LINEWAITERS'

Volume NN, Number 22

Established

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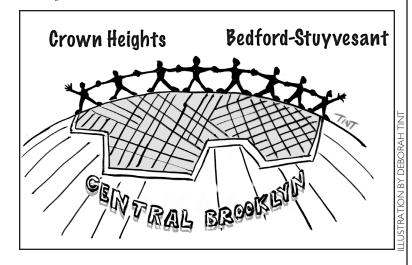
November 7, 2019

Kickstarter for Central Brooklyn Coop Shows Community Commitment

By Frank Haberle

After six years of plan-ning and development, the Central Brooklyn Food Coop, "hit the go button" this month on a critical phase in its development: the launch of a Kickstarter campaign to raise funds for a down payment on a new space in Bedford-Stuyvesant or Crown Heights. While the physical space has yet to be formally selected, this is a tremendous moment for CBFC: the \$25,000 they plan to raise through the campaign will position CBFC to act quickly and secure a space that best serves the needs of Central Brooklyn.

The Kickstarter campaign for CBFC, which launched October 16 and runs through November 22, seeks donations from Brooklyn residents who want to support the opening of a new food coop that is open to all and is owned, led and operated by people of color and low-to-moderate income people of Central Brooklyn. The campaign has set \$25,000 as its base goal which has been projected as enough up-front funding for a physical storefront. Once that goal is met, a "first stretch" goal of \$50,000 will also support the beginning of renovations to the new space. A "second stretch" goal of \$75,000 total raised will fund meeting



space and a community kitchen, as well as the basic shelf space needed for the store. A "third stretch goal" of \$100,000 would also support community outreach and programming efforts to bring food education and empowerment to local residents.

As of October 27, the campaign had already surpassed its base goal with \$31,876 in total contributions from 501 donors, reflecting the breadth of commitment from community members and supporters who recognize the value of building a member-led food coop to bring food sovereignty to the people of Central Brooklyn.

About the Central Brooklyn Food Coop

With a planned opening of September 2020, CBFC will be the Central Brooklyn

community's first member-owned and operated food cooperative. Similar to the Park Slope Food Coop model, its members will work and shop at the new coop, helping to keep prices affordable and strengthening ties among neighbors. The CBFC will serve as a community center for affordable groceries, food education and advocacy to promote food justice and food sovereignty in the Central Brooklyn neighborhood. The CBFC will be open to all for membership, but it is particularly dedicated to ensuring that households of low-to-moderate income and communities of color are highly represented in its membership, and it will prioritize relationships with local people of color who are growers and food suppliers.

Food insecurity and inaccessibility remains a pressing issue among lower-income people of Central Brooklyn. Bedford-Stuyvesant is ranked sixth nationally in food hardship. Four out of five food stores in the community are bodegas, with limited food options, especially for fresh produce. Forty percent of residents make less than \$25,000 per year, and on average,

PSFC Member Matt Landfield Digs Up the Real History of His Tribeca Childhood Home

By Heidi Brown

hen Gazette production editor and 17-year PSFC member Matt Landfield was growing up in Tribeca in the 1980s, he had no idea he would one day be interviewed by a national celebrity on NPR about his research on the neighborhood.

Fate intervened back in 2001. Alec Baldwin was filming a movie in front of Landfield's family's home, a former-factory-turned-loft. Baldwin's tech crew had threaded an electric cable through the kitchen window of Landfield's family's apartment, and Baldwin was hanging out on the street. He was looking over the brick building that clearly evoked a bygone time, when Landfield's father, Ronnie, a Bronx native and abstract painter, came outside for a cigarette break. Baldwin bummed one. The two schmoozed for a while and Ronnie showed Baldwin his painting studio. Landfield remembers meeting the actor as well.

The building, at 31 Desbrosses Street, ended up being a source of growth and exploration for Landfield. His



parents had moved there in the 1960s, even before other local artists were taking over loft spaces. Ronnie converted two floors of the building into living quarters and a painting studio, and Landfield and his brother grew up there. But in 2012, Hurricane Sandy caused a surge that pushed the Hudson River into much of Tribeca, including the disused factory building. Two years later, Landfield's parents accepted that climate change would surely cause another Sandy; they moved out of the building and north of the city. Developers knocked the water-damaged structure down in 2015.

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Next General Meeting on December 3

The Year-End General Meeting will be on Tuesday, December 3, at 7:00 p.m. at **John Jay Educational Campus**, **227 Seventh Ave.**, **between Fourth and Fifth Sts**.

The agenda is in this *Gazette*, on 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.

Thanksgiving shopping hours Thursday, November 28 6: 00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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Kickstarter

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Central Brooklyn residents must travel 1.5 miles to their primary grocery store.

"Central Brooklyn got hit hard by the pattern and practice of redlining which resulted in a disinvested community with very little access to good food," Bianca Bockman, a PSFC member since 2012 who has been organizing the CBFC effort since 2014, explained. "Gentrification then hit the area all over again, bringing in fancy food stores—clearly not for the people who made the neighborhood great for so many years before it. These mostly Black folks are now coming together and saying 'we're not going to let politicians and banks and big business decide what our food situation is going to be. We're going to create our own solution, despite the odds.' Real estate costs are high, the industry is moving toward automation, and we are not well practiced in building democratic institutions. What's most inspiring, is that after six years of organizing not only are we still going, but we're stronger than ever and closer than ever to opening our doors.'

The community organizing efforts to launch the Central Brooklyn Food Coop have been led by the Brooklyn Movement Center (BMC), a Black-led, membership-based organization of primarily low-to-moderate income Central Brooklyn residents. BMC builds power and pursues self-determination in Bedford-Stuyvesant and Crown Heights by

nurturing local leadership, waging campaigns and winning concrete improvements in people's lives. Through its food justice working group, BMC is bringing together residents of Bed-Stuy and Crown Heights to plan for solutions that will strengthen health equity in our communities. The CBFC will support this food justice strategy by making healthy and affordable food available while building a strong solidarity economy in Central Brooklyn.

BMC Executive Director Mark Winston Griffith, a Central Brooklyn native and lifetime organizer who is also a founding board member of CBFC, speaks of the community's enthusiastic response to news of efforts to launch CBFC. "We've received nothing but positive feedback," Griffith said, "whether it's outreach to people at events, or surveys, or events we've hosted. Longterm residents deeply appreciate the way we are centering Black folks in CBFC and are excited by the possibility of getting access to affordable food. And community newcomers who are well versed in the locavore movement, or food justice, see CBFC as a potential political home. In the end we won't be able to compete with the Trader Joe's, Fairways and Wegmans of the world if people think we are just another supermarket. What we're trying to get folks to appreciate is that joining CBFC, in additional to being a pathway to healthy, sustainably sourced, low-cost food, represents an act of collective self-care, survival and community building."

Recent gentrification, and a



boon of designer restaurants in Bedford-Stuyvesant tailored to new residents, has only reinforced the sense of food disparity among lower-income Central Brooklyn residents who have lived in the community for years. "CBFC will center on local residents who don't see themselves reflected in Central Brooklyn's current food culture," Griffith added. At the same time, Central Brooklyn is home to farmers, food producers and providers. "We're going to be part of a local food chain. We're going to be supporting local farmers, and growers and producers. We're going to be connecting them to consumers who are going to be buying sustainably and affordably. Nothing like that exists in this neighborhood right now."

CBFC Support from PSFC Staff and Members

Staff and members of the Park Slope Food Coop have supported the planning and development of the Central Brooklyn Food Coop on multiple levels. Staff have offered direct technical assistance in how to set up a member-led, working coop. Dozens of Coop members have worked on FTOP shifts and as volunteers supporting the launch of the CBFC, joining members of the Bedford-Stuyvesant community in building a new working coop that serves and reflects its community.

Taisy Conk, one of the PSFC members who has been working with the CBFC effort since 2015, said, "I've been blown away with the talent and dedication of our members, and continue to strongly believe in our mission. It's been challenging to reconcile that with the necessarily slow pace of the huge lift of opening a store when we are member-led and under-financed. What's been amazing about the crowdfunding campaign is seeing that our mission is electrifying hundreds of New Yorkers. It validates our collective efforts."

"From the earliest days of our organizing, no one institution has been more supportive and patient with us," Griffith says of the PSFC. "One of our first organizing meetings was a result of PSFC sending out a notice to its members in Central Brooklyn zip codes. PSFC has led trainings for us, provided FTOP credits to our organizers, penned letters of support, and provided a dozen kinds of technical assistance. That's just a fraction of the kind of support we've received from PSFC.

Asked about how PSFC members can get involved moving forward, Griffith adds, "Right now, we're asking everyone to back our Kickstarter campaign. Also, we know PSFC is bursting at the seams and we hope we can one day be an outlet for its Central Brooklyn members. We're looking at the possibility of working with PSFC folks with technical expertise, and maybe even receiving a loan from the PSFC loan fund."

"We've worked hard for six years," Griffith says. "But now we're ready to sign the lease. We're ready to open our store." ■

If you are a Central Brooklyn resident and/or you would like to learn about how you can support or join the Central Brooklyn Food Coop, please visit their website for more information: cbfood.org.

If you can consider making a financial contribution to CBFC's kickstarter campaign, please visit their kickstarter site: www.kickstarter. com/projects/cbfoodcoop/meet-thecentral-brooklyn-food-coop.

Tribeca

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One day soon after, Landfield, married to PSFC member Caitlin, was gazing at the empty construction site where his family home once stood and got to wondering about the land that had supported the building for more than 100 years. Recently laid off from a media communications job, he had some time on his hands. He vaguely knew, via his dad, that much of Tribeca had been created out of landfill and that the neighborhood had an industrial past (their apartment building was a former Pertussin cough syrup factory). He knew it eventually became home to a community of artists, then comfortable lofts for affluent professionals and that today, it's an enclave of the super-wealthy.

Landfield wanted to know what came before. Was it farmland? Had the Lenape Indians, who were on the island of Manhattan long before white settlers arrived, used Tribeca of yesteryear for their own, now-marginalized, way of life?

To get answers, he went to the New York Public Library and a city records office. He pored over rare maps, microfiche news items, reports from The TriBeCa Trust (led by historian and activist Lynn Ellsworth) and inventory and census lists. He also, crucially, found an online project called Welikia ("my good home" in the language of the Lenape Indians). Funded by the Wildlife Conservation Society, the website aims to reconstruct, in graphic form, the exact state of our five boroughs in 1609—in other words, before white people and their activity transformed the entire region permanently.

Landfield's research led him to understand that "no one had been living on [the] spot" where 31 Desbrosses is now. His family were the first human beings who lived on that land. Welikia depicts 31 Desbrosses Street in 1609 as, simply, the Hudson River. It was only in the early 1800s that this part of the river became development property. At that time, the city allowed New York's merchants to increase their land holdings by literally creating them. Using landfill, they pushed the perimeter of the island further out into the Hudson and built wharvesthat they then owned—to capitalize on shipping windfalls after the Erie Canal was built.

The new property at 31 Desbrosses was initially used for storing coal and then exotic wood. The building that Landfield's family moved into was built in 1899 by whiskey wholesalers.

Landfield's research also highlighted some striking effects from climate change. Comparing Welikia's map of downtown Manhattan with one from our era, Sandy's inundation zone essentially lines up with where the coast was in 1609. This gave Landfield a new way of looking at climate change's threat to New York.

The city's post-Sandy resiliency plans envision, among other things, changing building regulations to help structures resist floods and building the perimeter of the city out even further into the Hudson. Having studied the shape of Tribeca from nearly 400 years ago, Landfield says, "I don't know if we can build our way out of danger. I think we have to consider a managed retreat from the coast of Manhattan." He acknowledges how radical this sounds.

In spring 2015, Landfield published the results of his research as a lyrical, long-form meditation on Medium.com ("Requiem for a Living City: Notes on a Home in Tribeca"). He then founded his own film company, TimeTravlr, and went on with his life.

Four years later, Landfield received a tweet: "It's Alec Baldwin trying to reach Matthew Landfield..." Thinking Baldwin was interested in potentially hiring TimeTravlr for a production

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ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT

PSFC Produce Buying Q & A: First of a Series

By Sensho Wagg

Quite a while ago, I received an email from a Coop member asking about a story she had heard on NPR. The subject was the possible use of tainted water for irrigating organic growing fields in California (our biggest produce and organic produce growing state in the U.S.).

I started to do research on the subject and began to feel that perhaps we, as Coop members, may have other questions about organic and IPM produce and other questions related to our produce department. Without a doubt we enjoy our glorious array of ever-changing, topquality fruits and vegetables. Because thousands of pounds of produce are available to us all year long, far-ranging questions about it are bound to come up, and perhaps there's no easy way to ask them or get them answered.

After discussing this with the Environmental Committee, we realized that we could offer Coop members a conduit to the knowledge of our hard-working produce buyers, and also the research capabilities of our committee. Questions Coop members may have include: What makes organic growing so special? How do our buyers decide where to buy fruits and vegetables?

I asked our produce buying team to comment on a number of questions that arose from the initial question about the irrigation water in California. Since I've been working on this article, it has expanded in scope and length to necessitate a series of articles. We are delighted to enter into this exploration of what we, as the Coop membership, want to know about our produce department. I hope our three articles on the subject generate more questions for us to look into on behalf of everyone who enjoys the produce the Coop offers.

What follows are initial questions I posed and the answers from the produce buying team; unedited/ unembellished. At the end of this article there's an email address, should any PSFC member wish to ask more questions about our produce or the produce department.

Q: As this project was generated by a request for information from a PSFC member about the question

of fracking water being used on organic growing fields in central California (as reported on NPR some time ago), can you please comment on this issue?

A: Please note that the issue has not been "fracking water," but in the case of California, water that was used by Chevron for crude oil refining. The media chose to call the water "fracking water," ostensibly because this sounds much more alarming. The water in question has been allowed for agricultural use by the state of California. This practice in Kern County, CA, predates fracking in the United States. As far as we, the produce buyers, know, the issue of repurposing water was concerning overwhelmingly conventionally grown crops, and the state of California certified that the water is safe for agriculture. The latter claim one might have valid doubts about, hence our abundance of caution.

Q: How do we know that our organic or conventional produce is not being watered using contaminated water in central California?

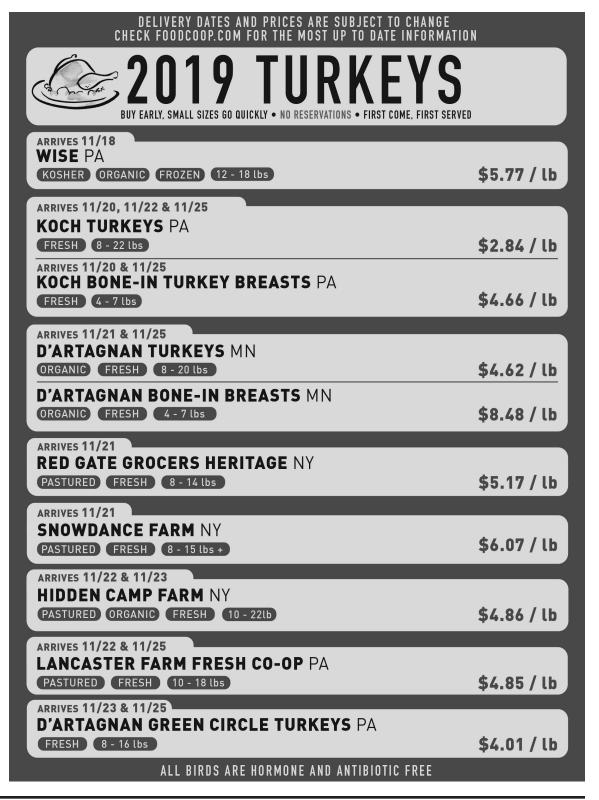
A: In the case of produce that does not arrive from our local suppliers, we monitor the origin of received produce and take action when necessary. For example after learning that both "Cuties" and "Halos" citrus might be irrigated with water that was initially used in oil production facilities, we as produce buyers (we currently have five coordinators involved in the Coop's produce buying) had internal discussions and decided, in the best interest of our membership, to end the sales of these two very popular items. The concerns we

had revolved around issues of the reliability of the purified water monitoring, but foremost, that given the fact that many members and many in the general public had misgivings about these products

grown in Kern County, we want to err on the side of caution to keep the Food Coop's membership safe. ■

The next article will include questions posed to the PSFC Produce Buying Team about the path taken by some crops from field to Coop shelves, and some comments about organic certification.

Please address any question you want us to ask the Produce Buying Team to: psfc.environmental. committee@gmail.com.



Tribeca

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

project, Landfield tweeted back: "Hi there Alec—how can I help?" Soon, the two were on the phone, and Baldwin explained that he'd been googling Tribeca, stumbled upon Landfield's piece, and remembered meeting Landfield's father and the building at 31 Desbrosses Street. He wanted to interview Landfield about his research—on air.

So Landfield went on Baldwin's WNYC-produced interview podcast, "Here's the Thing," in March. Landfield was asked to bring family photos. They ended up not discussing them, but in the episode, Baldwin waxed nostalgic about the

Tribeca that existed when he met Ronnie. He clearly remembered the interaction vividly. Landfield shared what he learned from researching his article, and Baldwin gave him the opportunity to opine on what climate change means for not only that neighborhood, but New York.

"Alec was very encouraging of me," Landfield said on a rainy night recently at a bar in Kensington. No fairy-tale ending came from this experience, but Landfield now has a book agent. He is working on a memoir; he wants to describe the experience of growing up in Tribeca before Whole Foods and expensive eateries. The Tribeca which required walking a mile to the nearest grocery store. Where he heard the 1993 World Trade Center bomb going off during class in high school and where his parents stayed in their apartment during and after 9/11.

In the podcast, Landfield seemed oddly at peace with the fate of his neighborhood as a haven for the super affluent. His voice didn't have a trace of bitterness or even sadness. He explained to the Gazette that he always knew that he wouldn't be able to live there again after growing up. It was simply not a neighborhood he could afford. Because of this and other changes, it was always going to be a place in his memory. Like so many other parts of New York City, a place with a mostly forgotten history—except Landfield didn't let that happen to Tribeca. ■

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 via e-mail to GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop.

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 sub-mitted 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:

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.

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, November 15, 8:00 p.m.

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



PROSPECT CONCERTS



Come out for a night of big-band swing-dance music, fun for singles, couples or the whole family! Join saxophonist **Lisa Parrott** and drummer **Rob Garcia** as they lead a swing band of world-class jazz musicians.



There will also be professional swing dance instructors giving a group lesson of some basic steps. It's going to be a great night of music, dance, snacks and good vibes to benefit to Park Slope Food Coop.

www.facebook.com/ProspectConcerts

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

RETURN POLICY

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

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

2. Returns must be handled within 30 days of purchase

CAN I EXCHANGE MY ITEM?

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

CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?

Produce* Cheese* Books

Frozen Goods

Meat & Fish

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

Calendars Refrigerated Supplements Juicers & Oils Sushi

*A buyer is available during the week days to discuss your concerns.

Refrigerated Goods (not listed above)

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

RETURNABLE

RETURNABLE

RETURNABLE

ONLY IF SPOILED BEFORE

EXPIRATION DATE

Packaging/label

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

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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.

Keren Abreu Donald Antrim Michelle Aronowitz Marion Attal Stella Baker Anna Barnet Naomi Barnett Victoria Batten-Grimes Eva Bochem-Shur Eilse Brandenburg Adam Brebner Camia Brown Caleb Cain Marcus Jessica Cepeda Monica Chen Ting Chin **Emily Collins** Nohemi Contreras Robles

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Phillip Stewart

Chris Stromquist Jonathan Sullivan Pat Swoboda Elizabeth Tellman Megan Terry Matthew Tynan Henk van den Berg Marjan Van Den Berg Ruby Walsh Michela Weihl Leah Wilks Alex Willick Felipe Wurst Ben Zerwin

COPCALENDAR

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.

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. DECEMBER 3 (FINAL FOR 2019) GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, JANUARY 7

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 7:30 p.m. Submissions will be considered for the January 28 General Meeting

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

12:00 p.m., Mon, Nov 11 Nov 21 issue: Dec 5 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Nov 25

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Nov 21 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Nov 13 7:00 p.m., Wed, Nov 27 Dec 5 issue:

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 decisionmaking process.

Following is an outline of the program

Advance Sign-up required:

To be eligible for workslot credit, you must signup at foodcoop.com. A computer dedicated to sign-ups is located in the elevator lobby. You may sign up for the meeting all month long, until 5 p.m. of the day of the meeting.

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.

• 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 Workslot Credit Attendance Sheets will be available to sign in.

Park Slope Food Coop Mission Statement

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

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

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

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

We welcome all who respect these values.

ALL ABOUT THE GENERAL MEETING

Our Governing Structure

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

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 3, 7:00 p.m.

This is the final General Meeting for 2019. The General Meeting is typically held on the last Tuesday of each month.

Location

John Jay Educational Campus, 227 Seventh Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.

How to Place an Item on the Agenda

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

Meeting Format

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

Open Forum (7:15 p.m.) Open Forum is a time for members to bring brief items to the General Meeting. If an item is more than brief, it can be submitted to the Agenda Committee as an item for a future GM.

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

Agenda (8:00 p.m.) The agenda is posted on foodcoop.com and may also appear elsewhere in this issue. Wrap Up (9:30-9:45) • Meeting evaluation • Board of Directors vote • Announcements, etc.

park slope FOOD COOP

calendar of events



Food Class: Napa Kimchi 101



Kimchi is a delicious condiment and powerful health-supportive food. In the last decade, science is recognizing the importance of ferments for optimal digestive health. This class is for beginning ferment

enthusiasts. You will learn step-by-step instruction on how to make a classic napa cabbage kimchi. Traditional and vegan options will be discussed. **Sung Uni Lee** is a Korean-American who grew up with the honor of taste-testing large batches of kimchi. A culinary instructor, she has two decades experience in teaching and empowering people with her passionate knowledge of food and culture. She is one of the administrators of the monthly Park Slope Food Class series. *Menu includes: Salting Cabbage; Traditional & Vegan Kimchi Filling; Steamed Tofu with Salted Cabbage Wrap. This class is gluten- and dairy-free, with vegan options.*

ASL interpreter available upon request, please contact the Membership Office. Materials fee: \$5. First come, first seated. To inquire about leading a Food Class, go to bit.ly/CCCChef1.

nov 15 fri 8 pm

Swing Band



Come out for a night of bigband swing-dance music, fun for singles, couples or the whole family! Join saxophonist **Lisa**

Parrott and drummer Rob

Garcia as they lead a swing band of world-class jazz musicians. There will also be professional swing dance instructors giving a group lesson of some basic

steps. It's going to be a great night of music, dance, snacks and good vibes to benefit to Park Slope Food Coop.

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.

Bookings: Bev Grant, bevgrant1@aol.com.

dec 3 tue 7 pm

PSFC Year-End 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: John Jay Educational Campus, 227 Seventh Ave., between Fourth and Fifth Sts.

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

Item 1: Election of Hearing Officer Committee Member (10 minutes)

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

—submitted by the Hearing Officer Committee

Item 2: Amendments to the Park Slope Food Coop Pension Plan & Trust (10 minutes)

Proposal: To amend the Park Slope Food Coop Pension Plan & Trust as follows: 1. Change the pension plan year for all participants to Jan 1 - Dec 31, for parity with our 401k plan;

2. Entry into the pension plan occurs the first day of the month after eligibility is established.

3. Automatic/forced lump sum and/or rollover distribution when employees leave the company with a present value less than \$5K (for parity with 401k plan). Any participant with a balance of less than \$5K must take either a lump sum or rollover their balance to a qualified retirement account regardless of when they ended their employment.

4. Change wording to ensure beneficiaries receive lump sum payment and/or rollovers immediately; i.e., remove any wording that restricts distribution until the normal retirement age of the beneficiary. —submitted by Pension Plan

Administrator Lisa Moore & Pension Trustee Joe Holtz

Item 3: Amendment to the 401K plan to allow for earlier entry into the plan (10 minutes)

Proposal: To amend the 401K plan to allow employees to join the plan 30 days after the date employment rather than the current required wait of 1000 hours of employment.

—submitted by Lisa Moore and Joe Holtz,

Trustees of the Park Slope Food Coop Inc 401(K) Plan and Trust

Item 4: Food Delivery Pilot (45 minutes)

Discussion: Should the Coop implement a 3-month pilot program in January delivering food to people with physical disabilities?

—submitted by the Home Delivery Study Committee

V. Board of Directors Meeting

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

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

dec 3 tue 7 pm

Safe Food Committee Film Night: A Prayer for Compassion



This month's event takes place a week earlier than usual, due to limited space in our movie room. A Prayer for Compassion follows Thomas Jackson on a quest across America to ask, "Can people who identify as religious or spiritual come to embrace the call to include all human

and nonhuman beings in our circle of respect and caring and love?" Drawing on Christianity—evangelical, Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Friends (Quakers), Seventh Day Adventism, Unity; Judaism; Islam; Hinduism; Buddhism; Jainism; Native American tradition; Unitarian Universalism; Zoroastrianism; and the "spiritual but not religious" point of view—the film calls on spiritual people of faith of every stripe to come together to bring about a different world.

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

dec 5 thu 7:30 pm

Food Class



Food Class to be announced.

To inquire about leading a Food Class, go to bit.ly/CCCChef1.

dec 6 fri 7 pm

Film Night



Film to be announced.

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

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.

Ξ 0 Н E 0 T D IT

SOLIDARITY MEANS LISTENING TO ALL **STAFF**

MEMBERS,

As members who care about Coop values—democracy, equity, solidarity—we are proud to support the PSFC staff members who are organizing a union.

We would like to invite everyone to step back and focus on human well-being. We have community members reporting oppression, intimidation, and bullying in their workplace. This workplace is our community, where we all shop and work side by side. How do we, as a community, respond to these serious concerns? We think the best approach is to listen and to take action to find solutions.

General Coordinators and some staff have opposed unionization by claiming that their fellow staff members are exaggerating or lying about the problems that have prompted them to organize. This argument is troubling, as it dismisses many who have named urgent issues and who propose to address them collectively.

Even more troubling, in August, the National Labor Relations Board determined that General Coordinators violated federal labor law by retaliating against union supporters and actively discouraging union organizing.

For anyone who has tried to unionize in this country, this atmosphere of fear and retaliation is familiar. It shuts down the dialogue necessary to address problems within our community. Polarization and infighting distracts us from a principal reason the union effort began: the deep power imbalance between General Coordinators and staff at the Coop.

The Coop is not just a space for members who work a few hours every four weeks in exchange for good prices on great food. The Coop is also an employer. Staff members punch a timeclock here and work under supervisors who have unilateral power over their working lives. This unequal relationship enables favoritism, makes workers' livelihoods needlessly precarious, and impedes democracy.

A union, as a self-governed representative body of staff, can help provide checks and balances by representing staff interests independently of supervisors.

How do we preserve Coop values when things get difficult? The best way is to listen to and peacefully engage with staff members who say they want a union, those who are unsure, and those who say they don't. Nobody should have to fear retaliation when discussing the conditions they experience at work.

Our overarching goal as a Coop must always be to prioritize democratic and egalitarian values. This includes efforts to explore unionization in a respectful workplace free from hostility.

That's why we are asking for the General Coordinators to sign a neutrality agreement. Neutrality can provide clearer guidelines for organizing, reduce misinformation, and support staff to discuss these issues with less risk. We believe it will bring down the temperature of the conversation and enable principled debate and learning.

Neutrality is a bare minimum condition toward respecting democratic values. We ask our fellow members to join the call for General Coordinators to sign a neutrality agreement and to fulfill our Coop's responsibility to provide a workplace free of harassment and intimidation. www.coworker.org/p/PSFC-MemberPetition.

Signed, Zayne Abdessalam, Melissa Appleton, Wendy Barron, Nick Bedell, Carl Biers, Tara Buentello, Jan Clausen, Jude Deomampo, Noah Dillon, Pamela Galpern, Laleña Garcia, Laurie Gaugran, Mischa Gaus, Michelle Kuchinsky, David Levin, Jane Levison, Winston McIntosh, Hanakyle Moranz, Marsha Niemeijer, David Pratt, Jessie Reilly, Arsenia Reilly-Collins, Gavin Schalliol, Haley Shaffer, Zachary Schulman, Carl Snodgrass, David Vigil, Matt Wildey

DEAR READERS,

We are printing this latest letter on the issue of unionization for Coop staff members; however, after seven months of back and forth between different interested parties, it will be the last letter on this topic until and unless there are new developments such as an actual vote by staff members on whether or not to unionize.

This decision to cease printing these letters is in accord with Gazette policy not to print repetitive letters that cover similar material.

The Editors

GAZETTE EDITORIAL POLICY

Please take a look at these recently revised guidelines.

If a letter meets one or more of the following criteria, it will not appear in the Linewaiters' Gazette. The letter or article:

- is on a topic that has been covered extensively in the Linewaiters' Gazette and is not a matter of current Coop action
- is unsigned or does not contain the author's contact information
- exceeds the word count (500 words for letters, 750 for member articles)
- uses long, "unclickable" URLS that hinder the reader from following the letter and understanding its sources
- is primarily an advertisement for a business or service in which the writer is involved or is promoting
- contains hearsay or unsubstantiated accusations
- contains more than 25% non-original writing, is not written primarily by the stated author or is a template, chain or form letter
- is a serial submission—that is, the author (or others) may have submitted a similar version of this letter or article, or similar

information to past issues of the Gazette

- requires editing and rewriting for clarity and coherence
- contains language that violates our policy of excluding language that is hateful, racist, sexist, discriminatory, inflammatory, personally insulting or needlessly provocative

Due to time constraints, if a letter or article meets any of the above criteria, LWG editors will make no further comment nor provide any further feedback, apart from a notification that the letter won't be published. Once submitted and rejected, a letter may not be resubmitted.

The LWG editors advise those writing letters and articles to study these guidelines. We regret that time will not permit us to respond to further inquiries about rejected letters or articles. The LWG editors thank Coop members for understanding that the Gazette is a collaboration among Coop members, who use their limited work slot time to produce a publication that reflects the interests of the Coop community. Our limited resources require us to focus on articles and letters that cover issues of current interest.

> In cooperation, The Editors

GRATITUDE

THE GREAT

RE-SHELVING

DEAR GAZETTE

SUBMISSIONS,

MEMBERS,

A few weeks back, I came to the Coop with a new shopping cart. As I neared the building, a wheel fell off. I asked a man inside for help as I drive here at a certain time and didn't want to go home without shopping. He and another man together fixed the wheel even though it was missing a part so I was able to go in and shop. I am writing this letter to thank the two of them. I don't know their names but they went out of their way to help me. I hope they see this letter and know that I am grateful for what they did.

Mary Ann Fastook

not nearly ambitious enough. Not even close! That flavorless fizzy water should be hauled out onto Union Street never again to return to any Coop shelves whatsoever.

noted! Reckon that move was

Damien Neva

L'IMPRIMERIE **MICHA BREAD**

MEMBERS,

Why are all (without exception) L'imprimerie Micha Breads a lover of a crisp, crunchy bread crust I have been looking at this bread for several months to find one that is not burnt. Did not know how to contact the bread buyer to check this item as they come in. Black crust is burnt crust and should not be on our shelves. I'm sure this would be a great bread and hope the baker would be advised that the Coop does not want burnt bread that they are passing off to us.

delivered to our Coop burnt? As

Thanks, Gloria Tepper



ILLUSTRATION BY ETHAN PETTIT

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, NOV 9

The LaCroix has moved, duly

8 p.m. Bruce Markow, Concetta Abbate at the People's Voice Cafe, 40 East 35th St., Manhattan. For info call 212-787-3903 or see peoplesvoicecafe.org. Suggested contribution: \$20 general. \$12 PVC subscribers/ sustainers, FMSNY members, youth, students.

FRI, NOV 15

7:30 p.m. Brooklyn Contra Dance. If swing and square dancing met in a bar, you'd get contra. Live music, bringing a partner is not necessary. A great way to meet new people! first and third Fridays @ Camp Friendship, 339 Eighth St., Brooklyn. \$15 General /\$12 Student / Volunteers dance free. brooklyncontra.org.

SAT, NOV 23

7 p.m. Join BVS Women's Choir for "Light in the Darkness," an evening of hope and perseverance. First Unitarian, 121 Pierrepont St. Tickets \$20, seniors and students \$15, children free. We are a 45-member multi-generational women's choir based in Brooklyn. Eight of us are Food Coop members.

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.



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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: \$28.57/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/Receiving-0919

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.

Amy Cunningham

CLASSIFIEDS

EMPLOYMENT

SPOKE THE HUB DANCING INC. seeks PT arts administrator skilled in any of the following: MBO, Mail Chimp, PR, IT, website, copywriting, grants. 20hrs./wk. Mon-Fri 3-6 p.m. Letter, resume and three references to Elise Long, Spoke the Hub Dancing, 748 Union St., Brooklyn, NY, 11215. 718-408-3234.

HOUSING **AVAILABLE**

TURN-KEY VACATION RENTAL home in the Catskills for sale! Our beloved 3BR home with fireplace has provided a peaceful getaway while producing some income. 800-sq.-ft. deck with stream sounds, walk to pool, playground, restaurants, church and synagogue. 165K negot. Contact via phone Niki 917-921-1314 / Colin 917-902-3063 or website: CatskillSkiHouse.com.

MERCHANDISE-NON-COMMERCIAL

BRAND NEW and almost new. Sacrifice prices: Fully equipped Vitamix; 14-inch Cuisinart SS stir-fry w/cover; 6L Fagor SS Duo pressure cooker; Green Life Twin Gear juice extractor. Phone 646-465-2369 or text any day or eve til 9 p.m.

SEARS HEPA VACUUM CLEANER designed for allergy sufferers \$45. Wushtof knife block \$7. Sears 10-cup coffee maker \$8. Braun coffee mill \$12. Farberware grinder \$10. Bay-Gen krank&play multiband portable radio (new) \$13. B&D toaster oven \$12. New seltzer maker \$10. Full tae kwon do outfit \$20. Insignia portable CD-MP3. Marc 718-314-5462.

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 CAROL LIPTON has been practicing law for decades with former Coop member Barton L. Slavin. We represent accident victims in car accidents, slip and falls, and construction. We also handle co-op and condo transactions, estates and wills, guardianship, business litigation, and civil and family court appeals. We provide courteous, attentive service. Convenient midtown location.

718-436-5359 or 212-233-1010. nycattorneys.com.

HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS. Color, low lights, hot oil treatments in the convenience of your home or mine. Kids \$20+up. Adults \$35+up. I also specialize in autistic and special needs children and adults. 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 at a decent price, please call Maggie at 718-783-2154. I charge \$60. I work from Wednesdays thru Sundays 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

MUSIC LESSONS from Broadway musician: piano, French horn, trumpet. Beginners and advanced students of all ages welcomed.

Rate for studio lessons: \$40 for 30 mins, \$70 for 1 hour. Home visits: \$50 for 30 mins, \$80 for 1 hour. Studio located in Gowanus/Park Slope. Email: meredithmoo25@ gmail.com for more information.

VACATION RENTAL

Rent a charming one-bedroom apartment in Paris from longtime Coop members. On the top floor with an elevator and quintessential views of Paris rooftons in a lovely residential neighborhood. Wi-fi, cable TV, DW, W/D, free calls to U.S. Photos/description: homeexchange.com/en/homes/ view/425686. email: magisson@ gmail.com.

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