



June 2025 Newsletter

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FROM THE

**GENERAL
MANAGER**



By Gary Taylor

Hello Cooperators!

I want to take this opportunity to make sure everyone is on the lookout for

communications regarding our upcoming elections in September.

As always, our owners are encouraged to run for Board seats, so if you are interested, make sure to watch for upcoming communications for deadlines to run. If you are not planning on running, please make sure that you have shopped in the past year to ensure that your ownership is active. If you have not shopped at least once since the last election cycle, you will not be eligible to vote in September. Also, please make sure that your equity payment is correct. If you have opted to pay \$5/month instead of the entire amount, please just make sure that you are up to date on your payments.

We will be opening up nominations for our Round Up For Good program in July. If you are a supporter of a local non-profit, please make sure to submit their name when we begin the nomination process. You will be able to vote for the organizations that you feel are the most valuable to our community, as well as your Board representatives. We are so proud that the owners of Common Ground Food Co-op have donated over half a million dollars to local non-profits since we began the program in 2012!

Thank you all for your continued support of Common Ground Food Cooperative!

Take Care!

Gary

FROM THE **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



By Mickey Parson

Dear Owners,

As summer begins, the Board of Directors extends its sincere gratitude for your ongoing commitment to Common Ground Food Co-op. Your active participation is

vital to the strength and direction of our Co-op.

We believe that owner input is essential in guiding and upholding our cooperative values. We encourage you to stay involved by attending Board meetings, reaching out with any questions you may have, and considering running for one of the three open seats in this year's board election.

Through initiatives like Round Up For Good, we are proud to continue supporting local organizations that champion equity, sustainability, and food justice. Your contributions help extend the Co-op's mission beyond our store.

We welcome your thoughts and feedback at Board@commonground.coop. Thank you for being an engaged part of our community!

Sincerely,

Mickey Parson

Upcoming Classes & Events

Virtual Pizza Party Cooking Class

Saturday, June 21st 3-5 pm

Join Liz Sands & Sarah Buckman from Common Ground for an afternoon pizza party! Learn how to make fresh homemade pizza dough, two unique pizzas with homemade sauce featuring local vegetables & herbs, and a delicious salad. The menu includes:

- **Homemade Pizza Dough**
- **Pesto, Sundried Tomato, & Goat Cheese Pizza** - with homemade basil pesto and local goat cheese from Prairie Fruits Farm
- **Greek Pizza** - with homemade cherry tomato marinara, kalamata olives, artichoke hearts, roasted red pepper, feta, and red onion
- **Walnut Goat Cheese Salad** - with spring mix, granny smith apple, and homemade honey mustard shallot vinaigrette

Registration is \$50 and includes meal kit portioned for 3 people. Co-op owners can use promo code: **OWNER** for \$5 off their registration.



Register

Brigadeiro In-person Dessert Class

Saturday, June 28th 1-3 pm

Learn how to make several different flavors of Brigadeiro, a popular Brazilian dessert similar to a fudgy truffle, guided by Brazilian cook and instructor, Julia Paniago. Attendees will get hands-on experience and enjoy Brazilian drinks. The menu includes:

- **Assorted Brigadeiro flavors** - traditional chocolate, passionfruit white chocolate, coconut white chocolate, cinnamon churro white chocolate, and a surprise flavor!
- **Brazilian Lemonade** - made with limes, condensed milk, ice, and water
- **Caipirinha** - a popular Brazilian cocktail featuring cachaça, lime, and sugar

\$50/person - Owners can use promo code: **OWNER** for \$5 off their ticket. Limited seating available - only **3 seats left!** Waiting list will be made available once tickets are sold out.



[Register](#)

Art Gallery Reception with Jan Brandt

Friday, June 26th 4-6 pm

Join us for an Art Gallery Reception for Jan Brandt, our current featured artist in our Flatlander Art Gallery! Get a chance to meet the artist, view the art installation, and browse all artwork available for sale. We will also be sampling some wines, charcuterie, and other refreshments.

Jan Brandt's art invites viewers to engage with her compositions, encouraging them to discover hidden details and consider the interplay of representational and abstract elements. Her aim is to transform gallery spaces with saturated colors and textures. In *Step Right Up*, the artist draws upon her life-long fascination with the colors, patterns, and excitement of the circus experience.



[Learn more](#)

Announcements

2026 Round Up For Good Nominations

Round Up For Good is a community-funded grant supported by our customers and owners. Each month, a local organization that enriches our community receives donations through customers "Rounding Up" their change at the registers. A little bit at the registers adds up to a lot: we have raised \$583,077 for local organizations since 2012!

Every fall, we host our owner elections where owners vote on Round Up For Good organizations. Any owner can nominate 3 local organizations to be featured on the ballot. Organizations must be located in Champaign County, align with Common Ground's Ends, and submit a Project Proposal detailing how they intend to use the funds.

Nominations begin June 23rd! Keep your eyes out for a separate email inviting you to nominate your favorite organizations.

Round Up For Good Nominations

It's almost time to nominate your favorite local organizations for the 2026 Round Up For Good Grant!

The nomination period is June 23rd - July 13th.

[Learn more about Round Up For Good](#)

June Owner Deals

Owner Deals are bigger and better than ever! We have a brand new set of owner-exclusive deals. Over 100 amazing products will be on sale for owners for the entire month of June.

June 4th
-
July 1st

OWNER DEALS



2/\$3
Liquid Remedy
Kombucha
12 oz
reg. price \$2.29



Shop over 100
amazing owner
exclusive sales!



2/\$5
Nasoya
Silken Tofu
16 oz
reg. price \$2.99



\$6.99
Beyond Meat
Italian Sausage
14 oz
reg. price \$10.39



2/\$5
Wondermelon Basil
Cucumber Juice
8.45 oz
reg. price \$3.29



\$4.49
Food For Life
Ezekiel English
Muffins
16 oz
reg. price \$6.49



2/\$4
Boxed Water Is
Better Purified
Water
33.8 fl oz
reg. price \$2.49



\$6.99
Eden Foods
Apple Butter
Spread
17 oz
reg. price \$10.99



5/\$5
Brown Cow
Chocolate Yogurt
5.3 oz
reg. price \$1.19



\$4.89
Strong Roots
Sweet Potato
Hash Brown
13.22 oz
reg. price \$7.29



2/\$5
Jyoti
Matar Paneer
15 oz
reg. price \$3.99



2/\$7
Terra Vegetable
Chips
5 oz
reg. price \$4.99

Common Ground Food Co-op | 300 S. Broadway Ave Suite #166 | 217-352-3347 | www.commonground.coop | Open 7:30 am - 9:00 pm daily

[Learn more](#)

New Co-op Hats!

New merch alert! We've got Co-op branded caps for sale near the registers. Pick one up in Olive Green or Ivory for \$25.00



Link Match Update

We have so much local produce at the Co-op right now! We're gearing up for peak summer produce, which means it's the perfect time to use any Link Match vouchers. We have over 50 locally grown fruits and vegetables, including herbs, lettuce, parsnips, zucchini, broccoli, cucumbers, peas, mushrooms, onions, potatoes, tomatoes, rhubarb, strawberries, and **so much more!**

So far in 2025, \$25,000 worth of free, locally grown produce has been redeemed through the Link Match program!



GET MORE WITH LINK MATCH



**BUY \$1 OF FOOD WITH LINK
GET \$1 OF FRESH, LOCAL PRODUCE WITH LINK MATCH**

**EARN UP TO \$25 IN
LINK MATCH VOUCHERS
A DAY!**

Learn more: www.commonground.coop/link-match



[Learn more about Link Match](#)

2025 News-Gazette People's Choice Awards

Help Common Ground by voting for us in the annual News-Gazette People's Choice Awards.

Voting begins on Sunday, June 1st.



Vote for us!

The People's Choice

Best Grocery Store
Best Vegetarian / Vegan
Best Health Food Store

[Learn more](#)

Community

ROUND UP FOR GOOD UPDATE

Last month we raised over \$5,119 for Common Ground's Food For All Program!

Mission: "Common Ground's mission is broken up into 4 Ends that guide our organization.

- End #1: The Co-op is the center of an inclusive, vibrant community.
- End #2: The cooperative movement is strengthened.
- End #3: The Co-op serves as an educational resource on food issues.
- End #4: The local food movement is equitable, robust, and environmentally sound."

Project Proposal: "Food For All is our food accessibility program. One aspect of our fourth end is to ensure that healthy and affordable food is accessible to all people. Food For All was created to do just this, and through grant donations and fundraising, we

have been able to keep this program going. A Food For All grant will cover full owner equity, giving members all of the same benefits that owners receive. They also get a 10% discount on our entire produce section as well as on all Co+op Basics products. All of the funds raised through Round Up For Good will go directly towards providing our customers with that 10% discount."



[Learn more](#)

June's Round Up For Good organization is Eastern Illinois Foodbank

Mission: "EIF is the primary food source for a network of 160 food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, and other programs working to feed our neighbors facing hunger. In the last fiscal year, we distributed more than 11 million meals (25% of which was fresh produce) to local families, children, seniors, and veterans experiencing food insecurity in our communities."

Project Proposal: "Funds received from the Round Up For Good grant will support our Foodmobile program, which has evolved in recent months to have a greater impact. The need is higher than ever: our pantries are serving 90% more people than they were in 2022. The evolution of our Foodmobile program in recent months allows us to meet our neighbors where they are, and to provide nutritious food to neighbors in approximately 100 rural and underserved communities across our 18-county service area. Each dollar we receive enables us to deliver three meals to members of our community facing hunger."



[Learn more](#)

Recipe Features

Co+op Basics: Peanut Butter Pancakes



If you're looking for a new breakfast recipe that is easy, delicious, and affordable, we've got you covered! These peanut butter pancakes make for an amazing sweet breakfast with a hint of peanut butter for extra flavor (and protein)! You could substitute any nut butter in this recipe, but we're sticking with Field Day peanut butter since it is a part of our Co+op Basics line. In addition to the peanut butter, this recipe features 8 other Co+op Basics products and is only \$1.21 per serving!

[Get recipe](#)

Watermelon Tomato Salad



The combination of watermelon and tomato may sound a little odd, but trust us when we say it is delicious! Juicy watermelon combined with ripe tomatoes, fresh mint, feta cheese, and a honey mustard vinaigrette is all you need on a hot summer day.

[Get recipe](#)

New Products

Grocery



Hodo Egg Scramble

A plant-based egg dish that's fluffy, full of flavor, and fun! Just heat until you get your favorite egg-y texture, then add it to toast, bundle into a breakfast burrito, toss into fried rice, or whip up an egg salad.

\$6.99

Ya Oaxaca Salsa

Our newest salsas are the quintessential taqueria-style salsa: your go-to for adding bold spice to tacos, grilled steak, scrambled eggs and more. Available in Chile Arbol & Chile Agua.

\$6.69



Liquid Remedy Kombucha

Liquid Remedy uses all-natural ingredients to make their no sugar, live-cultured sparkling drinks packed with healthy yeast and bacteria. Try Ginger Lemon, Raspberry Lemonade, Mixed Berry, or Orange Splash flavors!

\$2.29



Wellness

Kikkerland Puffer Fish Dryer Buddies

You can forget about dryer sheets with these magical puffer fish! Just throw them in and watch them control dryer static and decrease dryer time while simultaneously fluffing fabric. Plus, they're adorable!

\$6.89



Kikkerland Penguin Hot/Cold Pack

These cute packs are freezable, non-toxic, and reusable. Heat or freeze to keep lunch hot or cold!

\$3.99



Meat & Cheese

Amylu Foods Andouille Chicken Sausage

Smoky, bold, and the perfect amount of spice from parsley, crushed red pepper, paprika, rosemary, onions, and garlic. Bring new dimension to any meal with this deep, savory flavor.

\$6.90



Beer & Wine



Eris Ciders

We've got new flavors from Eris Brewery & Cider House! Eris is a women-owned brewery in Chicago that makes creative, modern ciders. Available in Pedestrian, Blush, Pepper Jam, E-Phoria, and Van Van Mojo.

\$2.99 each

Kitchen

Chili Crisp Tofu Udon Noodles

Our kitchen is whipping up a bunch of new recipes for the summer! This Chili Crisp Tofu Udon is made with peanuts, Forest Blend mushrooms, green onion, and a garlic ginger sesame sauce for a delectable lunch option.

\$10.20/lb



Bakery



Better Butter

Better Butter makes real, flavored butter by colliding fresh butter with exceptional ingredients. Their butter is shelf-stable and does not contain any oils! Available in Garlic, Honey, and Steakhouse.

\$6.79

**THANKS FOR
READING!**

**ENJOY
\$2 OFF**

with a purchase of \$15 or more

Show this coupon at the registers.
Cannot be reused or used for sale items, Co+op Basics,
or Alcohol. Valid during the month of June.





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