

# *Emerald*

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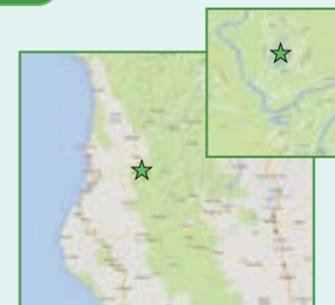


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# Editor's Note

## Dive into the Dirt

Dear Reader,

Thank you for picking up the June issue of the **Emerald Magazine**.

This month we dive into the dirt and bring the garden to you in our **Growers** issue. Behind the curtain there are many cultivators, and this June we help shed light on those both near and far from Northern California's coast. Whether or not you grow cannabis, it in one form or another has a spot in your life.

From the streets of Seattle comes a bond only cannabis can connect. The **BOND** girls found each other by way of the plant. Today they help the men and women of Washington achieve the height of their product.

While cannabis has a fun, lovable side, we cannot move forward without politics. As election season draws near, more and more cultivators are rising to the surface in hopes of legalizing cannabis for recreational purposes. Organizations like the Humboldt-Trinity Collective are here to help ease that transition, and offer cultivators an opportunity to sell their product safely and legally.

From Martin A. Lee's Project CBD to the founders of Swami Select, the **Emerald** gets their hands dirty this June to bring you the green goods. Stay tuned for July's **People on Pot** issue, where we'll feature farms and activists who are paving the way.

Cheers,  
Christina DeGiovanni  
Publisher



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*“We’re trying to do business the way the rest of the business world does business”*

# EDGEWISE

- Written by Patrick Maravelias | Photography by Marissa Papanek -

Matt Nagel and his wife, Sam Shull grow cannabis at their home, Humboldt Edge Farm, which is nestled on the very edge of Humboldt County on a cliff overlooking the Trinity River. Their farm is one of seven founding farms of True Humboldt, the brand name of the cannabis produced by members of the Humboldt Sun Grower’s Guild.

Humboldt Edge Farm has evolved from the “backyard” grow it began as 12 years ago to a fully-operational cannabis farm. They sell their organic, lab-tested cannabis through True Humboldt, a safe and legal cooperative of farms that delivers medicine to dispensaries statewide.

“We don’t have to go around and hustle,” Nagel said. “We market people’s herb for them.”

Just like Sunkist and OceanSpray are a collective of farms producing oranges and cranberries, True Humboldt is a collective of farms producing top-quality cannabis, essentially taking the risk and hassle of distribution completely out of the equation. More than 70 farms market their medicine under the True Humboldt brand. According to Nagel, they are able to consistently earn farmers more money for their product than they would make on the black market, and it’s all legal.



“We’re trying to do business the way the rest of the business world does business,” Nagel said.

Humboldt Edge uses a certified organic field, and has their soil treated by Dirty Business Soil Consulting and Analysis, a local Arcata company that tests and treats soil to optimize it for plant production. They currently grow seven strains. Their house strain and Nagel’s personal favorite, aptly named *Aphrodite* tests at 26% THC and is rumored to be a mild aphrodisiac. Another strain called *Purple Panty Dropper*, created

by the Humboldt Seed Company, was in such high demand at the Cannabis Buyers Club of Berkeley, they sold a pound per day.

“It really liberates me as a farmer to grow what I want,” Nagel said. “The dispensaries are grooving on the originality of things.”

Sam Shull is actually allergic to the dried cannabis plant itself, but if she vapes CBD oil she can work with the plant, smoke it, even eat edibles and she experiences little to no symptoms. “I couldn’t sleep at night, couldn’t breathe, couldn’t



HUMBOLDT EDGE FARM

work,” Shull said. “I’m allergic to cannabis but cannabis cures the allergies.”

Shull also makes her own lotion out of weed, kief and other oils like shea butter. She slowly cooks and drains all the plant material out of the mixture, and the finished product can be used for pain relief and muscle stiffness.

Nagel and Shull pride themselves on using only organic pesticides, as well as limiting the use of such chemicals like Neem Oil and Dr. Zyme’s during the flowering pro-

cess, to ensure an untainted product. One time they even used hundreds of ladybugs to clear out an infestation of aphids (plant lice).

“Taking care of the plants is first priority,” Nagel said. “It’s a totally science-based approach to planting.”

Nagel and Shull enjoy being personally involved with every step of the process, so they keep their operation relatively small, ensuring they can maintain the quality of their medicine and give the plants the personal touch they need.

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Humboldt Edge Farm is just one of the many cogs in the True Humboldt machine. Their mission is to build on the reputation Humboldt has in the cannabis industry, and to get growers the money and security they deserve. True Humboldt hopes to establish themselves as a nationally-recognized cooperative with the best quality medicine early on, before cannabis becomes legal recreationally and the industry skyrockets.

“Humboldt is the biggest player in California and California is the biggest player in cannabis,” Nagel said. “For the future of our county, we need to capitalize on that reputation.”

For more information about Humboldt Edge Farms, visit True Humboldt's website at [TrueHumboldt.com](http://TrueHumboldt.com).

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# Cannabis City

I'm suddenly channeling Billy Mays....  
**HI, SHERAE O'SHAUGHNESSY HERE TO TELL YOU ABOUT A FABULOUS SEATTLE BASED CANNABIS ENTREPRENEUR! "CANNABIS CITY," BASED IN THE SODO DISTRICT OF THE CITY, WAS THE FIRST CANNABIS RETAILER IN SEATTLE TO OPEN ITS DOORS IN 2014 TO HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE LOOKING TO BUY GOODS LIKE CONCENTRATES, EDIBLES, PRE-ROLLS, FLOWERS AND SO MUCH MORE! WOW!**

Geez, it's exhausting trying to maintain an infomercial level of excitement. No wonder that animated gentleman had a heart attack. Anyway, this month in addition to talking with the Seattle based BOND girls (page 48) I was invited to tour the facility and speak with James Lathrop, DNP ARNP and CEO of Cannabis City, about the trials and tribulations of getting this groundbreaking establishment up and running. Even in a state where bud is legal it is still considered by some to be taboo. Staying afloat is no easy feat.

In making the rounds distributing the *Emerald Magazine*, meeting with the brains behind cannabis products and getting a general feel for the legalized market, I've encountered all kinds of characters and personnel policies. A few of the dispensaries employ

large, rather intimidating gentlemen you might expect to encounter with an earpiece and a clipboard outside of a sweaty night club. That's right, these joints (more puns!) have bouncers. Cannabis City is no exception. Before you get too cozy, you'd better be able to produce identification proving you are over the age of 21. Washington and Colorado were the first to legalize the sale of medical cannabis nationwide, but you won't need a referral or a 215 card, just a birth year that falls before 1995.

We were greeted by a pleasant, no nonsense employee who carded us before ushering us upstairs to meet with Mr. Lathrop. While we waited for his arrival, we got to see some behind-the-scenes action where a handful of employees counted neatly packaged, very attractive buds and placed them



has been a certified nurse practitioner since 1997, specializing in combining emergency medical care with holistic and herbal remedies. James is a wealth of knowledge when it comes to medical cannabis and boasts a license from the Drug Enforcement Administration. He told us his tale of pioneering the first shop to sell the medicinal miracle plant to the public.

Initiative 502 passed in 2012 and 'legalizes, taxes, and regulates cannabis for adults age 21 and older.' However, getting ahold of one of only twenty-one retail licenses from the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis

board, overcoming taxation issues, dodging zoning laws and keeping products stocked were just a few of the speed bumps Lathrop faced on the road to Cannabis City.

Everyone hates paying taxes. James explained that in order to meet all state requirements and keep the lights on, he must also work with a licensed producer (i.e. grower) and processor. The growers must sell products to a processor and see the product taxed twenty-five percent. The processor who then dries, packages and barcodes the product, will see it taxed another twenty-five percent. This is

into their respective bins. Nothing shady. No boarded up windows. Just folks in company T-shirts puttin' away weed. It was neat.

Lathrop joined us a short while later. An incredibly endearing, friendly man with impish blue eyes and a charming demeanor. James has an impressive resume that includes operating bars and restaurants, commercial rental properties and organizing music festivals. In addition to these fine pursuits, he completed his undergraduate and graduate studies at the University of Washington and



(above) The Cannabis City Crew



INITIATIVE 502 PASSED IN 2012 AND 'LEGALIZES, TAXES, AND REGULATES CANNABIS FOR ADULTS AGE 21 AND OLDER.'



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getting pricey! Finally, the product is sold to Cannabis City, taxed another twenty-five percent in addition to the Washington State sales tax of 9.6 percent. All these numbers are killing my buzz. And we aren't done yet! Stores are also held accountable federally.

In 2015 growers and processors were relieved of their federal tax obligations, while retailers were hit with a soaring thirty-seven percent federal tax in addition to that super fun 9.6 point of sale tax. Way to make this as difficult as possible, you dirty suits!

Despite the many hurdles James remains optimistic and absolutely in love with his growing business. On July 8, 2015, Cannabis City opened its doors to hundreds of customers and a media frenzy. They ran out of product on day one, but kept the doors open for the curious to set foot inside this historical place of healing.

My favorite opening day account is one of Deb Green, a local sixty-five year old, marathon-running grandmother who camped out like she was in line to get Beyonce tickets for a whole day before the grand opening. "She brought a hat, a book and a chair," James reminisces with a twinkle in his eye.

Because of all the excitement surrounding the possibility of legalized cannabis "The City" drew global media attention earning the name, "The Pot Shop Heard Around the World." James has high hopes of acquiring all the needed credentials to open a total of three stores which is the Washington State maximum. Seattle has flowered into a booming metropolis that exports the finest seafood, coffee -- and with the help of qualified humans like James -- medicinal cannabis.

For more information, visit:  
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# GROWING ON SACRED GROUND

By Kerry Reynolds



“ Swami is moving deeper into sustainable permaculture, abandoning Smart Pots in favor of more water-friendly holes in the ground. ”

They left California in 1992 for India, where they lived and traveled together for several years. Eventually Nikki went back to California while Swami stayed in India and studied under a Hindu spiritual teacher for several more years. Nikki visited Swami and their shared guru in India often, and used it as an opportunity to buy lots of incredibly large and beautiful statues to ship back to California.

Some of these statues found forever homes in Laytonville, California at Area 101 as part of that land's transition to a spiritual sanctuary. While she continued to live part-time in San Francisco, Nikki said that it was the statues at Area 101 that first rooted them in the community of Northern Mendocino.

On a visit to India, Nikki said that she and Swami went to see their teacher, and she voiced her desire to have a sanctuary of their own. Their teacher said, “Go find your land and build your sanctuary.”

Swami left India, and eventually found land just north of Area 101 that they called Turtle Creek Ranch, named after the reptiles found in its waterway. It was only after naming it that they discovered the turtle is iconic in many different cultures. “The name is totally appropriate because it's a sacred symbol of longevity, of wisdom, and of the ability of the natural world to coordinate with the human world and to make civilization,” Swami explained.

## A Higher Way to Grow

This year Swami is moving deeper into sustainable permaculture, abandoning Smart Pots in favor of more water-friendly holes in the ground. The plants will sit in large hardware baskets, which sit atop a layer of oak leaves and branches gathered from the surrounding forest and sprinkled with beneficial nematodes -- another technique employed to both hold water and build soil as the oak decomposes.



(above) Sacred grounds Swami and Nikki cultivate their love for cannabis on.

My friends and I were spiritually uplifted by a recent visit to the headquarters and sanctuary of Swami Chaitanya and Nikki Lastreto, the founders of Swami Select which, as their website puts it, is “here to help the connoisseur discover the multiple dimensions of this sacred healing plant.”

While Swami Select has sprung up as a brand in just the last year, the couple behind the brand has cultivated a mindful relationship with cannabis and its healing properties for many decades. This authenticity permeates every aspect of the business.

Swami and Nikki share a long partnership that is both deeply spiritual and incredibly complementary. Nikki is a 4th generation San Franciscan who worked on deadline for the San Francisco Chronicle for many years. Swami is a devoted guru, whose Hindu practice includes dietary re-

strictions, twice a day meditation, donning a white robe, and much more.

“I wear the skirt, she wears the pants in the family, what can I say?” Swami joked as they described their unique relationship, which pre-dates their years of growing cannabis in Northern Mendocino County, California and begins in the heart of San Francisco during the 1960s counterculture renaissance.

Nikki explained that she's a city girl, so she leaves the cannabis growing to Swami, while she spearheads the business and marketing end of things. Their logo features a pixelated image of Swami with his hand in a mudra, or sacred hand gesture. This branding has proven so successful that they don't have enough inventory to meet demand for their “sun, moon, and star grown” cannabis.

## Age of Aquarius

Nikki and Swami met in 1969 at a cafe in North Beach, San Francisco. She was a 14-year-old flower child and he was a 26-year-old hippie who left Wisconsin to join the unprecedented migration of an estimated 100,000 young people into the Haight-Ashbury neighborhood for the ‘Summer of Love’ in 1967.

When they met again in 1980, they had both gone to India separately, and were both profoundly influenced by their experiences there. Swami helped film a documentary about Indian gurus, released in 1973, which inspired him deeply. They lived together on Telegraph Hill in San Francisco for many years while Nikki worked for the newspaper and Swami worked mainly as a painter and photographer. Their passion for cannabis, and the hippie lifestyle remained.

The 72 newly excavated holes where the plants will grow are arranged in a Hindu pattern called ‘Sri Yantra’ or ‘Sri Chakra,’ which among other things, is considered the visual expression of the sound of ‘om.’

The soil comes from the land, Swami explained, but is amended with manures and minerals. “So it's truly Turtle Creek terroir,” Swami noted, referring to the French term for ‘land.’ The term terroir is often used when talking about appellations, which are a big deal when it comes to branding artisanal cannabis in California. This year, California became the first state in the nation to allow for cannabis appellations. The California law forbids false claims about counties of origin in order to prevent exploitation of names widely considered synonymous with good bud, such as Mendocino and Humboldt. The regulations also allow for further protection of distinct growing regions within counties

through established appellations.

Swami and Nikki are among many medical cannabis farmers in Mendocino County surveyed about the unique geography, microclimate, history and growing conditions of their land. The surveys have been used by the Mendocino Appellations Project to map out more than ten distinct micro-regions in Mendocino that could soon be formed into appellations. Once an appellation is legally established, any claims of origin from that appellation must be backed by proof.

The uniqueness of Swami Select cannabis extends beyond its terroir, as every aspect of the medicine's growth cycle is infused with sacred intention. The moon and the stars guide Swami's planting schedule, and he blesses each seed with a sacred mantra. When a cannabis plant is ready for harvest, he cuts the whole plant by the light of a headlamp right before dawn to hold the

terpenes in. “The amount of terpenes in the plant is at a maximum at the darkest point right before the first light,” Swami explained.

Towards the end of our visit to Turtle Creek Ranch, Swami rolled a joint of his Shakti Pot and shared it around his and Nikki's cozy living room. Great conversation enhanced the experience of orange and cardamom flavor, as well as the euphoric and slightly psychedelic effect. We really didn't want to leave, but thankfully we can continue to enjoy weekly doses of Nikki and Swami's intelligent and sparkling banter through their video podcast, “Smokin with Swami,” available on YouTube. Swami Select is also on Instagram and Facebook (links below) and their cannabis is sold through Harborside Health Center, Flow Kana, and Healing Harvest Farms.

For More Information, visit: [SwamiSelect.com](http://SwamiSelect.com) [Facebook.com/SwamiSelect](https://www.facebook.com/SwamiSelect) or on Instagram @SwamiSelect

# MARTIN A. LEE AND PROJECT CBD

REEFER BECAME A SOCIAL CONCERN IN THE 1930S WHEN BLACK AND LATINO MUSICIANS' FREE USE AND SONGS ABOUT IT ATTRACTED INCREASING NUMBERS OF WHITE YOUTH

For 30 years, Martin A. Lee has been an important American social critic. In 1986, Lee co-founded the media watchdog group FAIR (Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting), which is still going strong. His earlier books investigated the manipulation of LSD by the CIA in the 1960s ("Acid Dreams," 1985), news media bias ("Unreliable Sources," 1990) and the persistence of fascism in Western countries ("The Beast Reawakens," 1997). Lee is familiar to loyal readers of the *Emerald Magazine* this past year. His superb book

on U.S. cannabis history, "Smoke Signals" (2012), was reviewed in May 2015, the issue that re-launched the *Emerald* as a compendium of cannabis culture. Not only is the information in "Smoke Signals" detailed, well documented and exhaustive, especially from the 1930s on, the book is very well written too. This is a great summer read that deserves a permanent place on your bookshelf.

The author graced us with his presence a few weeks ago at Dandelion Herbal's second annual Medicinal Cannabis

Conference in Arcata, California. In late April, Martin A. Lee gave two very different presentations, echoing what he calls cannabis' "bi-directional" spirit, the way the plant can express seeming opposites: fiber and euphoric flower, medicine and indulgence, romance and science. We got poetic history on Saturday and mind-boggling biochemistry on Sunday.

His Saturday morning talk "Smoke Signals: A Cannabis History Primer" was sparsely attended, perhaps because the audience was already history savvy and the three other simultaneous presentations brought more cutting edge information. But the talk was much more than the title suggested. Utilizing his more than 30 years as a social history writer, Lee spoke of the cultural shifts ushered in by cannabis in 20th century America, a kind of mytho-poetic overview of those times. He led with the trickster. The trickster is a fundamental, human mythological/psychological character. Qualities of the trickster include boundary breaching, promoting



Photograph by Quincey Imhoff

radical change, and rule breaking that leads to new insights.

Sure sounds like what we call "The Sixties." But, as Lee said, cannabis showed its trickster heart before then. Drawing from his book "Smoke Signals," Lee pointed out that reefer became a social concern in the 1930s when Black and Latino musicians' free use and songs about it attracted increasing numbers of white youth. Breaching both racial and substance use barriers was just too much for rigid white America. Responses ranged from the ridiculous movie "Reef-

er Madness" to the infamous prohibition law, the "Marihuana Tax Act" of 1937. Many people actually thought this new demon, marijuana, was something different from the old herbal medicine they knew as cannabis. The scandal-mongering newspaper mogul William Randolph Hearst "educated" readers by linking the plant to white fears of Mexican-Americans by adopting the affectionate nickname marijuana, Spanish for 'Mary Jane.' These tidbits from Lee's talk are just a taste of the fascinating, if maddening, history to be found in his book.

Now we are in a new period of cannabis boundary breaching and insight into old restrictions. For many, cannabis is still the "Assassin of Youth," as it was portrayed in the 30s. For others, cannabis provides children with life-saving relief from unstoppable seizures, and, as Lee pointed out, cannabis is actually both legal and illegal at the federal level

“

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– a mind-boggling bit of illogic only politics could produce. Cannabis in most of its forms languishes, as we are all painfully aware, as a Schedule I drug (most dangerous/ no medical use). But, Marinol, the manufactured THC extract pill, was rescheduled in 1985 to allow prescription under schedule II, like morphine. And in 1999, according to the Drug Enforcement Administration website (dea.gov), it was again rescheduled to allow prescription under schedule III, like Tylenol with codeine. The whole plant, with its hundreds of synergistic compounds in balance, remains demonized while a man-made extract of just one of its cannabinoids (the one the Feds are always obsessed with, delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol), gets a benign status.

Overall, this presentation was an excellent lens through which to appreciate the rest of the conference. Legal and illegal, cannabis embodies our social confusion over substance use and abuse, medicine and moralizing. As Martin Lee said, we've got to "liberate cannabis from the drug abuse model." He reminded us how far we have come, good to recall as we gear up for even more changes in this election year.

Sunday's presentation, "The Tao of Healing," was completely different – a brief yet nearly overwhelming summary of current studies of cannabis compounds and the human endocannabinoid system showcasing Lee's current labor of love, Project CBD. Fortunately, his PowerPoint slides helped the novices in the room keep up. Project CBD is designed to inform the public, and physicians especially, about the growing body

of research supporting cannabis use and exploring the endocannabinoid system. Lee's wealth of sophisticated biochemical information was exhilarating. He cited paper after paper from serious scientific journals, such as the *Proceedings of The National Academy of Sciences* and *The New England Journal of Medicine*.

Lee began by saying that all mammals appear to have an endocannabinoid system throughout the central nervous system (brain and spinal cord) and in the peripheral nerves too. It mediates the actions of proteins that turn on and off various genes and so is essential in regulating many basic body functions including; metabolism, stress response, appetite, the immune system, and pain response. Lee called it "the master regulator of physical processes."

Research cited on the Project CBD website demonstrates that endocannabinoids are now known to be both neuroprotective and neurogenic (promoting the growth of new brain cells), at least in animal studies. Lee asked the audience if we had read of NFL players urging management to allow use of cannabis for protection against concussions (by triggering the endocannabinoid system). Lee went on to point out an old irony here: The original research that led to these football players being able to make such a request was done by scientists hired during the Reagan era, to document just how much cannabis damages the human brain. Instead of the horrors the scientist expected to find, their research uncovered the beneficial effects just being studied now.

## Here are some marvels about the endocannabinoid system from the Project CBD files:

- Acupuncture, yoga and other non-Western healing modalities use it to enhance health .
- It regulates physical vitality.
- Deficiencies in its various compounds are implicated in PTSD, depression, alcoholism, migraines, fibromyalgia, Alzheimer's disease, and cancer.
- Its terpenes, especially in the fruitier strains, are useful in aromatherapy for their calming effect.
- St. John's Wort, Kava, turmeric, Echinacea, exercise, olive oil and the essential fatty acids (EFAs) in Omega 3 rich oils all enhance the endocannabinoid system.

Throughout his presentation of all this detailed biochemistry, Martin Lee kept reminding us that cannabis acts in synergistic ways – that the plant's compounds are best used as

a whole because they dance together in an ever-shifting balance. Isolating any one compound can never be as useful to the body as this holistic combination.

The Teen Center room was packed for this presentation. Folks identified themselves as physicians, herbalists, practitioners of Chinese medicine and patients. Everyone was enthralled by the data Martin A. Lee unfolded before us. In a bit of visual poetry that harkened back to Lee's Saturday, more mytho-poetic presentation, as he spoke of DNA, gene expression and the endocannabinoid system, behind him on the wall was a colorful science mural with a big double helix, a DNA strand, spread across the space like a rainbow. Cannabis is the pot of gold at the end of that rainbow and Project CBD shows us the way to it.

For more information, visit [ProjectCBD.org](http://ProjectCBD.org)

## PROJECT CBD



Cannabidiol—CBD—is a cannabis compound that has significant medical benefits, but does not make people feel "stoned" and can actually counteract the psychoactivity of THC. The fact that CBD-rich cannabis is non-psychoactive or less psychoactive than THC-dominant strains makes it an appealing option for patients looking for relief from inflammation, pain, anxiety, psychosis, seizures, spasms, and other conditions without disconcerting feelings of lethargy or dysphoria. - [Projectcbd.org](http://Projectcbd.org)

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PROJECT CBD IS DESIGNED TO INFORM THE PUBLIC, AND PHYSICIANS ESPECIALLY, ABOUT THE GROWING BODY OF RESEARCH SUPPORTING CANNABIS USE AND EXPLORING THE ENDOCANNABINOID SYSTEM

.....

## APPROACHING PAIN

From both an internal and external perspective, the patient can find more relief than they could have imagined possible.

Written by Melissa Hutsell

# Hibiscus Topicals: A Two-Pronged Approach To Pain



Though the company's logos and namesake are apparent – a Hibiscus flower – it so simply communicates the company's goal of providing holistic treatments.

“All of the products bear the Hibiscus flower logo, which communicates a lot of critical elements all at once, in simple fashion -- much like the products and brand itself. Minimal colors black, white, and red communicate simplicity, vibrancy, and sophistication.”

Hibiscus Topicals' lines of award-winning treatments have quickly become world renowned, since the business officially launched just one year ago. The multi-level wellness company offers customers a variety of CBD-infused food and health products including lip balm, skin cream and even candy.

Founder and product developer, Sam Tayyari, says making it to the one-year mark is rewarding, since approximately 50 percent of small businesses fail during the first year. After establishing the business in May 2015, Sam continues to earn recognition for his high quality -- and high dose -- products while successfully combining his personal passion with innovation and sustainability. All of the company's products are entirely organic, and contain no GMOs or chemicals.

The holistic line of body care products are made from a variety of CBD extracts and concentrates, derived from both hemp and cannabis. Depending on the product, explains Sam, treatments contain anywhere between 30 percent CBD oil to 99 percent pure CBD crystalline.

In 2015, Hibiscus Topicals took home a 2nd place award for 'Best Topical' at the World Cannabis Cup, which was held in Negril, Jamaica. “The award was for our Hibiscus Organic Healing Cream infused with 200mg CBD, the highest amount per ounce offered anywhere,” says Sam.

“The plan to get into topicals came to me the day after I took home my first award for a CBD/cannabis infused pizza

sauce that I created (Canapa Edibles, 2nd Place, Best CBD Edible, SoCal 2015).” He adds, “I was struck by the notion of dual medicating, or as I call it, the ‘two prong approach to pain.’”

Like edibles, topicals can do wonders for pain, says Sam. But unlike edibles, topical treatments can be used all day to effectively treat pain. “Most people work during the day and cannot medicate until they arrive home, so that's where the topicals come into play: helping the patient find relief until they are able to come home and fully medicate. By approaching pain from both an internal and external perspective, the patient can find more relief than they could have imagined possible.”

In addition to his natural knack for crafting CBD infused concoctions, Sam's pursuit to create fresh and organic cosmetics was motivated by his travels to the Fiji Islands. “I made a very strong connection to nature, as the Fijians regard their environment very highly. This profound respect for the Earth and the fruits it bears was both touching and inspiring.” He adds, “In Fiji, there is no organic or non-GMOs because that's how things have been growing there since the dawn of time. We see our environment and ingredients the same way.”

Most of the simple lists of ingredients found in Hibiscus Topicals are sourced from the Fiji Islands. “They not only smell and look beautiful, but most importantly, they help patients with a variety of conditions,” Sam adds, which include; back/neck or muscle pain, psoriasis, very dry or itchy skin, lupus sores, radiation scars, eczema, acne, and sunburned lips.

In accordance with his commitment to sustainability, Sam sources some ingredients – such as hemp – from the European Union because, he explains, “They have looser restrictions on chemical dumping, so therefore there will be more undesirable foreign elements in the soil. Since hemp is an accumulator plant, it tends to draw out a lot of those toxins from the soil. These are the kind of issues we consider anytime we add a new ingredient or supplier to our tribe.”

The most rewarding part for Sam is seeing the difference he makes. “There are many challenges involved with running a business, particularly in the cannabis space, and that all goes without saying,” he adds, “At the end of the day, what makes it all worth it is when you receive a two-page email from a patient detailing how your product changed their quality of life.” The business also allows Sam to give back. “We support a few causes that are important to us, like Let



“We are always working on new products and natural alternatives in cannabis health and look forward to unveiling some new products at the next cannabis cup event.” But customers don't have to wait until the next event – Hibiscus Topicals has just launched their CBD line of gummies, which have already become a staff and customer favorite. “We decided to incorporate some edibles into our brand to create more awareness and to educate people about the ‘two-pronged approach to pain’ and how internally and externally medicating at the same time can help them find a lot of personal and physical relief.”

Freedom Grow, which supplies aid to non-violent pot prisoners so they can attain toiletries and call time on the phone to family that they would not otherwise be provided.”

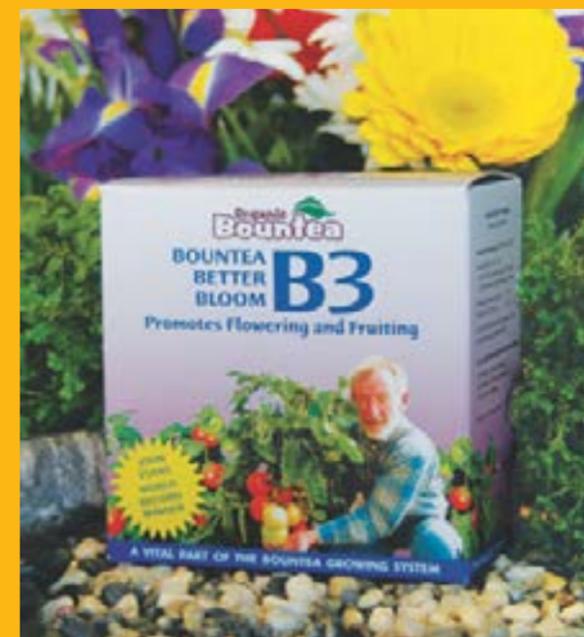
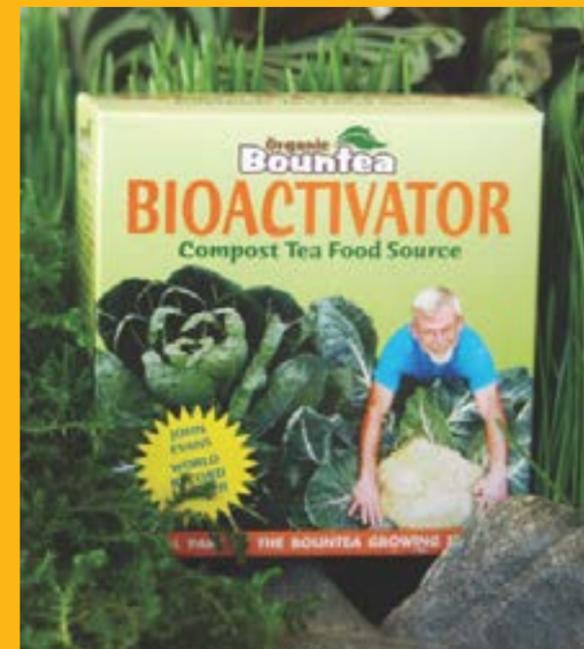
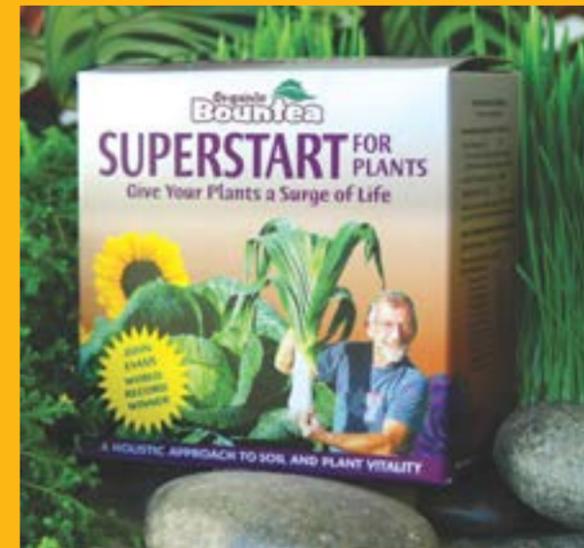
Sam's entrepreneurial and philanthropic endeavors continue to promote a higher quality of life throughout all aspects of the cannabis community.

To learn more about Hibiscus Topicals' mission, products, or to find a store near you, visit [HibiscusTopicals.com](http://HibiscusTopicals.com)



# Bountea

Brewed Compost Tea For Your Sweet Greens



Compost tea is a liquid produced by extracting bacteria, fungi, protozoa and nematodes from compost, according to Soil FoodWeb Inc., a laboratory service dedicated to organic growers and sustainable agriculture. These organic microbes are great for gardens, and can be used to treat a number of soil ailments, such as an abundance of clay or improper humidity levels.

Bountea, a Washington based company founded in March 2006, offers organic products to those looking to make their garden healthier, and more productive. The business's founder, John Evans, holds nine world records for the size of his vegetables, which were grown by using the Bountea system. It produced a giant carrot of 19 pounds and a monstrous beet of 42 3/4 pounds. It's clear why one would beg the question, 'what's in that soil?'

"Healthy soil grows healthy plants," their website states. Soil that is heavy in clay or sand, or lacks the microbial life to sustain growth, can starve plants and cause brittle roots. Their website provides information on how to diagnose problems in your soil and how to treat it using their products. Visit Bountea.com, to complete a brief questionnaire to determine your particular needs.

Bountea offers more than just compost tea: it is a full soil business as well. The company offers specialty fertilizers, such as SuperStart Fertilizer or Marine Mineral

Magic, to suit your various gardening needs. The business aims to inform cannabis farmers about their many products, and how each can help them succeed. Though this is one of the company's priorities, it's evident that a bigger motive is what drives them: "It is important for people to know that they are in a relationship with their plant. We [Bountea] give them science and education," says Seth, the company's CEO. "It is a practice, a connection and an art. We are here to help with the simplification of that art." Seth says.

One goal of Bountea is to "support, educate and satisfy our customers." They make good on this by offering heaps of information and resources available in person or online to support all types of gardeners. Seth has always had roots in education; so working with schools was a natural step for the company. Bountea is a program that educates the students of Arena High School in Los Angeles about sustainable agriculture and more. It seems the support and education extends to community as well.

All of the company's products are organic and available in gardening stores across the U.S. The online store locator is simple to use and will help you locate Bountea products near you. If a healthy, happy and productive garden is your goal, Bountea can facilitate your success.

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# THE WAY YOU GROW SHOWS

Different Growers,  
Different Methods,  
Great End Results

- Written by James Priest -



When it comes to cannabis cultivation, much has changed over the years. Indoor grows were very common in America perhaps due to the level of secrecy growers had to maintain over the past several decades. Outdoor grow ops are now permitted in many states with legal cannabis markets and are now being brought into the public eye.

There are only a few challenges with growing outdoors: obstacles include a higher risk of being exposed to the elements as well as other foreign dangers such as animals, pests and even

humans. Indoor grow operations have come a long way to produce more consistency, and have evolved to conserve electricity and water. LED grow lights combined with conservative watering techniques have helped to change cannabis.

Living in Colorado is amazing. Having the option to legally try the product of many different growers and breeders is like a dream come true. Many dispensaries offer a wide selection of different strains from many different breeders around the world, which is well...absolutely amazing

But sometimes, this can make the decision on where to purchase more complicated.

When I first arrived in Colorado, I tried a little bit of herb and concentrates from just about everywhere. Some places definitely stood out amongst the others. In the Denver area, there are a multitude of dispensaries that you can choose from. They all grow a little bit differently, but the medicine is top-quality in most of the region's establishments.

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it comes to natural outdoor growing. Maggie's Farm grows some of the dankest dank in Colorado! You won't find any growth hormones or pesticides in any of Maggie's Farm products, that's for sure. Maggie's Farm has been Clean Green Certified for Responsible Agriculture since 2013!

That's because Maggie's Farm uses mile high sunshine combined with rocky mountain soil, and pure Colorado spring water! Add all this together and you get perfection. In 2015 Maggie's Farm was voted 'Best of the Gazette 1st place winner' and took First Place/Gold in *The Independent's* Best of Award for both south and

north Colorado Springs! When you need quality flowers, concentrates, edibles, or topicals you can always count on Maggie's Farm. For more information, visit [MaggiesFarmMarijuana.com](http://MaggiesFarmMarijuana.com).

Another blazin' place to get your herb is at The Farm Craft Cannabis Dispensary. The Farm has been vot-

**Denver's #1 Dispensary**

If you're in Denver, the Medicine Man Recreational Dispensary is on it. They've been voted Denver's #1 dispensary time and time again. Their quality and consistency are second-to-none. The integration of technology is helping to change and evolve the way cannabis is grown.

Monitoring the environment and conditions in which your plants grow will allow you to achieve optimal yields as well as consistent crop performance. The Medicine Man has some blazin' hardware that helps to monitor and maintain their herb in the form of \$65,000 computer servers. You can learn more about the Medicine Man on their website at [MedicineManDenver.com](http://MedicineManDenver.com).

Crop performance is something that is vitally important to any cannabis operation. Growers in every location have techniques, styles and methods that they prefer. When cultivating on a large scale, a simple one percent fluctuation in your yield could mean the difference between thousands of dollars gained or thousands of dollars lost.



Cannabis Cultivated in a Greenhouse  
Image by Eye and Eye PhotoGraphy

ed the "Best Recreational Dispensary 2015" by *Boulder Weekly's* annual Best of Boulder survey. They were also named the "Best Dispensary" by CU and by the voters of the Boulder's Readers Choice Awards 2016. The Farm in Boulder, Colorado is always an example I like to turn to when referring to the unique ways in which cannabis can be grown. They grow Craft Coco and Craft Soil cannabis in smaller controlled crops which is a much more personal approach to growing.

Craft Coco Cannabis is a hybrid hydroponic-based method that utilizes a sustainable resource called coco coir (shredded coconut shells) along with food grade mineral fertilizers and personal attention to each plant. Craft soil cannabis is cultivated utilizing an organic, soil-based method that uses Colorado-sourced soil. This soil is combined with carbon-based fertilizers. Carbon-based fertilizers for those who are unaware are fertilizers that break down within the soil to create a thriving microbial root zone. As they say at The Farm, "Some would call it Mother Earth in a bag!"

When you are looking for a great place to obtain your medicine, The Farm has you covered. Growing at home can be fun too. You don't have to be an expert. Remember it isn't called weed for nothing -- this nickname is given because of how it grows (like a weed). Water, sun, soil, and love is all you need. The plant will do the rest.

Grow the community by cultivating awareness around gardening the green. Grow the economy, and a greener tomorrow by growing cannabis and helping to naturally heal the planet and the people who live on it!



# NORTHERN NIGHTS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Set between a grove of giant Redwood trees and the crystal blue waters of the Eel River, lies a three day outdoor music event that can be described as nothing short of “legendary”. Now in its fourth year since inception, Northern Nights Music Festival has seen tremendous growth while living up to their motto as “Not your cookie-cutter music festival”.

Located at Cook’s Valley Campground on the Humboldt / Mendocino border, Northern Nights aims to bring a piece of the city up the the iconic Highway 101 past San Francisco to the land of the trees, while inspiring city dwellers to bring some of that Northern California country magic back home. What separates Northern Nights from other music events, is an experience event-goers cannot get anywhere else.

## VIP “CRAFTIQUE”

For some “expert” event-goers, living the life of luxury is essential to a comfortable experience. With an upgrade to VIP, Northern Nights opens the doors to boutique festival treats and delights: private bar access, air conditioned and flushing toilets, elevated viewing deck at main stage, local wine and craft beer tasting, free massages, and more.

Between the music, camping, swimming, yoga, workshops, art, and vibes, Northern Nights is an event that will leave you feeling inspired with musical adventures and magical memories that will last a lifetime... or at least until next year!

## MUSIC / PERFORMANCE / ART:

As with any music event, it all begins with the talent. This year’s Northern Nights lineup, curated by Humboldt’s own World Famous Productions and the Bay Area’s BLAP Productions, positions itself as one of the most highly anticipated events of the Summer. With artists like Gorgon City, Claptone Live, Griz, and Amon Tobin, Northern Nights offers a range of genres and sounds to suit music lovers looking to hear electronic, hip-hop, indie rock, and everything in between. In order to keep event-goers engaged in a round-the-clock adventure, Northern Nights offers four unique stages of music and performance.

**MAIN STAGE:** The Main Stage at Northern Nights is the largest gathering place for event-goers to join together and enjoy music, art, vendors, games and more. This is the best place to catch the summer’s hit artists and acts rarely seen north of San Francisco.

**RIVER STAGE:** Featuring the cool rushing waters of the Eel River, state-of-the-art sound bumping the freshest tunes, a shaded lounge area, craft brews, floatie and more, there’s no better place to be than the Northern Nights River Stage day party on a hot summer afternoon.

**GROVE STAGE:** Produced by Southern Humboldt’s Burningleaf Productions, the Grove Stage provides a diverse variety of entertainment and relaxation including yoga classes, late-night burlesque, comedians, and live music - all while sipping a specialty cocktail or tea of your choice.

**OFF THE GRID STAGE:** Who said all the best music has to be played out loud? At the Northern Nights Off the Grid stage, guests can experience an all-night Silent Disco featuring local favorites among some of the best talent nation-wide.

**ART:** Live painters, art exhibits, installations, and many more surprises are strategically located throughout the event grounds.



Special Promotion

## CAMPING

The diverse offering of Northern Nights does not stop with the music. Equally as important to the “vibe” of any festival, is where you call home. Included with ticket purchase, attendees get their choice of where to set up camp under the glistening Northern California stars.

**REDWOOD GROVE:** Experience the magic of resting under the shade of majestic redwood trees during the day, then watch as the forest turns into a neon wonderland of lights and colors throughout the night.

**RIVER:** Wake up to the epic view of the Eel River with convenient access to the iconic Northern Nights River party. With space to spread out, riverside camping is ideal for groups and crew camps.

**MEADOW:** For those who wish to be in the prime location, closest to the music and front and center to all the action, free pond-side camping in the meadow comes complete with grass underneath.



## SUSTAINABILITY / COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Northern Nights aims to make environmental responsibility and community support a cornerstone of their mission. This is accomplished through implementing “leave no trace” strategies, promoting healthy and sustainable lifestyles, and through hosting Community Action Day events. Northern Nights works hard to return the land to the state in which it was before they arrived. In doing so, they were recognized by receiving the “Greener Festival Award”, only given to music and art events that show an exemplary effort to adopt sustainable practices.

“THIS YEAR’S  
NORTHERN NIGHTS  
LINEUP.. POSITIONS  
ITSELF AS ONE OF  
THE MOST HIGHLY  
ANTICIPATED  
EVENTS OF THE  
SUMMER”

Written & Photographed by Christine Ciarcia

Photo by Jesse Rather

**Emerald Reader Exclusive:** Get \$20 off Northern Nights ticket price through Eventbrite with promo code “EmeraldGrower”

**Now announcing Northern Nights “Farmer Package”:** Living local and looking to get a break from the farm to enjoy the luxuries of the Northern Nights experience? Nothing boosts morale more than bringing all your crew along with you to the river to hear some of the best music Northern California has to offer! Call to inquire about package / cash only deals: 707.223.1169

Tickets Available at [NorthernNights.org](http://NorthernNights.org)





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Designed for up to 100 pots and baskets with hose end timer and includes 3/4 inch hose end timer, 25 .5-GPH, 25 1-GPH PC drip emitters with check valves, 100 feet of 1/2 inch drip tubing with .600 ID x .700 OD and all the parts needed to complete the installation. Sold for \$116.00 online at Driplrrigation.com.





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We can't pretend that pot is naughty anymore. At least we shouldn't. And by "we" I mean anyone with a brain and a liberal mind suited to today's culture.

We've managed to infuse just about everything with the healing qualities of cannabis. Let me count ..er, rather, list the ways we've improved every day products with hemp or cannabis properties. From cleaning agents to lotions, clothing to toothpaste, baked goods and sodas, to energy drinks and even hard candies...no stone is left unturned. The aforementioned products are fine and dandy, but as your all things weed and humping GoPro, my area of expertise is largely based in sexy time Mary Jane goods. Imagine my overwhelming "get-the-fuck-out-of-here" delight at learning about a stunning trio of ladies aptly named 'The Bond Girls' who have pioneered a product meant to get that pussy high?! That may sound lewd but get over it, because I promise that synopsis is totally on point. We will get to the part where I tried it on for size later.

Three lovely, Seattle entrepreneurs bonded (pun intended) together to create a cannabis infused, sensual topical meant to heighten a woman's sexual experience. These altruistic angels noted that there wasn't a marketable product with the euphoric or healing assets geared toward the lasses, and so they set forth to change that.

Kat Donatello, Lena Davidson and Duni Disston are the Super Women you will learn all about and ultimately need to thank for aiding you in relearning, reimagining and reviving the appreciation of your female anatomy. Dudes, don't fret. There's something for you in here too, but for now, just sit back and let the women work.

It all starts with BontanicaSeattle -- a fantastic cannabis producer located in downtown Seattle. The company has been pioneering incredible edibles since weed was legalized for adults in the state of Washington. The vote passed back in 2012, but due to all the red tape, weed wasn't poppin' until about 2014. The trio joined forces and sparks flew.

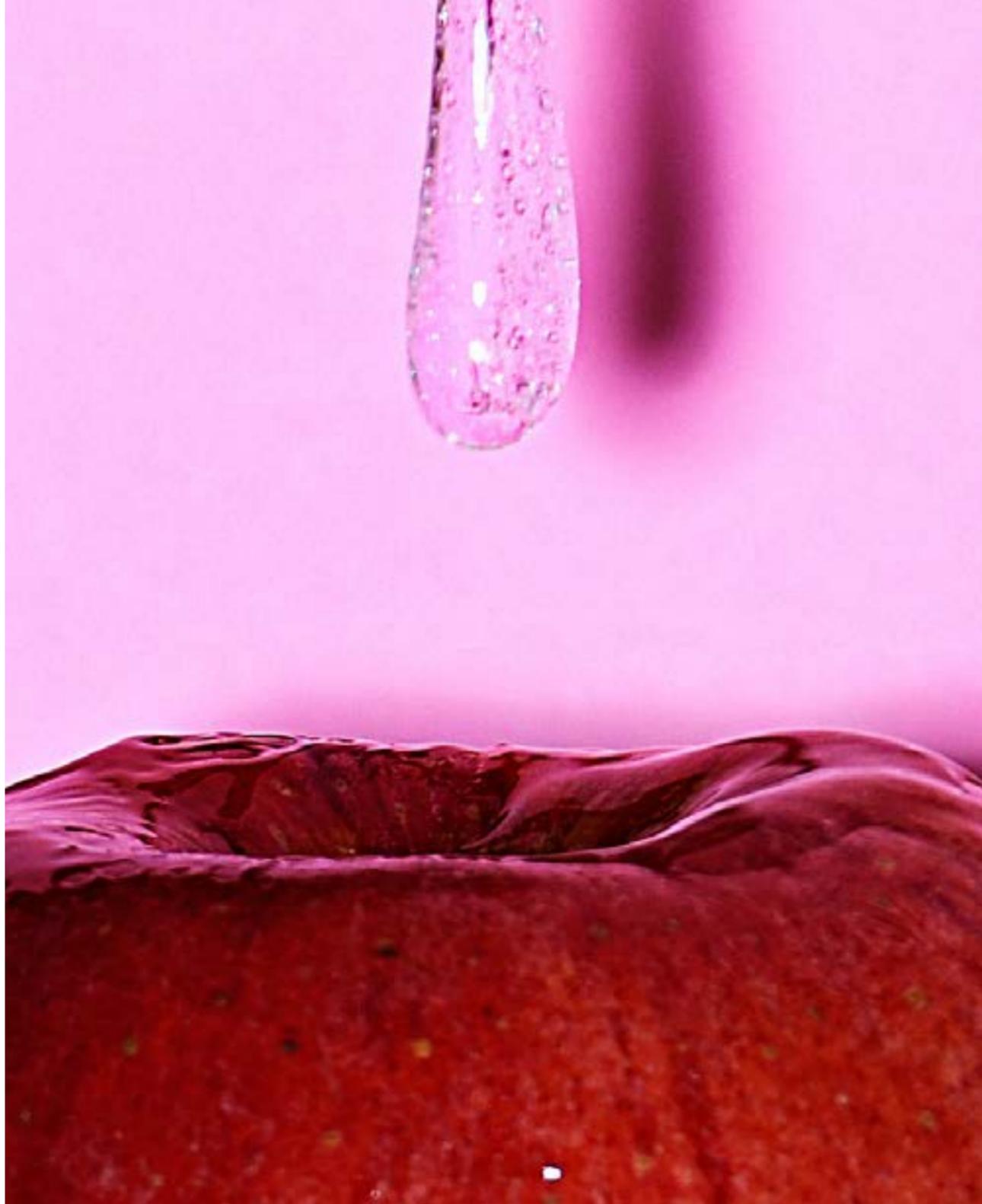
Any seasoned smoker knows that cannabis has the potential to elevate sexual experiences and any history teacher knows it has for centuries. If they didn't teach you that in the ninth grade

then you probably figured it out by the tenth. In addition to its many manifestations like clothing, aiding with nausea and making the plot of any M. Knight Shyamalan movie unintentionally hilarious, it's also proven to enhance your sexual appetite. I can vouch for this but, again, that comes later (Pun intended, part two). So when once there was nothing that combined herb and sex the ladies rallied and gave birth to a miracle product.

Before I get too far into my talk with the Bond Girls and charm your pants off with a tale of my own afternoon delight, I should relay some important information. Here it goes: Because of state law you can only purchase this gorgeous, love goo in Washington state. So get in your car and come on up. They retail in many cities and ship within state lines.

BOND is created in a safe, hygienic environment with the utmost quality control to ensure a consistent and accurate dosing. Each experience is personal and relevant, however the owners suggest applying four to eight pumps of the product directly to the vaginal mucus membranes. Get it alllllll up in there. Outside, inside, wherever you're comfortable. Start small and expand. I did. And I did not regret it! Before I forget, please note that EVERY batch of this love sauce is lab-tested for purity, potency and is contaminant free, as certified by the Washington Department of Agriculture. So this shit is legit.

Yes! It can be ingested. However it might get you high. It is meant as a topical but if you choose to play around feel free so



Live to Die Another Tiny Death

# BOND GIRLS

- Sherae O'Shuaghnessy -

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long as you understand that it may get you baked. When applied topically to the vagina, it is completely localized: should you ingest it orally or anally, it may venture into the bloodstream. No big deal. It will provide a different high.

Don't use latex condoms and if you choose to roll the dice with the oil on your sex toys, do so at your own risk. Remember that there are other kinds of condoms, dummies, so employ them.

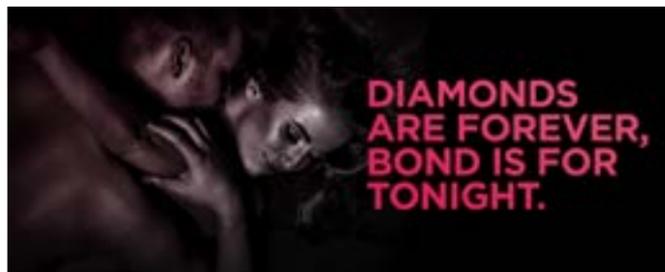
It sounds an awful lot like I am re-wording information from the BondSensualOil.com F.A.Q. and that's because I am. So if and when you require more product information head to the website and do your own research.

But let's get back into the fun stuff! I was invited to the Botanica empire in Sodo (South of downtown Seattle. Duh) to meet the brilliant minds behind the product I didn't even know was missing from my life. There I encountered three, incredible women with an impenetrable bond and an ingenious idea. We sat at a picnic bench inside of the production warehouse and they gushed over the birth of BONDsensual, who played guinea pig, the triumph of fruition and their many testimonials.

First I met a tall and lean lady friend with piercing eyes. This is Kat who was kind enough to reach out to the *Emerald Magazine*. We love Kat. Then I met a very gentle, lovely lady with the most soothing energy. Lena and I like tattoos. We love Lena.

A few minutes into our blah-blahing Duni joined us. An almost unreal looking creature with a smile so dazzling it looks like she's got a mouth full of Swarovski crystals. We love Lena.

Kat asked me if I could recall the last time I wrote a 'Thank You' letter to a business. I marinated in the question for a minute and honestly I couldn't conjure an instance in which I'd penned



anything to anyone since Santa denied me that Red Ryder BB Gun. BONDsensual receives upwards of ten "THANK YOU!" emails a week from clients grateful to them for reigniting magic in their relationships, in their marriages and in themselves. You don't need nobody! You are a strong, independent person and if you want to take this magic serum into bed by your damn self then you just light some aromatherapy candles, play 'Best of Prince' and take you on a trip through the galaxy. Do you, baby, do you. Literally. Paddle that pink canoe. Polish your pearl. Drive Miss Daisy! I've just introduced you to the world's best taco sauce! Carpe diem.

The Bond Girls and I had a lovely chat. It was informative and personal and what I took away from it isn't something that easily translates to print; a lot of ingenuity, female camaraderie and a collective desire to improve everyone's quality of life. In a matter of thirty minutes, I learned intimate details about these goddesses, loving and willingly divulged. Here is a conservative share of my time with them:

Lena recounted an experience where she decided to apply her business with some BOND before a flight from Seattle to Phoenix. "Not for any sexual fulfillment. Just to simply learn and connect with myself." Give me turbulence or give me death!

Kat smirked through her sexperience about having too many orgasms. Kat, you so silly. Ain't no such thing. Or is there? I'm willing to find out.

Duni looked at me with knowing, devilish eyes. Duni, I believe, has done all of the above and lived to tell the tales.

So now I will share with you my BOND experience. I listened carefully to the suggestions from the topicals' masterminds and applied a liberal amount to my nethers. And now we wait. I tried not to focus too intently on "is it working?" and read a book. (Shameless plug; 'When She Woke' by Hillary Jordan is an appropriate way to pass the time.) Ballpark- thirty minutes post application there was an undeniable sensation that jerked me out of my headspace and into my love cave. It was almost like I was comfortably engorged and...eager. Eager is the best way to describe the sexual craving the product gives you without sounding crass.

In summation; this product awakened in me a sleeping dragon that I can no longer live without. If your sexual well has run dry then migrate to Washington state and call me. I will point you in the right direction.

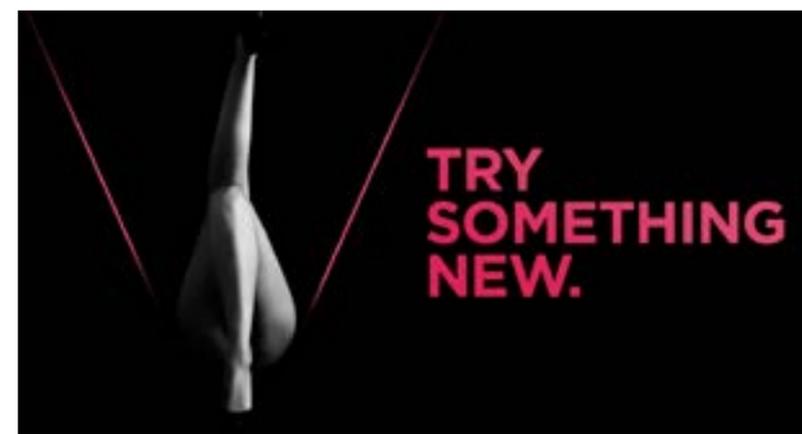
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# El Sereno: The Little Hill

## Tips from a Trinity County Cultivator

By Erick Montano



▶▶▶ A short season cannabis flower in full bloom.

“ THE SECOND YOU STOP LEARNING IS THE SECOND YOU FALL BEHIND

Developing a good crew has always been something important to him. “Good help is hard to find, but once you find that good help make sure they are all happy and treated well,” Jeff added. One of the main focuses now, is dialing in on the strains that are chosen and trying to improve their organic methods of growing.

“The second you stop learning is the second you fall behind, so, we are always trying to do better and looking for room for improvement,” said Jeff.

Jeff started growing organically from the moment he learned how to cultivate. Over the years, as a small time grower, he experimented with other ways of growing, but eventually went back to organic. “That was probably seven-to-eight years ago. I just feel that organic is the only way to go outside, or in greenhouses. You’ve got to leave the plastic bottle behind if you really want to succeed with both quality and quantity,” Jeff explained.

Attention to detail, a natural passion for soil science and customer feedback are what sets Jeff and his business apart from the rest. “I like adjusting the soil according to what I see...I can give plants what they need instead of guessing what they need and I’ve learned a lot about what plants actually use by testing my soils,” said Jeff. Consistently testing the soil, both before and after harvest, also helps to keep costs down.

Everyday cultivators are playing Russian Roulette with the law when it comes to raids. Recent crackdowns on water usage and other policies are driving many growers to live in fear.

“It’s always been part of the game,” Jeff added, “You roll the dice every year and hope your number doesn’t get called.”

He explains that being a good neighbor and being as careful as you can, not being senseless, like spilling diesel fuel into a river, are ways of staying out of trouble. Jeff looks forward to being able to sleep easier at night and not have to worry about getting his door kicked in by police.

“I’d rather trade that stress for a new kind of stress of being in a competitive marketplace,” said Jeff.

In the future, Jeff plans on either operating a full climate controlled, automated, light-dep greenhouse that produces high-quality flowers, or, trying to go after the indoor market at a better price point. He is also considering cultivating an acre of plants high in CBD that will grow like a row crop.

“Trying to figure out the best way to utilize my property, not only in an environmentally friendly way but in a way that is going to [allow me] to stay in business...I just want to be prepared,” said Jeff. With a small-business state-of-mind and a deep commitment to the quality of their products, Little Hill Cultivators really is bud you can trust.

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Jeff Baker’s love for cannabis flourished during his time in college back in the early 2000s. Like any normal college student, money was tight, especially when it came to spending it on weed. His pastime started to become too expensive but he knew that he loved to smoke the strain *Trainwreck*. With help from his roommate at the time, they came up with a plan to grow their own stash in order to always have all the *Trainwreck* they could possibly want.

Jeff, 35, a Trinity County cultivator moved to the Emerald Triangle just over eight years ago. He became enchanted with Humboldt County, and felt drawn to the place he now calls home.

“I started growing, just me and my buddy, in a rented house with a small grow,” said Jeff. From there he researched, and eventually taught himself how to properly grow. Once he started, he hit the ground running and never looked back.

“I was into it. That’s really what I learned to do in college, was grow cannabis,” said Jeff.

Though, he never thought he would be fully committed to the cannabis industry or own his own business, “Little Hill Cultivators.”

“I never looked at it as a full-time job, but I decided to basically give up my career and focus on growing cannabis full-time,” said Jeff. After moving from Los Angeles and growing full-time, “I realized I needed a name that wasn’t my own,” said Jeff.

Above a sea of trees located in Northern Trinity lies a 120-acre farm. He drew inspiration for the name from his hometown, El Sereno, California which in English means ‘Little Hill.’ Like his hometown, this little hill has become his new El Sereno.

With each passing year comes new challenges and new experiences to be learned, said Jeff.



(above) Light deprivation plants, day eight into flowering.





# POT TALK WITH EMILY HOBELMANN

Humboldt Organic Collective is based in Southeastern Humboldt County – in this area of the world, the dramatic Northern California landscape is punctuated by untold cannabis farms, from smaller specialty farms to big commercial grows that focus on high volume output. Humboldt Organic Collective is on the specialty/boutique end of the spectrum. They produce small batch, distinctive cannabis flowers and ice water hash at their remote location in the Humboldt hills. This is where you want to get your weed...

Representatives of Humboldt Organic Collective kicked down some *Face Off OG* and *Sour Sunset* for the June Growers edition of Pot Talk. They cultivated both varieties from seed in a greenhouse, where they kept the air flowing and the temperature down (below 75 degrees Fahrenheit) with evaporative coolers, ridge vents, sidewalls and lots of fans. And they did a cold cure at the end.

Their meticulous cultivation practices result in super high quality weed. “It comes out looking like indoor,” one of the reps. told me when we recently caught up in Garberville, California. “We try so hard not to touch the weed or to spray it during flowering,” he said, while he rotated a nug around to show off its crystals in the afternoon sunlight. “That’s the most important thing. It’s so important to not spray these trichomes...”

“And the spring water is absolutely incredible there,” he said, talking about the rural location of the farm where this weed was grown. “It is so crucial to have clean water.” Indeed. Humboldt Organic Collective uses this clean spring water to make their full-plant ice water hash. They make their ice cubes in BPA-free ice cube trays, as opposed to using an ice-maker. They make rosin too.



## Face Off OG

I learned from the representative that *Face Off OG* is actually a late 90s underground OG from Archive Seed Bank. “This is what we consider to be a ‘real kush,’” he said. “Everyone goes nuts for it. And everything I grow pretty much has *Face Off* in it...[such as] *Rude Boy*, *Memory Loss*, *Valley Girl*, all those. It’s so, so amazing.. If I call the dispensaries, the first thing they’re asking for is *Face Off*.”

The *Face Off* nugs have that chunky-kush character. They are solid, light green and super frosty with a sprinkling of cocoa-brown hairs. Its features are well-defined, and that chunkiness makes it so the hairs have room to express themselves. The *Face Off* strain smells like pine-lemon cleaner and it’s earthy, rich fuel with a hint of pleasant “cat piss.” The smell is powerful, like menthol or liniment, but not so minty. I can see how it’s a classic kush. The smell is right on.

That earthy-richness came through when I vaporized *Face Off*, and it was nice. But then I realized that nothing beats a bong load when it comes to OG. So I loaded up my 20” tall HVY Glass bong (I call it “The Cadillac”), and I lit that bong load with a Humboldt Hemp Wick. Time stopped. I stopped. Suddenly I noticed deep tones coming from my radio. The voice of the talk show host got abnormally bass-rich and low-pitched. He was talking about monsters and bourgeois democracy. It was a totally psychedelic moment for me. I turned off the talk show and put on some music.

*Face Off OG* is powerful. This weed is like, “I am here and you will acknowledge me.” Powerful is good though – it was deeply relaxing, a pain-relieving body high. Forget the pain pills. Try *Face Off*!

## Sour Sunset

*Sour Sunset* is AJ’s *Sour Diesel* from the East Coast, crossed with *Sunset Sherbet*, which is from the *Girl Scout Cookie* family. This collective got the seed stock from DNA Genetics/Crockett Family Farms. He said they’re doing amazing things with the *Banana* and the *Sherbet* strains. “A lot of the younger crowd is all about DNA Genetics and Crockett Family Farms...those *Tangie* and *Banana Split* strains.” Good to know. (By the way, the first time I met Humboldt Organic’s representatives, they hooked me up with some of their *Gorilla Glue* and *Banana Split* weed. Their



arms were full of cannabis-packed mason jars when they entered my house, and they were stoked to share the bounty. It was a good first impression.)

I look at the *Sour Sunset* and I feel like I’m in a fantasy movie. It’s a lighter and even brighter green than the *Face Off*. And it’s “full of frost... just shiny stuff.” That’s what the rep. said when he handed it to me. Yup, frosty, shiny and magical looking – that seems to be the Humboldt Organic Collective way.

The *Sour Sunset*’s delicate contours are home to a confetti-smattering of white, light beige and dark brown-orange hairs. When I cracked the jar open, I thought it smelled like sweet candy or pastries, kind of breadly and fruity.

When I cracked a nug open, a strong kush smell came through. It’s pretty earthy, like fresh-turned soil.

I rolled the sample into a fat joint and shared it with two friends. “It smells real dank,” one of my homies said. The flavor was dank too, and it tasted like sulphur, plus a combination of mint and miner’s lettuce. Some fruitiness came through too, brown sugar and berries. The end of the joint got so goopy, we had to cut it off for a fresh end to keep smoking from.

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Email for contact & newsletter: \_\_\_\_\_

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Can we link to your website in our online member directory? Yes No

Can your company's website link to the chamber's website humboldtcannabischamber.com? Yes No

Can we publicly display the information on this form in our online directory? Yes No

If No, detail what information you would like left out:

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The Story of Our HEMP



By Stefanie Raya

Once upon a time in a rich and verdant land...We achieved something that no one had ever accomplished before. It was a moment our founding team will remember forever: the moment that we grasped that first 30 pound bag of cannabis seeds in our hands. To anyone else, that bag wouldn't cause even a blink of an eye. Its woven fibers held bulb-like seeds with an extraordinary texture and color to them. That bag of seeds was a tremendous feat for us; It signified our commitment to our cause and was the first milestone towards bringing people across the world an amazing phytocannabinoid - CBD.

Our story began in 2008, back when CBD, known also as cannabidiol, was only a whisper in the cannabis industry. This phytocannabinoid had been overshadowed for decades by THC (tetrahydrocannabinol), the psychoactive compound that can be found in the cannabis plant. What was interesting to us was that CBD was non-psychoactive, meaning that it did not give you the 'high' or euphoric feeling that THC would, yet the multitude of research showing what it could do was undeniable. We knew there was more to the story, so we invested millions into developing a source for this amazing plant and its phytocannabinoids. What we found would define our mission as Medical Marijuana, Inc. and Kannaway.

We discovered that there were cultivars of a category of cannabis, known as "hemp," that contained only trace amounts of THC (0.3 percent or lower) and therefore, was non-psychoactive. In hemp, all the other cannabinoids and nutrients are also present, including the cannabinoid we were looking for - CBD.

Today, cannabis is considered a controlled substance and it is federally illegal to grow in the U.S., regardless of its THC content, except for extremely limited uses in research. However, it is legal to import hemp products (cannabis with 0.3 percent or lower THC) into the country, which is how we would become the first to develop and market legal cannabis products in America and beyond.

We would derive CBD from hemp in Europe and import it into the U.S., getting it into the hands of the people who need it most worldwide. We sent teams of researchers across the world to learn about the political, economic, and agricultural landscape of growing hemp internationally and developing the best way to bring CBD to the masses.

Over the next few years, we covered an immense amount of ground and collected research from industry experts from all corners of the world leading us to three potential regions where we could plant our first crop - Romania, Czech Republic, and Austria.

When you are pursuing a mission as delicate and powerful as ours, you have to work with people you can trust and respect. We found that in a farming cooperative of 750 individual families in Austria.

It was in that first harvest that our founding team came to know and learn more about the people behind each grow. As we walked under that charming hacienda-style archway, we looked out on its expansive green acreage and knew that this was the place; the perfect community, climate, and region to grow a hemp crop that would change the world!

Our cultivators in Austria are a group of individually-owned family farms whose techniques and expertise come from numerous generations before them. They are people who value the land, live simply, and have the integrity and soul we'd spent years searching for in a cultivation partner.

So at this time, we had done the research, narrowed down the region, and shook hands with our community of cultivators. Now, it was time to find the perfect cannabis seed, the perfect cultivar that would naturally yield a crop high in CBD. Many sources will tell you that there are only about 1,500 possible cannabis cultivars, but there are many more than that - We tested a total of 3,000!

And at end, it all came down to one seed. It was this seed that after countless trials and weeks spent tending the fields, flourished in the region's climate, yielding hemp highly concentrated with CBD.

This was a monumental feat! Previously thought to be impossible, we were able to plant our first harvest of hemp - rich in cannabidiol. While celebrations were in order, we went straight to work to bring products to the people who needed them most. To this day, this moment inspires everything we do. The people who use our products are the core reason why we do what we do! Our products are part of a captivating story about defeating the odds and persevering for health.

We are in the business of ensuring that as many people as possible are able to experience the benefits of cannabis. Every day we work towards accessibility, affordability, and securing the future of cannabis for generations to come!



There are a variety of different ways to grow cannabis. Breeders and growers who are masters at their craft, can help to set trends for the future when it comes to conserving resources through cannabis cultivation. These conservation techniques could be applied to modern agriculture.

With legalization looming in America, so is the opportunity to grow responsibly. We now have the opportunity to change cultivation techniques to better conserve our precious resources such as water. Cannabis legalization will result in cannabis farmers having to abide by the same rules and regulations as other farmers that are monitored by the EPA such as those farmers who grow lettuce, almonds, and alfalfa.

If we work together to find solutions to our agricultural adversaries, we can achieve a greener, cleaner tomorrow instead of relying on the use of dangerous fertilizers and pesticides.

Those who grow cannabis have learned to do so in a very crafty and proficient manner. They have learned to avoid detection by utilizing methods that reduce water and power consumption. This has allowed for canna-grow ops both indoors and outdoors alike to evolve over the decades. Now they can start to share this knowledge so that it can be utilized by the

# Cultivating Awareness

Our environment is as delicate as our economy. The main difference is without the environment there will be no economy. Cannabis in general can help to repair both of these delicate aspects of life. We just have to change our ways.

Written by James Priest | Eye and Eye Photography

masses. Not having to hide their operations allows those in the industry to practice methods of conservation, like using year-round rainwater collection systems.

Progressive thinking can lead to all sorts of new ways of doing things, especially during a time in which our planet is suffering so much devastation. Water is running out, food as we know it will change, according to an article featured in *TIME Magazine*. By 2050, we will be in desperate need of new methods to conserve resources. You can read the entire article titled "Impending Crisis- Earth to Run Out of Food by 2050" at [Newsfeed.Time.com](http://Newsfeed.Time.com).

Thanks to the legalization efforts of cannabis activists, the 2014 Farm Bill (which can be viewed at [Agriculture.Senate.gov](http://Agriculture.Senate.gov)), allows hemp -- a cousin of Mary Jane -- to once again be grown on an industrial level. Though it is a form of cannabis, you can't catch a buzz on it. According to the North American Industrial Hemp Council, industrial hemp has a THC content of between 0.05 and one percent. You could smoke a garbage bag full of it and only get a headache.

Hemp is also a superfood, according to Natural News, "a scientifically-based natural health advocacy organization led by activist-turned-scientist Mike Adams, the Health Ranger!" Hemp seeds are one of the best sources of omegas on the planet. Hemp is one of the few plants that leaves the soil in better condition after it's harvested. For this reason it is used in a process known as phytoremediation. Phytoremediation is defined as "the treatment of environmental problems (bioremediation) through the use of plants that mitigate the environmental problem



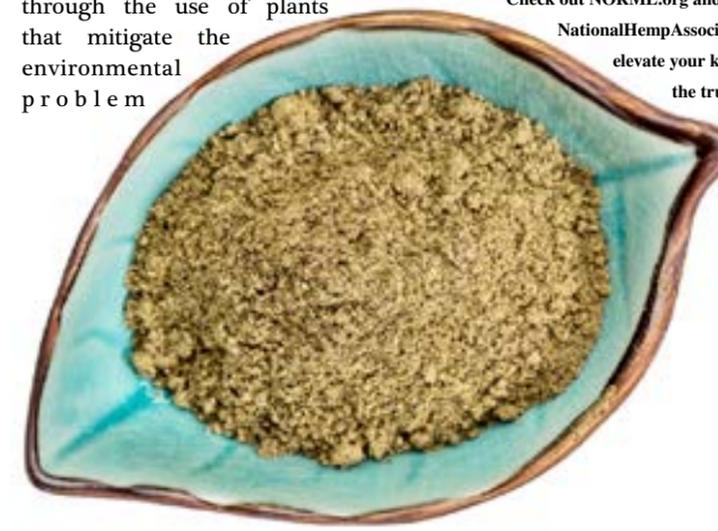
without the need to excavate the contaminant material and dispose of it elsewhere" as found by Natural News. Farmers can also plant another crop directly after harvesting hemp, which isn't possible with many crops.

Our environment is as delicate as our economy. The main difference is without the environment there will be no economy. Cannabis in general can help to repair both of these delicate aspects of life. We just have to change our ways.

Through the remarkable characteristics of the cannabis plant, we can achieve many things. We could break our dependency on nonrenewable resources, end deforestation, and clothe and feed the nation -- all of this while fixing the environment and the economy at the same time.

There's more to cannabis than just smoking it. We can all support a positive change for the world in many ways. Get involved and learn more today.

Check out [NORML.org](http://NORML.org) and the NHA at [NationalHempAssociation.com](http://NationalHempAssociation.com) to elevate your knowledge on the truth and facts about cannabis.



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# Going Green and Growing Clean

How the Humboldt-Trinity Collective Aims to do Both and More

By Joey Torres



Access to clean, environmental-friendly and truly organic cannabis at a fair cost can be trickier than most may believe. Many people do not question where or how the cannabis was grown, even when buying from a medical dispensary. Unfortunately, a lot of cannabis grown and sold today is many times not done so in a way that is healthy for either nature or the people that consume it. Harmful pesticides and other unsafe farming techniques can oftentimes turn a product that many people take medicinally to relieve ailments into one that can leave them with even more than they started out with. But the Humboldt-Trinity Collective, a Northern California based organization, is aiming to fix that.

The Humboldt-Trinity Collective was founded less than a year ago, spearheaded by Sarah Schuette and her partners. Yet the collective is already running autonomously, with everything from farming to patient relations all being handled in-house. Sarah emphasizes that the goal of the collective is simple: "To provide clean and affordable medicine to patients." She stresses that these patients are exactly that. Patients. And that the medicine, say a cancer patient might consume, should not contain any harm-

ful cancer-causing agents. Many of the cannabis products that are labeled as organic are not actually organic. The Humboldt-Trinity Collective set themselves apart by exclusively providing cannabis and cannabis-based products that are completely organic.

And it's not just the cannabis that is organic. Any ingredients they use, from chocolate to honey, are completely organic as well. They are also as locally sourced as possible from within Humboldt County. As everything produced is grown and made on-site by the Humboldt-Trinity Collective, there is a much higher level of quality control that outsourcing simply cannot match. They receive their organic fertilizer from Humboldt Ag Supply and have their plants and soil scientifically monitored for pests and pathogens by another company that Sarah helped create, Dirty Business Soil Consulting and Analysis.

Because cannabis is such a high dollar industry, a lot of the time patients are price gouged by companies and distributors. "They're kind of middle-maning it to death right now," Sarah claims. This is why the Humboldt-Trinity Collective goes directly from farmer to patient, with no middlemen in-between. This al-



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CALENDAR						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				16 BIG THIRST 8wA	17 BIG THIRST 8wA	18 BIG THIRST 8wA
19 BIG THIRST 8wA BIG TOP 2wPHF		22 MND LAB 7:30wC	23 BIG THIRST 8wA	24 BIG THIRST 8wA	25 BIG THIRST 8wA PRIZE 5wC	
26 BIG THIRST 8wA BIG TOP 2wPHF		30 BIG THIRST 8wA	1 JULY 10:30wC	2 BIG THIRST 8wA RED LIGHT 10:30wC		
3 BIG THIRST 8wA		7 WHETHER 8wC	8 WHETHER 8wC	9 WHETHER 8wC		
10 WHETHER 4wC		11 HUMBOLDT FOLK LIFE FESTIVAL - JULY 11 THROUGH 16TH				16 ALL DAY FREE FEST downtown Blue Lake

**TICKETS**  
MARY JANE: \$15 advance | \$20 at the door  
THE BIG THIRST: \$18 adults | \$15 student & senior | \$10-12 under  
BIG TOP: \$10 adults, student & senior | \$5-12 under  
MND LAB: pay what you can  
PRICE OF HOPE: \$40 includes ceremony, drink, dinner & The Big Thirst (Saturday)  
RED LIGHT: \$20 advance | \$25 at the door  
WHETHER WE LIKE IT: \$12 adults | \$10 student & senior

**LOCATIONS**  
All shows take place in Blue Lake, CA except for Mary Jane - A Musical Potumetary at the Eureka Theater. Our venues include the Roomey Amphitheatre (outdoors), the Carlo Theatre (indoors) and the Pierson Big Hammer Tent. All are located at 131 H Street, Blue Lake, CA 95525.

**BOX OFFICE INFORMATION**  
The box office opens one hour before each show. Please arrive early, as the lines get long. The backyard opens 1/2 hour before showtime.

**TICKET INFORMATION**  
Order tickets online at [dellarte.com](http://dellarte.com) or by phone at 707.668.5663 ext. 120. Tickets can also be purchased at the Dell'Arte Main Office during normal business hours and one hour before each performance at the box office. Main office is at 131 H Street, Blue Lake, CA 95525.

Tickets are limited; please be sure to reserve in advance. Tickets to Eureka Symphony's Peter & The Wolf will only be available at the door on a first come, first served basis.



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Medical cannabis patients with their 215 card can join the Humboldt-Trinity Collective.



lows them to keep the prices of their products low and fair, while still working directly and personally with the consumers. Sarah and the collective believe that people who are sick should be able to afford their clean medication without the jacked up prices that many of them are paying now.

Currently, only medical cannabis patients with their 215 card can join the Humboldt-Trinity Collective. But the November election is quickly approaching, and with it another chance for Californians to legalize the recreational use of cannabis. If the bill were to pass, Sarah would remain committed to providing high quality, organic cannabis for all consumers. "Even if it's recreational it should still be clean. If you don't have cancer, it doesn't mean you're trying to get cancer from products that may contain carcinogens. It's very important to me that even if it does go recreational, that we don't reduce our standards for those people," she states.

The easiest way to join the Humboldt-Trinity Collective is to simply e-mail Sarah directly at: [sarah@humboldttrinitycollective.com](mailto:sarah@humboldttrinitycollective.com). Patients can also find the contact information on their website: [Humboldttrinitycollective.com](http://Humboldttrinitycollective.com). The collective e-mails the patient back with a questionnaire and paperwork. After the patient completes that, the organization then calls the patients directly to discuss and personalize what form of medicine would be best, based on the patient's needs. In addition to providing cannabis, Sarah also offers a holistic approach to treating many of the ailments the patients may have. She consults with them about other herbs, dietary changes and exercises that may be beneficial to them in unison with the medication.

The only dispensary that the Humboldt-Trinity Collective currently sells to is the Humboldt Patient Resource Center based in Arcata, California, though they are looking to work with others in the future. Outside of that, the collective itself does not have a dedicated dispensary or storefront per se, but in the spirit of catering to client personalization, the patient can arrange a pick-up or drop-off location (if within the local Humboldt area) or even opt to have their medicine shipped anywhere in California. Thus, the Humboldt-Trinity Collective is able to provide a valuable service to patients all across the Golden State. Clean, high-quality cannabis products at prices that patients can afford.






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### Château Two by Four

Vinum, et al

Yep, Château Two by Four. That's what we in the industry call a wine that is over oaked. The subject of oak treatment and oak barrels is complex and can be hotly debated among wine-makers, sommeliers and schooled enthusiasts alike. As a wine educator, I often bring the conversation around to the role oak plays in the aging process of wine. It's key to understanding and recognizing oak's impact as you develop your palate.

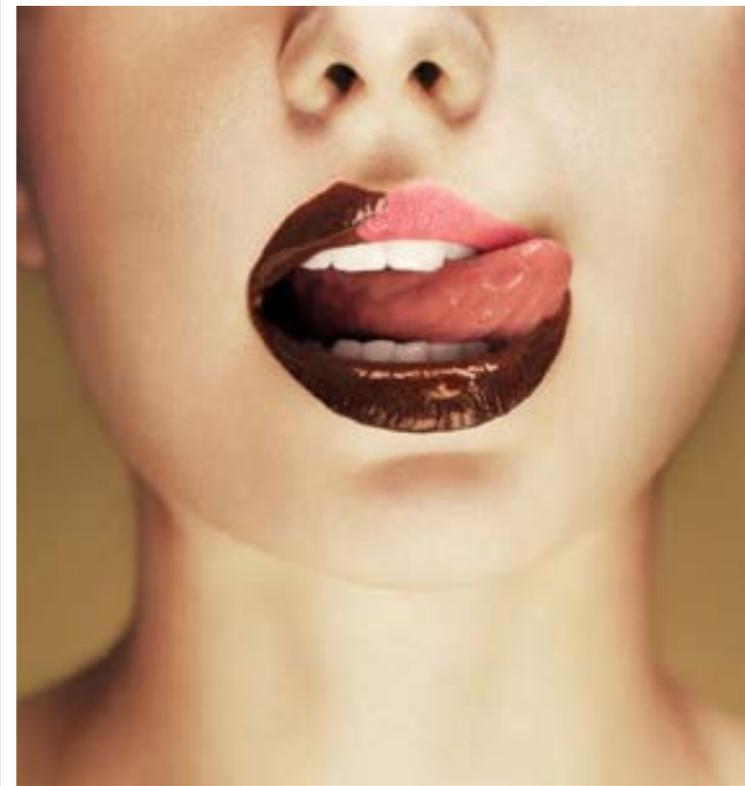
*Here are a few facts about oak barrels and other oak treatments:*

- *Oak costs \$\$\$:* To give you some economic perspective, a premium French oak barrel can cost upward of \$1,200. An American oak barrel costs around \$400. The difference? French oak has a lighter kiss on the wine. American oak, if used recklessly, will clobber the fruity goodness out of a wine.
- *New oak:* If you read a description of a wine and it says it was aged in 25 percent new oak, it means that the other 75 percent was aged in barrels that have been used for previous vintages. The winemaker is letting you know that the wine has not been clobbered by oak. New oak imparts strong oak flavors, whereas the older barrels are merely adding a bit of texture and a perfect aging environment.
- *Creepy oak chips:* Don't for a minute think that a \$10 Cabernet Sauvignon or Chardonnay has seen the inside of an oak barrel. Mass-produced wines are aged in massive stainless-steel vats with huge permeable bags (think: giant tea bags) of oak chips. Oak imparts these flavors on wine: Coffee, vanilla, coconut, toast, cedar, wood, smoke, peat, sweet tobacco, butter, dill.

A well-made red wine that is treated with oak ages in oak barrels for several months to several years. Pinot Noir, which is a lighter, fruitier wine might spend zero time in oak or only 10 to 16 months on oak whereas a Cab can spend as much as three years in oak and then another two years aging in the bottle before it's ready for show time.

A fun and informative wine-tasting activity with friends is to pool your money together and buy two Cabs in the \$40 to \$50+ range and two Cabs in the \$3 to \$12 range and conduct a blind tasting. Compare notes and then reveal the labels and the price tags.

*Pam Long is a Master of Wine student and wine educator. She presents seminars through HSU's College of eLearning & Extended Education and OLLI programs. Contact her directly at [ipamlong@gmail.com](mailto:ipamlong@gmail.com).*



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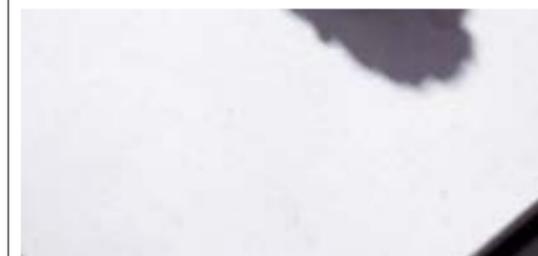
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## California Votes on Recreational Cannabis



You have a choice: would you rather be a legal cannabis farmer or an illegal drug dealer?

By Matthew Owen



The AUMA (Adult Use of Marijuana Act) is coming to your California ballot in November 2016. It's one of the 18 latest California propositions the voters will be deciding this November.

Besides the recreational use of marijuana for adults 21 years and older, the voters will have a say in a ban on plastic bags, increase in cigarette taxes, eliminating the death penalty, increasing California's minimum wage

and retooling Proposition 13, especially as it relates to commercial properties. If the AUMA is passed, it will create a schism between the majority of growers who are still transporting their product out of state (Interstate Transportation of Narcotics) for cash (tax avoidance) versus those who are selling their product in state and trying to become legitimate business people.

Image by DevilsLettucePH

If you're reading this *Emerald Magazine*, then you probably care about one very important subject – cannabis. California was the first state to pass a medical Marijuana bill in 1996 (Proposition 215). To legally obtain cannabis, you have to get a doctor's medical recommendation card to legally purchase/transport cannabis. Technically you can't even enter a cannabis dispensary without a recommendation card.

California, with almost 10 percent of the US population, leads our nation in just about every trend. Automobiles? Try the Los Angeles Auto Show to see what the latest hot car is. Wine? When I think of wines, I only think of two locations: Napa and Sonoma Valleys. Technology? Ever heard of Silicon Valley? Can you think of a California product that dominates more than the rest of the other 49 states combined? Yeah, that's what I'm getting at... the Emerald Triangle. The Emerald Triangle doesn't produce that five percent THC schwag you get from low-grade growers. No, in fact, the region is well known for producing the finest cannabis in the world, with signature strains such as *Chem Dog* or *Sage & Sour* containing upwards of 26 percent THC, according to Harborside Health Center in Oakland, California.

*So how does the act help Californians?* First off, it will allow for Amsterdam-style cannabis bud shops, (Think the Starbucks of cannabis), bud & breakfasts, tours of local farms and for cannabis tastings, much like Napa/Sonoma Valleys. Most importantly, the act will permit "mom & pop" growers (under 10,000 square feet of cultivation) to obtain a micro-business license, allow them to cultivate, process, extract, transport and sell – all under the same government umbrella.

Yeah, I know what you're thinking. Every time the government, especially the federal government gets involved with cannabis, things go sideways. You may be right about the feds. As usual, the feds are still the wild card in cannabis regulation.

However, should the California voters pass this proposition in November, Sacramento will have to bend to the will of the voters. So I don't want to see anymore of those bumper stickers, "Keep Pot Illegal / Vote Against Legalization." You have a choice. Would you rather be a legal cannabis farmer or an illegal drug dealer?

For more information on AUMA, visit: [LetsGetItRightCa.org](http://LetsGetItRightCa.org)



Image by Eye and Eye Photography



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