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FORT COLLINS FOOD CO-OP PICNIC SOCIAL FUN TIME

Sunday | August 28th, 2016 | 4 - 6 PM

City Park, Picnic Shelters
Bryan Ave | Fort Collins, CO

BYO: TASTY DISH TO SHARE, TABLEWARE, SMILES

A Message from your Food Co-op Management Team

Greetings to our Member/Owners and friends!

We hope that this note finds you enjoying your Summer to its fullest. Whether that includes gardening, hiking, or taking a road trip with the family, we hope that you are finishing up the season in a way that makes you happy!

The last few months have been full, and a bit trying for the co-op staff. On the challenging side, we have struggled with both maintenance and staffing issues. These struggles are a somewhat regular Summer phenomenon at the Food Coop, since heat takes its toll on aging equipment, and since Summer is the time for student departures, and when the wanderlust bug bites for many of us! This year, however, both equipment failures, and staffing replacements, have seemed unusually difficult. We do thank you for your patience with a warm store, and on days when overheated staff have been less than happy! We are so pleased to report that we have surmounted our Air Conditioning issues, and finally have our aging Wet rack (where the greens live), back up and running. Hopefully the store is more comfortable and breathable for you all as well! A special shout out in this department: we would like to thank our neighbors (and co-op member/owners) Bohemian Cos., for their assistance with our Air Conditioning replacement! They happened to have a crane on site when our units were ready to be placed on the roof, and *graciously allowed us to piggy-back on their crane use, at no cost to us*. We are extremely grateful for their generosity!!!

Other management accomplishments for the last few months include: resetting our Bulk and Herb shopping areas (we hope you have found those rooms more spacious and user-friendly!). We also

have tapped into City energy-saving programs to fund a lighting upgrade, to LED's, for our entire store (including coolers). This change should be largely paid-for by grants, rebates, and reduced utilities costs. In another visible change, you should be meeting several new staff people, who will be helping with night and weekend coverage. We have been sad to say goodbye to Jordan, Chelsea, and Isabella. Do welcome our newest hires, smiling faces: Chase, Jena and McKenzie! We are delighted to welcome them to our co-op family!

Less visible in the last few months: your management team has been working hard to save the co-op money. We are pleased to report a profit of just over \$19,000 this year to date! Most of that surplus will be used to cover our significant air conditioning and lighting upgrades, however we are very grateful to have that cash on hand when needed, and happy to be able to start making much-needed upgrades to store equipment.

Stay tuned for upcoming changes to the website, produce wet rack, and the main floor product mix/layout. We are devoting ourselves to improving product care and display, as best we are able, to serve you our member-owners! Thank you again for your patronage. Go co-op!

If you have further inquiries, you can reach us at: generalmanager@fcood.coop or call the co-op during business hours: [970]484-7448. We look forward to hearing from you!

Your Co-op Management Team:
Chris, Kalidas, Trinity, Stephanie, Oakley, Theron and Tara



***A Letter from the President of the
Board of Directors***

From the President of the BOD

Here in the heart of summer in Fort Collins, the heat's on.... so what better idea than a late afternoon Food Coop owner potluck picnic? We are planning exactly that, under the picnic shelters on Bryan Ave. in City Park on **Sunday August 28 from 4-6 p.m.**, so consider yourself invited! Details are at the end of this letter...

Speaking of heat, the BOD wants to express sincere appreciation to the Interim General Management Team and all of the staff for keeping their cool during the July meltdown of the store air conditioner. Did you see how the staff managed to remain cheerful even in 90+ degree temperatures for full shifts?! This serves as one more example of the extraordinary caliber of people our Co-op has as employees. The BOD has watched with humble gratitude as the new management team (of six employees) has made one improvement after another, in response to what we, the shoppers are expressing that we want and according to their vision for a vibrant cooperative marketplace that celebrates our local foodshed. But more than that, behind the scenes, the IGMT has been doing all the things a deeply conscientious General Manager does to keep operating expenses down, including payroll, while improving inventory to upgrade the old equipment that is long overdue for replacement. The Board of Directors will spend the next several months studying other Cooperative management team models around the country to make this new model of team management permanent for our Co-op. If you would like to serve on the Research committee, (or on the Outreach committee), please let one of your friendly Co-op BOD members know at the picnic or email us, BOD@fcofood.coop.

Let's celebrate this extraordinary team of people who model for all of us the love of the Co-op - and the community of folks that makes the Co-op happen. We invite you, all of the 2,000+ owners who also love the Co-op, to respond in two simple ways: Consider spending just \$10 a month (a MONTH) more than you currently do, to kick us into increased sales (so that we can pay these incredible employees a decent living wage!) **AND to join us for a potluck picnic at the picnic shelters in City Park on Sunday August 28 from 4-6 p.m.** Look for the Co-op banner! **Bring your own tableware and something to share, and we'll revive the old Co-op tradition of a late August Co-op gathering in City Park.** If it is raining, we'll do the picnic in 2017 and we'll postpone our group gathering until October for our (indoors) Annual meeting.

We want to celebrate together this wonderful Co-op community, and you, Friend, are an important part of that!

On behalf of the Board,
Yours, in Gratitude,
Ruth Inglis-Widrick



Food Co-op Staff Favorites:

Get the low-down on what the staff is loving, and why!



Oakley:

Bulk Hummus Mix from [Fantastic Foods](#)

"Not only is it super-delicious, but it is wonderful to take backpacking/camping since it doesn't take up much space and is super-easy to make on-the-go!"



Kalidas:

enjoys the [Rebbl](#) line of iced beverages- **Matcha Latte, Maca Mocha, and Turmeric Golden- Milk.** "They are super herb elixirs, delicious and energizing!"



Trinity:

INJOYCHA

So new, it was just placed on our shelves *this week!* Trinity tried a sample of this local (Denver-made) Kombucha and nominates it as her staff favorite!

Chris:

recommends her perennial Summer faves, both in stock right now- [Ela Family Farms](#) peaches, and [Luna and Larry's](#) Mint Galactica (mint chocolate chip coconut ice cream) "both guaranteed to please your palate and soothe your soul on a hot day".



Isabella:
wants to draw you attention to [Taos Mountain Energy bars](#)! They come in four amazing flavors, are highly nutritious, and are perfect for long hikes and camping! They are also both Gluten-free and Vegan. A portion of the sales of this product benefits the National Park Foundation.



Tuesday
recommends the following sweet and salty assortment: [Honey Bunchies bar](#) (locally made with 42% honey, Pecans, and sunflower seeds)"chewy and amazing!"; [Dang](#) coconut chip garlic and onion flavor "like Funyuns, but better!!! So tasty" she says, but recommends "a pack of gum along with your purchase", unless you're sharing them with all your friends!



Stephanie's
Staff Fave is currently the [Point Reyes Original Blue Cheese](#)! "Nothing goes better with your garden tomatoes."





Theron: would just like to say that he is appreciating the [cool AIR](#) at the co-op right now! It has come at a price and we are all so thankful to Theron for orchestrating our air conditioning renovation!

The Fort Collins Food Cooperative | 970-484-7448 | info@fcfood.coop | fcfood.coop

