

LINEHATERS' GAZETTE

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Let the Liar Beware Membership Office Installs Polygraph Machine

By Bud Court

You've heard that spies make the best liars? Well, it turns out that Park Slope Food Coop members make even better ones.

To combat an increase in what Membership Coordinators call "lying their asses off," the office staff proposed the installation and implementation of a lie detector test in the Membership Office. The agenda item was initially voted down by an overwhelming majority at the January General Meeting. However, after General Coordinator Ann Herpel gave an impassioned speech about blah blah blah, the membership changed its tune and approved the contentious proposal.

18% of Coop Members Are Liars

An unscientific survey showed that approximately 18% of Coop members are lying about various aspects of their memberships. What is the most common tall tale? "My husband lives in the basement and has his own refrigerator."

One of the tipoffs for Membership Coordinator Matt Hoagland came during a new member orientation where the majority of new joins were 20-somethings who did not list any house-



"It doesn't really hurt," says new member Sherry Jubilee of her experience with the Coop's new lie detector test. "But it sure is scary."

mates on their applications. "You're telling me that a 22-year-old can afford his own apartment in Brooklyn?" Hoagland griped. "I don't think so!"

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It's not just the young who are lying, either. Coordinator Mary Gerety, who administers both the Coop's Parental Leave program and its Disability Program,

says nothing shocks her anymore. Gerety recently allowed 62-year-old member Shelly Monaco [names have been changed to protect members' identities] to take a three-month break from her Maintenance shift because of severe arthritis in her left hand. "Two nights later my husband and I saw her getting down in our Hip Hop Dance Class in Fort Greene," Mary reported. "You can't do the Worm with a bum wrist!"

How It Works

When a member is suspected of lying, he or she

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PHOTO CREDIT — COURTESY OF ACME LIE DETECTOR COMPANY

If the Shoe Pits Coop Debuts Sustainable Line of Footwear

By Amy Pearl

Coop shoppers in search of ethical consumer choices on the shopping floor have lots to choose from. Local apples, fair trade coffee, vegan toothpaste, reused tampons. But when it comes to footwear, the cupboard is bare. That will soon change, because the Coop is putting its feet where its mouth is and creating a line of sustainable shoes, the purchase of which helps suspended members get shopping again.

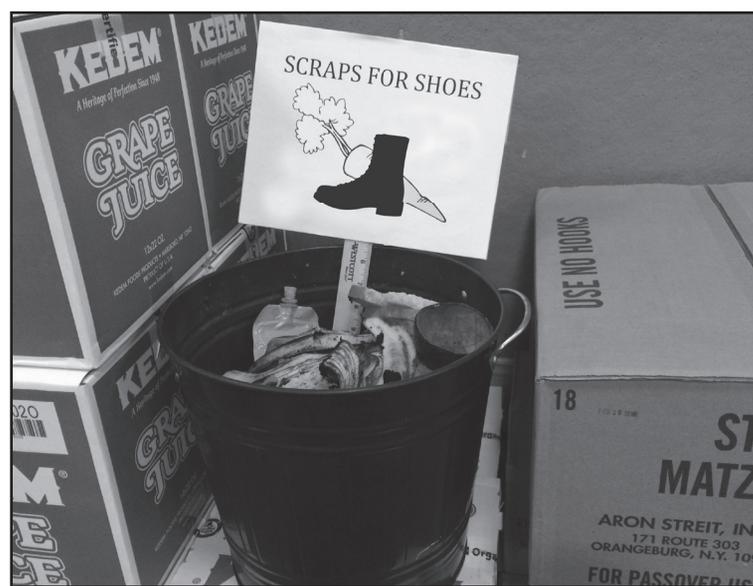
"So much of our garbage is crying out to become shoes," explained Tom Toesend, the Foot Squad Leader and founder of Kompost Kicks. Toesend got the idea for the shoes during his Food Processing shift. "A bunch of us were in the basement cutting parmesan cheese when I sud-

denly threw off my Crocs and attached two thick cheese rinds to my feet with twist ties! The oils massaged my skin and the bendy cheese gave a spring to my step. Soon the whole shift was wearing cheese shoes!"

Beyond Cheese Rinds

These early prototypes had to be abandoned, however. Cheese rinds are expensive and not very plentiful, nor are they vegan. With trial and error, Toesend and his newly formed Foot Squad were able to create five different shoe styles: the unisex CocoClog (crafted from coconut shells), the men's ButterFoot and women's KaboFoot (beautifully rendered from butternut squash and kabocha, respectively), the kids' AvoKiddo

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The raw materials for a new pair of shoes.

PHOTO BY KAREN 'NAMASTE' MANCUSO

Coop Event Highlights

**Fri, Apr 7 • Film Night: "Carol" with guest speaker
Hillary Clinton 7:00 p.m.**

**Thu, Apr 14 • Food Class: No Hurry Curry —
Cooking with Xanax 7:30 p.m.**

**Thu, Apr 20 • Free Tequila Tasting: Herradura Seleccion
Supreme, Partida Elegante & Rey Sol Anejo
(Bring Your Own Shot Glass!) 7:30 p.m.**

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

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Polygraph

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will be sequestered in the small conference room on the second floor. There the member will be joined by no less than four Membership Coordinators, two Receiving Coordinators (one of whom will be a heavy lifter) and an unarmed, plain-clothed police officer from the 75th precinct.

The member will be strapped into a chair—not too unlike an electric chair—where seven sensors will be attached to the member's fingers. The lead examiner will start with a series of questions that should not cause the member any stress, such as, "What is your member number?" "What week is your shift on?" "Do you recycle?" These questions will help establish the norms for a person's signals.

Then the real questions begin. "Did you stay for your entire shift?" "When did your divorce become final?" "Are those triplets really yours?"

During and after the test the examiner can look at the graphs and see whether the member's vital signs

changed significantly on any of the questions. In general, a drastic change (such as increased breathing rate and pulse, higher blood pressure, increased perspiration, puddling) indicates that the person is lying.

The entire process will be recorded, and the most egregious cases will be shown as part of the PowerPoint presentation at new member orientations.

"I would like the Coop to create an Undercover Squad, whereby members would be expected to gather information on other members we suspect of cheating the Coop."

Punishment to Fit the Crime

Not everyone gets stressed out when they aren't telling the truth. Psychopaths and sociopaths, for example, don't exhibit those typical physiological changes when they lie. Gary Ridgway, the "Green River Killer," passed a polygraph test even though he eventually confessed to 48 mur-

Top Five Lies Told to the Membership Office



1. Joe Holtz is a close, personal friend of mine.
2. I don't share food with my wife and kids.
3. I don't share food with my husband and kids.
4. My kids don't eat.
5. I'm telling the truth.

ders.

So even if you pass the test, the Membership Office probably won't believe you anyway.

The consequences of failing the polygraph depend on the severity of the lie. For instance, if a member fibs about getting a divorce, he or she will be forced into an arranged "Coop marriage" with a member who

is constantly suspended and ineligible for extensions. If a member is caught lying about a make-up they never did, they will then be required to work three make-ups digging ditches for the Garden Squad.

While some members are calling these new tactics draconian, one staffer (who wishes to remain anonymous due to fear of

backlash) thinks we are not taking it far enough. "I would like the Coop to create an Undercover Squad, whereby members would be expected to gather information on other members we suspect of cheating the Coop." Membership Coordinator Lewanika Forde-Senghor went on to say, "I would be lying if I said I wasn't in favor of wire tapping." ■



Join the Park Slope Food Coop's inaugural FIGHT CLUB

Be part of the Coop's new co-ed and multigenerational Fight Club!

Evidence shows that fighting has been around since millennia—from Chinese martial arts to Greek wrestling to the warrior traditions of Japanese samurai.

A fight club is not about violence or hatred. It's about releasing stress and anger. And let's face it, after standing on a long checkout line on a busy Sunday afternoon, we all need to let off a little steam.

Professional fighting experience is not necessary but you should possess a bad temper, exhibit poor self control and know how to keep a secret.

If interested, e-mail muscles_marinara@psfc.coop

NOT FOR WORKSLOT CREDIT

★ EXCITING WORKSLOT OPPORTUNITIES ★

PSYCHIC SQUAD Sundays, 4:00 p.m.

Got a sixth sense? The Coop is looking for paranormal members to join the new Psychic Squad. Skills needed include extrasensory perception, astral projection, mind control, channeling, telekinesis and scrying. The ability to levitate is a plus. If interested, please contact You-Know-Who.

INTERPRETIVE DANCE SQUAD Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m.

Do you speak the language of dance? If so, this may be the squad for you. The Coop is seeking experienced modern and interpretive dancers to manage long checkout lines, shopping boxes and "tense" situations. Email a cover letter and résumé (Mark Morris, Jennifer Muller a plus) to everybodyhurts@psfc.coop.

DENTAL SQUAD Various times

The Coop is recruiting a Dental Squad comprised of seven dentists, three oral surgeons and one hygienist. If you've got an established practice of 3+ years, this could be the squad for you! This is not an every-four-week shift. It's for FTOP credit only. Each filling or general cleaning counts as one FTOP credit. Oral surgery (e.g. extractions, implants, bridges and crowns) is worth two FTOP credits. All procedures will be performed in the second-floor meeting room. References required but a note from your mom is okay too.

CUPID'S ARROW SQUAD Saturdays, 8:30 p.m.

Love love? The Coop is looking for a few yentas to join its matchmaking squad. You should be outgoing yet discreet, know the difference between Tinder and Match.com, and have no less than three ex's you still consider to be good friends. Love is all around—your job is to spot potential "connections" while everyone is texting or playing games on their phones. Call the Membership Office if you're interested.

RAVE SQUAD Saturdays, 12 a.m. – 5:00 a.m.

Nostalgic for the warehouse daze of the mid 80s/early 90s? Help organize after-hour dance parties in the basement! Glow sticks, whistles and pacifiers will be provided. Must love deep house, trance and darkcore jungle. If interested, email pureMDMA@psfc.coop. Only members between the ages of 37 and 48 will be considered.

COOP ASTROLOGER Thursdays, 5:30 a.m.

Can you tell when Neptune will conjoin the sun and moon? How about the day of a Mercury Retrograde? If your talents reach for the stars, the Coop needs you to help plan for events, special deliveries, capital improvements and big projects. The possibility of extra work credit if the astrologer is willing to do member readings in the store once or twice a month.

Affordable Housing for Food Coop Members

By Elliman Douglas Corcoran

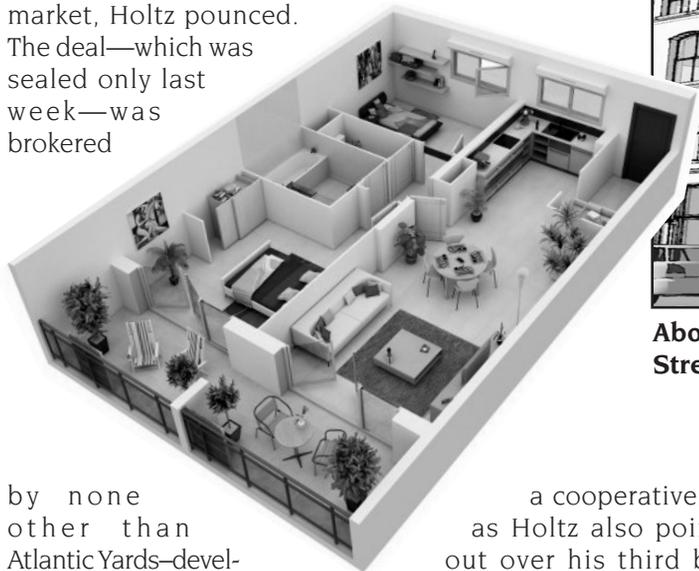
Mayor DiBlasio ran—and won—on a platform that heavily emphasized affordable housing. Many feel his administration has fallen short of the high expectations. So Park Slope Food Coop Co-Founder and General Manager Joe Holtz has decided to take matters into his own hands.

“I started a Food Coop and put food into the mouths of tens of thousands of New Yorkers,” Holtz modestly explained over a craft beer at The Gate. “Now watch me put a roof over their heads.”

When the parking garage two doors down from the Food Coop went on the market two years ago, Holtz was all over it. Unfortunately the winning bid went to the Toll Brothers, a luxe real estate developer known for their high-end residential towers that are popping up all over Manhattan. Their new building on Union Street will hold

114 units, ranging from one-to-four bedrooms, with prices starting at \$850,000 and going up to more than \$6 million.

So when another parking garage on Union Street, the one next to the former Tea Lounge space, came on the market, Holtz pounced. The deal—which was sealed only last week—was brokered



by none other than Atlantic Yards-developer Bruce Ratner. “Sometimes you’ve got to work with the enemy to get things done,” Holtz explained, over his second craft beer at The Gate.

Amenities Galore

Some are disappointed that the new development will be a condominium project, not

a cooperative, but as Holtz also pointed out over his third beer, “You can’t have everything. Where would you put it?”

“But what we will have will far exceed anyone’s expectations,” he insists. For example, the building will hold 60 one-bedroom apartments starting at \$1,800, which is far below market price. There will also be 75 two-bedroom apartments starting at \$2,500. If you have more than two children, you’re out of luck. There is also a strict no-pets policy. “We don’t want to ruin the hardwood floors,” Holtz said.

The list of amenities is long. Valet stroller service, meditation room, wind-powered electricity, organic juice bar. “We’re really focusing on what we already know mat-



Above, architectural drawing of the new Coop condo building on Union Street, and a 3-D rendering of a sample two-bedroom apartment.

PHOTO CREDIT — COURTESY OF BRUCE RATNER

ters to Coop members,” Holtz explained, as he moved on to tequila shots.

The building, which is provisionally called the PSFC Palace, is slated to open in summer of 2019.

How to Apply

Not surprisingly the demand for these apartments is through the proverbial solar roof. And the odds of actually getting one are worse than winning the Powerball. Still, Holtz doesn’t want members to be discouraged. Applications are not available online yet but you can pick up a paper copy in the Coop’s entrance lobby, right next to the elevator.

To be eligible you must have more than three children and make no more than \$25,000 a year but no less than \$300,000. And of course you have to be a Food Coop

member in good standing. If you have owed any make-ups within the last 12 months, you do not qualify.

The last thing Holtz said, as he stumbled out of The Gate, was “Wait until you see my penthouse!” ■



“I’m working my way through all 24 draught lines at The Gate,” slurred Joe Holtz.

Shoes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

(made from Haas and Florida avocados) and the BabyKi (gently forged from kiwi fruit) for ages newborn through 18 months.

Helping Members in Need

Besides being locally produced, compostable and vegan, Kompost Kicks helps the Coop community by putting members owing 18 or more makeups back to work. Of our 16,000-plus members, 3,700 are currently sidelined by suspension and of those 2,400 owe more than 18 makeups.

“I was losing the will to try,” said MK, a suspended member who preferred we not use her name because of the 84 makeups she owed. “I would

drag myself to the office and beg them to let me shop, but honestly I was ready to give up. That’s when I met Tom.”

Toesend took the flagging member onto his squad and showed her how to fashion the donated rinds into shoes. Soon she was doing 4 or 5 shifts a week! When MK finally became a member in good standing again, she pulled Toesend aside. “I told him I wanted to give back. That’s when we came up with the Two For One plan.”

Every pair of shoes purchased at the Coop—or at the Foot Squad table at the Brooklyn Farmer’s Market—eliminates one makeup owed by a suspended member. “I do it for the look on their faces,” said Marine Bendelle, who was wearing a pair of Kabo-Foots and holding three Avo-



A freshly scooped pair of AvoKiddos in size Haas.

PHOTO BY AMY PEARL

Kiddos in size Haas. “When I see someone who was suspended re-enter the Coop for the first time—it’s just magic. I wouldn’t trade that for the world.”

Backlash

But not everyone is behind the idea. Some Receiving workers are upset about the “shoe scraps” bins squeezed into the receiving room. And

the Gazette has received letters accusing the Foot Squad of throwing away avocado pulp and squash flesh. “That is just rubbish,” Toesend said of the accusations. “You can’t just use the peel and throw away the fruit. That is just not done. Not on my watch.” Toesend invites anyone to observe the Foot Squad at work. However, openings for the shift are not available at this time.

What’s Next for Kompost Kicks?

“We are working on Banana-Boots and OrangeYouFast sneakers but we don’t want to grow too fast,” Toesend said. “I’m a cooperative guy and I’m in it for the community.”

Look for the shoes at the end cap on aisle 9. All sales final. ■

Saturday, April 31, 8:00 p.m.

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



PROSPECT CONCERTS



Tig Notaro's only 2016 East Coast performance.

Tig will perform brand-new material based on the Sarah Silverman quote, "She gets the most amount of laughs with the least amount of words." Tig's not expected to say much or stay long, but hey, it's Tig! We'll take what we can get.

Tig has appeared in a number of television shows, most notably in the Amazon hit *Transparent*. Tig has also guest starred on *The Sarah Silverman Project*, *The Office*, *Community*, *Bob's Burgers*, *The Life & Times*

of *Tim*, *In the Motherhood* (with Megan Mullally and Cheryl Hines), *Dog Bites Man* (with Zach Galifianakis), was a recurring guest-host on *Movies at Our House*, had her own half-hour special: *Comedy Central Presents Tig*, she's a regular on *Conan* and has also appeared on *Late Night With Jimmy Fallon* and *Jimmy Kimmel Live* among others.

Tig's 2015 documentary, *TIG*, was the highest grossing Netflix movie of all time.

Tig currently resides in Venice Beach, CA, on the same street as Julia Roberts, but in a much smaller house.

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

PERSONALS

SEEKING SPICY VEGAN

I believe a vegan raw diet is perfect for optimum health and I hope you do too! Let's meet at Sun in Bloom and talk about what we eat ad nauseam. Box 37

LGBTQQIP CUTIE

SINGLE WHITE WHATEVER seeking like-minded friend, maybe more. Members of PFLAG, HRC, NCTE, GLAAD, GLMA, SMUG, HGLBTPC, GLF, GLSEN, GLIFAA a plus. Cis and LCR need not apply. Box 44

ALPHA MALE

MAN'S MAN looking for my female counterpart to rule the world with. I'm persistent, in peak physical shape, courageous, educated, driven, dominant, optimistic, competitive and confident. If you are perfect, get in touch. Box 75

TEXTER SEEKS RELATIONSHIP

I'm a serial texter looking for a distant serious relationship. All these modes of "communication" and have we ever been more separate?? ST looking for partner to text relationship. No dirty talk, just love. If you fear intimacy, don't text me.

"ACTIVE" SEEKS SAME

"Active" member looking for love with another "active" member of the Food Coop. Owing any number of make-ups is a deal breaker. Credit score, political leanings and food choices matter less. "Suspended" members need not apply. "Alert" status okay. Box 77.

OPPOSITES ATTRACT

Bernie-loving B week Buddhist seeks heavy-drinking D week carnivore for mutually beneficial times. Box 66

RETURN POLICY

park slope
FOOD COOP

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. Your last seven paid-in-full receipts **MUST** be presented.
2. Returns must be handled within 30 seconds of purchase.

CAN I EXCHANGE MY ITEM?
Any item can be exchanged for a small child of greater or lesser value.

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

NEVER
EVER
RETURNABLE

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

JUST NO

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.

PSFC APRIL 2016 GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 31, 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Agenda (8:00-10:30)

Item 1: President Trump Contingency Plan (190 minutes)

Discussion: What will the Coop do if Donald Trump wins the election? Possible ideas include relocating the Coop to Canada and staging a revolution.

—submitted by the General Coordinators

Item 2: Should the Coop Install a Full-Body Scanner at the Exit Door (45 minutes)

Vote: To combat the high level of theft, the Coop would like to scan members as they leave the store. This will also include cavity searches.

—submitted by the Disciplinary Committee

Item 3: Should the Coop Washer and Dryer be available to all 16,000 Members? (45 minutes)

Vote: As a convenience, clothes can be washing and drying as members shop or work.

—submitted by Dawn D'Arcy

- Meeting Location: Chuck E. Cheese, Atlantic Terminal Center, 139 Flatbush Avenue.
- You must be a Food Coop member to attend the General Meeting. Please bring your Coop I.D. card to be admitted. Entrance fee \$25, with a two-drink minimum.
- Times in parentheses are suggestions. The Chair has the discretion to change the order of the agenda or to make the meeting go on for an unbearable number of hours.

Introducing Co-App, the Coop's App!

By Al Dente

Want to check the date of your next shift? Need to know the price of kale this week? What time does the Coop close on Sundays? All these questions can now be easily answered with Co-App, the first smart-phone app that organizes all your Coop information in one place.

A project of the Coop's Technology Committee, the app has been in development since 2008 and will rollout in the fall of 2017. "Every time we wanted to release it," says Alex Marquez, "some new feature became possible and we decided to include it. Plus it takes a really long time to get shit done when you only meet once

every four weeks for two and three-quarter hours."

Features include:

- Workslot schedules for the next 10 years.
- Check for suspensions and alerts.
- Swap shifts.
- Update your personal info, such as changes in households.
- Current produce list that lets members know what's in season, and if

it's in stock right now.

- Name of the farm where the products come from, including location, size and the names of all the farm workers who helped grow the food.
- Bar code scanner that allows members to scan their intended purchases as they shop.
- "Coop Cam" video feed that shows how crowded the store is and if the lines are crazy long. ■