# INEWATERS' GAZETTE

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Volume JJ, Number 26 December 24, 2015

# Balancing Eggs on the Floor and Other Resolutions

By Thom Blaylock

Pull disclosure: I think New Year's resolutions are kind of silly. On Christmas Day 2010, I made my first and only resolution standing on my niece's Nintendo balance board. It told me that I was 22 pounds heavier than I thought, and I said the words, "I'm going to lose this weight by June one."

By Valentine's Day I had moved on with my life and didn't get on another scale until a doctor's appointment in 2012. I do not have the goal-oriented personality necessary to pull off a successful resolution.

# Nonscientific Polling of Coop Members

Walking around the Coop, interviewing members for this article, I was delighted to discover that most of us do not trust ourselves to make resolutions. In a completely nonscientific poll, 80 percent of us bristle at the mention of New Year's resolutions. Linda Leonard said that she "is absolutely not a resolution person." She believes in goals, though, and explained the difference.

"I had a goal of getting into grad school," which she did. She is now in Pace University's nurse practitioner program. This year she might run a marathon, "which will require training. Another goal, not really a resolution,"



Jane and Misha Goldberg

she said, is "to be ready to run it if I decide to."

Fernando Mendez decided he had a problem with caffeine, but has already cut it from his diet, "So I guess I jumped the gun on New Year's," he said. "I'm already kind of an energetic person, and all the caffeine was mak-

ing me high-strung." His wife is off caffeine, and he said she seems much more balanced throughout the day.

"That's what I'm hoping for," he said, squeezing the shoulder of his super-cute daughter, Sevilla, "to be more even for my kids."

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# Coop Event Highlights

Thur, Jan 7 • Food Class:

Food For Fuel: Winter Fare 7:00 p.m.

Fri, Jan 8 • Wordsprouts: Young-Adult Fiction 7:00 p.m.

Sat, Jan 9 • Auditions For Our Coop Kids' Variety Show 2:00–4:00 p.m.

Tue, Jan 12 • Safe Food Committee Film Night: Sushi: The Global Catch 7:00 p.m.

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

# Winter Produce—Are You Up for the Challenge?

By Rene Brinkley

Winter—a time to cozy up by the fireplace, watch snow falling gently on the trees . . . and for those who are ready, it's time to chop open winter squash! With a thick, hard and somewhat intimidating exterior, this root vegetable hides what is beneath its tough skin, only to be discovered by those with the courage to pick up a knife and slice. Yaquelina Parvex, a Coop member for 15 years, is up for the challenge. "I love the squash!" said the native of Argentina. After all the preparation work, Parvex doesn't think greens are very filling. Squash on the other hand is different. "Squash is not super easy but they have carbs and you feel more full."

# **Awash in Squash**

The Coop is now awash in squash, whose name comes from the Narragansett Native American word askutasquash. It is one of the oldest known crops and comes in many shapes and colors, including tan, orange and blue. Members will find over 13 different varieties of squash on shelves this winter, including pumpkin, kabocha, spaghetti and koginut. The squash Coop members buy the most is butternut. Over 40 cases of butternut squash were sold in a typical week in November, compared to ten cases of kabocha and two cases of koginut, which is new to the Coop this season.

So who decides which squash and how much will end up on the shelves? This job falls to the produce buyers who select and manage all fruits and vegetables sold. Julie Gabriel, one of three buyers, has been in the role since 2005. She enjoys the critical part she plays in the life of the Coop. "I like that we are able to provide our members with the freshest produce with one or more of the following: locally grown, organic, minimally treated, fair trade, at a fair price."

# From Farm to Aisle One

Gabriel described four different paths produce take as it travels from the farm to aisle one in the Coop:

The List: Produce buyers receive list of fruits and vegetables from suppliers located primarily in the Northeast but from farther-flung locations

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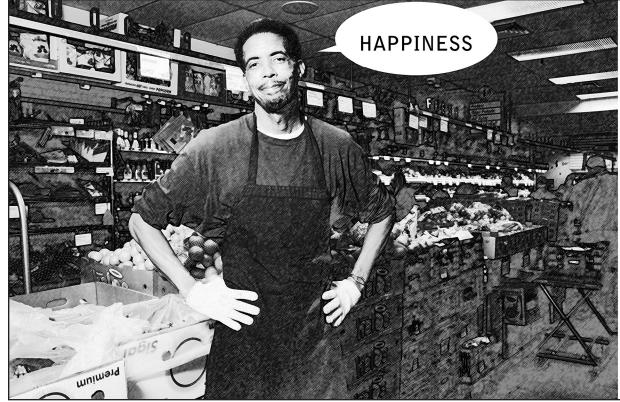
# **Next General Meeting on January 26**

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The January General Meeting will be on Tuesday, January 26, at 7:00 p.m. at **St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh Aves.** 

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

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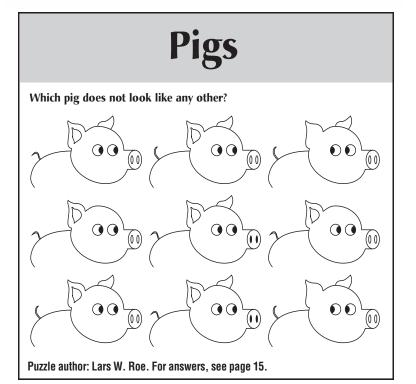
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Russell Jackson (l), Hudson and Sacha Moore (r)





# Balancing Eggs

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Marci McAvoy never makes resolutions. "If I want to do something I just do it," she said.

Akemi Martin agreed. "I just do what I want to do," but then she thought a bit. "Yoga. I guess I would like to get back into yoga."

"I do not do resolutions," was by far the most common response people gave me, but the second most popular had something to do with yoga. "How's that for a Park Slope answer?" Malaika Kim

laughed, and then she said "do more Yoga and to meditate more." With a bit more badgering about food-specific resolutions, she conceded that she loves the food at the Farm on Adderley and would like to learn to cook a few of their dishes. "I mean the secret is obviously tons of butter and salt, but it's delicious."

Cecil Phillip had not yet decided if he would resolve to eat differently or make other changes this year. "If anything, it will probably have to do with food," he said. He and his wife were already set on a delicious-sounding menu for January first, however: "stewed chicken, fresh lobster salad with celery and vegetables." He was a little dubious about formal resolutions. "Last year was all about exercise," he said, "but I only lasted three months." He furrowed his brow. "I don't think I'll do that again this year."

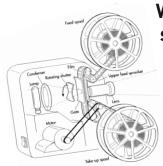
#### **Real Science Backs Up Resolution Leeriness**

It turns out Cecil was right to be worried. The major studies on New Year's resolutions in the last 40 years do not show much good resulting from the practice. Alan Marlatt and Burt Kaplan's often-cited study from the 1970s, published by Psychological Reports, showed that people who resolved to lose weight actually gained an average of two pounds during the year, while those who did not have a resolution gained only 0.2 pounds in the same period of time.

The journal PLoS ONE recently published a study by Lizzy Pope et al. examining the spending patterns of consumers who resolved to eat more-healthy food. They found that people in fact did spend more money on healthy food than they had previously (50% more) but that they also spent on average 75% more on unhealthy foods than they had before. The group of consumers they followed who did not make New Year's resolutions spent about the same on healthy and unhealthy food as they had the year before.

Other studies showed similar results for resolu-

# **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.



Sarah Unruh

tions about addiction, alcohol consumption, hours of sleep, time spent with family, time watching television and time spent working. The story seems to be, if you resolve to do something, you probably won't follow through and will often end up with a slightly worse situation than you had before.

Obviously these studies have problematic aspects, not least of which is the selection process. Someone who could take or leave a slice of chocolate cake probably will not resolve to stop eating chocolate cake, but if they did, they would have an easier time succeeding with that resolution than someone whose brain and spine light up like Christmas at the first touch of cacao upon the tongue.

> Most of us do not trust ourselves to make resolutions.

Eda Malenky understood this concept and said she tries to live in a way that avoids the need for big changes. "I am constantly moving," she said, "at the Coop, at my job as a site nurse. I could retire from my Coop work shift if I wanted to, but I don't.

"That's my resolution,"

she said. "To keep working." She leaned in and whispered to me. "Around this time of year, I actually do extra shifts for my friends who are on alert. It's my gift to them." She became animated again, laughing, "Gazette readers are going to hate me, but I think maybe I also need to gain two pounds. Just in case I get sick, a little extra weight can always help." I explained to her about the extra weight I was able to gain in 2010 and that she could maybe come to my house and shadow me, eat everything I eat. "I'd burn it off," she said, "I am always moving. Always."

#### **Balancing Eggs** on the Floor

My favorite conversation about New Year's resolutions was with Joy Ferguson, who looked at me as though I was speaking another language when I told her I was writing for the Linewaiters' Gazette. "It's like the New York Times," I said, "but for the Coop." She giggled and then told me resolutions are clichés. I tried to explain that in the context of the Coop, not having a resolution seemed to be more the cliché. "We're going to drink champagne," she started, "and balance some eggs." Excuse me? "Balance some eggs. I learned it from an Amsterdam drunk who bet me a round he could make an egg stand on its own. He placed it fat-end down and it just stayed like that."

And you can do it, too? I asked.

"The first time I nearly gave up. The Amsterdam guy was helping. He told me to breathe like this. I did and then it just stood up." She showed me a photo on her phone of five eggs standing up on a wide-plank wooden

# **Interested in Engaging Coop Work?** Disciplinary Committee Seeks NEW Members

#### SKILLS NEEDED

Communication • Problem solving • Conflict resolution Dealing with difficult situations and people Investigation • Writing • Research

#### **OUR WORK INCLUDES**

- · Applying Coop rules and regulations
- Discussing policy issues related to the Committee's work
- Investigating allegations of uncooperative behavior by members and engaging in problem solving
- Daily email contact with the committee members to discuss cases
- Participating in mediation, disciplinary hearings, and other conflict resolution methods

#### REQUIREMENTS

In order to be considered for this position, any candidate must:

- · Be a member for at least a year
- Have a good attendance record
- · Possess the ability to work on a team
- Have good writing skills
- Have computer proficiency (excel, word, email)—this is essential
- Attend evening meetings every six weeks

We work on average six hours per month, more than the required work shift hours. You will be credited and your hours will be banked for future use.

We recognize the importance of various points of view when considering cases brought to us. We are seeking a candidate pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop's membership.

#### CONTACT

Karen: 718.208.7897 or foodcoopdc@gmail.com

Join us to make the Coop the best place it can be for everyone.

The Coop will be closing early for shopping at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 31, so that we can conduct our annual Coop-wide inventory.

Some shifts will be affected, others will not.

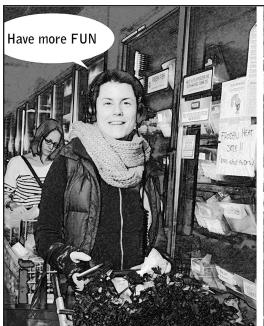
Please help inform our membership about this early closing by telling your Coop housemates and friends.

Members whose shifts are affected by the closing will be contacted by the Membership Office.

floor. "Don't print this," she said, "breathing is not the secret," and then she told me the real secret.

I believe in Joy: it is possible to stand an egg, but I have not succeeded. Yet. Maybe in the new year I will. ■









(I to r) Natasha Blank, Juliette Kotov, Nate Walton

# Winter Produce

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as well. The buyers review the lists and then make their selections. Will it be kiwi from Italy, clementines from Morocco or squash from Pennsylvania?

The Farm: On rare occasions, buyers visit the farms that supply the Coop with

produce. In the past, buyers have visited Hepworth Farms in New York and several farms in California. Occasionally, farmers call produce buyers directly to pitch their crop. With a laugh, Gabriel recalls one farmer's pitch, "We just uncovered this in the warehouse."

The Show: From time to time, buyers attend produce



Did you know that the Coop has an Animal Welfare Committee? We do... and we're looking for new members. We are looking for applicants with design, publicity, branding, or investigative journalism skills. We meet monthly at the Coop (Mondays, C week, 7-8:30 p.m.).

Check out our blog for more information on the committee and the online application.

# www.psfcanimals.blogspot.com

We strive to reflect the diversity of the PSFC, including dietary diversity (omnivores, vegetarians, and vegans are equally welcome!).

# **EXPERIENCED REPORTERS Please Apply**



# **Workslot Description**

We have four distinct Linewaiters' Gazette teams—each producing an issue every eight weeks. You will develop and produce an article about the Coop in cooperation with your team's editor every eight weeks.

### **For More Information**

If you would like to speak to an editor or another reporter to learn more about the job, please contact Annette Laskaris in the Membership Office or e-mail her at annette\_laskaris@psfc.coop.

#### To Apply

Please send a letter of application and two writing samples at least 800 words long (one sample must be a reported interview, not a Q&A) to annette\_laskaris@psfc.coop. Your letter should state your qualifications, your Coop history, relevant experience and why you would like to report for the Coop. Your application will be acknowledged and forwarded to the coordinating editors, Joan Minieri and Erik Lewis.

# Seeking Diversity on the Gazette Staff

The *Gazette* is looking for qualified reporters. We are interested in using this opportunity to diversify our staff. We believe that we can enrich the quality of the *Gazette* and serve the membership better with a reporting and editing staff that more closely resembles the mix of Coop members.



conventions held around the country. These trade shows feature the latest in fresh produce, highlight consumer trends and introduce new and exotic produce items.

The Members: Coop members also offer produce suggestions, and the buyers review these to determine if the Coop can carry a requested item.

This entire process also benefits from the expertise of Joe Holtz. He is not only the General Manager of the Coop, he is also its first produce buyer, hired in 1975. With over 40 years' experience in the food industry, Joe offers invaluable insight and guidance to the produce buyers. "I walk into the office and I know a certain fruit or vegetable should become available, and I let the buyers know they should look for it," says Holtz. His knowledge of seasons and growing regions allows him to alert the buyers to stay away from produce not quite ready for the Coop shelves. He views the role of the buyer as twofold: buy high-quality produce and protect members from bad food.

Members will find over 13 different varieties of squash.

# **Root Vegetables**— **Familiar and Exotic**

As the buyers seek out great produce, they purchase much more than squash. The root vegetables on the shelves this winter can be grouped across four categories:

—The familiar: These include vegetables we all know, love and eat: plenty of potatoes, onions, turnips and parsnips. Also part of the list—last year's top sellers, carrots, 70 cases a week sold; butternut squash, 35 cases a week sold; and red

beets, 25 cases a week sold.

—The exotically familiar: These are vegetables we know, but they look different, maybe even a little strange. They beckon the shopper to step outside his or her comfort zone. For those ready to take the leap, a purple oasis awaits. There are purple sweet potatoes from Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Purple Brussels sprouts from Holland. Purple carrots, broccoli and cauliflower locally grown in Pennsylvania. Exotically familiar vegetables offer a colorful. flavorful and nutritious alternative for members to try. Gabriel points out that the Coop sells less of the purple varieties of produce than the conventional colors, but "shoppers like them so we continue to carry the different colors."

—The unfamiliar: These are the vegetables that have yet to be discovered by the masses. For those



who define unfamiliar or uncommon as hip, the cool vegetable kids on the block are kohlrabi, described by author Jonny Bowden in his book The 150 Healthiest Foods on Earth as "a cross between an octopus and a space capsule"; Jerusalem artichokes, a species of sunflower, which is not related to Jerusalem and not a type of artichoke; and black radish, a variety of winter radish that is black on the outside with a white flesh.

-The exotically unfamiliar: These are vegetables that look so strange you may not know what to do with them, such as celeriac, referred by some as the ugly duckling of the vegetable world. Parvex tried celeriac for the first time last winter. She found it while searching for meals to make for her husband, a cancer survivor. Her thoughts on the strange-looking vegetable, "It doesn't look great but it makes a good soup."

Another vegetable that may cause shoppers to stop, stare and wonder is romanesco cauliflower. It is so exotic that its shape, fractal, and its color, chartreuse, required a Google search! While it looks like it's from another planet, romanesco cauliflower is locally grown in Pennsylvania.

#### **Citrus Delights**

While root vegetables have much to offer Coop members, the second category of winter produce, citrus, offers sweet and tangy deliciousness from afar. Julie Gabriel is fond of this category. "My favorite winter produce is citrus, especially organic Florida grapefruit because it's the sweetest, juiciest winter treat." Besides grapefruit from Florida, Coop buyers shop for citrus from all over the world. The navel oranges, lemons, limes, grapefruit and pom-

elos come from California and Florida. The kumquats, clementines, mandarins, assorted tangerines and tangelos come from California, Florida, Spain and Morocco. Starring in the exotically unfamiliar citrus category, with an equally intriguing name, is ugli fruit, a form of tangelo, from Jamaica.

### **Keeping It Green**

The final category of winter produce is dark greens. During the winter months, greens are sourced from California and Florida and will include collards, chard, mustard, escarole and the dark green winter darling of the Coop, kale! Coop members can't seem to get enough of kale. One week last winter, 87 cases of lacinato kale were sold, along with 60 cases of green kale. Due to the large demand for kale, buyers selected a new-to-the-Coop green this winter, kalettes,

which is a cross between kale and Brussels sprouts.

# **A Culinary Journey Awaits**

So as Coop shoppers stroll down aisle one looking for food to warm the body and feed the soul, there are many great options, includ-

ing the chance to embark on a culinary challenge. Do you want to take a stab at an exotic squash, sink your teeth into something ugli or chop up the newest winter green on the Coop shelves? The choice is all yours this winter season, select wisely





# Coping with Winter Dry Skin at the Coop

By Lily Rothman

You're not imagining it: there really is a wider variety of products for dry skin lining the Coop's health-and-beauty aisle during the winter season. Then again, maybe you're just noticing it more. After all, you're also not imagining that very specific, uncomfortable, itchy feeling that tends to come with the winter months. Chances are, your skin really is drier this time of year than it is other times.

"Certain things, like toothpaste and deodorant, aren't seasonal," says Karen Martin, one of the Receiving Coordinators responsible for ordering the PSFC's health and beauty products. "But some things are very seasonal."

High on that list of items affected by the change of seasons are lotion and moisturizer, the category of products that help members get through the dry time of year. And it's not just lotion: lip balm, bath salts, creams and even hair color tend to sell more in the winter, says Martin. (That last one, she theorizes, has less to do with dryness than with holiday festivities. Soaps are also more popular in the winter, but that tends to be because they make good gifts, which is why the Coop buyers make sure to keep appealing soaps on the shelves.) Because the Coop runs through health and beauty products at a rapid rate, Martin says, buyers are able to respond to changing demands any time of the year. New orders are placed just about every week, and five days every week, a semitruck arrives from the biggest product distributor.

But while the Coop is responding to the shifting needs of members, what actually causes the change? Why does our skin tend to be drier in the winter, and why does moisturizer help?

On one level, the answer may seem obvious. In no-desert areas—like Park Slope—sinking temperatures in the winter usually come along with lower humidity levels in the air, and the loss of moisture in the environment around us results in a corresponding loss of moisture from skin. Compounding the problem is the way we heat our homes. Central heating and

space heaters can make our spaces even less humid, worsening the dry-skin scenario. And then, on top of that, bathing in hot water can leave skin dry, too.

# Skin Deep and Then Some

But, according to the American Skin Association, a group that supports research into skin health, the reason for dry winter skin is actually skin deep—meaning very deep.

What we call skin is actually three layers. Underneath it all there's the hypodermis, which is fatty and full of nerves. In the middle, there's the elastic layer called the dermis, which has sweat glands, hair follicles and blood vessels. On the outside, there's the epider-

mis, which has several more minute layers to itself, the topmost of which is called the stratum corneum. The stratum corneum is the foremost boundary between us and everything else.

The epidermis doesn't just keep the rest of the world out, it also keeps what's inside in—including the natural moisture our bodies produce for our skin. When the right level of moisture is maintained in the skin, it feels soft and moves easily, and the stratum corneum can do its job of keeping the moisture in. Unfortunately, when that layer gets dry (due to outside humidity levels, internal dehydration or more serious skin conditions), it can't work as well, and skin can get even drier.

database. (The group's top tip for lotions is to avoid daytime use of products that contain the Vitamin A compounds retinyl palmitate, retinyl acetate, retinoic acid or retinol. Those compounds can make the skin more sensitive to the sun than it



Fortunately, moisturizing creams and lotions really can help. The Mayo Clinic recommends them as the treatment for normal, seasonal dry skin. Though a good moisturizer can feel like it's actually adding liquid back into the skin, what those products really do is create a seal on the top of the skin. That seal helps the epidermis do its job by preventing the moisture that's already there from escaping. In general, the thicker the product feels the more effective it will be. In addition, for people with extremely dry skin, the Mayo Clinic recommends applying a skin oil after bathing, before the skin is dry, to further lock in the moisture. Even more so than creams, oils can prevent water from evaporating from the skin.

Those lotions and potions are where the Coop comes in.

# The Calculus of **Stocking Skin Care Products**

When selecting health and beauty products for the PSFC, Martin says there are a few factors that the buyers consider: "First is the safety of the ingredients," she says. "Number two is whether it's good. Number three is 'Do we need it?'" Adding a new product can often mean eliminating something else from the shelves, and that last qualification can mean complicated calculations. But the question of the safety of the ingredients, and whether those ingredients meet the Coop's standards, is the matter that members may well be the most interested in.

"Standards for beauty products are different from the food standards," Martin clarifies, "because we don't eat them."

It's just not possible for Coop staff or members to personally test those ingredients so, in general, Martin and her colleagues depend on an organization called the Environmental Working

Why does our skin tend to be drier in the winter?

Group, a nonprofit that provides public health information about everything from pesticides and farming techniques to cosmetics and cleaning products. The Coop's buyers use the Environmental Working Group standards to help decide whether a health and beau-

But, Martin says it's getting simpler than ever to find skin products to stock in the Coop. Even though the requirements aren't getting any looser, more and more manufacturers, even outside of the natural health sphere, are trying to cut back on harmful chemicals in order to offer their customers a healthy and effective product. "A lot of natural care products are popular among everyone," Martin says. "It's easier these days to find products in the mainstream that meet

already is.)



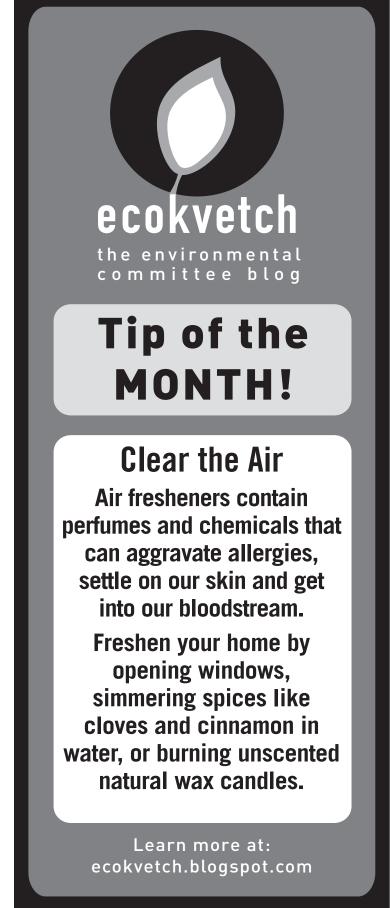
ty product is appropriate for sale at the PSFC, in terms of whether it can harm users and also whether it can harm the environment.

As the organization points out on its website, the government doesn't actually test personal care product ingredients the same way that food or medicine is tested, which means that commonly available products may still contain harmful chemicals or compounds that have been shown to harm the environment. Even products that are labeled "natural" may contain problematic chemicals, since there is no FDA standard for what that word means. That situation means it's even more critical for Coop buyers to consider the ingredients used in a given product.

When it comes to moisturizers, there are nearly 4,000 products in the Environmental Working Group's

those standards."

And that's a good thing especially since we can't count on the change of seasons to soothe dry skin. Air conditioning, it turns out, can cause dry skin, too! ■



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

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 needlessly provocative.

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.

For topics that generate a large number of submissions (letters or Member Articles) serially and continuously over an extended period of time, the *Gazette* will not necessarily publish all submissions, but the editors will use their editorial discretion to select a small number of submissions (whether letters or Member Articles) from each side as representative of that viewpoint of the issue. The selected submissions will also adhere to the current guidelines of civil discourse and should serve to advance the discussion in new ways.

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.

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. Editor. tors 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**

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.

# Respect

Submissions to the 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.

# Friday, January 15, 8:00 p.m.

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



# ROSPECT CONCERTS



Stephanie Jenkins grew up in a musical family in Manhattan's Upper West Side. She started playing old-time banjo at 16 and has been playing American traditional music ever since. Her love for old-time music grew in Ithaca, where she studied ethnomusicology at Cornell University, and steeped herself in the local music scene, playing with local banjo legend Richie Stearns, and with her old-time duo The Pearly Snaps. Now a Brooklynite, Steph works as an associate producer for Florentine Films, plays banjo with The Calamity Janes, and writes the occasional melody. She will be joined by friends.

Ned Rothenberg and the Mivos String Quartet play Brahms! Woodwind master Ned Rothenberg has concertized all over the world for 35 years. The AMG calls him "America's most intimate composer and improviser." Mivos "has earned a reputation as one of America's most daring and ferocious new-music ensembles" says the *Chicago Reader*. For this performance they will take a break from the avant-garde and perform the magnificent Clarinet Quintet in B minor, Op. 115 by Johannes Brahms. Olivia de Prato and Joshua Modney, violins; Victor Lowrie, viola; Mariel Roberts, cello; Ned Rothenberg, clarinet.



# www.facebook.com/ProspectConcerts

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

# **RETURN POLICY**

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

# REQUIRED FOR ANY RETURN 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.

RETURNABLE

RETURNABLE

ONLY IF SPOILED BEFORE

**EXPIRATION DATE** 

Packaging/label

RETURNABLE

# **CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?**

Produce\* Cheese\* Books

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

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

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

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

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Index: Len Neufeld

Advertising: Mary Robb

# WELCOME!

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

Maha Alasaker Mahasin Ali Danielle Ancrile Alan Arkin Suzanne Bagert Kristina Bajunaishvili Clayton Beer Lindsey Black Livia Brock Felix Brow-Westbrook Chris Clapis

Marie Clapot Beverly Corbett Elizabeth Cote Gavin Cowie Sarah Dalziel Esha Datta Tiffany DeJaynes Abigail Deutsch Jonathan Doyle Estefanie Duque Jonathan Edwards Sarah Edwards Tasso Feldman

Blythe Foster Andrew Francis Tom Gambino Clara Gaudinier Miguel Gonzalez Carolyn Hart Futaba Hayashi Amanda Hayden Chris Henry Margaret Holden Ava Julien Daniel Kamhaji Irena Kenny

Sam Kenny Sarah Keough Emily Kichler Nyenye Kitchings Jacqueline Kohos Jennifer Kupinse Jennifer Lee Laurie Liss Nuria Lopez Tina Mao Kristine Marasigan Shelia Marshall Ann-Grace Martin

Luke Midgley Amira Millette Eve Mosher Yuki Narula Shruti Parekh Dawn-Rae Prescott Stephen Remich Amber Scorah Matthew Sharpe Julie Shigekuni Jay Spahr Melissa Stihl Prashant

Subramaniam Juliet Tarantino Sofia Tashman Christine Thompson Hannah Ticoras Gregory Tomlinson Lee Towndrow Katherine **Tsamasiros** David Tseytlin Palina Tsynkevich Katie Valentine

Jeanette Vasquez Evan Weiss Yunna Weiss Sara Winter Tin Wong Tishon Woolcock Anna Reily Wooten Edmund Wright Zixin Yang Eylem Yildrim Tien-Tien Yu

# 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

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. IANUARY 5**

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the January 26 General Meeting.

#### **TUE, JANUARY 26**

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

# **Gazette Deadlines**

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

12:00 p.m., Mon, December 28 January 7 issue: January 21 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, January 11

# **CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:**

January 7 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, December 30 January 21 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, January 13

# 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 or signup at foodcoop.com. 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,** January 26, 7:00 p.m.

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

# Location

St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President Street, 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 on foodcoop.com 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.) • 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 on foodcoop.com and may also appear elsewhere in this issue. Wrap Up (9:30-9:45) • Meeting evaluation • Board of Directors vote • Announcements, etc.

# park slope FOOD COOP

# calendar of events

jan 3 sun 12 pm

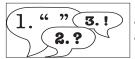
# **Alternatives to Boycotting**

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. Jesse Rosenfeld is a Coop member since 2004, secretary for the General Meeting, and has brought a new brand of Palestinian olive oil to our shelves. He believes in empowerment, not boycotts.

relatable characters...Fans of Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* and Lois Lowry's The Giver will flock to this story." Heather lives in a crooked house in Windsor Terrace, Brooklyn, with two children, two cats, a dog, and a drummer, but you can often find her loitering near the cheese case at the PSFC—her favorite place to go when she's hungry. With a passion for the power of print, Kama **Einhorn** has authored more than 40 books for kids and their teachers, published by Scholastic, Random House, HarperCollins, and Simon & Schuster. She is currently a writer at Sesame Street, where she gets to play with Grover every day. Einhorn is a ghostwriter for the Creepover series of middle-grade horror novels and tries hard to make them just scary enough! She will be reading from What a Doll, published by Simon & Schuster in 2014 and set right in Park Slope. Bookings: John Donohue, wordsproutspsfc@gmail.com.

jan 5 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 January General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 26, 7 p.m., at St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh Aves.

jan 9

# **Reclaim Your Health**

Join in on an engaging talk on simple ways to utilize natural healing methods to: gain more energy and lose weight; stress less and have more joy in your life; decrease the amount of medications you take. And much more! Dr. Christina Tarantola is a licensed pharmacist, certified health coach, Reiki I master and published author of her new book, Revealing Your Inner Radiance: Healing Through the Heart. She incorporates nutrition/lifestyle modification, energy healing and stress reduction techniques into her personalized approach. Her services include health/life coaching, reiki healing and relaxing essential oil therapy treatment.

# Food Class: Food For Fuel: **Winter Fare**



Need a mid-Winter pick me up? The holidays are over and it's time to settle in and give yourself a break. In this class chef Sarah Schultz will teach you how to prepare four irreivia Roszkowski, Coordinator sistibly delicious recipes from a creamy lentil soup to dec-

adent truffles to help you refuel and reset. Not only are these dishes simple and easy to follow, but they contain heartwarming spices and vital nutrients to aid your immune system in keeping you healthy and happy throughout the cold months ahead. Chef Schultz, a graduate of The Natural Gourmet Institute and Bikram Yoga teacher, has a passion for healthy and happy living. After graduating from culinary school she went back to work at The Natural Gourmet as a kitchen assistant and worked as a line cook in several different restaurants including Dimes and, currently, The Pickle Shack. As a vegetarian of nine years she only wishes to share her knowledge of food and yoga in hopes of helping to create a more balanced world. Menu includes: creamy lentil soup with shallot & garlic-infused oil; roasted cauliflower & brussels sprout salad with a pomegranate-tahini dressing; Middle Eastern-inspired vegetable pilaf in a spiced tomato sauce; truffle duo: lavender-infused lemon truffles & pistachio-dusted cocoa truffles.

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 December 24.

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

jan 8

# Wordsprouts: **A Night of Young-Adult Fiction**



Heather Swain is the author of five young-adult novels, two craft books for kids, and two forthcoming picture books. Her most recent YA novel, *Hungry*, supposes a future in which one mega-corporation controls the synthetic nutrition market after the world's food supply is

depleted. The School Library Journal says, "[A] fresh idea, tense plotting and

jan 9

# **Auditions For Our** Coop Kids' Variety Show



Auditions for Coop members ages 4-18, in the second-floor meeting room. You must audition to be in the show. Polished act not required for audition; we can help you polish it. Singers and other musicians, poets, jugglers, standup comics, rappers, dancers, magicians, gymnasts, etc. (no

lip-syncing please). To reserve an audition spot, contact Martha Siegel, 718-965-3916, msiegel105@earthlink.net.

Another audition will be held on Saturday, January 23, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Performance date is Saturday, March 5, 5:00 p.m., at the Old First Church.

jan 10

# **Everyday Posture**

Posture both contributes to our health and expresses something fundamental about us to the world. But for many of us, after years of huddling around a computer, carrying kids, and managing pain, we often find that our body doesn't feel or look as we hoped it would at this point. And worse, most conventional wisdom about posture urges leaves us stiff, stressed, and ultimately slumping with exhaustion. In this workshop, taught by a certified Alexander Technique teacher, you'll learn simple strategies for improving your posture and raising your overall well-being. The Alexander Technique is particularly useful for individuals dealing with RSI, back or joint pain, and performing artists. This gentle mind-body method helps you both find your true stature and feel at ease in your body. Coop member Dan Cayer is a teacher and writer committed to helping others change habitual patterns, find freedom from pain, and create a sane relationship with their own body. After a serious injury and years of chronic pain, Dan studied and trained as an Alexander Technique teacher and mindfulness meditation instructor. His return to health, as well as his experience with the physical, mental, and emotional aspects of pain, have inspired him to help others.

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.

# jan 3—feb 5 2016

# Safe Food Committee Film Night: **Sushi: The Global Catch**



How did sushi become a global cuisine? What began as a simple but elegant food sold by Tokyo street vendors has become a worldwide phenomenon in the past 30 years. This feature-length documentary, shot in five nations, explores the tradition, growth and future of this

popular cuisine. Beautiful raw pieces of fish and rice now appear from Warsaw and New York to football games in Texas towns. Can this growth continue without consequence?

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.

# Film Night



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

jan 15

# **Stephanie Jenkins; Ned Rothenberg & Mivos Strings**



Stephanie Jenkins grew up in a musical family in Manhattan's Upper West Side.

She started playing old-time banjo at 16 and has been playing American traditional music ever

since. Her love for old-time music grew in Ithaca, where she studied ethnomusicology at Cornell University, and steeped herself in the local music scene, playing with local banjo legend Richie Stearns, and with her old-time duo The Pearly Snaps. Now a Brooklynite, Steph works as an associate producer for Florentine Films, plays banjo with The Calamity Janes, and writes the occasional melody. She will be joined by friends. Ned Rothenberg and the Mivos String Quartet play Brahms! Woodwind master Ned Rothenberg has concertized all over the world for 35 years. The AMG calls him "America's most intimate composer and improviser." Mivos "has earned a reputation as



one of America's most daring and ferocious new-music ensembles" says the Chicago Reader. For this performance they will take a break from the avant-garde and perform the magnificent Clarinet Quintet in B minor, Op. 115 by Johannes Brahms. Olivia de Prato and Joshua Modney, violins; Victor Lowrie, viola; Mariel Roberts, cello; Ned Rothenberg, clarinet.

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.

# **How to Have a Flat Tummy!**

You've dieted, tried vegetarianism, cut out gluten, dairy... still there's a little (or big!) bulge in your belly. Nutrition Response Testing is a non-invasive system of analyzing the body to determine the underlying causes of ill or non-optimum health. Digestive disturbances are often one of the body's first "warning signs" that nutrition has been compromised and bloating and indigestion are some of the most common symptoms we see in our practice. By identifying the underlying causes of imbalance, we are able to identify the exact right nutrition and slowly bring the body back to balance. From bloating and gas to Irritable Bowel Syndrome, constipation, colitis, your body knows how to correct itself. And once we identify what's getting in the way, it will do just that! Diane Paxton, MS, LAc, is the owner and principal of Inner Fire Integrative Health Services, with offices in Manhattan and Park Slope. She is also a long-time Coop member.

# **Auditions For Our** sat 11 am-2 pm Coop Kids' Variety Show



Auditions for Coop members ages 4-18, in the second-floor meeting room. You must audition to be in the show. Polished act not required for audition; we can help you polish it. Singers and other musicians, poets, jugglers, standup comics, rappers, dancers, magicians, gymnasts, etc. (no

lip-syncing please). To reserve an audition spot, contact Martha Siegel, 718-965-3916, msiegel105@earthlink.net.

Performance date is Saturday, March 5, 5:00 p.m., at the Old First Church.

jan 23

# 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 a NY-licensed funeral director and editor of TheInspiredFuneral.com.

jan 26

# **PSFC JAN General Meeting**



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

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

jan 27 Cheese Class

feb 2 Agenda Committee Meeting

Teenage Troubles, Part Two

Food Class

**Shop to Stop Injustice** 

Film Night

#### T E R 0 Н Ξ D ITOR ET S T T

# THE GIFT OF A **SHIFT**

#### **DEAR MEMBERS:**

It's holiday time. But there's always something to celebrate—births, birthdays, anniversaries, graduations the list is endless. And what better way to give a gift than to do a makeup shift for a friend/relative/neighbor/Coop member who is On Alert (or heaven forbid! Suspended!)

Not for the first time, I recently gifted a shift for someone who was overworked outside the Coop. And per usual, it was a pleasure for all concerned.

> Cooperatively, Eda Malenky

# THE SEVEN **CHALLENGE**

#### **DEAR PSFC BROTHERS AND SISTERS:**

It's been just over a year since I joined the PSFC. Today, I'd like to start something I'm calling THE SEVEN CHALLENGE: writing to the Gazette with stories of your top seven PSFC moments. No matter how many years you have been a member, this is the season to reflect and be thankful for our wonderful memories and learning experiences. Here are mine.

- 1. Learning to work the cash register: The member whom I accidentally charged \$34 for a bunch of kale when I first started will appreciate how much I've grown.
- 2. Starting to cook like an adult: From broccoli to real meals, I owe the PSFC for inspiring me to become a better cook.
- 3. Appreciating how to share: If cutting a watermelon to split with a total stranger doesn't equal the definition of sharing, I don't know what does.

4. Making me laugh out loud: I still giggle therapeutically when I recall the time a member asked for the "World's Best Cat Litter" on the intercom.

- 5. Keeping passion alive: Thank you to everyone at the GMs who speaks their mind on important issues. You are inspirational.
- 6. Providing the best free date: Although the guy from the PSFC cheese class date didn't work out, the cheese did.
- 7. Turning Brooklyn into a home: Thank you PSFC for making it so hard to ever move out of Brooklyn.

Love your PSFC sister, Christina Koutsourades

# **GAZETTE ARTICLE ON CLOTHING STORE**

### TO THE EDITORS:

I write in response to the article, "The Coop and the Retail Clothing World: One Member Trying to Keep It All Together." I cannot understand why this article was printed. It is essentially an ad for two clothing stores owned by a sometimes Coop member. The article mentions nothing cooperative about the store, no relationship between the store and the Coop, not even some theoretical link between the store and the Coop.

Probably the woman who owns the store and her staff are all fine people, but it is hard to see how this article is anything other than something cooked up in a friendship between the author and the store owner or staff, to promote the store. The owner is not even an active member! Because she is too busy to do her workslot! And the article suggests that the Coop and this fashion store have a culture in common??

And the Gazette publishes this on the same page as an article about Reverend Billy's campaign against shopping?!

In addition to being annoying, an article like this goes a long way towards legitimating all sorts of concerns that the Gazette is capricious in its editorial policies.

Please, there are many important Coop issues for members to read about in the Gazette—write about them. None of us need more advertisements in our lives!

> Cooperatively yours, Rachel Porter

Editor's Note: One of the criteria for a Linewaiters' Gazette feature is that the individual being profiled has a connection with the Coop. As a member returning from Coop leave, Christine Alcalay most certainly has a connection to the Coop.

# **GAZETTE ARTICLE ABOUT KIWI AND FIG**

#### **DEAR MEMBERS:**

I need to say that I was surprised and somewhat irritated by the long article about the owner of, and the shops Kiwi and Fig. I really do not understand why that article was printed in the Gazette.

Kiwi and Fig are very pricey and do not seem to showcase local or handmade fashions. It's great that the owner is an appreciative Coop member, but I don't understand why that merits an article. Do they offer a discount to other Coop members, as some local businesses do?

These stores have lovely items to sell, but as I said, I don't understand why they merit the article and the free publicity that it provided. And frankly, I haven't found the service there to be outstanding, but rather cursory. And a few people with whom I have shared this impression completely agree...including some people I do not personally know, but who overheard my conversation concerning the article.

Thanks for "listening," Emily Cohen

# TAIGI SMITH

# **EMILY:**

Thank you for your letters.

years, so I am certainly accustomed to feedback. Rachel—I am sorry that you found my latest article about Christine Alcalay and employees to be "annoying," and Emily, I certainly didn't mean to leave you feeling "somewhat irritated." That was not my intention when I decided to profile a successful business owner who employs several members of the PSFC and is a member herself.

Rachel, sadly, I am not a friend of Christine, as you insinuated in your letter, and my piece wasn't "cooked up" as a result of a preexisting friendship. This story was born when I visited Fig and asked to use the restroom a few months ago. On my way to the lay, I passed a woman altering one of the most beautiful dresses I have ever seen. I love fashion and as a journalist, I did what comes naturally to me. I inquired about the dress and its maker, and as luck would have it, the dress was created by Ms. Alcalay, who happens to be a member of our Coop. As I talked with the salesman in Fig, it turned out he was a member of the Coop, too. And so was another employee. And that's how this story came to be. Rachel—you call it "cooking up a story," but in the newsroom, we call it enterprising journalism. This wasn't meant to be a hard-hitting investigative piece, but a lighthearted look at a person in our community. Nothing more, nothing

Furthermore, if you've ever birthed a child, you know the demands that follow after a baby is born. Couple that with two other young children, and two thriving businesses and you might just understand why Ms. Alcalay stepped back to take a breath. Does exercising her right as a member of the Coop to take a leave of absence make her story less important? I think

Emily—you wrote that vou didn't understand why this story was printed in the Gazette. Ms. Alcalay's story is a woman's story. It's an immigrant's story. It's a Brooklyn story. It's a working mother's story. This is the story of a business that started small and flourished—like the Coop. This is the story of a woman who gives jobs to people in her community, who also happen to be mem-

bers of the PSFC. If you can't see the value in Ms. Alcalay's story—then all I can say is I'm sorry. Fortunately, you can always turn the page and read something else.

> Respectfully yours, Taigi Smith

#### **GMO HYBRIDS!**

#### **DEAR COOP MEMBERS:**

I am a Coop member, and I have been noticing that there haven't been any seeds in some of the fruits for years now: especially, the products marked organic and certified

How can the fruits be certified organic and not be real and original; and even though a lot of fruits and vegetables for long time were grafted, we still used to see seeds in the fruits!?!

For all we know, some of these vegetables are the same way: GMO hybrids!?!

I am looking forward to attending this month's meeting to discuss this issue. I have an explanation, and a resolution!

> Thank you sincerely, Muata Sellassie

# **RESPONSE TO** AN EXCUSE FOR **TERRORISM**

# TO THE EDITORS:

A letter in the previous

Gazette ("What is the Root Cause ...") decries the Israeli lawsuit against Facebook for its multitude of postings of Palestinian calls to "kill the Jews" and images of the best body locations to plunge their knives. The writer attributes the "root cause" of this hate-speech and associated terrorism to Israel's "violent military occupation," a phrase used often enough to now be accepted as fact by those so inclined with no evidence necessary. Any effort at Israeli self-defense is considered unmotivated violence, regardless of the violent acts that require it. And like everything uttered by BDS supporters, the popular meme "occupation" is itself arguable under international law, the status of the territories also described as "disputed" until successful negotiations for two-states living side-by-side in peace and security, an unlikely prospect in the foreseeable future given the anti-peace proclivities of Palestinian leadership,



# **DEAR RACHEL AND**

I've been a journalist for 25



#### O R 0 Ξ E Н

and their historical rejection of every proposal for peaceful co-existence with their Jewish

In point of fact, the immediate "root cause" of the current Facebook and violent stabbing and car-ramming intifada was the propagated false claim that Israel intends to take over the al-Aqsa Mosque. The "moderate" Palestinian Authority President, Mahmoud Abbas (moderate compared to the unabashedly genocidal Hamas), declared in a speech to his people: "The Al-Aqsa [Mosque] is ours... and they have no right to defile it with their filthy feet. We will not allow them to, and we will do everything in our power to protect Jerusalem... We bless every drop of blood that has been spilled for Jerusalem."1,2

<sup>1</sup>http://www.algemeiner. com/2015/09/18/abbas-filthyjews-feet-not-allowed-ontemple-mount/

<sup>2</sup>http://www.palwatch. org/main.aspx?fi=157&doc\_ id=15714

Sylvia Lowenthal

# PART AND PARCEL **OF INTERNATIONAL DISCOURSE**

#### **MEMBERS:**

Our ongoing discussion about Israeli products is part and parcel of international discourse. In other words, we belong to a global context; and this fact should loom large, it seems to me. The Coop's stated goal—to avoid exploitation—must be illuminated by well-reported facts, not innuendos or personal insults (sadly, all too common in the heat surrounding core ethical questions). I'll start with the European Union's recent move to label Israeli products produced in Jewish-only settlements.

Here, please notice the reference to BDS as a burgeoning, worldwide phenomenon.

"In a stinging rebuke to Israel, the European Union insisted on Wednesday that some goods produced on land seized in the 1967 war must be labeled 'made in settlements,' a mandate that added to Israel's deep unease over a growing international boycott."—New York Times, Nov. 11, 2015 (Link: E.U. Move to Label Israeli Settlement Goods Strains Ties)

For an assessment of BDS—its ethics and scopehere's a well-written Salon

http://www.salon. com/2015/06/30/boycotts\_ and\_divestments\_are\_not\_ anti\_semitic\_organized\_religion\_takes\_up\_the\_bds\_

Next: The United Nations has made its position on Israel's treatment of Palestinians quite clear.

The United Nations has found that Israeli settlers consume on average 300 liters of water per day, while a Palestinian in the occupied West Bank gets around 70. Life is even worse for Palestinians living off the water grid —their daily consumption comes to roughly 30 liters per day, ten percent of the Israeli figure. This is no accident, but a well-documented "appropriation" of water by "illegal" Jewish settlements.

Here's a link to the UN

https://www.ochaopt. org/documents/ocha\_opt\_ springs\_report\_march\_2012\_ english.pdf

And here's a link to The Nation, which provides some nuance regarding Israel's ongoing water theft.

http://www.thenation. com/article/how-israeluses-water-to-controlpalestinian-life/

Again, the Coop is not alone in condemning Israel's behavior.

Let's follow our mission statement by boycotting and/ or labeling Israeli products.

And let's keep in mind that BDS is a growing ethical phenomenon.

> Best, Daniel Riccuito

# **SUBMISSION POLICY**

### TO THE EDITORS:

Having read your report in the Gazette, I am dismayed at the conclusion you have come to regarding the discourse on BDS/Anti-BDS letters. On one hand, you recognize that the purpose of the Gazette is to foster the spirit of cooperation and you recognize that that discussion discouraged both readership and others from writing. On the other hand, you will allow the BDS/Anti-BDS letters to continue. This dialogue serves no purpose in our organization unless we are currently voting on the

issue (which we are not) and only continues to be divisive. We did have a vote on joining BDS and the BDS group was defeated. Before that, the BDS group wrote numerous letters and after the vote, they continued to write letters and articles. (I will not go into the veracity of any of them but we were subjected to a jeremiad.) You, the editors, know the dispute as you have been dealing with people on both sides. For the sake of the cooperation and civility most of us at the Coop wish to foster, I suggest you reconsider posting the BDS/Anti-BDS letters. It had been quite refreshing for the last few months to read the Gazette without these letters. They add nothing to any issue except divisiveness.

If, however, we are going to vote on whether or not to carry SodaStream, Israeli marshmallows or any other products from Israel that the BDS people do not wish us to buy, then I would understand letters about the issues relevant to that product, but please, no letters about people's opinions/"facts" about the politics of the Levant.

If we are to vote on a policy about letters, let it be on the side of cooperativeness and not divisiveness.

> In cooperation, Lila Rieman

# AN APPEAL TO **EDITORIAL**

#### **DEAR EDITORS:**

It's time for the editors to drop the Free Speech shibboleth about the BDS debate. In issue after issue, the BDS and anti-BDS factions endlessly intone the same songs. This does not benefit the Coop. Everything that can be said has been said.

The original BDS proposal was soundly defeated three years ago. More recently, both BDS candidates running to fill temporary Board positions received the most no votes. To cite free expression on a subject that has done nothing but sow dissention and dissatisfaction in the Coop is to fundamentally misunderstand the issue. Repetition is not free speech.

The Linewaiters' Gazette does not exist to promote the BDS; its purpose is to serve the Coop. Please make it so. I ask the journalist professionals on editorial to end the pointless patter. The story is dead; let it be buried with a fond farewell.

Rodger Parsons

# THE LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE . . .

#### **TO COOP MEMBERS** (SIC):

The Linewaiters' Gazette is not The New York Times. (sic)

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The Linewaiters' Gazette is not The New York Times. (sic) Sincerely (sic),

Robert Berkman (sic)

# **Special Ordering Temporarily Suspended**



# We will not be taking special orders until Tue 02/02/2016

Vitamins/Supplements special orders are suspended indefinitely and will not resume on Tue 02/02/2016

No special orders on fresh baked goods

Orders for bulk or produce by the case must be placed directly with a bulk or produce buyer

# **Hearing Administration Committee** is seeking new members

The HAC performs administrative functions necessary to arrange and facilitate disciplinary hearings, coordinating with the Coop's Disciplinary Committee and the Hearing Officers Committee.

> Applicants should be detail-oriented, comfortable working by e-mail and telephone; they should be Coop members for at least one year and have excellent attendance records.

Members of the HAC work on an as-needed basis, only when hearings are required, and earn FTOP credit. Therefore these members must maintain regular Coop shifts or be FTOP members in good standing.

The nature of this work requires that all members maintain strict confidentiality with respect to all matters on which they work.

> We are seeking an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop membership at large.

Those interested should e-mail the HAC at psfchac@gmail.com.

# **FUN COMMITTEE REPORT**

# The Coop's Holiday Card Making Event on November 14

Photos by members of the FUN Committee



**FUN Committee musicians** 



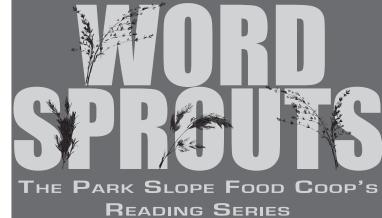
FUN Committee setting up.



Coop members creating cards.



Sarah Safford's sandwich board advertisement.



# 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 wordsproutspsfc@gmail.com.

### WORDSPROUTS COMMITTEE REPORT

# **Coop Members on Writing Books for Young People** That Speak to Adults

By Brian Gresko, Wordsprouts

hat do books that are marketed to kids and teens have to say to grownups? Quite a lot, it turns out, both in regards to the artistic process and also through the literary works themselves. On Friday, January 8 at 7 p.m in the upstairs meeting room, Wordsprouts, the Park Slope Food Coop's reading series, brings accomplished authors and Coop members Kama Einhorn and Heather Swain together to explain more in an event geared at both young and grown-up readers alike.

Einhorn is the amazingly prolific author of more than 40 books for children and middle-grade readers, and currently writes for Sesame Street, where she gets to hang out with Grover. When emailed about the secret of her astounding productivity, she replied, "Keep in mind the books are not that long—some are as short as 16 pages! It's one of the things I love about writing for kids you can immerse yourself in a topic for an intense but short time, then move on to explore the next thing and dive deep into that.'

But as any parent or babysitter knows, writing to engage, entertain and educate young children is a challenge. How does an author create a book that a child wants to return to again and again? For Einhorn, that means drawing lessons from her old favorites. "I was practically weaned on the Peanuts series, and the sophistication and sweetness of that

humor still inspires me." She listed Judy Blume, Dr. Seuss, Roald Dahl, Shel Silverstein and the Little House on the Prairie series as other favorites, many of which she still returns to even now.

Like Einhorn, young adult (YA) author Heather Swain also looks back at her early literary loves for inspiration, but in her case, she thinks of the books she was reading as a teen— "George Orwell, Ursula K. Le Guin, Octavia Butler, Kurt Vonnegut and Aldous Huxley." In an email, she wrote, "I'm sure somewhere in the recesses of my mind those authors inform my work, although now I mostly read scientific research to help shape my vision of the future when I write."

Swain's latest novel, Hungry, imagines a world in which there is no food, and people take medications produced by a pharmaceutical corporation to survive and stave off feelings of hunger. It's a dark, dystopian future that has garnered comparisons to the work of Margaret Atwood, and though Hungry sits on the YA shelf, Swain feels that's mostly a result of marketing. "Any good book, for any age, will have relatable characters, a compelling problem, inspiring language.

So then what makes a YA book YA? The characters are kids, teenagers or college-age young adults, and the themes of the book tackle issues that relate to the transition from childhood to adulthood. As Swain puts it, "How much control do I have in my life? What's





Kama Einhorn and Heather Swain

love? In what ways do I want to be like my parents? In what ways do I want to change the world?" Those are fundamental questions that we return to throughout our life, and so many adults consider these books just as rewarding as teens. (In February, the Guardian reported on a study that found 55% of all YA readers are adults.)

The Park Slope Food Coop played an active role in Swain's thinking about the book Hungry, and it addresses issues most Coop member will find intriguing. "One day, on my way home from the Food Coop, I

thought, 'You know, if I didn't have to feed my family every day, I'd have so much more time to write!' From there, my interest in environmental degradation, corporate control and food justice came into play as I created a world in which there appears to be no food and supposedly no hunger, but of course, that's NOT the whole story."

At the Wordsprouts event on Friday, January 8, Einhorn and Swain will read from their work and discuss their novels and their writing process. This will be an evening to inspire book lovers of all ages, and should be of particular interest to anyone who has ever thought about writing for kids or young adults. ■







#### 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 bars—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)

**WHEN:** 2nd Wednesday of the month, 4pm - 6pm 4th Saturday of the month, 2pm - 4pm Check foodcoop.com for holiday dates.

WHERE: Outside in front of the Coop or inside during inclement weather **PSFC / TerraCycle Recycling Collections** 

The 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.

Save up your eligible waste for upcoming collection dates.

QUESTIONS: ecokvetch@yahoo.com

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

The Fund for New Coops will make low-interest

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

# to the World

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

Send an e-mail to Len Neufeld, Gazette indexer, at lenneufeld@ verizon.net, to request PDF files of either or both of the following

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

Many of the Gazette issues referenced in these indexes are available as PDFs on the Coop's website. (Copies of these and additional issues are also available at Brooklyn's Central Library, located at Flatbush Ave. and Eastern Pkwy. on Grand Army Plaza.)

# 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

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 a Project of the Park Slope Food Coop 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!

### **CLASSIFIEDS**

#### **BED & BREAKFAST**

The House on 3rd St. just below 6th. Ave is offering deep discounts beginning Jan 6-March 31. The apartment occupies the parlor floor. Guests enjoy plenty of room, total privacy and a modern living space. Call Jane White, 718-788-7171 to negotiate a nightly rate. The longer the stay the lower the rate. houseon3st.com

#### **MERCHANDISE**

FOR SALE: Guitar: Gibson L-48 \$750. Circa 1959 some restorations, excellent playing condition; period chipboard case.

# 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.

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.

HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS. Color, high lights, low lights, oil treatments. Gift certificates available. In the convenience of your home or mine. Kids \$20.00-\$25.00, Adults \$35.00-\$40.00. Leonora, 718-857-2215.

# **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.

### SAT, JAN 2

8 p.m. Lois Morton; Sue Jeffers. At the Peoples' Voice Cafe. Community Church of NY Unitarian Universalist, 40 E.35th St. N.Y. Info Call: 212-787-3903 or peoplesvoicecafe.org. \$18 general/ \$10 for subscribers.



5 to 7:30 a.m.

### FRI, JAN 8

8 p.m. Swingadelic Plays Jump-Blues. They have been playing their brand of swingin' Jazz & Blues since 1998. 1-hr dance lesson with Arturo Perez starts at 7PM. Doors open 6:45PM, kids welcome and free under 12 years old, admission is \$20 and \$17 for COOP members, students, seniors. at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture located at 53 PPW, Brooklyn, NY 11215.

#### SUN, JAN 24

4 p.m. BPL Chamber Players presents: The Daedalus Quartet Min-Young Kim, violin Matilda Kaul, violin Jessica Thompson, viola Thomas Kraines, cello with Peter Weitzner, double bass at the Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Center for Contemporary Culture Central Library. 10 Grand Army Plaza BKLYN. Admission Free.

**EXCITING WORKSLOT OPPORTUNITIES** 

# **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" hori-

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







# **RECEIVING PRODUCE** Monday-Friday,

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 involves 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. Must arrive on time at 6 a.m. Please report to Cynthia Pennycooke on your first work shift.

### **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 in the Membership Office for more information.



# **LAUNDRY AND TOY CLEANING** Monday, Sunday,

8:30 to 10:30 p.m

This workslot has two responsibilities. You will load laundry into the 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.

