

Established  
1973

# LINEWAITERS'

## GAZETTE

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Volume KK, Number 2

January 21, 2016

## Creating Healthy Kids One Classroom At A Time...

By Taigi Smith

When you talk to PSFC member Madeleine Hamer, it doesn't take long to realize that she's a woman on a mission. "To know that we have the power to take care of our bodies is so inspiring," says Madeleine, a certified holistic health coach who is currently pursuing a graduate degree in nutrition from Brooklyn College. In a word, she is obsessed. Obsessed with health. Obsessed with nutrition. And obsessed with wellness—might I also mention Madeleine just started training to become a certified yoga teacher, too? You get the picture. When Madeleine joined the PSFC a year ago, she was a fresh arrival from Los Angeles. "I live three blocks from the Coop and was always so intrigued with it," says Madeleine, who stopped by the Coop one day hoping to shop but was turned away. "I wanted in, and I love it."

Eager to teach young people about the benefits of real foods, Madeleine, a former model, began looking for volunteer opportunities and that's when she stumbled upon the Bubble Foundation. Bubble's mission is to teach kids in underserved areas of New York the benefits of healthy food and exercise. "Volunteers go into classrooms weekly to teach children

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CHALKBOARD ILLUSTRATION BY NINA FRENKEL

**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.**

## Coop Event Highlights

**Sat, Jan 23 • Auditions For Our Coop Kids' Variety Show**  
11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

**Wed, Jan 27 • Learn About Cheese at the Coop** 7:00 p.m.

**Thu, Feb 4 • Food Class: Vegan and Gluten-Free Valentine's Day Sweets** 7:30 p.m.

**Fri, Feb 5 • See What the PAFCU Offers** 4:00–6:00 p.m.

**Fri, Feb 5 • Film Night: An Unknown Country** 7:00 p.m.

**Sat, Feb 6 • See What the PAFCU Offers** 10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

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

## The Coop: A Love Story

By Gayle Forman

When Deb Chromow used to do the shopping at the Park Slope Food Coop for her communal household, she would often bump into Rob Cooper, who worked a Saturday receiving shift. Her shopping day often coincided with his work shift and as the months went by, their familiarity grew, and they began to chat, and flirt, as young people will.

One Saturday, Chromow needed apple juice. After The Fall apple juice was bottled in heavy gallon bottles.

So she asked Cooper for help in getting one down.

"I handed it to her. Then we made a date to go out after I finished working," Cooper says.

"We went to Häagen Dazs," Chromow says. "Where Connecticut Muffin is now."

The two of them pause to argue good naturedly over the then-versus-now particularities of Seventh Avenue geography. Then they begin to laugh over the irony of having a first date at an ice cream parlor when they are now both lactose intolerant.

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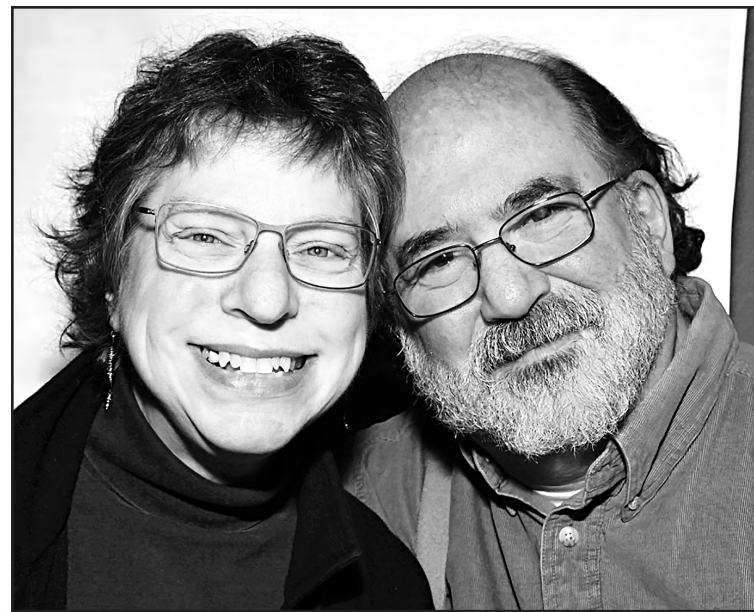


PHOTO BY KEVIN RYAN

Deb and Rob, another cute Coop couple.

### 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.**

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

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## Classroom

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ages pre-K through 5th grade. There is a thorough (and fun!) curriculum we volunteers follow centered around introducing the kids to different fruits and vegetables while demonstrating basic health concepts and showing them the basics of gardening and where our food comes from," writes Madeleine via email. Once a week, Madeleine travels to PS 165 in Brownsville to teach eager youngsters about produce and foods they've never tried. Of all the foods Madeleine has introduced, the salad her class made using apple, celery and parsley was the favorite. "We made a dressing out of lemon, olive oil and a little bit of honey. And the kids really liked it." But for every winning dish, there's also a loser. "Hummus and avocado were points of contention with the kids. Two kids at the most had ever eaten avocado, and they had no idea what hummus was. "One of

the big rules is 'Don't yuck my yum,' meaning that if a student doesn't like something, they shouldn't ruin the experience for the others. Some of the kids were like, 'Ummm...this is really good,' but the majority of the kids simply described the textured new foods as "weird."

The Bubble Foundation, just six years in the making, is run by PSFC member, Lizzie Redman. As luck would have it, Lizzie and Madeleine met through Bubble, but had no idea the other was a member of the PSFC until this reporter began snooping around. "We see an opportunity to go into schools and empower kids to live healthy lives. We partner with schools to help them build health and nutrition into the DNA of the school," says Lizzie. Over a two year period, Bubble helps schools develop healthy school meal plans, introduces kids to physical activities like yoga, Capoeira and African dance, and even helps some schools start

their own indoor hydroponic gardens. The hope, says Lizzie, is to encourage kids, teachers and parents to become long-term "Wellness Warriors." The original founders of Bubble started the organization when they realized NYC schools weren't always teaching kids about nutrition. "We started as a pilot program

in the Bronx in 2010. The school had no PE program and had no nutrition or health education," remembers Lizzie. "The Principal at the school was committed to change, and we piloted a cooking, nutrition and education program at that school. The idea was to promote healthy eating for kids around the city."

As the program has expanded, so have the goals of the organization. "We teach them (students) about gardening, cooking and fitness. The kids are really powerful advocates at home. We give them take-home recipes. We also have family meals every year at our school and we

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ILLUSTRATIONS BY NINA FRENKEL

## Q & A WITH PSFC MEMBER MADELEINE HAMER

### 1. Tell me about your work with students in East New York...

Another volunteer and I meet at an elementary school in Brownsville 30 minutes prior to class time to prep our foods for that day's lesson and discuss the flow of the class. When the bell rings, we go into the classroom (we work with two 4th grade classes back to back) and the kids' faces just light up! They know it's time for hands on fun, some snacking and a break from their "standard" curriculum. Each week is a different lesson that involves a brief introductory lesson followed by the students participating in the cooking/food prepping process. We even give them the opportunity to do their own chopping (with completely harmless knives, of course), and this really excites them. It's interesting to see how unique they all are with their chopping and mixing methods as we go around and engage with each of them individually as they work with the food.

### 2. What foods have you introduced to the students?

We always start the semester asking the kids about their favorite fruits and vegetables. The answers usually include very sweet fruits like pineapple and berries or vegetables like corn and carrots. With that information, we try to branch out and teach them about things they might not have often at home like avocado, celery, tomatoes, different lettuces, even hummus. We do all this through making different recipes each week so everyone can taste, feel and experience the food. While some tastes are more popular than others, it's great to see that some new "mystery food" is something they will probably try again!

### 3. How difficult is it for the students you work with to access healthy, fresh food?

The trek to Brownsville each week paints a certain kind of picture as to what sorts of food these children are probably eating at home. The grocery stores are few and far between; most are more like bodegas than actual food markets. Going so early in the morning allows me to see the full trash bags on the curbs and in them I observe tons



of empty juice cartons, frozen meal containers, cookie boxes... Rarely do I see fresh fruit or vegetable remains. While that is not to say it never happens, based on the types of food shops I see in the area as well as students' remarks in class about their meals at home, I get the sense that a lot of the information we're sharing is news to them.

### 4. How important is it to introduce these kids to healthy, nutritious food?

It's no secret now the correlation between the heightened prevalence of chronic disease in this country and the increased consumption of processed, sugary and packaged "foods!" Eating well is not an innate skill, especially in this modern era of convenience—it is something that must be taught, learned and/or modeled in the home (and schools!) from an early age. Sure, we may all stray from eating vegetables during rebellious teenage/young adult years, but if it's a behavior and priority that was instilled in us at a very young age, we will most likely return to it, especially when we notice how much better we feel eating and living that way.

### 5. Talk to me about "food deserts." Do you believe they exist?

I believe they absolutely exist! I remember the first time I heard that term and the distinct images that came to mind... They're really not far off from the truth. Not only do you see food deserts in heavily populated areas like New York City, where at least if people had the knowledge (and the funds, which is a whole other issue), they could take the train a couple of stops to get to a decent grocery store, but food deserts are a HUGE problem in more rural areas. Being a native of South Carolina, we drive down south fairly regularly and my husband and I are always shocked at the lack of real food options along the way. We're always sure to stock up at the Coop before a long road trip because we know what we're in for. Unfortunately, most people in these areas don't have that option nor are they privy to the information about health that has become second nature to so many of us here in Park Slope.



## A Love Story

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### 35 Years Later

That first date was March 15, 1980, “the ides of March,” Chromow remarks. Chromow and Cooper have been strong ever since, as a couple, and as Coop members. After more than 30 years, they still carry their original three-digit ID cards. They have perfect attendance. And perhaps not so surprising for a couple who came together in the juice aisle, they have integrated the Coop deeply into their lives.

In the early days, that meant attending Coop events. They both remember the excitement of partying at the 10-year anniversary bash in 1983 (and on the day of this interview, Cooper wears a 25-year anniversary t-shirt) and of going to talent shows and parties. When they got married in 1984, it was announced in the *Linewaiters’ Gazette*. And when their son Josh was born in 1989, it too was announced in the *Gazette*, right above the announcement of their Coop friends Gloria Brandman and Tom Gogan, whose daughter Jenna was born the very same day.

When Josh was 10 years old and “literally outgrowing his bed” in their 12th Street apartment, the family decided to move to Park Slope West, i.e. Montclair,

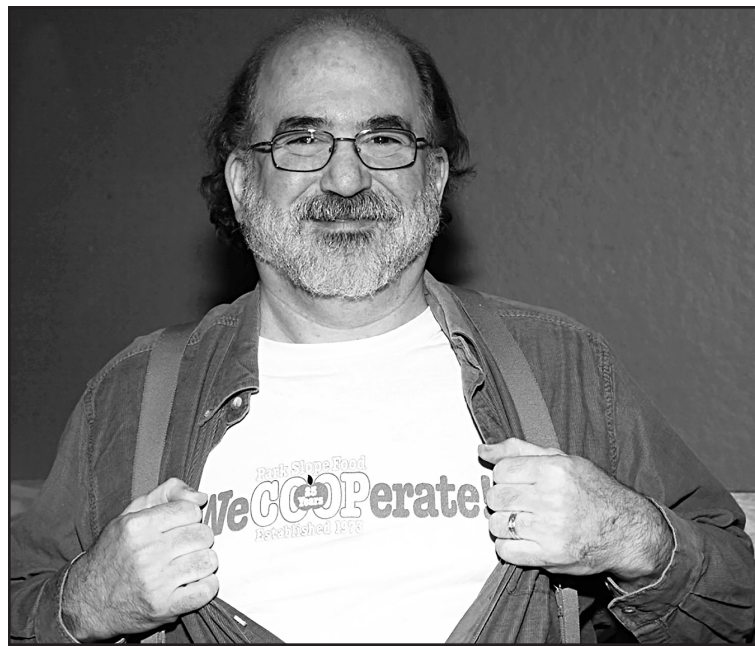
New Jersey.

“I was really sad when I heard they were moving,” says General Coordinator Joe Holtz. “I said, ‘oh you’re going to leave.’”

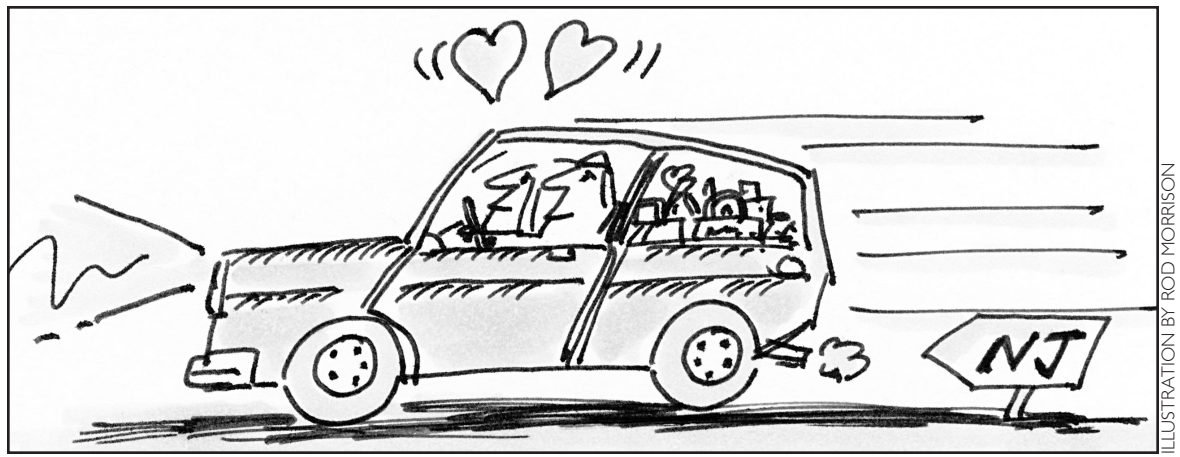
Initially, Chromow and Cooper thought the same. “We thought we would drop out when we found something comparable in Montclair,” Cooper says. But though they discovered CSAs and The Purple Dragon, a buying club started by a former Coop member, there was nothing truly comparable to the Food Coop. So they stayed.

### A Romantic Ritual

That was 16 years ago. Since then, they have devised a system that allows them to shop, work, socialize and even have a



Rob Cooper and his “25-year anniversary” T-shirt.



After their shift, Deb Chromow and Rob Cooper flip a coin to decide which route to take back to their home in New Jersey.

date, all in one day. One Saturday a month is devoted to the Coop.

The Friday night before their shifts—Saturdays at 1:00 p.m.—Chromow makes the list of what they will need for the month. Saturday morning, they pack

their car with their “ancient” shopping cart, their reusable bags, the cardboard boxes that fit perfectly in the cart and have somehow, miraculously lasted them for years. Then they hit the road. “We say we’re going to leave at 11:30. If we leave by 12 it’s good,” Cooper says. “I’ll make a sandwich for us and, we’ll eat on the way in.”

Arrival at the Coop often feels like reunion. Merely standing by the lockers for a few minutes they are besieged with hellos and hugs. Then they get to work. Cooper, who has been a Saturday squad leader since before there were separate shifts for receiving shopping etc., jokes that he’s now a “squad leader emeritus. I let my co-squad leader lead the squad.”

Chromow works as a cashier, as she has since the days when there was only one cashier. “At the

end of the day, me and the squad leader pulled down the accordion gate, and I’d have to throw the keys down the mail slot before I walked to the bank,” she recalls.

Sometimes during their shift, Cooper will visit with Chromow behind the cash register. “Sometimes he’ll bring me a lemonade,” she says, though they are quick to point out that he will never pay at her register.

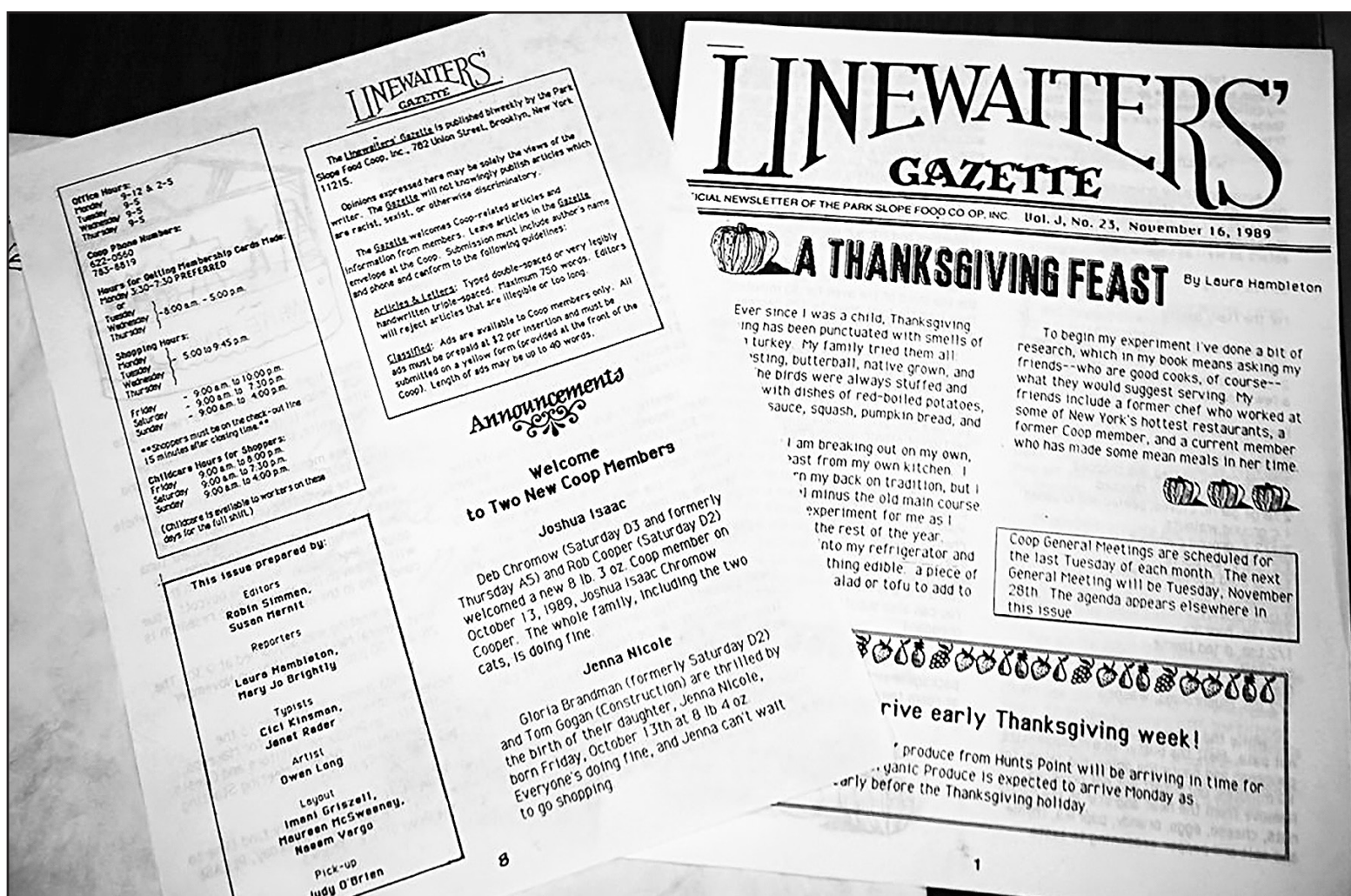
When their shifts are over, they go out for a date. To Spice or somewhere else in the neighborhood to grab a bite. And they will socialize, bumping into all the people they have known for decades. “We get to say hello to the shopping squad leader who lived in the apartment we first lived in. ‘Hey Tom,’” Deb says.

“Or people remember me as squad leader,” Cooper says. “These are strong familial bonds.”

Then it’s shopping time. Out comes the cart, the boxes, the bags. The shopping takes two hours. Not just because on Saturday evening the Coop can be crowded. Not just because Cooper and Chromow are buying a month’s worth of groceries. But because with so many people to run into, there’s a lot of chit-chat, a lot of catching up with friends, and just with the people that they see from month to month.

“The rigidity of our four-week system means we always have the same checkout workers,” Cooper says. “They all know that we’re the crazy people from Montclair.”

When they pack the car, they always leave a snack on top for the ride home. They flip a coin to decide on which route to take back to New Jersey (neither own smart phones so no trying to game the traffic with an app) and then they drive home.





# No-Show Squad Leaders Don't Show for Hearing

By Hayley Gorenberg

Charged with not showing for their shifts, the subjects of the most recent Disciplinary Hearing were...no-shows for their hearing, as well. A couple investigated and charged with theft of services kept representatives of the Disciplinary Committee, the Hearing Officer Committee, and over a dozen Coop members in good standing who were to have decided their case, waiting an hour till they were dismissed pursuant to the Coop's Disciplinary Hearing rules.

The charges have become more common as the Coop has grown, according to members of the Disciplinary Committee—but failing to show up for a hearing the charged members affirmatively requested is unusual.

Since summer, the Disciplinary Committee had been actively investigating the alleged conspirators—both squad leaders—for theft of shifts. Records of shifts in 2014 and 2015 showed that one would arrive alone, sign in to work as squad leader, and would also sign the partner in to work a makeup shift, though the partner did not appear in entrance log or security video data. On two dates in 2015, according to the Disciplinary Committee's records, "you signed in for a total of two (2) shifts each that neither of you worked as it would be physically impossible to work two shifts at the same time." The

cited results of the alleged falsification of work shift records were "one or two 'fake makeup' signatures" for each incident.

After leaving messages throughout summer 2015, on August 14, 2015, the Disci-



ILLUSTRATION BY ROD MORRISON

**Theft of time is a serious Coop offense. Permanent resignation, barring an entire household from the Coop, has become more common.**

plinary Committee sent a final official letter summarizing the investigation of theft and posing the option of the household's permanent resignation from the Coop, or a hearing. As the letter explained, "the Coop treats theft of service (stealing time) as the functional equivalent of stealing property (goods) from the Coop, which requires a request of permanent resignation from the Coop."

Permanent resignation, barring the entire household from Coop membership, would have occurred "automatically," with no response to the letter. As the letter explained, "Permanent resignation is expulsion from the Coop and this means that you and our household members may never rejoin the Coop and you may not enter the Coop for any reason, including shopping, or a guest of another Coop member. In addition, you may not have other Coop members shop for you."

Faced with that penalty, the members requested a hearing, which placed their membership on hold, during which time they could not enter Coop for any reason. But ultimately they did not show up on the evening of December 15 to confront the charges against them of theft of services; misrepresenting work performed (including, but not limited to, signing in and not working for all or part of a shift); falsifying work or attendance records; and failing to fulfill the Coop's work requirement, including failure to make a good faith effort to complete makeup shifts.

The Hearing Officer Committee member who presided over the truncated proceeding has been a hearing officer for the committee for six years, and said this was the first instance she knew of in which members who requested a

hearing did not show up for the event itself. She explained that the no-show would be deemed a resignation, unless the members within 48 hours could establish a legitimate, documented basis for their

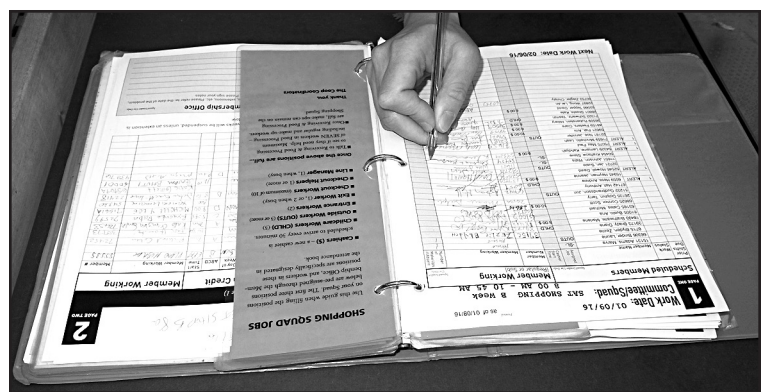
instance. "Yes, we're seeing a lot more of them, and we're able to identify them more readily now," she said. "This particular kind of theft, theft of services, theft of time, is a very serious offense and violation of Coop rules, and we take it very seriously. It's the equivalent of stealing a product, for which you're offered resignation or a hearing—so we're offering the same in these cases." She concluded, "In the majority of cases, they voluntarily resign. If an investigation reveals overwhelming evidence that someone's stolen time, most people will resign. We don't go this far unless we're really pretty sure we have a really strong case."

Where an investigation turns up evidence of a rules violation that triggers the Disciplinary Committee to recommend 18 months of Coop suspension or less, the matter goes to binding arbitration. But if the proposed sanction exceeds 18 months, the hearing option is available to the member under investigation.

*The Coop can't function if people don't do their job. And if people don't do their jobs and they're not honest about it, the Coop can't function.*

—Hearing Officer Committee member

The presiding committee member reinforced the necessity of the investigation and hearing process, noting that member misbehavior that's "an occasional aberration—that's one thing. But people consistently not being cooperative—we really need to make sure everyone's treated the same. Most people do their jobs. That's good. The Coop can't function if people don't do their job. And if people don't do their jobs and they're not honest about it, the Coop can't function." ■



**The squad leaders stand accused of signing in for each other.**



**The two squad leaders did not show up for their disciplinary hearing.**



**Over a dozen Coop members of the Disciplinary Committee were kept waiting for over an hour.**

PHOTOS BY LISA COHEN



## A Love Story

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### An Anchor To Community

After a decade and a half of this ritual, Chromow concedes that with gas and tolls, and the proliferation of organic products, it's probably not even that much of a savings to trek to the Coop every month. Add to that the inconveniences of blizzards, traffic jams, the installation of new fire hydrants on the corner of Sixth Avenue and Union (which eliminated several parking spots) and it's more reason not to keep coming back. And yet they keep coming. Because the Coop provides something essential, just as essential as food. It provides community.

Though moving to New Jersey had some pluses—room for gardens, studios, plenty of parking—the couple remains New Yorkers, Brooklynites, at heart. Their monthly trips to the Coop keep them anchored here, even though they haven't lived here for years.

"I'm always happy to see them," says Holtz. "It's symbolic of the aspect of the Coop, this special thing when you put in time with other human beings."

As for those enviably perfect attendance records—in 30 years, they've missed shifts but always made them up before their next shifts—for them, it's a no brainer. "I've never found it onerous," Cooper says. It probably helps that they have both remained on

their squads for so long. In more than thirty years, Cooper has been on two squads; Chromow on three. The connections to their fellow squad members run deep. These are their people. They would not want to let them down.

Which is perhaps why even though both Chromow and Cooper are eligible for retirement, they have no interest in quitting their squads. "Coming in just to shop doesn't make sense," Cooper says. Really, it would defeat the purpose.

The Coop has always been about more than food. "There are people here we have all grown up with, had our children with," Cooper says.

"It's our temple," Chromow adds. ■



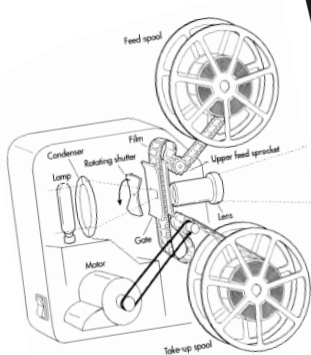
## Classroom

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talk about the importance of sitting down with the family for meals." When conducting workshops in schools, Bubble volunteers often prepare foods with cultural ties. "Our curriculum is vegetable based. We make arepas, tacos, sushi, bean dishes. We'll do avocado spread and hummus."

As the Bubble program grows, Lizzie hopes to forge new partnerships and says she'd love to see the PSFC and its members become involved with Bubble. "There are a lot of people who are trying to tackle this issue of food access and food education. There is a community at the PSFC that cares about this issue," says Lizzie. "Madeleine also sees an opportunity for partnerships. Who knows, maybe someday being a volunteer and teaching in a classroom could count as a work shift?" If you'd like to become involved with Bubble, as a volunteer or donor, feel free to email the organization at [info@welcometobubble.org](mailto:info@welcometobubble.org). ■

## ARE YOU A BROOKLYN-BASED FILMMAKER?



Would you like to screen your work at the Coop?

Then submit your film for possible inclusion in the Coop's Friday Film Night Screening Series.

If you're a Coop member you'll receive one FTOP credit for screening and offering a Q+A with your film. If you're not a member, it's still a chance to spread the word about your work and build your fan base by screening for a local audience.

We accept documentary and fiction, both features and shorts (we program shorts as a group).

**Please e-mail Gabriel Rhodes for details at [gabrielrhodes@me.com](mailto:gabrielrhodes@me.com).**

## WORD SPROUTS

THE PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP'S READING SERIES

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

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

**Please contact the organizers at [wordsproutspfc@gmail.com](mailto:wordsproutspfc@gmail.com).**

## THE GAZETTE INDEXES

*If you are interested in the history of the Coop or in when and how particular subjects have been discussed in the Linewriters' Gazette...*

*Send an e-mail to Len Neufeld, Gazette indexer, at [lenneufeld@verizon.net](mailto:lenneufeld@verizon.net), to request PDF files of either or both of the following indexes:*

- 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.)*

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

Puzzle author: Abdul Powell. For answers, see page 14.





**ecokvetch**

the environmental  
committee blog

## Tip of the MONTH!

### Eliminate or Reduce the Meat in Your Diet

More than half of the  
world's greenhouse gas  
emissions arise from raising  
animals for meat.

Meat production both  
depletes and pollutes  
increasingly scarce  
fresh water.

Grazing cattle for meat is the  
primary purpose of razing  
the world's rainforests.

Learn more at:  
[ecokvetch.blogspot.com](http://ecokvetch.blogspot.com)

## Board of Directors Election

### The General Meeting & The Board of Directors

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

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

### Duties of the Directors

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

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

### Openings

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

### Candidate Deadline

If you wish to place your name into nomination, you must declare your candidacy by submitting a statement of up to 750 words to: [gazettesubmissions@psfc.coop](mailto:gazettesubmissions@psfc.coop).

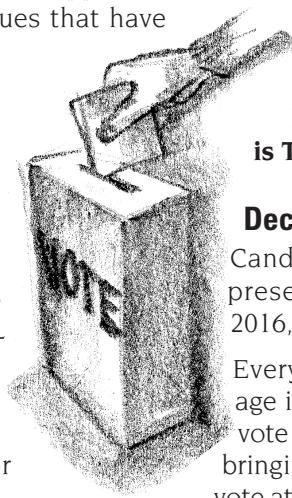
Please include a small photo for publication in the *Linewaiters' Gazette* and the member proxy mailing.

**Deadline for candidacy submission is Tuesday, March 1, 2016.**

### Deciding and Voting

Candidates will have the opportunity to present their platform at the March 29, 2016, General Meeting.

Every member will receive a proxy package in the mail in late May. Members may vote by returning their ballot by mail or by bringing it to the Coop. Members may also vote at the Annual Meeting on June 28, 2016.



## FTOP JAVA WEB Programmer WANTED

Our Membertime application, which keeps track of a member's Coop work time when a member is on a committee that lies outside the regularly scheduled Coop jobs (e.g., FTOP workers), is looking for a new adoptive parent. This web application is written in Java and uses the Spring MVC framework with Eclipse as the development environment. Here is what you should know:

-  **Java 6+.**
-  **Eclipse development environment,**  
or are willing to spend the time to learn.
-  **Spring web framework, or are willing to learn.**

**FTOP** IT jobs usually entail doing your shifts in batches with concentrated work cycles, banking shifts, followed by breaks where you just have to shop at the Coop at your leisure. While working FTOP you can do shifts for other people, such as a housemate.

Membertime needs to be upgraded to new versions of its software components (e.g., Java, Eclipse, Spring, etc.) and there are a number of enhancements that it is begging for. Do yourself and Membertime a favor, by adopting this application.

If you are interested, please drop us a line at: [it.ftop@psfc.coop](mailto:it.ftop@psfc.coop)

### 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](mailto:psfchac@gmail.com).

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

GREENE HILL FOOD CO-OP IS OPENING ITS DOORS TO PSFC MEMBERS.  
JUST SHOW YOUR PSFC MEMBERSHIP CARD AT THE DOOR.

park slope  
FOOD COOP

&

GREENE  
HILL  
FOOD CO-OP

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](http://greenehillfood.coop)



## INTERNATIONAL TRADE EDUCATION SQUAD REPORT

# 195 Countries Adopt Historic Paris Agreement, While Pending Free Trade Deals Threaten to Increase Climate Change

By Eliza Hetterly, International Trade Education Squad

Last December, representatives from 195 countries came together in Paris to draft an agreement to reduce carbon emissions and keep global warming below 2 degrees Celsius. Many have hailed this agreement as a major achievement for international diplomacy, as it is the first time every country in the world has collectively pledged to address climate change. In a statement, Secretary-General of the United Nations Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, said that the Paris Agreement represents “a triumph for people, the environment, and for multilateralism.”

At the same time, environmental activists, climate scientists and many others around the world have criticized the Paris Agreement for its limitations. Members of the non-binding agreement only promise to reduce carbon emissions “as soon as possible,” and the agreement itself does not come into effect until 2020. Furthermore, even if the voluntary pledges in the Paris Agreement are implemented, temperatures would still rise 2.7 to 3.5 degrees Celsius, spelling disaster for low lying island nations, farmers and vulnerable communities around the world.

Also absent from the Paris Agreement, many activists have argued, is a broad, comprehensive analysis of the causes of climate change and their effects. The Agreement focuses solely on reducing carbon emissions based on the concept of “net zero,” which means that

carbon emissions can continue as long as they are balanced by what are called “negative emissions technologies,” such as planting trees. The broader questions of labor, indigenous rights, loss of biodiversity and other issues of climate justice were largely absent from the main UN climate talks and from the agreement itself. As Park Slope Food Coop member Deborah Poole, who attended the climate summit, put it, “The Paris Agreement is a particular vision of climate change that is only about carbon...the idea of an ecological system, a social system, is just not there.”

For example, a key connection absent from the Paris Agreement is the link between climate change and international trade policy. Governments around the world are currently negotiating free trade deals such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), and the Trade in Services Agreement (TISA) that would directly inhibit their ability to fulfill the commitments made under the Paris agreement.

In a report released last December, the Sierra Club outlined the ways in which the TPP, a 30-chapter trade pact negotiated by the United States and 11 Pacific Rim nations, poses major threats to the environment. First, the report describes how “the TPP would require the U.S. Department of Energy to automatically approve all exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG), a fossil fuel with high life-cycle greenhouse gas

emissions, to all TPP countries.” LNG is usually obtained through fracking, which would mean increased air and water pollution as well as health risks. Approving LNG exports would ensure continued construction of fossil fuel infrastructure, at a time when countries around the world have just officially recognized the need to keep fossil fuels in the ground.

Second, the TPP would encourage U.S. manufacturing companies to shift operations to low-wage countries such as Vietnam and Malaysia, where production is less environmentally efficient and more carbon-intensive. This off-shoring of U.S. manufacturing would “not only cost us jobs in the U.S., but also increase climate-disrupting emissions,” the report states.

Third, the TPP would impose limits on current domestic environmental policies. Out of the 30 chapters of the TPP, only six actually have to do with trade. The rest of the chapters outline include non-trade rules that TPP countries would have to abide by. These non-trade rules would, for example, prohibit countries from discriminating between how different energy services (fossil fuels versus wind or solar) are regulated, prohibit renewable energy programs that encourage local job creation, and prohibit government contracts that require energy to come from renewable sources.

However the most concerning aspect of the TPP is the expansion of the rights of corporations to directly sue sovereign governments in

Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) tribunals. Currently, under the existing free trade agreements such as NAFTA, about 9,500 subsidiaries of foreign companies can pursue such lawsuits against the U.S. Under the TPP, that number would roughly double, expanding ISDS privileges to an additional 9,200 companies, according to data from Public Citizen. “Corporations that would gain this power include Australian and Japanese fossil fuel firms that are currently drilling for oil in the Gulf of Mexico and fracking for natural gas on U.S. public lands,” writes Ben Beachy of the Sierra Club in a recent article. The TPP also widens the scope of domestic policies that can be challenged, meaning more of our domestic policies would be under threat.

ISDS tribunals act like courts, yet they are not democratically accountable whatsoever. Tribunals are composed not of judges but of three private sector attorneys, and there are no provisions under NAFTA or the TPP that require that these attor-

neys not have any conflicts of interest. In fact, as Lori Wallach recently stated in an interview on *Democracy NOW!*, “These are folks who rotate between one day suing a government for a corporation and the next day being the judge.” Cases heard in ISDS tribunals are not reviewable in, nor appealable to any U.S. court, including the Supreme Court.

The U.S. has already been sued over 20 times under its current trade pacts that contain ISDS components. While it hasn't lost a case yet, a new lawsuit brought forth by the TransCanada corporation poses a new threat. TransCanada announced on January 6 that it intends to sue the U.S. government for \$15 billion in damages, as a result of having their application denied to build the highly politicized Keystone XL pipeline. A U.S. company called Lone Pine Resources has also recently used ISDS under NAFTA to sue Quebec for enacting a moratorium on fracking in the St. Lawrence River, comparable to New York's ban on fracking. ■

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

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

### THE FUND FOR NEW FOOD COOPS

a Project of the Park Slope Food Coop

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

### How can you donate?

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

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

## 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](mailto:foodcoopdc@gmail.com)

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

# FOLLOW!

the Food Coop on

twitter & Instagram  
&  
Pinterest @foodcoop



# LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE

The *Linewaiters' Gazette* is published biweekly by the Park Slope Food Coop, Inc., 782 Union Street, Brooklyn, New York 11215, 718-622-0560. 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](http://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](mailto: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. 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

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, February 19, 8:00 p.m.

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



## PROSPECT CONCERTS



**Hilary Chaplain & Mik Kuhlman.** Brooklyn-based international solo physical comedians take the stage. Chaplain, known as a Lucy Ricardo–Little Tramp hybrid, has been performing world-wide. She has won numerous awards in Poland, Cuba, Slovakia, the UK and New York. She is joined by Mime and clown Mik Kuhlman, an international performer with sublime comic timing, serious depth and cross-disciplinary training. Come laugh for an hour at their solo comic sketches!

**RASHMI** is a singer, songwriter, actress, screenwriter and Brooklynite. As a singer-songwriter, she has performed her own music in New York City, Austin, Dallas, Toronto, Philadelphia and Los Angeles, in as diverse venues as Rockwood Music Hall, The Rock Shop, The Shrine, The Way Station, The Roxy, The Mint, Genghis Cohen, and The Roosevelt Hotel. Her new album, *Puzzle*, was released in late September 2015.



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

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

## RETURN POLICY



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

### REQUIRED FOR ANY RETURN

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

### CAN I EXCHANGE MY ITEM?

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

## CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?

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

NEVER  
RETURNABLE

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

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

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

RETURNABLE

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

### This Issue Prepared By:

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Advertising: Mary Robb  
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## THANK YOU!

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

Jonathan Agin	Bashiri Bey	Josh Diamond	Mike (Movsha)	Benjamin Liu	Michelle Peake
Jesse Alpern	Paula Biedma	Evie Falci	Gordon	Sarah Longwell-Stevens	Kyle Ranson-Walsh
Zach Appelman	Alicia Blegen	Joe Fenstermaker	Elise Harris	Amy Lucisano	Emily Reilly
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Gamall Awad	Hovey Brock	Denise Fraifeld	Roger Hughes	Geoff Marx	Elisabeth Rucell
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Heather Best	John D'Aponte	Itai Gal	Natalya Kayner	Eva Midgley	Sundee Suchdev
Christina Barbato	Jocelyn Davis	Martyn Gallina-Jones	Caitlin LaRussa	John Midgley	Danielle Varga
Tellok Amen	Nedda De Castro		Pierre Le Hors	Neesha Patel	Jenifer Wanous
	Olivia De Prato		Moshe Levin		

## COOP CALENDAR

## New Member Orientations

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

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

## The Coop on the Internet

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

## The Coop on Cable TV

## Inside the Park Slope Food Coop

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](http://www.bricartsmedia.org/community-media/bcat-tv-network).

## General Meeting Info

## TUE, JANUARY 26

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

## TUE, FEBRUARY 2

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the February 23 General Meeting.

## Gazette Deadlines

## LETTERS &amp; VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

February 4 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, January 25  
February 18 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, February 8

## CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

February 4 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, January 27  
February 18 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, February 10

## 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](http://foodcoop.com) and at every General Meeting.

## Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 26, 7:00 p.m.

## Location

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

## 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](http://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](http://foodcoop.com) and may also appear elsewhere in this issue.

**Wrap Up (9:30-9:45)** • Meeting evaluation • Board of Directors vote • Announcements, etc.

## Attend a GM and Receive Work Credit

Since the Coop's inception in 1973, the General Meeting has been our decision-making body. At the General Meeting (GM) members gather to make decisions and set Coop policy. The General-Meeting-for-workslot-credit program was created to increase participation in the Coop's decision-making process.

Following is an outline of the program. For full details, see the instruction sheets by the sign-up board.

## • Advance Sign-up required:

To be eligible for workslot credit, you must add your name to the sign-up sheet in the elevator lobby or sign-up at [foodcoop.com](http://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-for-workslot-credit program two times per calendar year.

## • Squads eligible for credit:

Shopping, Receiving/Stocking, Food Processing, Office, Maintenance, Inventory, Construction, and FTOP committees. (Some Committees are omitted because covering absent members is too difficult.)

## • Attend the entire GM:

In order to earn workslot credit you must be present for the entire meeting.

## • Signing in at the Meeting:

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

## • Being Absent from the GM:

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

## Park Slope Food Coop Mission Statement

**The Park Slope Food Coop is a member-owned and operated food store**—an alternative to commercial profit-oriented business. As members, we contribute our labor: working together builds trust through cooperation and teamwork and enables us to keep prices as low as possible within the context of our values and principles. Only members may shop, and we share responsibilities and benefits equally. We strive to be a responsible and ethical employer and neighbor. We are a buying agent for our members and not a selling agent for any industry. We are a part of and support the cooperative movement.

**We offer a diversity of products with an emphasis on organic, minimally processed and healthful foods.** We seek to avoid products that depend on the exploitation of others. We support non-toxic, sustainable agriculture.

**We respect the environment.** We strive to reduce the impact of our lifestyles on the world we share with other species and future generations. We prefer to buy from local, earth-friendly producers. We recycle. We try to lead by example, educating ourselves and others about health and nutrition, cooperation and the environment.

**We are committed to diversity and equality.** We oppose discrimination in any form. We strive to make the Coop welcoming and accessible to all and to respect the opinions, needs and concerns of every member. We seek to maximize participation at every level, from policy making to running the store.

**We welcome all who respect these values.**



park slope  
FOOD COOP

# calendar of events

jan 23  
sat 11 am–2 pm

## 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, stand-up 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  
sat 4 pm

## It's Your Funeral

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

jan 26  
tue 7 pm

## PSFC JAN 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:** Create a Special End Cap or Other Designated Area Where Both Israeli and Palestinian Products Will Be Placed Side by Side (30 minutes)

**Discussion:** This proposal creates a paradigm that symbolizes our collective desire to end the replication of the conflict in our Coop. In the PSFC we will take this symbolic action as a means to end the damaging effect that this issue has had on the Coop and many individual members and cap it with a gesture of civility.

—submitted by Rodger Parsons

**Item 2:** A Smarter, More Cooperative Boycott Policy (45 minutes)

**Proposal:** Officially establish PSFC's boycott policy. The guidelines are too vague, suggesting a 51-49% majority to pass a boycott. The official majority should be at least 75%.

—submitted by Jesse Rosenfeld

**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.

jan 27  
wed 7 pm

## Learn About Cheese At the Coop

This month's cheese class will feature a curated selection of cheeses sold at the Coop. Members will get the chance to taste and compare cheeses, focusing on different milk types, rind styles and textures. Coop member and American Cheese Society Certified Cheese Professional **Elena Santogade** will lead the tasting and offer guidelines for pairings and for designing cheese tastings of your own.

jan 30  
sat 2 pm

## Teenage Troubles, Part Two

Depression, panic attack, suicide (attempts), anxiety, addiction, pregnancy, cyberbullying, cutting, and more. Teenagers are hurting, and they are hurting each other. Issues, conflicts, problems kept accumulating for many generations. When they aren't resolved, they get passed onto the next generation, which isn't equipped to deal with them, because they didn't create them. So, what's the solution? Who's to blame? NOBODY! It doesn't matter when and where it all started. What matters is that it gets resolved. An emotionally healthy teenager is full of ideas, dreams, and goals, often able to resolve some issues of the adults in their lives, too. That is what we would like to achieve also. There are problems that can be resolved in time, but these issues need immediate attention and immediate solution. Sometimes help arrives too late. Don't let that happen. **Marija Santo-Sarnyai** CNHP and Geotran Practitioner has 13 years of experience working with families, marriages, and children and touched the lives of thousands. She's going to demonstrate The Gems of Excellence program which brings rapid results, answers and solutions. She's been a Coop member for over 15 years.

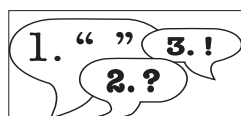
jan 31  
sun 12 pm

## Shop to Stop Injustice

Join **Sarah Wellington**, a Jewish anti-Zionist Coop member, to hear about ways of supporting Palestinian Human Rights by heeding the call to boycott products that economically support the oppression and dispossession of the Palestinian people. As we wait for the Coop vote on the boycott of one such product, SodaStream, learn about other products we sell at the Coop that profit the Israeli government's Zionist system. Find out about products to avoid, such as Sabra Hummus, Osem Israeli Couscous, and various Israeli produce, until the Israeli government meets its obligation to comply with International Law and upholds the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. Wellington has been a Coop member since 2009. She believes we cannot say we did not know, and that we must find ways to reclaim our moral center.

feb 2  
tue 8 pm

## Agenda Committee Meeting



The Committee reviews pending agenda items and creates the agenda for future General Meetings. Drop by and talk with committee members face-to-face between 8:00 and 8:15 p.m. Before submitting an item, read "How to Develop an Agenda Item for the General Meeting" and fill out the General Meeting Agenda Item Submission Form, both available from the Membership Office or at foodcoop.com.

**The February General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 23, 7 p.m., at St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh Aves.**

*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 23–feb 28 2016

**feb 4**  
thu 7:30 pm

## Food Class: Vegan and Gluten-Free Valentine's Day Sweets



Do you want to incorporate more vegan, plant-based and gluten-free ingredients into your diet? Join chef **Hideyo Yamada**, a former pastry chef in Japan and a specialist in cooking, teaching, and eating a health-supportive diet, to add some delicious dessert ideas to your repertoire. Yamada will demonstrate decadent, delicious sweets made with simple ingredients available for purchase at the Park Slope Food Coop. Learn the proper technique on how to temper chocolate, and spend the night sampling freshly made chocolate truffles, almond cookies, candied walnuts, and more, to get you in the spirit of Valentine's Day! Yamada is a cooking instructor, private chef, holistic health counselor and is a graduate of the Natural Gourmet Institute's Chef Training Program and the Institute of Integrative Nutrition. She is a trained sushi chef from Japan and has worked as a sushi chef, Japanese chef and a pastry chef at several high-end restaurants in New York City. She specializes in vegan and gluten-free cuisine, which enhances the energy and restores the health of her clients. Her dishes are always colorful and delicious. *Menu includes: creamy raw chocolate mousse; double almond cookies; walnut-praline chocolate truffle; how to temper chocolate; candied walnuts.*

**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 January 21.**

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

**feb 5**  
fri 4–6 pm

## See What the PAFCU Offers

Representatives from People's Alliance Federal Credit Union will be at the Park Slope Food Coop in the Meeting Room to sign up members for credit union membership. Learn about: \$5 minimum savings balance; loans starting at 2.99%; holiday club account; debit/Visa cards; mobile/text message banking; no-fee checking; Internet banking; kids' accounts; vacation club accounts. Any new member to open an account, any existing member to add a PAFCU product, or any member to refer a new member to the credit union will be entered to win a Drive Away Vacation Package. Stop by for a chance to win a surprise gift.

**Representatives from the PAFCU will also meet at the Coop on February 6.**

**feb 5**  
fri 7 pm

## Film Night: An Unknown Country



*An Unknown Country* tells the story of European Jews who escaped Nazi persecution to find refuge in an unlikely destination: Ecuador. This small South American country, barely known at the time, took them in when most other nations had closed their doors. Featuring first-hand accounts, family photos, and archival material, the film opens a window on the exiles' perilous escape and difficult adjustment as they remade their lives in what was for them an exotic, unfamiliar land. **Eva Zelig** is an award-winning TV producer/writer whose work has appeared on PBS and other national networks. She has been honored with many awards, including an Emmy. She has also produced educational videos for schools and museums, including the Nature Museum-Chicago Academy of Sciences, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Grand Teton National Park. She produced an award-winning multimedia exhibit about climate change for the American Museum of Natural History.

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

**feb 6**  
sat 10 am–12:30 pm

## See What the PAFCU Offers

Representatives from People's Alliance Federal Credit Union will be at the Park Slope Food Coop in the Meeting Room to sign up members for credit union membership. Learn about: \$5 minimum savings balance; loans starting at 2.99%; holiday club account; debit/Visa cards; mobile/text message banking; no-fee checking; Internet banking; kids' accounts; vacation club accounts. Any new member to open an account, any existing member to add a PAFCU product, or any member to refer a new member to the credit union will be entered to win a Drive Away Vacation Package. Stop by for a chance to win a surprise gift.

**feb 6**  
sat 2–4 pm

## Valentine's Day Card-Making Party



Bring family and friends of all ages to a Valentine's Day Card-Making party in the Coop's Meeting Room. Children under 10 years old should be accompanied by an adult. We'll supply glue, markers, and paper and some fun art-making tips. You supply the creativity and love! Bring any other special art materials you would like to use. We are looking for art supply donations like buttons, fabric, recycled paper, magazines, newspaper and cardboard. Hot cocoa and chocolatey treats will be available to purchase.

**feb 9**  
tue 7 pm

## Safe Food Committee Film Night: Sustainable Table



Over nine months, director Mischa Hedges traveled the west coast to learn more about our food system. While interviewing farmers, agricultural experts, nutritionists and activists, Mischa and his team learned that the standard methods of producing food do not take environmental or human health costs into consideration. They also spoke with farmers who are practicing more sustainable methods of producing food, and learned of the many alternatives to conventional agriculture. The result is an unadulterated look into the food you eat, and how you can make a difference to your health and the environment by the food choices you make.

**See upcoming events, past reviews and a comprehensive list of films shown at [www.plowtoplatefilms.com](http://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](http://www.foodcoop.com).**

**feb 12**  
fri 7 pm

## Wordsprouts: A Night of Film-making: From Script to Screen



Ever wonder exactly how a movie goes from being a script to becoming a finished film? Filmmakers discuss the ups, downs, and practical considerations of taking pages of dialogue and directions and transforming it into a work of art on screen. **Padmini Narumanchi**, an award-winning producer and experienced assistant director, will explain how filmmakers deconstruct feature-length scripts to create a workable shooting schedule, something which is an art in its own right. And **Rashmi Singh**, who wrote the script for the critically acclaimed film *The Divide*, will lead a workshop on how to read and understand a script through the eyes of a producer, director, and actor, with a live reading that will include the audience. Together, they'll demystify the filmmaking process and demonstrate how movie magic is the result of dedicated, hard work on the part of many.

**Bookings: John Donohue, [wordsproutspfc@gmail.com](mailto:wordsproutspfc@gmail.com).**

## still to come

**feb 19** Discover Your Body's Wisdom

**feb 19** Prospect Concert Series

**feb 23** College Admissions 101

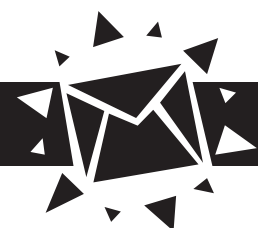
**feb 23** PSFC FEBRUARY General Meeting

**feb 24** Cheese Class

**feb 28** Alternatives to Boycotting



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



## ELDER??

## TO THE EDITOR:

The classic Coop dilemma. I was in between work shifts and needed a new workslot. I felt perplexed, not knowing how to work another one into my already tight schedule.

Then a friend suggested that I probably could retire from workslots at the Coop. He had done it a few years ago and he doesn't work anymore, but is able to shop. I was floored. Really? This is something I could do? Well, I have been a member forever, well over 30 years and am over the age of 60. I said, great, I am going to do it. I applied and was accepted.

So all would be great, except for this one issue that came to light the other day. I bounded into the Coop all excited about my new found status, knowing that the entrance worker would tell me I was active and off I would go to my shopping experience. I gave him my number. He put it in and then gave me a long look over his half eyes. I wondered why the pensive glare. I stepped around to his back and looked over his shoulder. There was my name, my member number and my picture, but also, emblazoned across the screen, was the word to make any 60 something, who feels like he is 40 something, who acts like he is 20 something, cringe to his core.

What was the word? It was Elder. The Coop has given me the status of Elder? What does that mean? Am I sitting around a campfire and sought out for great words of sage-like advice? I don't think so. Is it only a matter of minutes before I will be shipped out to pasture? I hope not.

I think the Coop needs to rethink this term for those of us who are members of this exalted club. How about Survivor? I think that would be much more appropriate. I mean Elder really is a loaded word. Isn't 60 the new 45, 70, the new 50, 80 the new 60, or something like that...Elder??

*In Cooperation,  
Jerry Wintrob*

UNFAIR  
DISCIPLINARY  
RULES

## TO THE EDITORS:

No one takes issue with the basic work rule—all adults who benefit from the Coop

must work. People who benefit from the Coop without working are stealing from those of us who do. The Coordinators' letter says "Someone who is simply renting a room and shares nothing bought at the Coop, is not part of a household, by Coop definition." I wish that was true in spirit. In practice housemates cannot share toilet paper or salt and still be considered to be separate households. This is an unreasonable standard which has nothing to do with the reality of living in an expensive city where people are forced to share rent.

An irresponsible and distant housemate may leave the Coop without telling a responsible housemate. When that happens the responsible housemate is expelled with no recourse and without hope of getting back. Even with the salt and toilet paper standard, it seems only fair that the responsible housemate be allowed back to the Coop when they can prove that the two no longer share an apartment. At that point no one is being harmed, no one is stealing, no infraction is being committed. According to Coop rules, this cannot happen because the Coordinators don't trust the members.

The Coordinators write "Over the past few years, the Disciplinary Committee (DC) has been sent 'proof' of a change of address. In each case, the new addresses have turned out to be non-residential or retail, and thus not acceptable." They do not say when the addresses were tested, under what circumstances some people were allowed to prove their "innocence," and how many people were given the opportunity to come back. Whatever the Coordinators had in mind, mailing some letters to some people at some time in the past is not a rigorous test. Essentially the Coordinators don't trust the membership.

The Coordinators and the DC do trust Coop members to count money, check out goods at the marked price, and not nibble raisins as we pack them. We are trusted to do all that and more, but the Coordinators and DC do not trust us to give our correct addresses. The NYC welfare department will accept a lease, a postmarked envelope, postcard, or magazine label with name and date, or a written demand for

rent increase from the landlord in order to qualify for a cash grant. The Coordinators should respect the members at least as much as social service bureaucrats respect welfare clients and allow us to prove where we live.

All Coop members can reasonably expect responsible, behavior from each other but we should not be judged on unreasonable standards. We should be trusted as members of the same cooperative community.

*Deborah Kapell*

**Editor's Note:** According to the Coordinators, it is possible for a housemate who was expelled because of the misdeeds of another to be re-admitted to the Coop by presenting sufficient proofs to the Coordinators, not the Disciplinary Committee, that the person found guilty by the DC is no longer living with the housemate.

MORE ON UNFAIR  
DISCIPLINARY  
RULES

## TO THE EDITOR:

This letter is furthering the discussion of Coop policies regarding the household members of people who have been expelled from the Coop for failure to work their shifts. There was an original letter on this subject and a response by the Coordinators. Under current policy, all Coop members who belong to a household where one member is expelled for failure to work are permanently barred from readmission. I am writing to urge consideration of readmission for those household members who had in fact been working their shifts, and who no longer live with the affected member.

The Coordinators' response letter states that "In the past, when circumstances have changed for the former household member, the Coop staff has determined the validity of the proof and has sometimes reinstated the former member. However, rejoining of members is not currently part of the Disciplinary Committee's mandate."

My suggestion is simply that the staff practice referred to by the Coordinators be formalized. The Coop already has a process under which former members can rejoin the Coop. This process includes sub-

mitting acceptable proof of address, such as recent utility bills or bank statements. In the case of those people who were the innocent household members of expelled members, the staff would merely need to check whether the person has moved since the time of the offense. According to the Coordinators' response letter, such checking has in the past effectively stopped some people from rejoining using phony addresses. There would be no need to involve the Disciplinary Committee.

Allowing people who actually want to participate in the Coop, and who previously participated, to rejoin can only strengthen the Coop. And it is the fair way to treat people who did nothing wrong.

*Daniel Tinkelman*

**Editor's Note:** According to the Coordinators, it is possible for a housemate who was expelled because of the misdeeds of another to be re-admitted to the Coop by presenting sufficient proofs to the Coordinators, not the Disciplinary Committee, that the person found guilty by the DC is no longer living with the housemate.

PERSPECTIVE IS  
EVERYTHING

## MEMBERSHIP:

Perspective is everything: and, depending on your world view, the following news may come as a wet flounder to the back of the head. So brace yourself. An Israeli food cooperative has banned the sale of produce grown on settlement land. The South Tel Aviv Organic Cooperative, housed in the city's southern Florentin neighborhood, announced on its website that "producers from the settlements are not welcome (out of respect for the ideology of some of the coop's members)." This event was published in *The Times of Israel*, linked below. <http://www.timesofisrael.com/tel-aviv-coop-decides-to-boycott-settlement-goods/>

Now, the highly relevant nature of this development—amid our internal and often stuffily hermetic debate about BDS—should go without saying. But I'll risk reinforcing the known and venture this: we can no longer entertain the implication that members supporting Palestinian rights represent a cultish attack on

our Coop. Nor can we make the swift assumption that this struggle is implicitly fought between Jews and non-Jews. It's time that we join conscientious Israelis, who respect both organic food and human rights.

The precedent has been set.

Best,  
*Daniel Riccuito*

A SUGGESTION  
FOR THE NEW  
YEAR ABOUT BDS  
GAZETTE LETTERSTO THE EDITORS AND  
MEMBERS:

In the name of "free speech," the *Gazette* continues to publish both pro- and anti-BDS letters. Both viewpoints are always represented in each issue, so that the Letters section appears to reflect democratic "fair and balanced" reporting.

Pro-BDS letter writers routinely repeat vitriolic, non-specific accusations against Israel based on distorted facts. Anti-BDS writers protest and attempt to correct those distortions with factual information. Members filling their work slots as editors cannot be expected always to distinguish truth from hateful fabrications, nor to undertake the kind of research required to do so.

In the last issue, for example, a devoted BDS enthusiast made vacuous, non-specific, ominous accusations without factual context, including "Israel's persecution of Palestinians," its "48-year military occupation of Palestine," its "military's killing" of Gazan Palestinians, and so forth. There was also a reference to SodaStream's "using displaced Palestinian Bedouin workers." Let's leave aside the fact that it was 48 years ago, in 1967, after having been attacked repeatedly by terrorists and then by military forces, that Israeli forces responded by taking control of various areas in self-defense. There has never been a country or state of Palestine, or, therefore, any so-called "occupation" of such a country's land. No mention was made (in that letter or ever in others) of repeated rejection of Israel's peace offers or of years of ongoing terrorists' attacks and killings of Israeli citizens that continue today. As for the reference to SodaStream's "displaced Palestin-



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

ian Bedouin workers," I have no idea what that means. In its new location 30% of SodaStream's employees are from the nearby Bedouin town of Rahat.

Question for Members: What would happen if all of us who have been protesting BDS and their hateful claims in the *Gazette* stop doing so? We can be certain that BDSers will continue submitting their usual letters and articles into eternity.

Question for Editors: In that case, if no anti-BDS letters are submitted, what would you do? Would you continue publishing only pro-BDS letters, knowing how such "unbalanced reporting" would look—to Coop members, the community, the media, and interested social, religious, and legal organizations? What might happen to PSFC's reputation if all *Gazette* letters about Israel bashed the only Jewish state in the world?

Suggestion for all anti-BDS letter writers: Let's stop submitting those letters, and find out what happens. Maybe we'll want to write letters about food instead—or maybe we could just get on with our lives without this ongoing stress. Please consider it.

*Ruth Bolletino*

## VOTE YES FOR SUPER-MAJORITY TO APPROVE BOYCOTTS

### DEAR MEMBERS:

The proposal to require a super-majority for approval of boycotts will be voted on at the January 26 General Meeting. This proposal is consistent with our identity as a Cooperative, a word embedded with the notion of "cooperation."

The Coop is a corporation organized and chartered to buy and provide food and goods for its members. It is not chartered to participate in or endorse political actions. Regardless of what our mission statement says, the stated purpose in the Coop charter protects the organization from being hijacked for a purpose fundamentally at odds with the service promised to members.

Engaging in a boycott with anything less than the support of an overwhelming majority is a form of political imperialism, imposing

a political position upon a substantial minority. While it would not prevent the boycott supporters from continuing to avoid said product, it would deny to a substantial minority the ability to benefit from the discounts obtained through Coop membership.

When an overwhelming majority supports a boycott, there will be no demand for the product and it will no longer be carried. In this case, very few would be denied the benefits of Coop membership. It is essential to the nature of our organization that we maintain respect for the dignity and individuality of every member. I urge you to attend and vote in favor of this proposal.

*In Cooperation,  
Barbara Mazor*

## THE ANTI-BDS SIDE IS AFRAID

### EDITORS:

Under my letter in the last issue, the Coordinators pointed out that my claim that it would cost \$25,000 to do a Coop-wide mailing was too high. It would be only \$15,000. I thought that Joe Holtz quoted \$25,000 in the February 2012 General Meeting...

But it doesn't change the fact that the Coordinators have always used a high cost to discourage a Coop-wide vote. They have never offered to include a vote with the annual mailing for the board of directors election at a minimal expense.

The Coordinators also pointed out that there are subways and buses to the Brooklyn Technical High School and it was not inconvenient to get to. According to the report in the *Gazette*, the meeting was adjourned at 10:02. Have you tried getting a bus after 10 PM? Maybe my use of inconvenient wasn't the best word choice. How about time consuming? To attend that meeting it would have used up four, or closer to five, hours of one's time. The side that is afraid of losing to BDS is far more motivated to put that time in.

I see that at the upcoming January General Meeting there is a proposal up for a vote on requiring a boycott to get a super majority of 75%, or more. This is just another tactic of the anti-BDS side to make sure that they can't lose. And yet more evidence that

they are afraid of an honest secret ballot Coop-wide vote based on the current simple majority.

Of course, the sales of products at the Coop that would be banned under such a boycott is pretty small. The BDS side is proposing the vote to send a message, not to actually hurt the sellers of the banned products.

How about passing the 75%, but only with a proviso that a secret ballot vote on the BDS issue be included with the next vote for the board of directors. Of course, the BDS side won't get 75%. But if they get a majority, the message will be made.

Without a Coop-wide vote, I feel both sides have every right to continue to send in letters to the *Gazette*. After a vote I hope they would stop.

*Don Wiss*

**Editor's Note:** According to the Coordinators, the cost of holding the February 2012 General Meeting at Brooklyn Technical High School was \$25,000, not the cost of the mailing for that meeting. The cost of a mailing for a ballot is \$15,000. Also, the decision to add an item to the mailing for the election of the Board of Directors must be made by the General Meeting and cannot be made by the Coordinators without a General Meeting vote approving it.

## COOPERATION OVER DIVISION

### DEAR MEMBERSHIP:

Please come to the General Meeting on January 26 to vote YES to raising the Boycott minimum to 75%. Let's promote cooperation over division.

*Thanks,  
Gladys Mandalaoui*

## WE NEED A MORE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AT THE COOP

### TO THE MEMBERS:

Our Coop has a new governance problem. A proposal that only a supermajority (75%?) of the General Meeting (GM) can ratify a product boycott is scheduled for a vote at the January 26, 2016, General Meeting (GM). Why is the GM voting on this question before we vote about boycotting SodaStream? Park

Slope Food Coop Members for Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (PSFC/BDS) asked for that vote in May 2015. That vote has been thwarted for 8 months. It should precede any vote to establish a supermajority. The GM discussion item on supermajority was presented at the July, 2015 GM, after the April, 2015 SodaStream GM presentation and our May, 2015 vote request. (SodaStream is a water carbonation system manufactured first in Israeli occupied Palestinian territory. Its new factory is in an area of Israel where Palestinian Bedouins have been forced off their land.)

Controversy among us over the question of boycotting Israeli products, such as SodaStream, has exposed weaknesses in our Coop governance structure. How can the Coop, a progressive institution, support food justice for Palestinians in a system that oppresses them? The issue of boycotting Israeli products was first raised at January 2009 GM, during the 2008-2009 Israeli attack on Palestinians in Gaza which killed more than 1400 people. That issue has never been resolved by a vote of all the Coop members.

In recent years our GMs, from which our Board of Directors takes direction, have never been attended by more than 10% of the members (usually no more than 3%). In earlier years when there have been major differences among us the GM voted to instruct the Board to authorize Coop-wide referenda to settle matters. That's how we decided whether to sell beer and meat and whether to buy our newest building.

Our employees, the General Coordinators, have attempted to prevent and defeat such a Coop-wide BDS/SodaStream referendum. To make winning a GM SodaStream and/or BDS boycott ratification more difficult, Senior General Coordinator Holtz, both in print and at a GM, has suggested establishment of a boycott supermajority. He exhorted us to "Vote No To Vote Coop" before the March 27, 2012 GM vote about holding a BDS referendum. (March 22, 2012 *Gazette*). In May, 2015 the General Coordinators tried to introduce a referendum to end for 2 years all GM discussion of "Israel, Palestine, the Middle East, SodaStream,

'BDS-Boycotts, Divestment and Sanctions'." In these ways the General Coordinators have aided those members who support the policies of the Israeli government.

To promote democratic process, the General Coordinators, instead of claiming that there is no way to hold a GM to vote about boycotting SodaStream, should propose to the GM a mail referendum on that issue, with a simple majority, not a supermajority, needed to ratify it.

*Naomi Brussel  
Park Slope Food Coop  
Members for Boycott, Divestment  
and Sanctions  
psfcbsd.wordpress.com*

## UPCOMING GM VOTE

### TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to urge the membership to strongly support the proposal to raise the percentage of the Coop membership necessary to support a boycott to 75%. It is clear that proposals to boycott one or another entity or group can be extremely contentious and divisive. The proposal to raise the percentage necessary to 75% will help insure that there is more support and unanimity to any such proposal.

With this in mind, please plan to attend the General Meeting on January 26th and vote YES on the proposal. Let us have the strongest possible show of support!

*Thanks,  
Saul D. Raw*

## VOTE ON CARRYING SODASTREAM

### MEMBERSHIP:

We must decide as a community whether our store will continue to carry SodaStream products. We are waiting for the Agenda Committee to bring to a GM a proposal for a vote. This letter is about the process.

Continued assertions that BDS was defeated in a vote at the Coop are factually wrong and therefore misleading, confusing, distracting, provocative etc. Editors and members of the Board must take responsibility for accuracy in representing Coop history in publication and at meetings.

As a result of the defeat of a proposal for a referendum on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14





LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

BDS, we do not know what a majority of members think or feel. The item before us now is whether or not to carry SodaStream products.

An inclusive, open and fair vote is the only way to conclude the controversy that has stretched on, been interrupted, misrepresented, shut down and restarted.

Two militant factions have established themselves: PSFC Members for BDS and More Hummus Please. Both hold organizing sessions, publish in the *Gazette* and apparently have selected spokespersons. The General Coordinators weighed in favoring shutting down debate by proposing an alternative agenda to that effect to the GM in May.

With no resolution, the controversy festers creating more discord, pain and animosity.

A formal process with time limits is still feasible to bring this controversy to a democratic conclusion, the only kind that can allow healing.

Implementing any process takes work. We have member labor and can assign FTOP workslot credit to tasks that we feel will benefit the community. Surely, ending this conflict democratically will benefit the Coop. Consider this idea, which can be implemented with MEMBER LABOR, our most valuable resource:

Each faction will be given one full page in several consecutive issues of the *Gazette*. Let each faction decide who will write and which arguments they will put forward.

Then, we video record a formal debate between representatives chosen by each side. They agree on facilitators—members profes-

sionally trained in conflict resolution, mediation etc. And the factions agree on equitable ground rules for the debate.

The debate takes place in a video studio before an invited audience. The debate is recorded by members who are media professionals. The recording goes on our website for a limited time. Rallies, leafleting, etc. being inevitable...appropriate organizing will be authorized. Then, members, also getting FTOP credit, take paper ballots into the store until 51% plus 100 members have handed in ballots. A simple majority decides whether we carry SodaStream. Suspected violations of civil behavior are documented and perpetrators processed.

Creative use of Member Labor and willingness of a healthy plurality of co-operators to work with passion and responsibility to defend our participatory decision-making strengthens the values articulated in the Mission Statement. These criteria will be applied to the products of any company. Self-management of the Coop by members in a voluntary association based on ethical as well as economic considerations is our foundation. Member expertise can be put in function.

Susan Metz

UPCOMING GM VOTE

**DEAR MEMBERSHIP,** Please come to the General Meeting on January 26th to vote YES on raising the boycott minimum to 75%. Our present (and unwritten) boycott policy of 51-49% must be

updated for two reasons: it has encouraged division and hostility, and while 51% is a majority it is not the solidarity so crucial to maintaining a cooperative. Codifying the boycott policy at 75% moves us closer to speaking with one voice to the world.

On January 26th, vote Pro-Coop! On January 26th, vote YES to 75%!

Jesse Rosenfeld  
Secretary to the General Meeting  
Member Board of Directors

SUPPORT ROBERT'S RULES USING MAJORITY VOTE, THE DEMOCRATIC NORM

MEMBERSHIP:

According to David Moss, a Chair Committee member, the Chair uses a GM-approved governance document for running the meeting that loosely combines the Coop Bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order, relying mainly on precedence. (*Gazette* 1/7/16). This includes using the majority vote on motions before the members in attendance. At the upcoming GM, Tuesday, January 26, Agenda Item 2 is a proposal to require a supermajority for any boycott. Since the Coop's Mission Statement is clear that 'we seek to avoid products that depend on the exploitation of others,' a supermajority vote becomes, in effect, a vote to likely prolong exploitation of workers. This looks like a downward spiral away from

the democratic norm.

Since May 2015, a controversial motion awaits a GM vote date: the proposal to boycott SodaStream products. We would like the Coop to be part of the global movement calling for justice for Palestinians. For 48 years, Palestinians have been living under Israeli occupation characterized by military violence and land dispossession in the illegally occupied West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza Strip and extending to Palestinian Bedouins in the Naqab (Negev) inside Israel (*Gazette* 12/10/15). The SodaStream Company has a long history of financially benefiting from Israel's illegal policies when its main factory was located in the West Bank and now in its new location in the Naqab, Israel. Palestinian workers in both locations are displaced from their land. Palestinian Bedouin women workers have filed complaints regarding being assigned longer or shorter work days based on the company's needs. This can include shifts lasting up to 12 hours, possibly evening shifts. SodaStream can notify its workers on short notice. As of 2014 these worker complaints were placed under review.

The Justice for Palestine movement has been gaining support in the U.S. Recent gains include: The "Black Lives Matter" movement. It is expressed with the call for justice "From Ferguson to Palestine." [www.huffingtonpost.com/tara-thompson/from-ferguson-to-palestine\\_b\\_8307832](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/tara-thompson/from-ferguson-to-palestine_b_8307832).

html; Over 1,100 Black activists, artists, scholars, students and organizations signed the 2015 Black Solidarity Statement with Palestine, supporting BDS. "We urge people of conscience to recognize the struggle for Palestinian liberation as a key matter of our time." <http://www.blackforpalestine.com/>;

Mary Buchwald  
PSFC members for bds  
[www.psfcbds.wordpress.com](http://www.psfcbds.wordpress.com)

UPCOMING GM VOTE

MEMBERSHIP

Reaching out to voice my support of raising the boycott minimum to 75%. Please vote YES on January 26th at the General Meeting, to join fellow members, trying to protect the integrity of our Coop.

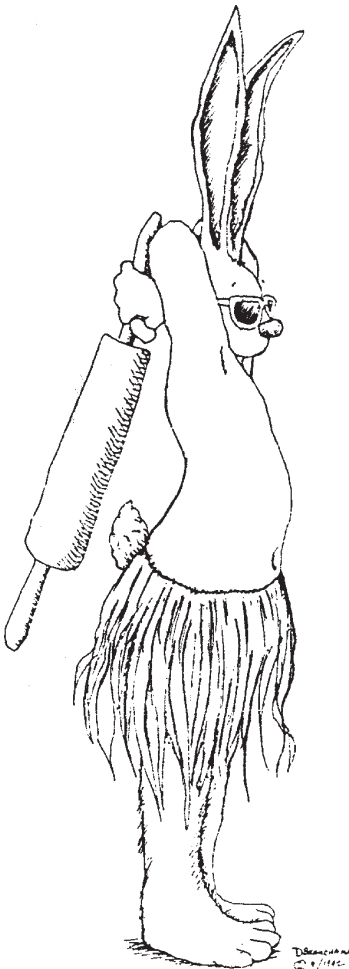
In cooperation,  
Chana Lew

UPCOMING GM VOTE

MEMBERSHIP:

Beyond procedure, the upcoming vote at the January GM on what it should take to initiate a PSFC boycott is important, given the awful divisive events of the past few years. I've been a member for 25 years and I'm all for a big majority like 75% votes needed to pass a boycott.

Ellen Freudenheim



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community Calendar listings are free. Please submit your event listing in 50 words or less to [GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop](mailto:GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop). Submission deadlines are the same as for classified ads. Please refer to the Coop Calendar in the center of this issue.

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 Brooklyn. Admission free.

SAT, FEB 6

8 p.m. Alix Dobkin; DK and the Joy Machine. 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](http://peoplesvoicecafe.org). \$18 general/\$10 for subscribers.

Solution to this issue's sudoku puzzle

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



# RECYCLE GALORE!



## 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

**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](mailto:ecokvetch@yahoo.com)

**LEARN MORE:** [www.terracycle.com](http://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.**

## 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.



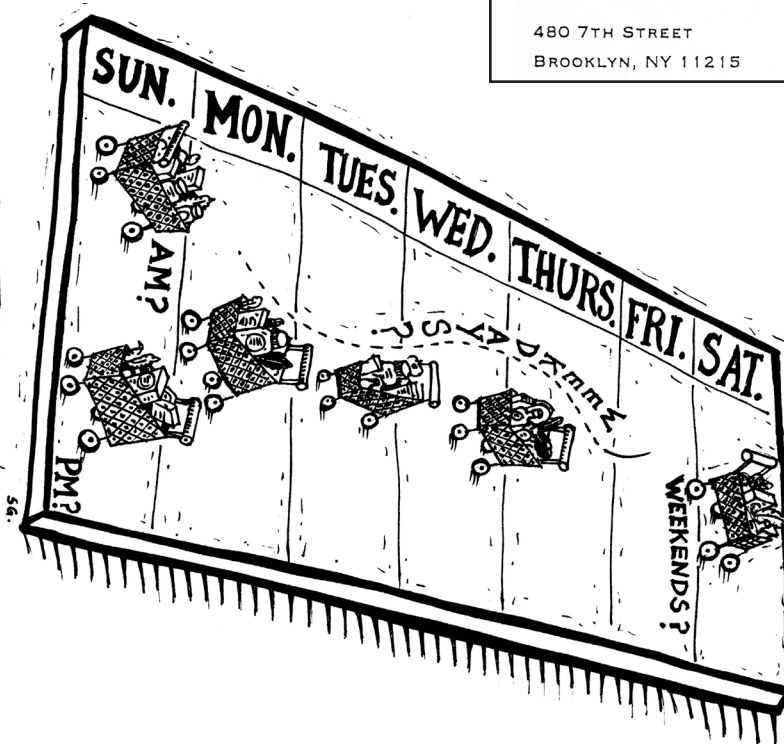
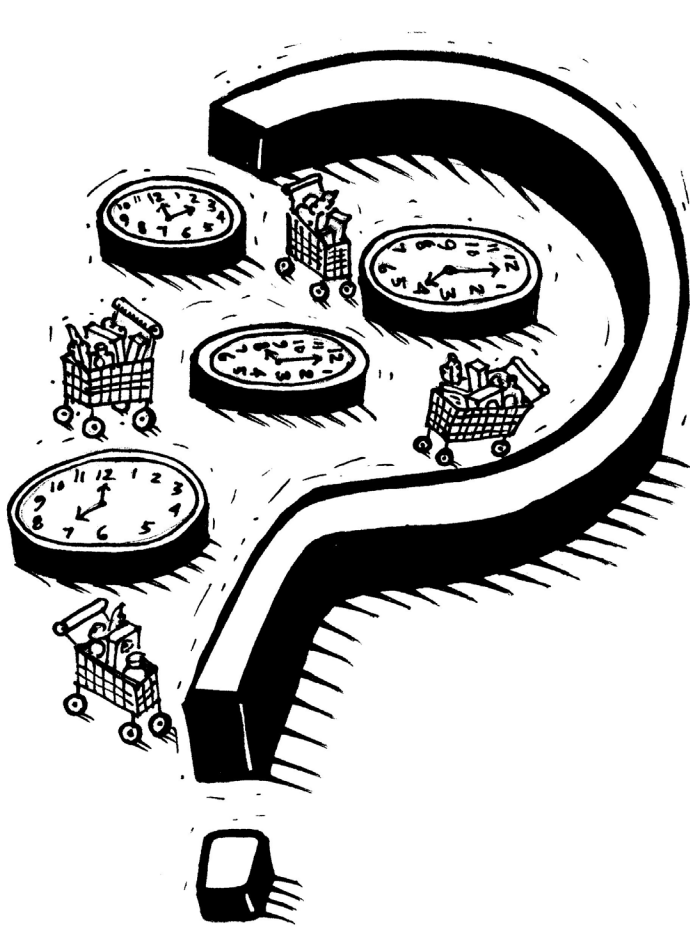
CAROL M. ADAMS, ESQ.

PROBATE, ESTATE ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING, WILLS,  
POWERS OF ATTORNEY

[CADAMSLAWYER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CADAMSLAWYER@GMAIL.COM)

480 7TH STREET  
BROOKLYN, NY 11215

347-232-0799



## CLASSIFIEDS

### BED & BREAKFAST

The House on 3St. just below 6th Ave. is offering deep discounts from January 6 through 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](http://houseon3st.com).

Large sunny room with queen bed, private or semi-private bath in spacious Prospect Heights townhouse full of old-style charm and modern amenities. Smoke-free, no pets. Close to Q, B, and 2, 3 stations. Short walk to BAM, Park, Gardens. Call Margaret 718-622-2897. Leave short message.

### MERCHANDISE NONCOMMERCIAL

**FOR SALE:** Two matching wood bookcases. Each is approximately 83" tall, 33 3/4" wide and 14" deep. They have a red oak stain. They are in excellent condition. I am asking \$100. Buyer is responsible for removing them. They were purchased from Tradewinds about eight years ago. Contact Israella at 917-816-4795.

### 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.

**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](http://www.tguccionelaw.com).

**HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS.** Color, highlights, 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. Call Leonora 718-857-2215.

## 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**



★ 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.



**OFFICE SET-UP**  
**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 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.

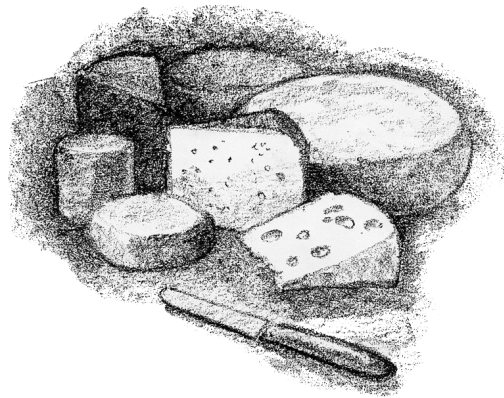
**STORE EQUIPMENT CLEANING**

**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.

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

Adaptable, physically energetic, team workers with excellent attendance needed to help set up and break down the space where the General Meeting is held. Contact Adriana Becerra, Membership Coordinator, [adriana\\_becerra@psfc.coop](mailto:adriana_becerra@psfc.coop).



**PARM SQUAD**  
**Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Various Times**

This shift requires extensive training with a member of the paid staff, and therefore requires a six-month commitment. You must have good attendance to join this squad and must be a member for at least six months. As a member of the PARM Squad, you'll prepare designated cheeses for sale. You should be fit enough to cooperate with other members to lift 90 lbs. (a wheel of parmesan). Involves also cutting hard cheese, moving in and out of the cooler. All members of the squad must follow the hygiene and safety guidelines as stipulated in the Food Processing manual. Please provide your e-mail address to be added to the shift-swapping contact list. Interested members must speak to Britt before joining this squad: [britt\\_henriksson@psfc.coop](mailto:britt_henriksson@psfc.coop).

**Spend Your 2¾ Hours Doing  
Something More Meaningful  
JOIN THE DEC**

Are you looking for a more meaningful way to gain Coop work credit? Are you interested in issues of diversity within the Coop? Do you have experience in conflict resolution and using mediation to resolve disputes? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, we should talk to you about joining the Diversity and Equality Committee (DEC).

The DEC seeks to create a more welcoming place for all members. We address diversity, bias, and discrimination at the Coop through a number of activities including training, awareness-raising initiatives, bias-complaint investigations, and special events that aim to build community among Coop members. We are currently looking for new members.

**You are encouraged to contact us if you are a member who has:**

- Been in good standing for at least one year
- An interest/experience in diversity issues
- Good interpersonal skills
- The ability to follow through on tasks independently

We have monthly meetings as a group, but also have additional subcommittee/project work that requires more time than a typical work shift. You can bank any additional time worked as FTOP credit for the future. Members with mediation skills can join us as FTOP members and participate as needed.

We welcome members of all ethnicities, nationalities, races, religion and sexual orientation.

**Interested? Please contact Jasmina Nikolov ([jasmina1@gmail.com](mailto:jasmina1@gmail.com)) or Maitefa Angaza ([majh4real@gmail.com](mailto:majh4real@gmail.com)).**



**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.

Jessica Abrego	Swana de Gijssel	Rachel Harvest	Melissa Livingston	Alicia Powers	Robert Sussuma
Evan Adams	Franco Denari	Arthur Hauser	Oralia Lopez Hipolito	Bernd Prager	Guadalupe Terrones
Alicia Allgood	John Diamond	Prentiss Hayes	Elizabeth Lockett	Oleksandr Reheylo	Alice Teyssier
Imad Antonios	India Donaldson	Robert Haynes	Valerie Lynn	Christopher Ricca	Solange Tofani
Yael Arnoff	Natasha Eziquel-Shiro	Leslie Healey	McDonough	Elizabeth Ricca	Mindy Toro
Leone Freddie B.	Yasmeen Farooq	Genevieve Henderson	Ramy Mam	Sarah Riggs	Melissa Trent
Amy Baumgarten	Nikolaus Fernandez	Kenji Herbert	Dam Markson	Elisa Rizzi	Samantha Vandie
Yelena Berkun	John Fitzgerald	Caitlin Hohn	Brian McNabb	Lex Rizzo	Elizabeth Vincent
Angelica Bess	Daniel Friedman	Hansdale Hsu	Emily McNabb	Yosef Rogatsky	Kristine Virsis
Will Bleakley	Thomas Frohlich	Kyle Hubby	Sofi Millares	Katy Rogers	Amber Vitse
Mattheus Bouw	Dara Gadsden	Laura Huss	Robert Morrissey	Payman Roghani	Claudia Von Nostitz
Denise Bradbie	Nora Ganley-Roper	Ayesha Jordan	Sean Mossman	Cecilia Romero	George Wichelns
Elizabeth Bradin	Andrew Gladstone	Tasha Kosviner	Daniel Muchnick	Bradley Rosen	Eleanor Wieschaus
Miriam Braun	Lauren Gottesman	Benjamin Krakow	Amelia Muller	Patrick Rossi	Cameron Wolf
James Cameron	Robert Granniss	Joann Kunz	Hannah Mullman	Anna Schuman	Courtney Yadoo
Lauren Cherney	Christina Grasso	Karl Kunz	Hilary Neher	Patrick Shaw-kitch	Lana Yankovich
Nora Christiani	Josie Green	Marshall LaCount	Noelle O'Reilly	Malkit Shoshan	Deepak Yogi
Tene Closson- Prager	Casey Griffin	Briana Last	Shigeo Omura	Abigail Shuster	Nina Young
Amelia Coats	Natalia Gubinski	Inbal Lavotshkin	Bruno Parigiani	Nuria Sitja	
Travis Coleman	Kalle Guinn	Sean Leadem	Rafael Patel	Mathew Stachnik	
Mauri Connors	Maxfield Hagenburg	John Lewars	Angela Patrinos	Brooklynn Starnes-	
J.C. Couet	Chloe Hall	Katie Lewars	Alix Pentecost-Farren	Statland	
Avery Dakin	Jason Hall	Jenni Li	Cecilia Pineda	Emma Stieglitz	