

Currents

OCEAN BEACH PEOPLE'S FOOD CO-OP
DECEMBER 2025 OWNER NEWSLETTER



HOLIDAY SAVINGS | DECEMBER HOURS | WINTER EVENTS & GIVEAWAYS

WELCOME TO THE CO-OP!



WHY SHOP HERE?

Support the local food economy by keeping your dollars invested in a community-owned cooperative business that prioritizes people and planet over profit. Plus, People's has 100% certified organic produce, wellness & vitamins, sustainable bulk & refill sections, and a delicious vegan Deli & Bakery upstairs!

OCEAN BEACH
PEOPLE'S
FOOD CO-OP

COMMUNITY OWNED SINCE 1971



OPEN DAILY
8AM - 9PM



4765 Voltaire St.
San Diego, CA 92107



(619) 224-1387



www.obpeoplesfood.coop



@obpeoplesfoodcoop





Currents

Currents is a free monthly publication from Ocean Beach People's Food Co-op delivering news about upcoming community events, sales throughout the store, recipes, and ways to live a healthy lifestyle!

Currents is designed and published by the co-op's Marketing Director with content contribution from our operations team. It is printed locally in Ocean Beach at BK Printing using FSC certified paper made from responsibly sourced wood fiber.



When you're done reading, **Currents** is fully recyclable!

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE?



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Sales at the co-op every weekend in December! Bakery, Wine, Gifts, Merch, Bulk Coffee & more

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Rotating discounts throughout the store exclusively for co-op owners

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On the Cover: Holiday Wreaths from J.R. Organics Farm. Available at People's now!



Let us know how we can improve!

What do you like about **Currents**?
What do you want to see more of?
Please take a moment to fill out the survey!



FROM THE DESK OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

Sarela Bonilla, General Manager

Another year has nearly passed, can you believe it? We're soaking up all the delights of December here at People's – a bounty of local, organic and seasonal produce including apples, persimmons, pears, cranberries, winter squash, hearty root veggies, and of course the kickoff to an abundant citrus season! Our deli is cranking out delicious holiday sweets in the bakery (hello cranberry oatmeal cookies) and entrées in the hot bar & grab n go case. Our shelves and fridges are brimming with healthy, whole ingredients for nourishing meals as you gather with family and friends this holiday season. Plus, we are packing this month with some of our best savings, sales and events of the year! Keep reading to be sure you don't miss a beet. 🥕



Coming up this month...

We are hosting and participating in some fun holiday events this month, including walking in the [Ocean Beach Holiday Parade](#) on December 6th. Look for members of our staff in fruit/veggie costumes & say hello! We will be debuting the next giant fruit/veggie icon on our float, which will join the avocado and orange already on our storefront after the parade is over. Any guesses on what it is?!

Join us here at the co-op for our [Winter Solstice Celebration](#) on Friday, December 19th from 5–7pm upstairs in our Deli. We'll have live music with Cookin' Quintet (featuring our very own grocery coordinator, Bryan, on upright bass) + a hot Yamalada dinner & seasonal cookies!

PLUS: Come pick up your FREE GIFT! [People's 2026 custom calendar](#) will be available at the registers starting December 26th. Limited supply & limit one per household please.

Holiday Hours

DEC 12 Staff Holiday Party
Store: 8am-4pm
Deli: 8am-3pm

DEC 24 Christmas Eve
Store: 8am-5pm
Deli: 8am-4pm

DEC 25 Christmas Day
STORE CLOSED

DEC 31 New Year's Eve
Store: 8am-7pm
Deli: 8am-6pm

JAN 1 New Year's Day
Store: 10am-9pm
Deli: 10am-8pm

Looking back at

2025

Staff Development

People's is one of the largest employers in Ocean Beach! Our employees make it all work, keeping everything running here at the co-op day in and day out. 2025 saw our highest retention rate in years. We prioritized staff through development (our produce, deli, wellness, store management, board, GM, and marketing team all went to conferences this year), as well as creating dynamic employee career paths. We also spent time with our management team to develop stronger leadership and better practices, all to create a more meaningful customer shopping experience.

Store Improvement Projects

We built and moved into our current building in 2001, so after nearly 25 years it was time for some storefront upgrades! Several projects this year (including new window wraps, updated branding, new mural, awning & more) have contributed to a more lively, vibrant storefront that reflects People's today!



Community Events & Outreach

The co-op grew so much this year! We welcomed hundreds of new owners during our Spring & Fall ownership drives, and we connected with likeminded folks from all around San Diego through external events and partnerships. We also hosted several events here at the co-op including our most successful birthday party EVER! Thank you to everyone who participated in our monthly coloring contests and giveaways, stopped by to enjoy live music upstairs in our deli, signed up and attended events in our community room, and gathered here at People's with friends – 2025 has been a joyous year and it's been so much fun seeing so much life here in our community!

This year came with it's fair share of uncertainties beyond our control, including supply shortages, SNAP budget cuts, the LA fires & more. It has been beautiful to see this community come together during times of need and we are grateful to use our resources and voice to harness these efforts together.

When you choose to shop at People's, you are directly supporting this community, nurturing local and organic farmers and producers, and building a more equitable, sustainable future. Thank you for choosing People's! From all of us here at the co-op, Happy Holidays and have a joyous New Year!



Shelby Baill

DECEMBER SALES & SAVINGS



HOLIDAY BAKE SALE

DEC
5-7

Co-op owners save!

10% off

Select Bob's Red Mill
& King Arthur baking
ingredients in grocery
+ select Bob Mill's
Flours & select nuts
in bulk dept
and

10% off

ALL Bakery Items
from People's
Vegan Deli!



CHEERS! HOLIDAY WINE SALE



DEC
12-14

buy 6 bottles → save 5%

buy 12 bottles → save 10%

Sale includes Non Alcoholic sparkling juices as well.
You don't have to be an Owner to be eligible for this sale!



PEOPLE'S HOLIDAY GIFT SHOP

CO-OP LOGO T-SHIRTS, HATS, BAGS & STICKERS
+ CALENDARS
CARDS
INCENSE
CANDLES
SUSTAINABLE
KITCHEN ITEMS
& MORE!

Co-op owners get

15% off

ALL Co-op Merch
& General Merch

**DEC
19-21**



BULK COFFEE SALE

**DEC
26-28**

Co-op
owners get

15% off

ALL Bulk Loose Bean Coffee



DECEMBER EVENTS & Giveaway

TWO OF YOU WILL WIN A
\$100 PEOPLE'S GIFT CARD

AND

A 10-CLASS PACK
FROM LOCAL STUDIO:



reunify
yoga

DEC 1-30

a \$100 value!

ENTER YOUR NAME
IN THE RAFFLE JAR
AT THE CO-OP!



WINNERS WILL BE CONTACTED
AT THE END OF THE MONTH!

ONLY ONE ENTRY PER PERSON.
MULTIPLE ENTRIES WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.
NOT ELIGIBLE FOR EXISTING REUNIFY MEMBERS.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP

SAN DIEGO
CRAFT COLLECTIVE

saturday december 20th
in the co-op's community room!

\$15/person - sign up now!

All materials provided.
limited spaces available!



ENJOY FREE LIVE MUSIC IN THE DELI!



Soul & Folk
with **Hailey Marea**
11am-1pm



Jazz
with **Cookin' Quintet**
5-7pm



R&B/Soul & Soft Pop
with **Marina + Marco duo**
11am-1pm

everyone is welcome!



KNIFE SHARPENING POP-UP AT PEOPLE'S

Have dull knives in your kitchen or garden blades in your garage? Get them sharpened by Tio of @tiomobileknife every second Saturday of the month at People's!

- Pricing depends on the item but ranges from \$6-\$19
- Cash or contactless payment accepted



Saturday, Dec 13th: 9am-1pm



PRE-ORDER PIES

gluten free & regular crusts available



← SCAN HERE
or visit obpeoplesfood.coop/deli

Mixed Berry & Apple Pies from our Vegan Deli are available to pre-order from Dec 8-19

SNOWMAN COLORING CONTEST

Pick up a coloring contest paper at our registers & use whatever medium you like: markers, pencils, paint, glitter... to bring your vision to life!

Winners will be chosen by age group. Prize is a \$25 gift card to the co-op!



Entries must be submitted by store closing on December 31st!



OWNER SALES

December 1-15



OWNER PERKS

BULK:

ORGANIC LIGHT BROWN SUGAR \$2.19 REG 2.85 SAVE 46¢	ORGANIC RED LENTILS \$2.99 REG 3.75 SAVE 76¢	ORGANIC WALNUT HALVES & PIECES \$7.99 REG 8.99 SAVE 1.00	MIND, BODY, & SOUL WHOLE BEAN COFFEE \$12.49 REG 15.99 SAVE 3.50
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GROCERY & PERISHABLES:

Dr. McDougal's SOUP CUPS All varieties (1.8-3.4 oz) \$1.99 REG 2.75 SAVE 76¢	Brianna's SALAD DRESSINGS All varieties (12 oz) \$3.49 REG 4.35 SAVE 86¢	Organic India ORGANIC TEA All varieties (18 bags) \$4.49 REG 5.49 SAVE 1.00	Vermints ORGANIC MINTS All varieties (1.41 oz) \$2.49 REG 3.25 SAVE 76¢
Truff HOT SAUCE TRUFFLES All varieties (6 oz) \$11.99 REG 15.99 SAVE 4.00	BLACK TRUFFLE PASTA SAUCES Both varieties (17 oz) \$10.99 REG 13.99 SAVE 3.00	Missy J's ORGANIC CAROB CHIPS Vegan and Unsweetened (8 oz) \$9.49 REG 10.99 SAVE 1.50	ORGANIC CAROB POWDER (8 oz) \$7.49 REG 8.99 SAVE 1.50
Annie's Homegrown ORGANIC MAC & CHEESE All varieties (6 oz) \$3.55 REG 4.65 SAVE 1.10	Bubbies MOCHI Both varieties (7.5 oz) \$5.49 REG 6.89 SAVE 1.40	NA Beverage Co FUNCTIONAL MOCKTAILS Both varieties (8.4 oz) \$9.69 REG 12.79 SAVE 3.10	Ozery MORNING ROUNDS Both varieties (7.5 oz) \$3.49 REG 3.75 SAVE 26¢
			"ONEBUN" MULTIGRAIN (12.7 oz) \$3.49 REG 3.99 SAVE 50¢

WELLNESS:

25% off ALL (NFD)
Ollois

20% off ALL (NFD)
Humble
ZuZu Luxe
Aurora Nutrascience
Honey Girl Organics
Wild Carrot Herbals

15% off ALL (NFD)
Keys Skincare
Griffin Remedy

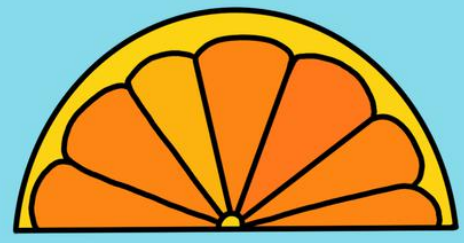
DELI:

Bake Sale!
 10% off all bakery items from the deli

Dec 5-7
cookies, breads, scones & more!

OWNER SALES

December 16-31



OWNER PERKS

BULK:

ORGANIC PEARLED BARLEY \$1.99 REG 2.55 SAVE 56¢	ORGANIC ROASTED & SALTED PISTACHIOS IN SHELL \$8.49 REG 9.99 SAVE 1.50	ORGANIC PINTO BEANS \$2.99 REG 3.45 SAVE 41¢	MIND, BODY, & SOUL WHOLE BEAN COFFEE \$12.49 REG 15.99 SAVE 3.50
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GROCERY & PERISHABLES:

<p>Jennie's ORGANIC MACAROONS All varieties (5.25 oz)</p> <p>\$3.69 REG 4.69 SAVE 1.00</p>	<p>Nocciolata ORGANIC HAZELNUT SPREADS All varieties (8.82 oz)</p> <p>\$5.69 REG 7.15 SAVE 1.46</p>	<p>Blue Diamond NUT THIN CRACKERS All varieties (4.25 oz)</p> <p>\$3.75 REG 5.25 SAVE 1.46</p>	<p>Vermints ORGANIC MINTS All varieties (1.41 oz)</p> <p>\$2.49 REG 3.25 SAVE 76¢</p>	
<p>Emerald Cove WAKAME SEAWEED (1.76 oz)</p> <p>\$5.99 REG 7.35 SAVE 1.36</p>	<p>KOMBU SEAWEED (1.76 oz)</p> <p>\$5.49 REG 6.79 SAVE 1.30</p>	<p>Missy J's ORGANIC CAROB CHIPS Vegan and Unsweetened (8 oz)</p> <p>\$9.49 REG 10.99 SAVE 1.50</p>	<p>ORGANIC CAROB POWDER (8 oz)</p> <p>\$7.49 REG 8.99 SAVE 1.50</p>	
<p>Annie's Homegrown ORGANIC MAC & CHEESE All varieties (6 oz)</p> <p>\$3.55 REG 4.65 SAVE 1.10</p>	<p>Bubbies MOCHI Both varieties (7.5 oz)</p> <p>\$5.49 REG 6.89 SAVE 1.40</p>	<p>NA Beverage Co FUNCTIONAL MOCKTAILS Both varieties (8.4 oz)</p> <p>\$9.69 REG 12.79 SAVE 3.10</p>	<p>Ozery MORNING ROUNDS Both varieties (7.5 oz)</p> <p>\$3.49 REG 3.75 SAVE 26¢</p>	<p>"ONEBUN" MULTIGRAIN (12.7 oz)</p> <p>\$3.49 REG 3.99 SAVE 50¢</p>

WELLNESS:

25% off ALL (NFD)
 Ollois
20% off ALL (NFD)
 Humble
 ZuZu Luxe
 Aurora Nutrascience
 Honey Girl Organics
 Wild Carrot Herbals

15% off ALL (NFD)
 Keys Skincare
 Griffin Remedy

DELI:

10% off Bagged Sugar Cookies
Dec 16-31

Looking to decorate your sugar cookies?
 Find what you need in the grocery department!

HEALTH & WELLNESS

handmade holiday magic



Easy DIY Gifts with Essential Oils

There is something special about giving a gift you made with your own hands. It carries your personal touch, your time, and your intention. Essential oils make that process even more magical. With their beautiful aromas, therapeutic qualities, and endless mix-and-match possibilities, they transform simple ingredients into thoughtful, handcrafted creations that feel both personalized and indulgent. With the help of essential oils, you can tailor each recipe to the unique people you love. These handmade gifts feel warm, thoughtful, and full of care—and you will find everything you need right here at the Co-op. Come in and start making a little magic!



DIY Body Scrub Recipe

Ingredients:

- 1 cup sugar or salt — try Epsom salt, sea salt, dead sea salt, evaporated cane sugar, or brown sugar
- ½ cup carrier oil — such as coconut, sweet almond, or jojoba oil
- 20–30 drops essential oil — lavender, lemon, grapefruit, rosemary, or any blend you love

Instructions:

- In a bowl, combine the sugar or salt with the carrier oil. Mix until well-blended. Add more sugar/salt if the texture seems too runny
- Stir in the essential oils
- Transfer the scrub to an airtight jar

How to use:

Massage onto damp skin in circular motions during a shower, avoiding the face. Rinse thoroughly with warm water. Use 2–3 times per week for best results.

JUNIPER LEMON BODY SCRUB

- 1 cup evaporated cane sugar
- ½ cup sweet almond oil
- 15 drops juniper essential oil
- 15 drops lemon essential oil
- Optional: 1 tbsp dried juniper berries (blitzed) + zest of one lemon for extra brightness



DIY Bath Salt Recipe

Ingredients:

- 5 cups coarse salt (Epsom salt, Dead Sea salt, magnesium flakes, or Himalayan salt)
- 20–40 drops essential oils (use fewer drops for stronger oils like peppermint, eucalyptus, or clove)
- 1–2 tbsp carrier oil, such as fractionated coconut, grape seed, or olive oil.
- Optional: 2–3 tsp dried herbs or flowers — chamomile, rose petals, or calendula to add beautiful visual appeal

Instructions:

- Add the salt to a large bowl and break up any clumps
- In a separate bowl, blend the carrier oil with the essential oils
- Drizzle the oil mixture over the salt and stir thoroughly
- Mix in any dried herbs
- Transfer to airtight jars and store in a cool, dry place

How to use:

Add ½–1 cup to warm bathwater.

FRANKINCENSE & MYRRH BATH SALT

- 4 cups Epsom salt
- 1 cup Dead Sea salt
- 3 tsp coconut oil
- 15 drops frankincense essential oil
- 15 drops myrrh essential oil
- 2 tbsp dried lavender flowers



WELLNESS WEDNESDAY

Co-op owners save **5% off the ENTIRE Wellness Dept** first Wednesday of every month! *Excludes NFD items.
Wednesday, December 3rd & Wednesday, January 7th



WELLNESS Weekend

OWNERS ENJOY 15% OFF
THE WELLNESS DEPARTMENT
JANUARY 2-4



SAVE ON VITAMINS, PROBIOTICS, BODY CARE, BEAUTY,
AROMATHERAPY, FLOWER ESSENCES, HOMEOPATHIC AND
HERBAL REMEDIES, BULK HERBS, REFILL SOAPS, + MORE!

CHOOSE ONE TRANSACTION TO SAVE. EXCLUDES NFD ITEMS.

KIDS AT THE CO-OP!

A part of our newsletter just for FUN!

These lights are missing something...
can you color them in?



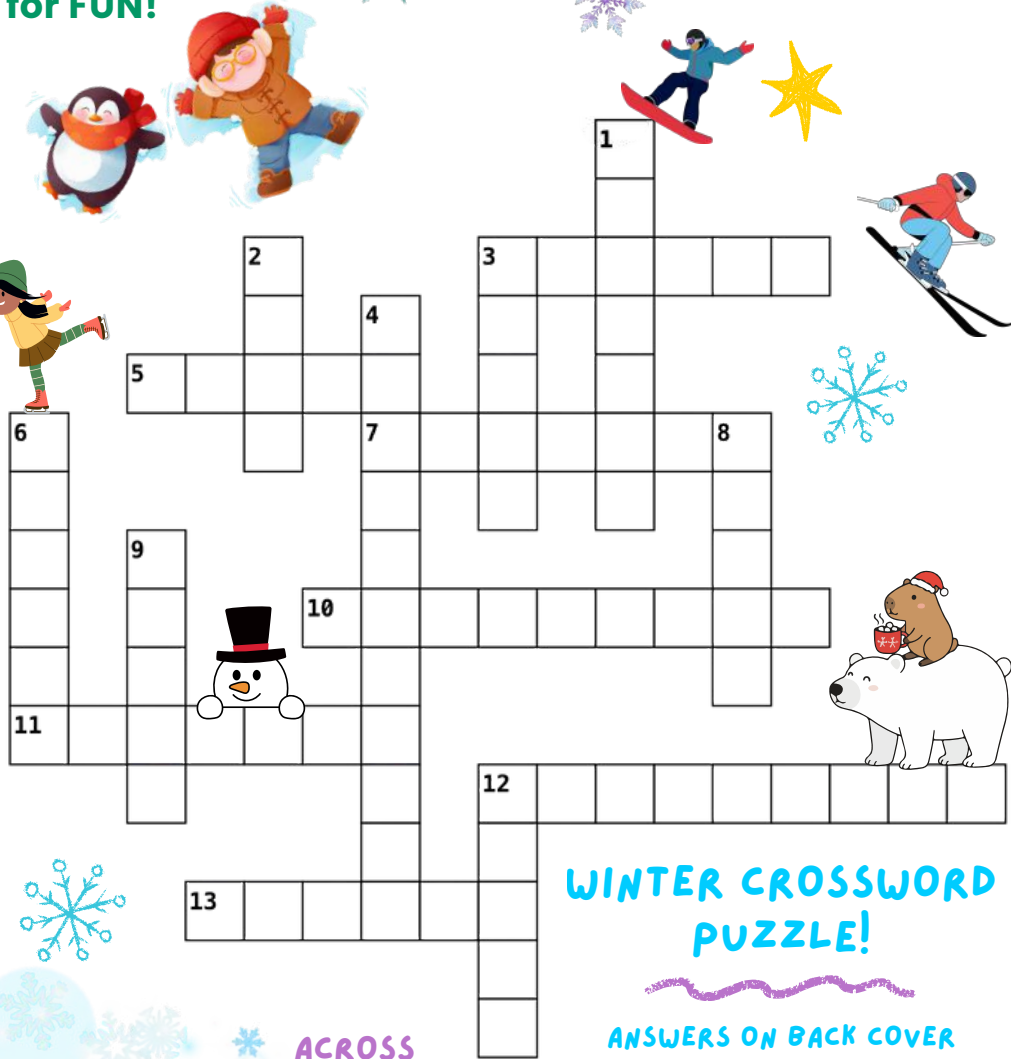
pine needles

DECEMBER FUN!

December 21st is Winter Solstice! It's the day with the shortest period of daylight and the longest night of the year.



The OB Holiday Parade turns 46 this year! Join the fun as we walk down Newport Ave on Saturday, December 6th!



WINTER CROSSWORD PUZZLE!

ANSWERS ON BACK COVER

ACROSS

3. a mountain sport that involves pizza and fries?
5. shelter made of snow
7. they keep your hands warm
10. a red, fruity sauce used with holiday meals
11. famously known as "Frosty the _____"
12. they say that no two are the same
13. what happens to water in an ice cube tray

DOWN

1. what fire safely leaves the house in
2. opposite of hot
3. direction birds fly in the winter
4. this seasonal fruit is full of juicy red seeds
6. shoes with sharp bottoms, perfect for ice
8. wear this around your neck to keep you warm
9. a sweet and warm winter beverage
12. snow + rain equals

PEOPLE'S HOLIDAY

Gift Guide



Sweet Tooth

Stocking stuffers for anyone that loves a little dessert. Seasonal flavors galore!



Spa Day Every Day

Permission to *ahhhh* straight into relaxation. Soaps, teas, socks, candles, and more!



Mycology Master

From notebooks to powders to stickers, discover shrooms in many forms at the co-op.



Kitchen Whiz

Sumptuous olive oils, kitchen tools and storage ideas for your local chef.



Perfectly Prepared

For the person that always has just the right thing tucked in their bag.



The People's People

Rocking People's merch is guaranteed good karma. Snag some swag today!

OPERATIONAL REPORT

December 2025, reporting September & Quarter 3 Financials:

September	2025	2024	% Change
Total Revenue:	\$905,198	\$889,515	1.8%
Basket Size:	\$34.03	\$32.72	4%
Transaction (customer) Count:	26,760	27,284	-1.9%
New Owner Count:	151	96	57%
Renewing Owner Count:	441	497	-11%

- September total revenue (sales after discounts) was \$905,198 compared to our September 2025 budget of \$924,259 for achieved sales below budget of \$19,061.
- Q3 (July – September) total revenue was \$2,882,098 compared to our Q3 budget of \$2,915,506, for a decrease of \$33,408.
- YTD (January – September) 2025 total revenue (sales after discounts) was \$8,727,681 compared to our YTD 2025 budget of \$8,704,669 for achieved sales above budget for the year of \$23,012 or 0.3%.
- September 2025 cost of sales (product purchases) was \$506,189 compared to September 2025 budgeted cost of goods at \$559,364 for an decrease to purchases against budget of \$53,175 or 9.5%.
- Q2 2025 cost of sales (product purchases) was \$1,744,085 compared to our Q2 budgeted cost of sales at \$1,777,219, for a decrease against budget of \$33,134 or 1.9%.
- YTD 2025 cost of sales (product purchases) was \$5,305,652 compared to YTD 2025 budgeted cost of goods at \$5,306,991, for a near break even to purchases against budget of \$1,339 or 0%.
- Total personnel expenses for September came in at \$257,144 compared to our September budget at \$262,327 for a decrease to personnel expenses against budget of \$5,183 or 1.9%.
- Q3 total personnel expenses came in at \$829,221, compared to Q3 2025 budget at \$820,159, for an increase to personnel of 9,062 or 1.1%.
- YTD total personnel expenses came in at \$2,516,850 compared to budget at \$2,459,775 for an increase to personnel costs against budget of \$57,075 or 2.3%.
- Labor as a % of net revenue for September 2025 was 28.4% compared to budget of 28.4% of net revenue
- Labor as a % of net revenue for Q3 2025 was 28.8% compared to budget of 28.1% of net revenue
- Labor as a % of net revenue YTD 2025 was 28.8% compared to budget of 28.3% of net revenue.
- People's closed Q3 2025 at a net loss of \$49,980 compared to our Q3 2025 planned loss of \$32,322.

SHOUTOUTS

& FEEDBACK

Please keep the mushroom bins as they are today. They are easy to use and one can choose the amount needed. Thank you.

-Antra

We feel the same way! It was a happy accident that one of the bins stopped working "properly" so we removed them as a temporary solution, but are liking how its going and are glad that customers are as well! Thanks for the feedback!

-AJ (Produce mgr)

Hello People's team. I want to speak out my gratitude for all you do. For speaking up for sustainability. Connected lifestyle. Community. Plant-based living. Holistic approaches. I truly appreciate all you do. Keep up the fantastic work.

-Tanya

Third generation in my family to shop here. Love shopping here for fresh vegetables and fruits – they use the best organic and local selection in my opinion outside of the farmer's market. Their bulk section, bulk herbs, refillable water, and refillable soap station is also a big bonus to shopping here and prioritizing eco friendly (low to zero waste) by using less packaging.

Every time I come here I run into someone I know and it's a true community hub.

-Calypso

ROUND UP!

AT THE REGISTER FOR

mama's kitchen

December's Round up recipient is **Mama's Kitchen**. Your donations will help keep the ovens lit and the pantry stocked so they can continue to nourish San Diego's most vulnerable people.

Mama's Kitchen is the only nonprofit in San Diego to provide no cost, home-delivered, medically tailored meals for individuals and families battling critical illness. Since 1990, they have delivered more than 12 million medically tailored meals and helped thousands of San Diegans battling critical illnesses including HIV, cancer, congestive heart failure, type 2 diabetes, and chronic kidney disease. Every year with the help of hundreds of volunteers, they home deliver more than 900,000 meals all throughout San Diego County – more than any other organization. Donations to Mama's Kitchen can directly fund meals for your critically ill neighbors in need.

In 2025, People's is matching all donations up to \$1,000 for each Round Up recipient!



TOGETHER WE HAVE DONATED \$4,600 TO LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS SO FAR THIS YEAR!

January–March, we donated \$1,330 to Walter Munk Foundation for the Oceans!

These dollars directly funded field trips and scholarships for students from underserved communities in San Diego studying science and pursuing ocean-related fields.

April–June, we donated \$1,450 to San Diego River Park Foundation!

These dollars directly supported their mission of improving the health of the San Diego River by leading conservation efforts to protect local fauna & thriving wildlife, as well as providing natural science outdoor education for K-8 students.

July–September, we donated \$1,373 to the Food for Kids Backpack Program!

These dollars helped provide food for chronically hungry elementary school students from low-income households in San Diego who are at risk of hunger over the weekend when free school meals are unavailable. Since \$300 provides a backpack full of food for 1 child for the entire school year, our community was able to feed 4 children in need for the entire school year.

In October, November & December, we will be Rounding Up at the Register for Mama's Kitchen!

ROUND UP!
AT THE REGISTER

BOARD CORNER

Good Governance Keeps Our Co-op Strong. Can you help?

How does the board do it?

To guide their work, the Board relies on a set of governance policies—essentially, a roadmap for how they make decisions, set goals, and ensure the co-op is being managed responsibly. These policies help the Board stay focused on the “big picture,” like making sure the co-op is financially sound, living up to its mission, and meeting member needs — while leaving the day-to-day operations to our skilled management team.

When the Board follows clear governance policies, it creates consistency, fairness, and accountability. It also helps keep the lines of communication open between members, management, and the Board itself. That means every member-owner can trust that decisions are made thoughtfully and in the best interest of the entire cooperative. Good governance isn't just about rules — it's about trust, transparency, and care. It's how we make sure our co-op continues to thrive, today and for years to come.

Join the Board

If you care about local food, community ownership, and democratic decision-making, consider running for the Board. It's a rewarding way to give back, help guide the co-op's future, and work alongside fellow members who share your commitment to cooperative values.

**Nominations are now open—your voice and vision matter.
Step up and help lead our co-op forward!**

For more details about the process, visit: obpeoplesfood.coop/boardofdirectors

Board applications must be submitted IN PERSON at the Membership Desk on the second floor of the co-op no later than 5pm on Friday, December 5, 2025.



Kerry McKay
Board President



Elise Gela
Vice President



Abigail Jones
Treasurer



Steve Myrick
Board Member



Jackson Stephens
Board Member



Kara Conner
Board Member



Loni Lavalieri
Secretary &
Employee Board
Member



Jason Bechard
Employee Board
Member



Juan Villela
Employee Board
Member

BOARD MEETING

Meeting Minutes – September 22, 2025

Attendees

Directors present: Jason Bechard, Kara Conner, Elise Gela, Loni Lavalier, Abigail Jones, Jackson Stevens, Juan Villela

Guests: Sarela Bonilla, Liz Hostetter, Joel Kopeschke, Tara Smith

Board Meeting

6:02 pm – Called to order.

Agenda Review & Executive Session

Board Decisions

Consent Agenda

- Questions concerning labor dynamics, manager audits, employee feedback.
 - Ideas and questions being raised by staff.
- Consent agenda approved.

GM Monitoring

GM Monitoring Report [B4: Ownership Rights & Responsibilities]

- FLOWER ownership program insights: college students, anyone receiving government assistance or anyone experiencing financial hardship is eligible.
- OB People's Ownership equity discussed
- Jackson moved to accept the B4 report; Jason seconded.
 - B4 report accepted: 7-0-0

Board Process

Committee Chairs Review Charters/Approve Budget for Monitoring Committee

- Submit a suggested budget to the Finance Committee for approval; if Finance approves then the Board votes on it.

Board Monitoring

Board Monitoring [C3: Agenda Planning]

- The Board is compliant with all aspects.
- Gentle reminder: submit requests for topic discussions to the Board president no later than three days before the meeting

Board Communication with Operations

- If the Board has a suggestion or question about Operations, the best way is to put a note in the suggestion box — Board member suggestions and questions are the same as any other owner.
 - It is only Board-as-a-whole, through the Board President, who should be going straight to the General Manager.

Member Engagement

Halloween at the Store

- Pumpkin painting — this year, papier-mâché pumpkins. Actual pumpkins just didn't work out.
- Treat bags, apple cider, and pumpkin bread will be present again.

Co-op Month

- Owner drive — focus on ownership, owner engagement, owner benefits, what it means to be a Co-op. Newsletter articles are in the works.

Nominations/Elections

Update

- Steve will be the new chair of the Nominating Committee.

Board Admin

Begin Bylaws Review

- Kerry sent an email to the Board members.
- There's a timeline to follow, as any updates need to go through the Co-op's lawyers and be ready for the owners to vote on at the Annual Meeting.

Start Planning for Next Year Board Budget

- This is being worked on; will be ready for October or November meeting.

Begin GM Evaluation

- Kerry is prepping this.

Board Development

Board Retreat Review

- Highlights and insights reviewed

Closing

Meeting decisions

- Accepted consent agenda.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:05pm

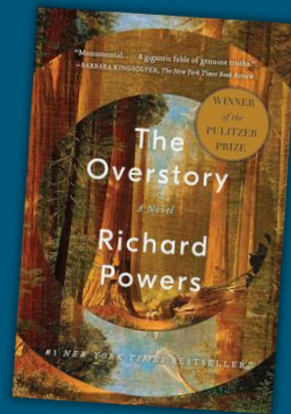
PEOPLE'S BOOK CLUB!

People's Book Club meets on the first Tuesday of every other month from 6-7pm in the co-op's community room. Everyone is welcome!

Save the dates: Book Club will meet on Tuesday January 6th at 6pm to discuss ***The Overstory***, by Richard Powers

Through our partnership with local bookstore **La Playa Books** (1026 Rosecrans St), People's shoppers enjoy **20% off** on the selected Book Club book!

Get the discount here:
laplayabooks.com/event/2026-01-06/ob-peoples-food-co-op-book-club



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Crossword answers from page 14!

Across - 3: SKIING, 5: IGLOO, 7: MITTENS, 10: CRANBERRY, 11: SNOWMAN, 12: SNOWFLAKE, 13: FREEZE

Down - 1: CHIMNEY, 2: COLD, 3: SOUTH, 4: POMEGRANATE, 4: SKATES, 8: SCARF, 9: COCOA, 12: SLEET



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