



IT'S DECEMBER!

You made it. It's the last month of 2017, which means it's time to reflect on all that happened this year. Here at Bloomingfoods, we're reflecting on how lucky we are to have had the opportunity to nourish our community for our 41st year.

Whether 2017 was a great year for you or left a bit to be desired, the best part is that we all get to start fresh in January. Whatever goals you set for 2018, Bloomingfoods looks forward to being your destination for all things healthful and sustainable, as well as a great place to pick up a bottle of bubbly and some snacks for your NYE party.

We hope you enjoy your December Bloomingnews. Have a safe and wonderful holiday!

Natascha B Jacob

Member Services Coordinator, Board Member



POSITIVE CHANGE

November Positive Change: Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

In the month of November, Bloomingfoods shoppers fought hunger in our community by rounding up \$9891.12 for [Mother Hubbard's Cupboard](#). We're so incredibly thankful for and proud of our shoppers and staff for raising such a considerable amount for The Hub.

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.

The campaign continues at all three Bloomingfoods locations. This month, the co-op is raising funds for [Shalom Community Center](#).



Shalom Community Center is an all-inclusive resource center in Bloomington, IN for people who are living in poverty and experiencing its ultimate expressions: hunger, homelessness, and a lack of access to basic life necessities.

Be sure to round up your purchases in the month of December to help support this worthy organization!



December Local Focus

Our Local Focus Vendor for December is [P3: Polifroni Pies & Pizzas](#), straight from Terre Haute! Stop in during the month of December and receive 25% off all P3's deliciously decadent gluten- and soy-free, paleo-friendly goodies.

Upcoming In-Store Product Demos

P3: Polifroni Pies & Pizzas Demo
Tues, December 19, 4pm - 7pm
Near West Side

P3: Polifroni Pies & Pizzas Demo
Tuesday, December 26, 4pm - 7pm
East



December Holiday Pre-orders

If you haven't ordered your December holiday meats, you still have time! Pre-order your holiday meats by December 11 and receive 20% off the rest of your basket on December 22, 23, and 24.

Offer excludes member equity, gift cards, \$3 dinner, and pre-ordered holiday meats.



Pre-Order Now



BLOOMINGFOODS

*** OWNER
APPRECIATION
DAY** **2 DAY
SALE!**

**10% OFF
ALL PURCHASES**

EXCLUDING BEER AND WINE

14-15 MONTHLY

EAST

WEST

UTAH

Positive Momentum...

Tony Alongi, General Manager

In case you haven't noticed, there are a lot of positive things happening right now at your Co-op. And, if I do say so myself, it feels pretty good for a change. Working on the floor bagging groceries and fetching turkeys during the week of Thanksgiving, it was great to have people come up and express their thanks for the changes that are taking place, for the work being done by all of our staff and for some of the new things going on around Bloomingfoods.

Our owner-member-only email coupon seems to be very popular given the feedback I've received. Several people indicated that they had taken advantage of the coupon even when they didn't really need what was being offered (four for three Talenti gelato? Wow!!). Don't know what I am talking about? It is a (mostly) weekly coupon only for owner-members and available exclusively via our email list. Not on the list, or thought you were but aren't getting them? You can sign up for our email list on our [website homepage](#) (top left) or by clicking [here](#). If you are having trouble, please contact member services with help getting this sorted out. You don't want to miss these exclusive deals.

It was also great to see so many people taking advantage of our Bloomingfoods for Earth program at the register. This simple stamp program rewards you for doing sustainable things like bringing your own bulk container, walking or biking to the store, and just bringing your own bags among other activities. Make sure to let your cashier know which of these things you did on your trip and once the card is completed you will receive a \$5 credit for turning the completed card in.

And how about [dinner for \\$3?](#) For the past month, we have been offering exactly that – a full, hot, multi-course dinner on Wednesday (NWS store) and Thursday (East store) for 300 pennies. The dinners have proven to be very popular, with lots of new faces in our stores and many people taking advantage both nights! Menus for both stores are posted online. We knew it was popular when people posted online that they were disappointed we were not offering the dinners during Thanksgiving week!

As I mentioned above, staff feel great that, after what seems like ages, there is some positive momentum happening at the co-op. I can feel it, can you?

Since this is the last opportunity to write to you for 2017, I would like to close by thanking you for your continued support of Bloomingfoods and wish everyone reading a very happy and safe holiday season. I look forward to a better and more prosperous 2018 for all of us!

Tony Alongi
General Manager

December Board News

Maggie Sullivan, Board President

Every month, the board monitors one (or more) policies that control the way our co-op is run. This month we are looking at B4 - Membership Rights and Responsibilities. Do you know what your rights and responsibilities are as an owner-member? In a nutshell,

You have the RIGHT of:

- Information (meeting minutes, member forums, timely response to requests/concerns)
- Participation (talk to the board, attend meetings, vote, run for office, serve on committees)
- Civility (be treated with courtesy and respect by staff, board members, and other co-op shoppers)
- Food Security (products that are safe, clean, and not in conflict with any established Product Policy)

You have the RESPONSIBILITY of:

- Participation (stay informed, vote, attend important events, shop, update contact information)
- Civility (treat others with courtesy and respect, alert appropriate staff to mistreatment issues)

Are you ready to participate? We will be holding a member forum in late winter to discuss the future of Bloomingfoods and the Bloomingfoods community. We are more than just a store and we want our owner-members to be more than just shoppers. Please plan to join us to participate in our local democracy and make your voice heard. Details will be coming in the January newsletter. As always, feel free to contact any director with questions or concerns.

Your board president,
Maggie Sullivan
maggie@bloomingfoods.coop

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, December 7th, 2017 (Noodles & Company Conference Room, Eastland Plaza)

Thursday, January 25, 2018

Thursday, February 25, 2018

Community Events & Classes

[Bloomington Winter Farmers' Market](#) - Saturdays @ Harmony School,
December 2 - March 31

[Parks & Recreation Gardening Classes](#)

Farm to Family Fund Gift Cards

Concerned about people in our community who have limited access to fresh food? Every Saturday, the [Farm to Family Fund](#) pays half price to participating farmers at Winter Market for food they didn't sell. This food is delivered directly to The Rise, The Community Kitchen, and Mother Hubbard's Cupboard for hungry families.

To help support the Farm to Family Fund, you can purchase lovely gift cards in honor of someone dear to you, the perfect gift for special friends who will appreciate a donation in their name. This season, your dollar goes even further! For every \$10 gift card Farm to Family will actually receive \$30 toward for food purchases for a hungry family, thanks to a 2-1 matching grant. Your gift also supports your local farmers!

Farm to Family gift cards are available at the market every Saturday in December! For more information, contact Farm to Family Fund at healthfulfoodfund@gmail.com.



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