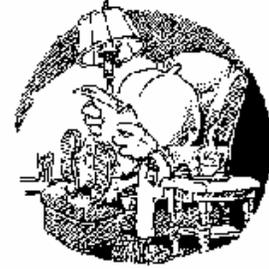




The Garbanzo Gazette

July 26, 2007



Growers Market's Weekly Newsletter

Dear Growers:

The board has been presented with an opportunity to increase our revenue by expanding the Red Agave space into our current kitchen and bathroom (around 120 square feet). As an organization, we don't have a lotta money. This expansion would provide growers with an estimated \$10,000 over the 7 year term of the current lease. This new money would be used to pay for, among other things, building a new alter-abled-accessible bathroom and a new kitchen for the co-op in the current couch/play area, and (drumroll please) sanding and refinishing the market's floor.

No decision has been made by the board as yet. We are currently in the process of gathering bids and other cost and revenue information. During this period (and really, at all times) we welcome public comment. Please talk to the board's coordinator liaison, Samuel, with comments. You can e-mail samuelrutledge@gmail.com, talk to him at the market, or (if you absolutely can not get in touch in any other way) leave a phone message at 683-8250.

Because a similar issue was discussed several years ago and a decision was made at that time to move forward with a much larger restaurant expansion (which didn't happen because Red Agave changed their minds), and because a timely decision is essential, the board has agreed to make this decision at the board level, taking community input into full account. We will keep you apprised of further developments.

Love,
Your Loyal BoD

COORDINATOR MEETING

The next coordinator meeting will be at 6:30 Monday, August 6 at 380 Howard Ave (Sue's house)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next two Growers meetings (board meetings) will be on Tuesday, July 31st at 7 pm, and Wednesday, August 15th, at 7 pm. If we are not at the round table upstairs in the Growers Market Building, look for us downstairs in the co-op, or elsewhere in the building. The next co-op coordinators' meeting is set for Monday, August 6th, 6:30 pm, at 380 Howard Ave.

GROWERS FINANCES

For the first three months of 2007, the food co-op ended up \$416 on the plus side, an improvement over the loss of \$4,807 for January through March of 2006. However, total sales declined from \$59,317 to \$55,853, meaning that people are buying less at Growers, continuing a downward trend that we have seen since a peak in 2003. The value of the goods we have in stock affects how much we make or lose, but we only do an inventory at the end of the year.

RESPONSIBLE PERSON NEEDED

We need a reliable person, with experience being reliable at and responsible to Growers interested in being even more reliable and responsible by taking on the Thursday, noon to 4:30 coordinator shift. Mimi is vacating this shift in a few weeks. Coordinating at Growers takes a special kind of community-focused responsibility; in fact, this is an unpaid job that requires more responsibility than many paid jobs. With many jobs, for instance, you can call in sick. A Growers Coordinator really needs to make sure there is a replacement. Sometimes no one is available, in which case a coordinator would work sick or whatever. On the other hand, in an emergency, someone always (knock on wood) seems to step up. For instance, Michael covered my shifts that occurred just before and after my mom's passing a few years ago. Another level of responsibility: coordinators really have the lion-share of responsibility for continually educating and empowering members so that some will take on positions like closing, cashiering and, ultimately, coordinating. In short, we need a person interested in helping the unique experiment in community-based food-shopping that is Growers survive and thrive into the future. If interested, talk to any of the current coordinators.

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT

What are the baseline values of the community in shaping a developer's plans with the City for West Broadway in our Downtown? Will the project be worth the public subsidy? Are their other community priorities that need to be weighed, with over \$50million in public money possibly available for this project? Please come and participate at this Public Forum:

Sat. August 4, 9 AM – Noon, Atrium Lobby, 99 West 10th (north of LTD terminal)

HOUSE FOR RENT

As many of you may know already, we are making a move to the Czech Republic, where I'll be teaching English. (I'll be traveling to Prague for interviews next week -wish me luck!). We will be gone for *at least* a year, and are looking to rent our house. Here are the details:

1300 sq ft house in the Friendly St neighborhood. Medium sm yard/gardens w/ pear tree. No pesticides since 1994. Growers Market neighbors. Rent may run anywhere from \$750-\$1,000, depending on evolving circumstances and the tenants' willingness to adopt two (well behaved), healthy, elderly gentlemen cats. (Cats' veterinary costs guaranteed for the life of the cats.) We will be asking for first and last month's rent to move in. No dogs please. If interested, email: cschandler@laughingunicorn.com

SUMMER HERB CLASSES

1. Herbs for Massage Jul 30 - Aug. 13, Mondays 5-9pm, Cost \$119 (Includes all supplies)

You may register for this class (Course #11000) through ExpressLane on LCC's website (www.lanec.edu), on the LCC main campus or at LCC's Downtown Center. See page 56 in the Summer "Aspire" class schedule.

2. Herbs for Massage II Aug. 20-Aug. 27, Mondays 12-4pm, Cost \$80 (Includes all supplies)

Currently, there is room in both classes, although to take the intermediate-level class, you must have completed a beginning class or have studied herbs previously. Please inquire. Although these courses are geared towards massage, they are open to everyone. *Deadline to register for Herbs for Massage II is Tuesday, August 14th.*

If you have questions, please contact us via email (givingtree@earthlink.net) or by calling us at (541) 344-7534

Thank you, Wendy Loren & Lawrence Birch

A NOTE FROM MILTON

For all of history, the world has been afflicted by people whose lust for power, wealth and glory outweighed their fear of death. For centuries, only a relatively small number of warriors, aristocrats, government officials and rich people could hope to grasp for power. The peasants were happy to have enough to eat. Industrialism and the consumer society allowed millions of people to strive for money, power and prestige, so that the lust for power is now a mass phenomenon. Power and privilege requires protection, since some people lose out, and become resentful. But police forces and armies can only do so much. Witness current events in Iraq and Afghanistan. I have been doing a lot of thinking about what might happen in Oregon in the event of political collapse, as occurred in Somalia. The police would be gone, perhaps with no replacements. Power-hungry people be warned: retribution could then be terrible. I advise trying to give up privilege.

--Milton Takei

Send submissions to garbanzo@lists.opn.org. You can also put articles in the garbanzo box at growers. Newsletter copy deadline is 5:00 pm Wednesday. Market hours are Tuesdays 5-7pm; Thursdays 2:30 to 7:30 pm and Fridays 3:00 to 6:30 pm. An orientation to Growers is held each Thursday at 1:30. The Growers email list includes an electronic banzo, events notices, and other misc. info. growers@lists.opn.org Growers Market: 687-1145