



The Davis Food Co-op

## 2011 Annual Member Meeting

SUNDAY, MAY 22 • 6:00 P.M. • DAVIS SENIOR CENTER, 646 A STREET  
(PLEASE USE THE 7TH STREET ENTRANCE) IN THE MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

A full dinner (vegetarian and carnivore option) will be served. Members, please e-mail [jcross@davisfood.coop](mailto:jcross@davisfood.coop) to RSVP and claim your ticket. This event is free but a ticket is required. Please join us to learn about the state of your Co-op, hear Board Candidates' statements, and to choose from 5 local charities for the Co-op to make a donation on your behalf!

Davis Food Co-op

# VOTER'S PAMPHLET

April — June 2011

## & NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Davis Senior Center, Sunday, May 22

This is your written notice of the membership meeting.

### Meeting Agenda:

- 6 PM Community gathers, find seats, food is available
- 6:30 Call to Order & Officer's Welcome
  - "The State of the Co-op"
  - Board reports on Board activities in past year
  - General Manager reports financial results
  - Co-op's community support
- 7:00 Introduction of Board Candidates & statements
- 7:20 Member linkage
- 8 PM Close of formal meeting

This is a **free, ticketed** event. Up to four adult tickets per membership, for household or guests who are not members, and four children's tickets per membership. Tickets may be obtained by an email to Julie Cross ([jcross@davisfood.coop](mailto:jcross@davisfood.coop)) or by completing the form available to members at the Demo Station. Tickets are limited and on a first-come basis.

## Vote in the Spring '11 Election

Make your voice heard in the store **you own** by participating in the annual Co-op election. Remember to vote on or before Friday, **June 10, 2011**. Look at the election bulletin boards in the store hallway leading to the rest rooms, or on our web site at [www.davisfood.coop/election.html](http://www.davisfood.coop/election.html). Candidates and members will express their opinions and endorsements there (and reasonable effort will be made to keep the physical and electronic comments cross-posted). Please read an important note about the **two week extension** of the last day to vote, on **page 5!**

Voters will be selecting **three** candidates for Director. The top three vote-getters in the election will be seated to fill three-year terms as Directors, and the fourth and fifth will be seated as first and second Alternate Directors. Alternates serve for one year and vote at Board meetings when a Director is absent. Alternates are appointed to fill out a term if a Director resigns or is incapable of serving. Any other members who declare candidacy (using the form approved by the Board and available in the store or on-line at [www.davisfood.coop/election.html](http://www.davisfood.coop/election.html)) and receive votes can be elected as write-in candidates, either as Directors or Alternates.

Voters will also be choosing whether or not to amend our Bylaws, in one Ballot Proposition. This proposal was placed on the Ballot by vote of the Board of Directors. No initiative petition was submitted thirty days before this ballot's mailing date that qualified under the Bylaws.

continues →

- You can vote if you are the shareholder in your household. If you're not the shareholder or co-owner, you cannot vote as a proxy on someone's behalf; proxy votes are not allowed in California Cooperative Corporation elections.
- You can vote if you're a shareholder in **good standing** on Friday, June 10, the last day of voting. You must invest at least \$20 in shares in 2011, or otherwise satisfy the investment requirement in our Bylaws. You also must not have any outstanding bad checks to the Co-op or otherwise be out of compliance with Membership Responsibilities and Restrictions listed in the Bylaws (Article IV, Section 3; please see [www.davis-food.coop/bylaws.html](http://www.davis-food.coop/bylaws.html)). Ask a cashier to scan your Co-op Card before the voting deadline – if no message says your investment is due, you can assume you are in good standing.
- Ballots are mailed to all shareholders in good standing as of March 31 (per Article IX, Section 6 (A) (1) of our Bylaws), with this Voter's Pamphlet. **Do not assume if you received this in the mail that you are now in good standing.** Copies of the Bylaws, ballots, and Voter's Pamphlet are also available in the store throughout the election.
- To be valid, ballots must be returned to the store by 10 PM, Friday, June 10, or if mailed must be post-marked May 27 or earlier. To be valid, a ballot must also be in a **sealed envelope**, and **signed on the outside** by the shareholder (or co-owner). Election volunteers &/or Co-op staff check both the signature and the good standing of each shareholder who votes. **Please legibly print your name & member number on the envelope**, to assist us in finding your signature in our files. Ballots of shareholders not in good standing are not opened or counted; we make an effort to contact the shareholder so they can put their membership in good standing before the end of the election. If you want your vote to count, have a cashier scan your Co-op Card, or call 530-758-2667 ex. 111 to leave a message for Membership Director Doug Walter or write [dwalter@davisfood.coop](mailto:dwalter@davisfood.coop) if you have questions.
- The **Ballot Box** is located inside the store, across from the Deli counter and near to the entrance door. Place your sealed & signed ballot envelope through the "slot" in the top of the locked box. If you mail in your ballot in your own envelope, you need to sign the envelope, clearly label it "ballot enclosed" and send it to Davis Food Co-op Election, 620 G Street, Davis CA 95616.
- Six shareholders have declared candidacy for the Board (as of April 1). You may vote for **up to three candidates**, since there are three seats open. You cannot vote more than once for the same person. You may vote for fewer than three candidates if you choose.

- We cannot accept two ballots from one shareholder. However, you can **change your vote** using the ballots and envelopes available in the store. Write the date on the front of your envelope and that the ballot enclosed supercedes your previous vote. Your new envelope must be signed and sealed, and your name should be legibly printed. We cannot combine votes from two ballots.

### Running for the Board

- Any one who's been a member in good standing for the whole of each of the nine months previous to the first day of the election is eligible to run. For the Declaration of Candidacy form, see "Yes, I want to be a Candidate for the Co-op Board of Directors" in the store, or follow the link to the PDF document from the Election pages of our web site. If you have questions, please contact Doug Walter.
- You must be a Co-op shareholder in good standing to serve as a Director or Alternate. If you're a member of a shareholder's household now, but don't own shares, you can run. If you are elected, you must start your own membership (by investment, transfer or becoming a co-owner) by the time your term starts on July 1, 2011.
- **Eligible shareholders can declare themselves as write-in candidates up to the last day of the election.** Your name and candidate's statement will be posted in the store and on-line as soon as we can manage after you file your Declaration. If you vote for a write-in candidate who's not on the Election display, please tell them that you did — unless they file a Declaration, your vote can't help elect them.

### Ballot counting and results

- Ballots will be counted in the Conference Room of the store on Monday, **June 13**; we expect to start soon after Noon and finish in five hours or so. Counting might be necessary on June 14 (but is unlikely, based on past experience). The count is open to any member in good standing who is not a candidate, or a household member of a candidate, for election to the Board of Directors on the ballot being counted. There's plenty of signature checking and other work before the count can begin — please contact Doug at the store to help.
- Results will be posted on the election display and at [davisfood.coop](http://davisfood.coop) on or before Wednesday, June 15. Preliminary results should be available on Tuesday, June 14.



## Amendment to the Bylaws

This Proposition is presented with an analysis of the nature and effects of the measure (as called for in our Bylaws). This is followed by the text of what would be changed, showing how the sections will read if the Proposition passes, with deleted language in ~~strikeout~~ type and new language in *italic underlined* type.

The first argument submitted for and against each ballot measure — if any was received before the deadline — was included in this Pamphlet (again, following our Bylaws).

### Proposition 1: Initiatives

Shall the Bylaws be amended to include more specific rules, procedures, and guidelines for the process of submitting member-proposed initiatives to the Board, and the process of approving or denying those initiatives by the Board?

#### Impartial Analysis

**Background:** Our Bylaws currently permit members broad authority to submit initiatives to the Board, if they “specify any lawful and proper purpose,” so long as members secure petitions signed by at least five percent of shareholders in good standing. The Bylaws, however, do not define what they mean by “lawful” or “proper” purposes, nor do they provide detailed rules or procedures for the submission and evaluation of member-generated initiatives. Accordingly, the current language leaves some gaps and ambiguities in the initiative submission process, which must be addressed by the Board on a case-by-case basis. Proposition 1 leaves intact the members’ broad ability to collect petitions and propose initiatives, but it creates a systematic structure, by way of more specific rules, procedures, and guidelines, which are intended to: (1) help members in the process of submitting initiatives, and (2) help the Board in the process of evaluating those initiatives.

**Effect of Vote:** A “yes” vote on Proposition 1 will permit the Cooperative to implement specific rules, procedures, and guidelines to govern the process of submitting member initiatives to the Board, and the Board’s manner of evaluating them. A “no” vote leaves the current system in place, wherein the members do not have the benefit of these rules, procedures and guidelines when submitting initiatives, and the Board does not have their benefit when evaluating such initiatives.

**Fiscal Effect:** no fiscal effect is anticipated.

The Board unanimously placed this proposition on the

ballot and unanimously recommends a “yes” vote. A majority vote of the shareholders in good standing who vote in this election is required for this amendment to pass. If it passes, it will take effect immediately, as soon as the results are known.

### Proposed Amendment to the Bylaws:

Article X, Section 2. **Initiative.**

(A) Subject to the provisions of these Bylaws, members shall have the right to submit initiatives, consisting of ~~An issue submitted by~~ petitions signed by not less than five percent of shareholders in good standing, which specify any lawful and proper purpose. The determination of what constitutes “five percent of shareholders in good standing” shall be made based on the ~~last~~ first day of the month preceding the date on which petitions are submitted or filed.

(B) Initiatives that are timely and properly filed with the Board in accordance with the requirements of these Bylaws, including Article IX, Section 6(B), shall be presented to members for a vote at the nearest upcoming regularly-scheduled general election or, at the Board’s discretion, by special election (i.e., balloting specially called for that purpose) within 12 months of its filing with, or submission to, the Board. Member initiatives that are not timely and properly filed with the Board in accordance with the requirements of these Bylaws, including Article IX, Section 6(B), shall be presented to the members for a vote at the regularly-scheduled general election following the nearest upcoming general election,<sup>1</sup> or, at the Board’s discretion, by special election within 12 months of such submission of its filing with, or submission to, the Board. Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, initiatives that are rejected by the Board pursuant to parts (D) and (E) of this Section, shall not be presented to the members for a vote.

<sup>1</sup>**Explanatory note, not to be included in the bylaws:** This language is included to address the concern that the Board may receive an initiative within days or weeks of a general election, not have sufficient time to diligently consider and evaluate the initiative, and subsequently be rushed into making a decision in order to submit the initiative for a vote by the upcoming election. To avoid this problem, where an initiative is submitted too close in time to a general election [e.g., if it is not submitted within the time specified by Article IX, Section 6(B) of the Bylaws], the proposed language permits the Board to defer a vote on the initiative either to: (1) the general election following the closest general election, or (2) a special election called for purposes of voting on the initiative, within 12 months of its submission. This language is intended to provide both time and flexibility. The language offers the Board time to carefully consider each initiative submitted, and permits the proposing member(s) time to discuss the initiative with the Board if there are any issues. At the same time, the proposed language leaves the Board flexibility to call a special election within a shorter time frame, if it deems that the initiative should be put up for a vote earlier than the next general election.

(C) In addition to any other applicable provision of these Bylaws, submission of an initiative shall be subject to the following procedure: prior to petitioning for the requisite number of signatures, and prior to submission of any initiative to the Board, the member(s) seeking to submit an initiative must first declare their intent to propose the initiative, in writing, to the Board or its designated agent(s), including providing a reasonably detailed description of the initiative sought. Thereafter, and in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws governing petitioning activity (including coordination of the petitioning activity with the corporation's management), the member(s) seeking to submit the initiative in question shall have no more than 90 days to collect the requisite number of signatures. If the proposed initiative is properly submitted to the Board, and the requisite number of signatures is collected within 90 days, the complete initiative shall be filed with the Board, or its designated agent(s), for further action. For the purposes of these Bylaws, a petition shall be deemed "filed with" or "submitted to" the Board on the date it is received by the Board, or its designated agent(s), after the completion of all relevant procedures set forth in these Bylaws.

(D) Upon receiving an initiative, the Board shall review it and inform the member(s) who submitted it, within a reasonable time, and in writing, whether the initiative satisfies the requirements set forth in these Bylaws.

(1) If any initiative is not submitted to or filed with the Board pursuant to the procedures described above, or if the Board determines that the initiative is not lawful or proper as set forth in these Bylaws, the Board shall have the authority to reject said initiative, and refuse to send it to the members for a vote. If the Board does so, it shall notify the member(s) who submitted the initiative, in writing, of its decision and the stated reasons therefor; or alternatively, the Board may issue a resolution rejecting said initiative and stating the reasons therefor. Where the Board rejects an initiative because it is not submitted or filed pursuant to the procedures set forth in these Bylaws, the Board may, at its discretion, give the member(s) who submitted said initiative an opportunity to cure the defect(s), and resubmit the initiative within a time period specified by the Board. If the Board does not provide any opportunity to cure said defect(s), no further petitioning for such an initiative may take place for at least 12 months from the date of its rejection. Where the Board rejects an initiative on the grounds that it is unlawful and/or improper, an identical or substantially similar initiative may not be proposed, unless the Board is satisfied that any unlawfulness or impropriety has been cured.

(2) If an initiative is submitted and filed properly pursuant to the procedures described above, and is lawful and proper as set forth in these Bylaws, the Board shall present the initiative to the members for a vote as described in this Section.

(3) Determinations of lawfulness and propriety shall be made by the Board, in good faith, after the exercise of reasonable diligence, without bias, and based upon the considerations set forth in this Section, as well as other considerations permitted by law or these Bylaws, which include business considerations made in the best interest of the corporation.

(E) The Board shall have discretion to determine whether any initiative submitted by member(s) has satisfied the procedures described in these Bylaws, and/or is lawful and proper as set forth in these Bylaws. For the purposes of this Section, an initiative shall be deemed "unlawful" if it actually violates, or poses a significant risk of violating, California or federal law, including (but not limited to) statutes, codes, regulations, ordinances, policies, and/or common or case law. For the purposes of this Section, an initiative shall be deemed "improper" if, among other reasons:

(1) it poses a significant risk of depriving or restricting the authority and discretion of the Board, or its designated agent(s), in the management of the corporation's business and affairs, including its day-to-day operations;

(2) it poses a significant risk of subjecting the authority and discretion of the Board, or its designated agent(s), in the management and operation of the corporation to any third party or entity;

(3) its wording or mandates are so broad, ambiguous, or materially misleading that they do not provide practical specificity about the nature, scope, or effect of the proposed initiative;

(4) it would require an unreasonable expenditure of time, money, and resources to determine the corporation's obligations thereunder, or to implement its requirements;

(5) it poses a significant and disproportionate risk of substantial disruption to business operations, loss of capital, or reduction in shoppers and/or sales; or

(6) it is such a controversial or divisive issue that it creates a significant and disproportionate risk of permanent member, shopper, or employee loss and/or resignations.

(F) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to deprive the Board, or its designated agent(s), from properly exercising its authority and discretion to

manage the corporation's business and affairs, including its day-to-day operations, as required by California or federal law.

(G) Notwithstanding any other provision in this Section, the Board may not, and nothing in this Section shall be construed to, deprive members of rights expressly reserved or granted to them by California or federal law.

## Argument For Proposition 1

Food co-ops have a long history of social activism: the first consumer co-op was opened to ensure a fair deal for its members in the marketplace, the American "second wave" of co-ops were driven by union members, the "third wave" (which includes us) were opened by counter-culture hippies, and the current wave is mostly being operated by food activists.

With that inheritance, it's no wonder that our bylaws specify ways in which member-owners may ask the Co-op to take action. Article X of the bylaws is devoted to describing these methods. These bylaws were written in the 1970's, and have been amended by vote of the membership over the years.

The Davis Food Co-op now consists of more than 10,000 households. Those households elect the 11 members of the Board of Directors, who are charged with deciding what should happen with our mutually owned business.

Determining what those 10,000 households would like their Co-op to do isn't easy. The Board relies on member comment, our own good sense, and most particularly on the governing documents, including the bylaws.

As they are now written, the bylaws don't give enough guidance regarding member initiatives to either the member-owners who might wish to use them or the Board of Directors who are required to interpret them. Proposition 1 is meant to make the bylaws more understandable and thus, more useful.

The Board spent many hours over the last year working on the new language for this Article. We believe that the language we present here will allow our member-owners to bring initiatives to the membership in a way that's fair and equitable. If this language isn't adopted, future member-owners and the Boards that they elect will continue to work with language that doesn't give enough guidance. Please join the Board in voting "yes" on Proposition 1.

Julie Cross, Secretary  
Janie Booth, President  
Stacie Frerichs, Vice-President

**No argument against this ballot measure was received by the deadline.**

## Last day to vote extended to June 10

This change was authorized by a unanimous resolution of the Co-op Board of Directors, in response to a typographical error in the materials sent to shareholders in good standing. The error is in line 15 of Section B of the proposed amendment to the Co-op's Bylaws that is being voted on as Proposition 1. The Pamphlet reads in part, "...by special election within six 12 months..." The correct language should read, "...by special election within 12 months."

Making the announcement of the extension, General Manager Eric Stromberg said, "the error is a result of having many drafts before the language became final, and we regret that we didn't catch it. In case anyone became confused by the error," he continued, "we want to make sure members understand that they can change their vote, and they have two more weeks to do so."

If the correction causes a shareholder to reconsider their vote, they may cast a replacement ballot by filling out a new ballot, writing the date on the ballot envelope, and noting on the envelope that it supersedes the previous vote. Ballots and complete voting instructions are available online at [www.davisfood.coop](http://www.davisfood.coop), and in the store (at the Ballot Box). Ballots for the Co-op election must be now be received by close of business – 10 PM – or postmarked on or before June 10, 2011.

## 2011 Election Committee

Do you have questions or concerns regarding the election or election policy? Please email:

*Desmond Jolly* at [jolly.desmond@gmail.com](mailto:jolly.desmond@gmail.com)  
or *Jonathan Groveman* at [jgroveman@gmail.com](mailto:jgroveman@gmail.com).

The Committee will answer your questions and follow up on your concerns about the election.

Please visit [http://www.davisfood.coop/admin\\_policies.html#elections](http://www.davisfood.coop/admin_policies.html#elections) and <http://www.davisfood.coop/election.html> for information regarding our elections and our elections policies.

There will be a link on the upper-right corner of the Food Co-op home page leading to election information for the duration of this election. Visit us at

**[www.davisfood.coop](http://www.davisfood.coop)**

## Candidates for the Board of Directors

This & following pages present candidates who filed Declarations of Candidacy and statements, including "write in" candidates.

Candidates are presented in this Pamphlet in the order in which they filed Declarations of Candidacy. They are presented on the Ballot in an order determined by random drawing, with write-ins added at the bottom.

**Janie Booth**  
**janiebooth@gmail.com**

I am the current Board President of the Davis Food Co-op; I ask for your vote for an additional term on the board. I have been a director since 2008, and in the last four years, my understanding of how our cooperative works, and how important it is, have steadily grown. As an experienced, seasoned board member, I vow to continue to work diligently to keep our co-op financially healthy, environmentally progressive, and actively engaged as a force for good in our community.



As president during the last (2010-2011) board cycle, I had many responsibilities. These included preparing monthly and special meeting agendas, planning workgroup meetings and retreats, responding to member comments, writing an article for The Vine, and coordinating numerous other internal board functions. I am proud to have spearheaded the creation of an internal Board website. This website will be useful for years to come, a place for the board to store and share documents, archive materials, and use a dynamic shared calendar. I also attended the 2010 Cooperative Community Management Association (CCMA) meeting in Bloomington, Indiana where I received training on co-op governance, marketing, and member linkage.

These are not easy times for the Davis Food Co-op. The economic climate and the recent arrival of Trader Joe's in Davis have created a potentially precarious situation for our store. The co-op, guided by the Board, has worked diligently with management to deal with the challenges in a dynamic and creative fashion. We have strived to maintain our excellent customer service and staff benefits, while offering high quality food at a fair price. I am encouraged by the loyalty and support of the membership during these tough times.

When I am not working on Davis Food Co-op, I am the mother of two preschool age children, and work part-time at a locally owned solar energy company. I hold two biology degrees, and enjoy cooking, gardening, playing the violin, and swimming with Davis Aquatic Masters.

**Franklin D. Fox**  
**(530) 753-8584, (530) 400-8478**  
**fdfox@jps.net**

I am declaring my candidacy for the board of the Davis Food Co-op (DFC). My family has been a shareholder in DFC since 1983. I have worked on many occasions as a super worker. Last year, I ran as a write-in candidate in opposition to a potentially divisive political issue. With grateful community shareholder support, surprisingly I won the position of second alternate as a write-in. I am now seeking a full term as a DFC board member, with full voting privileges. In the past year I have learned about DFC's leadership role in bringing locally raised produce and free-ranging animal products of the best quality to our constituents. Additionally I learned about the work of the board as it strives to support the DFC management, to keep the DFC profitable yet socially and environmentally responsible. Our owner-members deserve strong advocates on the board representing their needs and views, from seniors to students. The DFC is facing many external competitive challenges. Elected board members represent the over 11,000 member-owners. The new competitors (Trader Joe's, Grocery Outlet, and Target) pose serious challenges to our economic viability. The board has a major responsibility to guide management and the DFC's shareholders in making wise choices. As a member-owner serving on the board, I pledge to work hard with my colleagues to retain our competitiveness, profitability and continued unique services to our members and non-members. These services include responsible food choices, educational opportunities, and participation in the celebration of our DFC family and community. My main goal is to learn and contribute all I can to support our member-owned store in pursuing the best available products at the most competitive prices, in a user-friendly, community-oriented environment. I seek to promote and maintain our store as the exemplary marketplace that it is, abuzz with vitality and savvy shoppers who know the values of healthy living and eating.



**Stacie Frerichs**  
**staciefreerichs@yahoo.com**  
**(530) 758-0807**

Fellow Davis Food Co-op owners, I am asking for your vote in the 2011 election. I have served on the board for three years, including the last two years as a vice-president, and have been a member-owner of the DFC since 1999.

My primary goal, as a Director, has been to gain a clearer perspective of what is important to you, our owners and customers, and how to translate your values into the vision for our Co-op.

During my service on the board, we have worked on the following items:

- overseen the implementation of the major storewide remodel which included increasing the diversity of product selection and benefits to owners (e.g. local olive bar, fresh salad bar, improved cheese selection, and additional checkout registers)
- worked with staff to formulate a strategic plan which prepared the Co-op for the changing competitive grocery environment in Davis
- engaged with members to understand why you choose to spend your food dollars at the Co-op, and how we can improve to better meet your needs
- continued to support, through expertise and donations, our greater cooperative community (locally, nationally, and internationally) to help grow a sustainable business model
- overseen staff's implementation of policies which help to keep the Co-op an inclusive and welcoming place to all members of our community

I love that the co-op is owned by so many local citizens in our community and that it continues to give back so much to the place where we live. I'm also extremely appreciative of DFC shareholders for continuing to support the co-op with your food dollars, especially during tumultuous economic times. If reelected, I will continue to represent you, as owners, in supporting a bedrock of the Davis community, and will continue to ensure that Co-op decisions are fiscally responsible.

Additionally, I graduate with my MBA from UC Berkeley in May of 2011 and I look forward to using what I've learned while getting this degree for the benefit of our co-op.

I would greatly appreciate your vote.  
In cooperation, Stacie



**Ben Pearl**  
**benjaminpearl@gmail.com**  
**530-753-7135**

Since its inception in 1972, the Davis Food Coop has played a vital role in the Davis community and the Yolo/Solano region. By way of our partnerships with local farmers and food producers, innovative culinary and nutritional education, and as a place for our community to gather, we work effectively to fulfill our mission as a leader in our foodshed. We're now looking toward our 5th decade...let's keep up the good work!

In 2006, I was appointed by the DFC board to fill a short-term vacancy as an alternate director. During my first term, I was introduced to the 'policy governance' model we employ for strategic governance, in cooperation with our general manager and staff. I worked hard with fellow members to tackle tough questions regarding our Coop's role within the Davis community, and strived to bring forward the concerns and aspirations of our membership and the broader Davis community. Since that time, I have served as a member of the Davis Farm to School committee, as Sustainability Coordinator for the Davis Farmers Market, and as project manager in the construction of Solar Community Housing Association's innovative new housing co-op at 3rd & J streets in Old East Davis.

Returning to the board, I look forward to continuing the work of stewarding and expanding opportunities for cooperative community in Davis. I hope to employ the valuable experience I've gained in the service of our organization, especially in the realms of cooperative governance, finance, and strategic planning and development. Perhaps most importantly, I look forward to working with you to bring the hopes and aspirations of our community into reality.

Thank you for voting!



**Watch for write-ins!**

The names of write-in candidates may be posted in the store and on the Web at:

**[www.davisfood.coop/candidates.html](http://www.davisfood.coop/candidates.html)**

You may vote for up to three candidates for Director.

**Travis Breckon**  
(write-in) [tbreckon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tbreckon@sbcglobal.net)

I am declaring my candidacy for the Board of the Davis Food Coop (DFC). I have knowledge of the grocery store business. I worked in a large grocery store chain (J.W.Weingartens) in Houston, Texas, while in high school. I also have lived and worked on a cattle ranch in New Mexico. After returning from the service, I worked at Stater Brothers in Southern California while attending college. I helped my father with his beekeeping business, and I still maintain several hives of bees and bottle my own honey. My goal as a Board Member is to contribute in any way to the success and profits of DFC while maintaining quality products and healthy produce at competitive prices.



Travis Breckon

**Sarah J. Palmer**  
(write-in) [sjpalmer@ucdavis.edu](mailto:sjpalmer@ucdavis.edu)

I am approaching my second year in Davis and as a member of the Davis Food Co-op. Although a fledgling I wasted little time identifying the DFC as a pillar of the community, and jumped in head first! I am a chef/instructor at the Davis Food Co-op Teaching Kitchen and always look forward to my time with the amazing team that heads up the program. I have gotten to know many of the DFC members while teaching them the tricks of the trade that I gathered during my ten years in the restaurant industry.



As a chef I was involved in the farm-to-table movement and strongly believe in the importance of, whenever possible, purchasing local products to support our local foodshed. I am familiar with the challenges of managing food cost, especially in a delicate economic time. I am regularly thankful for the outstanding selection of bulk items and recognize that this is one of the answers to this challenge.

I believe that we have a responsibility to our entire community and admire the Co-op's efforts to include a diverse product line that accommodates the needs of the entire socio-economic spectrum. As a single mother who is no stranger to a challenging financial situation- I find this to be one of the most unique characteristics of our Davis Food Co-op; also remaining true to the philosophy of cooperative organizations. I am constantly impressed by the various ways that the Co-op serves the community and am honored to be a part of that.

I am completing my undergraduate degree in Sociology with a focus on Public Policy and a passion for domestic food policy. I have experience with purchasing/sourcing and food cost, and an affinity for economics/budgetary issue. I am interested in the Policy Governance structure that the Board of Directors uses to navigate the many important responsibilities, which ultimately serve our members and our employees. It is with that in mind, with integrity and compassion, I would work to make the Davis Food Co-op proceed as one of the cornerstones of the community.

The information in this Voter's Pamphlet is available on the Web at:  
[www.davisfood.coop/election.html](http://www.davisfood.coop/election.html)  
...and additional or updated information may be posted during the course of the election. From this page there are links to the Election Calendar, a PDF file of this Voter's Pamphlet, and to complete Board Election Policies.  
Our web site contains additional resources relating to our Bylaws & our Directors, such as Board Policies, Board meeting minutes, and upcoming Board agendas (about seven days before each meeting).  
There's also a page on DavisWiki that anyone can edit with their thoughts, questions, or endorsements relating to the election:  
[http://daviswiki.org/Davis\\_Food\\_Co-op/Election\\_2011](http://daviswiki.org/Davis_Food_Co-op/Election_2011)  
Please understand that anyone can use the Wiki, and the Co-op has no control over anything stated on that page.

