

# 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  
June 2024



From the Board of Directors

## Frank Hall

Greetings Co-op Community! Your Co-op Board is currently dealing with an extraordinary breadth of issues, which underscore the importance of having a strong Co-op Board.

**Board Election Time:** There are four Board Director seats to be filled in this election, and five candidates running to fill them. Because there are more candidates than positions to fill, Board policy requires us (for the first time!) to use ranked choice voting in this election.

You can vote starting on June 1, either online, or by a paper ballot if you have requested one be mailed to you. The voting deadline is June 15. If you are voting online, look for an email from the First Alternative Co-op to your Owner email address, which will contain the link for you to cast your vote.

When you go to vote, you will see the list of five candidates, and to the right of that list you will see five columns labeled "First Choice" through "Fifth Choice". To vote, place a mark in the First Choice column beside the name of the candidate who is your first choice. Similarly, place a mark in the Second Choice column for your second choice, and so on. Continue until you have ranked as many or as few candidates as you like. Make no more than one mark for each candidate or column.

Benton County has been using ranked choice voting since 2020. You can find links to a very helpful description and an explanatory video about ranked choice voting from them on the next page, along with an example version of our ballot, for reference.

**Search For New General Manager:** We are conducting an aggressive search for the best person to replace our previous general manager, Cindee Lolik, who retired in March. We have posted the job position and are conducting initial interviews with our "Board GM Search" working group. We will arrange a short, concentrated period of time in the near future for all acceptable candidates to visit Corvallis and be interviewed by the full Board, which will allow the candidates to evaluate for themselves the Co-op and Corvallis area. This concentrated period will also give the Board, which has the hiring decision responsibility, the best ability to effectively compare the candidates.

Meanwhile we have brought in Wynston Estis as Interim General Manager, and she gave her first monthly report to our Board in April. Her prior management experience with multiple cooperative groceries is also helping us bring our 20-plus-year-old governance policies and other processes up to current best practices.

**Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusiveness (JEDI):** In its ongoing work to deepen its awareness of JEDI issues and practices, the Board had a Zoom conversation with JEDI coach LaDonna Sanders Redmond. She pointed out that the JEDI movement has strong connection with the natural food movement, as both are about "trying to undo monocultures."

**Other News:** The North Store is operating normally after a car crashed through a storefront window. Thankfully, no one was hurt. The South Store's eating area is now open. The Oregon Department of Transportation has shared its plan (not yet funded) to construct a traffic circle by the South Store to join the South Store access via SE Chapman Place, the merging of 3rd and 4th Streets south of the Marys River, the 3rd Street exit onto Highways 20/34, and SW Twin Oaks Circle.

## June Board Committee Meetings

Owners interested in virtual attendance should contact [BREC@firstalt.coop](mailto:BREC@firstalt.coop) for details.

### Owner Relations Committee:

The conduit for communication between Owners and the Board.

**Monday, June 10, 5:30 pm**

### Board Recruitment & Elections Committee:

Working to recruit qualified Board candidates.

**Wednesday, June 12, 5 pm**

### Finance Committee:

Reviews, analyzes, and makes recommendations on financial matters.

**Wednesday, June 19, 4:30 pm**

### Board of Directors:

Elected Owners putting our cooperative principles into action.

**Tuesday, June 25, 6 pm**



**ELECTION  
SPECIAL**

SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS



**Open daily  
7 am - 9 pm**



## A Special Message From the Board of Directors

First Alternative is controlled by you, the Owner. First Alternative Owners are consumers who give input and make decisions about the store, its philosophy, products, and services. One way you can influence decision-making is to elect Board candidates who support your ideas.

The Board Recruitment and Election Committee prepared this Election Special especially for you. This committee endorses, as nominees, interested Owners who have the experience and skills needed to guide our thriving local business.

The First Alternative Board of Directors is responsible for directing the Co-op's affairs.

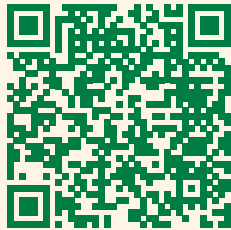
### As representatives of the Owners, the Board:

1. establishes overall policies and objectives
2. sets financial goals and approves major financial transactions
3. selects the General Manager and evaluates their performance
4. reviews and approves budgets
5. guides the long-term vision of the Co-op through its Ends statements.

Presented on the following pages are candidates nominated by the Board Recruitment and Election Committee to run for open Board positions beginning in June. Please read the candidate information carefully before exercising your right as an Owner to elect new Board members.

## Ranked Choice Voting

With more candidates than open seats, the 2024 Board Election will utilize Ranked Choice Voting. Learn about Ranked Choice Voting from Benton County at the URL below, or scan the QR code for an informative YouTube video.



[re.bentoncountyor.gov/ranked-choice-voting](https://re.bentoncountyor.gov/ranked-choice-voting)

## Example Ballot



### FIRST ALTERNATIVE CO-OP BOARD ELECTIONS

#### VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

Information about candidates is available in the June issue of the Scoop newsletter (*in-store and online at [firstalt.coop/the-scoop-newsletter](http://firstalt.coop/the-scoop-newsletter)*).

#### Please follow these instructions:

- Rank up to five candidates in order of preference. Fill in only **one** circle per candidate and **one** circle per choice.
- Place the ballot in the return envelope and seal.
- Print your **name** and **Owner number**, and **sign** in the space provided on the return envelope.

#### Only the share Owner may vote.

Mail to:  
Election Committee,  
PO Box 2237  
Corvallis, OR 97339

**OR** return to the ballot drop box at either First Alternative Co-op store.

#### BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY CLOSING TIME ON JUNE 15, 2024.

### 2024 ELECTION VOTING BALLOT

Rank up to five candidates in order of preference. Fill in only **one** circle per candidate and **one** circle per choice.

Candidates	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice	3 <sup>rd</sup> Choice	4 <sup>th</sup> Choice	5 <sup>th</sup> Choice
Candidate A	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate C	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate E	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

### You must cast your ballot online or in the store before store closing on June 15th.

The current First Alternative Board of Directors appreciates your participation in this election. For information on electronic and paper voting, see, "Board Election Voting Procedures" on the back page.



## Incumbent

# Frank Hall

## CANDIDATE STATEMENT

Cooperative culture is something the world needs more of at this time. I want to help sustain and strengthen First Alternative Co-op, for it has provided my

family wholesome, environmentally sound food for many years. My first term on the Board felt like meaningful service to the Co-op and this community. If reelected, my experience can help provide further stability as we transition to a new General Manager, and plan if, how, and when to expand facilities at the South Store.

In serving further on this Board, I will be helped by my long experience with cooperatives, including business manager for a large housing cooperative, and by my prior experience on the boards of the Whiteside Theatre Foundation, the Corvallis Folklore Society, and the Corvallis Waldorf School, among others.

## CANDIDATE INTERVIEW

**Why should Owners select you to represent them on the Board?** I am already up to speed on the issues facing the Board, having served on it for the last two years as we dealt with building back after the South Store Commissary fire, and the serious impacts of COVID on our finances, employees, Owners, and suppliers. I have been an Owner of the Co-op for most of my life. I want the Co-op to thrive and persist.

**What opportunities and challenges do you see ahead?** Our immediate challenge is to transition to a new General Manager without breaking stride. This will require careful attention and communication between the Board and the Co-op staff. Inflation will remain a challenge for the foreseeable future. Longer term, the possible expansion of the South Store requires clear thinking, planning, financing, and oversight.

**What is the role of First Alternative Cooperative in the community?** As a member-based cooperative outside of corporate capitalism, the Co-op's main contribution is to reliably provide sustainable wholesome food and household products that for-profit firms are unlikely or less likely to provide. But it serves more broadly as a public example of people-power, the ability for people to cooperate in meeting their collective needs. This builds a community of people, who you meet in the aisles or behind the counter, who are more likely to join you in other collective pursuits.

**What long-term goals do you envision for First Alternative?** Resilient and forward-facing within the economic environment. Supportive and engaged with its Owners.

## Education and Certification

- Undergraduate degree in Math, Florida State University
- Master's in Cultural Anthropology, University of Texas at Austin
- Master's in Management of Science & Technology, Oregon Health & Sciences University

## Present Occupation: Writer

**Business Experience:** *Current:* I am finishing a 2-year term on First Alternative Co-op's Board of Directors and running for reelection. *Previous:* Business manager of a 75-person housing cooperative in Austin, 1 year. Research & Development software engineer/project manager at HP Corvallis, 19 years. Since 1998, I have run a consulting company to help launch or strengthen technology startups. This has given me direct experience with quite a variety of business situations, and experience serving on a variety of entrepreneurial boards. For example, I was a founding board member of InsightsNow in Corvallis, which for 5 years in a row was ranked in Oregon's 100 fastest growing companies. I have also served on the board of the Willamette Innovators Network.

**Community Involvement:** A lover of folk music, I was on the organizing team for the Oregon Folklife Festival in the late 1980s and early 1990s. I served many years on the membership committee and board of the Corvallis Folklore Society. I have served as the Corvallis Waldorf School board chair, and chair of the trustees of the First Congregational United Church of Christ. Most recently I am an organizer of Poetics Corvallis' first-Friday open mics, and I have served on the finance committee and board of the Whiteside Theatre Foundation.



**Incumbent**

## **Kate Woods**

### **CANDIDATE STATEMENT**

I first joined the Co-op as an Owner because of my passion for strengthening local food systems and the strong belief that there is simply a better way to shop. Since

joining the Co-op, I have had a child who has food allergies and being a part of First Alternative has given us some normalcy while we learn to navigate that as well.

For all of these reasons and more, when the opportunity came last year to run for the Board, I was excited to do so. I proudly served this past year and took on additional volunteer shifts to help the North Store bag groceries during the holiday season. I am seeking to get re-elected to continue work on the Policy and Governance Committee projects and see them through to completion, as well as work on the Owner Relations Committee and help plan the Owner Rendezvous this year.

### **CANDIDATE INTERVIEW**

**Why should Owners select you to represent them on the Board?** I have a deep passion for our local food systems and increasing accessibility, and a strong belief that the co-op model will help achieve that. Prior to moving to Corvallis, I studied Organic Farming and Food Insecurity and worked with different farms and nonprofits to combat these issues. I have been able to continue this work by serving on the Board.

**What opportunities and challenges do you see ahead?** Our current biggest challenge is also our exciting opportunity: the search for our new General Manager. Joining the GM Search Team has been enlightening and encouraging that our new GM will have the skills and passion to shepherd our beloved Co-op into our next phase of growth and community building.

**What is the role of First Alternative Cooperative in the community?** We are the visible call-to-change in our community for access to groceries and household goods. Our role is to continue to find ways to be accessible and welcoming to all our community members and continue to push the demand for local and organic foods along with clean products.

**What long-term goals do you envision for First Alternative?** Long term, I would like to see First Alternative continue to provide engagement opportunities for Owners who are interested (like our tours and event days), but also be able to engage our non-Owner community into feeling welcome to shop. I envision First Alternative continuing to stock diverse products to help all shoppers with their needs and have a strong market share against the big corporate stores in town.

### **Education and Certification**

- Technical Writing, Oregon State University, 2024-2025
- Organic Farming, Clackamas Community College, 2016-2018
  - Apprenticeship at Flying Onion Farm
  - Master Beekeeper Apprenticeship
- Beginning Urban Farming Apprenticeship, Oregon State University, 2015

**Present Occupation:** Kate Woods Executive Solutions, Owner/Virtual Assistant

### **Business Experience:**

- Duerksen & Associates, Inc, Executive Assistant & Leadership Team, Corvallis, 2019-2024
- Elwood Staffing, business development manager, Albany, 2018-2019
- Brand Ambassador for Scratch & Peck Feeds (2018), Farmina (2017)
- Personal Beast (pet food store), manager, Portland, 2016-2018
- Yurz (marketing), senior account manager, Beaverton, 2014-2016

### **Community Involvement:**

- First Alternative Board: Policy & Governance Committee, Owner Relations Committee
- Corvallis Environmental Center Board: Board Member, Development Chair
- Ten Rivers Food Web: Outreach Committee Chair
- Alzheimer's Association: Oregon & SW Washington Committee Member
- Run for Ronald McDonald House of Oregon & SW Washington: Fundraiser
- Corvallis Chamber of Commerce: Member
- Northwest Native Chamber: Member
- Oregon State University, Housing & Dining Services, events organizer, Hall Council president; 2010;
- McNary Hall resident assistant; 2011



# Kathryn Duvall

## CANDIDATE STATEMENT

I've been a regular Co-op shopper for several years. My work is environmentally related and I try to pay attention to packaging, ingredients, and sourcing when I

shop. I appreciate that the Co-op staff and owners share the same values in reducing harmful ingredients, wasteful packaging, and miles traveled in products sold in the stores.

As a Co-op shopper, there's a trust that what I'm buying has been carefully chosen; that consideration is why I decided to become an Owner last year. I have ample experience working in communication and outreach and have worked in a broad array of industries with people from all different backgrounds. I am fortunate to be in a place where I have the ability to volunteer my time. I'd be honored to sit on the Co-op Board of Directors and represent the Co-op community.

## CANDIDATE INTERVIEW

**Why should Owners select you to represent them on the Board?** Board members have the challenging job of setting the future direction of the Co-op while considering both financial viability and shoppers' values. I love that our community takes pride in our regional food system and the sustainable practices that help maintain the local land, economy, and our health. Those values, and the long-term health of the Co-op, are important to me as well and as a Board member, I will consider all decisions with those priorities in mind.

**What opportunities and challenges do you see ahead?** Along with the opportunities and challenges of hiring a new General Manager and undertaking training on justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, customers are worried about their finances. People are feeling squeezed from the high cost of living we're currently experiencing. Continuing to offer local, sustainable, and high value products at a time when price is the biggest consideration for a lot of shoppers is a challenge, but can also open the door for Board and Owner conversations around affordability and access to local food.

**What is the role of First Alternative Cooperative in the community?** The Co-op supports environmentally responsible practices at every point in the food system, which means customers can align their values with where they get their groceries. The Co-op also partners with local non-profits through Beans for Bags, offers ways for community members to learn more about the local food and beverage industry, and creates opportunities for individual sustainable choices, like bringing your own containers for bulk foods or getting rewarded for biking and walking instead of driving. Being a place where shoppers feel ownership over what their money supports is a role that no other grocery store in the community fills.

**What long-term goals do you envision for First Alternative?** I am lucky to be able to be a Co-op Owner and regular shopper, but I know that it's not an option for everyone in the community. As the Board embarks on learning more about incorporating diversity, justice, equity, and inclusion into all Board decisions, I'd like to consider how we can bring more community members into Ownership and to become regular shoppers. I'm also eager to hear from other Owners about their ideas for First Alternative's future growth.

## Education and Certification

- BA Spanish, College of Charleston (SC), 2009
- BA Communications, College of Charleston (SC), 2009
- Master of Public Policy, OSU, 2019
- Courses in organizational communications and decision-making, governance structures, data literacy

**Present Occupation:** Chief of Staff, Oregon Legislature's Environmental Caucus

## Business Experience:

- Visit Corvallis, ex-officio Board member representing the City of Corvallis.
- Experience in local, state, and federal government.
- Working as a community liaison, conducting outreach to businesses, community members, advocates, other relevant stakeholders.
- Managing funds for programs and grants.
- Excellent communication skills; I can hold space for nuance and disagreements in discussion.

**Community Involvement:** I have volunteered in several positions doing community outreach in Spanish and English. Most recently I volunteered at the Corvallis Multicultural Literacy Center at their front desk. I have always worked in jobs that require outreach and communication skills.



# Lauren M. Burns

## CANDIDATE STATEMENT

My first job was for my hometown natural foods cooperative. It was there that I made lifelong connections with others in my community who were drawn to keep our money local

and support our local food system. My work in natural foods cooperatives lasted nearly a decade until I made the move to the West Coast to pursue training as a registered dietitian. Throughout my career, I have remained a member of my local co-op as a personal commitment to my local food system economy. After working in clinical nutrition throughout rural Oregon, I have seen how access to food can have long term effects on the health of a community.

I look forward to bringing my years of experience and perspective as a natural foods cooperative working member, community member, and registered dietitian to the Board of First Alternative Natural Foods Co-op.

## CANDIDATE INTERVIEW

### Why should Owners select you to represent them on the Board?

I sincerely enjoy community leadership and teamwork. My many years of working in natural foods co-ops have provided me with experiences as both a working member and a member owner in various co-ops around the country. Active listening and tailored interventions are a big part of my day job. I look forward to transferring these skills to support First Alternative’s Owners.

**What opportunities and challenges do you see ahead?** Corvallis is a town rich in food enthusiasts. I see maintenance and growth in partnerships with local food system workers and supporters as a major positive opportunity for the Co-op. Corvallis is full of creative and intelligent individuals. The Co-op’s commitment to education, training, and information (as outlined in the International Cooperative Principles) creates endless opportunities for this curious community. In the immediate future, recruiting and orienting the Co-op’s next General Manager poses both challenges and opportunities. Challenges include finding a “right fit.” Opportunities include working with another individual (and our Owners) to envision next steps for the organization.

**What is the role of First Alternative Cooperative in the community?** First Alternative has been a mainstay for local food enthusiasts in the Corvallis community since 1970. I know people who drive well over 50 miles (regularly) to visit the store because of its reputation. The store’s longevity and strength today say a lot about the leadership and Owners that have supported the organization. First Alternative’s Ownership benefits our entire community by giving back to individual Owners, organizations and business owners in the area. When First Alternative succeeds, we all succeed.

**What long-term goals do you envision for First Alternative?** I hope to see First Alternative thriving in another 50 years! First Alternative is an excellent example of commitment to End policies, guiding principles and commitment to the seven International Cooperative Principles. Long term, I see First Alternative continuing to be a community-owned mainstay in the Corvallis community for access to affordable food (and goods), and as a community hub for education and community events.

## Education and Certification

- B.S. in Nutrition, DPD from Bastyr University
- Graduate Certificate in Human Nutrition and Dietetics from OHSU

**Present Occupation:** Registered Dietician with Samaritan Health Services, Your Friendly Dietician, LLC

## Business Experience:

- Farmer’s Market Representative, PSU—Lonesome Whistle Farm, 2017
- Produce stocker/buyer, Mississippi Market Natural Foods Co-op, 2010-2014
- Cashier/deli worker, Mississippi Market Natural Foods Co-op, 2008-2010
- Cashier, Seward Community Coop, 2007-2008; North Country Co-op (RIP), 2007; Valley Natural Foods Co-op, 2006-2007

## Community Involvement:

- Corvallis Food Action Team member, 2019-present
- Ten Rivers Food Web member, 2018
- Corvallis Environmental Center, Farm to School Educator, 2017
- OSU Healthy Youth Program, Cooking Educator, 2017-2018
- Samaritan Health Services Wellness Council, 2023-present
- Member, various food-systems, environmental nutrition, and wellness workgroups and committees in Corvallis and elsewhere, 2016-2023



**Incumbent**

**Rob May**

**CANDIDATE STATEMENT**

Our Co-op has been on quite a journey since I joined the Board in 2018. We've successfully navigated a host of challenges including COVID, the commissary fire, and

inflationary pressures. After the retirement of our long-time General Manager in March, we are now undertaking the most important action in the Board's purview: the recruitment and onboarding of a new operational leader to ensure our future success. This marks the beginning of our next chapter, where the Board and our new manager must swiftly address our aging infrastructure and store evolution in a highly competitive economic environment.

I'm eager to continue serving the Co-op during this critical period of change and transition, utilizing my experience to benefit our community through quality nutrition, innovative alliances, and social connections.

**Education and Certification**

- B.S. Computer Science, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
- Certified Bicycle Technician, United Bicycle Institute

**Present Occupation:** Technology/Management Consultant

**Business Experience:**

- Director of Engineering, Senior Software Engineer: Hewlett-Packard
- Chief Technology Officer, Innovation Fellow: Mary's Woods at Marylhurst
- Co-President, Director of Technical Services: Oregon Digital Computer Products
- Enterprise Technology/Management Consultant: Namahs Consulting LLC

**Community Involvement:**

- First Alternative Board of Directors: Current Treasurer; Member of Finance and Executive Committees; Past Vice-President and Finance Chair
- Corvallis Bicycle Collective Board of Directors: Current Member
- Encore.org Fellowship at Mary's Woods
- Partner at Social Venture Partners Portland

**CANDIDATE INTERVIEW**

**Why should Owners select you to represent them on the Board?** I joined the Board with a background in operational management and strategic development for businesses of all sizes. I currently serve as Board Treasurer, and previously served as Vice-President and Chair of the Board's Finance Committee. Recent years have deeply underscored the vital importance of governance, financial stewardship, and business leadership skills for our Board. We've weathered unprecedented disruptions across all aspects of our operations and have gleaned invaluable lessons and experience along the way. I'm proud to have contributed to the Co-op's success in rising to those challenges and am excited to continue to apply my expertise in helping lead us through the next phase of our journey.

**What opportunities and challenges do you see ahead?** Our most immediate challenge is also our greatest opportunity: Selecting our next general manager and working closely with them to lead our continued growth for the future. We have many critical issues we must address in the coming years: our stores (especially South) are aging facilities in need of modernization and improved physical access; we are experiencing a generational change in our traditional customer base, which has contributed to an almost 15% drop in our average number of shoppers per day since 2019; inflation is battering our margins; and the Corvallis grocery market is extremely competitive. The Board must choose strong operational and visionary leadership who can skillfully address these challenges so we will continue to thrive.

**What is the role of First Alternative Cooperative in the community?** I think of the Co-op as the central hub of a "food wheel" serving the community, with our primary focus on nutrition and health through offering local, high-quality, and organic foods. Our outreach, partnerships, and community commitments form the spokes of this wheel: bolstering the local economy with fair-wage jobs and solid supplier connections, aiding local charities and community groups through donations and volunteering, and promoting environmental responsibility and sustainability. We must actively evaluate every chance to be involved in new and creative initiatives, like the South Corvallis Food Hub, to further strengthen both our Co-op and our community.

**What long-term goals do you envision for First Alternative?** Having celebrated the Co-op's 50th anniversary in 2020, my aim as a Board member is to lay the groundwork for the journey towards our 100th anniversary—imagine a "Century Co-op," akin to our heritage Century Farms and Ranches in the state. Building upon the hub-and-spoke concept, I would like to broaden our outreach and extend our nutritional expertise to more diverse and potentially underserved groups, such as seniors and preschoolers in areas beyond our current stores. Achieving this goal will involve forging dynamic partnerships with local health, service, and social organizations. It's imperative that we continue expanding our message and mission to serve and benefit all in our community.

# BOARD ELECTION VOTING PROCEDURES

*Please read completely before completing your ballot*

A full First Alternative Board of Directors is composed of ten directors elected to three-year terms, with either 3 (three) or 4 (four) positions coming up for election each year. One-year or two-year positions are sometimes open due to resignations, or because all positions were not filled in a previous year. This year, there are 4 (four) three-year positions open on the Board.

This year, there are 4 open positions and 5 candidates. When there are more candidates than positions available, ranked choice voting will be used in that election. In ranked choice, Owners may vote for as many candidates as they want, but they must be in ranked order. Write in candidates will not be allowed. The candidates receiving the highest vote totals will fill the three-year positions.

Owners will be able to cast votes at any time up to and including June 15. Voting will close at the close of the stores on that day. Each Owner is entitled to cast one ballot and one ballot only with their individual Owner number. Household members may be listed under an Owner number, but only one person is the Owner for the purposes of voting. This means that each Owner number may be used only once in voting and it must be used by the Owner of record. This complies with the First Alternative bylaw requirement that each share purchased entitles the Owner to one vote. Contact Customer Service if you are unsure which family member is the Owner of record.

Unless you have opted to receive a paper ballot

in the mail, you will receive an email on June 1st which will enable you to access your electronic ballot. You can request to have a paper ballot mailed to you or an e-vote ballot in the future by indicating your choice on an "Update Contact Info" form at any register. Ballots and envelopes can also be obtained from Customer Service in both stores. A plain envelope may be substituted for the preprinted envelope, however:

**Must have on envelope (not on ballot):**

- ✓ **Your Owner number**
- ✓ **Your name, printed clearly**
- ✓ **Your signature**

This information is used to verify your Owner status. If this cannot be verified, your ballot will not be counted. Do not put any of this information on your ballot! Envelopes will be separated from ballots after Owner status is verified.

There will be ballot boxes in both stores where marked ballots may be deposited. Alternatively, you may mail your ballot to:

**Election Committee  
PO Box 2237  
311 SW 2nd St.  
Corvallis, OR 97333**

In order to be counted, ballots must be received by store close on June 15. Totals from electronic and paper ballots will be combined to determine the election winners. Election results will be posted in both stores and in the July issue of the Scoop.

## 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 April**

Learn more and become an  
Owner at [firstalt.coop/ownership](https://firstalt.coop/ownership).