—with additional heat supplied by a few contentious topics. The packed auditorium discussed whether boycotts should require a supermajority of voters to pass, instead of the current simple majority; debated and passed a coordinator-submitted proposal that we join a national organization of food coops; heard complaints about the Gazette's letters-to-the-editor policy; and learned from a representative of the Gazette that it was suspending all BDS and anti-BDS letters and articles temporarily in order to devise a fair and sustainable way of handling them.

#### **Boycotts and Letters**

Jesse Rosenfeld, Coop secretary, introduced a proposal that future boycotts garner 75 percent of all votes cast. He said that because they were overwhelmingly supported, past boycotts were not divisive, as the BDS issue has been. The average level of support for past boycotts, he noted, was 95 percent. Rosenfeld warned there was potential harm to the cooperative spirit from simple-majority, or "51/49" boycotts. As if to emphasize his point, several members objected strenuously and loudly when his argument in favor of supermajorities drifted into the pros and cons of an Israel boycott itself.

On behalf of the Linewaiters'

Gazette, Co-Coordinating Gazette Editor Joan Minieri told the meeting the paper will temporarily suspend publication of all BDS and anti-BDS letters and articles until the editors can devise a sustainable policy for the letters, one that would allow civil discourse within word limits. The handling of the large volume of strident BDS and anti-BDS letters has occupied increasing amounts of editors' time. Minieri reported that over a 12-month period, 74 percent of the letters submitted were written by the same 10 people. It's not unusual, she said, for an editor to spend 15 to 20 hours just on BDS-related letters for a given issue of the paper, trying to avoid

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Coop Event Highlights

Thur, Sep 3 • Food Class:

Intro to Nut-Based Cheese Making 7:00 p.m.

Tue, Sep 8 • Safe Food Committee Film Night: Seeds of Time 7:00 p.m.

Fri, Sep 11 • Wordsprouts:

A Night of Memoir 7:00 p.m.

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

# **Great Eggs-spectations: Finding Eli Hersh**

By Pat Smith

The journey begins with a handwritten label in neat cursive script on an egg carton: "Eli Hersh, 201 C.R. 48, Pulaski NY 13142." It is somehow charming, evoking small-town, down-to-earth goodness. It also inspires wonder. Who is this farmer that signs his eggs by hand?

2. We learned in the Linewaiters' Gazette in March that Eli Hersh is one of several Amish farmers who supply eggs to Grindstone Farm, which sends the Coop not just eggs but organic blueberries, onions, shallots and asparagus. The Amish farmers write their labels by hand because they don't use printers or any other modern machinery.

3. In a great scene from the TV comedy "Portlandia," Fred and Carrie are breakfasting at a restaurant that is so hyper-locavore that their waiter can tell them the names of the chickens on the menu. Before they order, they ask if they can visit the farm, and off they go. Curiosity about the Coop's Amish egg farmers might not be as obsessive, but, when asked,

Grindstone owner and manager Dick De Graff was eager to arrange interviews with two of his egg suppliers, including Eli. So, on a recent Friday morning two Coop members set out on a 290-mile trip upstate to Pulaski for the weekend.

After a four-and-half-hour drive that eventually led to mostly flat farmland not far from the shore of Lake Ontario, we reached Grindstone Farm and were met in the farm's retail store/ office by the affable De Graff, a tall, wiry man in his early 60's, wearing jeans, a sweatstained cap and a T-shirt featuring a map of Baja, Mexico. He promptly made room in one of the aging vans he uses for farm errands and led a tour of the surrounding county where he grew up. He had some eggs to collect from his Amish suppliers, and background to provide, including tales of boyhood drag-racing on the long, flat stretches of road that line the fields.

4. The history of the Amish in the area around Pulaski (pronounced pah-LASS-sky

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## **Next General Meeting on August 25**

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The August General Meeting will be on Tuesday, August 25, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh Aves.

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.

## IN THIS ISSUE

## **Members Weigh**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE I

publication of slanderous or libelous statements and hate speech—a situation, she pointed out, that is not consistent with the Coop's policy of equity in member labor. On top of the added workload, she said, is the stress of navigating the highly charged and politicized atmosphere around this issue, with members regularly questioning the integrity and judgment of the newspaper's staff.

She told the meeting the suspension was temporary, and would last a maximum of several months, and was not intended to censor speech, but to give the paper some breathing space to think about how to handle the issue fairly and accountably. Preceding her announcement, in the open forum, a number of members, including David Barouh and Mitchel Cohen, complained of censorship and suppression by the Gazette of their letters.

#### **Application to Join a Coop of Coops**

General Coordinator Joe Holtz introduced a proposal to allow the Coop to join the National Cooperative Grocers (NCG), a "coop of coops." An organization of 143 food coops operating 195 stores in 38 states, the NCG stores have a combined annual sales of over \$1.7 billion and comprise over 1.3 million consumer-owners. The NCG,

in addition to its increased buying power, offers professional training to members, guidance on best practices and standards, a national voice for advocacy on coop issues, and support for new and expanding coops.

Because the Park Slope Food Coop is large, it has been able to obtain favorable pricing and quality from suppliers on its own, but in recent years it has been actively courted by the NCG. Holtz noted that with the increased presence of huge players like Whole Foods the food environment is changing, and that this may be the right moment to further strengthen the coop movement by lending our weight. While some questions remain about the value of joining, he said, we can't fully evaluate until our application moves forward.

After initial costs are factored in, the first year benefit to the Park Slope Food Coop's membership from lower prices and special deals would be a savings of approximately \$238,000, which would increase to \$368,000 the following year.

NCG was founded in the late 1990s when corporate food chains began aggressively pursuing the natural foods market, with the resources to dominate it. By the late 1990s, a regional predecessor was formed, and in 2004, this entire system was reorganized as the NCG. In 2006, the NCG negotiated a

national contract with United Natural Foods, Inc., the leading national distributor of organic and natural foods. It also coordinates a bi-weekly program of special deals on selected products, called Co+op Deals.

Under the Co+op Deals program, coops place a small sign on the product shelf calling attention to the deal. Currently, when the Coop lowers prices on certain items, it simply changes the price sign on the shelf without calling attention to it. Holtz pointed out that the Coop could opt out of the deals program entirely if it was felt it did not fit our culture, while retaining membership in the NCG, although this would diminish somewhat the financial benefit of joining.

A potential downside of membership is that the Park Slope Food Coop could then be responsible, along with other coops in the NCG Northeast Corridor, for outstanding UNFI bills incurred by distressed food coops in the corridor.

In the discussion, several members questioned whether membership would interfere with our ability to choose our own suppliers and to continue supporting local growers. Susan Metz questioned whether membership would interfere with our autonomy and wanted to know more about the governance implications before applying.

Joining the NCG will require the Coop's Information Technology staff to make changes in our computer system in order to share data with the national organization, so that it can produce analytic reports.

The proposal to join the NCG was approved by a vote of 132 to 101.

#### **Financial Statement**

General Coordinator Tricia Leith reported that net sales were \$24 million for the most recent 24-week period. At that rate, annual sales will end up a bit higher than last year's figure of \$49,600,000.

Gross margin (the amount of each dollar that goes toward Coop expenses) was 16.74 cents, the lowest in a year and a half. Sales per year per member (annualized) were \$3,230, and sales per week per member were \$62.50.

One member rose to question the increased depreciation costs, now at \$195,745. The increase, Tricia explained, was triggered by an increase in assets, the result of a number of projects and improvements, including rebuilding the west wall, renovating the south office, new checkout counters, equipment and servers, and an air curtain at the front entrance.

## **Disciplinary Committee**

The committee is still investigating the disruption by members of the April GM and will arrive at a conclusion in the near future. Other cases it is working on include fake sign-ins, members who are allegedly shopping for their businesses, and member interactions.

## **Diversity and Equality Committee**

Founded in 2003 by members concerned with bias and discrimination issues at the Coop, this committee will soon ask for full status as a GM-elected committee, and for the authority to place on alert and suspend unresponsive members. It currently forwards some issues to the Disciplinary Committee.

In the discussion, a member complained that the DEC does not observe due process or keep written records. A second speaker said of the committee that "it doesn't work," noting that it too easily labels as discriminatory issues that are about something else. A third said more information was needed about the background and qualifications of each member. Another member asked why, if we already have a disciplinary committee that follows strict and codified procedures, we would want to give the authority to suspend members to another body. A speaker who supported the proposal suggested that the words "civil rights" should be in the committee's name.

#### Other Items

A member asked that greater attention be paid to the bike racks, which have been damaged and never repaired. Susan Metz reported on the status of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, and urged members to call Congress to oppose the Trans-Pacific Partnership, which she said will roll back environmental legislation, increase fracking and restrict our access to local produce.

At the close of the meeting, a member noted that the Chair had called on a preponderance of men over women in the discussion periods, and that for the BDS discussion no women at all were called on to speak. ■



## Sudoku

Sudoku is a puzzle. You are presented with a 9x9 grid of squares, and that grid is divided into 3x3 zones. You solve the puzzle by filling the empty squares with single-digit numbers so that every zone, column and row uses each of the numbers from 1 to 9.

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

Puzzle author: James Vasile. For answers, see page 5.

## WHAT'S BEING COLLECTED:

Toothpaste tubes, any brand and size (toothbrushes OK too)

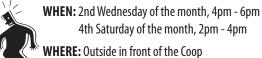
Baby food pouches and caps (any brand)

Energy bar wrappers (any brand but only energy -no other wrappers please)

Brita filters (other filter brands okay) plus other Brita filter—related items

Plastic food storage zip lock bags (any size), plastic cling wrap, and small bulk bags (NO PLASTIC ROLL BAGS OR SHOPPING BAGS)

Cereal bag and cracker bag liners or bulk cereal bags (any brand)



## **PSFC / TerraCycle Recycling Collections**

ine vote is in and members at the May GM unanimously voted to create work shifts to collect a variety of hard-to-recycle packaging in partnership with TerraCycle.

or inside during inclement weather

Save up your eligible waste for upcoming collection dates.

QUESTIONS: ecokvetch@yahoo.com

**LEARN MORE:** www.terracycle.com

Note: Presort and separate items by category. No need to clean or remove labels. Do not bring items other than those listed here.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE I

by the locals, which is one way they can tell if you're from there or not) is surprisingly brief, in De Graff's telling. Around 2005, having learned of affordable land for sale, a group of Amish farmers whose large families had outgrown their space in central Ohio came north and paid for the land with cash carried in several suitcases.

Grindstone Farm buys and distributes eggs from nine different Amish farmers. De Graff's role as middleman began when one of his enterprising assistants noticed that some of the farms were advertising eggs on the roadside. She knew there could be a more lucrative market for them, especially in Brooklyn at the Park Slope Food Coop. At present the Coop is ordering, on average, 45 cases of eggs a week from Grindstone Farm, and sometimes as many as 60 cases a week, with 15 dozen per case.

5. The first things that surprised us on the Amish farms we visited were not the hundreds of chickens but the many children. Each family had at least six or seven kids, ranging in age from babies to pre-adolescents, and they stared at us with wide-eyed wonder. They don't see many outsiders besides De Graff. In their simple, 19th-century, prairie-style clothing, they seem to appear out of the distant past, and all you want to do is take their picture, but that's against Amish beliefs.

At the farm of Elam Hershberger, one of his young sons was in the saddle of a horse pulling a small plow that Elam was guiding along

a vegetable patch when we said hello. Elam took a break to talk to us, and his children scampered nearby, murmuring to each other in the dialect usually known as Pennsylvania Dutch. Elam is unexpectedly young. From a distance his big beard and traditional outfit make him look older, but upon greeting him you see he is only in his 20s—a very young man to have such a large family. Elam said he had been selling his eggs to Grindstone Farm since 2008. He has 300 Golden Comet chickens, light brown hens that produce brown eggs. Elam said he went into the egg business when word got around that Grindstone Farm was buying. He wants to build a fence against predators so his hens can graze around their coop, but hasn't yet. He's also looking to sell maple syrup.



6. The hens lay one egg a day for a year, then they move on to the meat processing phase. When one hen is done, another needs to take its place, so the egg farmers also buy eggs—the fertilized kind that will hatch into chicks, grow up and replace the old hens when they age out.

7. The prettiest chickens we saw were Golden Browns that belong to the farmer whose fabled handwritten signature prompted this story, Eli Hersh, aka Eli Hershberger— he shortened his name on the egg carton labels to save time. (Inci-

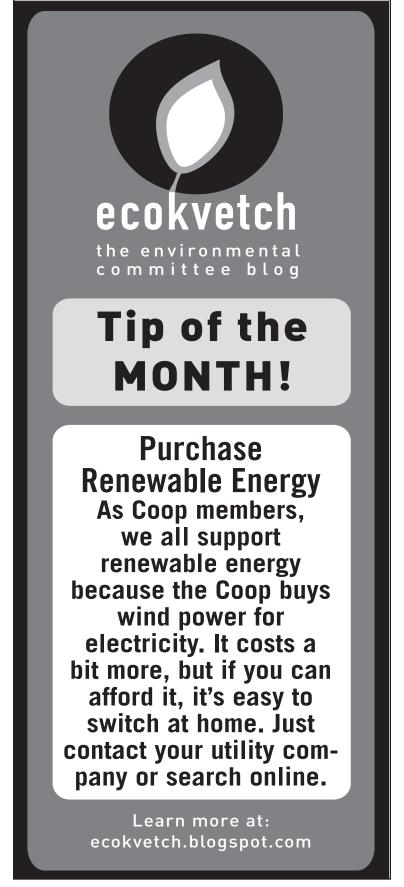
dentally, he is not related to Elam.) The job of label-writing, like all the work on the farm, is shared among members of his family—they must all have nice handwriting. Because the address was so neatly scripted, some Coop members are known to send Eli Christmas cards.

Eli is, like Elam, a young man with many young children. They followed us and hovered nearby as we walked around his small farm. He was born in Ohio and came to the Pulaski area in 2006. He said he always wanted to raise poultry, but that without De Graff's help he couldn't have gotten started. He sells 20 cases of eggs a week to Grindstone Farm, which he delivers himself by horse-drawn buggy toward evening, a 45-minute trip, twice-weekly. He has some cattle for beef and milk, mostly for his family, but the chickens are the main project—800 producing hens and 400 young ones.

We asked if we could see them. He told the children to open the coops, even though it was mid-morning and the hens usually don't graze outside until afternoon. Hundreds of hens streamed out and around the yard, a clucking, golden blur of feathers. Eli said the fresh air keeps them from getting stressed. They spend the rest of the day outside, and when it's dark they have a natural instinct to return to the coop.

Eli said he appreciates the cards from Coop members, and that someday he'd like to visit New York with his family. So who is Eli Hersh? A hard-working young farmer with many mouths to feed his family, his chickens and his loyal customers at the Coop. ■







## Greening the Gowanus, with Volunteers Leading the Way

Tive avenues down the slope from the Park Slope Food Coop flows a nearly two-milelong canal that is widely considered one of the most polluted bodies of water in our nation.

The Gowanus Canal is so contaminated with heavy metals, such as copper, lead and mercury, as well as DDT and other pesticides, that the federal government declared it a superfund site.

Yet as toxic as the waterway is, the area has become a magnet for real estate development.

Enter the Gowanus Canal Conservancy, created in 2006 by graphic designer and longtime resident Andy Simons, along with a group of his neighbors. Their goal for the non-profit organization was to help clean up the canal and influence the inevitable change in a green and public interest direction.

With Park Slope on one side and Carroll Gardens on the other, "we started to see a lot of development pressure... national companies seeing an interest in developing the

area," Simons said. In addition to working to influence the direction of development, one of the group's goals was to make sure there would be community access to the canal once it was cleaned up. In the past, "the community never got to interact with the canal," Simons explained.

The canal was built during the industrial heyday of Brooklyn in the 19th century. Along its banks were industries including manufactured gas plants, cement factories, oil refineries, tanneries and chemical plants. All these industries polluted both the ground on the banks of the canal as well as dumped industrial waste directly into the water.

The Gowanus Canal Conservancy today runs out of a small office in an industrial building filled with creative businesses and artists on 9th Street, half a block from the canal. Written in magic marker, hanging on the wall next to the door, read their three points of focus:

"1. Facilitate the development of a resilient, vibrant

open space network around the Gowanus Canal. 2. Activate + empower community stewardship of the watershed. 3. Build an organization that adapts to the evolving Canal and its environs."

There are three full-time employees who work in the modest, loft-like space. Andrea Parker, who was an artist before going to grad school for landscape architecture, is the executive director of the Gowanus Canal Conservancy. Her background is the perfect fit for GCC, which attracts to its orbit a mix of architects, artists, designers, landscape architects and environmentalists.

Parker describes the style of GCC as "Open Source." "If you have an idea about a project that forwards our mission, we will help you realize it. That's why we have so many volunteer coordinators," she said.

Like the Park Slope Food Coop, GCC has its own language which takes time to learn. Volunteer coordinators work with GCC to help coordinate their efforts, especially

when the efforts involve large groups of volunteers whose energy needs to be focused and organized. There are an estimated 50 volunteer coordinators who bring their project ideas, energy and professional skills to the organization.

About a year ago large banners were hung on the fence of an industrial yard on Smith Street near the intersection of Luquer, in Gowanus. These banners had images and text explaining the pre-industrial history of the site, its industrial history, what was happening now as well as a vision for a clean future for the site.

The banners explained to the public that for many years this land was the site of a manufactured gas factory, which was the source of much of the pollutants that now sit on the bottom of the canal. Manufactured gas was used through the 1800s for heating, cooking and lighting. The property is now owned by National Grid, which paid for the printing of these large banners. The idea to create and hang up these banners was born in a meeting of dedicated volunteers.

There are "so many art studios in Gowanus, so many people making things," said artist and volunteer coordinator Jessica Dalrymple. Along with a small group of fellow volunteer coordinators, Dalrymple recently teamed up with GCC and was awarded a grant to build an "outdoor art studio" in the parking lot of Whole Foods overlooking the canal. The structure, which will be made of metal and glass and incorporate a living green roof, will be used for art classes and other public events and is expected to come to fruition in spring 2016.

"Engaging artists in the area," Simons says, is one of the main keys to transforming Gowanus. "Design, architecture and art are going to be a main component of the solution, not just engineering."

Construction workers are now busy building an entire blockwide development, a 700-apartment complex stretching from the canal to Bond St., between 1st and 2nd Streets.

lust across the Gowanus Canal, Parker keeps her organization's goals in focus. "We are not pro- or anti-development, we are trying to steer the change in a way to make it more open clean and alive." She points out that the new building is adhering to a building code she refers to as the "text amendment," which she explains requires all new construction to incorporate in their plans a 40-foot set

back from the canal, allowing public access to the waterfront.

The canal was declared a superfund site in 2010, with a 10-year clean up plan scheduled to start next year. With even bigger changes on the horizon, it's important to know how GCC can have an impact.

Simons, who now is the vice chairman of GCC, said from the beginning they believed they could have more of an effect on the water runoff issue than the other issues affecting the canal. "We wanted to focus on green infrastructure."

While much of the pollution is the result of historical abuses, raw sewage is regularly released into the canal and other waterways in the city when there is heavy rain and the sewage system is overwhelmed. Adding to the nastiness in the Gowanus Canal, pollutants collect from the street surface and flow into the canal during downpours.

Working on a parcel of land off 5th street on the edge of the canal, land which is part of a Department of Sanitation facility used to store large mountains of salt, GCC has many on-going projects. Included is an ambitious organic composting facility that turns thousands of pounds of food scraps into compost each month.

Much of the compost is used for stewardship of local street trees, which is another ongoing GCC program. Dozens of bee hives line the embankments of the canal at this location. A STEM middle school education curriculum was developed by GCC along with six teachers in local schools. After the students learned about the history and science related to the canal, they focused on designing solutions for the canal.

GCC has also dived full tilt into the NYC Parks Department Treecount2015 campaign. This is a citywide effort to do a census of all street trees using the efforts of thousands of volunteers trained to work as citizen scientists. GCC is one of numerous groups in the city that have committed to mapping trees on a large swath of city blocks. GCC committed its volunteers to cover many blocks around Gowanus and beyond.

Parker emphasizes that with the varied expertise of GCC, in architectural landscape among other fields, they are well positioned to "help the community interpret the complexity of the crazy landscape and find a vision for the future."

Speaking of the future of Gowanus, Simons commented, "Eventually it's gotta become a gem." ■

## 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.

## 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.





**Greene Hill Food Co-op is open for shoppers:** Mon & Wed 3pm - 9pm Sat & Sun 10am - 6pm

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

### ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT

## Visit a Local(ish) Farm Animal Sanctuary This Summer!

By Deborah Diamant, Animal Welfare Committee

re you looking for a unique day trip to get away from the city with your friends or family in tow? The Animal Welfare Committee encourages you before summer ends to visit one of several farm animal sanctuaries located within a few hours of the Coop. Some are even reachable via mass transit!

Spending a day at a farm animal sanctuary is not just a humane alternative to visiting a zoo or circus—it also enables us to interact with animals up close in an environment where they receive proper care. While stroking the radiant coat of a Holstein cow and standing among frolicking goats, we can observe each animal's unique personality. This simply is not possible through a cage in a zoo or from a seat at a circus.

The purpose of farm animal sanctuaries, though, is to provide a caring environment where animals that were mistreated as products in commercial farms can recover and live the remainder of their lives free of cages and substandard treatment. Ienny Brown, founder and executive director of Woodstock Farm Animal Sanctuary (WFAS), stresses that "farmed animals are easily reduced to mere statistics when talking about the 10 billion land animals

slaughtered every year in the U.S., but to our visitors at the sanctuary they become tangible, self-aware individuals with names who behave very differently in an environment where they are treated with love and respect as opposed to commodities."

Brown has done such an effective job providing a home to rescued farm animals since she founded WFAS 10 years ago that her sanctuary is in the process of moving to a farm in High Falls, NY that is six times larger than the original location. Brown explains that WFAS "is a place where people connect with animals as individuals, and that helps people connect with themselves, with each other, and with the larger natural world." WFAS holds special events throughout the year in addition to its regular tour schedule. WFAS's grand reopening in its new location will take place on September 5 and feature sanctuary tours, food vendors and live music. ■

The Animal Welfare Committee provides transparent animal welfare information about the Coop's products. Check out the Committee's blog at psfcanimals.blogspot. com. Connect with the Committee on Facebook at (Park Slope Food Coop Animal Welfare Committee) and Twitter (@psfcanimals).

Keep the below list of local(ish) farm animal sanctuaries handy. Perhaps you will find time to visit them all! The sanctuaries are listed in order of proximity from the Coop, with the closest sanctuary listed first. (Be sure to double check that a sanctuary is offering tours the day you plan to visit.)

## **Skylands Animal Sanctuary & Rescue**

(66 miles from PSFC) 50 Compton Road Wantage, NJ 07461 skylandssanctuary.org 973-721-4437 Tours given Saturday-Sunday, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

## **For the Animals Sanctuary**

(69 miles from PSFC) 8 Cherokee Trail Blairstown, NJ fortheanimalssanctuary.org Open to visitors on "visiting days." Check the website for schedule.

#### **Barnyard Sanctuary**

(70 miles from the PSFC) Columbia, NJ (exact location provided once tour is scheduled) barnyardsanctuary.org Reservations required! Call 973-670-4477 to schedule

Tours given Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and Saturday-Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



#### **Safe Haven Farm Sanctuary**

(83 miles from the PSFC) 542 Gardner Hollow Road Poughquag, NY safehavenfarmsanctuary.org Call 845-724-5138 to schedule a tour.

#### **Woodstock Farm Animal Sanctuary**

(102 miles from the PSFC) High Falls, NY woodstocksanctuary.org 845-679-5955

Currently closed to visitors because the sanctuary is moving from Woodstock to its new home in High Falls, NY. Mark your calendars: the grand reopening is September 5!



#### **Catskill Animal Sanctuary**

(112 miles from PSFC) 316 Old Stage Road Saugerties, NY casanctuary.org 845-336-8447 Tours given April through October: Saturday-Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

#### **Spring Farm CARES**

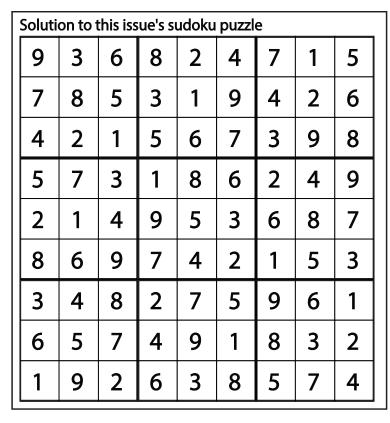
(250 miles from the PSFC) 3364 State Route 12 Clinton, NY springfarmcares.org Reservations required! Call 315-737-9339 to schedule

Tours given 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. every day of the year except on major holidays.

#### **Farm Sanctuary**

(255 miles from PSFC) 3150 Aikens Road Watkins Glen, NY farmsanctuary.org Questions: 607-583-2225, ext. 221 June-August: Tours given 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Wednesday to Sunday. (No tours August 14–16); May, September, and October: Tours given 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday only.







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

The Gazette will not knowingly publish letters, articles or reports that are hateful, racist, sexist, otherwise discriminatory, inflammatory or needless-

The *Gazette* welcomes Coop-related articles, letters and committee reports from members that follow the published guidelines and policies. The following is a summary—please see the detailed guidelines for each type of submission on the Coop website: www.foodcoop.com.

All submissions must include author's name, phone number and e-mail address, conform to the following guidelines and to the Fairness, Anonymity and Respect policies. Editors will reject letters, articles and reports that do not follow the guidelines or policies. Submission deadlines appear each edition in the Coop Calendar section.

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

Letters: Maximum 500 words. All letters will be printed if they follow the published guidelines and policies.

Voluntary Articles: Maximum 750 words. A Voluntary Article is held to a higher standard than a letter and must meet at least the following criteria: A Voluntary Article must analyze the topic it is discussing; it must present accurate, verifiable corroboration for factual assertions; it can criticize but not attack Coop practices and personnel; if critical it must present positive solutions; it cannot be solely or mainly opinion. It must strive to make a positive contribution to the understanding of the reader on a topic. If a submitted Voluntary Article is substantially opinion, it must be re-submitted, under 500 words, as a Letter to the Editor, possibly to a future issue. Editors will reject articles that are essentially just advertisements for member businesses, those of family and friends of members, solely expressions of opinion or that do not follow the guidelines and policies.

Committee Reports: Maximum 1,000 words. Reports must follow the published guidelines and policies

#### LETTERS, ARTICLES AND REPORTS SUBMISSION POLICIES

Letters must be the opinion of the letter-writer and can contain no more than 25% non-original writing.

All submissions must be written by the writer. Letters or articles that are form letters, chain letters, template letters or letters prepared by someone other than the submitting member will be rejected.

Letters, articles and reports must adhere to the Fairness, Anonymity and Respect policies. They cannot be hateful, needlessly inflammatory, discriminatory libelous, personal attacks or make unsubstantiated claims or accusations or be contrary to the values of the Coop as expressed in our mission statement. All submissions must be legible, intelligible, civil, well and concisely written with accurate, attributed, easily verifiable statements of facts separated from opinions.

Letter and article writers are limited to one letter or article per issue. Letter and article writers cannot write gratuitous serial submissions. Editors may reject submissions to consecutive editions of the Gazette on the same topic by the same writer.

Editor-Writer Guidelines: All submissions will be reviewed and, if necessary, edited or rejected by the editor. Writers are responsible for the factual content of their stories. Editors must make a reasonable effort to contact and communicate with writers regarding any questions or proposed editorial changes. Writers must be available to editors to confer about their submissions. If a writer does not respond to requests for editorial changes, the editor may make the changes without conferring with the writer, or reject the submission. If agreement between the writer and the editor about changes does not occur after a first revision, the editor may reject the submission, and the writer may revise and resubmit for a future issue.

#### FAIRNESS, ANONYMITY AND RESPECT POLICIES

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, factual coverage:

#### Fairness

- 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 unnecessary, not specific or are not substantiated by factual assertions. The *Gazette* will not publish gratuitous personalization. That is, no unnecessary naming of Coop members in polemical letters and articles. Writers must address ideas not persons.
- 3. Submissions that make substantive accusations against specific individuals, necessary to make the point of the submission and within the Fairness, Anonymity and Respect policies 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.

## Anonymity

d 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.

#### Respect

Submissions to the  $\ensuremath{\textit{Gazette}}$  must not be hateful, racist, sexist, otherwise discriminatory, inflammatory or needlessly provocative. They may not be personally derogatory or insulting, even when strongly criticizing an individual member's actions.

The Gazette is a collaboration among Coop members. When submitting, please consider the impact of your words on the writers, editors and production staff who use our limited workslot time to try to produce an informative and cooperative publication that reflects the values of our Coop community. Printed by: Tri-Star Offset, Maspeth, NY.

ARK SLOPE FOOD COOP'S READING SERIES

## A Night of Memoir, From Member-Writers Moe Kornbluth, Helen Zuman, and **Meghan Casey**



**Moe Kornbluth** is from Brooklyn. He began writing *Fran* in 2011 as a way of remembering the life and love he and his wife had together before her tragic diagnosis of Parkinson's. It details the romance, the excitement, the intelligence, and the ambition that made life with Francine Justa, his wife of more than four decades, so enthralling. One of the most respected

and charismatic leaders of New York City's affordable housing movement, Fran's diagnosis of Parkinson's put

an end to her meteoric career and changed their relationship and lives forever. Filled with humor, sadness, hope and regret, Fran reminds us all that it is wise not only to expect the unexpected in life, but to plan for it. His goal for the book is to help others who might be dealing with similar situations find comfort and solutions that will improve their lives.

Friday, September 11 7:00 p.m. at the Coop

#### **FREE**

Non members Welcome



**Helen Zuman** knows the Park Slope Food Coop is not a cult because she joined an actual cult in 1999, shortly after graduating from Harvard. In five years at Zendik Farm, she traded self-trust for membership in what she believed was a revolutionary movement to save humanity from suicide by bringing absolute honesty, and communal scrutiny, to intimate relationships. Her memoir, Mating in Captivity, traces her quest for Love with a capital "L" through delusion and heartbreak to wonder at the power of stories.

**Meghan Casey** has been a member of the Park Slope Food Coop since 2000. She teaches eighth grade Humanities at a public school in Fort Greene. Her work there exploring social justice with children keeps her heart open and her mind sharp.

## Refreshments will be served. All Wordsprout participants are Coop members. Bookings: John Donohue, wordsproutspsfc@gmail.com

Views expressed by the presenters do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop.

## **RETURN POLICY**

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

## REQUIRED FOR ANY RETURN The Paid-In-Full receipt MUST

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\* Cheese\* Books

Frozen Goods

Meat & Fish

Bulk\* (incl. Coop-bagged bulk) Seasonal Holiday Items Special Orders

Calendars Refrigerated Supplements Juicers & Oils \*A buyer is available during the week days to discuss your concerns. Sushi

ONLY IF SPOILED BEFORE Refrigerated Goods (not listed above)

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

RETURNABLE

RETURNABLE

RETURNABLE

**EXPIRATION DATE** 

Packaging/label

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

## This Issue Prepared By:

Coordinating Editors: Erik Lewis

Ioan Minieri

Editors (development): Dan Jacobson

Carey Meyers

Reporters: Brian Dentz

Ed Levy

Patrick Smith

Art Director (development): Michelle Ishay

Photographers: Ingsu Liu

Thumbnails: Saeri Yoo Park

Photoshop: Adam Segal

Art Director (production): Phan Nguyen

Desktop Publishing: Casey Llewellyn

Diana Quick

Midori Nakamura

Editor (production): Michal Hershkovitz

Final Proofreader: Lisa Schorr

Puzzle Master: James Vasile

Index: Len Neufeld

Advertising: Eric Bishop

## WELCOME!

A warm welcome to these new Coop members who have joined us in the last two weeks. We're glad you've decided to be a part of our community.

Brian Agredano David Alson Melissa Arliss Cassandra Atherton Shauna Calder-Nicolas Atherton Elizabeth Azen Jessica Baer Iecca Barry Brad Benedict Ryan Berger Helen Billson Jordan Bonamo Jameelah Booker Fien Bosiers Lisa Bottone Katherine Brennan Michael Brewer

Leigh Brown Lily Bruns Ryan Buckley LLewellyn Mayra Cardoso Anna Carnochan Iova Cohen Erin Connell Jodi Conti Amir Crnkic Matthew Cronin Emily Crowther Maria Damon Bimal Das John Davidowitz Julie Delutty

Barrington Dixon Clay Dixon Nick Doolan Jay Dunn Setareh Fararooy Lucy Gallun Maya Goldman Briana Green Sabrina Grodnitzky Ben Hagari Stephen Hall Dagmara Halyno Brian Hansen Caleb Hayes-Deats Casey Hayes-Deats Douglas Holmes Karen Holmes

Jake Honig Erika Imberti Boyle Irwin Megan Jamerson Jillian Kasimow Carolyn Keating Jonah Kilday Stella Kim Hansen Miriam Kopelow Anida Kulla Jonathan Langer Ofra Lapid Chloe Lasseron Barbara Lee Mindy Levine Kate Levy Andre LLewellyn

George Louarsabishvili Anna Lutz Evangeline Lyman-Munt Fiona Mahon Crystal Malik Michele Manduchi Claude McCammon Petra McKenzie Laura Melillo Matthew Merner Adriana Mills Lauren Minches

Talya Minsberg

Tariq Mohammed

Talene Monahon

Ibrahima Ndao Jessica Neilan less Nisselson Jim O'Grady Juanita Orbegozo Taylor Overturf Ava Page Jonathan Paine Valeria Picerno Jennifer Potter Sherri Powell Bradley Price Jerry Pura Michael Radparvar Albert Rafuna Pritha Raysircar Ramon Rebolleda

Iglesias Cole Reschke Raquel Rosairo Heather Rossi Sebastian Sabal Bruce Ariana Samuelson Mikaela Sanders Dominic Santiago Richard Sawyer Zoe Schacht-Levine Sedona Schat Daniel Scorse Benjamin Serby Yukari Shimizu Susan Shurow Sylvia Snow

Amy Stecher Emily Stenmark Kate Still Ioulia Stonys Kestutis Stonys Gloribell Taveras Terence Taylor Ethany Uttech Daniel Van Deusen Jeri Waldman Emily Wallace **Emily Waters** Ethan Weinberg Jordana Weiss David Williams Wenjing Wu

# COP 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

The fourth FRIDAY of the month at 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, AUGUST 25** 

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

#### TUE, SEPTEMBER 1

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m. Submissions will be considered for the September 29 General Meeting.

## **Gazette Deadlines**

#### **LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:**

September 3 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, August 24 September 17 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, September 7

## **CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:**

September 3 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, August 26 September 17 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, September 9

## 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-forworkslot-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. We seek to maximize participation at every level, from policy making to running the store.

We welcome all who respect these values.

## 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 on foodcoop.com and at every General Meeting.

## **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, August 25, 7:00 p.m.

The General Meeting is held on the last Tuesday of

## Location

St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh Aves.

## **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

- 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 published on foodcoop.com 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.

## park slope FOOD COOP

# calendar of events

## **PSFC AUG 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: St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh Aves.

- I. Member Arrival and Meeting Warm-Up
- II. Open Forum
- **III. Coordinator and Committee Reports**
- IV. Meeting Agenda

Item 1: Annual Hearing Officers Committee Election (20 minutes)

**Election:** The Hearing Officers Committee will present one candidate for the committee. Hearing Officers work on an FTOP basis when needed and serve —submitted by the Hearing Officer Committee three-year terms.

Item 2: No New GMO Products (45 minutes)

**Discussion:** Proposal to ban new GMO products from the Park Slope Food Coop. —submitted by Kathy Price and Greg Todd

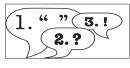
V. Board of Directors Meeting

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.

sep 1

## **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, September 29, 7 p.m., at a location to be announced.

## Food Class: Intro to Nut-Based "Cheese" Making



Witness the process of transforming health-supportive ingredients like almonds, agar, cashews, miso, brown rice vinegar, probiotic powder, garbanzo bean flour, arrowroot and macadamia into artisanal

"cheese" flavor profiles. Chef Olivia Roskowski will discuss the fermentation process, how to achieve the perfect texture, as well as choosing flavor profiles. This class will use vegan and gluten free ingredients, available at the Food Coop. Chef Oliva graduated from Columbia University with a degree in Neuroscience and Behavior. After completing the Chef Training Program at the Natural Gourmet Institute, she worked as a line cook at Jean Georges' (The) Mercer Kitchen, David Chang's Momofuku Ssam Bar, as well as Danny Meyer's Union Square Events. She currently works as a Chef Instructor at the Natural Gourmet Institute and as a private chef. Menu includes: heirloom tomato salad with macadamia "feta" and shaved red onions; crispy cauliflower "wings" with pine nut "smoked gouda" dip; black bean, avocado, lime nachos with almond "pepper jack"; blueberry marbled cashew "cheesecake."

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 August 20.

Materials fee: \$4. Food classes are coordinated by Coop member Olivia Roszkowski.

## Safe Food Committee Film Night: **Seeds of Time**



A perfect storm is brewing as agriculture pioneer Cary Fowler races against time to protect the future of our food. Seed banks around the world are crumbling, crop failures are producing starvation and rioting, and the accelerating effects of climate change are affecting

farmers globally. Communities of indigenous Peruvian farmers are already suffering those effects, as they try desperately to save over 1,500 varieties of native potato in their fields. But with little time to waste, both Fowler and the farmers embark on passionate and personal journeys that may save the one resource we cannot live without: our seeds.

See upcoming events, past reviews and a comprehensive list of films shown at www.plowtoplatefilms.com which can now also be reached via a link on the Park Slope Food Coop's home page at www.foodcoop.com.

## Wordsprouts: A Night of Memoir



Moe Kornbluth is from Brooklyn. He began writing Fran in 2011 as a way of remembering the life and love he and his wife had together before her tragic diagnosis of Parkinson's. It details the romance, the excitement, the intelligence, and the ambition that made life with

Francine Justa, his wife of more than four decades, so enthralling. One of the most respected and charismatic leaders of New York City's affordable housing movement, Fran's diagnosis of Parkinson's put an end to her meteoric career and changed their relationship and lives forever. Filled with humor, sadness, hope and regret, Fran reminds us all that it is wise not only to expect the unexpected in life, but to plan for it. His goal for the book is to help others who might be dealing with similar situations find comfort and solutions that will improve their lives. **Helen Zuman** knows the Park Slope Food Coop is not a cult because she joined an actual cult in 1999, shortly after graduating from Harvard. In five years at Zendik Farm, she traded self-trust for membership in what she believed was a revolutionary movement to save humanity from suicide by bringing absolute honesty, and communal scrutiny, to intimate relationships. Her memoir, Mating in Captivity, traces her quest for Love with a capital "L" through delusion and heartbreak to wonder at the power of stories. **Meghan** Casey has been a member of the Park Slope Food Coop since 2000. She teaches eighth grade Humanities at a public school in Fort Greene. Her work there exploring social justice with children keeps her heart open and her mind sharp. Bookings: John Donohue, wordsproutspsfc@gmail.com.

sep 12

## **New Paradigm Multi**dimensional Transformation

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

## **Test Prep Sanity**

How to help your child excel on standardized tests without driving each other crazy. Test-prep tutor and best-selling author **Elie Venezky** walks you through every step of the testing process, including which tests to take, how to talk about the test with your child, and how to handle complaining. Learn how to create a calm, sane environment at home and avoid the biggest mistakes that dissuade children from studying. Coop member Elie Venezky has been preparing students for standardized tests for more than 15 years. He is the Educational Director of Prestige Prep and the author of three books on education: Test Prep Sanity, Test Prep Sanity for Students, and Hack Your Brain.

## 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.

# g 25-oct 16 2015

Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY

## **Building Co-operative Power**

Stories and strategies from worker co-operatives in the Connecticut River Valley. Building Co-operative Power is a guide and inspiration for co-operative development in any region. It introduces the history and concept of worker co-operation and relays past and present stories. It addresses obstacles and opportunities for building a regional co-operative economy of worker co-ops, food co-ops and credit unions. Michael Johnson co-founded the Ganas Intentional Community in Staten Island, NY, in 1980 and the SolidarityNYC organization in 2011. He is an editorial member of the Grassroots Economic Organizing (GEO) journal, where he also blogs.

sep 13

## **Alternatives to Boycotting**

How many narratives are there in the Israel-Palestine conflict? One above all? Two competing ones? How about five narratives? How about one hundred? If you've always felt that "pro" or "anti" positions only put us at odds, and that angry resolutions help no one, you should come and bring your alternative solutions for peace in the Middle East and for our beautiful Coop. This will NOT be a debate on the pros and cons of boycotting. It will be a place for New Narratives. The conversation is changing. Finally! Jesse Rosenfeld is a Coop member since 2004, secretary for the General Meeting, and is helping to bring a new brand of Palestinian olive oil to our shelves. He believes in empowerment, not boycotts.

## **Help Your Kids Grow** From Challenges

In this short workshop, we'll delve into the psychology of attention and resilience, as well as learning a few simple tools for helping kids—and adults overcome and grow from challenges. Supported by scientific research, these methods have been shown to improve focus, emotional regulation, and pattern recognition skills. You'll also leave with some practical tips for implementing these simple and effective techniques in daily life. Presented by Coop member David Wolovsky. David is a teacher, educational innovator, and certified Positive Psychology Practitioner.

## **Be-Friending Your Inner Critic**

Nonviolent/compassionate communication for greater self-empathy, understanding, and connection. Are you your own best friend—or your worst enemy? Come learn some simple and powerful tools to transform negative self-talk and demands into greater awareness, self-compassion, action and choice. Transform those nasty inner critics into advocates! Dian Killian, PhD, has been a Coop member for 15 years and is a Certified Trainer with the international Center for Nonviolent Communication, director of Work Collaboratively, LLC, and co-author of the popular book, Connecting across Differences as well as Urban Empathy, that features a story set in the Coop!

## **ITES Public Forum:** Analyzing the Text of the TPP

Guest experts will concentrate on the sections about campaigns in which the Coop participates: country of origin and GMO labeling; buy local and buy American; and no to fracking. As well as aspects which affect us all: extention of pharmacuetical patents and Internet access and U.S. jobs; and especially the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) which invites investors to sue a government that regulates corporate behavior to protect human rights or labor rights, the environment. Our blog, CoopITES.wordpress.com has articles to prepare for the discussion. Non-members are most welcome. And please join us at a community forum with CD 9 Representative Yvette Clarke and others scheduled for Wednesday evening, August 19, at the Park Slope United Methodist Church. Check the blog to confirm the day and time.

## **Anger Management 101**

Are you or someone you know suddenly angry with loved ones or someone at work? Never knowing when the anger will explode? Have other people told you or someone you know they are ready to leave because of your anger? Anger is a common emotion that when used correctly can clear the air of misunderstanding, change wrongs to rights and improve relationships both at home and at work. This hour will be devoted to: 1. Understanding the nature of anger. 2. Learning about the latest neuroscience about anger. 3. Knowing the triggers that set off anger. 4. How to manage those triggers. Coop member Raymond Reichenberg is a Certified Anger Management Association Specialist and New York State-Licensed Psychoanalyst. He has been doing therapy for 30 years and the last 10 years doing anger management presentations in the NYC area.

**sep 26** 

## **Money Madness**

Are you blocked when it comes to dealing with money? Either clueless or unable to take the actions you know you need to take? If so you are not at all alone. In this session we will talk about the different ways people think about money, how that affects their behavior and better ways of coping. You will leave with clarity about your next steps and how to get help taking them. **Arthur Goodman** is a financial planner and longtime member of the Food Coop. He is very interested in behavioral finance and how our culture and experience affect how we think and act about our money.

## **College Admissions 101**

Get your children into their first-choice college. Are you or your child stressed about applying to college? Want to know what goes into writing a winning college essay? If you've been wondering what you can do now to make things easier when application time comes, come to this free workshop. Time for Q&A afterward, and additional resources will be provided. Steve Schwartz is a professional college admission counselor in Park Slope with more than a decade of experience. He also writes the popular *Get Into College* blog and is a Coop member.

## still to come

sep 29 PSFC SEPTEMBER General Meeting

oct 1 Food Class

Film Night oct 2

**Nutrition Response Testing** oct 3

Agenda Committee Meeting

oct 9

**Wordsprouts** 

oct 13

Safe Food Committee Film Night

**Prospect Concert** 

#### T R S T 0 Н D ITOR E T

## **SUPER MAJORITY** FOR BOYCOTTS **PROPOSAL AS OUTLINED AT JULY GM**

#### TO THE EDITOR:

At the July 28 General Meeting, Jesse Rosenfeld presented for discussion a proposal to change the long-standing Coop rule pursuant to which a decision to boycott any product(s) requires only a majority of those voting. Claiming that this rule presents a risk to the future of the Coop, Mr. Rosenfeld proposed what he called "a smarter, more cooperative boycott policy," under which a boycott would have to be approved by at least 75% of those voting. In discussion, a member questioned whether this would be compatible with the Coop's bylaws. In my opinion, the proposed rule would in fact violate the bylaws, and thus cannot be adopted without first amending them. And, as I argue below, the needed amendment would be at odds with the structure and purpose of those bylaws—rules that constitute the charter, the fundamental law, of the Coop.

The relevant provisions of the bylaws can be found in Articles VI and X. Subsection 4 of Article VI, which governs the conduct of Coop "Meetings" (meetings of the Board of Directors, General Meetings, or the "annual meetings of the membership"—in short, the mechanisms through which important decisions are made), states that, "[e]xcept as otherwise provided, all matters shall be decided by a majority vote of those present and voting." This principle is reiterated in language providing that the Board "may, by majority vote, direct that a mail ballot be taken on any matter." Thus, unless specifically authorized elsewhere in the bylaws, measures requiring the vote of Coop members are to be decided by simple majority.

The bylaws specify only two exceptions to the majority vote governing rule, both irrelevant to voting on boycotts. Article IV, subsection 4, provides that the Board of Directors, by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, may remove officers of the corporation. The other exception is in Article X, addressing how the bylaws can be amended. Such amendment requires approval by two-thirds of the directors or of the membership voting thereon. The Article further provides that any such amendment must be reported to the Annual Meeting and would "cease to be in effect" if not affirmatively approved at such meeting.

It is thus clear that the voting requirements for approval of boycotts cannot be changed without first amending the Coop's bylaws. Any such amendment would be inadvisable, however. The bylaws are general provisions governing the structure and governance of the Coop, and an ad hoc provision crafted to address boycotts, or a particular boycott, simply does not belong in such a document. Moreover, under Mr. Rosenfeld's proposal, approval of a boycott would require a super majority above and beyond that required for amending the bylaws. To put it mildly, this would be rather odd. It would be like Congress requiring more stringent voting requirements for passage of a certain class of legislation than for amending the Constitution.

## **CLARIFICATION OF PROVISION FOR MAJORITY VOTING**

IN COOP BYLAWS

Winston McIntosh

#### **DEAR EDITOR:**

Thank you for allowing me to clarify the meaning of the reference in our bylaws to majority voting at meetings.

Our bylaws are available to all at foodcoop.com. Article VI is as follows:

"ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

1. The annual meeting of the membership of the corporation shall be held on such day in the month of June as the directors shall fix.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

The printing of Letters and Articles relating to BDS and anti-BDS subjects will be suspended to allow the Gazette staff to devise and propose a fair and comprehensive editorial policy regarding the management of controversial issues. The suspension will be lifted if a topic appearing on the GM Agenda warrants it to allow discussion before and after the GM presentation. This suspension is regarded as temporary until such time as a new editorial policy is in place.

2. The Board of Directors shall meet at least ten times each year on such dates as it shall appoint and at such other times as it, by resolution, shall fix. The membership shall be given notice of each such meeting prior to such meeting. The directors shall inform those members who shall be present of the nature of the business to come before the directors and receive the advice of the members on such matters. 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 and is not in any way intended to be one of the "meetings of the membership" that is referred to elsewhere in these bylaws. 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.

3. A quorum for all meetings of the directors shall be one-third of the directors. A quorum for all meetings of the membership, including the annual meeting, shall be 100 members of such body. Each member is entitled to one vote.

4. Except as otherwise provided, all matters shall be decided by a majority vote of those present and voting. All votes shall be cast in person and no proxy voting shall be permitted, except at and only at annual meetings provided, however, that the Board may, by majority vote, direct that a mail ballot be taken on any matter.

5. Except as otherwise provided, all parliamentary matters shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order."

## **Explanation**

We have two types of meetings that the majority vote rule applies to. One type to which majority voting applies is "meetings of the membership", which section 2. above clearly states are not General Meetings. The annual meeting is usually the only meeting of the membership each year. The other type of meeting to which the majority vote rule applies is the Board of Directors meeting. Section 2 above clearly states that members may vote to make clear their advice to the Board. The Board is required by section 2 to receive the advice of the members who are present. The part of the Board meeting where members do this "shall be known as the General Meeting." But the Board could vote without the members expressing advice through a General Meeting vote. For example, every time, for many years, when the Board votes on GM minutes, they do so without a vote of the members. The members rarely express advice on the minutes and it's been years since members chose to express any advice via a vote on the minutes. The General Meeting has no power to make decisions for the Coop. It is only advisory. If the members want to make rules on how they want the Board to interpret advice in the future then they should by all means do so. But it is merely advisory and future Boards do not have to legally abide by such rules about how members wanted them to interpret advice. The Board does not have to abide by any expressed advice but rather is required to act in the best interests of the Coop regardless of whether they get advice from a minority, a simple majority or a super majority at the General Meeting part of their directors meeting. It's all advice. Any "rules" passed by the GM are advice. When the Board votes it must decide by a simple majority of the Board of Directors, which usually consists of 6 people. To sum up, procedures for the formulation of advice to the Board have nothing to do with the reference in the bylaws to majority voting.

It is important to note that our Board has a great record of making excellent decisions since the Coop became a corporation in the 1970's. In fact only once has the Board voted against the advice of a General Meeting as expressed by a vote and that advisory vote was 55 in favor to 26 against. But the Board voted 2 in favor and 3 against with one person not present on that night in 1996. So generally speaking, items voted on by the General Meeting as advice have been well received by the Board and that advice has served the Coop well.

General Coordinator

## **DEC AND THE POWER TO SUSPEND THE RIGHT TO SHOP**

#### **MEMBERS:**

The July General Meeting brought a troubling notion to life. In a presentation of the Diversity and Equity

Committee, the issue was "Discussion: To formally recognize the Diversity and Equity Committee members and give the DEC the right to suspend shopping privileges of non-responsive members in an investigation." Switch the underlined words and shift usage; you get a sense of the inherent entitlement of the proposal.

So, if one is summoned to the committee and refuses, a member in good standing can suddenly find their right to shop suspended? Investigation? What about due process? The last thing the Coop needs is an arbitrary decision by a committee that has historically conducted its proceedings without any documentation whatsoever.

The transition from mediator to adjudicator is a major move. So far, this Committee has functioned in a come let us reason together capacity; no record, recording or observer is permitted at the proceedings. To grant this committee the ability to punish a member with suspension of shopping, by mere accusation, is grotesquely inappropriate. The whole notion of secret proceedings in such circumstances is abhorrent.

Punitive powers pave the road to peril. Can any member be suspended without proper cause? The answer is a resounding yes. No safeguards are in place for the accused.

Without strict guidelines and audio recordings of every step of the proceedings, the process can devolve into a secret society with no accountability for its actions. Investigations require that records be kept and witnesses be present. Any member's right to record the process personally precedes this committee's predilection for secrecy. Who said what to whom can get foggy over time.

No entity deserves the <u>right</u> to suspend a member's ability to shop without due process. It is not a privilege; it is earned by work. To use these words demonstrates the danger of granting this power to the DEC. If the DEC wishes to conduct investigations then it must keep full records of the proceedings. What they are asked for, in the July meeting, is the right to suspend any member's shopping rights of without due process—no thank you.

Rodger Parsons

### INTERNATIONAL TRADE EDUCATION SQUAD REPORT

## **Trans-Pacific Partnership in Limbo**

By Susan Metz,

International Trade Education Squad Trade Representative Michael Froman (formerly of Citibank) and the trade reps from the other 11 Pacific rim nations as well as investors from hundreds of multi-national corporations left the luxury resort on the Hawaiian island of Maui on Friday afternoon, July 31, without a deal. Negotiations broke down without concluding the Trans-Pacific Partnership! They announced that no new meetings are scheduled during August. Any delay works against passing the huge deal that means to control global governance as well as commercial interchange. TPP would be the largest "trade" agreement in history, covering 40% of the world's economy.

Too many issues could not be resolved. Too many public protests oppose relinquishing national sovereignty by allowing a secret agreement to override legal protections for which popular movements have struggled: laws and regulations that protect local agriculture, health & safety, labor rights and human rights and animal rights as well as laws and regulations that protect the environment.

Upcoming elections in the U.S., Canada and Japan make ignoring public opposition risky for candidates who have been pushing the agreement. In the U.S., labor and environmental groups are looking for primary challengers to Congress members who voted yes on Fast Track. Except for Gregory Meeks from Queens, Congress members from the city and both of New York's senators voted no. Democratic Party presidential candidate Bernie Sanders is a fierce opponent of TPP; Hillary Clinton remains silent.

Some Republican populists oppose TPP too.

The complicated Trade Promotion Authority (TPA, aka Fast Track) legislation passed both chambers of Congress at the end of June following a few tense months and close votes. TPA/Fast Track establishes the timetable for one Yes-or-No vote on the entire package of dozens of policy mandates bundled into the TPP.

The calendar starts when the President initials the finished TPP. As finishing and signing are not yet in sight, the process is behind schedule. Congress members are unlikely to see the text of the agreement before mid-2016.

TPA/Fast Track law requires the President to give Congress 90 days' notice when negotiations are finished and before he signs the deal. Thirty days after the President gives that notification, the text of the agreement must be released to the public. The public gets 60 days to read, analyze and discuss it, and for activists to start getting the word out to larger circles. After 20 hours of debate, with a simple majority in both houses, the TPP could pass and create dozens of policies/laws that would radically change our way of life. A similar process is needed in the other 11 nations.

Opponents of the TPP are relieved. As with the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI 1996) and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA 2001), this one fell apart under its own weight. Nonetheless, no one is naïve enough to declare the struggle over. Corporate investors mean to make money. They will regroup, as they did after those two setbacks when the Dominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA) and a series of bi-lateral FTAs

with Colombia, Panama and South Korea were passed under both Democratic and Republic administrations.

Along with entering the U.S. system as law that sets policy on a multitude of non-trade issues, every FTA off-shores U.S. jobs to lower-wage countries, invites imports that compete with things made in the U.S. and contains the odious Investor-State Dispute Resolution mechanism that enables corporations to sue a government that regulates its behavior to protect the population, the planet and the future in a private tribunal. Government regulation is considered by them interference with their right to make an expected profit. The TPP is an investors' insurance plan.

Trans-Canada is preparing to sue the U.S. government using ISDS in NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement 1994) for lost income if the Obama administration prohibits the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline that is scheduled to bring filthy tar sands oil from northern Canada through the mid-west breadbasket to be refined on the Gulf Coast and exported to Asia. TPP would give pharmaceutical corporations extended patent protections that would force generic medicines off the market and cause drug prices to skyrocket. Tobacco companies threaten to use ISDS in TPP to block governments from educating children on the dangers of smoking or helping people to quit.

The Coop's International

Trade Education Squad (ITES) brings you information not available via corporate mass media. We connect through the Sierra Club Responsible Trade Project, Public Citizen Global Trade Watch and TradeJustice Metro NY as well as through a network of contacts who comb alternative sources and email us articles. We post them on our blog— CoopITES.wordpress.com. We hold regular public forums. Non-members are invited. We report regularly to GMs, and we write for the Gazette.

With Brooklyn For Peace and the Park Slope United Methodist Church, ITES sponsored a Town Meeting on Thursday, August 20-TPP: Free? Fair? Fake? Toxic? The discussion was recorded and will be posted to the blog. The next ITES Public Forum at the Coop will be on Friday evening, September 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the meeting room. Question, learn, debate, decide and then act. The Congressional switchboard number is 202-224-3121. ■







We seek members with extensive InDesign knowledge for the production teams.

Members needed for a Saturday or Sunday five-hour shift at the Coop. The teams meet every eight weeks. We are also looking for members to work at the Coop for FTOP credit, on Saturday or Sunday.

> Please send inquiries to annette\_laskaris@psfc.coop.

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

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

THE FUND FOR

**NEW FOOD COOPS** 

a Project of the Park Slope Food Coop

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

## How can you donate?

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

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





## EXCITING WORKSLOT OPPORTUNITIES 🎓



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

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

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

This job entails meticulous deep cleaning of the store's checkout equipment and furniture. Workers are required to read and follow detailed instructions for cleaning the scales, printers and monitors as well as cleaning the furniture and organizing checkout workers' tools and supplies. Vacuuming, sweeping and dusting involved.

## **OFFICE SET-UP** Monday, Tuesday, 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.

#### **BATHROOM CLEANING** Tuesday, Thursday, 12 to 2:00 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**

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

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

## NOTICE TO COOP MEMBER/OWNERS

## INTERIM BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION WHEN? REQUIRED GENERAL MEETING, OCTOBER 27, 2015

■he Members of the Board of Directors have received written notification from Zoey Laskaris The Members of the Board of Directors have received written notations. The Hard of the day on August that she will resign her seat on the Board of Directors as of the end of the day on August that She will be an in the Board of Directors, there shall be an 31, 2015. Our Bylaws state "In the case of a vacancy on the Board of Directors, there shall be an election held at a regular Board of Directors meeting to fill the vacancy. Such meeting shall be held no less than 30 days nor more than 60 days after the vacancy occurs. The Board may hold the vacancy open to be filled at the next Annual Meeting provided that the vacancy is created with less than six months remaining before the Annual Meeting and provided there is only one vacancy. A Director elected to fill a vacancy shall serve only until the next Annual Meeting, at which meeting the membership shall elect a Director to serve for the balance of the term.'

Therefore the required date for the election is Tuesday, October 27, 2015. Furthermore the Bylaws state that "The ballot used for the Directors election shall provide for voting 'yes' or 'no' or 'abstain' for each candidate. Any candidate who receives more 'no' votes than 'yes' votes is deemed ineligible for election."

If you're interested in running for this Board opening, come to the October 27, 2015 General Meeting and nominate yourself from the floor. Please be prepared to say a few words about yourself and your interest in joining the Board of Directors.

## 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).

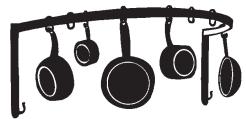
Submission forms are available in a wallpocket near the elevator in the entrance lobby.



## PART TIME MONTESSORI PRESCHOOL

Enrollment available immediately Gentie separation Classes (primary and toddler) Montessori Enrichment options available for elementary students.

> Local Artisan, COOP welder makes strong, sexy Potracks



(and other metalworks)

Eric Jacobson 347-804-6131 JacobsonSculpture.com

## **Vacation Homes for Sale in Cooperative Community**

1 to 3 bedrooms, \$87K to \$275K, lake swiming, tennis, crafts, and community only 90 min. from Brooklyn threearrowsco-op.net

## CLASSIFIEDS

## BED & BREAKFAST

HOUSE ON 3RD. B+B, parlor floor, thru apt. Sleeps 4, wi-fi, kitchenette, deck, 12' ceilings, private bath. Enjoy modern comfort in true Park Slope style. Grandparents our specialty. houseon3st.com, or call us at 718-

## **CLASSES/GROUPS**

VIOLIN LESSONS: Experienced performer teaches classical, Celtic and Indian music in Brooklyn Heights studio. All ages and levels welcome, including artists wishing to learn one of the genres above or to improvise. Email Michael at mbraudy@ mindspring.com or call 718-596-6772. www.michaelbraudy.com.

PARK SLOPE TUTORING offering free 30-min. trial session plus 20% off all following sessions—either individual or workshops for homeschooled students. Registration starts on Aug. 20th. parkslopetutoring.org. info@ parkslopetutoring.org. 808 Union St., Suite 3A, 11215. 718-309-6892.

## PEOPLE MEETING

DOES SOMEONE IN YOUR FAMILY have a drug/alcohol/behavioral problem? Families Anonymous offers free help. Sunday 7:30 p.m., 1012 Eighth Ave. Tuesday 7 p.m., Realization Center, 175 Remsen St. 718-986-9149. Anonymous 12 step-based program.

#### **SERVICES** AVAILABLE

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.

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.

HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS. Color, highlights, low lights, hot oil treatments in the convenience of your home or mine. Kids cuts \$20.00-\$25.00. Adults \$35.00-\$40.00. Call Leonora 718-857-2215.

ATTORNEY—Personal Injury Emphasis—37 years experience in all aspects of injury law. Individual attention provided for entire case. Free phone or office consultations. Prompt, courteous communications. 25-year Food Coop member; Park Slope resident; downtown Brooklyn office. Tom Guccione, 718-596-4184, also at www.tguccionelaw.com.

#### **VACATION RENTALS**

SPRING-SUMMER-FALL Studio, 1- and 2-BR houses in historic Westchester cooperative near the Hudson, 1 hour from NYC. Dating from 1929, this 3-season community has pool, tennis, organic garden, social hall with internet and social activities. \$25-\$98K. www.reynoldshills.org, melgarfinkel@yahoo.com, 917-

Classified advertising in the Linewaiters' Gazette is available only to Coop members. Publication does not imply endorsement by the Coop.