# willy street co-op READER



A PUBLICATION OF WILLY STREET CO-OP, MADISON, WI • VOLUME 50 • ISSUE 2 • FEBRUARY 2023



#### **THANK YOU!**

Thank you to everyone who has signed up for our email version of this newsletter or who has decided to pick up a copy in the store while you're here shopping.

As mentioned before, we are beginning to very slowly transition to mostly online and e-mailed copies of the *Reader* in order to save paper and to save money on postage. If you can and want to switch to receiving your copy by email, sign up here: willystreet.coop/emails. If you shop with us regularly, we'd love it if you'd pick up your copy of the *Reader* in one of our stores so we can reduce our postage costs. If you don't want either of these things, we will still happily mail it to you Thank you!

#### IN THIS ISSUE

Owner Survey; Plant-Based Treats; Dessert Boards; Checkout Changes and More!

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Brian Anderson
Tatiana Dennis
Gigi Godwin
Anthony Hernandez
Jamie Schuberth
Isabel Spooner-Harvey
Carol Weidel
Ashwini Rao

BOARD CONTACT INFO: board@willystreet.coop; all-board@willystreet.coop (includes the GM, Executive Assistant and Board Administrator)

March 23 April 27

June 28

Board meetings are typically held at our business office at 6:30pm (1457 E. Washington Ave. in Madison), but may be held virtually. Please see www.willystreet.coop/events and select the Board category for details.

## WILLY STREET CO-OP MISSION STATEMENT

Cultivate and empower community, customers, employees, and suppliers through cooperative principles and practices.

# ADVERTISE IN THE READER

Affordable rates, wide reach, discounts for non-profits and Owners. Find info here: willystreet.coop/advertising.

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# READER

#### PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY WILLY STREET CO-OP

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ADVERTISING: Liz Wermcrantz
COVER DESIGN: Hallie Zillman
SALE FLYER DESIGN: Hallie Zillman

**GRAPHICS:** Hallie Zillman

SALE FLYER LAYOUT: Liz Wermcrantz

**PRINTING:** Wingra Printing Group

The Willy Street Co-op *Reader* is the monthly communications link among the Co-op Board, staff and Owners. It provides information about the Co-op's services and business as well as about cooking, nutrition, health, sustainable agriculture and more. Views and opinions expressed in the *Reader* do not necessarily represent those of the Co-op's Directors, staff or Ownership. Willy Street Co-op has not evaluated the claims made by advertisers. Acceptance of advertising does not indicate endorsement of the product or service offered. Articles are presented for information purposes only. Before taking action, you should always consult a professional for advice. Articles may be reprinted with permission from the editor.

#### **SUBMISSIONS**

All advertising submissions must be reserved and arranged with the editor by the 10th of the month previous to publication. All advertisement copy must be submitted camera-ready by the 15th of the month. Submissions should be emailed to l.wermcrantz@willystreet.coop or mailed to Willy Street Co-op's Central Office according to submission requirements.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE:** EAST: 608-251-6776 WEST: 608-284-7800 NORTH: 608-471-4422

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WEBSITE: www.willystreet.coop

BOARD EMAIL: board@willystreet.coop

STORE HOURS: Willy East: 7:30am-9:00pm;

Willy West: 8:00am-9:00pm;

Willy North: 8:00am-9:00pm every day

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# Comments

#### **Write Us!**

We welcome your comments and give each one attention and serious consideration. Send them to customer.comments@willystreet.coop or fill out a Customer Comment form in the Owner Resources area. Each month a small selection is printed in the Reader; publication does not necessarily indicate an endorsement of views stated in a customer's original comment. Many more comments can be found in the commons or in the binder near Customer Service. Thank you!

#### **EMAILED RECEIPTS**

Q: Hi, I thought I had signed up for receipts to to be emailed to me but haven't received one yet. How can this set this up for future purchases? Thank you!

A: Thank you for reaching out about your emailed receipts! You are currently signed up to receive them. The most common reason as to why you may not be seeing them is that they are being sent to your spam folder. If you still aren't able to find them there, it could be the operating system, browser and/ or device that you are using. Let me know if you are unable to find them in your spam and I can see if I am able to assist you further.

Have a great day! -Rosalyn Murphy, Owner Records Administrator

#### **GRIND-YOUR-OWN NUT BUTTER**

Q: Hello, I'm writing on behalf of a friend who is a Co-op member. He needs to cut down on sugar and salt. Do you have in the store a machine where people can grind their own portion of either peanut or almond butter, and without added salt? (I believe these types of machines weren't used in many places during the COVID public health emergency.) Thanks so much!!

A: We did bring back the peanut and almond grinders. Both of the machines in the East Bulk aisle use salt-free nuts. I too am so glad we have it back; it is one of my favorite peanut butters! Thanks for writing in. Have a fantastic day! -Amanda Ikens, Owner **Resources Coordinator** 

#### **MEAT SUPPLIERS**

Q: Hi. I was having a recent conversation with a friend regarding sustainable and humanely sourced beef, pork, poultry, etc. I generally purchase most of my meats from Willy St. and do so because of the coop's mission related to sustainable and humane practices. Can you point me towards some of the primary partners the coop uses for sourcing meat. I'm just wanting to learn a bit more about the sources, farms, and overall supply chain. Thank you.

A: Thank you for reaching out inquiring about

our meat suppliers. I'll give you the run-down of the main suppliers we work with, and you can let me know if you have any further questions! Our primary beef supplier is Wisconsin Meadows Grass-Fed Beef Cooperative, based out of Viroqua, Wisconsin. It is a cooperative, so they have farmers all across the state of Wisconsin that they work with. The animals are 100% grass-fed, antibiotic- and hormone-free. We also get a small amount of pork from Wisconsin Meadows, mostly sold at our east side location.

Our primary pork supplier is Fox Heritage/Willow Creek Farms, based out of Prairie Du Sac. Their animals are raised on several Amish farms near Prairie Du Sac, and the processing is done at their facility in town. They have pasture access year-round, and are fed corn and soybeans. They are also antibiotic-free. We carry the Willow Creek line, which is purebred Berkshire, as well as the Fox Heritage line, which comes from a variety of breeds.

Our primary chicken supplier is Bell & Evans, based out of Fredricksburg, Pennsylvania. We carry certified organic, and all-natural lines of their chicken, which are antibiotic and hormone-free. The animals are never crated or caged. Their processing methods are innovative in the commercial poultry industry. We are not able to work with a local chicken farmer as our primary supplier, as there isn't one in the state that can fulfill our volume requirements. We have begun working with a certified-organic chicken farmer from Walworth, WI called Alden Hills Organics, and are excited to continue to build on that relationship in 2023.

I hope you found this information helpful, and please let me know if there's any other questions you

Have a great day! Nick Heitman Meat & Seafood Category Manager

#### **NAMES**

Q: I have spoken to staff in the store and submitted comments about this issue multiple times, so I will try to make it brief this time.

I avoid going to the coop (my partner does most coop runs) because I HATE having the front-end worker butcher my name (which I experience as a microaggression). I don't blame

# There is only one Studio Jewelers.



Get to know us (Left to Right): Jill Bedner, estate jewelry appraiser; Whitney Robinson, designer/goldsmith; Hanna Cook-Wallace, gemologist, designer/goldsmith; Erika Leuker, bench jeweler, bead stringer. Not shown: Chris Keenan, master goldsmith, custom jewelry designer; Dani Larson, bench jeweler and customer care speialist; Cynthia Hill, graphics and information management; Sue and Damon, our numbers and tech wizards; and shop cats Ilse and Toby.

We're the warm, cozy shop on Regent Street, across the street from Leopold's Books Bar Caffè. We've been in this location for 35 years.

We're known for award-winning custom design, of course, and the work of the studio artists who exhibit here, but we also offer expert in-house jewelry repair and restoration, restringing, and appraisals. We will help you recycle jewelry that you don't wear any more, or turn that inherited piece that just isn't "you" into something new and wonderful.

Serving our clients and community with heart is what we have done for more than 40 years. Which may be why we were awarded the 2022 People's Choice Award for Best Jewelry Store in Dane County. So if you don't know us yet, please stop by! We'd like to meet you, and we think you'll enjoy the Studio Jewelers difference.



Studio Jewelers 1306 Regent Street, Madison, WI 53715 • 608-257-2627 • Mask up and come on by!



them—this is not a training issue even though my name is 100% phonetically spelled. I blame management.

It has been explained to me that staff need to verify the owners that go with the number. Yes, of course. However, so far no one has explained to me how the current system is better than the front-end staff asking the customer for the names on the account. This is not only better for us, your customers with non-European names. It is also more secure, because I could just say "yes" when they ask if it's for "John and Caitlyn."

I would like someone to explain to me why this practice continues, or explain why it is somehow better than asking the customer to say the names.

A: 12/8/22 First Response: Hello, Thank you for your email and reaching out. I have brought this to the attention of our General Manager and we have started the discussions on this topic. We feel another conversation is warranted with other leaders, and a potential change in our process/practice will be discussed next week. I will follow up with you in the near future on our discussions.

In cooperation, Kristina Kuhaupt Customer Experience Director

A: 12/15/22 Second Response: Good Morning, Thanks for your patience during this process. Our leadership team met yesterday and we discussed your customer comment and how we can best serve all customers that go through our checkout lanes. After thoughtful consideration, we agree with your proposal. We want all aspects of our customer experience to be welcoming and this is a change that we can implement in the near future with upcoming staff training and explanation for the change. Our timeline is to have all staff trained by the beginning of February 2023 across all three stores. This checkout process has been the same for many years and your comment let us reevaluate the purpose for our processes—thank you! We are excited to bring about this change; it will feel new for staff that have been a part of the Co-op for many years, so patience on the process is appreciated. Feel free to reach out with any ques-

In cooperation, Kristina Kuhaupt, Customer Experience Manager

#### **CASH DISCOUNT**

Q: A few retail stores offer a discount for paying with cash. I'm



curious what the costs are to the Co-Op, and thus we owners, of using debit and or credit cards. I often stop at the ATM so that I have cash to pay for my purchases under the belief that it saves us money. I'd support a discount for using cash.

A: Thank you for your inquiry! We have reviewed this option periodically and determined it was best to not offer a discount to Owners who pay with cash. This is because the cost to our Co-op to process a cash transaction compared to a debit/credit card transaction is greater as a percent of the sale itself. Thus, credit/debit card transactions are more cost effective than cash transactions. On average it costs 4-6% to process a cash transaction and the average cost for a transaction paid for with a debit or credit card is around 3%. These percentages include all fees, charges along with the cost of labor.

This is because it takes additional time to: count cash, reconcile and maintain cash on hand, cash transactions take longer at the register, there is an increased risk of theft, and the possibility of errors when counting the cash and giving back change. We are also charged fees from our bank to order cash and to send deposits of cash for deposit to our account.

For a small business with fewer transactions it may be preferable and cost effective to use cash since the cost would be lower than the fees for credit card transactions. At our level of sales/ transactions the cost of cash transactions is greater than the fees charged for credit card transactions.

We thank you so much for your input and concern regarding the costs to run our Co-op! We have to continue to manage our costs carefully for us to be financially sustainable and appreciate your concern.

Best, Paige Wickline, Finance Director

#### **PATCHOULI SMELL**

Q: I have noticed that all of the stores have a very strong aroma of patchouli. Is this being infused via the HVAC or other form of diffusion? The smell is so strong that I can even detect it through my mask and it sticks to my clothing. I have to remove my purchases from their packaging when I get home because the material stinks of patchouli. Given that many people are sensitive to scents, I am very disappointed that the co-op has this permeating the stores. I used to enjoy shopping at the coop and now I try to get in and out



of the store as soon as possible, even leaving things behind because I can't deal with searching for them and spending more time in the smell. I would greatly appreciate the team's consideration to remove all scented infusions in the store.

Q: Thanks for reaching out. I am sorry that you are smelling patchouli in our stores, I am not quite sure where this is coming from. I did validate with our maintenance department that we do not infuse our HVAC or other forms of ventilation with any oils or scents in general. I am wondering if the open soaps in our General Merchandiser are what you are smelling as you pass near that area? I do know we carry patchouli products in that section. As I go into each store this week I will continue to see if I smell those scents as you described other than in our soap for purchase section. Best, Kristina Kuhaupt, Customer Experience Manager

#### **PANHANDLING**

Q: My wife and I have been members of the Co-op for 16-18 years and feel blessed to have an organization of Willy St. caliber to purchase incredible life giving foods from.

I am writing today to learn if there may be solutions to pan handling my wife and I have both experienced while loading groceries in our cars at the north store and this week at the east store. We had made decision to go to east or west stores in light of our experiences at the northside store and now I experrienced it at the east-side store.

A: Thanks for reaching out about this issue! I hear your frustration; I too had this experience several times at our stores and understand how it feels. Please know, this has been an ongoing discussion throughout the years because we do acknowledge this as an issue. Many actions have been taken through these discussions, but unfortunately it has not deterred those who panhandle on our premises.

Our current practices are as follows: our Lead on Duty regularly walks the lot when they conduct a cart check and if they see a Pan Handler on our premise actively engaging a customer (sidewalks do not count because it is public property) they intervene and ask the panhandler to leave. In addition, any time a customer alerts our front desk about the situation a staff member goes out to the parking lot and addresses the situation and calls the police. However, when the police come, the pan handler is already gone because they know they will get caught. At our North store we had a security presence for several years, but that too did not deter the situation.

Going forward, I will be scheduling a meeting with our Store Site Directors and we will continue brainstorming ideas to continue to bridge the gap.

In cooperation, Kristina Kuhaupt, Customer Experience Manager

#### **VEGAN CHEESEBALLS**

Q: There was once a time when I could find the whole food vegan cheese balls for sale in your cooler,

pre-pared meal section. That time has passed. You sold a healthier and cheaper alternative to the highly processed and overpriced fake cheese. The past year or more however, I've been told you still sell them "sometimes" but to no avail. I hope you return them and keep them stocked for an affordable price like you once had. Thank you.

A: I too was a big fan of the almond cheese ball, but since we have closed the juice bar and ceased production of our almond milk we no longer have the almond pulp to create the lovely cheese ball. If you find a cheese ball or something similar to what we used to make, please let us know the brand name. I have not seen anything like what we used to make. Thanks for writing in and take the best care. Amanda Ikens, Owner Resources Coordinator

#### **OATMEAL**

#### Q: I miss oatmeal.

A: Hello! Thanks for letting me know that you miss oatmeal. You are not alone. I've gotten requests a number of times over the past year or so. I had hoped to bring oatmeal back when the weather got colder in the fall this year but unfortunatley we've been having trouble keeping the deli staffed and had to discontinue breakfast. We are really hoping to bring in more cooks soon and when we do I plan to offer oatmeal alongside our other breakfast hot bar options. Thank you for your patience while we work hard to get everything up and running again. Gratefully, Bob Smith, Willy East Deli Manager

#### **EMAIL RECEIPTS**

Q: We just received the following email, but we have not lived in Madison for over 3 years. Do you know what this receipt is about? Can you please confirm that our account (or membership) is closed?

A: Thank you for reaching out about the status of your account. I am unable to see the receipt that you attached, but upon looking at your account it looks like it hasn't been shopped on since February of 2020. Your account however, is still open. If you would like to close your account, please fill out and return the form that I have attached to this email. I have highlighted all sections that need your attention in yellow. Towards the bottom of the form you can choose whether you would like to receive a refund of the \$91 you have invested in your account or if you would like to donate it to the co-op to use for charitable purposes. If you choose to get it refunded you will receive a check in the mail within 90 days of the request being made. The completed form can be returned to ora@willystreet.coop or mailed back to:

Willy Street Co-op Attn: ORA 1457 E Washington Ave Madison, WI 53703

Don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions. Have a great day! Ros Murphy, Owner Records Administrator



#### GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT



#### **Checkout Changes; Bond Repayment; & More!**

by Anya Firszt, General Manager

ello dear Owners, "Though, February is short, it is filled with lots of love and sweet surprises." -Charmaine J. Forde

February brings us a handful of days to celebrate: Groundhog's Day, the Full Snow Moon, Super Bowl 2023, Valentine's Day, and Mardi Gras, to name a few.

February is also Black History Month. In 1976, President Gerald Ford recognized Black History Month and told Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the toooften neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history." If you'd like to learn more about Black History Month and Black history in general, you can start here: blackhistorymonth.gov.

#### CHECKOUT CHANGES

The self checkouts lanes have been installed at Willy West and we are live-testing to work out the

kinks. We have some limitations in functionality, but we are working to resolve those issues. Check

Never fear, we have register lanes that are staffed by real people too.

Another change of note at the register, which was initiated from a customer comment voicing their frustration in our procedure, is to shift from cashiers saying an Owner's name to an Owner saying their name at the onset of a transaction. We are starting this shift in procedures on February 1, 2023.

To learn more about this procedural change at the register, please refer to Kristina Kuhaupt's article on page 16 as well as the initial customer comment on page 3.

#### **CHANGE IN SERVICES**

We are discontinuing our Eat-Street program at all three stores effective February 17, 2023. We are looking at other options for

online ordering and delivery. Stay tuned for future updates.

#### **NORTH CUSTOMER BATHROOM AND STAFF BREAK ROOM RENOVA-**TION

Our North bathroom and break room remodel project start date was delayed a few weeks. That said, we anticipate that the project can still be completed by the end of April, just in time for the farmers' market. Stay tuned for project updates.

#### **BOND REPAYMENT ON** THE HORIZON

Can you believe that it's been five years since the remodel at Willy West was completed? To those of you Owners who purchased a five-year bond to support the remodel and expansion work, thank you! You will be receiving payment of the original bond plus interest at the end of February.

And, this coming summer, the

seven-year bonds come due for the Willy North opening!

#### **FY22 PATRONAGE**

On January 16th, patronage was issued via a store credit to our 17,072 Owners who qualified and purchased at least \$510 worth of eligible goods from the Co-op in the last fiscal year will receive a store credit. A letter was sent to you if you were to receive patronage that provided you with details related to your unique account details.

Store credits are available (for Owners receiving one) at the registers now through June 18, 2023.

#### **PBS WISCONSIN GAR-DEN & LANDSCAPE EXPO**

We're sponsoring and exhibiting at the PBS Wisconsin Garden & Landscape Expo, February 10-12. Stop by our booth and say hi!

Hoping the month brings you love and sweet surprises.



#### **BOARD REPORT**

#### **Introducing Isabel Spooner-Harvey**

by Anthony Hernandez, Board Member

hile the pandemic continues to disrupt our lives, there are lots of things to be grateful for. Personally, I am thankful for family, friends, community, and the opportunity to do good work. How about you? What are you grateful

This past November, the Co-op Board welcomed new members. Board member Jeannine Bindl then announced her resignation for personal reasons. However, Isabel Spooner-Harvey, who received the fifth-highest votes in the recent Board election, was offered—and accepted—the seat for the remainder of Jeannine's oneyear term.

#### **MEET THE BOARD: ISABEL SPOONER-HARVEY**

#### What was your first memory of Willy Street Co-op?

My first memory of the Co-op is probably when I visited the Middleton location for the first time. I moved to Wisconsin from California in 2013 with my baby who was 8 weeks old at the time. I loved how accessible the Co-op was to me as a brand-new parent with an infant, and all the delicious nourishing food in

the hot bar made my life a lot easier. I was so excited to find such a cool store in my first explorations of my new home.

#### How did you first learn about cooperatives, and what was the first co-op vou joined?

I think I learned about co-ops in high school. The first co-op I ever



joined was the punk music venue, 924 Gilman, in Berkeley, California. At the time, it cost \$2 to join. There was no alcohol allowed inside

or outside the club, so my parents were cool with my sister and I going to shows there. My sister Heather Freinkel is way more punk than me, and she played in different bands at Gilman over the years. I loved going to shows with her and always felt safe and included there.

#### What do you rely on Willy Street Co-op for?

I rely on Willy Street for so much! As someone who struggles with sensory overload, I love that shopping there is so much more peaceful and

easier to navigate than at larger grocery stores. It's just the right size for me to get in and out without getting overwhelmed. I value the high-quality produce, bulk aisle (especially for trying small amounts of new spices!), and sourdough from the best bakeries in town. Oh, and the coffee selection! And the cheese department!

#### What are your top three favorite food traditions?

It's so hard to narrow down my favorite Co-op foods to just three, but I do really gravitate toward the cheese, bread, and fresh produce departments. "A little cheese, a little bread, a little wine, a little cheese, a little onion etc., etc., etc." as Frenchie says in the original version of the film Sahara. My kids would probably say their favorite Co-op food is the donuts.

#### Do you have any favorite food traditions?

My favorite food tradition right now is baking fresh challah with my kids every Friday. It's a ritual we only started a few months ago and it's added such a lovely rhythm to our week. We couldn't find challah at the co-op but we did find flour, yeast, eggs, and oil. Everything we needed to make our own.

#### **Besides being a Willy Street Co**op Board Member, what else do you like to do with your time?

When I'm not doing Board member stuff, I am a full-time single parent to three awesome kids. We spend a lot of time together at the library, cub scouts, and other activities. I also volunteer as the chairperson of the MMSD Special Education Advisory Council and as Treasurer of the Schenk Elementary PTO. In my spare time, I love to read, make my own clothes, cook, and we all just got into D&D (Dungeons & Dragons) together as a family.

#### What are you most excited about in being a new Board member, and what do you see as the biggest opportunities and challenges the Co-op will face over the next few years?

I'm so excited and honored to have been elected to the Board. I'm really interested in how people who use EBT feel about shopping at Willy Street, and how we could make their experience even better. I also wonder about how we can engage or partner with some of the incredible non-western food producers in Madison. The Co-op is such a special place and I love getting to be a part of helping it evolve.



# corrector corrector Community Room Calendar

Visit www.willystreet.coop/events to register and review COVID-19 Protocols.

Refund Policy: Unless otherwise specified in the description of the event, registration for events that Willy Street Co-op cancels will be refunded in full. Individuals who wish to cancel their registration must email education@willystreet.coop with 72 hours notice to receive a full refund or transfer their registration to another class. No refunds or transfers will be granted for cancellations within 72 hours of an event. In order to cover costs incurred, there are absolutely no exceptions to the Refund Policy.



#### COOKING WITH CHEF PAUL: FRESH PASTA FROM SCRATCH

Location: Willy West Community Roman Thursday, February 16, 6:00 pm (10) pm Ages: 12 and older; adults up ry port quired Your Co-op's Own Institute: Seng Fee: \$15 for the rs; The r non-owners

Join Chef Paul and the process to learn how to make farfalle and angel hair pasts of the process; plus Paul will demonstrate a quick tomato sauce to got the the handmade fresh pasta. A green salad with feta will round out the meal. Vegetarian. Ingredients/recipes may be modified based on seasonal availability. Hands-on.

#### **COOKING WITH CHEF PAUL: ALL THINGS CURRY**

Location: Willy West Community Room
Thursday, March 16, 6:00pm-8:00pm
Ages: 12 and older; adult supervision required
Your Co-op's Own Instructor: Paul Tseng
Fee: \$15 for Owners; \$25 for non-owners
Capacity: 10

Should you use curry powder or paste? Is there any difference? Chef Paul was confused about curry too, but after plenty of research, he found curry is a flavorful way to spice up your cooking! Join Chef Paul to learn to make curry powder and paste from scratch and how to apply them in cooking. On the menu: Coconut Salmon Curry, Green Mango Curry Chicken, Red Curry Beef with Rice Noodles, Coconut Noodle Bowl with Vegetables (vegan). Ingredients/recipes may be modified based on seasonal availability. Demonstration only.

#### **COOKING WITH CHEF PAUL: DUCK DEMYSTIFIED**

Location: Willy West Community Room Thursday, March 30, 6:00pm–8:00pm Ages: 12 and older; adult supervision required Your Co-op's Own Instructor: Paul Tseng Fee: \$15 for Owners; \$25 for non-owners Capacity: 10

Feeling intimidated by the prospect of cooking duck? Join Chef Paul for a class to learn how! He will show you the proper way to fabricate duck and the cooking techniques to apply to this type of poultry. On the menu: Duck Breast with Citrus Sauce; Orange, Cranberry, Walnut Salad; Duck Confit; Curry Rice with Duck; and Soba Noodles with Duck. Ingredients/recipes may be modified based on seasonal availability. Demonstration only.



#### COOKING TOGETHER: FLAVORS OF PERU

Location: Willy West Community Room
Friday, February 10, 5:30pm-7:00pm
Instructor: Lily Kilfoy
Ages: 5 and older
Fee: \$10 for kids; \$15

Cooking Together is a class serie conted by the Lily Kilfoy. Lily was inspired by a favorite class of cult and school called Cuisines of the World. Lily combined the last rational field as a community cooking instructor. She offers a company apperience that explores flavors from around the globe. Participant and this hands-on class will prepare a festive feast inspired by the Flavors of Peru—Tortitas de Quinoa, Locro de Zapallo, Solterito Arequipeño, Arroz con Leche, and Chicha Morada may be explored. Everyone in the class will be an active participant and will work together to prepare the meal to share at the end of the class. Hands-on.

#### **COOKING TOGETHER: FLAVORS OF TASMANIA**

Location: Willy West Community Room Friday, February 24, 5:30pm-7:00pm

Instructor: Lily Kilfoy Ages: 5 and older

Fee: \$10 for kids; \$15 for Owners; \$25 for non-owners

Capacity: 16

Capacity: 16

Cooking Together is a class series created by Chef Lily Kilfoy. Lily was inspired by a favorite class from culinary school called Cuisines of the World. Lily combined that inspiration with her drive as a community cook-

ing instructor. She offers a multi-age experience that explores flavors from around the globe. Participants in this hands-on class will prepare a delicious dinner inspired by the Flavors of Tasmania—Pickled Beetroot, Cheesymite Scrolls, Pumpkin Soup, Tassie Apple Cake, and Lavender-Honey Tea may be explored. Everyone in the class will be an active participant and will work together to prepare the meal to share at the end of the class. Hands-on.

#### **COOKING TOGETHER: FLAVORS OF NOVA SCOTIA**

Location: Willy West Community Room Friday, March 10, 5:30pm-7:15pm Instructor: Lily Kilfoy

Ages: 5 and older Fee: \$10 for kids; \$15 for Owners; \$25 for non-owners Capacity: 16

Cooking Together is a class series created by Chef Lily Kilfoy. Lily was inspired by a favorite class from culinary school called Cuisines of the World. Lily combined that inspiration with her drive as a community cooking instructor. She offers a multi-age experience that explores flavors from around the globe. Participants in this hands-on class will prepare a mouthwatering meal inspired by the Flavors of Nova Scotia—Rappie Pie, Hodgepodge, Roasted Parsnips and Apples, Blueberry Grunt, and Maple Milk may be explored. Everyone in the class will be an active participant and will work together to prepare the meal to share at the end of the class. Hands-on.

#### **COOKING TOGETHER: FLAVORS OF LIBYA**

Location: Willy West Community Room Friday, March 24, 5:30pm-7:15pm Instructor: Lily Kilfoy

Ages: 5 and older Fee: \$10 for kids; \$15 for Owners; \$25 for non-owners Capacity: 16

Cooking Together is a class series created by Chef Lily Kilfoy. Lily was inspired by a favorite class from culinary school called Cuisines of the World. Lily combined that inspiration with her drive as a community cooking instructor. She offers a multi-age experience that explores flavors from around the globe. Participants in this hands-on class will prepare a delectable dinner inspired by the Flavors of Libya—Tajeen Jban, Hasa Adas, Couscous, Safra, and Mint Tea may be explored. Everyone in the class will be an active participant and will work together to prepare the meal to share at the end of the class. Hands-on.



#### MILLE FEUILLE WITH PIERRE FERLAND

Location: Willy West Community Room Wednesday, March 8, 6:00pm-8:30pm Ages: 18 and older

Instructor: Pierre Ferland

Fee: \$20 for Owners; \$30 for non-owners

Capacity: 10

Join Chef Pâtissier Pierre Ferland in this class on making a classic Mille Feuille, sometimes called Napoleon. We'll start off by mixing and folding the puff pastry, followed by rolling out the dough and baking it. Then we'll turn our attention to making the pastry cream and using it as the filling. Finally, we will assemble all of the components to make a classic Mille Feuille. Demonstration with limited hands-on opportunities.

#### **SPRING CUPCAKE BOUQUET**

Location: Willy West Community Room Sunday, March 19, 1:00pm-3:00pm Ages: 16 and older; adult supervision not required Your Co-op's Own Instructor: Alysa Hartman Fee: \$40 for Owners; \$50 for non-owners Capacity: 12

Cupcake bouquets are a wonderful gift or centerpiece! Join Alysa Hartman in this hands-on class to learn the decorating techniques necessary to make a delicious edible bouquet of spring flower cupcakes. You'll learn techniques for coloring buttercream, how to prepare a piping bag, and use piping tips to create different flowers. Each class participant will decorate and take home their own cupcake bouquet. All supplies are included. One decorator per bouquet. Hands-on.

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**Location: Willy West Community Room** Tuesday, February 7, 4:30pm-5:30pm **Instructor: Lily Kilfoy** 

Ages: 9-12 years old

Fee: \$10 for Owners; \$20 for non-owners

Capacity: 12

Join Chef Lily in this hands-on cooking class for kids. Folks find it to be fancy, but it's also family-friendly and fun! We'll create the classic cheese, a playful take on pizza, a celebratory chocolate confection, and tasty tidbits for dipping, of course! In this class, participants will prepare a feast and have fun with fondue. Hands-on.

#### **READ A BOOK & LEARN TO COOK: BLUEBERRY MUFFINS!**

**Location: Willy West Community Room** Monday, February 13, 10:00am-11:00am

**Instructor: Lily Kilfoy** 

Ages: 2-4 years old; adult supervision required Fee: \$10 for Owners; \$20 for non-owners Capacity: 10

Join Chef Lily Kilfoy in this new, hands-on cooking class for preschool-age children and their caregivers! Friends in this class will learn about food through storytime, music, movement, and making Blueberry Muffins together. Readaloud will include Blueberries for Sal by Robert McCloskey and Stir Crack Whisk Bake by Maddie Frost. Limit one adult per child.

#### **READ A BOOK & LEARN TO COOK:** HANDMADE CORN TORTILLAS!

**Location: Willy West Community Room** Monday, February 20, 10:00am-11:00am

**Instructor: Lily Kilfoy** 

Ages: 2-4 years old; adult supervision required Fee: \$10 for Owners; \$20 for non-owners Capacity: 10

Join Chef Lily Kilfoy in this new, hands-on cooking class for preschool-age children and their caregivers! Friends in this class will learn about food through storytime, music, movement, and making handmade corn tortillas together. Read-aloud will include Round Is a Tortilla: A Book of Shapes by Roseanne Thong and Eating the Alphabet: Fruits & Vegetables from A to Z by Milwaukee author Lois Ehlert. Limit one adult per child.

#### **KIDS IN THE KITCHEN: DELICIOUS DUOS!**

**Location: Willy West Community Room** Tuesday, February 21, 4:30pm-5:30pm

**Instructor: Lily Kilfoy** Ages: 5-8 years old

Fee: \$10 for Owners; \$20 for non-owners

Join Chef Lily in this hands-on cooking class for kids. Some food flavors pair so perfectly together, that we decided to develop a class dedicated to these delicious duos. In this class, participants will prepare a dinner of delicious duos with inseparable ingredients like broccoli and cheese, popcorn and butter, tomato and basil, or sugar and spice. Hands-on.

#### KIDS IN THE KITCHEN: GAGA FOR GREEN!

**Location: Willy West Community Room** Tuesday, March 7, 4:15pm-5:30pm

Instructor: Lily Kilfoy Ages: 9-12 years old

Fee: \$10 for Owners; \$20 for non-owners

Capacity:12

They're all green, of course! In this class, participants will prepare a marvelous meal that goes gaga for green. Hands-on.

#### **READ A BOOK & LEARN TO COOK: FRENCH TOAST!**

**Location: Willy West Community Room** Monday, March 13, 10:00am-11:00am

**Instructor: Lily Kilfoy** 

Ages: 2-4 years old; adult supervision required Fee: \$10 for Owners; \$20 for non-owners Capacity: 10

Join Chef Lily Kilfoy in this new, hands-on cooking class for preschool-age children and their caregivers! Friends in this class will learn about food through storytime, music, movement, and making French Toast together. Read-aloud will include Click Clack Moo: Cows that Type by Doreen Cronin and Bread Comes to Life: A Garden of Wheat and a Loaf to Eat by George Levenson. Limit one adult per child.

#### **KIDS IN THE KITCHEN: FOOL YA FOODS!**

**Location: Willy West Community Room** Tuesday, March 21, 4:15pm-5:30pm

**Instructor: Lily Kilfoy** Ages: 5–8 years old

Fee: \$10 for Owners; \$20 for non-owners

Capacity: 12

Join Chef Lily Kilfoy in this hands-on cooking class for kids. Spring brings out the silly, and we're hungry for a hoax. So, let's cook up some lighthearted laughs with fool ya foods! Seaweed slipped in a smoothie, pranks played with pancakes, gags made with garbanzos, and bamboozled by beets. In this class, participants will prepare ridiculous recipes with fool ya foods. Hands-on.

#### **READ A BOOK & LEARN TO COOK: STIR-FRIED SOBA NOODLES!**

**Location: Willy West Community Room** Monday, March 27, 10:00am-11:00am

**Instructor: Lily Kilfoy** 

Ages: 2-4 years old; adult supervision required Fee: \$10 for Owners; \$20 for non-owners Capacity: 10

Join Chef Lily Kilfoy in this new, hands-on cooking class for preschool-age children and their caregivers! Friends in this class will learn about food through storytime, music, movement, and making Stir-Fried Soba Noodles together. Read-aloud will include Noodles, please! (A-Z Foods of the World) by Cheryl Yau Chepusova and Rah, Rah, Radishes! A Vegetable Chant by April Pulley Sayre. Limit one adult per child.



#### **LEARNING WITH CHEF PAUL: KNIFE SKILLS AND SAFETY**

**Location: Willy West Community Room** Thursday, March 9, 6:00pm-8:00pm Ages: 18 and older

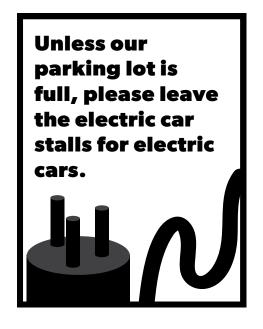
Your Co-op's Own Instructor: Paul Tseng Fee: \$15 for Owners; \$25 for non-owners

Capacity: 8

Chef Paul's own experience cutting himself in the kitchen prompted him to share his knowledge to help others prevent such accidents. Join Chef Paul as he guides participants through hands-on knife skills, including the major cuts, slices, and dices. Chef Paul will discuss kitchen knife essentials, including how to sharpen and maintain a knife. Participants should bring their favorite kitchen knife from home to practice with. Hands-on.













#### BALANCING BLOOD PRESSURE, NATURALLY

Location: Zoom Tuesday, February 21, 12:00pm-1:00pm Instructor: Katy Wallace

Fee: Free; registration is required

To succeed in lowering blood pressure naturally, it helps to combine proper dietary changes with natural

supplements and activities. Join Katy Wallace, Naturopathic Doctor, of Human Nature, LLC, in a presentation of multiple ways to lower blood pressure.

This class is not designed to and does not provide medical advice, professional diagnosis, opinion, treatment, or services. Classes provided by Willy Street Co-op are for informational and educational purposes only and are not meant to replace medical consultation with your physician.

#### NATURAL WAYS TO SUPPORT A HEALTHY IMMUNE SYSTEM

Location: Zoom Tuesday, March 21, 12:00pm-1:00pm Instructor: Katy Wallace

Fee: Free; registration is required

Immune system support is now more important than ever. Katy Wallace, Naturopathic Doctor of Human Nature, LLC, will cover the supplements, diet, and lifestyle factors that provide strong support for the body when faced with viral stress.

This class is not designed to and does not provide medical advice, professional diagnosis, opinion, treatment, or services. Classes provided by Willy Street Co-op are for informational and educational purposes only and are not meant to replace medical consultation with your physician.

#### INDIVIDUAL NUTRITION CONSULTATIONS

Location: Willy West Community Room Friday, February 17, 1:30pm-4:45pm Wednesday, March 15, 1:30pm-4:45pm Location: Zoom

Wednesday, February 8, 1:30pm-4:45pm Wednesday, March 22, 1:30pm-4:45pm

An individual nutrition consultation is your opportunity to learn how the correct food choices for your body can enhance your well-being. A one-on-one session with Katy Wallace of Human Nature includes a consultation regarding your health goals, as well as lifestyle and food choice suggestions geared toward addressing health goals and developing sustainable change.

Appointments are confirmed upon payment. Payment is due at the time of scheduling; otherwise, the appointment will be released to other interested parties. Payment is non-refundable and non-transferable unless notice of cancellation or rescheduling is provided seven (7) or more days prior. To register for the next available opening, email info@humannaturellc.com or call 608-301-9961.

#### **DESSERT NEWS**

#### Plant-Based Treats: Homemade & Premade



by Micky Ellenbecker, Purchasing Assistant

plant-based lifestyle focuses on plant foods being the primary source of nutrition, which include fruits, vegetables, nuts, seeds, legumes, and whole grains. A plant-based diet is not necessarily vegan or vegetarian, but some may eliminate all animal products

while others will choose to reduce their overall intake of animal products. But with any type of lifestyle, there needs to be wiggle room for indulgences, right? Like plant-based sweet treats! I personally love desserts of any sort and know ditching the sweets altogether is difficult, but having better options feels like a more sustainable approach than eliminating sweets altogether. I've included both simple recipes and premade options to liberate you (read: me) from the cookie jar.

#### Chocolate Avocado Mousse (4 servings)

2 avocados

1/2 tsp. sea salt

1/2 c. chocolate chips, semi-sweet or dark

3 Tbs. cocoa powder 1/4 c. milk, dairy or non-dairy 1 tsp. vanilla extract

Optional: 2-3 pitted dates and 2-3 Tbs. maple syrup

Optional toppings: whipped cream/ coconut cream, berries and/or chopped nuts

Directions: Melt the chocolate chips in a microwave or on the stove top over low heat and allow to cool. Cut the avocados in half and scoop the flesh into a food processor. Add all other ingredients to the food processor and blend until smooth. Refrigerate (except the toppings) for 2 hours to achieve the mousse-like texture and add desired toppings at time of serving.

#### **Chocolate-Covered Peanut Butter Banana Sandwiches**

2 ripe bananas

1/4 c. peanut butter, or other nut butter 3/4 to 1 1/4 c. chocolate chips

1 to 1 1/2 Tbs. coconut oil Optional Toppings: chopped nuts, shredded coconut, sprinkles, freeze dried fruit, etc.

Directions: Cut the bananas into 1/4 inch slices, put a dollop of peanut butter in the middle and top with another banana slice. Place the mini sandwiches on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper and place in the freezer until frozen, about 45 min -1 hr. Melt the chocolate chips and coconut oil in the microwave or on the stovetop at low heat (Use the full amount of chocolate and coconut oil if you want to cover the sandwiches completely. I prefer to dip one half to reduce the mess and prevent the chocolate from overpowering the other flavors). If you plan to add toppings, have them ready before you start dipping the banana sandwiches because the chocolate will harden quickly. Ideally, you'd have a second person to help; one to do the dipping and one to add the toppings. Once you've dipped the bananas, replace them on the parchment paper and return to the freezer for 30 minutes. Enjoy once frozen or save in an airtight container for later!

I'd recommend you seek out other simple homemade plant-based recipes as well, such as fruit crumbles, sautéed fruit ala mode, chocolate bark with dried fruit and nuts, sweet potato brownies, pumpkin cookies, lime avocado mousse, and banana nice cream. But if you don't have time or interest in making your own plant-based treats, we've got you covered!

#### **BULK TREATS**

First, let's circle through the bulk aisle for some tried and true offerings that are minimally processed. You can't go wrong with Chocolate-Covered Nuts and Raisins, and they'll round out a meal as well as offer some nutritional value. The same can be said for our Maple Glazed Walnuts and Candied Ginger as well.

#### **DRIED FRUIT**

This is definitely one of my standbys for a snack or rounding out a meal. Equal Exchange Dried Mangoes are my favorite because they are usually a bit softer and tend to have some tang to balance out the sweetness. I personally really enjoy the dried pineapple, prunes, and apricots as well. If you're someone that likes chewy textured items, dried fruit is a great alternative to chewy candy.

#### **CANDIED NUTS**

While they are likely familiar options for many of our customers, it's worth mentioning Nutkrack Candied Pecans and Treat Candied Nuts.

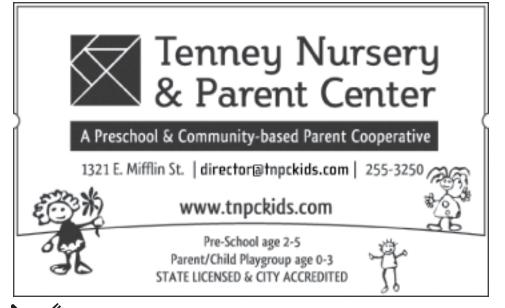
These locally-prepared, lightly-sweetened, yet very satisfying snacks make it easy to grab a few here and there when you need a little something without overdoing it on the sugar. They do a great job of lightly glazing the nuts, which I've found more difficult to achieve when making them at home.

#### **BARNANA**

Similar to the recipe I shared above, we offer Barnana's Banana Bites, which are chewy banana pieces covered in peanut butter, dark chocolate, or peanut butter chocolate combo. Their products are certified organic and they use imperfect bananas that would otherwise be destined for the compost pile. These are a definite staff favorite that won't disappoint!

#### WILLY STREET CO-OP BAKED GOODS

Our very own Production Kitchen makes an assortment of baked goods, with a number of options that focus on plant-based ingredients. Some good options to keep an eye out for include Banana Bread, Zucchini Bread, and Vegan Pumpkin Bread. Mini Pies will be available soon as well, with an assortment of flavor offerings, such as Blueberry and Strawberry Rhubarb.



#### **PRODUCER PROFILE**

#### Interview with Mango Man's Chef Thony Clarke



by Dean Kallas, Grocery Category Manager

#### Dean: Where did you grow up?

Chef Thony: I grew up in Costa Rica. I was born on the east coast in a little place called Limón. In that area in Costa Rica, there are a lot of Jamaican descendants there. Costa Rica got people, back in the day, to build their railroad track, and

then they segregated a whole bunch of Black people to that area and we couldn't move without our IDs. It was probably the '40s or something like that, you know. Pretty crazy. And that happened on the whole coast of Central America. They brought in mostly Jamaicans. The story goes that the island of Jamaica is where England had the facilities to educate Black people to read and do some math. After that they were literate and spoke English, so "high-end slaves." It was about a way to sell high-level slaves to make more money, pretty much is what it was. The English had markets all over Central and South America, they would send the slaves to different countries and those people spoke English, that's where my English comes from.

#### How did you get interested in cooking?

Cooking comes from my mom. My mom raised eleven kids by herself. And eleven kids means big cooking. Big cooking for eleven hungry mouths. Life was kind of rough, because she was alone. My dad didn't do the right thing. So when the last kid was born he just took off. So life was really hard, and I learned early on to be a man, pretty much. I mean my brain woke up when I was six and a half or seven. I could see everything, her suffering. I have been working ever since.

I would go to the lime plantation and pick up some limes and come back to the neighborhood and sell them for five cents for three or four or whatever and then bring the money home so she could cook, to help her out you know. It was nice, I mean seeing her cooking, while she was cooking, she was dancing and singing and doing her thing. She was cooking things up with spices, simple stuff like rice and beans, but she would make it taste so good! It would be simple but bold, and it would taste so good that you didn't think about meat or anything else, you just enjoyed it.

I base everything I do today off of using simple ingredients. There is a

world of spices, you know. But the secret is in the combination. Most people combine too many, but if you do your homework and you know what each one means then you know how each one tastes. To me it is like magic! It takes years and years of trial and error. I grew up watching my mom using basic ingredients for making food that I still crave today!

#### How would you best describe the style of food you make to someone who has not had one of your dishes before?

I call it Latin Soul food for a reason. Because the Caribbeans are the soul of Latin America. The Caribbeans give Latin America the groove. You know: the dance, the spices, the colors and intensity. With Latin food you get your white rice, your black beans and your salad and your chicken, but because of the Caribbeans there is more flavor. That is the explanation, so I describe it as Latin Soul food.

It has to be exciting. I always say I mean, you can't fake food, it is something you can't fake. It either is or it is not. And I don't think I am a great cook, because I am still learning, I am learning every day. People say I am a super chef, I am not a super chef. I am on a learning journey. The journey is to learn something every day. That is why I like music and that is why I like food because it is universal. It never ends. There is always something exciting and colorful and beautiful and delicious coming your way, you know.

#### Who is your biggest influence?

My biggest influence is my mother. She is my biggest influence ever. Latin/Caribbean culture gets passed down by the females. The dads work, but culture gets passed down by the moms. The moms are the ones who implant those things in us. I think my mom did a great job because I try to pass on my culture to my girls. I have tried to influence them, and maybe it works or it doesn't work, but not at the same level as my mom doing it.

#### How did you get the name "Mango Man?"

My wife was working for a lady and I would call my wife's job. I don't know why, but she started calling me the Mango Man. That's how that started. Then when we put the food cart together, we called the food cart Cafe Costa Rica featuring Mango Man cooks. Wonderful lady. It just stuck.

#### What made you decide to start a food cart?

I was working as a maintenance supervisor and got injured going down a flight of stairs. My knee went the opposite way it should have, so I tore my meniscus. I worked all day and got home and my knee was like a melon, it was big. I had to have surgery and my boss fired me. That pushed me to be independent. That's how it started. We started planning the business and in 2003 we started building the food cart.

## As an immigrant, what kinds of challenges have you faced in the U.S.?

As an immigrant the hardest part is to learn the rules and learn the laws.

It is really hard to make mistakes, especially for a guy like me who is a perfectionist. It kind of weighs you down, it was hard at the beginning.

#### What is the best part of your work?

Wow! The best part of my work is when somebody doubles back and tells me how happy they are with the meal. Or how much they love my sauce. To me that is mission accomplished, you know? Everything I do is to satisfy people. I mean I am not pretentious, I do not think that I am the best, I am always a work in progress.

#### What are your favorite ingredients to work with and why?

My favorite ingredients are those that I haven't had a chance to work with. That is what keeps me excited! What else can I do? Bring me something weird and I will experiment with it. That is the edginess that I am talking about. I want to keep myself antsy, I want to keep myself fresh. They will always taste something different.

#### When did you start making your sauces?

I started making them when I opened my first restaurant, which was in 2005 or 2006. I could produce the sauce there in the restaurant because I had the licensing to do that. Once I shut down the restaurant, in 2014, I had to apply for a separate license. We started producing at the FEED Kitchens that year.

#### Which of all your creations are you most proud of?

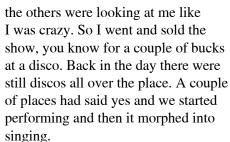
I am happy with all of them, but I am on a journey of creation, so I don't think nothing that I have done is perfect. I don't think nothing that I have done is finished. Even though people think it is perfect and have told me that, but I always get uncomfortable with that. I refuse to say this is done. There is always stuff to tweak, always stuff to get better. Just like if you write a good song you know, or you have a really good tune that you are working on. You play it today and it is just delicious, it is just so good! But then tomorrow you come and you are like oh, I need to put this in. It is good to not be satisfied.

#### What motivates you to keep creating?

The desire to be different, and I am always in search of the "Wow Factor." So as a Chef, that is the goal. That search is part of me. I am in search of that.

I have heard you were a musician and dance choreographer before becoming a Chef.
Where did you get your start? Do you still play music in

a band?
Back in Costa
Rica in the '80s, I
started dancing. I
got together with
four or five other
guys, and we started
putting choreographies
together. I was the youngest
one, but I already wanted to
make it a business. Of course



It is funny how the whole thing happened. We did a show at this guy's bar, he had us do our little dance performance there. What happened is the PA system had a cassette player, and the cassette player did not work. Everyone was looking at me, "What do we do?" So I talked to the boss, he had a band at the bar, and I tell him, "Hey, can you have your musicians make us a rhythm, so we can do our thing?" and he sent them over. They played a little rhythm, something funky. One of my friends in the group used to play guitar so I grabbed onto the microphone and sang a bunch of nonsense and my friend grabbed a guitar and started playing. It was surreal. It all came together like a glove and it fit.

That is how my singing started. Around '88 or '89. Once the dancing thing wound down, we put a band together, playing blues. Then we studied up and combined it with jazz, funk and rock. Together with Latino stuff and I have the Jamaican thing going on naturally. So it was pretty weird. It was pretty good!

No, I don't play music with a band at the moment but I'm looking forward to doing it again in the future.

#### Do you have any other hobbies or interests?

I like music. I play my bass every-day whenever I have time. I also play the harmonica, and have been playing the harmonica for a lot of years. I enjoy a really good sci-fi movie or show but other than being creative with my music and the food, I don't have any other hobbies. That keeps me busy.

#### Do you have any new products in development?

Yes, I do. There are two more sauces coming to the Co-op in the future. But I am hoping to get my soups into the Co-op this Winter yet, if that is even possible. The accident threw me off. I had a plan in September to talk to you all, so you could try out the soup, and then we could introduce them. It's seasonal. I am already doing it at the FEED Kitchens with the Soup's On people.



**BAKERY NEWS** 

# **Let Them Eat... Pie!**



by Nicholas Oconnor, Prepared Food & Cheese Category Manager am really excited to report on some of the new additions to our Prepared Foods program and let everyone know what is happening now and in the very near future with pies (and quiche) at the Willy Street Co-op!

#### **BUT FIRST A BRIEF HISTORY...**

Years ago, as many will remember, we had a robust pie- (and crust-) making program. We used to have a dough/pastry sheeter, which is an industrial piece of equipment used to roll out dough consistently and quickly. It broke several years ago and was never replaced. We are all very happy to say we have purchased a new one and we have been developing our internal systems to begin using it to its full potential!

#### **PIE CRUSTS**

This past holiday season, we were once again able to offer our popular homemade Classic Pie Crusts (2-pack), found in the frozen section at each store. We have received a lot of requests for our pie crusts, so we are really excited to be able to bring them back! We saw a really great reception for these this past November and December and have had a lot of good feedback about them.

There is now something extra special about these hand-crimped shells. Since we transitioned all of our wheat flour at our Production Kitchen to be 100% locally grown and milled flour from Meadowlark, our Classic Pie Crusts are now made from 100% local ingredients, as they are simply flour, butter (also local), and water.

Along with the return of our frozen crusts, I'm happy to report we have moved to using our in-house crust in all of our pies and quiche that already contain dairy and wheat, making our pies and quiche program even more distinct and unique to the Willy Street Co-op.

If you prefer the made-withoutgluten (MWOG) pies, rest assured we are not planning any changes at this time, so don't worry! In the future, we are planning to offer a vegan version of our Classic Pie Crusts, so our vegan shoppers can look forward to a new crust for their homemade baking!

#### HOLIDAY PIES/ SEASONAL/MINI PIES

We are also making some exciting changes to what goes inside the crust! Over the past few years, most of our 'pie' effort has been focused on our holiday pies (from mid-October

through December) offering flavors such as Pecan, Cherry, Apple, and Pumpkin, with vegan/ made-without-gluten (MWOG) options for the Apple and Pumpkin varieties. That being said, we will be looking to change things up during the 2023 holiday season and offer some new flavors for your

holiday!

As we go through the rest of the year, we are going to be offering a variety of rotating menu items, specifically with pies. Our plan is to introduce flavors such as Blueberry, Strawberry Rhubarb, Buttermilk, and Cranberry Apple. The new flavors will be offered in a new size pie, which we are calling a 'Mini Pie.' They will have hand crimped crusts, they will be six inches in diameter and they will come in a small craft box.

The new Mini Pies will replace the half pies that we previously offered. The half pies were a nice offering, but we have found they were prone to breaking and they required a significant amount of labor to maintain. Our hopes are that the new Mini Pies will serve the same purpose as the half pies and they will be a hit!

#### **POT PIES**

In conjunction with our sweet dessert pies, our Production Kitchen has plans to add some savory pot pies to the menu as well. We will start off by initially offering a classic Chicken and Vegetable Pot Pie and a Vegan Pot Pie too! These 6-inch personal-sized pot pies will come with reheat instructions for both refrigerated as well as from frozen in case you choose to freeze these and heat them up later and would make a tasty and easy lunch or dinner...but you could have them for breakfast too of course!

#### QUICHE

While we're talking about all of these crust filled delicacies, let's talk

about quiche. In May of 2022 we took on making quiche at our Production Kitchen in order to have better control over the quality, ingredients, and to introduce some variety to our menu. These 9-inch full size quiches are perfect for a family breakfast or brunch gathering with friends, and they are easy to bake off when you are ready! We have three options available; a vegetarian, vegetarian that is made without gluten (MWOG), and a made with meat option.

You will find that our vegetarian options change throughout the year to keep the menu rotating and keep things fresh. Our current rotation includes an Asparagus, Mozzarella, and Provolone Quiche in the spring, a Tomato and Mozzarella in the summer, and a Maple Roasted Vegetable in the fall and winter. For our meat version, we are currently making a Bacon, Potatoes, Mozzarella, Provolone, and Scallion quiche.

#### **LET ME KNOW**

If pies and quiche are your kind of thing, we hope you're as excited about the new additions as we are and you're able to try some for yourself. While we plan to start initially with 6-inch pies, if you are liking these but would like to see us make these as large, full-sized, options, write to me! Submit a customer comment and let us know what you think, what you love, and if you have a flavor idea we might want to try!



## **Patronage Refund**

The cashier will ask to see a photo ID when you want to use or donate it to Double Dollars.



MORE INFORMATION AT: www.willystreet.coop/FY22 -patronage-refund

willy street co-op



# Ctop deals

# FEBRUARY

#### **Health & Wellness**

co-op deals: February 1-14

Want to get an email reminder about Co-op Deals sales? Sign up at www.willystreet.coop/emails. You can unsubscribe at any time



#### Badger **Badger Balm** for Working Hands 0.75 oz • Save \$1.49 deals. Alba Botanica Hawaiian 3-in-1 **Towelettes**







**Nubian Heritage** 

**Bar Soap** 

All Kinds On Sale!

5 oz • Save \$2.10

Heritage Store

The Honey Pot

1 ea • Save \$8

Menstrual Cup

**Rosewater Spray** 

deals

dėals.





evanhealy **French Rose Clav** 1 oz • Save \$4.50





**Natural Factors** Coenzyme Q10 100 mg 60 ct • Save \$3.50 **7.99**/tx





**Nordic Naturals Ultimate Omega** 60 ct • Save \$9



## co-op deals: February 15-28



#### **Hand Soap** All Kinds On Sale! 17 fl oz • Save \$2

coop deals



#### ason Deodorant All Kinds On Sale! 2.5 oz • Save \$2.20

**.29**/tx deals.

8 fl oz • Save \$4 **\$8.99**/tx



coop

deals.

coop

deals



**Host Defense MyCommunity Extract** 1 fl oz • Save \$5.50 **.49**/tx

deals.

#### **Xlear** Xylitol Gum All Kinds on Sale! 100 pc • Save \$2





myKind Organics **Plant Calcium** 90 tab • Save \$14 **.99**/tx coop deals

Garden of Life

# **c**+op deals

co-op deals: February 1-14



#### A Dozen Cousins **Seasoned Beans**

All Kinds on Sale! 10 oz • Save \$1

deals.



All Kinds on Sale! 16 oz • Save \$1-\$1.30

deals.

#### All Kinds on Sale! 10-11 oz • Save \$2.30

**Tucson Tamale** 

**Tamales** 

Crofter's

Organic Premium

Fruit Spread

16.5 oz • Save \$2.50

All Kinds on Sale!





#### **Pacific**

#### **Organic Broth**

All Kinds (except Creamy Herb Garlic Broth)

32 fl oz • Save \$1.50

deals

#### **Tasty Bite**

#### **Rice Pouches**

All Kinds on Sale! 8.8 oz • Save \$1.98/2

deals





#### Chocolove

#### **Chocolate Bars**

All Kinds (except XO and Holiday Bars) on Sale! 2.9-3.2 oz • Save \$2.58/2

for s4/tx



#### Caboo

#### **Bathroom Tissue**

coop deals.



#### Dr Bronner's

#### **Organic Coconut Oil**

Whole Kernel, White Kernel 14 oz • Save \$2.50

coop deals

12 pk • Save \$2.50



coop deals



deals

All Kinds on Sale! 9 oz • Save \$2.30

dėals.



#### **Bionaturae**

#### Organic **Tomato Paste**

**Organic Mac** 

and Cheese

7 oz • Save \$1

deals.





#### Quorn

#### Meatless **ChiQin Nuggets**

10.6 oz • Save \$1.80

dėals.

#### Ithaca

All Kinds on Sale! 10 oz • Save \$1.50

COOP



6 oz • Save \$1.79

on Sale!

Annie's

coop deals.



#### **Essentia Electrolyte**

#### **Enhanced Water**

50.72 fl oz • Save \$1.20

.1.79

coop deals.

#### **Hummus**

**Organic** 

Rndm wt • Save 20¢

**7.79**/lb

Garden Of Eatin'

**Taco Shells** 

All Kinds on Sale!

5.5 oz • Save \$1.20

2.79

deals.

coop

deals

Mountain High Organics

**Black Turtle Beans** 



All Kinds (except Organic Grass-Fed)

All Kinds on Sale! 22-24 oz • Save \$1.30-\$1.50

**1.99** 

coop deals





TATO CHIPS

EA SALT

#### **Traditional Medicinals Herbal Tea**

All Kinds on Sale!

16 ct • Save \$1.50 **1.49**/tx

> coop deals.





#### **Kettle Brand Potato Chips**

Sharing Size. All Kinds on Sale! 13 oz • Save \$2.70

deals.

#### Paqui **Tortilla Chips**

All Kinds on Sale! 7 oz • Save \$1.50

coop deals.



#### **Almond Flour** Crackers

All Kinds on Sale! 4.25 oz • Save \$1.80

deals



#### Nixie

#### **Organic Sparkling Water**

All Kinds on Sale! 8 pk • Save \$6.49 when you buy two

**Buy One at \$6.49 Get One FREE** 

Buy One, Get One





COOP

# FEBRUARY

#### co-op deals: February 15-28

Want to get an email reminder about Co-op Deals sales? Sign up at www.willystreet.coop/emails. You can unsubscribe at any time.



#### Siggi's

#### **Non-Dairy Yogurt**

All Kinds on Sale! 5.3 oz • Save 38¢/2

for s4

deals.

#### Mount Hagen **Organic Instant Coffee** 3.53 oz • Save \$3

s**B**.99

deals.



or s

**Organic Salad** 

Annie's

**Dressina** 

All Kinds on Sale!

8 oz • Save \$2.80

deals.



#### **Equal Exchange Organic** Fair Trade Tea

All Kinds on Sale! .85-1.41 oz • Save 99¢

7.50

deals



#### Gluten Free Crackers

Original, Multigrain, Rosemary Olive 4 oz • Save \$1

coop deals.



#### Late July **Tortilla Chips**

All Kinds on Sale! 10.1 oz • Save \$1.99

2.00

deals.

#### **Culture Pop**

**Probiotic Soda** 

All Kinds on Sale! 4 pk • Save \$1.30

deals.



#### Amy's

#### **Frozen Pizzas**

All Kinds on Sale! 9.1-13.5 oz • Save \$2.50

deals.

COOP

deals





#### Barbara's Bakery

#### **Cheese Puffs**

All Kinds on Sale! 7 oz • Save \$1

deals

#### Muir Glen

#### **Organic Canned Tomatoes**

All Kinds on Sale! 28 oz • Save \$3.98/2

2 for s 5

**Feel Good Foods** 

**Gluten-Free** 

**Dumplings** 

Vegetable, Chicken

R.W. Knudsen

10 oz • Save \$3

coop deals

coop deals



#### **Greek Gods Greek Yogurt**

All Kinds on Sale! 24 oz • Save \$1

deals

#### Cascadian Farm **Organic Frozen Vegetables**

Broccoli Florets, Sweet Peas, Shelled Edamame, Chinese Stir Fry 10 oz • Save \$1.49

dėals.

deals

deals.

## California Olive Ranch

**Everyday Extra Virgin** Olive Oil

25.4 oz • Save \$5.50



#### Siete

#### **Grain-Free Cookies**

All Kinds on Sale!

4.5 oz • Save \$1.49

2.50



#### **Lotus Foods**

#### Thai Rice Noodles

All Kinds on Sale! 8 oz • Save \$2

#### **Simply Nutritious** luice All Kinds on Sale!

32 fl oz • Save \$2 **\$2**.99

COOP deals



#### coop deals.

#### Mary's Gone Crackers **Organic Super Seed Crackers**

All Kinds on Sale! 5.5 oz • Save \$2.30

coop deals.

Miyokos Creamery

**Organic Cultured Vegan Butter** 8 oz • Save \$1

**1.49** 

coop deals.



#### **Homestyle Savory Chicken Bone Broth**

14 fl oz • Save \$2 **1.99** 

coop deals.





## Uncle Matt's **Organic**

Orange Juice 52 fl oz • Save \$1.50

> COOP deals.

#### Biokleen Free & Clear **Laundry Powder** 10 lb • Save \$3.50

coop deals. Sir Kensingstons **Classic Mayonnaise** 12 oz • Save \$2.30 5.49

> coop deals.







1. Bill Doran Flowers. 2. Hu Cashew Butter & Vanilla Bean Dark Chocolate. 3. Endangered Species Vibrant Cherries + Dark Chocolate. 4. Equal Exchange Total Eclipse. 5. Honey Mama's Lavender & Rose Cocoa Truffle Bar. 6. Tony's Chocolonely Milk Chocolate Bar. 7. Sartori Merlot BellaVitano. 8. Organic Pink Lady \* Apples. 9. Gentle Breeze Honey Sticks. 10. Greenbush Bakery Old Fashioned Cherry Cake Donuts. 11. Quince & Apple Figs and Black Tea Preserves. 12. Carr Valley Cheese Cranberry Chipotle Cheddar Cheese. 13. Pipcorn Cheddar Cheese Balls. 14. Slide Sea Salt Chips. 15. Bulk Chocolate Covered Pretzels. 16. Organic Strawberries. 17. Love Corn Sea Salt Roasted Corn. 18. Surf Sweets Organic Cinnamon Bears. 19. FEED Kitchen Sugar Cookies. 20. Nutkrack Firekracker Chili-Spiked Candied Pecans. 21. Lily's Sweets Original Dark Chocolate Bar. 22. Willy Street Co-op Valentine's Day Cupcakes. 23. Alter Eco Organic Dark Chocolate Bars (Quinoa Crunch, Sea Salt). 24. Made in Nature Cranberry Pistachio Figgy Pops. 25. Pocky Chocolate Cream Covered Biscuit Sticks. 26. Surf Sweets Gummy Bears. 27. Surf Sweets Gummy Worms. 28. Willy Street Co-op Espresso Swirl Brownies. 29. Bulk Roasted & Salted Pistachios. 30. Gail Ambrosius Chocolate Dipped Orange Peel. 31. Surf Sweets Organic DelishFish. 32. Gail Ambrosius 5pc Caramels. 33. Smart Sweets Sourmelon Bites. 34. Jennies Coconut Macaroons. 35. Organic Blood Oranges. \*SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.



# Law Office of Nathan Wagner

Business - Family - Bankruptcy Probate - Wills

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> > nwagner.law

2810 Crossroads Dr, Suite 4000 Madison WI 53718







# Are you enrolled in the Access Discount Program?



## It's that time of year to renew your Access Discount!

Willy Street Co-op will be sending out renewal notifications to all current Access Owners at their email address on file or their last known mailing address.

To avoid a lapse in your enrollment, please stop by one of our Customer Service desks by March 31st, 2023 to fill out your renewal form.

For more information about the Access Discount Program please contact the Owner Records Administrator at **608-284-7794** or **ora@willystreet.coop**.

Information about the Access Discount Program can be found at the Customer Service desk and at www.willystreet.coop/ownership/access-discount

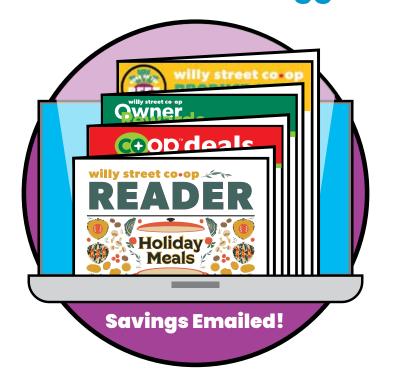
-program



Access Discount

willy street co-op

# Save money and find out our best fruit & veggies



Did you know you could sign up to get emails telling you about what's new and tasty in produce or what's on sale for Owners this week?

Visit willystreet.coop/emails to sign up for emails - you can unsubscribe any time you wish.

#### **ADVERTISE IN THE READER**

Affordable rates, wide reach, discounts for non-profits and Owners. Find info here: willystreet.coop/advertising.



#### **CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE REPORT**



#### **Generosity Abounds! Thank You!**

by Kristina Kuhaupt, Customer Experience Manager

# DOUBLE DOLLARS AND PANTRIES OF PLENTY RESULTS

DOUBLE DOLLARS FUND

Throughout November and December, you helped us raise \$13,138 for Double Dollars. WOW—that is amazing and we thank you for your support! We said that when you contributed to the Double Dollars Fund, we would do a 1:1 match up to \$15,000 using abandoned Owner equity to support our Pantries of Plenty neighborhood pantry partners: Goodman Community Center Fritz Food Pantry, Lussier Community Education Center, Middleton Outreach Ministry, The River Food Pantry, and Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center. You met our match for \$13,138 with cash donations and savings due to your reuse of bags! Thanks to you, each food pantry will receive funds to use on fresh items that are harder to come by in the winter season. We appreciate your support of the Double Dollars program and our neighborhood pantries. This means that a total of \$26,276 has been put into our local giving economy to help support those who are food insecure during these long winter months.

As a reminder, Double Dollars is a nutrition incentive program to help those using FoodShare/QUEST purchase fresh or frozen fruits, vegetables, legumes, and seeds and seedlings for growing edible plants. The Double Dollars season runs from October to May at the Co-op and June to November at participat-

GROW FOOD
BEAUTIFULLY

Edible Landscape Design

Design Consultations
design
course, and
private tours
with code:
WILLY15

dailyharvestdesigns.com

ing farmers' markets. The Double Dollars Fund, with your cash donations and bag reuse combined, has provided over \$378,600 to the program since April 2017.

The Double Dollars match benefiting our food pantry partners is made possible through abandoned and donated Owner equity. When Owners leave the Co-op, their equity invested belongs to them and they are given the option to have their equity refunded or donated to use for charitable purposes such as this match and the Community Reinvestment Fund grants.

#### DOUBLE DOLLARS—GOOD NEWS ALERT!

In late 2022, I had the opportunity to partner with several Double Dollars stakeholders, including the American Heart Association and Community Action Coalition for South Central Wisconsin to advocate for additional funding for this program at city and county levels during their budget season for FY23. I am pleased to report that with our collaborative efforts, this program was given an additional \$125,000 for our budget year to help distribute during the farmers' market and Co-op distribution cycles. We want to give a big thank you to the city and county leaders who helped approve and pass this budget line item, and give this program a larger voice concerning the positive impact it creates for Dane County residents throughout the year. We acknowledge there are so many worthy Dane County social programs these leaders must consider, and these budget decisions are not easy. We appreciate the time, effort, and deliberation it took-thank you! Additionally, we are grateful to the American Heart Association for championing the program, and WKOW for picking up the story and providing us an outlet to spread the word about Double Dollars at large, this budget cycle win, and how folks in our community can both support and utilize the program. To see more information on this news story, please visit WKOW.

#### **HOLIDAY GIVING UPDATE**

During this season of giving, you helped contribute to Madison Reading Project to help distribute 15,000 books this holiday season to local Dane County children. Thank you to everyone who either dropped off a book(s) at our stores and/or financially contributed via their QR code!

Additionally, you were able to help contribute winter gear to Middleton area residents this holiday season through the City of Middleton's Keeping Neighbors Warm collection drive. Lastly, throughout the entire year, you helped CHIP at our registers, with a 1% donation of your total grocery bill, helping support the Community Shares Program. In the 2022 calendar year, you helped raise \$152,053.63 for 70 nonprofits that bring awareness and change for local social and environmental justice. Thank you for your generosity for all Co-op supported programs this year, it is truly heartwarming and appreciated!

# REMINDER: ACCESS DISCOUNT RENEWALS DUE MARCH 31

The Access Discount Program is an Owner benefit available to those with a financial need and offers a 10% discount on your purchases as well as a longer time period to pay any outstanding Owner equity (\$4 per year for Individual Owners, \$7 per year for Household Owners). Additionally, you will receive one free cooking class per year. When you enroll in the Access Discount Program, the benefit is activated throughout the calendar year. If you still have a financial need at the end of the year, you must renew by March 31 in order to continue receiving the benefit. Current Access Discount participants will receive reminders in mid-February, and those who have not renewed by mid-March will receive a second reminder. To protect the privacy of our Owners, we do not provide renewal reminders at the registers.

Applying for the Access Discount is quick and easy at the Customer Service desk, and you do not need to bring any special information with you. Following completion of a simple form, you will sign that you agree to the terms of service. You may qualify if you are receiving support from the FoodShare/QUEST Program (SNAP); Medicaid (BadgerCare/Senior Care); the Special Supplemental Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC); Section 8 Housing Assistance/Community Development Authority (HUD); the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI); the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP); FairShare CSA Coalition

Partner Shares; the Free or Reduced School Lunch and Breakfast Program; Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy Program; Wisconsin Works; Heat for Heroes; or Early Head Start/Head Start. You may also qualify to receive the Access Discount if your annual gross income within the last year has been at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG). FPG charts are available on the Access Discount form.

The Access Discount Program is supported by our annual sales income, currently, that equates to .51% of our sales. In FY2022 the Co-op distributed \$339,326 in discounts via the program to 1,635 Owners. To learn more about our Access Discount Program, please visit our website under the Ownership tab.

Questions about Access Discount Program renewal or enrollment can be sent to ora@willystreet.coop.

Additionally, this year begins the work of our Access Discount renewal committee. Thank you to all who are helping continue to evaluate this program and how we can best serve our community through this offering. Any additional findings or changes to this program will be highlighted in the May newsletter once our work is completed.

#### HEADS UP: NEW REGISTER PROCEDURE STARTING FEBRUARY 1ST

As Anya mentioned in her General Manager's Report, you will be seeing an updated procedure as to how you will be asked about your ownership at our registers and Customer Service desks. You will be asked for your Owner number and then for the name on the account, which you will verbalize, not the staff member. For those who have been Owners for many years or decades this may feel different, but after evaluation of our current procedures, we want to bring a more inclusive operational policy that makes everyone feel welcome. In this way, you will be in control of how your name is pronounced, not our staff. It is one more step to help verify we have the correct account. We hope this new procedure will alleviate the times that you have come into our stores and we have mispronounced your name. Thank you for your willingness to try out this new method and we look forward to bringing a welcoming checkout experience for all.



#### **2023 WILLY STREET CO-OP OWNER SURVEY**

We are conducting a survey of Co-op Owners to learn what you value about the Co-op, what you would like to see changed or stay the same, and to find out any ideas you have for improvements. The privacy of our Owners is extremely important to us; names and Owner numbers are removed before any examination and analysis of the results. Please drop your completed survey at the kiosk in any store or mail to Owner Survey, Willy Street Co-op, 1457 E. Washington Ave., Madison, WI 53703. Please use a ballpoint pen to avoid ink leakage. You can also fill out this survey at willystreet.coop/survey.

Fill out and turn in this survey by February 28 and you could win 1 of 10 \$100 Co-op gift cards!

Name:				Owner #:				
Phone number*:								
	x if you are in gagement op		eiving information fr	rom the Co-o	p about committee op	enings, focus g	groups, and other	
_	ortant is it for e following wa	-	information about V	Villy Street C	Co-op (including chan	ges to hours, n	ew services, sales,	
	_		Not at all	A little	Somewhat	Very	Extremely	
a. In-store pos	stings (signs, fl	yers, pamphlets,	etc.) O	O	O	O	O	
b. Co-op webs	site		O	O	O	O	O	
c. Informal co	nversations wi	th Board membe	ers/staff O	O	O	O	O	
d. Annual Med	eting and Boar	d meetings	O	O	O	O	O	
e. Emails			O	O	O	O	O	
f. Mailings (a	nnual report, s	pecial mailings)	O	O	O	O	O	
g. Social medi	ia (Facebook, I	nstagram, Twitte	er) O	O	O	O	O	
h. Co-op New	sletter (The Re	rader)	O	O	O	O	O	
2. How satis	fied are you v	with Willy Stree	et Co-op's communic	cation regard	ling changes to hours,	new services,	sales, etc.?	
Ve	ry Satisfied	Satisfied	Somewhat Sat.	Neutral	Somewhat Unsat.	Unsatisfied	Very Unsatisfied	
a. Frequency	0	O	O	O	O	O	О	
b. Content	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	
to THREE.)				h Friendlier/more approachable staff i More national brands (e.g., Kraft, Kellogg's, etc.) j Increased selection of natural/organic products k Increased selection of local products l Increased responsiveness to customer feedback m Already spend 100% of my grocery dollars at the Co-op n Other (please specify):				
Vision: Willy everyone	can participa	is a local comn te.			ustainable, accessible,			
		_	· -		uppliers through coop ned in our mission an		nes and practices.	
	Very Well	Well	Somewhat Well	Neutral	Somewhat Poorly	Poorly	Very Poorly	
,	0	O	0	0	O	0	0	
5. Do you ha			explain why you ga					
	loes Willy Str Very Well O	reet Co-op prior Well O	ritize diversity, equit Somewhat Well O	y, and inclus Neutral O	ion (DEI)? Somewhat Poorly O	Poorly O	Very Poorly O	

Survey continues on next page



7. Do you have any comm	ents to share to e	explain why you ga	ave the answe	r you did to the pr	eceding question?			
8. Which three social issue other areas? (Choose u		hink Willy Street (	Co-op should	prioritize to the po	ossible deprioritiza	tion/detriment of		
a Promote sustainable f	•	oackaging/recycling	g g.	Provide education on food safety issues				
b Support development				Support efforts to protect/improve the environment				
c Provide nutrition educ				Other (please specify):				
d Support other co-ops				I don't recommend any changes to the priorities of the Co-				
e Support local, sustain	able agriculture			x I don't know				
f Address local hunger	_							
9. In what ways would yo	u like to engage v	with the Board of 1	Directors? Ple	ease check all that	apply.			
a Attendance at Board				e Board articles in the Reader				
b Co-op community dir			f	Owner focus group	ps on current topics	and issues		
c At discussion session	s during the Annu	al Meeting	g	g Other (please specify):				
d Listening sessions at	the stores		h	I don't feel a need to engage with the Board of Directors				
10. What are the top three	reasons you are	a Willy Street Co-	op Owner? (C	Choose up to THR	<b>EE.</b> )			
a To receive the Owner	sales and discour	nts	f	f A belief in Willy Street Co-op's mission/vision				
b To have access to cer	tain products not	available elsewhere	g	g To interact with like-minded people				
c To support a local gro	ocer		h	h Its convenient locations				
d To support local food	growers		i	Other (please spec	ify):			
e A desire to join a coo	perative							
Please answer these question  11. On average, how often  More than 3x/week	do you shop at V		_	.)	Less than 1x/Mon			
	_	_	_	_	_			
12. Please select your age:			_	50 to 61				
a Under 18			·	e 50 to 64 f 65 and over				
b 18 to 24				g Prefer not to answer				
c 25 to 34 d 35 to 49			g	_ Prefer not to answ	CI			
13. Please select your annu	al household inc	ome•						
a Under \$25,000	ai nouschola me	onic.	e	\$75,000 to \$99,99	9			
b \$25,000 to \$49,999			·	f \$100,000 or more				
c \$50,000 to \$59,999				g Prefer not to answer				
d \$60,000 to \$74,999			₽. ——					
14. Please select which of the	he following best	describes your ba	ickground:					
a American Indian or A	_	-	_	Middle Eastern or	North African			
b Asian			g	g White or Caucasian				
c Black or African Ame	erican		_	h Not listed (please specify)				
d Hispanic or Latino/a			i	i Prefer not to answer				
e Native Hawaiian or o	ther Pacific Island	ler						
15. Is there anything else tl	hat you would lik	ce to tell us?						
	<b>.</b>							

Fill out and turn in this survey by February 28 and you could win 1 of 10 \$100 Co-op gift cards!



# Loue in the Morning

# An Ode to Breakfasts Both Savory and Sweet

by Ben Becker, Newsletter Writer



any of us struggle in the mornings. Simply emerging from a layer of sheets and blankets can be considered the first (and perhaps) greatest achievement on a frosty February day. It's a feat simply to prepare a warm cup of coffee, let alone to get a waffle iron heated up. Indeed, some of the best breakfast offerings require far too much time and effort for a weekday before work. It is in the rush and demands of our daily grind that we often neglect those things most important in life. Often these are the same priorities that demand time and attention. So before you settle for cereal, find a few stolen moments to indulge in a morning meal that provides meaning to you and a special someone. This February provides a chance to take time and keep the home griddles well-warmed.

#### **FRUIT**

Nothing provides the same indulgent complement to the standard breakfast fare as the incorporation of fruit. While they may seem elementary, the familiar apple brings sustenance not only for your body but your heart and soul as well. Apples are enticingly intertwined with stories of legend and intrigue where they symbolize love, beauty, and forbidden knowledge. According to clas-

sical myth, Eris, goddess of discord, inspired a beauty contest by dropping a golden apple between the goddesses Athena, Hera, and Aphrodite. The consequences of this rivalry would be far-reaching, leading to a love affair between Paris and the married Helen, and the Trojan War as a result. Other stories tell of apples of the Hesperides that served as a wedding present to the gods, and would be planted in the gardens of the goddess of marriage.

Even deep into these late winter days, your Co-op's shelves are still well stocked with apples that have been stowed away since their harvest. Keep an eye out for the Pink Lady varietal. The soft pink glow of their skin makes them a fitting gift for Valentine's Day. A high acidity level combined with heavy amounts of fructose give this fruit a pleasing sweet and tart taste in every crisp bite. This alluring cultivar is perfect to enjoy as is, but you may also choose to bake it into a decadent morning pastry.

#### **Pomegranates**

As delightfully as they balance sweetness and tart, your perspectives and pastry shouldn't be too limited in scope. Why not feature something more exciting in your morning mix such as a pomegranate? Much like apples, these ruby-colored fruits have their own remarkable features and history. The name pomegranate itself comes from the Latin pomum granatum, meaning seeded apple. It is no wonder then that pomegranates are believed to have been the forbidden fruits that Eve offered to Adam in the Garden of Eden, rather than the apple. In Greek myths, pomegranate seeds were offered to Persephone after her seduction, by which Hades sealed her fate as his queen in the underworld.

Fortunately, the alluring red glow of the pomegranate holds fewer existential dangers to mere mortals. In fact, they are very nutritious, with a significant content of vitamins C and K, dietary fiber, and folate.



Mango
Another fruit that doesn't grace the breakfast nook as often as it should is the mango. Rich in antioxidants and other nutrients, the mango is great for your immune system and health in general. It is also known as the love fruit for good reason. Rich in vitamin E, the enjoyment of this succulent treat can boost sex drive, increase virility, and regulate hormones.

#### Berries

At breakfast time, berries are not to be overlooked. No doubt, there is a fair reason for hesitation when purchasing fresh berries in the middle of February. Long removed from the growing season, they will often carry a higher premium and lesser quality compared to other times of the year. However, they can still be enjoyed by checking out the freezer aisle. You'll find mixed varieties such as cherries, raspberries, and blackberries in a more stable package for increased shelf life.

#### **PUFF PASTRY**

A fitting complement to a fruitfilled breakfast is a puff pastry either next to or mixed in together. Heart-shaped pancakes topped with whipped cream, berries, or bananas are always a welcome way to start the day. Dutch baby pastries are a fluffy and fun treat and are excellent way to feature berries or an elegant layering of browned apples with cinnamon.

Before you get started, you'll need to make sure everything is nice and hot, both skillet (cast iron works best) and oven. Mix half a cup of flour with half a cup of whole milk, two eggs, and a bit of salt and vanilla. Once blended, let it rest for half. Melt the butter in the pan before adding the batter. To serve, you can smother with syrup, sprinkle with powdered sugar, or dab on some jam.

#### **THE EGG**

Eggs are often the centerpiece of

the morning meal. From the perhaps more peregrine preparation of an Omelet du Fromage to the tenderness of perfectly poached eggs, they can be a true work of art when simply scrambled. Lately, this staple protein has proven to be more out of reach as market forces drive the cost of a carton ever upward. One major factor in the steep price is the spread of avian flu. As wild birds spread this disease from location to location, viable production of eggs and poultry becomes increasingly difficult. Industrial egg production is especially susceptible to the spread of disease as well. In order to produce eggs at rock-bottom prices, layers are tightly compressed into small pens and cages, with little room to move or even access to sunlight. The density of layers in close quarters creates perfect conditions for the spread of disease. In addition to being inhumane, this method for poultry makes our supply chain much more vulnerable as centralization and consolidation mean singular outbreaks can bring down a large portion of the supply. This lack of industrial resilience combined with inflation carries a large cost to the consumer.

979

Alternatively, small locally produced eggs have much more price resilience. Free-range chickens are healthier and less susceptible to disease. Independence from large consolidated supply chains also means that local operations are less impacted by threats to the food system's infrastructure. The results are not only more humane to layers, but greater quality in the product. The deep rich yolk of eggs from producers such as Yuppie Hill Poultry and Pasture Patterns indicate that layers had better nutrition, and your breakfast will be better as a result.

#### **SAUSAGE**

A good start to the day should be protein-rich. Eggs make an excellent offering for this energy source, but meat eaters (and faux meat-eaters)



will likely augment breakfast with a few sausage links served from a box. But why limit yourself to the ordinary brown-and-serve breakfast links? Fresh breakfast sausages can be so much more satisfying and delicious.

#### **POTATOES**

If you have some sausage for breakfast, you might want potatoes to go with it. There are plenty of starches available to eat for breakfast, from plain toast to pastries including those mentioned above. For something a bit more earthy, hash browns are a great go-to. But if this offering proves too bland, it might be time to mix it up with something slightly different. For example, your classic Idaho potato might sit it out in favor of the blue or purple potato. The recipe is about the same, just grate your spuds, fry them

in the pan, and flatten them down with your spatula. For even more flavor, however, why not make the same preparation with sweet potatoes. All of these options could be enhanced with the addition of cheese and onions of course. A dollop of sour cream, cilantro, and chives will also give this dish a great presentation along with its delightful taste.

Enjoy your morning and get a great start to your day with a hearty and creative breakfast. The rest of your day will thank you.





# <u>Recipes</u>

#### Grapefruit Yogurt Cake

Adapted from Ina Garten.

Deliciously flavored with grapefruit, this cake is light and springy. Nice for a sweet breakfast, or of course, for dessert.

1 1/2 c. all-purpose flour

2 tsp. baking powder

1/2 tsp. kosher salt

1 c. yogurt + 1 Tbs.

1 c. sugar

3 eggs

1 Tbs. grapefruit zest

1/2 tsp. vanilla extract

1/2 c. vegetable oil

1/3 c. grapefruit juice

Directions: Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease an 8 1/2x 2 1/2-inch loaf pan. Line bottom with parchment, and grease and flour the pan.

Sift together the flour, baking powder, and salt in a medium bowl. Whisk together the yogurt, 1 c. of the sugar, eggs, grapefruit zest, and vanilla in a large bowl. Slowly whisk the dry ingredients into the wet ingredients. Use a rubber spatula to fold the vegetable oil into the batter until well incorporated. Pour batter into prepared loaf pan and bake for 50 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.

Simmer the grapefruit juice and last tablespoon of sugar in a small pot over medium heat until the sugar dissolves and the mixture is clear.

Allow the cake to cool in the pan for 10 minutes. Place on a wire rack over a sheet pan. Pour the grapefruit-sugar mixture over the cake and allow it to be absorbed. Let the cake cool, then enjoy.

#### Grapefruit Chicken Salad

Adapted from wwww.nikibone.com

A tart and sweet twist on traditional chicken salad, and a great way to use leftover chicken.

1 1/2 c. grapefruit, sectioned and cut into smaller chunks

2 c. chicken, cubed

1/4 c. celery, chopped

1 scallion, chopped

1/4 c. mayonnaise

1/4 c. yogurt

1/4 c. parsley, chopped

Directions: Combine all ingredients and mix thoroughly. Serve on a bed of

#### Indian Spicy Salad with Pomegranate Seeds

Adapted from www.kayotic.nl/blog

This inventive salad is a nutritional powerhouse and sure to zest up those blah winter days!

3 tsp. fresh ginger, graed

2 Tbs. sesame oil

1 onion, chopped

1 red chili, chopped

1 c. canned chickpeas

1 tsp. chili powder

1 Tbs. garam masala

salt

pepper

1 cucumber, chopped

1 tomato, chopped

1/3 c. cilantro, chopped

1/2 lemon

4 Tbs. yogurt

1 pomegranate, seeded

Directions: Heat oil in a skillet. Add the ginger, onion, and chopped chili to the oil. Fry over medium heat until onions are soft (about 5 minutes.) Add the chickpeas and cook for an additional 5 minutes or so, until golden. Add the chili powder and garam masala and cook an additional 2-3 minutes, until fragrant. Remove from heat and add salt and pepper or additional spices as desired.

In a small bowl, combine the cucumber, chopped cilantro, and tomatoes. Toss with a good squeeze of lemon juice.

Divide the cucumber and tomato mixture between four plates and top with the chickpea mixture. Dollop each plate with a tablespoon of yogurt. Sprinkle pomegranate seeds over each salad. Serve with naan or papadums on the side.

#### Lily's Beef Stew

From Lily, former Willy West Staff

This is a simple, hands-off stew, perfect for a chilly fall or winter evening.

2 lb. beef chuck roast

1 Tbs. olive oil

3 onions, chopped

5 cloves garlic, minced

1 Tbs. thyme

1 tsp. rosemary

1/2 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes

1 bay leaf

salt

black pepper

1 1/2 qt. beef stock

1 1/2 Tbs. tomato paste

1/4 c. red wine

2 carrots, chopped

2 celery stalks, chopped

5 potatoes, chopped

Directions: Preheat oven to 350°F. In a large Dutch oven, combine the chuck roast, olive oil, onion, and garlic. Sprinkle with thyme, rosemary, crushed red pepper, bay leaf, and salt and pepper. In a medium saucepan, bring the beef stock to a gentle simmer over medium heat. Add the tomato paste and red wine, and stir until well combined. Pour the stock mixture into the Dutch oven. Cover and cook for 3 1/2 hours, then fold in the carrots, celery, and potato. Return to the oven and cook, covered, for another 30 minutes to 1 hour, until the meat is very tender and the vegetables are done.

#### Moong Dahl Soup

Recipe adapted from 366 Delicious Ways to Cook Rice, Beans and Grains by Andrea Chesman

A great winter warmer! Don't be put off by the long ingredient list, it is mostly spices.

2 Tbs. ghee or canola oil

1 large onion, diced

4 cloves garlic, minced

2 Tbs. fresh ginger, finely minced

1 tsp. cumin seeds

1/2 tsp. ground cumin

1/2 tsp. ground coriander

1/4 tsp. turmeric

1/8 tsp. cayenne pepper or more to taste, optional

2 1/2 c. dried yellow split mung beans (moong dahl), sorted and rinsed well

8 c. water, chicken or vegetable broth

2 carrots, diced

2 Tbs. lemon juice

salt and pepper to taste

1/4 c. scallions, chopped

2 Tbs. cilantro, minced

Directions: Heat the oil or ghee in a large soup pot. Add the onion and cook until transparent. Stir in the garlic, ginger, cumin seeds, ground cumin, coriander, turmeric, and cayenne if using, and cook a minute or two longer. Add the mung beans and carrots and stir to combine with spices. Pour in the water or broth and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer, partially covered, for about 45 minutes. The beans will disintegrate in the broth and the carrots should be tender. Use a whisk or immersion blender to puree further if desired. Add lemon juice and salt and pepper to taste. Stir in the scallions and cilantro and simmer a few minutes more to blend flavors.

#### Pomegranate Chicken

Adapted from www.allrecipes.com

The tangy pomegranate seeds infuse the sauce for this savory chicken dish. Excellent with rice pilaf and leafy greens.

1/4 c. olive oil



1 Tbs. garlic, minced

1 chicken

1 pomegranate, seeded

1/4 c. white wine

1 lemon

1 Tbs. cinnamon sugar

salt pepper

Directions: Preheat the oven to 375°F. Mix oil and garlic together in a shallow dish. I recommend using a spoon to mash the garlic slightly in the oil, to further release its flavors. Brush the chicken with the garlic oil, making sure to cover all surface areas. Place the chicken in a shallow baking dish and drizzle with the remaining oil. Bake for 45 minutes, basting several times with the juices from the pan. If necessary, add a bit of water to the pan for basting purposes. When the skin is browned and the juices run clear when a thigh is pierced at its thickest point with a fork, you know the meat is done.

Remove 1 tablespoon of seeds from the pomegranate. Set them aside for garnishing the dish. Remove the rest of the seeds and squeeze out the juice through a sieve into a small dish. Set aside.

In a small, non-reactive saucepan, mix the pomegranate juice, wine, lemon juice, and cinnamon sugar together. Bring it to a boil, then immediately reduce the heat to low. Cook for 5 minutes. Season with salt and pepper to your liking.

Place the roasted chicken on a serving platter, and pierce in several places. Pour the sauce over the chicken. Garnish with the extra pomegranate seeds, and serve at room temperature.

#### Raw Chocolate Pudding

Adapted from www.renegadehealth.com

An amazing raw pudding that can add a healthy twist to a romantic dessert.

2 Tbs. coconut cream

2 Tbs. cocoa powder

1 avocado

3 dates

1 c. coconut water

pinch salt

pinch vanilla

Directions: Combine all ingredients in a high-powered blender. Blend on high speed until creamy and smooth. Serve by itself, or over mixed berries, pineapple, or banana.

#### Spinach and Sausage Breakfast Casserole

Featured Chef Co-op Advantage Program

This egg bake needs little prep or cooking time and can be made with or without meat.

1 lb. Italian sausage, chopped

1/2 c. onion, chopped

1 roasted red peppers, chopped

10 oz spinach, chopped

1 c. all-purpose flour

1/2 c. Parmesan cheese, shredded

1 tsp. basil

1 tsp. salt

8 eggs

2 c. milk

1 c. provolone cheese, shredded

Directions: In a large skillet, cook the sausage and onion over medium heat until meat is no longer pink; drain. Transfer to a greased 3-quart baking dish. Sprinkle with half the red peppers; top with spinach. In a bowl combine the flour, Parmesan cheese, basil and salt. Whisk together the eggs and milk; stir into the flour mixture until blended. Pour over spinach. Bake uncovered at 425°F for 15-20 minutes or until a knife inserted near the center comes out clean. Top with Provolone cheese and remaining red peppers. Bake 3-5 minutes longer or until cheese is melted. Let stand for 5 minutes before serving.







**ANGELICA** 

#### Willy Street Co-op Hot Dish

Beefy, cheesy, potatoey, hot... what more could a Wisconsinite want on a cold Saturday afternoon?

#### **Montebello Organic Farfalle**

Do you enjoy feeling fancy while munching on comfort food? This simple organic bowtie pasta comes from northern Italy and has a delightful firm texture. I enjoy it with a light marinara, sautéed garlic and Sartori Shredded Parmesan. Sausage and peppers would be a great addition if you are looking for additional protein and fiber in your meal!



#### Schar Artisan Bakers White Bread

This isn't like most other gluten-free breads. It feels like bread, not cake. It bends. It takes spreads without crumbling. It toasts nicely, and works in recipes like stuffing and French toast.





#### Willy Street Co-op Zucchini Bread

Perfectly moist and not too sweet. Delicious quick snack or breakfast.

LIZ



**ABIGAIL** 

#### **Troubadour Bakery Brioche Burger Buns**

Not just for burgers! Actually, I haven't even had a burger on one of these buns (although I'm sure it would be great). Soft, fluffy, with just a pinch of sweetness, these buns are so yummy to use with some sliced meat and cheese from the Deli. Make some sandwiches to take with you on a picnic! Also delicious used for breakfast sandwiches. Locally made in Milwaukee!



**CAITLYN** 

#### Weleda Skin Food Original Ultra-Rich Cream

A cult classic! This thick (but not heavy), creamy moisturizer is the answer to all of your winter skin woes. Skin Food will keep your complexion as hydrated and glowing as any high-end designer cream. Can't recommend enough.





#### Cesar Cheese Habañero Cheddar This cheddar is

creamy and smooth. It has an addictive balanced heat that is intense but never overwhelming. Bright and fruity notes from the fresh habañero peppers provide a perfect complement to party dishes like nachos, queso dip, or chili dogs for your next game day get-together. Buying any of Cesar's Cheese products supports a small local business owner, Wisconsin dairy operations, and helps keep money in the Wisconsin economy! Available at East and North only.



**LAURA** 

#### Justin's Peanut Butter Cups Forget everything you thought you

knew about chocolate peanut butter cups; these will rock your world!!!

#### **Nemat Amber Perfume Oil**

Normally, I am not a fan of Amber oil, but I can NOT get enough of this stuff! I would say this Amber is more similar to Egyptian Musk (which I am a huge fan of), rather than most other Amber oils I have smelled which, as a former essential oil guru acquaintance once remarked, are too presumptuous. The oil is delicious, and if you are feeling like treating yourself, check out the perfume mist!





#### **Karthauser & Sons Plants**

We usually have a great variety to choose from. These make such nice presents. For the friend or family member that loves plants. Or treat yourself!

**AMANDA** 



#### Willy Street Co-op Vegan Croutons

These crunchy croutons take any salad to the next level. Baked in-house with olive oil, Italian herbs, and nutritional yeast they add a delicious savory quality to a plateful of greens. It's hard to imagine eating a salad without them! Available at East and North only.

BEN



**AMY** 

#### Origin Breads Golden Cherry Almond Granola

It is by far the best granola. It's like Grandma Origin Breads whipped up their special granola from scratch just for you. The toasty coconut and almonds are buttery-rich. The turmeric in a pleasant and unexpected surprise. Best of all the magic ingredient to tie it all up in a bow is the sesame seeds. Wowzers. I see most people purchasing the Maple Pecan variety, which I'm sure is also amazing, if you like pecans.





#### **Honey Mama's Lavender & Rose** Cocoa Truffle Bar

I feel like a queen bee when I treat myself to one of these beautiful chocolate bars. They are made in Portland, Oregon with seven simple ingredients: raw honey, cocoa powder, coconut meat, unrefined coconut oil, salt, lavender oil, and dried red rose petals. If you're like me and need to work on priori-



**KRISTI** 

**JAMES** 

#### Willy Street Co-op Vanilla Cheesecake

If I'm ever having a long day, or just "a day" in general, one of my favorite things to do is get a snack I really enjoy. This cheesecake always hits the spot. Simple but perfect—can't go wrong!

tizing your pleasures you should start here. They make a

great gift as well (just remember to keep refrigerated)!

#### Feel Good Foods Chicken and Vegetable Egg

These are some of the best frozen egg rolls I have ever had! I really like both the chicken and vegetable varieties. They are awesome in the oven at home, or if you are lucky enough to have a toaster oven at work, they are perfect for lunch! I honestly can eat them plain, but a little bit of soy sauce is also perfect for these. They knock those mini egg rolls from other brands out of the park!



#### **Heritage Store Rosewater Refreshing Facial Mist**

This spray has such a lovely but not overpowering rose scent. I use it on my face as a toner as well as a spritz during the day whenever I need a refreshing pick-me-up (in the summer, I keep a bottle in the fridge). It is also very restorative for tired feet after a long day!



**THAYER** 



#### **Red Barn Family Farms Vintage Willow Creek**

Red Barn Family Farms uses a domestic Fair Trade model and produces humane certified cheese that is all just fantastic. The Willow Creek is a 2-year aged, raw milk cheddar with a fruity start and a buttery finish. It pairs perfectly with citrus, almonds, honey and figs, or a Cabernet Sauvignon

DAN



#### **TDE Tangerines**

These tangerines are simply magnificent. I believe their bright flavor is best enjoyed in the bowels of winter, to alleviate the symptoms of SAD (S.easonal A.ffective D.isorder). They also remind me of the record label Top Dawg Entertainment (T.D.E.).

**SHANNON** 



**MOURNING DOVE** 

#### **Organic Leeks**

These anti-inflammatory suckers add a delicate onion flavor and make food look so pretty. Thinly slice and sprinkle over whatever dish you're cooking, and you'll look like a fancy pants chef.

#### **Kishu Mandarins**

These tiny little oranges are not only adorable, but they taste like childhood. Fresh, sweetly unique, and oh so itty bitty.



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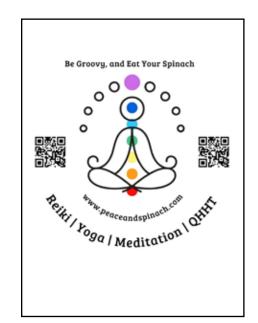
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