

October 22, 2014

Co-op Communicator

In this issue

- 1 From Terry Appleby
- 1 From the Board President
- 1 Upcoming events
- 2 Remembering the BIN Building
- 2 Fun with Food
- 2 Discount Days Date Changes
- 2 Staff Question on Ebola
- 2 Learn about the NCGA!
- 2 By the Numbers Quiz

Upcoming events

- October 23:** NCGA Webinar, 2:00-3:30 p.m., Hanover, Lebanon, White River Junction, Buck Road
- October 24:** National Food Day, FREE class in the CLC to celebrate
- October 25 and 26:** Member Discount Days: 10% off
- October 26:** CPR/AED course; 8:30-11:30 a.m., Lebanon
- October 28:** Co-op Food Safety classes, 8:30 a.m. to noon in Hanover OR 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. in Lebanon
- October 28:** Co-op Member Forum: Farm to Co-op to Table, 6:30 p.m., Lebanon Co-op Café and Learning Center

From Terry Appleby

To start I want to make an appreciation to everyone who made the recent Case Lot Sale at the Lebanon store such a success. The sale is an important benefit to many members and is responsible for a couple of hundred thousand dollars in sales. It is a big deal, and many people at the Co-op work a lot of hours to make it the success it annually is. Merchandisers and buyers make choices on products and negotiate discounts. Planning and scheduling happens. IT systems are set up. Flyers are designed and proofed. Loads of products are received. It goes on and on. So here is a thank you to everyone who had a hand in this signature event of the Co-op, including the staff inside the store keeping things running well there. Awesome job!!

I have been talking a lot about culture change at the Co-op, and the Caselot Sale is a great example of an area where our culture really works. It is a terrific example of careful planning. It exemplifies teamwork – with operations, merchandising, volunteers from the other stores, IT, Education Department, our friends from Associated Grocers all coming together to make it work smoothly and efficiently. The level of service to members is incredible. The systems in place make customers' purchasing easy, staff do the work of picking the product, and they even put it into each customer's vehicle. And when the sale is over, it gets evaluated to understand what we learned and what we can do better next year. Lots of lessons to be learned from the way the Case Lot Sale operates.

October is National Co-op Month and Fair Trade Month.

From the Board President

Many thanks to the employees who stepped up to the plate Tuesday night to share about our cooperative coffee chain with our sister co-op in Chiapas, Mexico. Their heartfelt presentation brought home how important a cooperative can be to the livelihood of some people and how far-reaching the effects of our consumer choices can be. Next week's forum on Fresh, Local Produce will round out the series celebrating Co-op Month.

As you may know, a lawsuit has been filed in the state of Vermont against the Co-op and certain individuals. There is a process that our organization has to follow, and that has been ongoing. All details that can be publicly disclosed will be relayed to members and staff as much and as soon as possible. Please remember that board members cannot discuss this lawsuit individually. Thank you in advance for your respect for the process as we move through this situation.

—Margaret Drye, Board President

Hanover Renovation: Looking Back

Do you remember the BIN building that once occupied the Hanover parking lot?

Before the 1994 remodel of the Hanover store, a square, cement-block building sat on a grassy area between the Hanover parking lot and the sidewalk. Originally a laundromat, the building was converted in 1975 to house the Co-op's newest department offering bulk, international, and natural food products (hence, the name "BIN"). For eleven years, until the 1986 remodel of the Hanover store moved those products into the main building, customers shopped in two places if they wanted bulk flour, oatmeal, or coffee beans, unusual cheeses, imported olive oil in gallon cans, Mexican or Asian ingredients, or natural health remedies.

After 1986, Board and Basket moved into the little building. When they moved out years later, we used it as the Co-op Garden Shop, the Co-op Christmas Shop, and then for handing out the annual refund checks during the week when members voted in person for Board of Directors. On April 28, 1994, the building was demolished to make room for an expanded parking lot.

Fun With Food



Worth1000.com

What are they?

Answer next week!

Answer to last week's

Fun with Food photo: Corned Beef

Discount Day Changes in November and December

For the months of **November and December**, we will be holding the **10%** Member Discount days on the **15th and 16th** of **each month**. No 5% days will be held.

Members have been asking to know the dates in advance, so we are going to try this as the best way to offer predictable discount days relatively close to both Thanksgiving and December holidays. This year, Thanksgiving is on November 27. The first day of Hanukkah is Wednesday, December 17th.

Staff Asked:

If Ebola is not airborne, does that mean you can't get it from a sneeze or cough?

Answer:

To say it's not airborne means you would not get it by breathing in the same air an Ebola patient has exhaled. Ebola is not a respiratory disease, and the virus is not carried in the lungs or throat.

However, it is present in body fluids, including saliva and mucus. If infected saliva or mucus touches your eyes, nose, mouth, or a break in your skin—like an abrasion or open cut—it will be able to enter your body.

So, can it be spread by a sneeze or a cough? Yes, if you are directly sneezed or coughed upon by an Ebola victim, or if you were to transfer saliva or mucus from a contaminated surface to your own eyes, nose, mouth, etc. with contaminated hands. At that point, the route is considered to be direct contact, not airborne.

Note: Ebola information is being shared because it is in the news. Ebola is not a current health risk in our area.

"All About National Cooperative Grocers"

Drop in to the webinar and learn more about this co-op of food co-ops (including ours)!

When: Thursday, October 23, 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Where: Hanover, Lebanon, White River Junction, and Buck Road Conference Rooms

By the Numbers Quiz

Equal Exchange and Divine chocolate bars are made with fair trade chocolate sourced exclusively from grower cooperatives. Between October 1, 2013, and October 1, 2014, how many of these bars did our stores sell?

- a) 15,444
- b) 24,195
- c) 32,965