

Bloomingfoods Owner News



BLOOMINGFOODS



Good things are happening at the co-op! Right now, becoming awesome grocers is the name of our game. We've closed the Elm Heights store, and did so without having to lay off one employee. Soon we'll be re-incorporating our commissary kitchen operations into our East and Near West Side locations. Our management teams are receiving numerous trainings covering everything from leadership skills to category management; and before long the entire co-op will participate in a new customer service training program! We've created a couple of new positions to help us curate a better product mix, and provide better support to our location staff. We're creating new grocery programs to improve your grocery buying experience; and we're planning some fun events this summer too. All this good stuff is just for you!

June Featured Local Vendor: Rhodes Family Farm Eggs



All shoppers receive 25% off!

Rhodes Family Farm, located in Greene County, is a 100 acre grass-based farm, and home to 80 cattle, 25 hogs, 30 sheep, 250 chickens, 25 ducks, and several goats. Their nutritious, free range eggs come from chickens that are allowed to forage and soak up the sunshine. The farm does not use antibiotics, hormones, pesticides, fungicides or GMO products. Bloomingfoods loves these eggs so much that we use them in our kitchens!

Local Vendor Demo Event

Thursday, June 16th @ East

4 - 7pm

Join us and several of our local vendors to sample their products and learn about local business. This is an event you won't want to miss!

[Rasta Pops](#)

[Uel Zing Coffee](#)

[Zeitgeist Organic Creamery](#)

[Ugo](#)

[Lucky Guy Bakery](#)

[Hopscotch Coffee](#)

[Soapy Soap](#)

[Piccoli Dolci](#)

Positive Change Updates

While we've yet to tally the proceeds for May's Positive Change recipient, the Bloomington Community Orchard, we're confident we'll have a generous donation to contribute soon. In the meantime, let's get ready to round up for June's recipient, the [Sycamore Land Trust](#)!

Sycamore Land Trust is a regional non-profit organization that "protects land and connects people to nature. We conserve important natural areas and family farms in 26 southern Indiana counties. Our Environmental Education Program helps people of all ages learn about and appreciate nature."



New! Create-Your-Own Kombucha 6 pack Deal



We want to make it easier for you to take advantage of kombucha's B-vitamins and probiotic goodness, so beginning Thursday, June 2nd, Bloomingfoods shoppers will be able to mix and match from all of our kombucha offerings and save money. For every 6 bottles of kombucha you purchase, you'll automatically receive 10% off. Stop in soon and C-Y-O!

Board News & Events

Board of Directors seeks new candidates! Candidate deadline extended.

If you have ever considered running for the board, this is the time. As one of our members said recently, "The co-op needs to play its A-team right now". Serving on the Board is an exciting way to be involved in visioning the future of our cooperative business. Our Board uses a combination of policy governance and strategic planning to guide the co-op towards a sustainable future for our community.

Visit our [website](#) for more information, and to download the election packet. Packet submission deadline is June 15th.

Staff on the Board

Last year, the board and owner-membership voted to approve increasing the number of Directors from 7 to 9. This year, the board voted to remove policy language that prohibits Bloomingfoods staff from sitting as Directors. Staff may now hold up to two board seats as long as they meet these conditions:

- A. The general manager may not hold a board seat
- B. Staff members who directly report to the general manager are ineligible
- C. Former staff who have been terminated for cause within the previous five years are ineligible

Ex officio Board members

Given the change from 7 to 9 Directors, and the fairly substantial number of directors leaving office after the election in September, the board has appointed 3 ex officio members: Claire Cumberland, Gracia Valliant, and Marsha McCarty. These individuals have already indicated their intention to run in the upcoming election. The hope is that, by sitting in on board meetings and participating in discussions, these folks will be ready to hit the ground running if elected. The board also approved the appointment of a parliamentarian, attorney Mary

Runnels.

Bylaw review

Board President, Caroline Beebe, and several other Directors are looking at the co-op's articles of incorporation and bylaws, which are now antiquated. It's possible that they will have a fresh, clean set of articles and bylaws ready for your approval in September. Owner members who are interested in participating in this process are encouraged to get in touch with Caroline.

Board of Directors Meetings*

Thursday, June 30th @ 6:30pm

Thursday, July 28th @ 6:30pm

*For the time being, the meetings will be held at the former Elm Heights store, located at 614 E 2nd St.

Regularly scheduled monthly board meetings are held the last Thursday of the month at 6:30pm. Board Meetings are open to co-op owner-members and guests of the board. Familiarity with the Bylaws, Policies, and the Policy Governance Method will enhance your understanding of the board meeting process.

Owner Member Linkage Committee Meetings*

Wed, June 15th @ 6:15-7:15pm, East store patio

Wed, July 20th @ 6:15-7:15, East store patio

*New meeting time & location

The Owner Member Linkage Committee has made several suggestions about ways the board can better communicate with owner members. In addition to encouraging the board to continue its quarterly member forums, they have given us several sets of questions, the answers to which will eventually form an FAQ on the website. The board is also determined to assemble a [comprehensive] list of owner member emails. A cooperative business is owned and run by the people who use it, so it has to be one of our first priorities to communicate with each other.

Save the Date: Annual Meeting

Wednesday, October 19, 2016

July 24th is our 40th Anniversary, and this year our annual meeting will cover a lot!

More details to come as we firm up the plans.

Community News & Events

Tuesday Market Starts June 7th

The [Tuesday Market](#), held from 4 - 7 p.m. each Tuesday from June through September, is located at the corner of Sixth and Madison Streets. This year's market offers a delectable assortment of prepared food vendors, as well as an allstar line up of farm vendors and live music! This market is right next door to our Near West Side location, so be sure to stop in and say hi!

Edible Lotus: June 9th @ Deer Park Manor

A benefit event that supports Lotus Blossoms Educational Outreach, and the Lotus World Music & Arts Festival. "Now in its 17th year, this elegant evening features fabulous food from Bloomington's best restaurants, a silent and live auction, entertainment, and more." For tickets and information visit the Lotus [website](#).

Taste of Bloomington: June 18th @ Showers Common

Dozens of Bloomington's best restaurants, wineries, and breweries together with live music. Click [here](#) for event information.

Summer Garden Walk Tickets Available at East & Near West Side through June 24th

Tour private gardens, and check out the annual Flower Show

Saturday, June 25th 10am to 2pm

Sunday, June 26th Noon to 4pm

Tickets are \$10 each, and the proceeds benefit non-profit organizations in Monroe County that highlight children's gardening programs and civic planting and beautification projects.

For more info visit the event [page](#).

Bloomington Winter Farmers Market seeks Market Master

Are you passionate about eating local in winter? Is keeping a connection between farmers, food and community important to you in the winter months? Consider becoming the [Bloomington Winter Farmers Market](#) (BWFM) Market Master, connecting people and food while providing a place for community gathering during the darkest time of year.

BWFM seeks a Market Master for the 2016-2017 season. This is a year-round position, with peak commitment from September to November. In addition, the Market Master must be available every Saturday December-March. Requires outstanding organizational skills, excellent communication skills, ability to think critically and work independently. Please send cover letter and resume to bloomingtonwinterfarmersmarket@gmail.com. Applications are due by June 10, 2016.

ISDA Accepting applications for Organic Certification Cost Share Program

In an effort to make organic certification more accessible to Indiana farmers, a rebate of up to 75% of the cost of certification is now available. Contact the [Indiana State Department of Agriculture](#) for more information.



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