



Supporting Veterans, Sponsoring Rudy!



In the month of June Bloomingfoods donated 1% of fresh deals, co-op deals, co-op basics and local focus to Paws-Abilities Inc. in support of sponsoring Rudy the service dog. We are proud to announce our shoppers helped us raise a total of \$1,589.41. On behalf of Paws-Abilities Inc., Bloomingfoods would like to thank our owner-members for your support in helping a veteran in need of a service dog.

[Paws-Abilities, Inc.](#) is a nonprofit organization in Spencer, Indiana that promotes the use of service dogs as a method of assistance for veterans and children who have neural-developmental disabilities.

Bloomington's 29th Annual Salsa Contest



Have you purchased your entry packet yet for the 29th Annual Bloomingfoods & City of Bloomington Salsa Contest? On Saturday, August 5 at 10am at the Bloomington Farmer's Market, entries for the city's best homemade salsa will be evaluated by a panel of expert judges, and anyone can participate. Winners will receive prize bags with goodies from local businesses all over town!

You can pick up your entry packet at our East or West location for \$5. Packets must be returned to either location no later than 8pm on Friday, August 4.

Even if you don't enter, plan on joining the fun! Taste the salsas while supplies last, as well as some salsas made by Bivis Tamales. There is a salsa-making demonstration at 10:15 a.m.

Salsa Contest Regulations

Salsas should be entirely handmade with fresh ingredients; no additives, preservatives, artificial flavors, or processed sauces allowed. Twenty entries in each of the three categories (tomato-based raw, tomato-based cooked and specialty) are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. All the ingredients in raw salsa must be completely uncooked (no smoking, braising, roasting, etc.) Specialty salsas may include tomatoes, but not as a main ingredient. Judges and their family members are not eligible to participate. Limit of one entry per category per person.



The Smoothies Are Back



Smoothies Are Back!

All smoothies: \$4.99

Buy a re-usable jar and lid: \$2.00

Perfect for re-using with smoothies or in our bulk section!

Iron Man

Fair Trade & organic banana,
East Wind peanut butter,
local Hunter's Honey,
Uncle Matt's organic orange juice,
Bloomingfoods Non-GMO, soy,
vanilla protein powder



Iron Lady

Fair Trade & organic banana,
Justin's Nut Butter almond butter,
local Hunter's Honey,
Almond Breeze Original almond milk,
Bloomingfoods Non-GMO, soy,
vanilla protein powder



Strawberry Fields

organic strawberries, Fair Trade & organic
banana, smoothie mix (Seven Stars organic
yogurt, Bionaturae organic pear nectar Maple
Grove Pure Grade B maple syrup)



Chia Chai

Fair Trade & organic banana, made
in-house chai, Frontier Herbs chia seeds,
smoothie mix (Seven Stars organic
yogurt, Bionaturae organic pear
nectar Maple Grove Pure Grade B
maple syrup)



Gingerly

Cascadian Farms organic peaches,
organic raspberries, organic & juiced
in-house ginger, smoothie mix
(Seven Stars organic yogurt, Bionaturae
organic pear nectar Maple Grove Pure
Grade B maple syrup)



Bloomingfoods is happy to announce the smoothies are back. Smoothies are only available on the East side in five delicious flavors (Chia Chai, Gingerly, Strawberry Fields, Iron Man or Iron Lady). Upgrade your smoothie and receive a reusable mason jar, perfect for shopping the bulk section.

Please note: Our Iron Man and Iron Lady smoothies utilize Bloomingfoods branded

protein powder that is non-gmo and soy based with natural vanilla flavoring.



We'll also have these wellness demos taking place the month of July

Face Plant Skin Care

Friday 7/14, 4 pm - 6 pm East

Saturday 7/15, 12 pm - 2 pm West

Wednesday 7/26, 12 pm - 2 pm West, 4 pm - 6pm East

Frangipani Body Products

Saturday 7/15, 11 am - 2 pm East, 3 pm - 6 pm West

Congratulations to Patty Wykes! Happy Grilling!



Bloomingfoods would like to congratulate Patty Wykes on winning the summer grill raffle. We would like to send a warm thank you to everyone who participated in the summer raffle. Congratulations on winning the grill Patty. Happy Grilling.

July's Local Focus: FACE PLANT Skincare

Bloomingfoods shoppers receive 25% off all their expertly crafted skincare products



FACE PLANT is a woman-owned skincare company committed to bringing affordable, all natural, chemical-free skincare products to discerning consumers with a sense of humor.

Lesley Davis came to Bloomington for graduate school in 1995 and has been a devoted Bloomingfoods customer for over 20 years. Four years ago, Lesley started working on plant-based, human-safe, skincare recipes that would then become Face Plant Skincare. Bloomingfoods is the only retail outlet where Face Plant products are currently sold.

A plant-based diet is good for your body's interior; plant nutrition for your skin is just as good for your exterior. - Lesley Davis

Positive Change for Sycamore Land Trust

In June, Bloomingfoods' shoppers protected the beautiful natural heritage of southern Indiana by donating \$8,124.99 to support [Sycamore Land Trust](#), an organization that envisions a future in which southern Indiana has diverse and abundant habitat for native plants and animals, as well as clean air and water, working lands that are productive and sustainable, and people who embrace the connection between a healthy environment and our quality of life.

Positive Change raises funds by giving shoppers the opportunity to round their

purchase up to the nearest dollar, or donate more if they wish. Each month, Bloomingfoods has a new recipient organization, and 100% of the proceeds go directly to the organization.

Bloomingfoods would like to extend our gratitude to the owner-members, shoppers, and staff who are making Positive Change a success! It is so incredibly inspiring to see how small change can make such a big impact!

The campaign continues at the East, Near West Side and Ivy Tech Bloomingfoods locations. This month, the co-op is raising funds for the [Area 10 Agency on Aging](#)



Area 10 Agency on Aging provides resources, solutions and connections for seniors, persons with disabilities and family caregivers living in Monroe and Owen Counties.

Same Great Supplements. New Bloomingfoods Label

The entire line of Bloomingfoods supplements will be 20% off for the month of July.



Bloomingfoods is pleased to announce we are celebrating the launch of our newly redesigned line of branded supplements the entire month of July. For the month of July you can get your favorite Bloomingfoods brand supplements at 20% off. It's the same great supplements with a newly designed label.

Don't see the Bloomingfoods branded supplement you're looking for on the shelf? It may still be available for special order. *Please note the Near West Side store may have a smaller selection of Bloomingfoods brand supplements.*

Come in and pick up your Bloomingfoods brand supplements the month of July and save 20%.

Wellness Wednesday: July 26th

Wednesday is a great day to get your wellness on! On July 26th the entire Wellness department is 20% off*, and with the addition of several new product lines, we've got plenty of reasons for you to shop!



* Co-op Deals are excluded from Wellness Wednesday pricing.

Grocery Gone Wild!

by Tony Alongi, GM

Have you ever seen an industry go so nuts so fast in your life? The past two months have been some of the nuttiest ever in the grocery world – particularly in our corner of the world. Marsh declares bankruptcy and one month later is sliced and diced into three parts – part sold off to Kroger, part sold off to Fresh Encounter and the third part simply vanishing. How many Kroger stores can you fit into a city of 80,000? (has to be a joke in there somewhere). Then we have the big announcement that Fresh Thyme is coming to college mall, with the “Oops” retraction a few hours later, which itself included an odd statement that they hoped to have an announcement about plans for the East side of Bloomington later in the week (still waiting!). Equally bizarre was the comment that nobody was sure what this meant for the planned 365 by Whole Foods. Really? We aren’t smart enough to figure that one out?

Of course, all of this looked like back page news with the announcement on June 9th that Amazon was planning to acquire Whole Foods itself. That one left the industry speechless – at least for half a day. That’s a lot of activity in the space of six weeks or so. Everyone in this industry needs a breather.

How does all of this affect Bloomingfoods? Well....that depends. In some ways, it doesn’t. We still opened our doors the day after each of these announcements, still served our loyal customers, still bought and sold great food. In short, the sun came up in the East the next morning.

But in the longer term, the goings on in the industry in general and Bloomington in particular could have a profound effect on Bloomingfoods. Every time a grocery store opens here, we all end up fighting for a smaller piece of the same pie. While we are different in many ways, many (but not all) of the products we sell have become commodities across all of these stores. So let's not kid ourselves. Kroger is a much better operator than Marsh was and if (as rumors have it) they convert the old East Third Street Marsh into an actual Kroger store, it is going to hurt. And what about the 365 by Whole Foods? We can deal with the 365 because it is different enough. But a Fresh Thyme in that space? Much bigger problem for us.

And, of course, the Amazon Whole Foods marriage is the great unknown. In the weeks since the announcement there has been volumes of opinions written on what will happen, what it means, why it is the end of grocery as we know it. Or why it isn't. Nobody really knows. Amazon is notoriously tight lipped about its plans. I have read some absolute junk and some brilliant speculation. And two weeks or so after the announcement, the grocery world still has its undies in a bind (so to speak) over this tie-up. To have that level of uncertainty two weeks on in today's world is almost unheard of. I can sum up much of what I have read and believe as follows:

1. Amazon is probably the number one disrupter of business as usual in the U.S. today.
2. There is some admission in this move that groceries only via the internet is not a strategy for long-term success
3. Amazon just gained over 400 brick-and-mortar outlets for it to sell its entire catalog of goods
4. Amazon is not acquiring Whole Foods to leave things as they are.

Translation: Things are going to change but nobody except Amazon actually knows how or when.

As always, we will be watching developments very closely and we will need to be ready to adapt to changes in our environment. Reacting to change – even if it means that difficult decisions have to be made – is essential to Bloomingfoods continuing to exist as a business. One thing is for certain and that is that we have not seen the end of grocery gone wild – not across the U.S. and not in Bloomington. Whatever happens, we will be ready to act.

Thanks for your continued support of Bloomingfoods.

Tony Alongi
General Manager

Help Us Help You! Introducing Bloomingfoods Receipt Drive!

Most of us are shopping at more than one store for our weekly groceries. It's ok to admit it - we already know!! Now we want to know what you are buying at other stores. Why? Because just maybe these are products that we can bring in to our stores and you would buy them here instead!

To that end, Bloomingfoods will be launching its first "Receipt Drive" sometime in July. We want your receipts! You will find boxes at both the East and NWS stores for you to drop your receipts from those other grocery stores around town – Kroger, Lucky's, Fresh Thyme – doesn't matter. We want to see them! Put your name, address, phone and member numbers and an email address on the back and you will be entered into a drawing for a Bloomingfoods gift card at month's end. Would you rather us not know who is buying what? That's fine too – just drop your receipts in the boxes without your contact information. Either way, you will be helping us help you by making better informed product selections for our shelves as well as allowing us to insure our prices are as competitive as we can be.

Look for the boxes in the stores soon!

Board News

Join us for cake to celebrate our 41st birthday! Board members will be serving cake in both the East and Near West stores on Sunday, July 23rd from 10:00AM-2:00PM. This July also marks the 10th anniversary of the Near West store. Please share your favorite memories of the store that was once the Encore Cafe. (Bonus points if you can name an earlier occupant.) Speaking of celebrations, mark your calendars now for our annual meeting to be held Wednesday, October 4th at Ivy Tech. Come enjoy food, fun, and friendship while admiring our tiniest location.

October also brings our annual elections, including a vote to approve bylaw updates. The board spent more than a year developing proposed changes, which can be found at: <http://www.bloomingfoods.coop/board-reveals-proposed-bylaws/>. One of the reasons we began this process was to address the issue of quorum. Did you know we have more than 12,000 owner-members and that our old bylaws require 10% of membership for a vote to count? In recent years, voter turnout has been well under 500 owner-members, far short of the 1,200 owner-members required by the existing bylaws.

We are proposing two changes. The first is to distinguish between active owner-members and inactive owner-members. To remain active, owner-members must shop or vote within the last three years, must keep their contact information up to date, and must be current on equity payments. Inactive members do not count towards quorum requirements, are not eligible to vote, and do not need to be notified

of the annual meeting. The second proposed update is to change the quorum requirement from 10% of owner-members to be “the lesser of 10% or 100 active owner-members.” The number 100 was identified as realistic in order to conduct business given the low turnout in recent history. We have adjusted other requirements down accordingly, such as the number of members required to call for a special meeting.

Have questions about bylaws? Please feel free to reach out to me (Maggie@bloomingfoods.coop) or come early to one of our board meetings to chat. We will also continue to table in the stores throughout the month of July.

Upcoming Board of Directors Meetings:

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.

Thursday, July 27th, 2017

Thursday, August 31st, 2017

Thursday, September 28th, 2017

Community Connections

[Bloomington Community Farmers' Market](#): Saturdays, April – November

[Salsa Contest](#): Saturday, August 5th, 10 am @ Bloomington Community Farmers' Market

"Summer's sun is still blazing, and we're about to kick up the heat with Bloomington's 29th annual salsa contest. Entries for the city's best homemade salsa will be evaluated by a panel of expert judges. Take part in the food showdown of the year, and revel in the abundance of locally grown ingredients and the culinary craftsmanship of the salsa creations. "

Purchase your packet for \$5 at Bloomingfoods East (3220 E. Third St.) or Bloomingfoods Near West Side (316 W. Sixth St.). Packets must be returned to Bloomingfoods East or West no later than 8 p.m. Friday, August 4. Salsa packets will be available in June.

[Parks & Recreation Outdoor Activities and Classes](#)

[Parks & Recreation Gardening Classes](#)



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July Owner News

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