

Established  
1973

# LINEHATERS' GAZETTE

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Volume HA, Number 4

April 1, 2018

## It's A Small World After All Park Slope Food Coop to Open a Store in Orlando, Florida, Beating Out Bay Ridge and East New York for Second Location

By Donald Dick

When General Coordinator Joe Holtz learned that Disney World was looking to add a 12th world nation to its wildly popular Epcot Center, he jumped at the chance to get Brooklyn on the list. Competition was fierce. Interested countries had to submit three letters of reference, a personal essay and a tax return from the year of their choice. The General Coordinators took it one step further and sent the judges a care package that included a crate of minimally treated apples from Hepworth Farms, three packages of toilet paper made from bamboo and a case of pineapple La Croix. "The La Croix was my idea," Holtz beamed. "And I think that's what sealed the deal."

While it's true that Brooklyn isn't technically a country, Epcot made an exception for Brooklyn because of its size, vast diversity and strong ties to the mafia.

Epcot may have its detractors, but Joe Holtz isn't one of them. "There's something absolutely enchanting about the idea of getting to visit a foreign country without having to leave your own," Holtz said. "You don't have to worry about not speaking the language or understanding the exchange rate." "Or drinking the water!" added General Coordinator Mike Eakin, who wouldn't go into detail about what happened to him last year in Mexico.

Brooklyn, which beat out South Korea, the Ukraine and every country in Africa, will take up residency between Japan's Horyuji Temple and Norway's Viking ship, an exquisite structure made from formaldehyde-laced wood imported from China. Brooklyn will get only 500 square feet and one unrenovated bathroom but it plans to use that space wisely. "It will be a mix of old and new Brooklyn," explained District 39 Councilmember Brad Launder, who couldn't be



Membership Coordinators Karen Mancupoulos and Jason Weiner give Disney two thumbs up.

more pleased with the deal. Launder plans to include various Brooklyn landmarks, such as Greenwood Cemetery, the Brooklyn Tabernacle Church and Junior's Restaurant, which will serve a 27,000-calorie, Mickey Mouse-shaped chocolate cheesecake. And of course there will be an outpost of the Park Slope Food Coop (known as the EpCoop), designed by our resident architect Ron Mitkowski. Because of space constraints, the EpCoop will only have two aisles, one of which Mitkowski says will most certainly include beer. Tourists who want to shop there will have to provide three proofs of address and work a seven-hour shift in the membership gift shop.

Other highlights of Epcot's Brooklyn will include a stretch of Williamsburg's Bedford Avenue, featuring Disney characters Shabby Hipster, Woke Millennial and Orthodox Doc. And a ride called Flatbush Avenue—modeled after Epcot's most popular attraction, Spaceship Earth—will take visitors on a standing-room-only bus ride through Brooklyn's most storied street, showcasing roti restaurants, dollar vans and bumper-to-bumper traffic. Flatbush Avenue will be narrated by Spike Lee. ■

PHOTO CREDIT DAWN CORLEONE

## Fare Thee Well, Michael Eakin Long-Time General Coordinator to Retire in May

By Dawn Corleone

As Mike "Rhymes with Bacon" Eakin prepares to retire from the Food Coop in May, the *Linehatters' Gazette* sat down with him to discuss his many, many, many years of employment at the Coop.

Q: What was the happiest moment of your time at the Coop?

A: The day Jonathan Cruickshank was hired.

Q: The saddest?

A: The day I ran out of WD-40.

Q: Who has been the biggest influence on your life?

A: Yuri Weber

Q: What lessons did that person teach you?

A: That there's more than one way to cut the cheese.

Q: Who has been the kindest to you in your life?

A: Ron Zisa, the Hugging Bulk Buyer.

Q: What are the most important lessons you've learned in life?

A: I've learned that I would've made a lot more money working for RAC Mechanical.

Q: What is your earliest memory?

A: My earliest memory is when Betsy Ross first came to the Coop. We had only been open a few months but she was a big fan and she gave us a homemade Park Slope Food Coop banner that she had designed and sewn herself. You can see it hanging in the Meeting Room.

Q: Are there any funny stories your Coop family tells about you that come to mind?

A: Yes! The time the membership coordinators came to me to say that they were freezing in the Office and I used my heat gun to "measure" the temperature. I told them it registered 64 degrees but it really registered 30 degrees!

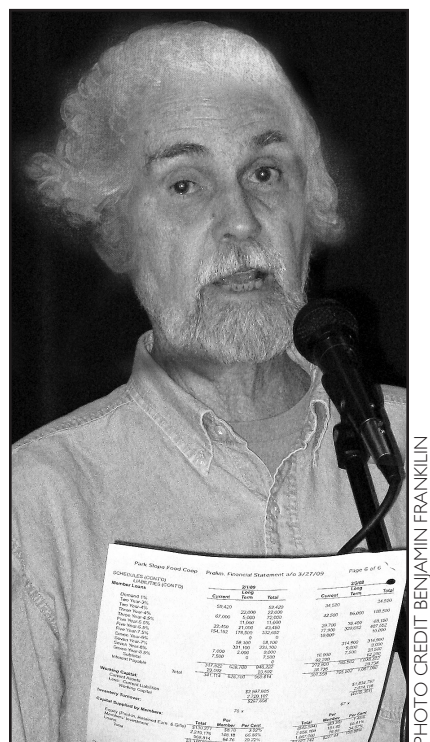


PHOTO CREDIT BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Eakin, giving the financial report with his trusty abacus, at a General Meeting in the late 1700s.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## Coop Event Highlights

**Fri, Apr 7 • "Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown" with guest speaker Sarah Huckabee Sanders 7:00 p.m.**

**Thu, Apr 14 • Spring Cleanse & Prune Eating Contest 7:30 p.m.**

**Thu, Apr 20 • Cooking Class: Learn traditional dishes of Jews for Jesus cuisine such as Gefilte Fish & Chips and Lobster Kugel 7:30 p.m.**

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

Exciting Workslot Opportunities . . . . .	2
General Coordinator Talent Show . . . . .	3
Entire Staff Takes Ancestry DNA Test and Learns It's Greek . . .	4
Personal Ads . . . . .	4
Coop Installs Pay Toilet in Basement . . . . .	5
Unsafe Food Committee Report . . . . .	5
Coop Calendar, Governance Information, Mission Statement . . .	7
Horoscopes . . . . .	8
Letters to the Editor . . . . .	10
Welcome . . . . .	12

# General Coordinators Perform In Talent Show

By Karen Mancupoulos

Ever notice the fine print emblazoned on the neon shingle hanging above our beloved Park Slope Food Coop? “Established in 1973.” A few quick taps on your iPhone calculator will tell you that 2018 is the year the Food Coop turns 45. Yes, the Coop is officially middle-aged.

But you know what they say: 45 is the new 25. And the Coop—whose financial health is fit as a fiddlehead fern—has a slew of parties planned in the coming year to celebrate its special birthday.

The first event is a talent show slated for the end of the month where the General Coordinators will perform a variety of acts. “Members tend to know us in very limited ways,” explained Joe Holtz, the Coop’s General Manager. “They think of Mike Eakin only as that old guy who gives the financial report at the General Meetings. Would you believe me if I told you Mike plays a mean Fender Strat? Dude, he actually studied with Hendrix back in the day.” Eakin, himself, confirmed this. “It’s true! I studied for about a year with Bill Hen-

drix—a great guitar teacher out of Waukegan, Illinois.”

Eakin, who is retiring in May after 120 years as a General Coordinator, recently blew the dust off his Strato-caster (affectionately known to Eakin as Junior) and, along with four other local octogenarians, formed a Fugazi cover band called Warfarin. At the Coop talent show the group will play Fugazi’s last album, *The Argument*, in its entirety. If everyone in the band lives through the set, they plan to play the song “Life and Limb” as their encore. Receiving Coordinators and dedicated Warfarin groupies, Marc Thompson and Ross Gibson, will cross off songs on each of the musicians’ set lists in an effort to prevent them from repeating songs. “At the sound check they played “Epic Problem” three and half times before they realized what was going on,” lamented Gibson.

Holtz, who admits to having no idea who the hell Fugazi is, will be attempting a duet with fellow GC Ann Herpel that the two learned on their junket to France last fall. “It’s funny,” Herpel said, as she recounted the

story. “We were invited there to help a startup food co-op called La Louve”—not to be confused with Le Louvre, that museum in Paris where *The Da Vinci Code* was filmed—“and instead of working we spent most of the time at this little bistro we stumbled upon one afternoon while exploring the flea markets. I can’t remember the name of the place but there was this zaftig woman who sang Edith Piaf songs and a handsome gentleman who accompanied her on the accordion. Joe and I were immediately smitten.” According to Holtz, he and

Herpel befriended the musical couple and began a sort of student-mentor relationship. “By our last night there,” Herpel said, “we were on stage with them and we brought the house down. It was the best night of my life!” Holtz and Herpel hope to bring a little bit of Paris back to Brooklyn for the talent show. The only difference here will be, in a charming role reversal, Holtz will sing the Piaf part and Herpel will don a black mustache and play the accordion. “We want to keep our nonbinary members happy,” explained Herpel.



PHOTO CREDIT: DAVE HERMAN MUMSTER

Ann Herpel and Joe Holtz drink champers in Paris.

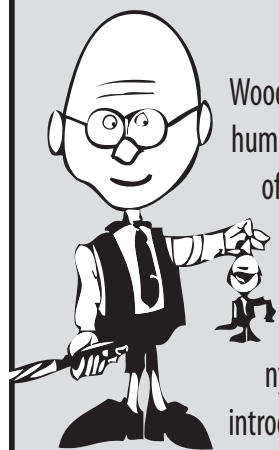
Joe Szladek had originally planned to dress in double-reverse drag as Barbra Streisand in Yentl and lip-synch a “Papa, Can You Hear Me?” medley but when he heard that Holtz was doing Piaf, he decided to perform a magic act instead. He is currently seeking an assistant.

The other acts at the show will include Elinor Astrinsky doing impressions (of annoying Coop members), and Lisa Moore performing a robot dance to the tune of Eminem’s “Slim Shady.” Jessica Robinson and Tricia Leith plan to dance the final scene of *Dirty Dancing* as Baby and Johnny. Of course the question everyone is dying to know the answer to is, will they perform the final lift? “We’ve been practicing in the pool at the 9th street Y,” Robinson said. “We haven’t nailed it yet but I know we will.” At this, Leith shook her head. She also added, “Any Coop member caught recording the show will be brought up on charges by the Disciplinary Committee.” ■

*Coop Talent Show, March 31 at 5 p.m., at the Old Stone House, 336 Third St, Brooklyn. \$250 plus an eight-drink, three-appetizer and two-dessert minimum.*

**Sunday, April 1  
11 p.m. to 1 a.m.**

## Whittling 101



Wood carving is one of the oldest art forms in human history and the earliest known example of MBSR (Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction), dating back to 4000 B.C. Learn the ins and outs of whittling from a brother-sister duo of blind Peruvian forest nymphs. This very cool workshop will introduce you to the basics of wood types from Balsa to Butternut and techniques from the Philippines, Scandinavia, Nigeria and Greece, where artisans marinate the wood in olive oil and oregano before carving it. Special guest appearance by bearded local hipster who whittles on his stoop in Bushwick as his mating call.

\$100 entrance fee includes a beginner’s whittling kit (knife and wood not included).

**B.Y.O.B. : Bring Your Own Band-Aids**

**MEMBERS UNDER THE CARE  
OF A MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL  
WILL NOT BE ADMITTED**

VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE PRESENTER DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT ANYTHING REAL



## EXCITING WORKSLOT OPPORTUNITIES



### Weight Watchers Squad

It’s not what you think! Help us weigh members when they come into the store and again when they leave to determine whether or not they snacked on unpaid-for food while shopping. Members will pay \$8.99/lb. for anything they weigh over their original weight.

### Product Development Squad

Help the Coop develop a line of products, from concept to reality, made specifically for women. You should have experience with focus groups, prototype development and crowd-funding. Men only.

### Nighty Night Squad

We are seeking two members per shift to read bed-time stories to bored workers at the Second Floor Service Desk. No credit if the member is still awake at the end of the story.

### Haircutting Squad

The Coop is looking for 6-8 licensed hair professionals to form a haircutting squad and learn the Coop haircut from master stylist Leslie Cavendish. Beginning in 2019 the Coop will phase out membership cards and instead require all members to get the same (bowl) haircut. “With all the monkeying around people can do with technology

these days, the General Coordinators feel that cards are no longer an effective form of ID,” said Joe Holtz (who now chooses to go by the name Ringo).

### Valet Parking Squad

Everyone knows that parking near the Coop is impossible. The Valet Parking Squad is looking for members who don’t have a chip on their shoulder and aren’t going to get bent out of shape when rich Coop members pull up in their Land Rovers and BMWs. We’re especially looking for members, regardless of gender, who look like Matt Dillon in *The Flamingo Kid*.

### Brewers Squad

The Coop is seeking three to four experienced brewers and/or beer guzzlers to aid in the development of two PSFC inaugural brews: Shite (an English-style bitter with an ABV of 11%) and Shite Lite (a pale ale rolling in with an ABV of 9%).

### Airline Squad

Calling all Coop-trained pilots! The Coop is in the early stages of developing its own airline, Airvocado. The recent purchase of a Cessna Citation Mustang needs a crew. We are seeking one pilot, one trained maintenance worker and a bartender.

# The Only Gay in the Village

## Debbie Parker leaves Brooklyn for the willy-wacks of Maine

By Karen Mancupoulos

Many of you know Membership Coordinator Debbie Parker as the friendly face who shows up at the entrance desk when you page out for Tech Support because you can't figure out how to get music from your iPhone to play on the shopping floor.

"I love doing tech support because it gets me out of the office," Parker says. "Being on the ground floor makes it easier for me to sneak outside for a quick vape break."

Unfortunately, those of you who have come to rely on Parker's help will now have to learn to put a new roll of receipt tape into the printers by yourself. Parker and her family are relocating to Bangor, Maine, at the end of the summer. After 21 years at the Food Coop, Parker concedes it's time to move on.

"To be honest, I'm getting a little tired of the diversity at the Coop," says Parker, a black lesbian with a white wife and a biracial son. "I wanted more of a challenge and I think Bangor will offer that."

Parker is correct about that. According to Wikipedia, Bangor has a population of approximately 33,000 people, of which 110% of them are white and heteronormative. "In Bangor," Parker says, "when I mention my partner they assume I'm a cop." Still, Parker thinks the residents of Bangor have been making an effort to diversify. A quick

look at Bangor's Chamber of Commerce website shows that the Bangor Players, a downtown theater company, is putting on a stage production of *Black Panther* in the spring. While the theater's artistic director concedes that the show will have an all-white cast, he believes the town is making progress.

Parker's coworkers at the Coop are sad to see her go but they admit that they are psyched to take over her desk space in the cramped annex on the second floor. "Once we clear out all of Debbie's stuff I think we will have room for twelve more desks in the annex," says General Coordinator Jess Robinson. ■



Pictured above is one-tenth of Debbie's workspace.



PHOTO CREDIT KAREN MANCUPoulos

Debbie Parker enjoying a smoke while members paging out for Tech Support figure things out for themselves.

## Retires

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Q: Are there any funny stories or memories or characters from your life that you want to tell me about?

A: Well, there was this one time when Joe Holtz and I were saddling up our horses to come to work (at the Coop) and Joe's horse wouldn't budge so we left him tied to the hitching post and doubled up on my horse. It was funny because Joe and I were still drunk from the night before and Joe kept falling off the horse!

Q: What are you proudest of?

A: The time I worked alone in the chicken cooler.

Q: When in life have you felt most alone?

A: That time in the chicken cooler.

Q: If you could hold on to one memory from your life forever, what would that be?

A: The time my name was in the #1 position in the staff raffle.

Q: How has your life been different than what you'd imagined?

A: Well, having graduated from Harvard Business School, I thought I'd, at the

very least, be referred to as Mr. Smartypants or Your Highness or something.

Q: How would you like to be remembered?

A: As someone who worked hard, kept his sense of humor and drank the most beer at all the parties. ■

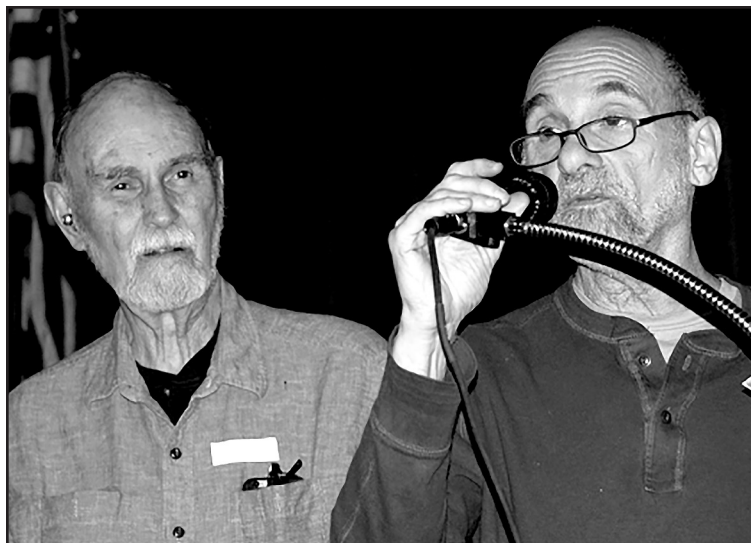


PHOTO CREDIT THE WICKED MONK

Joe Holtz (right) will fill Mike Eakin's shoes with size 12 MBTs.

## Top Ten List of Baby Names in Park Slope

10. Ditch

9. Turnip

8. Natto

7. Tombucha

6. Planet

5. Prancer

4. Dancer

3. Diatomaceous

2. Teff

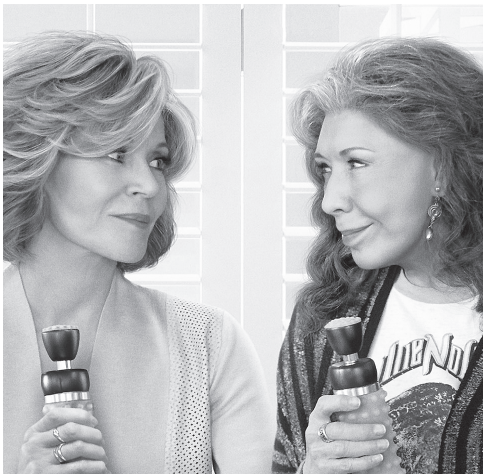
1. Joe

Friday, April 20, 8:00 p.m.

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



# PROSPECT CONCERTS



The Coop, in conjunction with *Inside Edition*, is proud to welcome life-long friends and *Grace and Frankie* costars Lily Tomlin and Jane Fonda.

Tomlin, primarily known for her Oscar-nominated performance in *The Incredible Shrinking Woman*, will share inside stories as one of Hollywood's most infamous lesbians. "Many people don't know this," Tomlin said, "but Nelly Furtado's 2006 hit song 'Promiscuous' was based on me."

Fonda will speak about her time as an anti-war activist and plastic surgery advocate.

The pair will also address myths about their hit Netflix series (yes, those vibrators are real!) and answer questions about where Sam Waterston's character Sol gets his cool shirts made.

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

53 Prospect Park West [at 2nd Street] • \$10 • 8pm [doors open at 7:45]  
Performers are Park Slope Food Coop members and receive Coop workslot credit.  
Booking: Stormy Daniels, 718-622-5685

## 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. 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 2018

### GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 24, 7:00 p.m.

#### Meeting Agenda (8:00-10:30)

**Item 1: Receiving Coordinators to use bananas instead of walkie-talkies.**

"Bananas work for little kids—they can work for us too."  
—submitted by Lev Luddite

**Item 2: Replace all our products with packaging to look like that supermarket in Repo Man.**

—submitted by Kevin O'Greek

**Item 3: Coop to install a marquee over entrance.**

The marquee will feature the following in flashing, bright white theater lights: PARK SLOPE FOOD & GRILL  
—submitted by the Goddess Durga

- 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.

## PERSONALS

### SINCERE CHRISTIAN

Gay (not out) Christian (shows face at church) swinger (high ranking government official) seeks gay (femme) rich (owns brownstone) swinger (no identifiable HBO Real Sex participants) Coop member for undercover soiree. NDA required. 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

### "IT'S NOT MY JOB" SEEKS SAME

Maintenance no-worker seeks equally lazy slob who feels above their chosen workslot. Box 84

### "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

## 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.

Vladimir Putin  
Angela Merkel  
Xi Jinping  
Pope Francis  
Janet Yellen  
Bill Gates  
Larry Page  
Narendra Modi

Mark Zuckerberg  
Mario Draghi  
Li Keqiang  
Theresa May  
Jeff Bezos  
Warren Buffett  
Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud  
Carlos Slim Helu

Ali Hoseini-Khamenei  
Jamie Dimon  
Benjamin Netanyahu  
Elon Musk  
Jeffrey Immelt  
Francois Hollande  
Rex Tillerson  
Christine Lagarde

Lloyd Blankfein  
Doug McMillon  
Jack Ma  
Akio Toyoda  
Sergey Brin  
Charles Koch  
Tim Cook  
Li Ka-shing

Larry Fink  
Rupert Murdoch  
Antonio Guterres  
Shinzo Abe  
Mukesh Ambani  
Khalifa bin Zayed Al-Nahyan  
Jay Y. Lee  
Ding Xuedong