

First Alternative NATURAL FOODS CO-OP

Fresh, local, organic groceries for everyone

North Store: 2855 NW Grant Ave • South Store: 1007 SE 3rd St

The
SCOOP
September 2023



*From the
First Alternative Co-op
Board of Directors*

Jeff Contreras

Co-ops are heroes!

Did you know that National Co+op Grocers (NCG) represents 158 food co-ops nationwide operating nearly 230 stores serving 1.3 million consumer-owners with annual sales of \$2.5 billion?

These grassroots organizations powered by democracy prioritize people's wellbeing and respond to the evolving needs of each community. Co-ops were

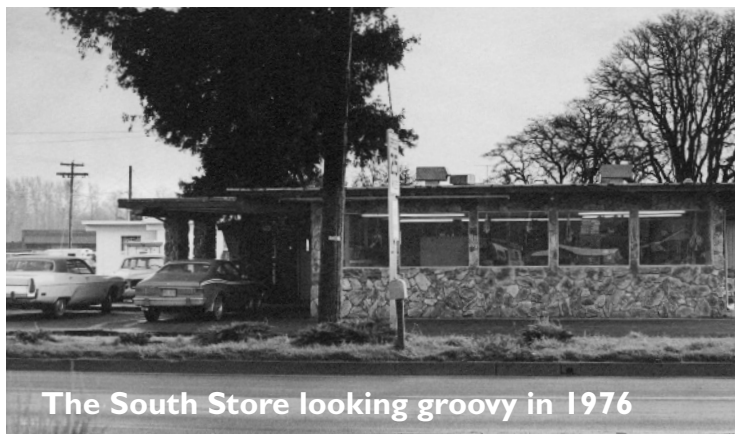
born out of the civil rights movement, and food co-ops were instrumental in passing legislation to establish a national organic certification program.

We first opened our doors in 1970, but the history of First Alternative dates back to 1969, and we're proud to be a part of the co-op continuum! **Learn all about the history of First Alternative Natural Foods Co-op at: firstalt.coop/origins-history.**

Notes from the July Board meeting

- At the July Board meeting, while introducing ourselves and welcoming three new board members, we expressed reasons why we love the Co-op which I believe are reflective of the collective values of our community. Local, organic, healthy, quality, food, living, people, farmers, collaboration, and leadership were some common themes.
- Recent conversations concerning the needs of our community and being the best stewards of our resources have centered around the feasibility and shape of a possible expansion project. We reviewed a market study and site evaluation of the South Store and management is getting ready to distribute a request for proposals (RFP) for architectural services.
- Another topic of discussion encompassed strategies for adapting to the slower than expected sales growth this year.

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The South Store looking groovy in 1976

September Board Committee Meetings

Owners interested in virtual attendance should contact BREC@firstalt.coop for details.

Owner Relations Committee:

The conduit for communication between Owners and the Board.

Monday, September 11, 6pm

Board Recruitment & Elections

Committee: Working to recruit qualified Board candidates.

Tuesday, September 12, 6pm

Finance Committee:

Reviews, analyzes, and makes recommendations on financial matters.

Wednesday, September 13, 4:30pm

Board of Directors:

Elected Owners putting our cooperative principles into action.

Tuesday, September 26, 6pm

ANYONE CAN SHOP

Two locations
Open daily
7 am - 9 pm

From the Board of Directors

Jeff Contreras

Continued from previous page...

- It was great to hear that the second floor of the Annex is nearing completion and that education on Subtle Acts of Exclusion will be included in staff training.
- As a Board, we are streamlining processes, compressing timelines, and focusing on action-oriented productivity.

We look forward to continuing the conversation about how to best serve the evolving needs of our community and would love to hear from you. The first ten minutes of every board meeting are open to Owner comments. You can also email the Board of directors: faboard@firstalt.coop.



The North Store's 2003 grand opening. More photos and Co-op history at firstalt.coop/origins-history

Your 2023-24 Board of Directors



Jasmin Woodside
President



Emily Stimac
Vice President



Dana Monroe
Secretary



Rob May
Treasurer



Kestrel Bailey



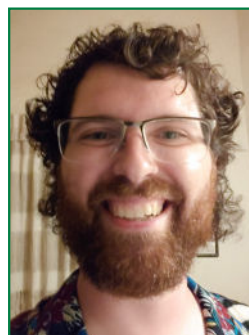
Jeff Contreras



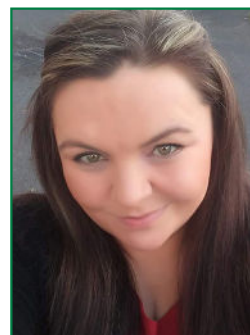
Frank Hall



Patrick Monroe



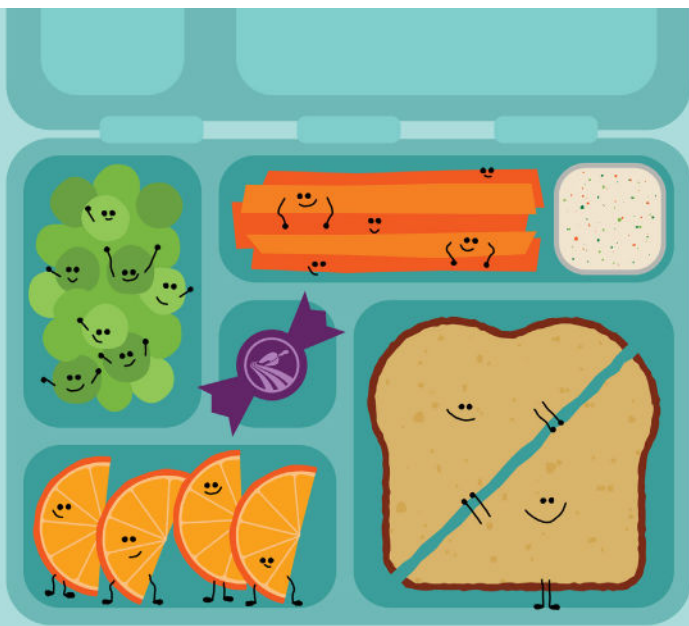
Jeremy Northway



Kate Woods

The Co-op Board of Directors is a dedicated group of volunteers elected by Co-op Owners to guide the store through Policy Governance. This means that although they are not involved in day-to-day store decisions, they shape these decisions through the development of Co-op policy and vision. Board meetings take place the last Tuesday of each month at 6pm. Each meeting begins with a ten-minute period for Owner comments. Email is also welcome: FAboard@firstalt.coop.

Learn more at firstalt.coop/governance



Stock up on
BACK-TO-SCHOOL
basics



Back-to-School Fuel

Buy One, Get One FREE Aug. 30–Sept. 12



Buy One, Get One **FREE** **BOGO**

Buy One, Get One **FREE** **BOGO**

Buy One, Get One **FREE** **BOGO**

Stock up on back-to-school fuel with BOGO deals on Field Day Favorites! See the Aug 30-Sept 12 Co-op Deals for all the savings.



And find school supplies, supplements, and more, every day!
Selections vary by store and availability.

Follow First Alternative

For up-to-the-minute news,
giveaways, recipes, special offers,
and tons of cooperative fun.

@firstaltcoop    

Facebook • Instagram • YouTube • TikTok

The Co-op welcomed



new Owners in July!

VIRTUAL **Saturday 10/21** **COOK ALONG** **WITH ELENI**

Ethiopian **cuisine**

Fundraiser

Learn how to make delicious Ethiopian vegetarian dishes and support our work in **Corvallis' sister city, Gondar, Ethiopia.**

**\$55 (INCLUDES
SPICES & INJERA-
TRADITIONAL BREAD)**

Registration and additional
information
sistercities.corvallis.or.us



DOWNTOWN CORVALLIS

Presented by:



WINE WALK

Saturday

Sept. 30

2023

Join us at
ReStyle Corvallis and raise
a glass for local businesses!



We will be there!

Join us for the **Downtown Corvallis Wine Walk, Part 2** on **Saturday, September 30** from **3 - 7pm**. We'll be at **ReStyle Corvallis** pouring tastes and offering samples. Come say hello, and raise a glass for local businesses.

Solarize Corvallis Investment Opportunity

This is your chance to help the Co-op invest in a brighter future

First Alternative Co-op is excited to invite you to invest in the latest Solarize Corvallis project—additional rooftop solar at both First Alternative Co-op locations, as well as solar battery back-up at the South Store.

A significant portion of the funding for this project will come from community investors—and we hope that you'll be one of them!

The minimum investment is \$1,000. You choose your investment rate, between 1% and 4% APR. The investment information for this project is available on the Oregon Clean Power Cooperative website: oregoncleanpower.coop.

Solarize Corvallis

To reserve a space for your investment, please email info@oregoncleanpower.coop. There's a lot of community interest in accelerating the transition to renewable energy, so we encourage you to reserve your space for this win-win opportunity as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance for supporting Solarize Corvallis!

—Annette Mills, *Corvallis Sustainability Coalition* and
Dan Orzech, *Oregon Clean Power Co-op*



CORVALLIS
sustainability
COALITION