

# Brighton Food Co-op Newsletter

## February 2016

Hi Members!

First, be sure to notice we have two distributions in March, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 30<sup>th</sup>. Deadlines are listed at the end of the newsletter.

**Possible new produce vendor:** The newsletter is a little later than usual this month because I wanted to wait and send it out after I met with Joannee (pronounced Jo nay) and Beth at Stone Coop Farm to see if it would be possible to use them as a produce vendor. Wow!!! I was so impressed with them and with their farm! Joannee lives in a new home on the 30 acre property and there are also several huge hoop houses, a large root cellar, a chicken coop for their big flock, a farmer's market open air building and a couple of historic barns that were moved from Indiana and reassembled on site. Check out their website at [www.stonecoopfarm.com](http://www.stonecoopfarm.com).

**The variety of produce offered during the year is amazing.** For example, right now they are offering three kinds of kale, chard, salad greens, spinach, chickweed, cilantro, heirloom radishes, rutabaga, garlic and eight kinds of potatoes. They will be sending me a list of all of the produce that they offer during the year and when each item is available. There are only two weeks during the year that produce is not available and that's during December. For BFC members who are gardeners, **Stone Coop offer s bedding plants as well.**

In addition, they offer lamb from Full Circle in Howell, DaBuzz honey and Nellies' Lavender (and various herbs). Several times during the year frozen Great Lakes fish will be available (whitefish, walleye and lake trout) from DMS Fish Distributors located in the Mackinac Straits area.

Joannee and Beth are very excited about possibly partnering with us. BFC members could either buy a Market Share (which would give you a bonus as detailed below) or just order from what is available that week. Here's how that would work:

- a. Purchase a **Market Share** for \$50, \$100, \$200, or \$300. In return you will receive \$55, \$110, \$220, or \$330 which can be redeemed by ordering through BFC or if you prefer by going to the Brighton Farmers Market or the weekly Farmers Market held at Stone Coop. Your declining balance will be tracked as you make your purchases and you can add to your market share balance at any time during the year. Market Shares may be used all year but they do expire at Stone Coop's last Market in December. Buying a share would also provide you with access to Stone Coop's Farm to Table events and classes at members' prices.
- b. BFC members could also just **order online** each month without paying any money up front.
- c. Regardless of which way members choose to order they would get information on what will be available several days before orders would need to be placed. **Either I will pick up the order on my way to distribution or I will make arrangements for someone else to do it if I am out of town.**
- d. **Stone Coop will only be offering 75 Market Shares this year.** To sign up for a Market Share, you can download the [Market Share Agreement Form](#) from the website [www.stonecoopfarm.com](http://www.stonecoopfarm.com) or email [joannee@stonecoopfarm.com](mailto:joannee@stonecoopfarm.com) to obtain one. Fill it out and mail it in, drop it off at the farm, or [email it to Joannee](#). They accept cash, card, and check (make checks payable to Stone Coop Farm). You may pay by card in their [Farm Store](#) or over the phone at (810) 599-2616.

**I will not be at the next distribution so please let me know what you think. Will you consider ordering from Stone Coop? There are some procedures that will need to be put in place for ordering. I'm hoping we could be ready by the March 30 distribution.**

Here's the rest of the co-op news you need to know:

**Membership:** Most of our members have renewed but if you haven't, we hope you will consider doing so. You can just send a check made out to Brighton Food Co-op to Marilyn Mitchell, 8792 Evergreen Rd., Brighton 48116. Or, if you are ordering in March, just let Marilyn know and your dues will be added to your statement. In addition, please notify Marilyn if your address, email address or phone number(s) have changed.

Next distribution:

In March, there will be two distributions, March 2 and March 30. HOPE TO SEE YOU THEN! ☺ The deadlines for ordering are as follows:

March 2, 2016

- OV/Frontier Order Due: Feb 17
- OV Filled Cases Due: Feb 21
- UNFI Order Due: Feb 24
- Creswick Order Due: Feb 27
- Distribution: March 2
- Creswick Delivery: March 7

March 30, 2016

- OV/Frontier Order Due: March 16
- OV Filled Cases Due: March 20
- UNFI Order Due: March 23
- Distribution: March 30

Here are some things to keep in mind when ordering:

- ❖ Check, check and double check your UNFI order to make sure you check “split” if you do not want an entire case of a certain item. This is REALLY important!
- ❖ If you have an issue with any product you ordered through the co-op be sure to notify the board immediately. Copy your email to all three of us:
  - Dolores Johnson: [doloresjohnson68@gmail.com](mailto:doloresjohnson68@gmail.com)
  - Denise: [djhaukcoop@gmail.com](mailto:djhaukcoop@gmail.com)
  - Marilyn: [mmitchell1945@aol.com](mailto:mmitchell1945@aol.com)

As always, if you have a comment or suggestion about co-op please contact Marilyn. The board is always looking for ways to improve the co-op experience for our members!