304 ACOPIAN
LAFAYETTE COLLEGE
EASTON, PA 18042
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PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2017-present: Associate Professor of Engineering Studies and Environmental Studies, Lafayette College, Easton, PA

2011-2017: Assistant Professor, Lafayette College, Easton, PA

2005-2011: Visiting Assistant Professor, Dept. of Science, Technology & Society (STS), University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia

2004-2005: Visiting Assistant Professor, Dept. of History, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia

2001-2003: Instructor, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, Virginia Tech

1995-1999: Polymer Processing Research Engineer, The Dow Chemical Company, Midland,

Michigan and Granville, Ohio

EDUCATION

Ph.D. (2005) Science & Technology Studies, History Track (Virginia Tech)

Dissertation chair: Mark Barrow

M.S. (2001) Science & Technology Studies (Virginia Tech)

B.S. (1995) Chemical Engineering (Virginia Tech)

B.A. (1995) History (Virginia Tech)

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Notes from the Ground: Science, Soil and Society in the American Countryside, Yale University Press (2009), paperback (2011)

Reviews in the Journal of American History, American Historical Review, Environmental History, Technology & Culture, Agricultural History, Journal of Southern History, Chemical Heritage Magazine, Isis, Virginia Magazine of History & Biography, Organization & Environment, and as the subject of a roundtable review at H-Environment

Technoscience and Environmental Justice: Expert Cultures in a Grassroots Movement [coedited with Gwen Ottinger], The MIT Press (2011)

Reviews in *Chemical Heritage Magazine*, *Organization & Environment, Social Science Review*, and *Choice*

Scholarly Publications (Articles and Proceeding)

"Greening Lafayette: A Model for Building Sustainable Community," *International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education* (forthcoming, 2019) [co-authored with K. Lawrence, A. Armstring, M. Wilcha, and A. Gatti]

"Fence and Fallow," New Geographies 10 (forthcoming, 2018)

"Margins and Tensions and the History of Seeds," essay on Courtney Fullilove, *The Profit of the Earth: The Global Seeds of American Agriculture*, H-Environment Roundtable Review (forthcoming 2018)

"Undone Earthquakes," essay on Conevery Bolton Valencius, *The Lost History of the New Madrid Earthquakes*, H-Environment Roundtable Review, 5 (March 2015): 4-9

- "Science, Technology and Society [STS] and Ethics" [co-authored with Steve Cutcliffe (Lehigh U.)] Volume 2 of the *Encyclopedia of Science, Technology, and Ethics* (MacMillan Press, 2015)
- "The Appearance of Being Earnest," The Appendix 3 (October 2014): 37-43
- "Introducing Engineering as a Socio-technical Process," *Proc. 2014 ASEE Annual Conference*, Indianapolis, IN [co-authored with Kristen Sanford Bernhardt and Jenn Rossmann]
- "The Cultural Ecology of Local Food," *Gastronomica: The Journal of Critical Food Studies* 14 (Spring 2014): 5-8
- "Response to Roundtable Review of *Notes from the Ground,*" *H-Environment Roundtable Reviews* 3 (4) (April 2013): 23-28, https://www.h-net.org/~environ/roundtables/envroundtable-3-4.pdf
- "The Historical Production (and Consumption) of Unsustainability: Technology, Policy, and Culture," *The Hedgehog Review* 14.2 (Summer 2012): 37-52
- "Environmentally Just Transformations of Expert Cultures: Toward the Theory and Practice of a Renewed Science and Engineering," *Environmental Justice* 5 (2012): 158-163 [co-authored with G. Ottinger]
- "Environmental Justice and the Transformation of Science and Engineering," in *Technoscience and Environmental Justice* (MIT Press, 2011), 1-18 [co-authored with G. Ottinger]
- "Analysis as Border Patrol: Chemists along the Boundary between Pure Food and Real Adulteration," *Endeavour* 35 (2011): 66-73
- "The Moral Basis of Soil Science and Geology: What the Antebellum Farmer Knew and Why Anyone Cared," *Physics and Chemistry of the Earth*, 35 (2010): 860-867
- "Embodying STS: Identity, Narrative, and the Interdisciplinary Body," *Science as Culture*, 19 (March 2010): 1-14 [co-authored with Wyatt Galusky]
- "Three Peasants on Their Way to a Meal: Representing Environmental Intervention from Millet's *The Gleaners* to Macaroni," *Environmental History*, 14 (October 2009): 744-752
- "The Once and Future Georgic: Agricultural Practice, Environmental Knowledge, and the Place for an Ethic of Experience," *Agriculture and Human Values* 26 (3) (2009): 153-165
- "What Makes a Difference? Science and Epistemic Authority in the Early American Republic," *Historically Speaking* 10 (January 2009): 23-24
- "Virginia's Modern Environmental History," in *Encyclopedia Virginia*, www.encyclopediavirginia.net, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities (2008)
- "Surveying Nature: The Environmental Dimensions of Virginia's First Geological Survey, 1835-1842," *Environmental History* 11 (January 2006): 38-69
- "Escaping the False Binary of Nature and Culture through Connection: Richard White's *The Organic Machine: The Remaking of the Columbia River*," *Organization and Environment* 18 (October 2005): 445-457
- "The Element of the Table: Visual Discourse and the Pre-Periodic Representation of Chemical Classification," *Configurations* 12 (Winter 2004): 41-75

- "On the Historical Relationship Between the Sciences and the Humanities: A Look at Popular Debates That Have Exemplified Cross-Disciplinary Tension," *Bulletin of Science, Technology, and Society* 21 (August 2001): 283-295
- "Science and the Humanities: Across Two Cultures and Into Science Studies," *Endeavour* 25 (Spring 2001): 8-12

Book reviews

- A Golden Weed: Tobacco and Environment in the Piedmont South, by Drew Swanson, Environmental History, doi: 10.1093/envhis/emv009 (Spring 2015): 297-299
- The Story of N: A Social History of the Nitrogen Cycle and the Challenge of Sustainability, by Hugh Gorman, Agricultural History (January 2015)
- New Natures: Joining Environmental History with Science and Technology Studies, ed. Dolly Jørgensen, Finne Arne Jørgensen, and Sara Pritchard, Environmental History, doi: 10.1093/envhis/emu039 (Spring 2014): 575-576
- Enduring Pastoral: Recycling the Middle Landscape in the Tennessee Valley, by Torben Huus Larsen, Journal of Southern History 78 (May 2012): 509-510

Mainstream press publications and community contributions

- "Interview of Jill Lepore: On the Challenge of explaining Things," *PublicBooks.org* (May 24, 2017) at http://www.publicbooks.org/jill-lepore-on-the-challenge-of-explaining-things/
- "Is Environmentalism Best Pursued by Technocratic Means? No, Because Soylent," *Aeon Ideas*, https://aeon.co/conversations/is-environmentalism-best-pursued-through-technocratic-means, June 10, 2015
- "Should the FDA Define 'Natural'?" New York Times, November 10, 2014 [op-ed]
- Resetting the Table in the Lehigh Valley: A Study of Technology, Nature, and Local Food [executive editor and introductory author for self-published student-written monograph] (Bethlehem, PA: Christmas City Publishing for the Lafayette College Engineering Division, 2014)
- "Interview of Peter Galison on Science, Technology, Art and Film," *Public Culture* 26.1 (Winter 2014): 79-100
- "Putting Local Food in the Lehigh Valley into Historical Context," *Lehigh Valley Fresh Food Action Plan [FFAP]Assessment Report*, edited by Lynn Prior of Buy Fresh, Buy Local (Fall 2013): 15-16
- "Days at the Museum," five-part series at McSweeneys.net about research, art, and nature, http://mcsweeneys.net/links/museum/ (June 2009-January 2013)
- "Interview of T.J. Jackson Lears, Dean of Cultural Historians," *PublicBooks.org* (May 6, 2013) at http://publicbooks.org/interviews/the-confidence-economy-an-interview-with-t-j-jackson-lears
- "Honesty, Serendipity, and *The Spice Mill*," Hagley Museum and Library Newsletter (March 29, 2012)
- "All Praise the Civics of Food Hubs," Civil Eats (September 7, 2012), at civileats.com
- "Micro-interview of Peter Galison, Historian of Science, Filmmaker, Public Intellectual of Space and Time," *The Believer* 9 (June 2011): passim

- "Interview of Rebecca Solnit: Nature Writer, Environmental Activist, Art Historian," *The Believer* 7 (September 2009): 43-49
- "Why Blog the History of Science?" History of Science Newsletter (October 2008): 3-5
- Technology, Nature and Sustainable Communities: Behind the Curtain of ecoMOD3 [executive editor and introductory author for student-written monograph] (Richmond, VA: Carter Printing for the U.Va. School of Engineering and Applied Science, 2008)
- "Interview of Michael Pollan, Environmental Journalist and Agro-Ethicist," *The Believer* 5 (April 2007): 63-71
- "Interview of Arnold Davidson, Foucaultian Phenom to Beat All," *The Believer* 4 (May 2006): 66-73
- "Interview of Marjorie Grene, Living Philosophical Legend," *The Believer* 3 (March 2005): 65-74
- Consultant for and/or interviewed by: Slate, The Atlantic, Good, The Takeaway, Ft. Worth News

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Book project

"Pure Adulteration: Cheating on Nature in the Age of Manufactured Food," University of Chicago Press (mss. under contract, 2015; under final review, 2017)

This book puts the environment back into pure food crusades of the late-nineteenth century to explain the deeper cultural and environmental context that shaped the twentieth century's food safety structure. With a focus on adulteration debates and an eye to the technologies of new manufactured foods, it examines a shift in the ways everyday consumers understood their food in an agrarian system in flux, a system consumers navigated through concepts of purity, nature, artifice, and health that were themselves in flux.

Edited collection

"Acquired Tastes: Stories about the Origins of Modern Food," co-edited with Anna Zeide (Oklahoma St.) and Michael Kideckel (Columbia U.)

This collection of character-driven, narrative essays brings together thirteen historians to present stories about the environmental origins of modern food. Topics include the origins of pilsner beer, pure sugar, peaches, Chinese restaurants, Filipino-American food, wheat, white bread, canning, breakfast cereal, farm and food education, vegetarian diets, and something called "fluid meat." Expected date of publication, 2019.

Articles

"The Taste of Purity: Changing Values of Sensory Experience in the Era of Adulteration," under review for Special Issue of *Food, Culture, and Society* on "Sensory Labor"

"Engineering and Environmental Justice," chapter for the *Routledge Handbook on Philosophy of Engineering*

AWARDS, GRANTS, HONORS

Carl R. and Ingeborg Beidleman Research Award (for excellence in applied research or scholarship), Lafayette College, 2017

American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Fellowship, 2015-2016 (honor accepted, stipend declined)

B.R. Cohen CV, 2018

NEH Grant, "Food and the Community: The Collective Human Experience," co-PI/expert scholar on grant with Lead PI Prof. Kelly Allen of Northampton Community College, National Endowment for the Humanities, 2015 (\$156,340)

Mellon Foundation Digital Humanities Summer Fellowship, 2014, Lafayette College, 2014 (\$3000)

Mellon Foundation Digital Humanities Research Grant, Lafayette College, 2014 (\$2865)

Academic Research Committee Research Grant, Lafayette College, 2014 (\$2200)

Ludwick Foundation Grant to support LaFarm Manager (co-PI with Dave Brandes), Lafayette College, 2013-15 (\$100,000)

R.K. Mellon Research Grant, Lafayette College, 2012-13 (\$2500)

Information Literacy Grant, Lafayette College, 2012 (\$1000)

NSF Scholar's Award Grant #0924932, 2010-2011 (\$121,000)

Academic Community Engagement Grants, UVA Office of University Community Partnerships, 2010 and 2011 (\$2400)

Faculty Fellow, Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, Charlottesville, VA, 2010-2011

Hagley Museum and Library, Research Grant-in-Aid, 2010 (\$600)

Smithsonian Research Fellowship, National Museum of American History, 2009-2010 (\$12,000)

Chemical Heritage Foundation Research Travel Grants, 2008 and 2010 (\$1200)

Outstanding Dissertation Commendation Award, College of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences, Virginia Tech, 2005

Outstanding Graduate Student, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, Virginia Tech, 2004-2005

Andrew Mellon Research Fellow at the Virginia Historical Society, 2003

Recipient of College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Graduate Scholarship, Virginia Tech, 2004

2002 Bruns Prize, Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (Best Graduate Student Essay)

2001 Graduate Essay Prize, First Place, National Assoc. of Science, Technology, and Society

Principal Investigator, U.S. Patent #6617019, for a Composite Protective Coating for Metal Surfaces (Submitted February 2000; Granted September 2003) [based on research at Dow Chemical]

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

"The First Food Police," Massachusetts Historical Society, 8 March 2016

"The First Food Police," Hagley Museum and Library, 10 December 2015

"Baltimore Food Systems in the World: Historical Views from Regional to Global," Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future, 4 December 2015

"The First Food Police," Drexel University, 28 May 2015

- "Mapping Cottonseed Oil and the Place of Manufactured Foods in Environmental History," Mississippi State University, 22 May 2014
- "The Pure and the Adulterated," University of Delaware History Workshop, Newark, DE, 4 March 2014
- "Liars, Chemists, Butter and Oil: Episodes in the History of Food from the Early Industrial Age," for the Rutgers History Lecture Series, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, 16 October 2013
- "Cheating on Nature in the Age of Industrialized Food," for the Works-in-Progress series, Lafayette College, 20 March 2013
- Discussant at the Workshop in the History of Environment, Agriculture, Technology, and Science (WHEATS), U. Penn., Philadelphia, PA, 16 March 2013
- "Cultural Ecologies of Local Food," at the "Food, the City, and Innovation," conference cohosted by UT-Austin and Boston University, Austin, TX, 1 February 2013
- "The Environmental Biography of an Adulterant," New York Metropolitan Environmental History Seminar (NYMEHS), at NYU, New York, NY, 27 November 2012
- "Science, Agriculture, and the Lay of the Land," Virginia Historical Society, conference on *From the Earth: The Environment in Virginia's Past and Future*, Richmond, VA, 16 March 2012
- "The Landscapes of Adulteration: Of Borders and Three-headed Hydras," forum on "Adulterated or Organic? The Meanings in What We Eat" at the University of Virginia's Miller Center, Charlottesville, VA, September 23, 2011
- "Sustainable Agriculture in Historical Perspective," Colgate College, forum on "Agricultural Acts," Hamilton, New York, 22 April 2010
- "Moral Landscapes of the Nineteenth Century; Or, Inquiries into Science and the Land in Agrarian America," University of Arizona History Department, Tucson, AZ, 29 March 2010
- "The Proper Use of Nature: Fake Food and Real Adulteration," Virginia Tech STS Seminar Series, Blacksburg, Virginia, 26 February 2010
- "Environmental Purity: Toward the Scientific Detection of Food Adulteration," Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of American History Seminar Series, Washington, DC, 18 August 2009
- "Industrialization and Fake Food: Health, Trust, and Science in the Distance between Producers and Consumers," Department of Health and Human Services (Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion) Seminar, Rockville, Maryland, 11 August 2009
- "Agro-Environmental Practice in the Early Industrial Age: The Scientific and Moral Debate over Adulteration," AAAS-Chemical Heritage Foundation History Seminar, Washington, DC, 21 July 2009
- "Book Farming and Its Discontents: Nature, Knowledge, and Georgic Science," Amherst College History Colloquium, Amherst, Massachusetts, 12 February 2009

- "A History of Sustainable Agriculture: Perspectives Historical and Contemporary on Energy and the Land," Public Talk to the Human Environmental Working Group (HEWG) of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 8 December 2008
- "Technology, Agro-Nature, and Knowledge: Research at the Intersection of Environmental History and the History of Technology," Auburn University, History Department Seminar, Auburn, Alabama, 21 November 2008
- "The Once and Future Georgic: History, Ethics, and Agricultural Landscapes," Elon University, Public Talk, Elon, North Carolina, 22 April 2008
- "Ethics in Emerging Technologies," UNC-Charlotte, Faculty Discussant for Ethics is Emerging Technologies Symposium, hosted by Michael Kelly and Andrew Light, sponsored by the NSF, Charlotte, North Carolina, 12 April 2008
- "Environmental Ethics, Energy Policy, and Sustainable Practice in Historical Context," SUNY-Morrisville Energy Forum, Hosted by the Program of Science, Technology, and Society, Morrisville, New York, 10 April 2008
- "Fine-Spun Lubrications,' Scientific Farmers, and the Ethics of Agricultural Knowledge," Hamilton College Environmental Studies Seminar Series, Clinton, New York, 9 April 2008
- "Knowing 'More About Eating Wheat Than Growing It': Agricultural Knowledge and the Experience-Based Georgic Ethic," Yale Program in Agrarian Studies Colloquium Series, New Haven, Connecticut, 1 February 2008
- "So What Are We Saving Here?": A Farmer's Market in Historical and Cultural Context, a Study at the Intersection of Sustainable Agriculture and Energy Consumption," Program in Environmental Science and Policy, College of William and Mary Lecture Series, Williamsburg, Virginia, 15 November 2007
- "Environmental Ethics, the History of Energy Production, and the New Carbon Discourse," *Choices and Challenges Public Forum on Nuclear Power*, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia, 8 November 2007
- "Davidson Does Agriculture: The Conditions of Possibility for a Sustainable Agro-Environmental Future," Workshop with Prof. Arnold Davidson (U. Chicago) on *Foucault* and the Epistemological Use of History, Blacksburg, Virginia, 19 January 2007

SELECT RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- "Policing that which nourishes the home and body: a Gilded Age struggle to control purity amidst manufactured foods and global trade," OAH, Providence, RI, 8 April 2016
- "STS in the Fields: How Engineering and STS Meet in Sustainable Agriculture Research," Society for Social Studies of Science, Denver, CO, 13 November 2015
- "Green Capitalism?" at the Hagley Museum and Library, Wilmington, DE [co-authored and presented with Matt Plishka '15], October 30, 2014
- "Environmental History Slam: Alfred Paraf, the 'Greatest Swindler of the Century,' and his Bid to Cheat the Country with Fake Butter," *American Society for Environmental History* (ASEH) annual meeting, San Francisco, CA, 16 March 2014
- "Fake It Till You Make It: Cottonseed, Gilded Age Food, and Angst for the Natural," *ASEH* annual meeting, Toronto, Canada, 4 April 2013

- "Food Studies and STS," roundtable at the *Society for Social Studies of Science* (4S) Annual Meeting, Cleveland, OH, 4 November 2011
- "Adulterants Detected: Scientists between Nature and Artifice in Early Industrial Food," *ASEH* annual meeting, Portland, Oregon, 11 March 2010
- "'Adulteration is a Problem of the Past': Chemical Analysis and the Moral Debate over Agricultural Industrialization," *Society for Social Studies of Science* (4S) Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 31 October 2009
- "Periodical Rebuke: Critiques of New Food, Assumptions about Nature, and Magazine-based Satire in the Early Industrial Era," *ASEH* annual meeting, Tallahassee, Florida, 1 March 2009
- "Electronic Scholarship and the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine," *History of Science Society Annual Meeting* (HSS), Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 7 November 2008
- "What the Antebellum Farmer Knew and Why Anyone Cared," *Joint Meeting of the Soil Science Society of America* (SSSA) *and the Geological Society of America* (GSA), Houston, Texas, 6 October 2008
- "What Do You Mean 'Participation'? Agricultural Policy, Public Discourse, and the Value of the History of Science," 4S Annual Meeting, Montreal, Quebec, 13 October 2007
- "Science, Soil, and the State: When Dirt Became Technical and Agricultural Policy became Mechanistic," *ASEH* conference, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 1 March 2007
- "That 'stupid prejudice against scientific agriculture': Political Economy, Mechanism, and the Rhetoric of Science Policy in America," 4S Annual Meeting, Vancouver, British Columbia, 4 November 2006
- "The Ethical Dilemmas of a Critical Engineering Education: On Teaching Engineers to Not Be (Like) Engineers," *International Network for Engineering Studies* workshop, 10 September 2006, Blacksburg, VA [co-authored with Jane Lehr and Jody Roberts]
- "Nature, Science Policy, and Work: Placing Scientific Practice into the Fields of the Agrarian Republic," *Organization of American Historians* (OAH) Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 22 April 2006
- "Seeing Like the State of Virginia: Nature and the Technological Mediation of the Old Dominion," *Society for the History of Technology* (SHOT) Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 5 November 2005

COURSES TAUGHT

At Lafayette College (2011-)

- "Ten Ways to Know Nature," First Year Seminar 018
- "The History of Technology," History 215
- "Environmental Justice," EGRS 230
- "The Governance of Technology: Engineering and Public Policy," EGRS/PSTD 251
- "Technology and Nature," EGRS/EVST 373
- "Historical Studies in Engineering and Society," EGRS 281
- "Senior Praxis in Environmental Studies," EVST 400
- "Capstone in Engineering Studies: Senior Seminar in Engineering and Society," EGRS 451

"Sustainable Solutions," EGRS 480

At the University of Virginia (2005-2011):

- "Introduction to Science, Technology, and Society," STS 1500
- "Technology, Nature, and Sustainable Communities," STS 2500
- "History, Technology, and Sustainable Agriculture," History 2559
- "Environmental History," History 2710
- "Technology, Values, and Progress," STS 4500
- "Environmental and Engineering Ethics," STS 4600

At Virginia Tech (2001-2005):

- "U.S. History Survey: From Settlement to Civil War," History 1115
- "U.S. History Survey: From Reconstruction to 9/11," History 1116
- "History of Science: American Science and Nature from Jefferson to Today," History 2984
- "Science, Technology, and Nature in the Modern World," STS 3105
- "Environmental History," History 3144
- "History of Technology: Ancient Greece to the Industrial Revolution," HIST/STS 3715
- "History of Technology: The Industrial Revolution to the Future," HIST/STS 3716

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

In the profession and beyond Lafayette

- Referee for publishers and journals: Oxford University Press; Cornell University Press; MIT
 Press; University of Kansas Press; Environmental History; Technology and Culture;
 Journal of Southern History; Radical History Review; Agricultural History; Western
 Historical Quarterly; Science, Technology, and Human Values; Agriculture and
 Human Values; Environmental Justice; Environmental Sociology
- 2018- : Contributing Editor for Interviews ("Public Thinker") at *PublicBooks.org*
- 2010- : Founding Advisory Board Member and Associate Editor of book series, "History for a Sustainable Future" at the MIT Press
- 2015 : National Science Foundation (NSF) Advisory Panel Member
- 2009-12: NSF Advisory Panel Member
- 2009-11: Founder and Director of The UVA Food Collaborative
- 2011: Co-founder of the Morven Summer Institute, Charlottesville, VA
- 2009-11: Founder and Curator of the Thornton Hall Art Gallery, on the campus of the University of Virginia
- 2009: Member of Leonardo Da Vinci Medal Committee, awarded by the Society for the History of Technology to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the history of technology
- 2009: Chair of Sally Hacker Prize Committee, awarded by the Society for the History of Technology for best general audience book in the history of technology
- 2007-09: Member of Sally Hacker Prize Committee

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATION

Membership in:

American Society for Environmental History (ASEH)

History of Science Society (HSS)

Organization of American Historians (OAH)

Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)

Society for the History of Technology (SHOT)

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL-RELATED WORK

2015- : Co-host of general interest radio show/podcast *Various Breads and Butters* with Dr. Simon Toney on WJRH and iTunes

2006-09: Co-author of "The World's Fair" academic blog at scienceblogs.com/worldsfair, a publication of Seed Media Group [with Dr. David Ng, Molecular Geneticist at the University of British Columbia] with an average of 50,000 visits per month

2005-07: Assistant Editor of McSweeneys.net