

## CO-OP Happenings – January

*Thank You to all those who helped make 2016 a successful year for the Co-op!*

Those who gave the Co-op their talent, time, and energy...

Don Shure, who worked tirelessly getting the Co-op building built out to our specifications and then held onto it for us until we could afford to pay rent. WOW!

Joe DuPell and his band, Yardbird Temple, for their amazing January 22nd Jazz fundraiser concert, a very cool event;

Joe Frascetti who played beautiful piano at our April 29<sup>th</sup> fundraiser concert using 528 herz to energize and heal his listeners;

Beverly Woods who played the hammered dulcimer at our May 13<sup>th</sup> Open House and brought a lovely warm feeling to an empty space;

Carolyn Ramsey who played with her talented band at Tumbledown Farms at our August 22<sup>nd</sup> fundraiser concert. That was one hot concert!

And although we thanked Tumbledown Farms in the last Co-op Happenings page, David Guttadauro and Cheryl Scott need to be part of our 2016 Thank You for putting the August Co-op fundraiser together, lining up Carolyn, cooking, setting up the buffets, cleaning, and finally handing us a \$2,000 check. Such generosity!

Thanks to the Steering Committee members of WCFC who have been at this for a couple years... Donna Cleaves, Rita Roberts, Maureen Boornazian, Gene Leone, Ivette Babyon, & Don Shure.

Thanks to Christie Bravo, Robin Dougherty, Cassie Wilensky, Molly Leone, Keke Roberts, Maureen Boornazian, Ivette Babylon, Donna Cleaves, and Rita Roberts for getting the membership mailers addressed and mailed out – which, so far, has brought in another 30 memberships!

And lots of Thank You's need to go out to all those wonderful people who participated in the Member Loan Program appeal which raised \$35,000 in member loans and donations. The co-op store would not be happening without your support and generosity. Together we raised enough capital to qualify to apply for a donation and line of credit from the Cooperative Fund of New England.

The CFNE loan application went in on January 20<sup>th</sup>. We will be meeting with one of the loan officers on the 30<sup>th</sup> at the Co-op building and then we have a conference call/interview with the CFNE loan committee on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Wish us all luck... once this goes through, we will be opening the Co-op!

We are still working on getting members through our membership drive mailers – the second half will be going out next week sometime.

If you see lights on at the Co-op Store, feel free to stop in and see what's going on. We have a long way to go but it's beginning to look more like a store. Check out our beautiful checkout counter built by LJ Coons – Donna Cleaves significant other. It's perfect!

Thanks to Cheryl Lang and Holly Sauer for helping us look for and find good, used store equipment. You should see the great fridge we got, along with some other surprises!

We will be purchasing a new 3-door freezer and fridge soon. It may take 4+ weeks to arrive.

We will be sending out a letter looking for new board members once the store is opened. So just giving the heads-up so you can think about it.

Anyone who is interested in selling organic/natural/local products at the Co-op please fill out the Vender Form located on our website.

We have been working to update our Website. Please check out the changes – there will be lots more coming.

Thanks to Donnna DiCasparro, our web designer for our creating our beautiful website. She has been very patient with us getting all our information in ;)

May 2017 bring us all a beautiful new Co-op Store!!