Roots of Change

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September 22, 2026
Volume 12, Issue 9

PULSE OF THE FOOD MOVEMENT

Paying Tribute to Our Heroes

Greetings!



This month's Pulse features a tribute to Wendell Berry & Carlo Petrini. Two men who stood fiercely and honorably for the defense of culture in "agriculture" and the failures of our modern, industrial food system.

If you know the famous axiom "Eating is an Agricultural Act" and have yet to read farmer-poet-philospher Wendell Berry, **Michael shares his favorite book**. If you know the term "Slow Food" but have yet to connect with a Slow Food community, we encourage you to **read Michael's tribute** to Carlo Petrini. This week, Michael will honor his legacy—and 40 years of Slow Food—as a US Delegate at **Terra Madre Salone del Gusto**. Both men helped shape Roots of Change, and our efforts to carry forward the bold, soulful, and transformative momentum for the future of food to which they dedicated their lives. Their impact on our work first came together in 2008 around the Slow Food Nation event. Wendell and Carlo's legacy continues to inspire us to become active community members, which directly relates to this month's **Flipping the Table podcast episode** with *Citizens* author Jon Alexander.

Image credit: Marcello Marengo for Slow Food blog post, "Farewell, Wendell Berry, a Kindred Spirit of Slow Food"

In this PULSE you will find:

- **Policy Update: Take Action to Help Get ROC's Priority Bills Signed into Law**
- **Michael Dimock's Blog Post "Remembering Wendell Berry"**
- **Flipping the Table Podcast**: ***Citizens*** **Author, Jon Alexander**
- **New ROC employee: Dalia Hernandez**
- **Regenerative Meat Purchase Guide**

Take Action



Help Get ROC's Priority Bills Signed into Law

Bills supported by Roots of Change are on Governor Newsom's desk, and your voice can help get them signed. These include:

- **AB 1857, the Grocery Store Access Act, would remove restrictive property agreements that prevent new grocery stores from opening where stores have closed, helping restore community access to food.**

- **AB 1731, would establish the Healthy Food for California Public Institutions Program and create a statewide vendor list to help schools, public hospitals, and other public institutions purchase healthy food from California farmers using climate-smart practices.**

Please **call Governor Newsom today at 916-445-2841** and urge him to sign these bills. You can call separately about each bill or combine your requests in one call, whichever you prefer. You can also send a message through his **website here** and select '*An Active Bill'* from the drop down menu.

For a combined call, your message can be simple:

"Hello, my name is [name], and I live in [city]. I urge Governor Newsom to sign AB 1857 and AB 1731 to improve access to healthy food, support California farmers, and strengthen local food systems. Please sign these bills into law."

Add a sentence about why these issues matter to your community. A few minutes of your time can make a difference.***Thank you for adding your voice and standing with ROC to build a healthier, more resilient food system for California.***

Blog Post



Remembering Wendell Berry

By Michael Dimock

With Wendell Berry's passing an avalanche of great remembrances have been published. They are heartfelt and stirring because he opened hearts, and he also opened minds. He was the great farmer-poet-philosopher who has tried to awaken our hubristic nation to the price we will pay for destroying the agrarian communities that are the source of life-giving food, but also of a groundedness needed to keep us in touch with the ecological and economic realities underpinning civilization... **Read the full blog post**

Flipping the Table Podcast

Can We Become Citizens Again? A Conversation with Jon Alexander

We live in a challenging moment, where our traditional institutions are failing to address our many challenges. But there is hope. Jon Alexander, the British author of *Citizens: Why the Key to Fixing Everything is All of Us*, shares how deliberative democracy, citizens assemblies, relational public services, and wealth building are emergent around the globe. **Food system transformation is one of the brightest examples of a renewed form of much needed citizenship.**



Listen on Apple Podcasts | Listen on Spotify | Listen on YouTube

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New ROC Team Member

We are excited to introduce you to ROC's new team member **Dalia Hernandez**. Dalia initially joined the team to help prepare for last year's Terra Madre Americas event as part of her practicum at Stanford University. In her new role as a full-time employee she will focus on project coordination, community outreach, event planning and policy efforts.

Dalia is committed to advancing community health, sustainability, food justice and creative food system solutions. Her background is a blend of policy and infrastructure work, and includes past community projects with the City of Oakland, City of Torrance, and Equality California.



Dalia has a B.A. in Urban Studies with a minor in Human Rights, and an M.A. in Sustainability Science and Practice from Stanford University. She is from the Port of Los Angeles, and grew up speaking English and Spanish. Outside of work, she enjoys literature, hockey, live music, and labor history. We wish Dalia much luck in her new role and look forward to collaborating with her on the many ROC initiatives.

Sierra Foothills Food Festival

Join Sierra Harvest for the inaugural Sierra Foothills Food Festival this Thursday, Sept 24th to Saturday, Sept 26th in Nevada City! The weekend brings together top regional chefs, local makers and food innovators. **Details here**.

Regenerative Meat - Purchase Guide



As part of our Regenerative Meat project, we developed a **portal** that features a list of **NorCal regenerative meat brands and butcheries**. Please add your brand/butchery via **this link** if you're not already on the list, and please share with us if you know of other brands/butcheries that should to be added to the list. Our ally, the Good Meat Project, also has a very useful guide for **nationwide options**.

Regenerative Meat Purchase Guide

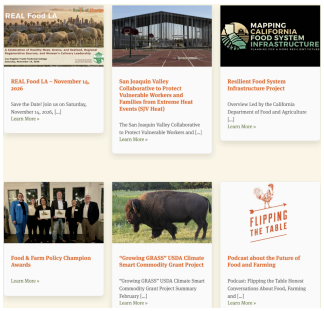
We need your help to continue making positive changes in the California Food System - your donation is very much appreciated!
Any amount helps us continue to build a healthy, resilient and peaceful future. THANK YOU!

DONATE

Thank you for your support of our work!

Doris Meier
Editor of the PULSE
Roots of Change

Projects



Policy



Podcast

FLIPPING THE TABLE

Roots of Change

A program of the **Public Health Institute**

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