



# fresh take.

HOLIDAY 2025

STATER BROS. MARKETS



Store #201 Mission Grove

## Giving Back During the Holidays

More Than Gifts: The True Impact of Holiday Giving

Pg. 4

## 90th Anniversary

Stater Bros. Throughout the Years

Pg. 7

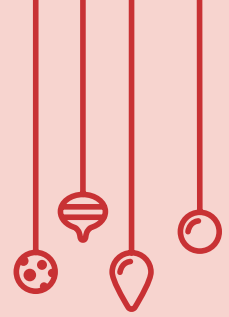
## Holiday Hosting Recipes

Enjoying The Company of Friends and Family

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# Greg's Message



Happy Holidays,

As this holiday season approaches, I want all of you to know that I'm truly honored to be your new CEO and President. Although a large portion of my career was spent at one of our competitors, I always had a deep admiration for Stater Bros., developing a respect from afar for the traditions and values that the company's founders, Cleo and Leo Stater, and late Executive Chairman Jack H. Brown used as a foundation to build the company into the Southern California powerhouse that it is today.

My commitment to you is that I will do everything I can to keep it that way, but I won't be able to do it alone. I'll need the help of every Stater Bros. teammate, so I'm asking you to join me on this mission, as one united team.

What can you do to help? Let's find ways to work better. The days of doing things a certain way just because we've always done them that way are over. Let's lean on each other for help and ideas. That means being willing to offer suggestions AND being open to receiving them. Experience AND innovation are each beneficial, but when we're able to leverage them together, then we get the best of both worlds. Don't be shy if there's a better way. If something can be improved, say something. And along those lines, I ask that we get away from the "automatic no." If someone presents an idea to you, instead of responding with a reflexive "No, it can't be done," why not first ask, "How could we do it?" Allow conversation and the flow of ideas to flourish.

As Pete said recently, in the interest of efficiency, we're asking many of you to do more, but that doesn't mean you have to take on everything by yourself. That's why we have a team. That's why all of us are a team. There's a concept called "synergy." It's the idea that the combined efforts of a group can result in something greater than what any individual person could achieve on their own.

**A must  
read!**





It means that we're stronger as one and that we can achieve more unified as one team. So, keep doing what you do every day as an individual contributor but throw your hat in the ring when there's an opportunity to contribute to something beyond yourself. It also follows in the spirit of the holidays – selflessness and togetherness.



**It's a philosophy that was valid 20 years ago and it's still relevant today.**

For this holiday season, I'd like to ask all of you for just one more simple favor. Of all the gifts that we can give to others, the giving of ourselves is one of the best things we can offer, and best of all it doesn't cost a thing. When you see a customer, just give them a smile. Friendly faces open the door to G.O.A.T. service and when you make that connection with them, they'll keep coming back to our stores. Help them with their holiday needs, and when they smile back and express their gratitude, I can guarantee you that it will make you feel great!

I want you all to know how much I appreciate you and everything that you do to deliver the absolute best shopping experience for our customers.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you and your families!

**Greg McNiff**  
CEO and President



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## On the cover

Christine Gragg, Store Manager at Store #201 Mission Grove and her team received this wonderful compliment from shopper Pat Casper:

“I used to be an avid Vons shopper until I met Christy and after our chat, I have started shopping here. Just this last week as I was searching for certain gift cards, Nina Robles helped me find everything I needed. She was very sweet and very helpful along with all who work at this location. I think this starts from the top and trickles out to all employees and that’s why now I will continue to shop at this location. I just want to say ... Thank You!!!”

## What do you want to see in the next issue?

Scan to share your thoughts and feedback or email us at [newsletter@staterbros.com](mailto:newsletter@staterbros.com).

[Share Feedback](#)

# More Than Gifts

## The True Impact of Holiday Giving



By Charlotte Wall

As the holidays draw near, it's a time for reflection, connection, and giving back. Through our non-profit arm, Stater Bros. Charities, we're proud to continue our tradition of giving back to the communities that we serve. This holiday season, we're once again coming together to participate in several initiatives that will help brighten the lives of individuals and families in our communities, spreading joy and making a difference in the lives of those who need it most.

We kick off the season with Harvesting Hope in Our Community, an in-store fundraising campaign that aims to combat food insecurity in our neighborhoods. The funds raised through our generous customers and teammates will support local food banks, food pantries, shelters, and community kitchens. Together, we're helping provide meals to individuals and families facing hunger throughout Southern California. Donations can be made between November 1 and December 31 at checkout, online, or by texting STATER to 41444.

To celebrate the season, many people gather with family and friends to express gratitude and spend quality time together, enjoying a hearty Thanksgiving meal. Yet, for some, the opportunity to celebrate together isn't always possible. That's why we proudly partner with the Redlands Police Officers' Association for their

annual Thanksgiving Tuesday event. At this special gathering, police officers and volunteers come together to prepare, cook, and serve full Thanksgiving meals onsite at a local park, welcoming over 200 guests. The celebration features delicious food, lively music, and the generous support of local businesses and vendors who offer free goods and services to the community. We're delighted to contribute by donating mini pumpkin, apple, and pecan pies, ensuring every guest can enjoy a sweet, festive dessert to complete their meal.

Also, this year, we're helping to support the Arthritis Foundation's Jingle Bell Run OCIE, a 5K walk/run that takes place at Angel Stadium in December. This event raises funds to conquer arthritis with life-changing science, resources, and community connections. Our very own teammate, Marcus Metters, Store Manager at #67 Rowland Heights, has started a large team of family and friends to participate in this event. Numerous vendors support the event, such as Monster Energy, which sponsors a BMX stunt show. A \$25,000 donation from Stater Bros. Charities will directly support juvenile arthritis camps in Southern California.

Again, this year, we will continue our long-standing partnership with CHiPs for Kids to collect new, unwrapped toys for children in need. Because of the generous donations from

customers, teammates, and vendors, we were able to donate \$25,000 to the California Highway Patrol to purchase toys for needy children and teens in the Inland Empire. With the help of our amazing community members and partners, our goal is to fill entire trucks with toys, books, sports equipment, and games. But it's not just about the toys, it's about the smiles on the faces of those kids when they unwrap something special.

We're not stopping when the holiday decorations come down; we're committed to making our community stronger and brighter all year long. After all, the organizations that help to build a strong community operate programs that help people in need year-round. We believe in giving back and making an impact, whether it's spring, summer, or the next holiday season.

So, here's to more giving, more fun, and more meaningful connections in the coming year. Together, let's spread holiday cheer and bring hope to those who need it most.

Wishing you all a joyful, meaningful, and giving holiday season!



# Notes of Gratitude

By Mari Moses

The holidays are just around the corner, a time when many of us take a moment to think about what and who we're grateful for. At the top of the list? You, our incredible teammates in our stores. Every day you show up with energy, kindness, and a willingness to support not only our customers but each other. You're doing an awesome job out there, and we truly appreciate everything you do.

To show a little love, here are some heartfelt notes of gratitude from teammates at our Store Support Campus recognizing the amazing service they received from you.

I would like to recognize Amanda Gentle, our Bakery Manager at Store #182, East Highland. I have placed a few custom cake orders with her recently. One was for my daughter-in-law's baby shower and a second time was for my granddaughter's first birthday. Amanda was so helpful and made sure that both cakes and cupcakes were done as I requested. I sent her the pictures of what I was looking for, and she, along with her team, did a great job! Amanda is very patient (I changed my mind a few times) and made great suggestions in helping me achieve my goal! They were beautifully decorated and delicious as well. I will continue to order my cakes from her in the future. I appreciate Amanda and her expertise. She shows great leadership and cares about her customers!

Thank you,

**Ana Faria**, Human Resources Operations Coordinator



From Left to Right: Yaretyz Vences – Bakery Clerk, Marshawnda Henderson – Service Deli Manager and Amanda Gentle – Bakery Manager

I would like to share my experience with Penny in the Meat Department at Store #175, Falcon Ridge. Penny is always positive and very helpful whenever she sees me at the store. She is very outgoing and friendly to our customers as well. She goes above and beyond with customer service, providing a great shopping experience! Penny is not aware that I work for Staters, so it goes to show that she is passionate about what she does.

Thank you,

**Jeff Duran**, Senior Fleet Maintenance Supervisor

Theresa at Store #200, Day Creek, is the sweetest, most welcoming person! The first time I had to take them grocery shopping, she made my grumpy boys' frowns turn upside down by offering them a little balloon and was chit-chatting with them while I browsed all the plants and flowers. She was just the sweetest person to everyone who walked in. Well, now they request to go grocery shopping with me "to go see Theresa." She makes their day every time. She is truly a blessing to this store.

**Ashley Howard**, Procurement Buyer

I wanted to compliment employee Ashley (GMC) at Store #123, N. Victorville. I was about a couple of months postpartum from having my daughter and had to do a little shopping. This was my second time leaving the house with my baby by myself, and if it weren't for Ashley, I would've left to go back home. I only intended to get water and a couple of items, which soon turned out to be full-on grocery shopping. I had entered the store and asked if someone could get a cart and two thirty-five packs of water, and Ashley strongly suggested just to help me shop. I could've cried because being a first-time mom with a newborn in a stroller and attempting to shop is a lot

on its own. The first time I went shopping with my daughter and asked for help to shop, it felt like I was an inconvenience to the employee, so I declined help and purchased the items that fit under my stroller. However, when Ashley helped me, I was utterly grateful that she even asked me if I needed help putting my baby in the car after loading my groceries in my trunk. She even offered to place my stroller in the trunk. I declined, but the thought and offering mattered. I want to thank Ashley again for going above and beyond for me and my newborn.

**Missy Salazar**, Customer Care Representative

One Sunday morning, I decided last minute to throw a small party for my son, who's turning 9. I walked into Store #210, Greenspot around 8:30 a.m. on 07/27/25, hoping to place a same-day order, something I knew usually requires 24 hours' notice. I asked if it was possible to get a turkey-only croissant platter and an order of chicken and wedges. To my surprise and relief, Assistant Manager Braden Rogers and

Service Deli Manager Nicole Vasquez went out of their way to help. Braden made sure everything was taken care of before I even checked out. Their kindness and flexibility turned a hectic morning into a memorable day. Thanks to their extra effort of G.O.A.T. service, my son had an amazing time, and no one went hungry! It was a small gesture that made a big difference, and I'm so grateful.

**Stephanie Roman**, Data Literacy Specialist

I want to give a special shout out to Hector Zuniga at Store #185, Moreno Beach! Every time I shop at this store, he greets me with the brightest smile and always goes out of his way to help me locate any items. From what I have seen, he sets a great example to his teammates by being consistent with G.O.A.T. service to all customers. From communicating my orders on curbside pick-up to clearing lot, it is always a delightful shopping experience when Hector is working. His hard work never goes unnoticed!

**Jessica Hernandez**, Human Resources Specialist



What a great opportunity this is, and a wonderful idea to give kudos to our teammates. I would like to take this moment to shout out Brian Spry at Store #205, So. Calimesa, for his exceptional customer service and consistently positive attitude. Every time I have interacted with Brian, he has gone above and beyond to ensure customers are taken care of. Whether it's helping resolve an issue, providing assistance on the sales floor, or simply greeting customers with a smile, Brian always brings a level of professionalism and positivity that truly stands out. Brian is a valuable asset to Store #205 and a great example of what leadership and service look like.

Thank You,

**Jacob Velasquez**, Item and Sales Manager| Meat & Seafood

Austin Gulino, a GMC at Store #205, So. Calimesa is truly outstanding. He consistently goes out of his way to warmly greet everyone, always asking how I'm doing and doing the same for regular customers. His knowledge of sign language creates a welcoming space where customers feel comfortable and valued, making his store a go-to spot for both friendly service and connection. Always smiling and approachable, Austin offers exceptional customer service and is a tremendous asset to both the store and the community.

Thank you,

**Nancy Negrette**, Vice President Corporate Affairs





**1981** – Jack H. Brown became the President and CEO of Stater Bros. Markets. Under Jack’s leadership, the company grew to become the largest privately owned supermarket chain in Southern California.

**1986** – 50th Anniversary! The Heartland campaign highlighted a sense of home and belonging, emphasizing convenience, local pride, and the sentimental connection Southern Californians felt with their neighborhood grocery store. This year also marks a pivotal moment in Stater Bros. history when Jack Brown won a proxy battle for control of the company. Without that victory, the Stater Bros. we know and love today might never have become what it is.

**1988** – October 27, 1988 marks the opening of our 100<sup>th</sup> store. Cleo Stater returned to have the honor of opening the store in Redlands, CA.

**1999** – In a stroke of good luck, the company acquired 43 stores through a merger with Albertsons and Lucky grocery stores, allowing Stater Bros. to expand into Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego counties, a longtime goal!

**2007** – The company consolidated its corporate headquarters and eight separate distribution centers into a single central location at the vacant Norton Air Force Base in San Bernardino, CA, and called it the Stater Bros. Markets Corporate Office and Distribution Center. At 2.1 million sq. ft. it was the largest under-one-roof grocery distribution center in the United States. Jack chose the location because he thought it would be good for the city and because its close proximity to several major freeways gave us a strategic advantage.

**2008** marks the start of Stater Bros. Charities, a non-profit organization that supports critical needs in the communities where Stater Bros. teammates live and work. Over the years they have helped donate over \$48 million to improve the quality of life in Southern California communities.

**2016** – 80th Anniversary!

**2019** – This was another big year for our company. It was the year that Stater Bros. refreshed the brand. We did something unexpected and changed from our classic blue-ribbon logo to something new ... or seemingly new. The new logo is a callback to one of the very first logo concepts back in the forties.

**2020** – When crisis struck with the COVID pandemic, Stater Bros. acted fast and demonstrated the importance of our “community first” value. Distribution teams, truck drivers, and store teammates hustled to make sure our communities had food and water on the shelves of their local stores.

**2023** – We created the Stater Bros. Markets app. This app was designed to help customers shop at the convenience of their mobile phones.

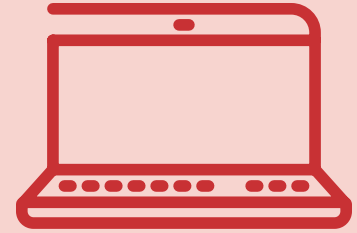
**2025** – We have 166 locations throughout Southern California. Our most recent store opening was #210 Greenspot in Highland, and we anticipate several new store locations to open in the coming years. In October, the corporate campus was renamed “Stater Bros. Markets Store Support Campus” to reflect a rededicated focus on supporting our stores.

Lots of things have changed over the course of 89 years. There’s been plenty of new growth and new opportunities. We have introduced new customer experiences to help amplify the everyday shopping experience. In addition to our traditional full-service delis, bakeries, and meat departments we’ve incorporated handcrafted sushi, fresh-cut fruit and vegetable stations, and grocery pickup and delivery.

**2026** – Stay tuned for all the new and exciting things we have planned to celebrate 90 years of Stater Bros. Markets!



# Dealing with Data in our Day-to-Day



By Jonathan Lieu

We live in an increasingly data-driven world, but data has driven decisions for at least as long as humans have existed. Am I hungry? How much food do I have left? Are seven apples enough for the four of us and our six horses? As you can see, data has been useful long before it was even called “data.”

As societies have become increasingly advanced, the need to absorb and interpret increasing amounts of data has taken on more importance in our lives. It’s no different for businesses where decisions can have huge financial and human implications.

Data is raw facts and figures, but information is the useful insights that are derived from that raw data. To get from data to useful information, we have to make sure that certain criteria are met. If you thought you had seven apples, but it turns out that you only had four granola bars and an orange, that changes things quite a bit and is likely to influence your decision-making.

For the information to be useful, the data that it’s based on must be accurate, timely, and analyzed

properly. Then, the resulting information needs to be presented in a way that the intended audience can understand. After all, what good is information if no one knows what it means?

Just as it is in our personal lives, the best decisions are made when we have good information available. To help with this, the Stater Bros. Data Management Team was formed in 2018 when a need was identified to make better business decisions more quickly. The team originally consisted of Data Services, Database Administration, and Data Engineering, with Business Intelligence and Data Governance added in 2023. Currently, the team is comprised of five parts:

- **Data Services Team** - Manages data applications, pipelines, and engineering activities
- **Database Operations Team** - Manages data infrastructure and ensures data security
- **Data Engineering Team** - Builds and optimizes scalable data analytics platforms and pipelines
- **Data Governance Team** -

Ensures and improves data quality and defines data policies

- **Business Intelligence Center of Excellence** - Delivers data-driven insights through reporting and visualizations

The team helps to ensure that we are collecting and storing good data. For data, it’s important that there be something called a “single source of truth.” That means that we want data to be consistent across all areas of the company. An example is something as simple as a store address list. Did you know that the company once had at least 14 different address lists in circulation? Several of them had discrepancies compared to the others, and it’s easy to see why. As each department made revisions to their own list, the information contained within began to diverge and soon, they didn’t match each other anymore. It was hard to tell which list, if any, had the correct and most current information. Having a single correct copy that everyone can access solves that problem.

If a teammate or department has a desire for some kind of data-driven

**Ideally, the entire organization should have a minimum, base-level proficiency in understanding data, how to use it, and how to communicate about it.**



Data Management Team

insight into the business, where do they begin? They can start the ball rolling by submitting a data analytics request. From there, the Data Team will begin a dialogue with that part of the business to determine the issue or problem they are trying to solve and what insights they hope to achieve to help with their business processes and decision-making. After discussing their needs, a Data Strategist goes back to the team to determine if we've collected or are collecting data that can support the request. If so, the team processes and organizes it in a way that is useful to the business unit. From this information, the business can acquire knowledge that is useful to them.

Ideally, the entire organization should have a minimum, base-level proficiency in understanding data, how to use it, and how to communicate about it.

That's where the company's new data literacy initiative comes into play. Recently, they completed a data literacy training program pilot to ensure that our teammates are ready to use data in a way that tackles the business challenges of today and the future. The pilot was so successful that it is currently being rolled out to different departments.

Without proper understanding, it can be easy to misinterpret or miscommunicate data, resulting in poor decisions that can cost the company money. And there is also the time element. If a poor decision is made, it can take significant time to reverse course and change strategy, which can be costly in its own right.

By recognizing opportunities and acting upon them before our competitors, we will have an advantage. That's why understanding how we can leverage data to our benefit is so critical.

Do you have a need for information that can help you solve a problem? The Data Team is ready and willing to assist you. Start the ball rolling by submitting a data analytics request via SERA or emailing them at: [BusinessIntelligenceData@staterbros.com](mailto:BusinessIntelligenceData@staterbros.com).





# Customer Compliments

Where actions speak louder than words.

## #22 La Sierra

I just finished shopping at Store #22. I have to say it was the most amazing experience. I am not kidding. I ran into no less than 10 employees while shopping and EVERY, SINGLE ONE of them looked me in the eye with a smile, asked how my day was going, asked if I needed help, said hello, and made it a point to be welcoming. I have never had a better shopping experience. Ever. I asked David Davidson, the store manager this morning, for a card for corporate because I cannot get over what an absolute joy it was to be in his store.

If an employee was sweeping, stocking, bagging, or checking out, every single person took the time to stop what they were doing and greeted me. My checker and bagger found out I was a teacher and went on to have the cutest discussion about how much they loved school and Language Arts, which is the subject I teach.

I was leaving with a rather full cart, and one employee was entering the store with her purse still on and asked if I needed help to the car. She hadn't even started yet and wanted to help me!

I was kind of stressed walking in to do my shopping and left with the biggest smile and warmest heart. I am not exaggerating when I say I think I will remember this shopping trip forever. I wanted you to know how much that store is doing for its customers. All of the employees seemed genuinely happy to be there and happy to help. HUGE shout out to Store #22!

Candice Fish

## #152 San Marcos

I have been shopping at the San Marcos Stater Bros. (Store #152) since it opened. Elsa Espinoza is the most welcoming, friendly checker that store has ever had. She always greets customers with a smile and a courteous greeting. Some days, when I've felt down, her kindness has raised my spirits. I wanted you to know what an outstanding employee you have. She's the primary reason I shop at your store.

Keith Bingham



I shopped at the Stater Bros. Markets store location #155, on Saturday, April 19, 2025. I live in San Pedro, but there are times when I drive to this location in particular because the store is clean, the meat and produce are fresh, and the store associates are always courteous.

On this visit, Nancy was the cashier that assisted me with checking out. She greeted me with a smile and asked if I found everything I was looking for during my visit. She was very patient and personable and made me feel like she really cared about me as a customer and person. While she was checking my items, I remembered that I needed ice, so she charged me for it and walked over and grabbed it for me. The personal service she provided reminded me of the shopping experiences I'd remembered living in Ohio and going shopping with my grandmother. The service Nancy provided gave me that small town feeling. Thank you, Nancy, for being you.

Amber Haley



I was very pleased with the service I received earlier today at check out (Store #127) by the cashier whose name is Esther. She was very helpful and had a good attitude when I asked something about Digital Deals and did not make me feel dumb. In fact, it was clear she wanted to help rather than be someone who was quick and dismissive. Clearly, I was impressed enough with her helpful attitude to write to you and put in a good word as a gesture of my appreciation.

Thank you,  
Bernard Epps Jr.



I'm writing to share a recent experience I had at your store (#142 located in Lake Forest, CA) on June 24<sup>th</sup> that truly stood out — the kind of service that deserves recognition.

I came in looking for a particular black tea I regularly purchase in six-packs. The store usually stocks just a few and I often buy what's available on the shelf. That day, I found only two packs left, and an employee named David Rodriguez kindly greeted me and immediately offered to help. When I asked if he could check the back inventory, he didn't hesitate.

While he was searching, another employee passed by with a smile — he introduced himself as the manager, Luis Torres. I let Luis know that David was already assisting me and mentioned how helpful and enthusiastic he had been. Without missing a beat, Luis joined him in the back to help look for more. When they returned and explained the store was out of stock, Luis immediately offered to place a special order for me. I told him I needed several cases for a large family event in a couple of days and he gladly coordinated the order, gave me the store's contact information, took my number, and scheduled a pickup time for two days later.

When I returned on June 26<sup>th</sup>, the team had everything ready. They loaded the cases into my cart and made the process seamless. Even the cashier carried the same warm, helpful attitude.

It was a genuinely exceptional experience — from David's friendly initiative to Luis's proactive leadership and follow-through. The customer service was sincere, efficient, and above and beyond anything I expected. It also reflects well on how Luis manages that store. I asked for his supervisor's name specifically so I could send this note — because good service like that should be recognized. What made this even more meaningful was the context: The large family event I was preparing for was a gathering of relatives and friends who had flown in for my father's funeral. I was overwhelmed with the logistics and emotion of it all, and Luis's kindness, attention, and willingness to go the extra mile made a real difference during a very difficult time. I truly appreciated it.

Sincerely,  
Tara Albertson



Very impressed with Audra in the bakery (Store #124). I needed a cake but couldn't decide which. Only needed a small one yet she took time to explain each of the cakes. Then she informed me of others on the shelves and in a cooler case. Very pleasant! I chose one and she boxed it up with a happy birthday ornament. Smiling and friendly the whole time. Wonderful experience!  
Deborah Wallington

### #204 Ontario Ranch

Customer, Henry Ohm, called in to describe his experience at Store #204, Ontario Ranch. He said he was having one of the worst days today but needed to stop at a grocery store for his grocery needs for tonight. The customer couldn't stop saying how great the staff is at this location. He said they turned his day upside down and walked out of there with the biggest smile and for a while he forgot about all of his personal problems. Henry said this was the best service he has ever experienced at a supermarket.

An employee by the name of Travis was also very helpful and kept asking him if he needed help finding anything. He went to the meat department for some meat; however, they did not have what he needed but the meat clerk was super helpful and was able to get

the meat cutter to cut the specific type of meat he needed. Henry wants to make sure the store manager knows what a great team he has at this location, and he will continue to shop at Stater Bros.



# Don't Miss out on Team Perks Savings

By Jeannie Le

Every Stater Bros. teammate can take advantage of Team Perks to save 10%\* across our Family of Brands. What makes this discount even more exciting is that our Family of Brands products are already priced lower than their national brand equivalents.

Team Perks also applies to fresh department items with Stater Bros. Markets and Cleo & Leo scale labels. That means savings on select fresh beef, chicken, pork, and seafood, as well as freshly-sliced deli meats and cheeses, cakes, fresh-cut fruit and beyond.

Enter 0000 before your employee ID number at checkout each time you make a purchase. Example: 0000123456 where 123456 is your employee ID. Entering your ID will also apply any available Digital Deals savings.

**Your 10% discount is even available on curbside pickup orders\*\* placed through the Stater Bros. app or shop.staterbros.com.**

Email [teamperks@staterbros.com](mailto:teamperks@staterbros.com) for questions.

\*Exclusions apply. Team Perks do not apply to alcoholic beverages, fluid milk products, and Stater Bros. gift cards. Nationally branded meat department items (i.e. Certified Angus Beef® brand, Kruse, etc.) excluded.

\*\* Applies only to pickup orders and is not applicable on delivery orders.



## Brand Spotlight

Bring the world to your kitchen this holiday season with Culinary Tours' extensive line of international foods at budget-friendly prices. From Swiss-style cheeses to pastas and meats inspired by Italian cuisine, take your holiday parties global this season with the right high-quality and affordable foods.

Unleash global flavors without the plane ticket with Culinary Tours!



**Email [teamperks@staterbros.com](mailto:teamperks@staterbros.com) or call 1.855.782.8377 for help.**



# Teammate Announcements

## Marriages



**Jazmine Lupercio**, Human Resources Specialist married Ruben Lupercio on May 30, 2025.



**Jake Oshiro**, Assistant Store Manager at Store #56 San Dimas and **Jacqueline Hernandez**, HR Business Partner married on September 12, 2025.

## Births



**Gengen Gonzales**, Data Integrity Specialist – Jailynn was born on May 19, 2025.



**Joshua Pearson**, Store Manager #182 – Landon James Pearson was born on April 6, 2025


## Graduations




**Kevin Beacham**, Employee Relations Coordinator, graduated with a Bachelors of Arts in Organizational Leadership from California Baptist University.



**Maria Palacio**, Distribution Office Supervisor graduated with Associate of Art degrees in Sociology and Social and Behavioral Sciences from San Bernardino Valley College.

 **Wesley Klemens**, Space Planning Analyst, graduated with a Master of Business Administration in Management from California Baptist University.

 **Brian Schons**, Business Analyst, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Data Analytics, Cum Laude, from Southern New Hampshire University.

# Holiday Hosting Recipes

By Kevin Zelaya

The holidays are a time for gathering, sharing food, and enjoying the company of friends and family. Whether you are planning a large party or a small get-together, it's a season that brings people together around the table. From dinners at

home to festive celebrations with coworkers, these moments create memories that last long after the season ends.

We've put together some recipe ideas to make hosting easy and enjoyable. You'll find appetizers, main dishes,

and sweet desserts that fit right into the spirit of the season. With a little planning and the right flavors, you can welcome guests with confidence and enjoy all the best parts of holiday hosting.

## Hot Cocoa Dip

### Ingredients

2 cups Jet-Puffed Mini Marshmallows, plus more for garnish

8 oz. block Philadelphia Cream Cheese, softened

1 pkg. Jell-O Family Size Chocolate Flavor Instant Pudding

1 cup Stater Bros. Milk

1 tub (8 oz.) Cool Whip Whipped Topping, thawed, divided

4 oz. pkg. Baker's Semi-Sweet Chocolate, finely chopped, divided

### Directions

Microwave 2 cups marshmallows in a large microwaveable bowl on HIGH for 1 minute or until marshmallows are completely melted when stirred.

Add cream cheese; beat with mixer until blended.

Add dry pudding mix; mix well. Gradually add milk, mixing well after each addition.

Whisk in 8 oz. Cool Whip and ½ cup chopped chocolate.

Dip the spoon into serving bowl and swirl gently with a spoon to marbleize.

Refrigerate for 1 hour.

Top with remaining chocolate and marshmallows before serving.



# Boursin Mashed Potatoes

## Ingredients

8 to 10 medium russet potatoes  
1 stick Stater Bros. Salted Butter  
½ to ¾ cup Stater Bros. Heavy Whipping Cream  
1 to 2 tsp. Better Than Bouillon Roasted Garlic Base  
5.2 oz. pkg. Boursin Garlic & Fine Herbs Cheese  
Salt and pepper to taste

## Directions

Peel, cube and boil potatoes until tender. Drain and set aside.

In a medium saucepan, melt butter, then add heavy cream and garlic base. Cook until heated through. Pour over potatoes, add cheese and mash until smooth. Season to taste with salt and pepper.



# Pumpkin Spice Horchata

## Ingredients

2 cups Stater Bros. Long Grain White Rice, uncooked  
2 Aramburo Cinnamon Sticks, broken into pieces  
1 ½ tsp. McCormick Pumpkin Pie Spice  
3 cups water  
2 to 3 cups non-dairy milk of choice (I like oat milk)  
1 cup Full Circle Market Organic 100% Pumpkin Purée  
1 tsp. Full Circle Market Organic Vanilla Extract  
½ cup Full Circle Market Organic Pure Maple Syrup

## Directions

In a large bowl, combine rice, cinnamon, pumpkin pie spice, and water.

Let it soak overnight or for at least 4 or 5 hours.

Add soaked ingredients to a blender and blend on high for 2 minutes.

Strain the liquid through a fine mesh strainer and remove any clumps.

To a clean blender, add non-dairy milk, pumpkin purée, vanilla, and maple syrup. Blend for 30 seconds.

Pour the pumpkin mixture into the pitcher of horchata. Taste for sweetness and adjust to your liking. Serve over ice and enjoy.



# Your Future Starts Here

## Education Pathways



By Kevin Zelaya

Stater Bros. believes in helping our teammates grow both in their careers and in life. That is why, starting on your very first day, you are eligible to take part in our Education Pathways program. There is no waiting period and no time limit. Whether you are finishing a degree you started years ago or beginning a new chapter, we are here to support you every step of the way.

Education Pathways makes it possible to reach your academic goals. Our programs are designed to fit into busy schedules, so you can keep learning while you work. Many courses are offered online and at your own pace, giving you the flexibility to balance work, school, and family life.

**You can choose from a variety of pathways:**



### Retail Management Certificate (RMC)

100% tuition covered. This program prepares you for leadership roles and counts toward your associate degree.

### Associate Degree

100% tuition covered on qualifying business-related programs. RMC course credits transfer directly toward your degree.

### Bachelor's and Graduate Degrees

Tuition discounts up to 30% on qualifying business-related programs through our educational partners.

### HVAC/R Training

100% tuition paid technical training in heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration. Courses count toward an associate degree with additional general education classes.

### Certificate Programs

Build new skills that can help you in your current role or prepare you for your next career step.



2025 RMC Graduation Ceremony

On top of that, you can apply for valuable scholarships through our partners, including the California Grocers Association Educational Foundation (CGAEF), the International Dairy Deli Bakery Association, the Christmon Foundation, and the Illuminators Educational Foundation. These opportunities make education more affordable and open more doors for your future.

Our education partners include well-known schools such as Cal Baptist University, CSU San Bernardino, University of Redlands, Western Governors University, Cal Poly Humboldt, and UMass Global. Through these partnerships, you have access to high-quality programs, flexible learning options, and experienced instructors who care about your success.

### Getting started is simple:

[staterbros.com/education](http://staterbros.com/education)

Contact our Education Team:



909.733.5737 or 909.733.5850



[Education@staterbros.com](mailto:Education@staterbros.com)

Enroll in eligible college or training courses.

Take the next step toward the future you want.

The best time to start is now. Ask your manager or contact our Education Team to learn more and find the right program for you. Your future is waiting, and we are ready to help you reach it.

### A look into your future.

You have our full support whether you're starting fresh or picking up where you last left off.



**CBU**



# Congratulations on Your Retirement

April to July 2025

**37 Years**

**Cesar Rico**  
Retail Operations

**36 Years**

**Carla Hylland**  
Store #155 - Downey

**35 Years**

**Mark Ramer**  
Insurance Administration

**34 Years**

**Robert Clark**  
Store #209 - Chino Preserve

**Shellie Landeros**

Store #24 - Del Rosa

**Daniel Messner**

General Maintenance

**Canetha Panzino**

Store #24 - Del Rosa

**33 Years**

**Deeanna Dubrule**  
Store #181 - No. Palm  
Desert

**John Popp**

Store #176 - Adelanto

**32 Years**

**Leonides Luna**  
Store #28 - Collins

**31 Years**

**Timothy Macias**  
Store #156 - Vista

**Teresa Rodgers**

Store #148 - Warner

**31 Years**

**Debbie Lyons**  
Store #139 - Murrieta

**29 Years**

**Lawrence Brown**  
Warehouse

**Marlene Powell**

Accounting/Finance

**28 Years**

**Howard Hill**  
General Maintenance

**26 Years**

**Ignacio Balderrama**  
Store #88 - Mira Loma

**Vincent Contreras**

Store #53 - Alta Loma

**Raymond Robles**

Store #205 - So. Calimesa

**25 Years**

**Gerald Adams**  
Merchandising

**Alfred Chavez**

Warehouse

**Jose Jacobo**

Warehouse

**Robert Velasquez**

Warehouse

**24 Years**

**Lester Box**  
Warehouse

**Roman Ponce**

Store #208 - Fourth & Haven

**Craig Tumbarello**

Construction Administration

**23 Years**

**Cheryl Martinez**  
Store #8 - Highland

**Blair Okamoto**

Store #170 - Eagle Glen

**20 Years**

**Gwendolyn Branch**  
Store #70 - Norwalk

**Ruben Ramos**

Store #180 - No. San  
Jacinto

**19 Years**

**Larene Berg**  
Store #163 - Ramona

**18 Years**

**Roberto Gutierrez**  
Information Technology

**Norman Leon**

Store #81 - Loma Linda

**Melody Vigil**

Store #121 - San Jacinto

**17 Years**

**Richard Gentz**  
Store #163 - Ramona

**Julie Zertuche**

Store #153 - Paramount

**14 Years**

**Rebecca Dean**  
Store #202 - Pasadena

**Deborah Spencer**

Warehouse

**11 Years**

**Hernan Delgado**  
Warehouse

**10 Years**

**John Doyle**  
Store #52 - Chino

**9 Years**

**Tina Florkey**  
Store #124 - Laguna Woods

**Rita Hernandez**

Store #6 - Glendora

**8 Years**

**Shirley McWilliams**  
Store #146 - West Lancaster

**Gary Niehaus**

Marketing

**7 Years**

**Zoraida De Romero**  
Store #138 - Red Hawk

**John Rodriguez**

Store #187 - Canyon Hills

**5 Years**

**Shannon Osborn**  
General Maintenance

**4 Years**

**Jeffrey Marron**  
Warehouse

**3 Years**

**Alfred Enciso**  
Store #22 - La Sierra

**Cynthia Tungpalan**

Store #134 - La Mirada

**2 Years**

**Maria Alcantara**  
Store #60 - Yorba  
Linda

**Raymond Baltazar**

Store #69 - Glen Avon

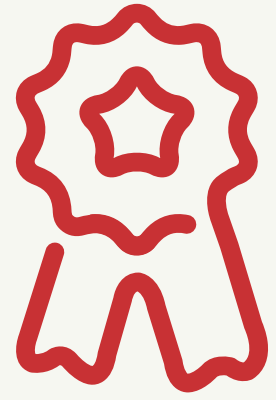
**David Garvin**

Information Technology

**Linda Knox**

Store #35 - Baker

# We wouldn't be the same without your hard work and dedication.



## Service Awards April to July 2025

### 40 Years

Antonio Flores

### 35 Years

Mark Acosta

Christi Bray

Juan Cruz

Julius Deluna

Matthew Finazzo

Lisa Fleming

Florentino Gonzalez

Frank Gutierrez

Tim Hoover

Lora Lenning

Brett Mulleneaux

Peter Negrete

Fred Ortman

Windy Peete

Everardo Perez

Tracy Perry

Jose Ramos

Robert Reid

Debbie Renshaw

Victor Ruiz

Rhonda Schweitzer

### 30 Years

Renee Barnes

Staren Bowman-Graham

Gary Carrera

Jonathan Castro

Nephtali Delayo

Lenora Fernandez

Christina French-Borgstahl

Lawrence Garcia

Roberto Gonzalez

Steve Laporta

Phillip Leon

David Lopez

Sheila Peres-Jackson

Theresa Rury

Everett Smit

David Thielholdt

Kellie Vela

### 25 Years

Octavio Aguirre

Christian Albano

Desiree Ballard

Victor Barcelos

Elizabeth Bond

Daniel Brown

Marium Bryant

Deborah Cauley

Rosa Chapman

Debra Dietz

Christine Gragg

Claudine Hill

Lupe Hurtado

Geneva Maldonado

Gloria Mendoza

Julie Mitchell

Ramon Montes

Roger Montgomery

Anselmo Ochoa

Alberto Quintana

Brian Rafter

Sonia Rodriguez

Mario Rojas

Angelica Saldana

Steve Sanders

Juan Santana

Erika Skaar

Ralph Valdovinos

Gregorio Vega

Maria Wachter

Richard Wood

### 20 Years

Dolores Allen-Watkins

Efren Apodaca

Dacia Ayala

Robert Beserra

Mark Bliss

Regina Bocanegra

Michele Braun

Clifford Brown

Randy Cabral

Auda Cabrera

Gabriela Cabriales

Maria Cuevas

Mario Dodd

Danny Espinoza

Shaa Fifer

John Fletcher

Joseph Garcilazo

Melissa Gaytan

Earl Gidley

Francine Gonzales

Kevin Henkenius

Salvador Hernandez

Tina Hudson

Roxanne Jones

Victor Leon

Andy Loera  
Yolanda Marin  
Michele Marshall  
Terry Masot  
Emily Meza  
Alphonso Miller  
Joseph Miranda  
Guy Molina  
Davy Mugemancuro  
Maribel Parra  
Emily Portuguez  
Jayme Prieto  
Angela Pulido  
Margarita Ramirez  
Henry Reyes  
Maria Rivera  
Erik Rojas  
Robert Schmitz  
J Schuster  
Angel Sena  
Natalyn Shumway  
Desiree Trujillo  
Sally Valenzuela  
Kristy Valles  
Arthur Vasquez  
Carolina Vasquez  
Ada Vazquez  
Mark Vazquez  
Machelle Venard  
Jorge Vera  
Kyle Voeltz  
Shelley Waltz  
Steven Whittle  
Sara Witter

Dawn Woody  
Jeremy Young  
**15 Years**  
Louis Bravo  
Blair Brink  
James Bubello  
Paul Davalos  
Lynn Hanegan  
Joseph Leyvas  
Hermes Moreno  
Kris Moreno  
Michael Schmidt  
Jesus Torres  
Paul Yowell

**10 Years**  
Francisco Alaniz  
Robert Armstrong  
Armando Arredondo  
Noe Arriaga  
Cesar Barrera-Rubalcaba  
Curtis Beers  
Yvonne Camacho  
Timothy Clavesilla  
Paul Coates  
Tonya Colombo  
Jose Contreras Sanchez  
Noe Cuevas  
Lisa Decasas  
Robert Gray  
Stephanie Gray  
Tracey Guenther  
Rebeca Hasley

Jeffery Havard  
Charles Hendricks  
Cynthia Hernandez  
Humberto Hernandez  
Robert Hill  
Bobby Hukill  
Renee Jacinto  
Leslie Kondrotas  
Arturo Leiva Aquilar  
Rudy Loera  
Armando Luna  
Martin Martinez  
Brett McMahan  
Rodolfo Miramontes  
Luis Miranda  
Ruben Murillo  
Patricia Nino  
Nicole Parks  
Jaime Perez  
Heather Priddy  
Eduardo Rios  
Jose Rocha  
Enrique Rodriguez  
Julio Rodriguez  
Abraham Ruelas  
Brian Rupp  
Justin Severson  
Lisa Snow  
Roberto Tellez  
Richard Thomas  
Alberto Tzec  
Omar Valdez  
Robyn Valdez  
Mario Villalba

J Villavicencio  
James Ward  
Angela Zelaya  
**5 Years**  
Luis Aguilar  
Joanna Alvarez Gonzalez  
Vanessa Amezcua  
Brenda Antillon  
Lisa Aparicio  
Tammy Armstrong  
David Bailey  
Eric Busby  
Candice Campos  
Steven Carlos  
Lashanda Davis  
Jason Diaz  
Hector Duenas  
Rossana Flores  
Amber Foland  
Shawnte Fouche  
Richard Fraire  
Ashley Freeman  
Sarah Fry  
Jose Gajon  
Damian Garcia  
Luisa Garcia  
Melanie Gavin  
Donald Given  
Augustine Gomez  
Felix Gomez  
Martha Gomez  
Raymond Gomez  
Marlene Gonzales

Francisco Gonzalez	James-Paul Lopez	Michael Moore	Andrew Samaniogo
Roberto Gonzalez Hernandez	Yesenia Macias	Gloria Moreno	Jose Sanchez Sierra
Mark Greene	Cesar Maldonado	Troy Morgan	Raul Serrano
Steve Guerrero	Amanda Marquez	Michelle Nava	Nancy Serrato
Mitchell Hamm	Catalina Martin	Kristina Nevares	Shawn Smith
Abel Hernandez	Darlene Mauze	Jack Parisi	Nea Soto
Elissa Hernandez	Veronica Maynard	Alyssa Petrus	April Wade
Melody Hesson	Christopher McIntosh	Alyssa Rams	Shannon Washington
Johnathon Hopper	Estrella Medina	Jose Robles	Timothy White
Ignacio Jimenez	Andrew Mejia	Adrian Rodriguez	Sherry Williams
Jorge Juarez	Jeffrey Mejia	Claudia Rodriguez	Debora Wilson
Danielle Laird	Christina Mendoza	Gilbert Rodriguez	Henry Wilson
Lori Lashinsky	Brenda Meza	Santana Rodriguez	
Stephen Leach	Sara Miles	Jovon Romo	
Sylvia Leon	George Moalii	Brian Salazar	



## Holly Day's 2025 Holiday Music Playlist

### **Driving Home for Christmas – Chris Rea**

Have you ever been on the road, just trying to get home for Christmas? It's how I feel when I'm away from the North Pole. When I'm driving my sleigh, I count down the minutes until I'll feel the holiday warmth of my elfin family and friends.

### **Sleigh Ride – Alexander O'Neal**

Christmas songs don't get much funkier than this one.

### **Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas – Kenny G**

This instrumental version of a Christmas classic makes me feel like I'm sitting next to a fireplace reflecting on the year that's passed.

### **Give Love On Christmas Day – New Edition**

This remake of a song that originally appeared on the Jackson 5's Christmas Album from 1970, delivers a message that's appropriate for the season – "Why don't you give love on Christmas day?" and "No greater gift is there than love."



# fresh take.

STATER BROS. MARKETS NEWSLETTER

## EDITOR

Jonathan Lieu

## WRITERS

Hannah Fraser

Jeannie Le

Mari Moses

Charlotte Wall

Kevin Zelaya

## WEB

Jeannie Le

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Nicole Collier

## GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Peter Betegh

Shawn Gorton

Kelly Nelson

Johnny Rivera

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