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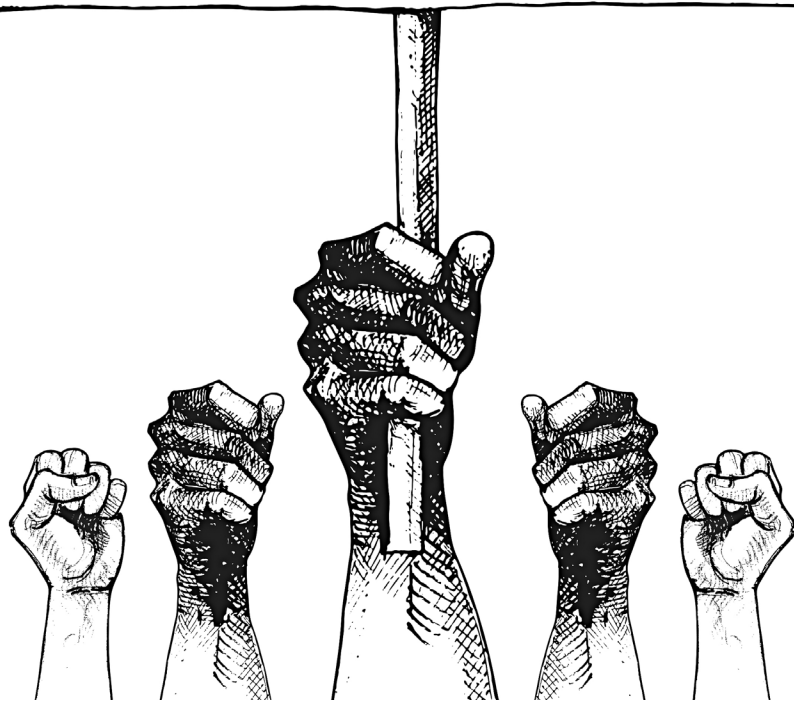
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Volume LL, Number 4

March 2, 2017

How are Coop Members Standing Up for Immigrant Rights and Justice?



By JD Davids

Our city has many more immigrants than any other city in the country. Some 3.1 million people, or more than a third of the city's population, are foreign born. And it's no secret that immigrant rights are deeply threatened by the Trump administration, with new rules from the Department of Homeland Security that mean many more immigrants can be deported or imprisoned in detention centers.

This has many Coop members—regardless of their nation of birth or immigration status—wanting to do something to respond to an anti-immigrant agenda that's in opposition to the mission of the Park Slope Food Coop,

which affirms a commitment to diversity and equality, as well as opposition to discrimination in any form.

Joining Protests

Michelle O'Brien, who was working the second floor member services desk on a recent weekend, was very clear on how she gets information and takes action, saying "I try to support the immigrant rights movement mostly by attending events and paying attention to what issues people think are important."

She follows the lead of organizations she respects, including local groups DRUM (Desis Rising Up and Moving) and Make the Road New York, as well as the farmworker-focused Coalition of Imoka-

lee Workers in Florida.

"I'm a part of the Coop in part because I care about food justice and I want to eat locally and I want to eat food that is as much as possible fair trade and honoring of major politically organized boycotts," explained O'Brien, who identifies as a communist. "That's rooted in my social values, and those are very similar values that lead me to support immigrant rights movement and farmworker struggles."

Tiffany DeJaynes, an educator of immigrant youth and university students and a teacher educator in the Bronx, joined the Coop six months ago and was working her shift next to O'Brien at the member services desk. What matters most to

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Heavy Lifting and Loving It on the Parm Squad

By Pat Smith

Do you love cheese? Chances are you do, since Coop members buy 4,000 pounds a week—two tons! The Coop sells 200 kinds, from familiar New York cheddar to Italian walnut-wrapped Noce del Piave. Our cheeses come from producers nearby, like Vulto Creamery in upstate Walton, and as far away as the Bonati family farm in Emilia Romagna, Italy. That's the source of the Coop's biggest selling cheese, Parmigiano Reggiano, commonly known as parmesan or simply parm. Each week, members buy four

90-pound wheels of parmigiano, which demands the most labor intensive handling by the cheese processing squad known as the "Parm Squad."

To learn more about the squad and the dedicated Coop staff guiding it, I spoke to coordinator Britt Henriksson, one of the Coop's gourmet food and cheese buyers, on a Saturday afternoon by a cheese cooler in the Coop basement.

Cooking up an Idea

Soft-spoken and a little shy, Britt joined the Coop as a member in 2002. "I was

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Britt Henriksson, one of the Coop's gourmet food and cheese buyers.

Next General Meeting on March 28

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The March General Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m. at **St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh Aves.**

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

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Immigrants

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her is that workers are treated fairly.

After the election, she found Brooklyn's Arab American Family Center and started teaching citizenship classes and English. Although it has had an influx of volunteers, she says the center continues to need support.

Given that immigrant workers are the backbone of the food economy in New York and across the United States, policies that affect them could likely affect the food systems on which our Coop relies. Everyone who drinks milk or eats yogurt or cheese should be worried, Rebecca Fuentes from the Workers' Center of Central New York told NPR in late January, in a story on the effect of Trump-era policies on the largely undocumented workforce on dairy farms. "We are saying, we want your labor, but we don't want you here. I mean, what is going to happen?"

Conditions for NY Agricultural Workers

Jennifer Hirsh, a professor at the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University, encourages action to change New York

their hands. That happened in the '90s, a 19th century kind of improvement," she added in a phone interview.

She urges Coop members to support the Green Light New York campaign to add New York to the list of 12 states that allow undocumented immigrants to get drivers licenses. Among other challenges of not being able to have a license, it creates a dangerous bind for immigrant workers in the rural agricultural areas of the state where driving is crucial in daily life—they must either rely on employers for transportation or risk being caught driving illegally, which can lead to deportation.

Airports Are the Frontlines

Some Coop members are very clear on how they can use their skills in this moment. Liz Shura, a civil rights lawyer who joined the Coop in 1995, says it was "fairly obvious" that she had to get to the airport in the early hours of the Trump travel ban on seven predominantly Muslim countries.

When I contacted her for this story, she replied that "I actually was just telling one of the receiving coordinators that the best preparation for doing airport *habeas*



Immigrant farm workers picking tomatoes in Florida.

supporters of ACT UP New York, Gays Against Guns and other groups rooted in LGBT communities.

With large meetings in Manhattan every Tuesday night, Rise and Resist's members and affinity groups are leading or contributing to protests for immigrant rights, health-care and other issues in the crosshairs of the new administration—including several vocal protests at the Prospect Park West home of Senator Charles Schumer, just a few blocks from the Coop. (Disclosure: this reporter is a member of the Not One Inch action group allied with Rise and Resist that has helped to plan and conduct several protests focused on Sen. Schumer.)

"What Can I Do To Help?"

During a recent cashier shift, Michael Clark said, "I hate the fact that we are having these raids and this serious situation that's going on in our community and in our backyard and my feeling like I have no control, that I can't help. I feel almost helpless."

Despite monitoring a wide swath of media for his job in marketing for a news outlet, he says he's "not buying into this 'fake news' narrative, but there is some real fake news out there. I want to know how can I help in any way within my purview, within my ability....



Tomatoes picked by immigrant farm workers in Florida.

What can I do to help?"

Although he is not an immigrant himself, Clark mentioned seeing texts, emails and alerts specifically saying "they're coming to this community, beware," in reference to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents.

It's likely that many Coop members also have seen those alerts, or even passed them on via social media. However, in "A Brief Guide for Sharing Reports of Raids on Social Media," local group Desis Rising Up and Moving cautions that "immigration raids are happening across the country. It is important to responsibly report and share verified information so that we can be organized and help communities best protect themselves. Misinformation is harmful to communities, amplifies fear and strains limited resources."

The one-page document, available online via bit.ly/2kJW2dd, details the dangers of unverified reporting, and offers steps to take if you witness an immigration raid, arrest or related activity, if you hear something second-hand, or if you have a verified report that you want to share.

This brief related guides and infographics from other groups, including "know your rights" information for immigrants, are posted on twitter using the hashtag #PowerNotPanic. For those seeking to receive verified alerts, one option comes from United We Dream—they invite people to text "HereToStay" to 877877, whereby they'll be asked for a zip code and email in order to get notified when there are actions to take to support individual immigrant community members. ■



ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL COHEN

state policies that affect those working in the agricultural sector.

"FDR cut the two categories of workers who were mostly Black out of the labor law," she notes, speaking of the exclusion of agricultural and domestic workers from most federal labor protections. "It's a remnant of the Jim Crow era."

"The last big state campaign to improve conditions for agricultural workers was 15 years ago, when advocates won the right to have water and sanitation in the fields so after they go to the bathroom they can wash

after the travel ban was having been a Coop squad leader: chaos, confusion, lots of people to organize." She explained further on the phone that "it reminded me of changing shifts at the Coop because there were, like, 60 lawyers showing up and 60 lawyers leaving, trying to sort out how to parcel out the work."

Shura is one of over 9,000 members of a Facebook group associated with Rise and Resist, a New York-based group that emerged soon after the election that includes many people who were or are members or

Parm Squad

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

living in Red Hook," she said. "Back then there was no Fairway, nowhere to shop, and I was going to cooking school. Right around the time of 'Iron Chef' on the Food Network, I thought, wow, this industry's taking off, maybe I should see if there's something I can do. The plan was to hopefully do personal chef stuff, where you make meals, put them in the freezer, and then people come home and warm them up, that kind of thing. I also did a lot of hands-on cooking classes. But once I had my baby, it wasn't enough money to continue working in the food industry and pay a babysitter. So I stayed home until she was in kindergarten."

Where did Britt acquire her appreciation for good food? "My grandmother lived down the street from us when I was a little kid, and she was always baking," she said. "She made her own bread every other day. Her pastries were amazing. She went to cooking school as well."

A Natural Leader

What brought Britt to the Coop's paradise of cheese? "There was a job opening for a weekend receiving coordinator. I applied and was lucky enough to get it," she said. "That was May 2010. About a year or so later one of my co-workers was leaving, and [Coordinator and cheese buyer] Yuri Weber knew he would be going on paternity leave, so they needed more coverage of food processing. That's how I ended up in the cheese area."

Britt is among the gifted Coop coordinators who combine a knowledge and love of food with a talent for patiently managing an unpredictable work force. "I always end up managing people," she said. "Whether I was working at the Museum of Modern Art in Visitor Services, or before that, when I managed a small factory where we made jewelry boxes, it's always something I end up doing." Because she's good at it? "Some people would say yes," she said. "Some no. But that's okay. We all have different styles."

Britt has seen Coop sales take off, which adds to the level of work it takes to maintain the store. "When I started, I think we were doing \$800,000 in total sales a week," she said. "Now, seven years later, we're doing \$1.1 million. It's a huge difference, not just for groceries and produce, but also for food processing. I was also writing

up the store for receivers, but now I pretty much spend my time here [food processing] because it's so demanding. There were people on the squads who were trained, but not enough, so we decided to train more people. That's how the Parm Squad started."

Who's Afraid of Cheese?

What is it about parm that makes cutting it so tricky? "Because it's aged two years, the rind is hard and a wheel is 90 pounds," Britt said. "We don't do it like they do in Italy, where they break the wheels apart, so you get all those crystals and that yummy stuff. That's just too hard for the members to handle. Cheese seems really intimidating and scary to people. They're like, 'Oh my god! Cheese?' It's a little tough for people who only deal with it every four weeks to manage." The Video Squad's nifty instructional piece on the process, from lifting the wheel to cutting the rind and slicing the cheese, is at www.foodcoopvideos.weebly.com/.

"There are people who are scared of it, and then they end up loving it," Britt said. "I try to make it work for them. Sometimes people say, 'Where's the big knife?' But it's amazing that we use a wire, just a little wire. Most people figure it out after their first time. I haven't heard of anyone chopping off a finger or anything down here. I think that would happen to me, if anyone."

How did Britt learn to do it? "My co-workers trained me. You learn on your own what works best for you. Even wrapping the cheese, Yuri and I do it different ways, as well as other cheesemongers. We use plastic wrap, which real cheesemongers hate, because it's not good for the cheese. You should take it out of the plastic wrap once it gets home. But it's just necessity; members want to see what they're buying and

we can't do counter service; it would be impossible."

Coop Connections

The Coop buys its parm from Forever Cheese, one of our two specialty cheese distributors, the other being Food Matters Again, which leads to a cool story about where a squad may lead you. As Britt told it, Brad Dubé, our sales rep from Food Matters Again, used to do his Coop shift in food processing, where he met Aaron Kirtz, a sales rep for Forever Cheese. "Aaron came on the squad and they started talking cheese," Britt said. "Brad was training Aaron how to cut cheese for the Coop. A job opened up [at Forever Cheese] and Aaron said to Brad, hey, I think you need to come and work for the company I work for. And then Brad launched out on his own, and started his own company, Food Matters Again."

"We get most of our Spanish and Italian cheeses from Forever Cheese," Britt said. "From Food Matters Again we get most of our French, American and English cheeses; they round out our collection."

Voted Most Popular

If the Parm Squad sounds like the Coop shift for you, check out the video and contact the membership office. Britt said members will get her email address and they can talk to her. "They need to be willing to lift, and do the cheeses that sell the most, which is the parm, the pecorino and the cheddar," she said. It's called the Parm Squad, but they handle other cheeses, too. "We just didn't know what to call it," she said. "The Popular Cheese Squad? Parm is the hardest thing to do. It's the biggest. Luckily, we don't have to break down an entire wheel of Emmentaler, which is 200 pounds. We don't do that, but I'd love to, someday." ■

Are you a Cater Waiter/Banquet Bartender?



Are you available on
Saturday, April 22, 2017?
Do you want to earn workslot
credit in exchange for your labor?

If you have answered YES
to these questions,
please send your resume to
Reply@PSFC.Coop.

PLASTIC PACKAGING COLLECTIONS

2nd Wednesday of every month 3:45-6 p.m.

4th Saturday of every month 1:45-4 p.m.

Expanded Plastic Collection for Coop members

Please be prepared to show your Coop membership card.

Plastic bags/wrap/packaging from most products sold at the Coop—food and non-food.

Thin plastic film wrap—from notecards, tea boxes, pre-packaged cheese, household items, pet food, juice packs, etc.

Plastic roll bags distributed by the Coop—please use roll bags only as necessary, reduce usage whenever possible, and re-use any bags you do take before recycling.

NO food residue, rinse as needed.
Only soft plastic from Coop purchases.

We continue to accept the following from all community members:

Pre-sort and separate according to the categories below.

Toothbrushes and toothpaste tubes (any brand/size)

Baby food pouches and caps (any brand)

Energy bar wrappers (any brand)

Water filters (Brita and other brands) and other Brita branded filter products

Plastic re-sealable food storage bags, small Coop bulk bags, cling wrap

Cereal and cracker box liners (any brand)

Food residue and paper labels OK.
No shopping bags.

Donations in any amount are welcomed to help offset the cost to the Coop of this collection.

Interested in joining the squads that run the Wednesday/Saturday collection, or in starting a third collection time as your workslot? Contact Cynthia Pennycooke in the Membership Office.

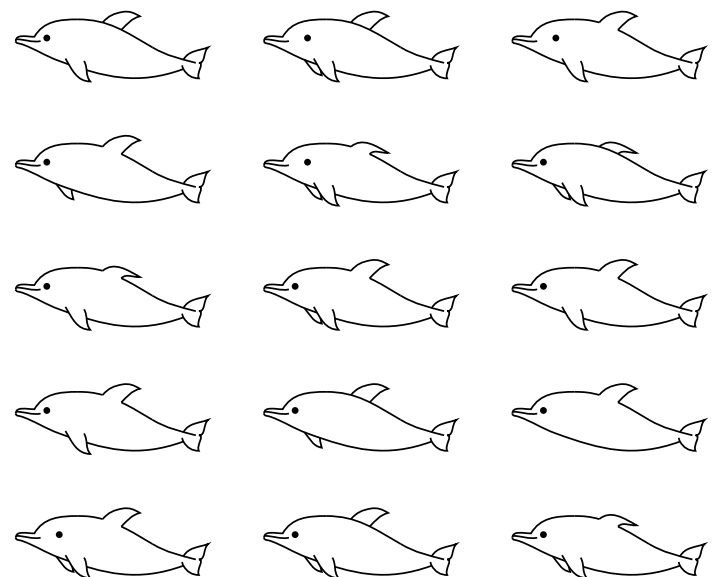
For more information about Terracycle, visit terracycle.com

Questions about items we accept should be e-mailed to ecokvetch@yahoo.com



Dolphins

Which two dolphins look the same?



Puzzle author: Lars Roe. For answers, see page 5.

The Case for NYC Tap Water

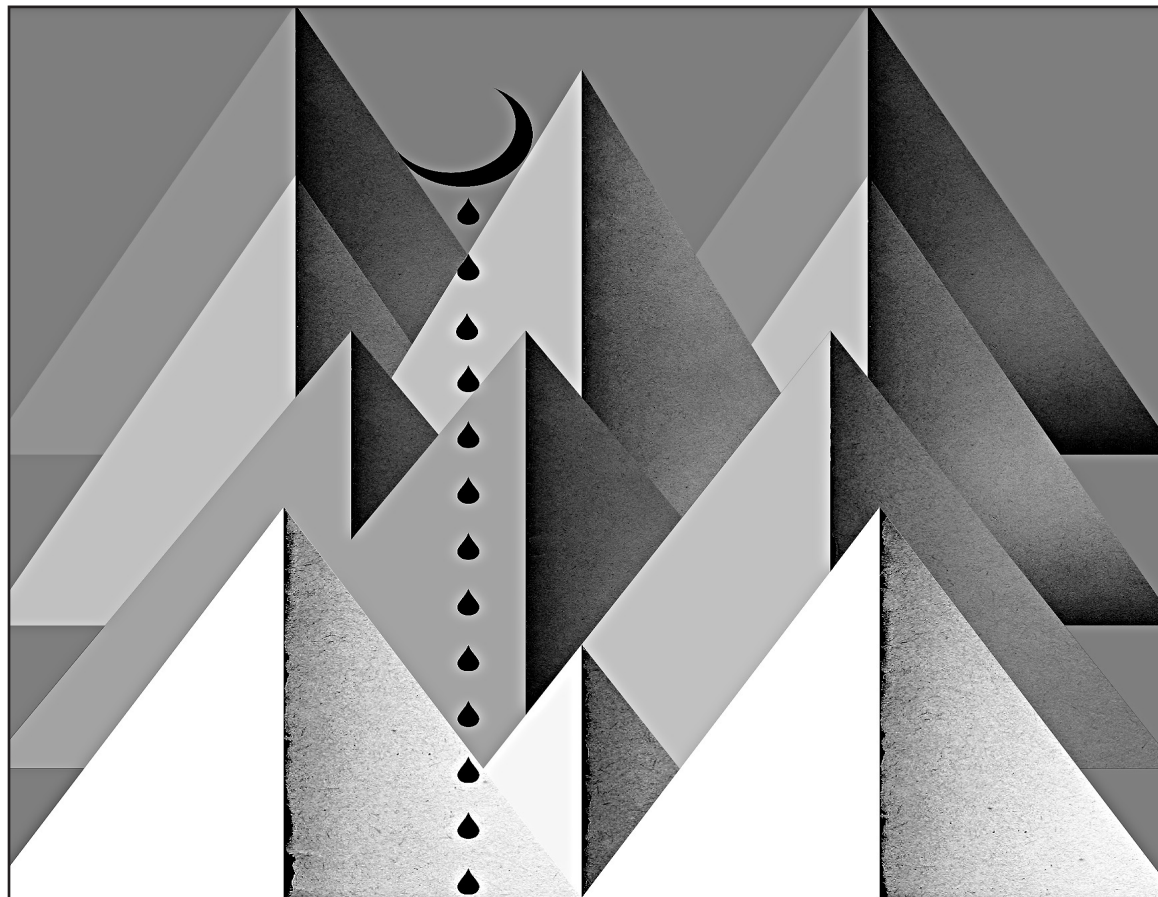


ILLUSTRATION BY PAUL BUCKLEY

By John B. Thomas

New York City is considered a culinary capital of the world, any way you slice it. From Michelin-starred restaurants to bagels and pizza, New York City's food is known the world over. Often overlooked in this food scene is one critical, quintessentially New York ingredient: its water.

Described as “the champagne of drinking water” by environmental regulators and taste testers alike, the water provided by New York City's water utility straight out of the tap is about as good as it gets. New York City's water meets all federal and state drinking water quality standards without the need for filtration—a rarity among cities around the world. It's the largest unfiltered water supply in the United States.

Sweet and Soft

The characteristic “sweet and soft” taste that New

Yorkers enjoy daily is no mere accident, but the result of more than a century of public investment in water infrastructure, land conservation, and government regulation intended to safeguard citizens. New York City's water infrastructure is a marvel of engineering, public health, and environmental stewardship that meets the daily needs of more than 9.5 million people in the city itself and Westchester County.

Starting as rain or snow in the Catskill Mountains or Delaware Valley, our drinking water comes from a nearly 2,000 square-mile watershed that extends 125 miles north and west of the city. The special taste comes from the relatively low amounts of limestone in the region, resulting in water with a pH very close to the natural pH of water, and much lower levels of calcium carbonate, a compound that can give water a

“hard” taste.

The first step in ensuring high-quality drinking water is protecting these lands. The city, state, local governments and non-profit land conservancies own nearly 40% of the watershed, with the rest under strict development guidelines to prevent pollution from entering the water supply.

From the Catskill/Delaware Watershed a single drop of water takes 12 weeks to make its way from stream to reservoir, through the 92-mile long Catskill Aqueduct, through a UV disinfection facility, and finally into the Hillview Reservoir, where it's held until it enters the city's water mains and makes its way to homes and businesses. That drop of water moves those 125 miles by gravity alone, a feat matched only by San Francisco's water system, which makes a similar journey all the way from the Yosemite Valley.

City dwellers did not always get their water this way. From the early 1600s, denizens got water from shallow private wells and fewer public wells, up until 1842, when pollution concerns and supply constraints from population growth prompted the construction of the first aqueduct from the Croton River in Westchester. In 1905, the city Board of Water Supply came up with further plans to secure water for a parched and growing

metropolis, which led to the development of much of the infrastructure in the Catskills and subsequently the Delaware Valley.

Protecting the Water Supply

By 1997, however, the city faced pressure from increased development in the watershed area, as well as the passage of the Safe Drinking Water Act, which mandated that all major surface-water systems filter their water or prove they could protect the water supply. So the city partnered with state and federal agencies, environmental organizations, and landowners in the Catskills and Delaware Valley to come up with a plan known as the New York City Watershed Agreement.

The deal meant the difference between constructing a filtration plant costing \$8-10 billion, and preserving the watershed, at a cost of nearly \$1.5 billion dollars (or around \$170 million per year in ongoing projects to purchase land, replace septic systems, and otherwise support landowners in managing their land in a way that preserves water quality). The city plan was one of the first large scale efforts to pay for land conservation to preserve water supply—an idea known academically as “payments for watershed services.” More than 140 U.S. cities are currently considering adopting similar schemes, while globally nearly \$25 billion dollars was spent in 2015 on preserving land to maintain water quality.

Despite the benefits this system provides, foremost among them 1.2 billion gallons of environmentally-friendly, high-quality drinking water, this system is not without its challenges and drawbacks. At a minimum, the creation of reservoirs resulted in the flooding of dozens of communities in the Catskills region and the displacement of thousands of people. The construction of billions of dollars worth of water mains and pipes nearly 1,000 feet below the city has also claimed the lives of 24 “sandhogs”—specialized tunnel diggers, many of whom have seen their whole work lives come and go in the construction of these massive water projects.

Beyond these sad truths, however, are the more mundane details of ongoing

maintenance of the nearly 6,800-mile network of pipes, tunnels and aqueducts, whose neglect can cause even the most impressive engineering and technical accomplishments to collapse under their own weight. Since the early 1900s, New York City had two main water mains—appropriately named Tunnel Number 1 and Tunnel Number 2. Neither had been shut down or examined since they were put into operation in 1917 and 1936, respectively, as the result would have been more than half a city without water. That was true until Tunnel Number 3 came online in 2013. Considered the largest capital project in New York City's history, Tunnel Number 3 allows Tunnels 1 and 2 to be inspected and repaired, and provides a fail-safe should anything go wrong with any part of the water grid.

What's on Tap

There is a perception, fueled by the bottled water industry as well as the recent public health crisis in Flint, Michigan, that tap water can be unsafe to drink. Tap water in almost every large city must be disinfected and consistently tested for pathogens and harmful chemicals, unlike bottled water, which is largely unregulated. But it's true that tap water may be more likely to be exposed to lead. In New York City, roughly 5% of the services lines (lines from water mains to buildings) are made of lead, and older buildings may have plumbing or fixtures that contain lead (however, all city-owned properties have had all lead pipes and fixtures removed since 2010). For New York City residents concerned they may be at risk, an in-home lead testing kit can be obtained by calling 311.

While not without its problems, what has kept New York City's water continuously running is a long history of engaged citizens, dedicated workers, scientists, public health experts and politicians willing to invest in invaluable, high-quality public service. So the next time you chomp down on a bagel or lift that cup of coffee to your lips as you wait for the subway, transport yourself out of the city to the side of a lake, surrounded by mountains, staring into some of the purest waters in the world. ■

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 Linewaiters' Gazette...

Send an e-mail to Len Neufeld, Gazette indexer, at 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.)

Coop Job Opening: Receiving Coordinator Evenings/Weekends

Description:

All Receiving Coordinators ensure the smooth functioning of the Coop.

- Facilitate and supervise continual stocking of the store
- Train working members how to stock and complete projects
- Communicate with Squad Leaders and squads about priorities
- Sustain knowledge about products and inventory
- Answer members' questions
- Respond to physical plant and refrigeration issues

Evening/Weekend Receiving Coordinators are generalists who work with members to maintain and restock all aisles including produce. They also oversee late deliveries, inspect for dates/quality, and support the Receiving and Food Processing squads.

The ideal candidate will:

- enjoy working with people and crowds
- be an excellent team player with strong communication skills
- have ability to teach, explain procedures, give feedback
- be able to evaluate Coop needs, prioritize tasks and delegate work
- be comfortable with computers (Macs preferred)
- experience working in a grocery store is a plus

Hours: 38 hours. 5 days per week including both Saturdays and Sundays.

Wages: \$26.61/hour

Benefits: A generous package including but not limited to: 3 weeks vacation, 11 Health/Personal days, health insurance, and a pension plan.

Requirements:

Candidates must be current members of the Park Slope Food Coop for at least six months immediately prior to application.

Applicants must be prepared to work during holidays, the Coop's busiest times.

Applicants must be able to:

- lift up to 50 pounds
- reach, crouch, bend, stand, climb stairs and work for hours in walk-in coolers and freezers
- work with and around common allergens including nuts and dust
- work in noisy, hectic surroundings

How to Apply:

We strongly encourage candidates to work one Saturday or Sunday afternoon Receiving shift. Please introduce yourself as an applicant to one of the Receiving Coordinators.

Attach resume and cover letter as a single document at the link below:

<http://bit.do/ReceivingCoordinator>

Applicants will receive acknowledgment of application via email. Do not call the Membership Office to check on the status of application. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until position is filled. If you applied to a previous Coop job offering, please re-submit your materials.

We are seeking an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop's membership.

FOLLOW!

the Food Coop on

twitter & Instagram

& Pinterest @foodcoop

The Agenda Committee is seeking new members! Join the Committee and help set the monthly General Meeting agenda.

Requirements:

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

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

Puzzle Answer

Solution: Rightmost on third row, and leftmost on fourth row



THE ORIENTATION COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!



The Orientation Committee is looking for Coop members who have a group teaching and/or training background to lead Orientation sessions. Potential orientors should be articulate, well-organized and able to present a large amount of information in a personable and accessible way to a diverse group in a short period of time.

Orientors lead sessions every six weeks, and on the week midway between sessions, must be available as backup for emergency coverage. Regular slots are on Sunday afternoons, Monday evenings or Wednesday mornings. You must have at least two years of Coop membership and an excellent attendance history to be

considered for the Orientation Committee. There is an initial group interview for this committee, after which there are three trainings for workslot credit. An annual meeting of the Orientation Committee is part of the work requirement.

We seek Orientors who reflect the diversity of the Coop. To apply, please send an email with your name, member number and contact information with a subject line of Coop Orientation to karen_mancuso@psfc.coop.

STATEMENT ON THE COOPERATIVE IDENTITY

DEFINITION

A cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise.

VALUES

Cooperatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, co-operative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

PRINCIPLES

The cooperative principles are guidelines by which cooperatives put their values into practice. The International Cooperative Alliance adopted the revised Statement on the Cooperative Identity in 1995.

They are as follows:

1. Voluntary and Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Member Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training and Information
6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

REFERENCE: ICA.COOP

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.

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

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

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

Letters: Maximum 500 words.

Voluntary Articles: Maximum 750 words. A Voluntary Article is held to a higher standard than a letter and must meet at least the following criteria: A Voluntary Article must analyze the topic it is discussing; it must present accurate, verifiable corroboration for factual assertions; it can criticize but not attack Coop practices and personnel; if critical it must present positive solutions; it cannot be solely or mainly opinion. It must strive to make a positive contribution to the understanding of the reader on a topic. If a submitted Voluntary Article is substantially opinion, it must be re-submitted, under 500 words, as a Letter to the Editor, possibly to a future issue. 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, March 17, 8:00 p.m.

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



PROSPECT CONCERTS



Flying Home returns for their annual PSFC Swing Dance, performing the music of the Benny Goodman Sextet and other classics from the Swing Era! Get ready to dance the night away

with John Mettam (drums), Mike McGinnis (clarinet), Brian Drye (trombone), Sean Moran (guitar), Tom Beckham (vibraphone), Jim Whitney (bass), Toby Williams (vocals), plus special guests.

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:

Coordinating Editors: Erik Lewis

Joan Minieri

Editors (development): Dan Jacobson

Carey Meyers

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Diane Quick

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Final Proofreader: Nancy Rosenberg

Puzzle Master: Lars Roe

Index: Len Neufeld

Advertisement: Mary Robb

WELCOME!

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

Lucrecia Acosta	Ellen Cronin	Heather Gillers	Samantha Kuchlik	Christopher Miles	Maite Perez Nieves	Nathaniel Sufrin
Daniella Adler	Heidi Cunnick	Tara Giordano	Clare Latham	Henry Mittnacht	Tamar Pister	Alex Takata
Tessa Barlow-Ochshorn	Samson Dealy	Javier Gonzalez	Halyna Levatic	Maria Molde	Andrew Raible	Derek Tobia
Michael Bershadski	Sarah Deeley	David Grazette	Lotoya Lewin	Omeil Morgan	Zeola Randall	Nathalie Vanbracket
Maia Binhammer	Nicolas DeNeve	Kaitlyn Greenidge	Will Lucas	Chloe Mossessian	Monica Reis	Erika White
Michelle Boger	Laurel Devaney	Sheryl Griffith	Leigh Lust	Andrea Moverman	Leah Reiss	Ava Wiland
Ashley Brazenor	Samuel Dingman	Alexander Guiney	Christian Macnamara	Elizabeth Mowry	Julie Resnik	Anomie Williams
Charlie Bruce	Jesse Dorris	Amanda Hanks	Jillian Macnamara	Megan Murdock	Ashley Richards	Melissa Witt
Jane Budnyk	Avery Driggers	Veronica Hester	Joshua Majewski	Kaveh Nabatian	Rachel Rogers	Kho Wong
Francisco Cadavid	Tyson Ebert	Avery Houser	Stephanie Marazzi	Emily Naranjo	Amit Sarfati	Peter Wright
Janet Carter	Sarah Edelman	Michelle Hughes	Julie Martin	Jason Neumann	Niko Seibold	James Yanks
Mihai Cernusca	Gary Edwards	Tim Hwang	Sandra Westin McClure	Joanna Neumann	Mayuko Shibata	Jacqueline Zajdman
John Chae	Perri Edwards	Elizabeth Inglese	Steve McClure	Morten Nielsen	Erica Smiley	
Hillary Chapman-Roberts	Opal El	Rebecca John	Nathan McElroy	Ankur Paul	Nathan Snyder	
Shuang Quan Chen	Kevin Fisher	Sarah Kashani	Andrew Menendez	Harvin Paul	Benjamin Stark	
Emily Clancy	Christopher Fritzl	Rivka Klein	Abraham Mennen	Alexandra Perciballi	Maria Starzmann	
Sarah Cowan	Guillaume Gatteau	Jessica Kohn	Alex Merenda	Lewis Perciballi	Jacob Stavis	

COOP CALENDAR

New Member Orientations

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

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

The Coop on the Internet

www.foodcoop.com

The Coop on Cable TV

Inside the Park Slope Food Coop

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

General Meeting Info

TUE, MARCH 7

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 7:30 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the March 28 General Meeting.

TUE, MARCH 28

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

March 16 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, March 6
March 30 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, March 20

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

March 16 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, March 8
March 30 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, March 22

ALL ABOUT THE GENERAL MEETING

Our Governing Structure

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

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 28, 7:00 p.m.

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

Location

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

How to Place an Item on the Agenda

If you have something you'd like discussed at a General Meeting, please complete a submission form for the Agenda Committee. Forms are available in the rack near the Coop Community Corner bulletin board and at General Meetings. Instructions and helpful information on how to submit an item appear on the submission form. The Agenda Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month to plan the agenda for the GM held on the last Tuesday of the month. If you have a question, please call Ann Herpel at the Coop.

Meeting Format

Warm Up (7:00 p.m.) • Submit Open Forum items

• Explore meeting literature

Open Forum (7:15 p.m.) Open Forum is a time for members to bring brief items to the General Meeting.

If an item is more than brief, it can be submitted to the Agenda Committee as an item for a future GM.

Reports (7:30 p.m.) • Financial Report • Coordinators' Report • Committee Reports

Agenda (8:00 p.m.) The agenda is posted on foodcoop.com and may also appear elsewhere in this issue.

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

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. 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.

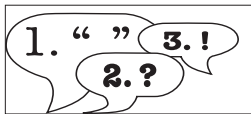
We welcome all who respect these values.

park slope
FOOD COOP

calendar of events

mar 7
tue 7:30 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 7:30 and 7:45 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 March General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 28, 7 p.m., at St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh Aves.**

mar 9
thu 7-9:30 pm

NOFA Brainstorming Session

Join NOFA-NY for a brainstorming session to create a New York Organic Action Plan! Share your thoughts on how NOFA-NY can create a food and farming system that is socially just, environmentally resilient, and economically vibrant. Help set NOFA priorities for organic advocacy and policy. Get ready to discuss: environmental stewardship; organic transition and incentives; health; cultural and social change; the marketplace; research and education. NOFA-NY policy consultant Liana Hooded, and board member and farmer Elizabeth Henderson, will facilitate. If you love to imagine a more organic future for New York State, please RSVP to Elizabeth Henderson (elizabethhenderson13@gmail.com). For more information about NOFA-NY, please visit www.nofany.org.

Event takes place at Park Slope United Methodist Church, located on Sixth Ave. at Eighth St., Brooklyn. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served. Second event will take place Friday, March 10, 6:30-9:30 p.m., at the Sixth Street Community Center, 638 E. Sixth St., Manhattan.

mar 10
fri 6:30-9:30 pm

NOFA Brainstorming Session

Join NOFA-NY for a brainstorming session to create a New York Organic Action Plan! Share your thoughts on how NOFA-NY can create a food and farming system that is socially just, environmentally resilient, and economically vibrant. Help set NOFA priorities for organic advocacy and policy. Get ready to discuss: environmental stewardship; organic transition and incentives; health; cultural and social change; the marketplace; research and education. NOFA-NY policy consultant Liana Hooded, and board member and farmer Elizabeth Henderson, will facilitate. If you love to imagine a more organic future for New York State, please RSVP to Elizabeth Henderson (elizabethhenderson13@gmail.com). For more information about NOFA-NY, please visit www.nofany.org.

Event takes place at the Sixth Street Community Center, 638 E. Sixth St., Manhattan. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served.

mar 17
fri 8 pm

Flying Home



Flying Home returns for their annual PSFC Swing Dance, performing the music of the Benny Goodman Sextet and other classics from the Swing Era! Get



ready to dance the night away with **John Mettam** (drums), **Mike McGinnis** (clarinet), **Brian Drye** (trombone), **Sean Moran** (guitar), **Tom Beckham** (vibraphone), **Jim Whitney** (bass), **Toby Williams** (vocals), plus special guests. **Concert takes place at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Park West (at 2nd St.), \$10, doors open at 7:45. Prospect Concerts is a monthly musical fundraising partnership of the Coop and the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture.**

mar 18
sat 5 pm

Coop Kids' Variety Show



Event takes place at Old First Church, Carroll St. & Seventh Ave. Performers in alphabetical order: Ollie Bailey, Sam Bailey, Remi Costas, Finley Dreyer, Rufus Fein, Tilly Fein, Olivia Hay-Rubin, Penelope Hinchey, Ikhar Hinds, Eli Jort, Anita-Mae Kahan, Sofia Kansa-Robertson, Antonia King, Kaspar Clay-Youman, Abigail Tsion Konigsberg, Leia Aura Konigsberg, Sophia Kyriakou, Maia Levin, Naomi Levy, Laetitia Li, Ajaya Aisha McClure, Ronan Meils, Evan Miksis, Jordan Nass-deMause, Sasha O'Malley, Elan Rabiner, Julian Raheb, Mira Shaklan, Ruby Waters, Tristan Williams, Julian Asa Wortis. Refreshments for sale. Nonmembers welcome.

Event takes place at Old First Church, Carroll St. & Seventh Ave. Admission: \$12 adults; \$7 seniors; \$7 kids 12-18; free kids under 12.

mar 28
tue 7 pm

PSFC MAR General Meeting

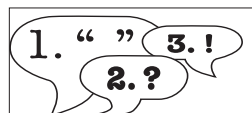


Meeting Agenda to be announced. For information on how to place an item on the Agenda, please see the center pages of the *Linewaiters' Gazette*. The Agenda Committee minutes and the status of pending agenda items are available in the Coop office.

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

apr 4
tue 7:30 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 7:30 and 7:45 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 April General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 25, 7 p.m., at St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh Aves.

apr 21
fri 8 pm

Minch; Tsinadze



Mamie Minch plays songs that sound like they've been stored inside her 1930's National steel guitar for decades. She has found her voice in reviving—and writ-

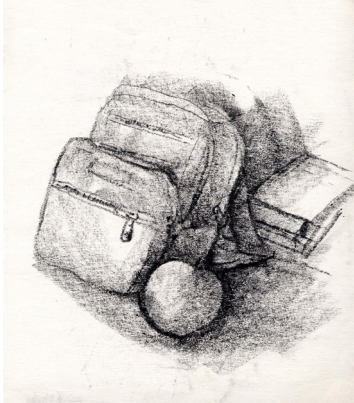
ing—antique blues songs and ballads that bridge between her historical record and contemporary life. Her low-down tough tenor singing voice is supported by a guitar style drawn from Memphis Minnie and Bukka White. She is also one half of Brooklyn Lutherie, the city's only woman-owned and -run instrument repair shop. **Ilusha Tsinadze** is a singer, guitarist, composer, and arranger born in Tbilisi, Georgia in 1983. His family emigrated to the U.S. when he was eight, as the Soviet Union was collapsing and Georgia was slipping into a Civil War. His distinctly personal interpretations of Georgian folk music have won him wide acclaim in Georgia and have led to opportunities to perform solo and with his Brooklyn-based band around the world. Ilusha's music pushes the boundaries of what it means for a folk song to be relevant outside of its original context, and what happens when ancient musical traditions from a little nation on the Black Sea find refuge in New York City.

Concert takes place at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Park West (at 2nd St.), \$10, doors open at 7:45. Prospect Concerts is a monthly musical fundraising partnership of the Coop and the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture.



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.



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 an **excellent 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

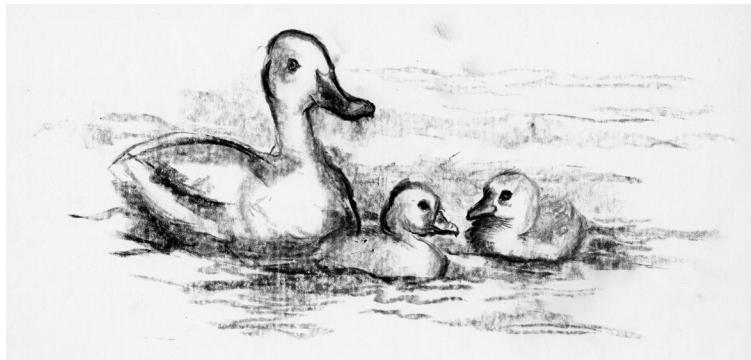
We work on average **six hours per month**, more than the required work shift hours. You will be credited and your hours will be banked for future use.

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

foodcoopdc@gmail.com Please make the subject line: Joining the DC

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



Hearing Officer Committee SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

The Hearing Office Committee is seeking two new members. The committee conducts and presides over disciplinary hearings, ensures that hearings proceed in an efficient and unbiased manner and, after a randomly selected Deciding Group has decided whether an accused member violated a Coop rule, determines what disciplinary action should be taken against the member. Applicants should be Coop members in good standing for at least two years and have good attendance records. Judicial, arbitration, or legal backgrounds a plus, but not required. Experience running meetings is desirable.

Members of the committee meet and earn workslot credit on an as-needed basis only, that is, when hearings are required. Therefore these members must maintain regular Coop workslots in good standing or be FTOP members in good standing.

The nature of the committee's work requires that all members maintain strict confidentiality with respect to all matters on which they work. The committee seeks an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop membership at large.

**Those interested, please telephone
Marian Hertz of the Hearing Officer Committee
at 212-440-2743.**



WANT TO HELP THE GREENE HILL FOOD COOP GROW WHILE PROMOTING YOUR CRAFT?

Greene Hill will be having an open house on April 8. A follow-up raffle drawing will allow new members to Greene Hill win a prize that involves skilled professionals donating a session/consultation based on their trade.



**GREENE
HILL**

FOOD
CO-OP



For more information,
please contact the
Outreach Committee Chair,
Jill Hoffman,
jillhoff@gmail.com

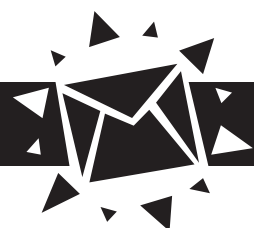
**Park Slope Food Coop Members
are invited to shop
At The Windsor Terrace Food Coop**

**Windsor Terrace Food Coop is located at
825 Caton Ave
(corner of E8th Street & Caton
just south of Coney Island Ave.)**

**Thursday 7- 9 am 3-9 pm
Friday 9-11 am 4-7 pm
Saturday & Sunday 10 am - 4 pm**



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



PENSION FUND

TO THE EDITOR,

I have been a member of the PSFC since I moved to Park Slope in September. I love it and even look forward to my work shift every four weeks.

It was a pleasant surprise to learn that workers benefit from a defined-benefit pension. This is a benefit that most employers globally started to do away with from the early '90s onwards, as the cost and risk of paying out defined benefits was too great. There has been a shift from DB to DC—like 401k plans, etc.—for some time now.

What came as a disheartening surprise, however, was the investment strategy as I read about it and the lack of transparency around the fund and how it was operated. As we are all owners of the PSFC by definition, the information around this fund should be available to all, as we all bear the risk to pay out pensions whether the investments make up the costs or not.

I spent 20 years in the pension industry, ultimately part of a small team investing a EUR 30 bn insurance portfolio covering defined benefit pensions in Sweden. The investment strategy of such long-term assets must include mostly long-duration and low-risk assets, and for sure a small handful of individual company investments via common stock would not be prudent in the least. In fact, by law, even mutual funds must not have any one investment comprise more than 10% of a portfolio's value.

Please reconsider the governance of this portfolio and educate the PSFC members as

to best practice before a vote is taken. I would be happy to put together some basic information. As of now, we are all at risk that the pension obligations are not met from the invested assets and, as such, would have to come out of the PSFC cashflow. Many poorly run pensions have bankrupted companies.

Best regards,
Kristian Nammack

Editor's Note: The pension fund investment policy is detailed in the December 22, 2016 issue of the *Gazette*, on Page 5, as part of the Coordinators' Corner: https://www.foodcoop.com/files_lwg/lwg_2016_12_22_vKK_n26.pdf

THE GM IS DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

MEMBERS:

The January 31st meeting was my first GM.

I joined many years ago and have had a 20 year hiatus as an active member.

At the end of the meeting, when asked for evaluation comments, I wish I had stood and spoken. This is what I would have said:

We have entered an era where democracy is being sacrificed daily. We are under attack in many ways. For many of us, being at this meeting means we are not watching the fast-paced news, not pushing things out on social media, not calling senators, or demonstrating at JFK or Grand Army Plaza or Senator Schumer's Park Slope residence! For these few hours we all agreed to meet, to discuss, to listen.

This is what democracy looks like! Even if the process was a little bulky, with Robert's Rules disarray and all. We begin to get the change we seek in the world by being the change. The civility and patience is worth noting. Because this is part of our aim. To be civil, patient, tolerant and compassionate. There is much I might say about the process of getting to the proposal and how the democratic process may be improved. But that is part of joyful participatory democracy. It includes a constant eye on evaluating for continuous improvement. From the high level view, what I experienced is democracy in action. Good to be a part. The more we do this in the more places we find ourselves, the better we get at it and the more we move toward a society we can be proud of.

And I must add this—I am grateful for the skillful facilitating of the meeting and the members who made it so.

Rebecca Lurie

"PSFC BIKE RACK SNOW REMOVAL: PERFECTISSIMO!"

MEMBERS:

Two years after my first letter to the Editor about this issue, almost to the day, I was very pleased to see that nearly every piece of snow that would normally either be dumped in a huge pile on the bike racks in front of the PSFC, or left to turn into thick packed snow and ice underneath the bike racks down the hill, was removed, when I went to shop at the PSFC, only 24 hours after the non-trivial

nine-inch snow storm that hit NYC on Thursday, 2/9/2017 had ended.

In fact, I was lucky enough to be able to lock my bike on the racks right in front of the entrance of the PSFC, even though there were plenty of other bikes using the racks at that time.

I would personally like to thank the individuals who removed the snow, and the individuals who gave the order to do so. It made it that much more enjoyable for me to shop at the PSFC today. Keep up the good work, I hope this is the standard moving forward, you are helping many in the community, I have no doubt about that!

Stephen Arthur

P.S.: I've now heard through my sources that there is a "snow removal plan" in place? If that is the case, it sounds like it is working.

BDS AND SABRA HUMMUS

MEMBERS:

Sabra Hummus is half-owned by an Israeli company, the Strauss Group. The Strauss Group adopted Israel's Golani Brigade, an elite unit in Israel's Defense Force (IDF). For over 30 years, the Strauss Group has donated food products to soldiers in the Golani Brigade during their training and

missions. The Golani Brigade played a key role in the Israeli army's assault (Operation Cast Lead) on the Gaza Strip in 2008-2009. There were widespread human rights abuses and possible war crimes by Israel's army against the Palestinian people during the assault.

<http://www.jpost.com/Defense/Strauss-reposts-IDF-support-commitment-on-website>

<http://www.alternet.org/world/companies-and-consumer-products-boosting-israels-brutal-occupation>

In a documented report, when the Golani Brigade was in Hebron during 2011, there was an increase in the number of serious human rights violations against the Palestinian people particularly against children and youth.

<http://www.cpt.org/underattack>

The BDS movement (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions), a Palestinian led international campaign, includes Sabra hummus in its list of Israeli products to boycott. As Coop shoppers let's not support Israel's military violence against Palestinians.

The Strauss Group has its headquarters in White Plains, New York with factories in Richmond, Virginia—Oceanside, California—and Farmingdale, New York.

Mary Buchwald
PSFC members for BDS
<https://psfcbds.wordpress.com>

Members Sought for Unusual Work Slot

The Personnel Committee is looking for a member to join them to support General Coordinator decisions related to Coop personnel and to promote the professional growth of our General Coordinators. If you know how to work effectively with others and believe you could make a contribution to the Committee, we would love to hear from you.

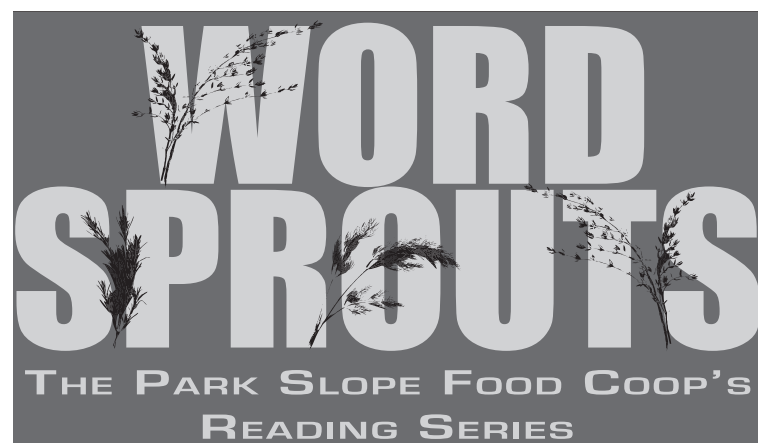
We would like the Personnel Committee to reflect the diversity of the Coop and are especially interested in people who have skills in finance or business management, strategic and succession planning, workforce productivity, human resources, and organizational development. Applicants should have a minimum of one year of Coop membership and a good work history.

This is a Coop work slot. We meet regularly with the General Coordinators on the third Tuesday of each month, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. We work on additional projects as needed and may attend General or other meetings where the issues affect our work.

If you are interested, please do the following two things:

- e-mail your resume and a letter explaining why you would like to be part of the Committee to pc.psfc@gmail.com,
- and go to <http://bit.ly/2mFY2p1> to fill out a short questionnaire.

Diversity Statement: We are seeking an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop's membership.



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

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

Please contact the organizers at wordsproutspsf@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

SAT, MAR 4

8 p.m. NYC Labor Chorus at the Peoples' Voice Cafe. Community Church of New York Unitarian Universalist, 40 E. 35th St., NY. Wheelchair accessible. Sug. donation \$20/12 for subscribers. For info call 212-787-3903 or see peoplesvoicecafe.org.

MON, MAR 6

7 p.m. Book Launch Event for DINNER: *Changing the Game* by Melissa Clarke at POWERHOUSE. 28 Adams St., Brooklyn, NY, 11201. For more information please call 718-666-3049. RSVP appreciated: rsvp@powerhousearena.com.

SAT, MAR 11

8 p.m. Camela Widad and Alix Dobkin at the Peoples' Voice

Cafe. Community Church of New York Unitarian Universalist, 40 E. 35th St., NY. Wheelchair accessible. Sug. donation \$20/12 for subscribers. For info call 212-787-3903 or see peoplesvoicecafe.org.

SAT, MAR 18

8 p.m. Concetta Abbate, Peter Pasco and Jennifer Richman at the Peoples' Voice Cafe. Community Church of New York Unitarian Universalist, 40 E. 35th St., NY. Wheelchair accessible. Sug. donation \$20/12 for subscribers. For info call 212-787-3903 or see peoplesvoicecafe.org.

SAT, MAR 25

8 p.m. Human Condition reunion concert at the Peoples' Voice Cafe. Community

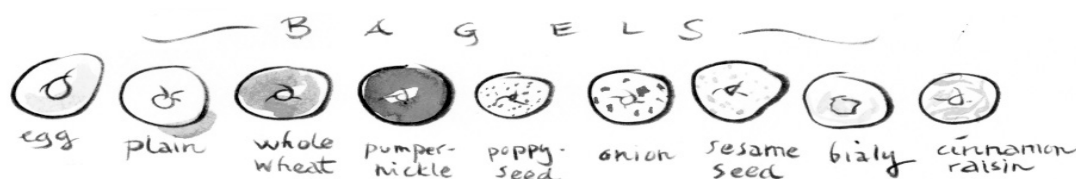
Church of New York Unitarian Universalist, 40 E. 35th St., NY. Wheelchair accessible. Sug. donation \$20/12 for subscribers. For info call 212-787-3903 or see peoplesvoicecafe.org.

SUN, MAR 26

4 p.m. BPL Chamber Players: Calidore Quartet at the Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Center for Contemporary Culture Central Library, Grand Army Plaza Brooklyn. Admission free.

THU, MAR 30

6 p.m. Bay Ridge Food Co-Op Fundraiser. The Coop, 9504 Fourth Ave., on Thursday, March 30. There will be food, drink, art, music and raffles. Come out for a fun evening and show your support.



CLASSIFIEDS

BED & BREAKFAST

LARGE, SUNNY ROOM, private bath, queen bed in spacious townhouse with old-style charm and modern amenities. WiFi, smoke-free, no pets. Close to Q, B and 2, 3 trains. Call Margaret 718-622-2897. Leave message.

BROWNSTONE BROOKLYN BED AND BREAKFAST serving the Coop community for 20 years. Victorian home on tree-lined Prospect Heights block has cable and free WiFi. Full breakfast provided in attractive smoke-free environment. Reasonable rates. Call David at 718-857-6066 or email david_whitbeck@yahoo.com.

HOUSING AVAILABLE

SUMMER BUNGALOW FOR SALE, 1 hour from NYC by car or train. 2BR 2BA, renov. kitchen, large deck, lake: swim, boat, fish, tennis, volleyball, basketball, social activities. Intergenerational comm. Child friendly. \$99,000 + maintenance. E-mail jacquesh62@gmail.com.

MERCHANDISE-NONCOMMERCIAL

FREE 47X24 INCH IKEA Uika Amon table and 100 goblets and 100 sil-

ver plates for your next Game of Thrones party. Call 718-638-6037.

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.

DO YOU NEED HELP obtaining accommodations and services for students with learning, emotional or physical issues? Experienced civil rights attorney & school administrator with expertise in K-12 and higher education. Miriam A. Nunberg, Esq., Ed.M. StudentEquitySolutions.com, mnunberg@gmail.com or 718-490-4153.

HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS. Color, high lights, low lights, hot oil treatments in the convenience of your home or mine. Kids \$20-25. Adults \$35-40. Call Leonora, 718-857-2215.

MADISON AVENUE HAIRCUTTER is right around the corner from the Food Coop, so if you would

like a really good haircut for a decent price, please call Maggie at 718-783-2154 I charge \$60.00 Wed-Sundays 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

SERVICES-HEALTH

ONENESS MEDITATION every Friday through Feb. 17, 6-8 p.m. at Arts On Site, 12 St. Marks Place, NYC, Room 3F are free. It is the quickest way to connect to your HIGHER SACRED SELF and feel the presence of something greater than the physical reality. The oneness meditation is the gift of sharing the power of GRACE.

THE PHENOMENON AND THE GIFT New York, March 4 and 5, Highline Stages, 441 W. 14 St., NY, NY. For tickets: all venues brightstarevents.com/featured/oneness. This course is created with the teachings and life-changing processes that lead to a life that flows with abundance, miracles, reduced conflict and joy.

REIKI TREATMENT and Sound Healing. This enjoyable combination sound and energy healing treatment helps to alleviate stress, tension, anxiety, depression, fatigue and physical pain. Private individual or group Gong Sound Baths also available. Call Rita at 917-440-8336 or email ritalondon@aol.com ritalondonnyc.com.

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.



Organic Cold Pressed Juices

Organic Superfood Smoothies
Organic Wraps & Salads

PS Coop members enjoy a 15% discount on all Bklyn Juice Label beverages (show your card)
75A 5th Ave Brooklyn

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

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

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

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

How can you donate?

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

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



TIP OF THE MONTH: In Your Pocket

Whether you're committed to knowing the sources of your meat, eggs, and dairy, or finding alternatives to animal-based products, or avoiding health and beauty supplies tested on animals—shopping and dining out can be tough. These apps can help:

- **Animal Welfare Approved** Among third-party certifiers, AWA has the most stringent standards. App includes a product finder and a detailed decoder for labels and producer claims.
- **The Humane Eating Project** locates and provides information about restaurants serving thoughtfully-sourced meat.
- **HappyCow** helps you find vegan- and vegetarian-friendly restaurants anywhere in the world.
- **Seafood Watch** provides information about thousands of varieties of seafood, with detailed notes and ratings on conservation and sustainability.
- **The "Cruelty-Free" app** from Leaping Bunny lets you know which products are—and which aren't—tested on animals.

The Animal Welfare Committee provides members with clear, unbiased information about animal welfare as it relates to Coop products.

Find all our guides and resources on our blog at <http://psfcanimals.blogspot.com/p/awc-guides.html>
[email] psfcanimals@gmail.com



www.LeapingBunny.org



crueltyfree

f Park Slope Food Coop Animal Welfare Committee

t @psfcanimals

★ **EXCITING WORKSLOT OPPORTUNITIES** ★

FILEMAKER ASSISTANCE
Flexible schedule

Looking for someone to help us think through the design and execution of some projects using FileMaker. We want hands-on help with setting up table relationships, creating scripts, formatting reports, working with portals and calculations, as well as help understanding security issues and the capabilities of FileMaker Server. You should be current with the latest version of FileMaker. Teach your FileMaker skills to a few Coop staff for shift credit. Qualified and interested members should e-mail Ken at ken_macdonald@psfc.coop with the subject line "FileMaker help."

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 and 20 lbs, a few may weigh up to 50 lbs.

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.

OFFICE SET-UP
Monday–Thursday, 6 to 8:30 a.m.

Need an early riser with lots of energy to do a variety of physical tasks, including setting up tables and chairs, buying food and supplies, labeling and putting away food and supplies, recycling, washing dishes and making coffee. Sound like your dream come true? This job might be for you. Please speak to Jana in the Membership Office for more information.

STORE EQUIPMENT CLEANING
Monday, 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 worker's tools and supplies. Must arrive on time at 6 a.m. Please report to Cynthia Pennycooke on your first work shift.

TERRACYCLE COLLECTION
Second Wednesday of the month, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Fourth Saturday of the month, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

The TerraCycle Collection is expanding, and we need your help! If these shift times do not work for you to become a squad member, we still want to hear from you, as we are very interested in adding new collection times. Dedicated FTOP workers are also welcome—if you can be on a shift more times than not, we would definitely welcome you on shifts as much as you can schedule with us. Shifts are very stable, 12 shifts per year, no moving around the calendar based on work week A, B, C, or D. Shifts are set for a particular day/time of the month and do not change. Enjoy working your shift with like-minded environmentally conscious Coop members, members you work with and members who drop off their recyclables. This shift is a very feel-good shift, knowing you are making a difference and helping members to make a difference in improving our environment. The shift tends to go quickly as the collection is well-received by members, and we tend to be busy throughout the shift. For most of the year, the collections are held outside and shift workers enjoy fresh air. You will get your hands dirty—not unlike work on other shifts. We have gloves available and you can go in periodically to wash your hands in the bathroom. There will be a few shifts where weather may be of concern. We have a policy to address hot, rainy, or frigid weather with consideration to workers' comfort. More details are available if interested. The work of the shift does require a fair amount of standing and some light lifting. At the end of each shift we carry or cart the boxes to the UPS store on Flatbush and Seventh Aves. If interested, contact Cynthia Pennycooke in the Membership Office: 718-622-0560. Inquiries can be sent to rosenyny@gmail.com. For more information about TerraCycle, visit terracycle.com.



ecokvetch
the environmental
committee blog

**Tip of the
MONTH!**

**Politics got you
worried about
climate change?**

**Whatever you're doing about the
big picture, here's something you
can do at home:**

**Reducing, reusing, and recycling in
your home helps conserve energy
and reduces pollution and green-
house gas emissions from resource
extraction, manufacturing, and
disposal. New York City has great
recycling opportunities—
and so does the Food Coop!
Take advantage of all of them.**

Learn more at:
ecokvetch.blogspot.com

THANK YOU!

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

Esther Ahn	Opal El	Roger Kamholz	Preston	Eli Someck
Liz Asch	Rachel Ensign	Karina	Joanna Prisco	Rachel Stein
Alison Attanasio	Barbara Ensor	Austin Kelley	Jacquelynn Proscia	Denise Straiges
Joseph B.	Florence	Elaine Kim	Josh Rattner	Ben Taylor
Penelope Bagieu	Svetlana Frayman	Shoshana Krieger	Elizabeth Rodkin	Christa Taylor
Jessica Bauman	Nicole Friedman	Morris Kornbluth	Rosenthal	Asmara Tesfaye Rogoza
Carolyn Berg	Alexis Gargagliano	Leah Krauss	Jonathan Rothman	Michael Uys
Avni Bhatia	Meli Glenn	Dayna Kurtz	Debasish Roy	James Vaughan
Marine Boudeau	Alastair Gray	Nechama Dina Leeds	Hillary Rubenstein	Abe Velez
Margot Boyer-Dry	Andrew Greenberg	Lexy Lovell	Rudy	Jessica Warner
Lana Cencic	Gus	Mandy Lundstrom	Jennifer Rumbach	Jonathan Weinblatt
Leah Curry	Cecele Hartmann	Leah Michaelson	Simone Safyer	Gabriele Wolf
Maria Cutrona	Andrew Hiller	Hanakyle Moranz	Shelby Saucier	Courtney Yadoo
Karen D'Souza	Diane Himmelbaum	Kevin Morris	Jessica Scheer	Jue Yang
Lucia De La Mora Colunga	John Hoobyar	Tomas Brahina Nazal Paredes	Miriam Schiffer	Katie Yeskel
Jeremie Delon	Adelind Horan	Sarit Oberlander	Abbe Schriber	
Amanda Deveck-Rinear	Sabine Irving	Leandro Pellegrino	Zachary Schulman	
Jackie Dinan	Jimmy	Toni Pizza	Delphine Selles-Alvarez	
Kofi Donnelly	Dennison Joyce	Fabian Pfortmuller	Alan Shurafa	