

A message from our Board of Directors

Hello Co-op Members!

The weather is starting to warm and soon our favorite local spring vegetables will be back on the Co-op shelves. The Board wanted to take this opportunity with the turn of the season to update members on some of the latest happenings in our Co-op community!

Coffee Bar: Have Coffee with Co-op Board Members

Our GM, Chris Gilbert, made the decision recently to bring back the coffee bar to the Co-op. It's located in the nook at the end of the frozen section near the check-out. We brew only organic fair-trade coffee from Equal Exchange and a large coffee is only \$2.99! Grab a fresh baked croissant or a flourless carrot cake cupcake and a coffee to enjoy in our seating area upfront where you can people-watch on Main Street.

We're also looking to connect more with individual members and could think of no better way to do that than having a nice cup of coffee together. Do you have questions about how the board operates? Interested in becoming a board member? We'd love to talk to you! If you're interested, please reach out to nominating@concordfoodcoop.coop with dates and times you're available. We'll respond and set up a half-hour timeslot with you. We're looking forward to enjoying some delicious organic coffee with you!

New Role for Andy Messenger and the Future of our Farm at Shaker Village:

Earlier this year our partnership with Canterbury Shaker Village came to an end, and we want to thank them for their generosity and collaboration over the years and wish them a flourishing future! Andy Messenger (aka Farmer Andy) will continue to grow organic produce in the gardens, newly named Turning Mill Farm, as an independent farmer. Show him some support by giving his farm a follow on Facebook and Instagram @TurningMillFarm.

New Employees:

If you've been in the Co-op recently you've probably noticed some new faces. We're excited to have so many new members on our team. Next time you're in, give them a quick hello or wave and welcome them to our Co-op community!

New Board Members:

We're also excited to welcome two new board members! Alisa and James add great experience and new perspectives to our Board Team.

Alisa Barnard | Board Secretary

"I am a Concord native and care deeply about the availability of and access to healthy and justly-sourced food and consumer products for all members of our community. Even beyond the respect that I have for the Co-op being a vibrant part of the food system, I also admire the relationships that the Co-op has developed with partners across the region who are working for healthier, more just, and inclusive communities. I bring to the Board a thoughtful eye and attention to detail, experience in strategic planning and managing complex budgets, and am a creative problem-solver. Additionally, I believe deeply in the mission of the Co-op and will look to promote mission-alignment throughout all aspects of the business."

James Stever | Board Member

"I operate Generation Farm in Concord, NH and have been selling produce to the Co-op for over a decade. Concord Food Co-op was the first place I sold produce when I started my small organic farm. It made an enormous difference for my business and confidence as a young farmer. I care deeply about the Co-op, its members, employees, and mission."

As an organic farmer, I bring a unique set of experience and expertise to the board from the perspective of a vendor. The relationship the Co-op maintains with local vendors is one of the magical ingredients that makes it a unique and special place. The Co-op is a vital part of our local food infrastructure that gives local producers an amazing market and opportunity to thrive that does not exist in large corporate grocery stores. Farmers and small business owners have been facing many challenges over the last few years due to the pandemic and increasing inflation. As a board member, I hope to strengthen and increase the Co-op's relationships with the local food economy and vendors."

-Your Co-op Board