

FREE

Emerald MAGAZINE

Harvest Edition

Growers Gift Guide p.27

Humboldt Harvest Glass Gathering p.12

Evangelizing Cannabis: Praise the Lord and Pass the Pipe p.39



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WELCOME

Happy Harvest

Thank you for picking up the November issue of the Emerald Magazine.

This month we've gathered harvest stories from trimmers, growers and glass blowers. November is a time of year when many crops are harvested for the upcoming season's keep. With Halloween passing and Thanksgiving on the horizon, some of the best holidays are right around the corner. In honor of the gift giving season we've compiled our Holiday Growers Gift Guide, giving you an insider's look at cannabis products on the market.

This harvest season we dive into the businesses of cannabis with companies such as Ganja Gum and Royal Budline. With their 1:1 CBD:THC ratio spray, Royal Budline puts the *healing herbs back in the hands of those who need it*, and brings the regal treatment right to your doorstep.

Join us in December as we stay high for the holidays. Nothing is better than enjoying a home cooked meal after a satisfying smoke. We'll take an inside look at some of the leading cannabis oil companies in California, Colorado and Washington. With near endless options for your cannabis consumption, we hope you'll choose the brand that's best for you.

Sincerely,
Christina DeGiovanni, *Publisher*



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HUMBOLDT
SUN GROWER'S GUILD



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Harvest Time



Photo by Pearl Sweetcakes

THE FINISH LINE

Harvest, first and foremost, is an incredible undertaking. It involves organizing trimmers, keeping detailed records (in some form) and having enough supplies to get many jobs done.

BY DJ HAYES



(Above) Fiskars are the most commonly used scissors when trimming. *Photo by Sharon Letts*



(Right) Full grown cannabis bud ready for harvesting. *Photo by J. Viet*



(Above) Cannabis stems. *Photo by Sharon Letts*



(Right) Trim scene. *Photo by J. Viet*

Canna CoCo

- 1 Cup of Milk
- 1 tspn of butter
- 1 Cup of Water
- Hot Chocolate Mix
- 1-2g of Marijuana
or allow the stems to brew
with the coco
- Coffee filter



Photo by Pearl Sweetcakes

Getting Started

When cutting down the plants' branches, leave an additional two or three inches of stalk. This should form a "V" like shape easy for hanging. Once hung, begin Big Leafing (removing the large leaves) by hand. When turning the trimmers loose, be sure to communicate effectively and respectfully your desires and expectations for the work you have set out.

When trimming, pay attention to expressed desires and expectations of the gardner. Be careful to look for signs of mold or other maladies. Leave no spurs, find no spores, and the lines will move. After the initial trimming, or wet trim, the branches need to dry. After drying, the branches must be cut down, or bucked down, into the recognizable buds we all love and smoke. The number of trimmers and the crop size are the biggest factors in determining how long it will take to process. After the leaves settle, there are still so many bits and pieces left over.

Stalks and stems can be fun, despite what your first dime bag may have led you to believe. I have seen strong, tall stalks used as walking sticks and pipes alike. You just need a creative mind. Dried stems can make many brewed beverages. There are recipes for teas and hot chocolate on the web. Of course, mulching and pulping the stalks and stems is always an option.

Let's talk cannabis like we never have before. Hash, and I don't mean corned beef. This is the epitome of not messing around when getting high. It is for those who looked at THC-crystalline buds and wondered why all that green matter had to be attached. It is taking the most potent, psychotropic portions of the plant and condensing them to a singular, glorious product.

Hash is short for hashish, and the word is Arabic in origin and means "grass." Hash is ingrained in many cultures throughout the world, going as far as having religious and spiritual value. India, Jamaica and Nepal are a few countries who produce resinous hash from often wild growing plants. Morocco is believed to produce half of the world's hash. It is known as "charas," in case you're traveling. Hash is concentrated cannabis, and it has been made dozens of ways for thousands of years.

Today, hash comes in nearly any variety imaginable. Kief, finger/scissor hash, bubble hash, honey, wax and oil are notably different things cut of the same saturated cloth. Kief is comparable to the light colored, sandy powder left stuck to a paper. A box or grinder can be used to collect this, and this can be pressed into hash. Finger and scissor hash result from hard work, it is inarguably for the trimmer's amusement. Bubble hash is the result of increasingly fine levels of filtration and ice water. This hash can vary wildly in potency and quality given that the filtration is done through a series of nylon bags. Wax and oil can be created through a variety of

methods, using everything from ethyl alcohol to activated charcoal. Entire websites and forums are devoted to the many processes. These are the results of chemistry and science, or alchemy and *chicanery* if that wording suits you.

Dabs. If you aren't smiling or frowning, you should be. This isn't your granddaddy's refined psychoactive substance. This involves elaborate paraphernalia and an insatiable thirst for butane from creation to consumption. There are substantial risks in dabs, but the outcome is immaculate. I talked with a source about their experiences with dabs. They have produced potencies in excess of ninety percent THC, easily six times stronger than good cannabis buds. These potencies are achieved through the use of butane. Simply, trim or similar is packed into a glass tube and butane is sprayed through it. The seeping output is filtered and cured to form super

produce a pressure wave, thereby a tighter pack is preferred. Don't argue with results, and my source's results are superior.

Safety is always a priority. In everything you do, safety is a priority. When aerosolizing highly combustible, pressurized gas be sure to avoid open flames. Discharge static electricity away from work areas. Use appropriate personal protective equipment and have first aid available. Be vigilant and be ready to extinguish a fire. Gas expands quickly, so the required amount of ventilation is huge. Be patient and deliberate, homes and lives are lost pursuing this risk-saturated venture. Never underestimate the flammability of butane.

The cannabis plant can provide so much. Its flowers have provided a lucrative illicit market, and given countless counter-culture movements a rallying point. Its stalks and branches can be used for fun and practical purposes. Brew some stem



Photo by Pearl Sweetcakes

potent hash. My source has seen better results by packing their tubes tight, contrary to what many other experts have stated on various forums. They state that a looser pack does not provide enough resistance to

hot chocolate, whittle a big branch section into a wizard pipe, and build a stalk fort with your friends. Even after you sweep and pick up the scissor snippings, stems provides a golden bounty if worked with.

“Stalks and stems can be fun, despite what your first dime bag may have led you to believe.”



Lost Coast Gallery

Humboldt Harvest Glass Gathering

Emily Hobelmann

I caught up with Ginni DeLong for a brief chat on the second day of the Humboldt Harvest Glass Gathering. She and her husband Jared own the Lost Coast Gallery in Trinidad and they produce the annual event, which is held on-site at the gallery. This is their second year throwing this party, glass show and charity fundraiser.

How did the Glass Gathering come about?

My husband Jared is a glass artist and we've been seeing these functional glass galleries starting to pop up around the United States. Jared was part of traditional glass galleries when he started blowing glass 20 years ago, but a lot of these traditional galleries shut down with the downturn in the economy.

So now this functional glass movement is rising up along with all of the changes in cannabis, and my husband started shifting into making more functional glass. Now the galleries that used to show traditional glass art are showing functional glass.

We created this Harvest Glass Gathering event because we wanted to highlight Humboldt. We have some of the top functional glass artists in the world in Humboldt County.



What do you mean by “functional glass?”

Functional glass means a smoking apparatus – a tube, a rig, a sherlock – to smoke either flower or oil.

Can you tell me a bit more about your husband, Jared DeLong?:

He’s been blowing glass for 20 years. He started out in Santa Cruz doing traditional paper weights and vessels, and he’s had teachers in Japan and Italy. Jared is also known for a lot of cold work, which means cutting the glass, faceting the glass, carving the glass. But he does both hot and cold work.

What are the different components of the Humboldt Harvest Glass Gathering?:

This was a two-day event. Friday was our VIP night, a celebration with the artists, so buyers can come in and spend time with the artists. They can talk about the glass and smoke out of the glass with the artists. Friday night featured a beautiful catered dinner with KMUD Community Radio serving drinks. There was music, fire dancing and of course the gallery was open and there was some 215 sampling.

The event was open to the public from 11-5pm for \$10 at the door, with the gallery open and glass blowing demos. The demos were really fascinating to see, especially because some of these artists who don’t demo in public chose to demo at this event, which is awesome.

A big focus of our event is giving back. Pieces the artists made on Saturday were sold and the money will be given to a gentleman who lost his home in the Butte Fire. We also had a huge charity raffle of glass pieces donated by artists, and gift certificates from local businesses. The money raised through this raffle goes to Food for People and the Humboldt Community Breast Health Project.

Both Friday and Saturday featured a large number of vendors. Taco Factory served up food. We had oysters. And there were several bands, the Rocketeers and the Jim Lawman Band. We also had a 215 lounge.

Where do the buyers come from?:

All over. We had buyers from Maryland and Florida, Georgia, from all over California, Washington State and we had some Canadians. And of course, a lot of locals too.

What do you think about this movement to collect functional art glass?:

It’s wildly fascinating. I can’t even wrap my mind around it, these collectors. They’re awesome and wonderful, but they are intense about this particular sub-culture. It’s a different world.

Functional glass art used to have to be kept secret – artists had to be underground with glass blowing aliases so that they wouldn’t get caught. But these people have families that they provide for with this art, they put their kids through college with this money. They’re just artists. Now that the functional glass scene is becoming more open and cannabis laws are changing, there’s a celebration of that with the collectors.

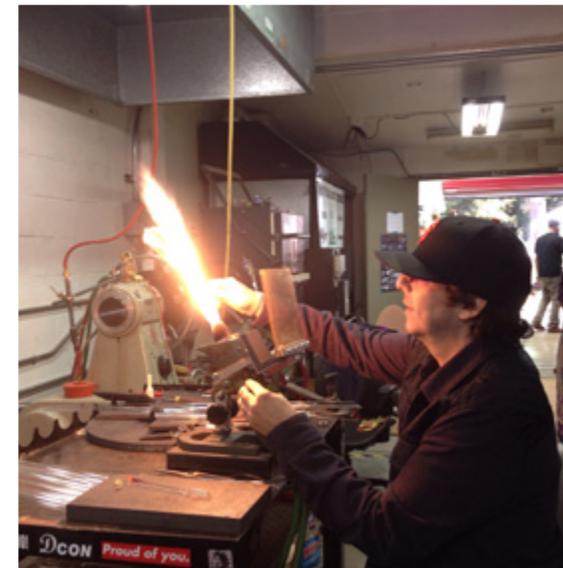
Where do the artists in the show come from?:

Most of them are local, and last year we featured only local artists. But this year we wanted to change it up, so there were artists from Canada, Maryland, Maine and from all over California too. Like, we had Ro Purser from the Seattle area; he’s like the grandfather of making marbles.

But we have the big names in Humboldt – Banjo, Bluegrass Man, Mr. Gray. We have Bryan Raskin from Mirador Glass, he’s a wonderful man and a wonderful artist. We also have George Bucquet of Mad River Glass and Brad Smith of the Humboldt Glass Studio.

What inspires you about the functional art glass movement?:

Watching someone make a piece on the torch is so beautiful and hypnotic. It takes extreme talent and focus for the artist. They can work on a piece for days and it can crack. But they just keep going. It’s the process of watching them create a piece that is absolutely stunning. That’s what motivates me.



(above) Glass in the making

You can find the Lost Coast Gallery at facebook.com/LostCoastGallery or on Instagram @lostcoastgallery. You can also find the Humboldt Harvest Glass Gathering at facebook.com/humboldtharvestglassgathering.



Getting the Royal Treatment

MOLLY CATE | CHRISTINE CIARCIA





Royal Budline is a classy, Northern Humboldt outfit. For the past two years, owners Vanessa and Duke have dedicated themselves to producing the best quality topical salves and sprays using the best quality cannabis and other medicinal plants. Take a look at their websites *product* page and you'll get a mini-course in the benefits of many of the healing herbs they use. Great information to match their great products.

The company name came from a long afternoon conversation with friends, tossing around lots of different ideas. When Vanessa heard Royal Budline, something clicked. She said it spoke to the sense of regal elegance she feels toward what they make. She and Duke deeply respect the whole world of medicinal flora and hold a special place of honor for the cannabis plant. They both spoke movingly about helping shape a long-overdue, more positive view of cannabis and its users.

Their knowledge of medicinal plants comes from long personal interest enhanced by study at the Dandelion Herbal Center in Kneeland. As many fortunate people know, learning from Jane Bothwell means honoring the plant world that sustains and heals us. Royal Budline was a sponsor of Jane's first medical cannabis

conference held there last April. The second conference will be held next April 23, and 24 at the Arcata Community Center.

The Royal Budline goal is to "put healing herbs into the hands of those who need it." Right now, they are doing this with salves and sprays that come in two herbal profiles, Peppermint or Chai Blend, each with its own formula of plant materials. The salve is a classic way to deliver herbal medicine while the spray is easy and quick, perfect for your first aid kit. These products are medicinal in several senses. The cannabis is Cannatonic, a royal bloodline in its own right, famed for its 1:1 ratio of THC and CBD. The lemongrass, turmeric, ginger, other essential oils and other ingredients are all organic. SC Labs regularly tests the flowers, concentrates and final products to ensure consistent quality and potency levels. Each batch is lovingly crafted with relief of suffering in mind. Vanessa says, "I make the medicine inspired by my own pain and others' pain. I believe in plant medicine."

Vanessa knows this personally, developing and using herbal products to soothe her arthritis. She would ask friends and family to try her concoctions and tell her honestly what worked and what didn't. In this way, a community contributed to the

excellence of Royal Budline. As a result, Vanessa's confidence in her creations grew from honest feedback and her own experience. Now, she knows they are fulfilling their goal, literally putting healing herbs into people's hands.



For Duke, the greatest satisfaction has come from changing minds about cannabis while changing lives for the better. Some folks in his life who were negative about the medicinal properties of cannabis have completely come around. "People who wouldn't have had anything to do with this plant a few years ago and thought I was wrong for being involved, now they can't get enough of our products. They get health benefits with no side effects."



Enticing as these products smell, remember they are not edibles. They are for your skin, not in your mouth! Use them for the relief of sore muscles, aching joints and painful skin. My chef friend has discovered several benefits of the Peppermint Spray. He started using it for his chronic neck pain. He says waking up was the worst, with his neck all stiff and tender; the spray works fast and to his delight, his pain went from a 6 to a zero.

As a chef, burns are a major occupational hazard. The spray cools instantly. He finds the Peppermint Spray more effective than other products for both muscles and skin. And it is stainless, totally absorbing into the skin with no residue, just lots of good medicine.

Word of mouth was their first way to let people know; positive recommendations spread along friendship networks. Right now, their products are available

at the Humboldt Patient Resource Center (HPRC) in Arcata and at MK Wellness in Los Angeles. You can see their products with the full ingredient list at Royalbudline.com. You can also meet them at this year's Emerald Cup at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds in December and at the High Times Medical Cannabis Cup in Los Angeles in February.

Check out the 2016 Dandelion Herbal Center Medical Cannabis Conference at: Dandelionherb.com

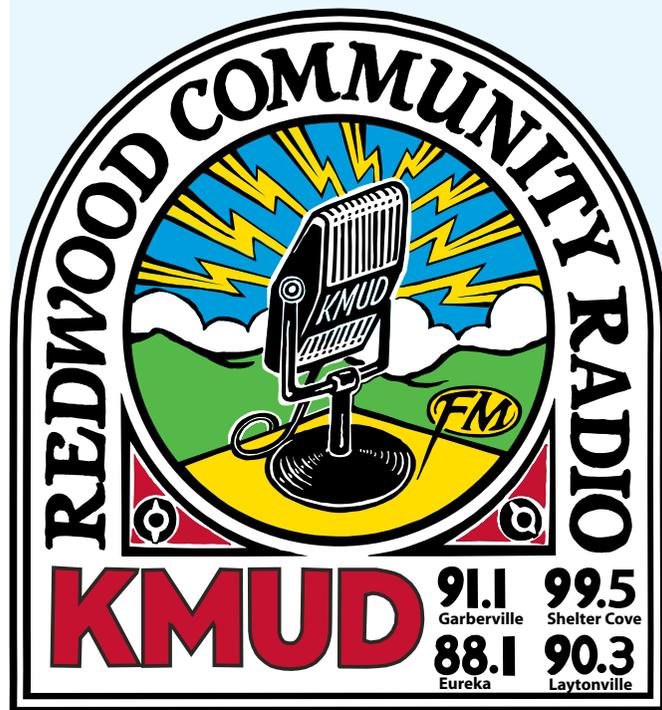
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Jami Eiring

Blow Bubbles

with Ganja Gum

When a young Betty Hess got sick, her grandmother created a holistic concoction and fed it to her with a spoon. “Just drink that, it’ll do ya,” Hess’ grandmother would say. “I never knew what it was,” Hess said. “But whatever it was made me feel better.” This memory of her grandmother inspired the logo for Cannabis Comforts, a small spoon with green liquid pouring off of it.

Cannabis Comforts is a medicinal cannabis company that produces Ganja Gum - a chewable tincture. The classic bubblegum flavored edible produces more of a body high than a psychoactive effect because of its sublingual delivery.

Hess got into the edible industry years ago when she lived in Washington. After being diagnosed with diverticulitis and osteoporosis she found herself taking more pills than she could count. “At that

point I had to find a better way,” Hess said. She used other botanicals for holistic medicine her whole life and decided to turn to cannabis.

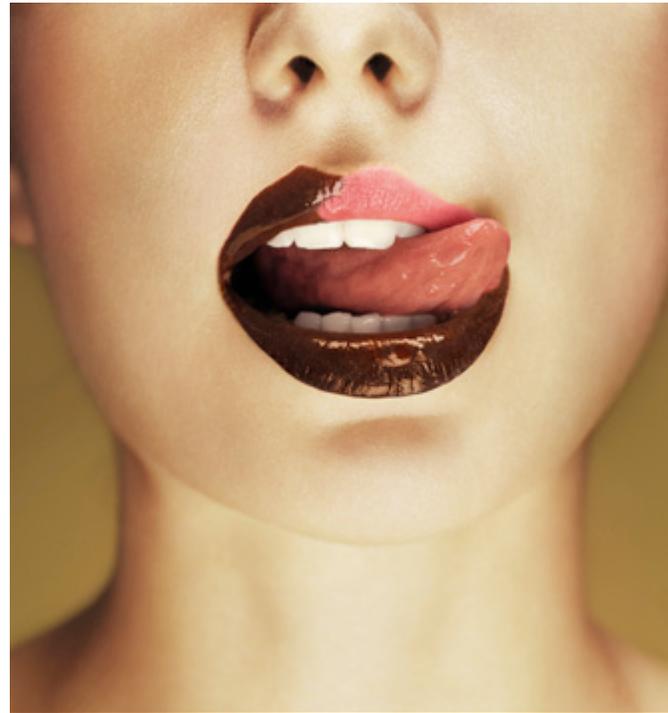
Hess created Ganja Gum in her father’s memory. On Dec. 6, 2006, her father passed away at 88 years old. His last few days in the hospital he was unable to eat or drink. He could, however, chew gum. As a last chance to give her father what he wanted, Hess went to the grocery store and bought every kind of gum she saw.

Years later in 2011, Hess was cleaning out her garaged. She moved a box and found a bag. It was her father's belongings from the hospital five years prior. "I pulled out his pjs and in the bottom there were all these packs of gum," she recalled. As she looked at the gum, she realized only certain ones were missing - the old fashioned bubble gum.

"It was an epiphany," Hess said. She went to the computer and researched gum for hours. After being horrified about what gum was made of, she was set on figuring out how to make organic, non-GMO, vegan gum. It just so happened that the only place she could get the products to make this gum was the small town her father was born in. "It was meant to be," Hess said. "I honestly give credit to the Holy Spirit."

This happened soon after Hess got into the edible cannabis industry, and from her research Ganja Gum was born. Initially it was called Cannabis Comforts chewing gum. It wasn't until earlier this year that Hess decided to rebrand and call it Ganja Gum.

A problem Hess saw with edibles was that their large size. "When you're sick, you don't have an appetite," she said. She wanted something that delivered the medicine in one or two bites and something that tastes good. "My medicinals are small but strong," she said. "Just like me."



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One thing that makes Cannabis Comforts different, Hess said, is she makes the candy from scratch. She is currently working on patenting her recipe. Hess also said that she never takes anything to market without testing it. "When you read my dosage it is accurate and it's all activated," she said. As of right now, the only product Cannabis Comforts has is Ganja Gum. More is to come, though. Within two months the company will be coming out with a candy line including: sea salt caramel, watermelon chew, apple chew, vanilla and chocolate.

Hess brought in two team members around May this year, Brandon Guthrie and Oliver Devlin. She said Devlin may be young but he is an old soul. "He's got this business mind that is like a machine." Hess said Guthrie, on the other hand, is very knowledgeable about the cannabis plant. "I trust them." Hess said. "We work well as a team and they support me knowing that I have to do good with my company."

Most of Hess' clients are older. Something Hess loves about the cannabis industry it the juxtaposition. "Where else are you going to see the multi-pierced, multi-tattooed guy talking to the granny?" she asked.

Hess knows the cannabis industry has a bad reputation but she hopes that seeing people like her will change it. Her goal for Cannabis Comforts is to help children and vets with PTSD. "Those are the two groups of people that are being screwed by our government," she said.

She is also looking into using CBD strains in the gum. One of the most famous uses for CBD is treating seizures. "My dream is to see every little kid with epilepsy blowing bubbles with Ganja Gum."



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NATIONAL CANNABIS EVENTS

NOVEMBER 2015

06

Hempcon

San Bernardino, CA

Time Varies | Three day cannabis cup and music event located at 689 South E. St.

11

National Cannabis Industry Association

Las Vegas, NV

7 PM | Come celebrate the NCIA's 5th Anniversary Banquet at the Linq Hotel at 3535 S Las Vegas Blvd.

13

Humboldt Hemp Fest

Redway, CA

Time Varies | The 25th anniversary of this three day event in the heart of the Emerald Triangle at 59 Rusk Lane.

14

Harvest Party

Benbow, CA

7 PM | Come celebrate the end of harvest season at Toph's Place located at 6840 Benbow Dr.

16

Marijuana Mondays with Portland

Portland, OR

10 PM | Join the weekly networking and seedling exchange at the Analog Cafe and DRD Records Little Theater at 720 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland, OR.

19

NORML Monthly Meeting San Antonio

San Antonio, TX

9 PM | San Antonio NORML's meeting will take place at Ogei's Hookah on 5713 Evers Rd, San Antonio, TX.

21

Cannabis Career Institute

New York, NY

9 AM | Come gain the knowledge needed to fully operate a cannabis business. The event will be held at Hilton East Manhattan, 304 E 42nd St.

27

Sublime with Rome

Ventura, CA

7 PM | Witness Sublime with Rome at the Majestic Ventura Theater located at 26 South Chestnut Street.

22

NCO NORML Meeting

Ashland, OH

3 PM | Join the Ashland chapter of NORML for their monthly meeting located at DorLo Pizza, 1211 Orange Street.

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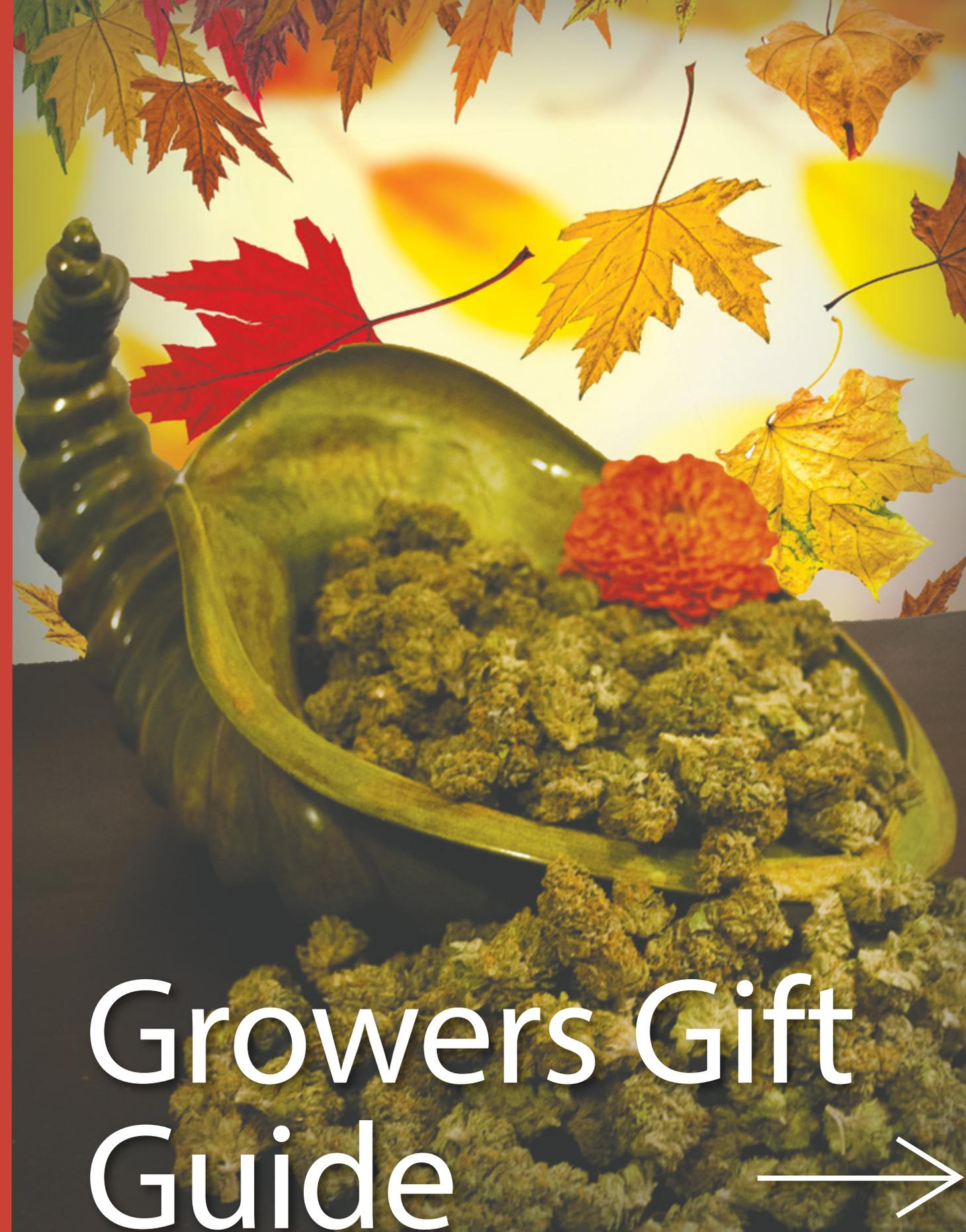


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Growers Gift Guide



Holiday Growers Gift Guide

Sweet ReLeaf

Sweet Releaf Body Butter is a luxuriously potent topical cream made of trichome infused coconut oil, shea butter and select essential oils. It acts within three to five minutes to give "Help Where It Hurts" to a wide variety of ailments from chronic pain in joints and muscles to rashes, nicks, burns, and skin conditions. Its light texture and pleasant smell penetrate easily leaving no oily residue or waxy feeling on the skin.

Sweet Releaf is available in 1oz jar for \$20 or 2oz jar for \$40.

Special pricing on multiple jar packs available at Strictlytopical.com or Getmeadow.com

Sweet ReLeaf is available at dispensaries in Humboldt County, SF Bay Area, and Los Angeles, California.



Not-So-Virgin Cooking Oil



Emerald Alchemy

As of this fall, Emerald Alchemy offers a single sourced, pure plant medicine for medical cannabis patients. The ice water full melt bubble hash and high CBD tinctures are available for patients at:

- Healing Harvest Farms, 54895 HWY 101, Laytonville Ca 95454

- Santa Cruz Mountain Naturals, 9077 Soquel Dr, Aptos Ca 95003

- La Brea Compassionate Care Givers, 735 N La Brea Ave, Los Angeles, Ca 90038

Tincture Pricing ranges from \$50-\$110

Full Melt Hash ranges from \$30-\$70

Venice Cookie Company -Not-So-Virgin Olive Oil-

Artisanal first-press olive oil infused with cannabis. Great for home cannabis cooking. The oil is Vegan, Gluten-Free, Sugar-Free, and All-Natural.

Ingredients: Organic, Cold-Pressed Extra-Virgin Olive Oil
Potency: 400mg THC | 25mg CBD

Find it in over 30+ Southern California dispensaries

Craft Elixirs

Craft Elixirs is a small cannabis company based out of Washington that produces artisanal small batch syrups made from local ingredients, including a line of cannabis infused elixirs.



GFarma Labs

Liquid Gold is a delicious cannabis infused chocolate treat that has won multiple High Times Cannabis Cups. Chocolates are hand crafted by a professional team of chocolatiers. Find their chocolates at Green Bay Collective, True Healing Collective, Pacific Coast Health Center, or Green Line Delivery. Average retail price: \$30.



Green Frog Balm

Green Frog Balm is a cannabis extract and essential healing oil that targets pain & inflammation. In 2011 Green Frog won the title Best New Product at The International Cannabis and Hemp Festival.
Average retail price: \$11.99/1oz - \$29.99/4oz

Glowing Buddha™ Caramel Macchiato (100mg)



Glowing Buddha™ is a cannabis company producing a full line of infused products. Find them in the San Francisco Bay Area at five dispensaries, including Waterfall Wellness, Grass Roots, Vallejo Holistic Health Center and Barbary Coast.



Foria Lubricant is an all natural sensual cannabis enhancement oil designed for women. Find it at several dispensaries in the Bay Area and Southern California. Average retail price \$40.



Fruit Slabs

Fruit slabs are a premier organic, vegan edible. Each slab is created with certified organic ingredients and infused with 100MG of THC. Find them in San Francisco at The Cookie Co. on 3139 Mission Street.



Hepburns

Hepburns Petites are handmade with ice water hash, quality cannabis, and love. Hepburn works with flowers like Red Dragon and Obama OG, and ice water hash from producers including French Laundry Fine Concentrates and Loud Mouth Hash. Each batch of Hepburns is produced fresh to ensure patient satisfaction. Hepburns can be found at Hepburns.com and with dispensing partners throughout the state of California - Bloom Room, Barbary Coast, Lady Chatterley's Lover, 1944 Ocean, One Fifty Collective, Striktly Koncentrates, True Healing Collective, Stash, Buds And Roses, La Luna Collective, etc. Average retail price: \$40-60.



(ABOVE)
Lemon, Ginger & Eucalyptus bath soak



EDIBLE
Medical Cannabis Butter Cup



DEEP MASSAGE SOLID LOTION BAR
Menthol and Camphor along with a blend of essential oils, shea butter, coconut oil, cocoa butter and unfiltered beeswax help to soothe sore muscles with a cool heat.
Retail price: 1 oz bar \$18



CANNABIS INFUSED HONEY
Formulated with just the right amount of Organic Coconut oil and CO2 extracted cannabis oil blended into locally harvested honey. Delicious!

Honey Bee Buzzed™

Created in Humboldt County, Honey Bee Buzzed™ uses local honey, beeswax, organic oils and high CBD cannabis oil. Find them through Lost Coast Botanicals, at HoneyBeeBuzzed.com or at the Emerald Cup.

PEACE IN A PIECE

Om Edibles™ provides high quality medical cannabis products to patients in California. Om Edibles™ is an all female collective that uses the finest ingredients. Om believes in making sacred medicine that is consistently healthy, effective and enjoyable. Their passion is about being compassionate. Visit Omedibles.org to learn more.

OM EDIBLES™



(LEFT)
Rose Geranium Epsom Salt Soak



(BELOW)
Medical Cannabis Body Oil

(RIGHT)
Medicated Lip Balm available in refreshing Orange Mint and soothing Vanilla Grapefruit. Both flavors include lemon balm essential oil along with local unfiltered beeswax, coconut oil, cocoa butter, jojoba oil, almond oil, cannabis oil and vitamin E. Retail price: .5 oz tube \$8.00



(BATH SOAK)
An intoxicating blend of Epsom Salts, Dead Sea Salts, organic almond oil and cannabis oil with a touch of honey to soothe skin. Available in BREATHE that includes Eucalyptus and Frankincense essential oils and RELAX that includes Lavender and Clary Sage essential oils. Each packet is good for 1-2 baths. Retail price: 4 oz \$12





SEXXPOT

Available in California, SEXXPOT is an organic flower product designed by the Paradigm Group.

Women are poised to become the dominant cannabis purchasers. Women are not only more likely to be treated for a chronic illness, their rates of compliance far exceed those for men. Many women are frustrated by traditional therapies that promise but fail to produce consistent or lasting pain relief. They are receptive to alternate approaches; they'll stick to a treatment regimen and stay loyal to a product that works.

- paradigmcannabis.com

Thera Kief Eucalyptus Mint Lotion

Thera Kief is a product line of handcrafted premium products infused with kief. Thera Kief's highly refined product line includes medicated soap, lip balm and body lotion used as topical treatment for: muscle pain, swelling, eczema, arthritis, bug bites, burns, heat rash, poison oak/ivy, and other various skin disorders.

Find them at Bay Leaf Santa Cruz, The Fire House, MedMar Healing Center, Green Mile, Southbay CRC, and the Fountain of Wellbeing. Average retail price: \$20.00



Von Baron Farms Cannabis Batter



Von Baron Farms is an artisan edible company that named their business after the Von Barom family of France, who were known for their medical infusion of herbs in food.

This cannabis infused pancake and waffle batter (\$15.99) is just one of a few products including Mango THC Infused Margarita Mix (\$39.99), THC infused Bloody Mary mix (\$19.99), Strawberry THC Infused Daiquiri (\$39.99), peanut butter (\$12.99) and cookie butter (\$12.99).

Upload your prescription and order online at Vonbaronfarms.com.



Emerald Apothecary

Products are all natural botanical blends that feature THC and CBD extracts. Formulas are blended to address specific conditions and are made in a proprietary blend of honey and organic alcohol. Some formulas are made with liquid coconut oil as an alcohol-free alternative. All products are standardized and third-party tested. Prices vary from \$25-\$30 for a half ounce based on the formula, and \$40-\$50 for a full ounce.

Lovingly & Legally Grown

Lovingly & Legally Grown is a Northern California company that produces *The Spray* and *The Oil*. *The Spray* is made with a non toxic, organic cane alcohol, and *The Oil* is made with cold pressed grapeseed oil. Find these products at Healing Harvest Farms in Laytonville, CA and at several Bay Area dispensaries and delivery companies: The Green Door, Vallejo Holistic Health Center and Blüm Oakland. Average retail price: \$25



To see your product in the *Emerald Magazine*, contact Info@TheEmeraldMagazine.com

The Humboldt Cannabis Center wishes everyone in the Emerald region a happy, healthy harvest. We encourage those in the industry to share their prosperity in ways that support our communities. Explore and consider how you can support local service organizations and charities with your time, energy and, of course, money. There are many wonderful, worthy ones from which to choose.

With prosperity comes responsibility.
With caring comes sharing. Every season. Thank You.

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The Emerald Review:

POT TALK

with *Emily Hobelmann*



“I’m not the only one like this. I know a lot of friends and neighbors who are really small time too.” Still, she estimates a forty pound yield for the season, up to two pounds per plant. “I never do actually keep track of it, but every year I get more efficient.” She’ll keep about a third of her harvest for head stash. The rest will be sold or given away – she’s all about sharing.

She’s also all about growing cannabis from seed (“I don’t grow clones, they’re a pain in the ass.”) And she’s devoted to growing her cannabis exclusively outside: “I think weed is just like any other plant – it should have bees and birds and butterflies buzzing all around.” This garden is an environment where the natural predator-pest cycle functions at an optimal level.

So, she had some super happy plants this summer. Cultivated strains include Purple Northern Lights, Super Fruit Haze (“That’s a really stony one.”) and Mango OG Kush (“OMG”). And she kicked down some beautiful samples of Kish Super Fruit and Cheesy-OG for this Harvest column.

Cheesy-OG

I received two fat nuggets of Cheesy-OG. The Cheesy-OG is pale green in color with an olive drab thing going on – we’re talking camo vibes with a smattering of glitter that rivals the most hardcore indoor. True to its savory name, the aroma of the Cheese bud has lactic undertones – do I detect a hint of Brie? It also has that distinct kush smell and it smells a bit like coffee and cucumber too.

The flavor is complex – tart, skunky and sweet-like-honeysuckle. The effect of the Cheesy-OG immediately serves to lighten my perspective. It makes me gregarious and chatty with all who cross my path. Laughter comes easily and my humor is contagious. I shared a Cheesy-OG joint at a BBQ party (my sample was large enough to spread the love around), and people absolutely loved it.

I consider this weed to be classic stoney. The munchies come on strong and my inner dialogue becomes profound and poetic. (At least it seems that way to me!) When I smoke the Cheesy-OG, I appreciate the need for human connection and I am eager to share all things, including my sandwich. (This is an appropriate place to note that the farmer believes cannabis takes on the characteristics of the people that grew it.)

We are living in an era of frenzied cannabis branding – people developing ways to market their farms, products and services. But some cannabis farmers intend to stay underground, farming quietly in the hills, moving their product on the market with no fanfare, with no marketing strategies or business plans – just a serious love for growing excellent weed.

One such renegade grower from the hills of Southern Humboldt provided the cannabis for this particular edition of Pot Talk. She’s been farming the weed in these parts for twenty-plus years now. She got started back in the CAMP days, a time when her crops required thorough camouflage.

Now she grows her plants right out in the open on a west-facing slope in her sublimely landscaped garden of mums, dahlias, marigolds, flowers forever..., plus fruits, greens, vegetables and shrubs. “I get an obscene amount of sunshine on my garden,” she says, and her plants do well with so much light. She grew 25 this season – full-sun organic outdoor, quality not quantity.



As for how the plant lived this summer, our farmer says “I didn’t water it very much. It’s in a part of the garden that the hose barely reached... People water too much, and I think I’m even going to water less next year.” She said the plant stood out from the rest, “It definitely looked different. It had a light green look to it, not purple at all. It actually was cheesy looking.

The buds were huge. But as big as they were, they survived two different rains without getting any mold or mildew. I put it in the ground on May 18th and I harvested it on October 11th.” That’s almost five months. Excellent.

Kish Super Fruit

The Kish Super Fruit sample contained three jumbo-size olive nuggets plus a 5.3 gram cola. It came casually, loosely trimmed and packed in a little mason jar. The Kish is firm and somewhat modest in its appearance. But this weed does have flair – I gave it a quick trim and then wondered at its sparkle in the sunlight.

It’s a healthy rich green color with crimson hairs and indigo frosting. It smells like blueberry and spicy too, like cedar. I smell fennel too, a sharp herbal aroma. Like the Cheesy-OG, the high is quite uplifting, again. I find the Kish SF brings on cheerfulness, an unshakable satisfaction with life and the day. Munchies and hardcore cottonmouth happen. And I ride the acute stoney wave with a brisk walk followed by some kettle corn and beef jerky. It’s all good fun.

The farmer says the Kish Super Fruit is easy to trim and it has really nice structure. “It smells beautiful and it’s a nice high,” she says. “It was really tough – when a giant branch broke, I just duct taped it up and it grew fine through the rest of the summer. The plant is hearty and it was pretty big too – I’ll probably get like four pounds off it.”

Nothing wrong with that!

I want to extend a big thank you to this anonymous Southern Humboldt farmer for donating samples of her fine outdoor organic cannabis, and may she have many more bountiful seasons to come.



Fun Fun Fun Fest

Fun Fun Fun Fest is renowned for its musical lineup, comedy, food, action sports, and poster art experiences.



Austin, Texas

Harvest Your Appetite

James Priest

November is the month for harvests of both cannabis and food crops alike.

In Texas, November is the month to harvest beets, spinach, tomatoes and broccoli. Soon, hopefully, it will be time to legally harvest your home-grown, as well. Until then there are plenty of events taking place in the 512.

This month is for being thankful, which many kids in Austin Texas are, thanks to a special fundraising event called the Austin Empty Bowl Project. The Empty Bowl program began in Michigan. Since then it's spread across the country. The Austin Empty Bowl Project started in 1997 and has raised over \$700,000 to help feed children in low-income families throughout the city. This year's event is being held on November 22nd from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Marchesa Hall & Theater at the Linc, directly across from the Highland Mall in Austin.

First Wednesday of the Month Event Hosted by NORML

Be sure to go out and join Texas NORML for a fun-filled night of education on the cannabis industry. You can be part of a great night filled with comedy, culture, and music too. The meetings are hosted at the Flamingo Cantina at 515 East 6th Street, Austin. Bring your appetite for knowledge and desire to be a part of this significant movement.

Fun Fun Fun Fest Knows How to Throw a Party

For fantastic fun for fans, Fun Fun Fun Fest is the best for the 10th year in a row now. Come out for the fun, November 6th - 8th at Auditorium Shores in Austin! See a huge lineup of bands from Janes Addiction to WuTang Clan and everything in between. There'll be food, comedy, art, action sports, and great people waiting for you.

“From Janes Addiction to WuTang Clan, and everything in between

A Smokin Tokin Tuesday

Tuesdays are full of things to do. Start your day visiting the food trucks gathered in front of the American-Statesman newspaper, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and sample world cuisine all in one spot. At 3 p.m., head down to the SFC Farmers' Market East at 1719 Alexander Boulevard, by the MLK Metrorail station, for local produce and homegrown items. Perhaps you are a foosball fan. If so, enjoy free foosball every Tuesday at the Brixton located at 1412 East 6th Street.

The Austin Poetry Slam takes place every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at the Spiderhouse Cafe and Ballroom. Austin Mic Exchange, the premier Open Mic hip hop night starts at 11 p.m. after the poetry slam ends and is always a good time. You could try getting super smashed at the Forte Hookah Lounge. That's right, for just \$5 you can enter the Super Smash Brothers tournament and enjoy some hookah rips while getting smashed. Hookahs are only \$15, and BYOB runs \$5. No matter where you live in the 512, there's always going to be something to do!

AUSTIN NORML

3571 Far West Blvd., PMB #205,

Austin, Texas 78731

(512) 931-HEMP(4367)

inquiries@texasnorml.org

Texasnorml.org



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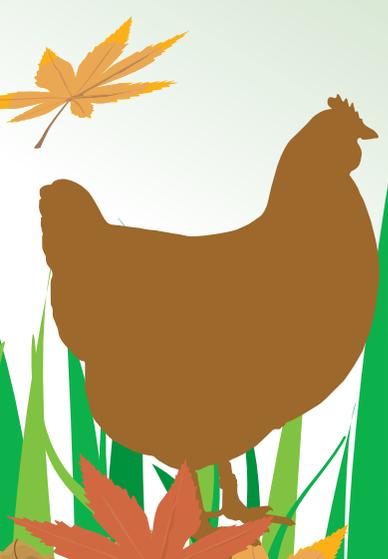
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Evangelizing Cannabis

Praise the Lord and Pass the Pipe!

Sharon Letts



Photograph taken at Emerald Family Farms// Northern California

The past four years, I've covered four states and thousands of miles in a state of Divine Intervention, with people suffering from real illness put in front of me like little animals to St. Francis of Assisi. I often feel like Theresa Caputo, "The Long Island Medium" (less the hair and nails). Spirits come to her like patients are put in front of me, daily. Either I meet people with real illness, or they know someone suffering under traditional care – there are no coincidences – or, maybe everyone is just getting sicker?

When I tell people Rick Simpson Oil, or RSO, put my breast cancer into remission, most don't believe it. But, when sitting on this kind of knowledge it becomes a responsibility to share. It's actually the only way to get the word out, for no Department of Health Services will be passing out pamphlets any time soon. Those who know must "be the pamphlet."

Physician Heal Thyself

While traveling in Eastern Washington State my lower back went out, leaving me helpless with severe spasms of sciatica. Anyone who has suffered from the pain of sciatic spasms knows what I'm talking about. The second the swollen muscle or tendon presses a nerve against a bone, the pain is excruciating and can level a grown man in a second.

Out of real medicine, a visit to Urgent Care was disappointing; the doctor was a cold fish about my cannabis use for pain, only offering opioids or a steroid injection. Even then she could not promise the spasms would be gone.

Cannabis makes them go away, I informed, but she wouldn't engage. I finally asked if the clinic was federally funded, to this she gave a knowing and firm, "yes." She couldn't have talked about this good medicine if she wanted to.

The nurse listened attentively, however, and confided in me when the doctor was out of earshot that she was suffering from spasms in her legs, and how could she get some of this medicine? She shared this with me as she stood (all day) at a computer taking down patient information. My heart sank to hear her situation, and I shared what I could. She not only "liked" my Fan Page on Facebook, she read an essay I penned on pain management and sent me a note of thanks.

BODY PAIN

Salves, creams, tinctures and other forms of cannabis have been proven to reduce pain and inflammation.

All Aboard the Wellness Train!

On a train recently, the conductor announced if anyone on board had nausea medicine. Now, the ramifications of me helping someone with cannabis are great. Firstly, I'm not a doctor; I'm merely an enlightened cannabis patient. Secondly - well, there are enough reasons why I shouldn't help, but my mom is looking down on me from Heaven, this is God's medicine, and she didn't raise someone who sits on her hands.

No matter the consequences, I adjusted my proverbial Florence Nightingale hat, put my faith on the rule of the rail's "right of way," and headed down to the car in question with my little bottle of Nternal Oil, a light oil made in the Bay Area of California, with very mild psychoactive properties, due to the low heat process used.

There sat one very sickly passenger and all eyes were on me as I announced, "I have medicine that works great for nausea, but it's made from cannabis." To this, I get the usual blank stares, and I must use the dreaded word, "Are you familiar with marijuana?" (You know, I really wanted to say "The Marijuana.") To this, her eyes light up, knowingly, and I ask if she has a teaspoon.

The looks on the faces surrounding this woman are priceless as she takes the dose. She thanks me and I wish her well, making my way back to my seat. Checking on her two hours later, she is found chatting it up with the woman next to her, a drink in one hand and food in the other. "How are you feeling?" I inquire, already knowing the answer. To which she replies with eyebrows raised, "I'm feeling better," as if surprised at the outcome.

No Coincidences

Stories are all around me. Sitting in the waiting room at a local lab in Humboldt County, California where I live, a woman next to me explains how her 45 year old daughter is getting an MRI done for a brain tumor.

The woman was confined to a wheelchair with multiple health issues, including chronic pain, depression, and PTSD from a past trauma. Her daily prescription cocktail consisted of more than 20 pharmaceuticals and for the most part she was bedridden.

One thing led to another and I informed of my work and my own healing with the plant. Both the woman and her mother were cannabis patients, only smoking to relieve symptoms and complications from numerous prescription meds, as is the norm, but bud is expensive and they couldn't always medicate as needed.



I have medicine that works great for nausea, but it's made with cannabis



PASS THE PIPE, glass paraphernalia is the most common way to consume cannabis.

To make a long story short, within weeks I was able to introduce them to a local dispensary's "Compassionate Care Program," and today (some months later), she is out of the wheelchair, walking on her own with a walker. She's also done away with more than 10 prescription meds to date.

Can I get a witness?

The minute someone is educated about this plant, lives are changed. And I don't say that lightly. While the psychoactive properties of the plant can be challenging, lower percentage strains are being hybridized and grown everyday now, with real medicine being made with lesser or no psychoactive effects. Safe access is crucial and dispensaries need to provide many options for many ailments.

Once someone knows the benefits of this plant, they are compelled to share. All we have are our words. These are mine:

The Lord as my witness, I will Evangelize Cannabis until the last non-violent, failed-Drug War patient is released. I will sing this truth to the heavens until God smiles down upon me with thanks for praising his good work. Though I may be called a conspiracy theorist, I will walk through the valley of Cannabis and know that it is good. Amen.

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Senator Jeanette White will be drafting a bill pertaining to cannabis legalization for 2016. It is reported that she will back small business entrepreneurs and local growers in this law.

By James Priest
Image by Sharon Letts

It's harvest time in Vermont. If you live in Burlington, then you know it is high time to harvest your medicine, from the healthy superfood kale to the extremely robust multi-super-use cannabis plant. Your outdoor cannabis plants are done for the season. The kale is not far behind. You know winter's on its way. If only there were a way for you to enjoy the fruits of harvest all year long, you say. Well, there is. Depending on just what you're wanting to harvest, there are several choices available to you. If you are looking to grow some green, here are some suggestions to make a great year-round harvest possible.

What you Need to Get a Script

For the time being, in Vermont you can get a prescription for medical cannabis if you have had a physician for six months and have a qualifying condition. Currently, the qualifying conditions are:

- Multiple Sclerosis, HIV/Aids, Cancer

- A disease or treatment that causes severe, persistent, or retractable symptoms

- Chronic disorders, debilitating diseases, cachexia or wasting syndrome

- Severe pain, severe nausea, or seizures.

Any of these conditions and you may qualify for a medical cannabis license. Currently, a plan to allow terminally ill patients to bypass this process is in the works and should be passed any day now. 2016 will be the year for Vermont. Discussions took place between growers and cannabis legalization advocates in Vermont centered on passing legislation in 2016 making recreational cannabis legal.

Will Vermont legalize Recreational Cannabis in 2016

Senator Jeanette White will be drafting a cannabis legalization bill for 2016 that is reported to

back small business entrepreneurs and local growers. Last year, a number of growers, health experts, critics, and law enforcement had meetings with Senator White to help effectively prepare the bill for 2016. With full legalization, Vermont will not only produce wonderful medicine and an excellent alternative to alcohol and tobacco, they'll also be cultivating their economy substantially.

Cultivate Your Love of Growing

Currently, you must be a caregiver or patient licensed by the state of Vermont to grow and legally possess cannabis. You may grow up to nine plants (two that are mature) and possess two usable ounces of cannabis at any one time. There's just a civil fine for one ounce or less. This shows great promise for the direction legislation is heading. If you want to try gardening for yourself, here are some great places to help you get started.

Get Your Grow On

- Anything Grows in Richmond
- Green Thumb Gardening Hydroponics located in Underhill
- Southern Vermont Hydroponics in Mount Holly and Rutland
- White River Growpro in White River Junction

These are all excellent places for gardening supplies, whether you are growing in soil or with hydroponics indoors. They have friendly, knowledgeable staff on hand to give you advice and direction. The satisfaction you'll get from growing your own ganja, other herbs and spices, fruits and vegetables is unlike any store-bought experience. Many find growing their own at home to be therapeutic, not to mention the taste and health benefits of a controlled growing environment.

Go Green This Turkey Day and Avoid the Family Drama

Remember this harvest to set a little something aside to enjoy with family during Thanksgiving. Ditch the traditional beer and football for some brews and buds. Try a craft brew from one of the local breweries with some fine quality medical cannabis; you'll agree it makes for the perfect day. Black Friday would be a lot more peaceful if everybody would just smoke a little, eat a little, or vape another toke. Avoid the drama between your girlfriend, boyfriend, brother, sister, daddy and your mama. Herb is the healing of the nations and the creator of munchies, which go hand in hand with a peaceful Thanksgiving feast. Stay safe this Thanksgiving and remember to be thankful for all that you have. Have a green harvest and a lifted Thanksgiving!



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~ WHAT'S YOUR CANNABIZ

By Matthew Owen

It's a simple question. What's your cannabis business plan? If you don't have one, that should be your first clue that you probably won't survive the coming California cannabis legalization. If you're still going off the old model of growing as much cannabis as you can, where ever you can, and selling it across state lines, your days are numbered.

A recent study showed the number of consumers using cannabis has increased from 1 in 20, to 1 in 10 over the past decade nationwide. In California I would venture a guess that it's 1 in 5 adults and I may be very low on my estimates depending upon the city.

On Friday, October 16, I attended the Humboldt Prosperity Network's Business Leader Luncheon in Eureka, CA. Speakers included the Eureka Chamber of Commerce board president and Northern California Community Blood Bank Executive Director Tom Schallert, Community Credit Union of Southern Humboldt Senior Vice President Janet Sanchez, North Coast Horticulture owner Stephen Geider, Humboldt CA Association dispensary Executive Director Liesl Finkler, California State Senator Mike McGuire's local representative Robert Christensen and State Board of Equalization member Fiona Ma.

Open to the public and media, this event was about the future of cannabis retail business in California. Tom Schallert talked about how he had over a dozen governmental agencies with overseeing his local blood bank. Janet Sanchez discussed how the feds were dictating what we can do in the financial industry. Stephen Geider chatted about how he is growing his horticulture supply business. Liesl Finkler spoke of running a cannabis dispensary on the local level. Rob Christensen shared how Sacramento is adapting to the cannabis world. Finally, Fiona Ma talked openly of how the state can tax the cannabis industry.

We also learned some cannabis marketing. SexxPot is one of the most popular cannabis brands. Is it any better than any other cannabis product? Doesn't matter. One cannabis farmer got smart and branded their product SexxPot. What goes better than cannabis and sex? Think of Menage à Trois wine. Is the wine that good? Meeh. But is it great marketing? Every person who buys this wine is subliminally thinking maybe, just maybe... The same thing goes for SexxPot cannabis. Someone got a brilliant idea and sold their cannabis strain as sex and pot. Is there anyone reading this that doesn't want sex and pot?

In Colorado, cannabis dispensaries are offering low THC "Rookie Cookies" to their new customers to get them acclimated before they move on to other cannabis products, such as cannabis-laced cookies, brownies, gummi bears, and "Green Fever," where the THC content can incapacitate.

True story... a good friend of mine has some medical issues and uses cannabis products. A few months ago his back was acting up so he took a cannabis gummi bear. Nothing. So fifteen minutes later he took another one. Nothing again. Ten minutes later he took a third one. Then, the delayed effect came home to roost. Suddenly, he couldn't feel his hands or feet while driving. Watch out for that delayed effect, OK?

So what's your cannabiz?



SEXXPOT

The Paradigm Cannabis Group

1271 Evergreen Rd, # 814

Redway CA 95560

paradigmcannabis.com

Kew@paradigmcannabis.com

45 | Emerald | November 2015



Trimmigration

By Kerry Reynolds | Photography by Sharon Letts

It was as if the local cafe has been lifted out of Garberville and transported to Rome or Paris. Italian is the language at a table of eight with their large backpacks piled in a corner. Nearby, a young couple converse in French, and several other tables are populated with Spanish-speaking travelers. I exchange bemused looks with some other locals. We are definitely outnumbered, but we've come to expect surreal experiences like this one every fall, and we all know these passport-toting youths aren't here to tour the redwoods. They're part of the seasonal influx of farm worker that have come to be called "trimmigrants", and they're looking to make good under-the-table cash turning messy branches of leafy, sticky ganja into neat, sparkling bags of Humboldt buds.

The Musician Trimmigrant

At a local Southern Humboldt music venue, a clarinet and fiddle take turns bolting out a playful Balkan tune over the toe tapping, hip-shaking back beat of the drum and bass. The Eastern European folk dance song builds to a frenzy and ends with a rousing finish. As the crowd hoots and claps, the leader explains, "we just got off the hill." Everyone nods, knowing exactly what that means this time of year. They've been working a trim scene and are jubilant to take a night off and have some fun.

Trim work has allowed many talented artists to focus on their art the rest of the year. Johnny is the bandleader of an eclectic traveling band that plays a mix of Balkan, Klezmer, swing, Americana, and hot jazz. Trimming for three months every year has helped the band tour Europe, Central America, Australia and New Zealand.

"When we perform, we make enough to live and pay for fuel and food, but we're not getting rich on the road, obviously," Johnny says on a break between sets. "Trimming has afforded me a way to do what I want without a huge commitment. It's a good thing

for musicians and I have a lot of musician friends that also come out here and do the same thing."

The work can be intense. Johnny says one season he worked 20 hours a day, but now he works 15-16 hours to trim an average of 2 lbs a day "when it's decent," meaning the buds are a good size. He says it takes him between 6-10 hours to trim a pound, and the money assures him he can afford plane tickets to get his band members to the 200 concerts they perform around the globe the rest of the year.

The Activist Trimmigrant

It's Miguel's first year here. He's a political activist in Barcelona, where he and his friends promote alternatives to capitalism, and set up squats and social centers in foreclosed, abandoned buildings. "We're all very poor in Spain. One of my friends was telling me she'd done trimming before in California, so we thought we'd try it. We hitchhiked from San Francisco, and a nice woman picked us up around Ukiah and took us to Garberville, saying it was a good place to find work."

Yet, he says it was much harder to find work than he and his girlfriend expected, and before they did they had some rather horrible nights camping out around Garberville.

"One night we were camping under a bridge with some other people from Spain, and some others came along who were much more about doing drugs and having a party. They were drinking and screaming all night long, and we did not feel safe at all." After

“**Back in the '80's no one called it trimming.. We were all called clippers.**”

about two weeks of networking they landed a trim job that included food and a comfortable van to sleep in.

Several Garberville-area locals say that international trimmers have trickled in the area for over a decade, but their numbers started to be really noticeable around 2012, and have grown each year since. Nevertheless, a large number of trimmigrants come from every corner of this country.

The Herbalist Trimmigrant

Brianna runs a bustling herbal remedy business in Upstate New York, and her husband has more work than he can do there as a permaculture designer. But it's still worth it for them to put everything on hold for three months each fall to earn a lot of tax-free trim cash. They've just finished for the year and they're going back with over \$30,000, which they plan to invest in building a Cobb house.

They worked at the same farm Brianna started at in 2007 when she was a 21-year-old traveler just beginning her path as an herbalist. Back then the money from trimming empowered her to spend the rest of the year traveling and studying plants

"When I first started I was young and I didn't value the work as much as I do now. I would take a lot of breaks and I was more into the social dynamics of the trim room. Now that I have a family I just know the value of working, and I just work really hard."

Brianna says the other trimmers are also much more serious about work than in years past. "When I began nine years ago, I would see a lot of drinking and a lot of pot smoking around the trim scene. Over the years, with the changes in the world economy, I'm working more with foreigners who are really disciplined because they come from a place where they can't even find waitress work. It's less about partying. I don't see the overconsumption of pot anymore because when they smoke it slows them down, they stop to admire things more."



The Trimmigrant's Teacher

Kelly Bond has been trimming for 32 years and I'm using her real name because she's literally written the book on it, titled *The Clipper's Handbook: Harvesting the Emerald Triangle*. Back in the '80's no one called it trimming, she says, "we were all called clippers."

The book blends technical aspects of drying and trimming with snapshots of the culture. "The psychology of this place is really interesting here," Kelly explains. "This book is 30 years of my observations and experiences. If you want to learn how to clip, let me tell you two things: how we are here, and how to do the job well." Kelly says she's always been a keen observer of the unique social dynamics of the trim scene. "Clipping rooms look like microcosms of people everywhere. Everything happens in a clipping room - you have to develop patience, you have to develop your skill set, you have to have a good method, you have to be able to be easygoing, put up with other personality traits, try not to be irritating."



Images from a Trim Scene

She describes her first clipping job 32 years ago, when CAMP raided the farm on her third day. "On a Monday, under the fog, at dawn, we had vans heading up the road headed to the ranch where I was working. So I got the experience of being thrown on a dirt bike, dropped off in the middle of the woods, thrown a walkie-talkie, told to stay put. Watching helicopters, my little 21-year-old heart was so overwhelmed thinking, oh my God, that's our government and they're trying to get us! It was completely frightening. I was so shocked I couldn't even speak for most of the day. Seeing this whole movie go on, watching the choppers carrying weed away, heading back to the building where the Feds were standing earlier in the day and sleeping there that night, and the cast of characters I met that day, its absolutely why I'm still here. For me, it was the adventure I wanted to have and I've been here ever since."

Raising the Respect - The Trimmer's Ball

While the payoff can be great, plenty of trimmigrants endure uncertainty, subpar living conditions, and some very eccentric bosses who moved to the hills to escape the rules of civil society.

Lisa is a teacher from Brazil. She's been a trimmigrant for seven years, but this year she's feeling disheartened. "There's a lot of social injustice in the trim world. The vibe you often get from the growers is 'we're here all year, working our butts off growing these plants, and investing so much. Then you come in for one to three months and make your tiny fortune, and you don't have to clean up or deal with anything.' That's the idea they have about it, but what they're not seeing is that we are a part of the process. We are as needed for the whole thing to thrive, its a living ecosystem. They'll come into the room and say, 'Some people are paying \$150/lb now you should feel privileged that you're making \$200, or getting food'. That's not a real human way to talk to people. I think they're power tripping because in the real world there are boundaries and ways you can treat the people who work for you. That is lacking here. That part is the hardest part of it for me, and its why this is my last year."

While many events have cropped up in recent years to celebrate and honor growers, this year there's a new celebration dedicated to raising the level of respect for

Tips for Getting in the Zone

■ Brianna (averages 3 lbs per 12 hour day)

"In my trim room, we like the silence. I like to have a clear mind. Trimming is like meditation, similar to painting or writing. I move through a lot of things in my mind. It's like the time in winter when you can nourish your soil. Sometimes we'll set up a topic for the day and we'll all tell stories about that, like your first love, or refrigerators."

■ Kelly (author of *The Clippers Handbook*)

"The best people I'm seeing this year all plug into their little headsets and listen to books on tape and we don't even hear from them all day. They're absolute machines, but there's a discipline there you have to develop. This is a limited time thing, plug yourself into whatever the heck you need to listen to, but talking is not something that anybody does that's serious. Its too distracting and you don't get into a flow that way."

the seasonal farm workers needed to complete the harvest. The first annual Trimmer's Ball and Cannabis Costume Contest takes place on Friday, November 20th at the Mateel Community Center. Opening the show will be the conscious dance rock band Clan Dyken followed by electronic dance music by DJ Marjo Lak and Copper-ton3 accompanied by psychedelic visuals from Marmalade Sky. It's also a benefit for

cannabis advocate Bear Dyken of the band Clan Dyken who, after 35 years of performing benefit concerts, had his homestead burn down in this year's Butte Fire. The event needs volunteers. For more information call (707) 923-3368 or visit mateel.org. And next time you enjoy a gorgeous bud, remember to give thanks not just to the grower, but also to the trimmer.

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The Stonely Planet

The *Emerald's* Humor Guide to Trimmigrant Culture

By Samuel Greenspan | Photography by J. Viet & Sharon Letts

Trimmigrants are an interesting and diverse crew who flock here to take part in autumn bounty, lending their own agricultural stylist techniques to a grow operation near you. Whereas once it was damn near exotic to have an Oregonian helping tend the fields, so to speak, now you're in a burgeoning international hub. So, in ambivalent honor of the first person who spilled the proverbial beans that lead to Irish transients asking you sweetly for work as they brandish beards as red and orange as their scissor handles, let's take a brief, but fun trip dissecting each culture's relationship to trim scenes, and how to get a leg up on their modus operandi. It should be kept in mind as one reads this helpful guide that I am in no way opposed to the influx, I actually find it rather fun and have nothing but great things to say about most of our ephemeral friends.



This list is compiled from my years in the hills, and will not reflect every country, sorry Scandinavia. Maybe if you sent more of your women we wouldn't have this issue. (Please, though. Do that.)

ABOVE
Processed cannabis next to a bag of trimmed cannabis leaves.

Photo by J. Viet

BELOW

Trimmer manicuring cannabis

Photo by Sharon Letts



The Stonely Planet

Canada

Our neighbors to the north in the Parker and Stone defined “frozen, desolate wasteland,” these egregiously friendly trimmigrants can either be the best or the worst people to occupy your trim scene. Their zest for outdoorsmanship will render most of them pretty well adept at taking care of themselves when it comes to their lodging and general survival. However, it should be noted that anything other than unkindness, or polite musings in their midst causes wave after wave of silent, boorish judgment, for you see...

France

The best (if not basest) way to put this is that the Canadians are nice, but are dicks about it. Whereas the French are dicks, but are nice about it. Canadians freakishly and almost disconcertingly revert to kindness. The French, however, vet you. They will put you through the ringer of their judgment, and if they deem an at least halfway intelligent creature, they will open up to you like the tarp just came off the crop. Never ones to disguise their truly feelings, and a bit more high maintenance, these lovely creatures are a welcome, fun, and surprisingly rowdy bunch. However, if we're measuring rowdiness, one needs look no further than...

Australia

Yes, blokes of both genders from the former British penal colony that now boasts more liberal governance laws than most European countries and a better record of gun control than any of the aforementioned, has absolutely no problem keeping up with job requirements, or keeping up with you. One wonders when working with these people whether or not they're even made of flesh and bone as they mow through crops and chug beers while still maintaining a blue collar demeanor that keeps most grow scenes chugging out pounds like a kanga in a bounce house. The only word of warning to all: do NOT try to keep up with their drinking, or their shenanigans. They are biologically more inclined to whatever they're suggesting and you will come out the other side with a broken leg you earned on a dare and a broken liver you earned from pride.



United Kingdom

What can be said about these four countries (Correct. Google it.) that hasn't been said before? Let's make this rundown extremely pointed:

England

Occasionally poor work ethic is matched only by their sense of entitlement and an ability to deal with our rain. Many can be absolute delights though, but, well, ask the French.

Ireland

They're perfect. Agreeable, but not as much people pleasing doormats like the Canadians, they're perhaps my favorite additions to the trim scene.

Scotland

They're like a Mickey Mantle rookie card in your collection, rare, chipper, and full of booze, these wonderful people are like if the aforementioned in the UK had their drinking way more controlled.

Wales

I personally have yet to meet any Welsh out in the hills, but I have included this to prove that I know that the UK has four countries. Again. Google it.

Mexico

As wonderful as anything you won't read about in the newspapers, our neighbors to the south are generous, grateful, and giving with their time, and sure as hell know how to help with the crops. Most are actually not paid what they deserve for their time. Crazy, right? Which leads us lastly to...

South America

Like Mexico, but with more topographical diversity and both Spanish and Portuguese languages. All, and I do mean ALL, trim migrants from this continent have been nothing but raucous, beautiful sweethearts. Their only hindrance may be their infectious spirits, which make working seem paltry compared to all of the fun you could be having. Don't let it distract you.

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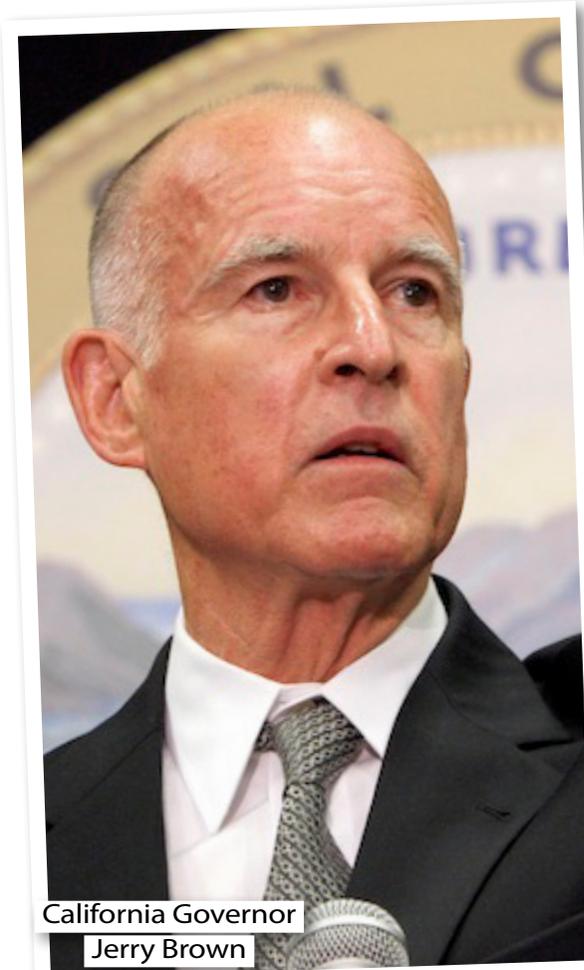
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Change is in the Air Seasons ending

By Shelby Lucero, Sacramento NORML

It's that time of year when we are almost finished, and we can't help but think of what our season will look like next year.



California Governor
Jerry Brown

SO MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT AB266

It's time for the cannabis community to come out of the shadows and into the light. While California may become a legalized state next year, right now regulation of our medicine has been changed. With AB 266, we have no more proposition 215 "The Compassionate Use Act" and no more SB420. How can a bill take away the vote of the people - challenged with People v. Kelly (2010)? Do any of you see this as unconstitutional? I believe that we should take AB 266 to the voters. Put it on the ballot and let's see what California really wants.

I'm in favor of regulation and even had a hand in the making of AB 266, but it was never discussed that it would replace anything we voted for. It's hard enough to get growers to get recommendations and then register with the State of California. Now they have to tag their plants and register their property with the county or city they

will be growing in. Heaven forbid if a farmer is one of the founders in our industry and has been arrested on felony charges while trying to develop a new strain of cannabis that destroys cancer cells. Or, you could be a cultivator busted while engineering a method of extraction that would allow a very sick patient to use an oil to medicate and to draw from a smokeless device to relieve pain and nausea immediately. Imagine punishing "felon" patients by not allowing them to do business in an industry they suffered and took risks to build. Is there not enough business for all of us? It's times like this where I feel like asking: "Governor Brown, what are you smoking?"

Industry Politicians

AB266

Rob Bonta



"AB 266 is the result of an unprecedented stakeholder process in which my colleagues and I brought everyone to the table, from medical marijuana businesses to law enforcement and patient advocates, to create a comprehensive regulatory framework for the state's billion dollar medical marijuana industry,"
- Rob Bonta

AB243

Jim Wood



"Since the passage of Proposition 215 in 1996 the industry has operated largely in a shadowy grey area. With these new guidelines I am hopeful we will begin to see a medical marijuana industry that is safer, and more accountable."
- Jim Wood

SB643

Mike McGuire



"This critical legislation will finally provide Northern California and North Coast communities -- along with medical marijuana cultivators -- the regulations and resources they need to address the impacts of this multi-billion dollar industry," - Mark McGuire

Texas Cannabis Report

A Teacher's View On Teen Cannabis Consumption

COLUMNIST
Stephen Carter

LOCATION
Waco, Texas

FOUNDED
Texas Cannabis Report

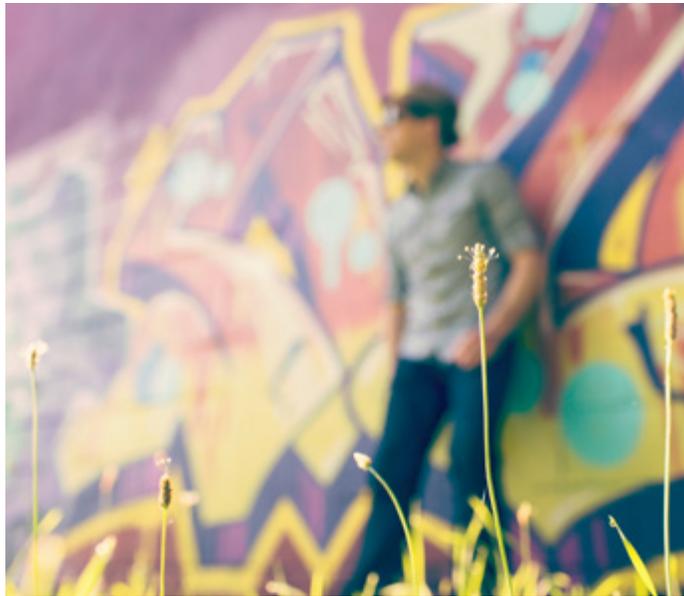
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Stephen Carter is a 28 year old journalist and information technology specialist living in Waco, Texas. He serves as Deputy Director for NORML of Waco and has been working with the cannabis movement since 2009. He founded Texas Cannabis Report in 2013 to bring Texans accurate cannabis related news.



Data has shown however that teen consumption has not increased in states where medical cannabis has been legalized. The total number of states with a medical program currently stands at 21, while four states, as well as Washington, D.C. have legalized the non-toxic plant.

Either medical cannabis or full legalization will be on the ballot in nine states in 2016.

We spoke with a Texas high school teacher who shared their experience with teen cannabis consumption to get a clearer idea of how this matter has impacted the classroom and students' lives.

With over a decade of experience, this teacher says that during their first year on the job a student was arrested for selling cannabis to other students.

"I became curious how cannabis was sold and used by students in my school. I wondered if anything was different from when I attended high school in the 70s. It turns out that the sale and use of cannabis at my high school is exactly as it was

in high schools in the 70s. Organized criminal enterprises recruit high school students to sell cannabis to their fellow students. The students selling can make up to several hundred dollars each month. They sell very small quantities, selling cannabis in pre-rolled joints or maybe sixteenths or eighths of an ounce."

As it turns out, many students attend class while under the influence of cannabis.

"The cannabis is sold and used just off the school grounds before and after school and during lunch and at parties. I can see small groups of students leaving the school grounds each morning before school and going to hide behind buildings, in groves of trees or in their cars to get high. Obviously, I have never seen the actual sale or use of cannabis by students but the pattern is the same as the 70s and these groups of students are the same types of kids who have always smoked cannabis in high school—the rebels and the outsiders."

"Students who get high before school or at lunch get sleepy in class and they get thirsty and they don't do any work. They might act silly and laugh and giggle. Sometimes their eyes are bloodshot."

Most teens who consume cannabis are typically said to do so because of emotional and family issues.

"Many of them have been neglected or abused. They tend to be very unhappy and sometimes angry kids who are using cannabis as an escape from their very serious emotional and family problems they are dealing with. The cannabis is not causing the problems; the cannabis is the escape from the core issues affecting their lives negatively."

The current laws are not helping make things any better for them either.

"These kids need intense counseling. Instead, if they get caught, they get arrested, they go to jail, they go through the juvenile justice system, unless they are 17, which many of them are, and then they are treated as an adult in the state criminal justice system. The 17 year old students end up with a criminal record that may prevent them from joining the military, getting student loans, attending college or getting hired for jobs. So they start their adult lives at an extreme disadvantage."

Teaching students about how getting arrested for cannabis impacts their lives is important.

"I teach my students the repercussions of being arrested for cannabis in Texas. Many of them have no clue about the law or the criminal justice system and how a conviction

for possession will affect their future lives. Teenagers don't think about the future or secondary effects of their choices; they only live in the moment. I teach them about the consequences and hope that they will listen and think about what I said when (not if, when) they are offered a joint."

"Arresting these teens, locking them in jail and giving them a criminal record is not the answer to this problem. We are handicapping their future by arresting them. And we are not dealing with the core reasons they decided to start using cannabis in the first place. Possession of cannabis needs to be a civil penalty for teenagers; not a Class B misdemeanor. And if they are caught using cannabis, they need long-term professional counseling and support to deal with their emotional and family problems that led to most of them choosing to get high."

Opinions vary among teachers on the matter.

"Teacher opinions on this issue cover the same range as Texas citizens' opinions; some teachers believe harsh punishment is a deterrent, some believe, like me, that harsh punishment only exacerbates the problems for these teenagers. The fact is, nothing has changed in our high schools since the 70s. Cannabis is still available on a daily basis to any student who chooses to use it, the cannabis is still being supplied by student dealers through organized local criminal enterprises, and harsh punishment does not deter most students who decide that they want to get high because they believe they are invulnerable. That is why I believe legalization will help this issue. We will put the criminal enterprises out of the cannabis business and we will have dispensaries licensed by the state which check IDs. It will be impossible to keep teens from using cannabis, just like it is impossible to keep them from using alcohol if they choose to

drink. However, legalizing cannabis will bring it up from the underground market and make it more difficult for teens to purchase and use."

This is an issue which this teacher relates to very well, as they speak with the perspective of someone who has been there.

"I did smoke cannabis in high school. I was dealing with serious emotional and family problems. Cannabis helped me relax. Cannabis also caused me to skip school to smoke it, did not help me make good grades because I was too high to focus and ended up getting me kicked out of high school for possession. What I really needed was professional counseling but that was not available."

They also believe that there is never a good reason for teens to consume cannabis for recreational purposes.

"Teens are not responsible enough to be using cannabis recreationally, just as they are not responsible enough to be using alcohol. Teens need to

wait until they are 21 to even consider using cannabis. I told my own son many times when he was a teen that there were zero reasons for him to use any mind altering substance while he was focused on his education, his athletic development and figuring out who he was as a person."

Texas saw 12 bills introduced to the legislature during the 2015 session concerning cannabis, varying from penalty reduction, medical, to full legalization. Only one of those bills passed, a limited CBD medical cannabis bill.

A recent survey by Texas Lyceum shows that 75 percent of Texans want to reduce the penalty for cannabis possession. As for legalization, about 46 percent are supportive while 48 percent are opposed.

Stay up to date with the latest cannabis news from a Texas perspective by following the Texas Cannabis Report social media pages.

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As states stand on the verge of legalizing both medical and recreational cannabis, fears continue to play out among people concerned that the new policy will lead to increased consumption of cannabis by teens.



Finding our way back to the garden

Good Medicine

Let food be thy medicine, and medicine thy food.
- Hippocrates

What is your good medicine? Fragrant herbs beckon to us with health and well-being. When the sun shines we are called to its warmth. We are hydrated by the coolness of water, and comforted and strengthened by the food we eat. The way we move helps our biological systems to function, and if we are stagnant our bodies tell us by aches, pains, and illness.

The things that keep us healthy and alive are simple – good food equals good medicine, and good medicine grows in the ground – not in a laboratory from heavy metals and synthetic compounds. Real, nourishing food is made by human hands, not manufactured by machines with “modified fillers and flavor enhancers.”

Medicine Grows

Terpenes are the fragrant, active, beneficial, medicinal compounds in the essential oils in plants. The fragrance of plants calls us to them because we need them. It’s a symbiotic relationship, and the more flavorful and fragrant the plant, the more benefits it has medicinally.

Beta-caryophyllene (BCP) is a terpene that mimics cannabis; it activates the CB₂ receptor, acting as a non-psychoactive anti-inflammatory. Freshly ground black pepper is said to have an abundance of BCP, with a strong whiff said to do away with the paranoia often experienced with too much THC to the central nervous system.

As cannabis patients, we know the plant helps us. Smoking immediately elevates endorphins, quick as a morning jog, relieving aches and pains and enhancing the effects of prescription meds. When ingested, it replaces both over the counter meds and pharmaceuticals. This knowledge has come to us with a price and years of fighting through prohibition and misinformation.

Enlightenment comes out of struggle, and no one has struggled more to free the plant than those who understand what good medicine it really is. It’s also opened the door to education and enlightenment of other herbs, spices and medicinal plants, as medicine makers realize adding other beneficial plants to the mix only adds to the healing.

A study found in the National Institute of Health’s U.S. National Library of Medicine website, authored in part by CNN’s Dr. Sanjay Gupta (NCBI), states that chamomile is one of the “most ancient medicinal herbs known to mankind.” A member of the Asteraceae/Compositae family, there are two common varieties used medicinally, Roman and German. Chamomile, the mild herb tea known more readily for making one sleepy at night, surprisingly mimics cannabis in its healing benefits. Inflammation, bacterial and fungal infections, rheumatoid pain, gastrointestinal disorders, and fever are just a few of the ills quelled in the same manner as cannabis without the psychoactive effects. In fact, chamomile is incredibly calming for anxiety, panic attacks, and most symptoms on the Autistic Spectrum when used in an alcohol-based tincture or stronger oil, without any THC to affect the central nervous system.

The study gets interesting when cancer is mentioned, stating chamomile was found to inhibit growth on normal cells and “showed significant reductions in cell viability in various human cancer cell lines” in skin, prostate, breast and ovarian cancers.

Not just chamomile mimics cannabis when ingested in a strong concentrate. According to another study found on the NIH site (NCBI) eleven aromatic or terpene-heavy, beneficial plants were studied for antioxidant and antibacterial properties in Northern Italy in 1993. Via steam distillation essential oils were analyzed from lavender, thyme, Roman chamomile, French tarragon, bitter and sweet fennel, with Roman chamomile exhibiting the highest antioxidant rate.

Yet another study on the same site (NCBI) showed thyme having the strongest effect on human cancer cells when administered in a strong concentrate. Interestingly, a combination of thyme, cinnamon and rose oils killed acne in less than five minutes on contact.

In 2012, Chinese researchers studied the essential oil of *Rosmarinus officinalis* L., commonly known as rosemary (source: Natural Society.com), and found it to have strong antibacterial, antioxidant and cancer fighting properties when taken in strong oil distilled with steam. The study specifically cites a need for plant-based concentrates in fighting cancer and other modern ailments – stating chemotherapy harms good cells, whereas plants do not.

The success rates listed in various studies claim 90 percent success in putting tumors and cancers into remission when ingesting a strong oil, with chamomile giving a 93 percent reduction and as high as 97 percent reduction with thyme, oregano, or rosemary. This information gives serious food for thought.

Relax; it’s Coca, not Cocaine

Author and researcher Bill Drake has long known of the medicinal properties of plants bastardized by humans, penning his first effort, “The International Cultivator’s Handbook of Coca, Opium & Hashish” in 1981. Recently, he’s written specifically on the coca plant with his e-book, “Coca Leaf Papers,” expounding on the healthful benefits of this plant that humans break down with acetone and other chemicals, creating what’s commonly known as “cocaine,” a highly addictive and destructive synthetic drug.

Drake’s describes beneficial properties of the raw plant – easily made into a tincture – and they are much like cannabis and the other beneficial herbs in this story. Inflammation, infection, pain, digestive issues such as Crohn’s Disease, plus Hashimoto’s, and Alzheimer’s, to name just a few, all helped with real medicine from the coca plant actively grown in Bolivia today.

This thread of plant based research weaves together a common and reoccurring theme, herbal and medicinal plants are not put on this planet solely to manipulate for recreation and profit.





To Eat or Not to Eat?

A quick stop at my own local herb shop in Humboldt County was a disappointment, though, when I shared the news of essential oils putting cancers into remission. The problem is the type of oil sold in most of these shops is barely above food grade and not advised for daily ingesting. In my mind, this does not mean we can't do it; it means we need a better grade of oil to use against serious illness. The oil sold now is used topically, or as needed and not considered part of a daily regimen for wellness, the way cannabis patients know the plant.

The dissertation on therapeutic-grade essential oils by student of medicine, Nicole Stevens, MS, was turned into a protocol for cancer. She reports the treatment is currently being used by cancer patients, doctors in private practice, and in U.S. hospitals.

The oils Stevens chose to use are from DoTerra (www.doterra.com) and are high quality, distilled, ingestible oils sourced from organic and free-trade organizations from around the world. Most of the oils used in this treatment are common, such as thyme, clove, wintergreen, lemon, orange, sandalwood, and lavender. Frankincense, harvested via resin from the Boswellia family of trees in Africa is pricey due to the work involved, but is listed as a highly beneficial compound for treating illness – not just a gift of incense for the baby Jesus.

When I began this feature, chamomile was the only flower on my radar, from a random posting (now lost) on social media by a woman who put her breast cancer into remission via strong chamomile oil. As I began to research I've found many strong terpene plants have the ability to right the wrongs of decades of heavy metal and toxic poisoning, especially preventing and putting cancers into remission. But plants aren't the only tool in the shed of wellness.

What is your Good Medicine?

Movement is crucial to humans for good health. Amber Gean and business partner Yanna Nicole founded Yoga Ah Studio in Cincinnati, Ohio in 2014. Its mission is to help people connect with others via the "Good Medicine" within oneself. "Yoga connected me to my breath and opened my eyes to how I can heal myself using natural methods," Gean shared. "With regular practice you can eliminate tangible and intangible toxins that could keep you from feeling your best."

The National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (www.nccih.nih.gov) states that yoga is "a mind and body practice with historical origins in ancient Indian philosophy." The practice of meditative movement is used for everything from high blood pressure, glaucoma, anxiety, depression, and weight loss, leading to better health overall. Gean said they are all about

healing their bodies and their minds through movement and eating clean.

Though Ohio is not yet legal for medicinal or recreational use of cannabis, the women feel it's just a matter of time. Until then, they will share their "Good Medicine," via yoga and a message of unity with t-shirts and healthful sessions.

"The Medicine Patch" t-shirt is printed on soft natural fabric, so when you put on the "Good Medicine" shirt you immediately feel connected to a high vibration of self, healing and love," Gean said. "Loved ones going through chemo found a sense of peace and comfort wearing it." The "Good Medicine" shirt was given to a Shaman Healer who wore it for three days, as he sent prayers



(left) Amber Gean and Yanna Nicole of Yoga Ah Studio in Cincinnati, Ohio.

into the universe," Gean added. "Yoga purifies your body from the inside out, alleviating disease," Nicole shared. "A holistic lifestyle will make you feel like a whole person, nurturing your body and giving it freedom to grow with movement and

by practicing being in control. In current times, life can seem crazy, but we have a choice to keep moving, breathing, and finding more natural ways to heal ourselves with Good Medicine!"

For more information on Good Medicine's clothing line visit, Goodmedicineclothing.com

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Katree Saunders before Operation Chronic Problem

My Bust:

From Organizing America to Operation Chronic Problem, How Cannabis Prohibition Ruins Lives

By James Priest

Katree Darriel Saunders is a 30 year old mother, cannabis activist, and an active member of her community. Katree was living in Las Vegas, NV when she was arrested during a DEA sting called Operation Chronic Problem on the charges of: Conspiracy to distribute marijuana and hashish. For 10 grams of hashish and 3.5 grams of marijuana Katree has had her life as she knew it ended. This dedicated mother lost her family and job for trying to help. Trying to help what turned out to be a lying, conniving, scheming, weasel of a DEA Agent posing as a medical cannabis patient desperate for relief. This is Katree Darriel Saunders story. Her loss, her pain, and what many consider a major injustice as well as a violation of her constitutional rights.

Katree has been addicted off and on to prescription pain pills since the age of 15. In 2007, seeking pain relief from multiple car accidents, Katree Saunders became a medical cannabis patient. Knowing the harmful side effects of pharmaceuticals, plus their lack of effectiveness, Saunders chose medical cannabis. Not only did cannabis end Saunders pain, she was able to stop using prescription drugs all together. As a hardworking mother, Saunders put herself through college and became a positive and active member of her community.

Nevada's laws prohibited the sale of cannabis in 2007, which forced Saunders to seek it through the black market, known for unsavory individuals who traffic anything from people to weapons to stolen merchandise. Once when Saunders sought cannabis from the black market she was sexually assaulted. This devastating incident convinced Saunders she had to do something. There had to be a way for her to legally and safely obtain her medication.

She contacted the state of Nevada and spoke with Jennifer Barlett, who referred her to Michael McAuliffe of Nevada's Compassionate Care (NCC). It was there

Saunders found her place. She began working with NCC and was helping others away from the black market.

Things were going well for Saunders in February of 2010. She volunteered for a political event called Organizing America where President Barack Obama spoke about healthcare reform. Saunders was chosen to be on stage. She sat in the front row behind the president as he gave his speech. Upon the close, Katree was able to shake hands with the President. While doing so, Saunders said 'We needed to talk about medical patient's rights.' Then, according to Saunders, Obama looked at her and said 'I'm not prosecuting.'

Feeling confident and empowered after this Saunders then became active in helping patients obtain their medical cannabis cards from the Nevada state program. Unfortunately, while Saunders was working for NCC, she was set up by undercover DEA agents. They were conducting

what was known as Operation Chronic Problem. A federal DEA agent posed as a sick patient asking for help obtaining medical cannabis.

Saunders, being a compassionate person, facilitated this lying individual's request. Later she was indicted on distribution of a controlled substance. Saunders served four months in prison as well as a lengthy probation since she did not offer up the names of her medical patients.

While on pretrial Saunders was in another motor vehicle accident. This accident totaled her husband's vehicle and left Saunders with a fractured foot as well as a back injury. She was placed on morphine, Xanax, and MARINOL®. The morphine began to make her heart hurt, so she opted to stop taking it in exchange for MARINOL®. MARINOL® is a synthetic version of a naturally occurring compound known as delta-9-THC. However, since Saunders was on probation, the state of Nevada told her that she could not take MARINOL® since they would not be able to determine if she was consuming cannabis or simply taking the medication.

The State of Nevada Probation Department obtained a court order preventing Saunderson's doctor from prescribing MARINOL® to her. Now, not only was Saunders in trouble for selling 3.5 grams of cannabis and 10 grams of hash, she also lost her job, family and right to medicate.

During her incarceration, her husband divorced her, took the kids and moved away. While in custody at the prison, Saunders says she was 'sexually assaulted and harassed by US Marshals'.

During Saunders' trial, her attorneys advised her not to mention anything about her encounter with President Obama. For the 4 months Katree Saunders was incarcerated, the state split her time between a private prison corporation (Corrections Corporation of America - CCA) and a state prison, and earned a minimum of \$5,000 for hosting her. The state of Nevada spent an estimated \$20,656 per in-

Saunders served four months in prison as well as a lengthy probation since she did not offer up the names of her medical patients.

mate in 2012, and reported 267.9 million in costs. They also claimed to have 15 million dollars in prison related costs outside of the state budget. This is where states and private prison corporations make big dollars housing criminals. In the case of cannabis consumers, these corporations make out like bandits.

Imagine charging \$21,000 a year to house someone who was busted selling or possessing cannabis. In Saunders case, that 13.5 grams of cannabis, with a street value of \$150, cost taxpayers over \$20,000 to put her through the system. That doesn't include the cost of the actual arrest, which stands at \$1,500 to \$3,500 with booking, paperwork, police officers fees, donuts, etc.

Saunders fought hard to break away from prescription drugs, but in the end they were her only option. Purdue Pharma, the makers of OxyContin, has

“ In Saunders case, that 13.5 grams of cannabis, with a street value of \$150, cost tax payers over \$20,000 to put her through the system.”

been making billions off victims. Purdue Pharma is involved in countless lawsuits and their officials have admitted to deceitful and immoral medical practices, yet they are still making money. These are the ones that presidential candidate Bernie Sanders speaks out about when he refers to the top one-tenth of 1%.

In 1993 the DEA allowed pharmaceutical companies to produce 3520 kilos

of a drug known as oxycodone. Twenty-two years later they are manufacturing 137.5 thousand kilos of the same drug. That is an increase of 39 times in the manufacturing of this controlled substance. Since President Nixon founded the DEA in 1973, they have done nothing but prosecute those who attempt to possess, grow, or in any way affiliate themselves with cannabis.

Medical cannabis helps millions of people across the United States and world to find relief from pain and suffering. Cannabis helped Saunders break her addiction and take back control of her life. Cannabis is a safe treatment alternative for many illnesses, as well as the management of symptoms associated with a broad array of medical complications. Prescription drug addiction, of course, is a problem that is not only plaguing the United States, but the whole world.

Saunders' battle with a prescription drug addiction from a young age illustrates the carelessness of the medical industry in allowing doctors to overprescribe dangerous medications. It has also enabled them to receive substantial kickbacks from pharmaceutical companies in the process.

According to ABC News, America consumes over 90% of the world's hydrocodone and 80 percent of the planet's opioids. The United States of America makes up only 4.6 percent of the planet's population. This opioid problem has destroyed mothers, fathers, brothers, and sisters. Children and soldiers suffer horrendously because of our country's support for the pharmaceutical industry. Children suffer by being denied medication that could in fact actually help them, and at times even cure them. Chil-

dren also suffer by losing parents who are consumed by prescription drug addiction. Soldiers who protect our freedom, often with their own lives, suffer from illnesses such as PTSD. They are sometimes denied a natural treatment, such as cannabis, to help with their symptoms.

The Doctors Enforcement Agency

The DEA licenses more than 600,000 surgeons, doctors, and podiatrists to administer prescriptions for narcotic pain relievers. According to NORML (National Reform of Marijuana Laws), in 2011 there were an estimated 1.5 million registered medical cannabis patients living in the United States of America. The sad side of this is that the laws pertaining to medical cannabis forced so many to seek their medication on the black market.

The public seems to believe that we think cannabis is the new cure-all, and other medications should be eliminated. This is not true. Common sense will tell you that there are many medical advancements today which have led us to the most sophisticated and advanced techniques and cures. During this evolution we have managed to de-evolve at the same time, through the abuse of prescription drugs, as much the fault of patients as it is the doctors doing the prescribing. Some individuals get prescription pain pills in large quantities because the doctors will

prescribe them. Some individuals do not even take their medication. Instead they sell them on the street. When doctors prescribe as much as 100 to 300 pills at a time, with an average price of \$10 a pill, some people can make an extra \$3,000 a month.

Prohibition Has Failed and it's Hurting America

The prohibition of cannabis that began in the late 1930s has devastated countless numbers of American lives and destroyed families across the country. The FDA will approve OxyContin for 6-year-olds but will not support cannabis oil. This is an absurd violation of human rights. The United States of America has held the patent for medical cannabis since 2003. This means that they knowingly have information that solidifies and validates medical cannabis as an effective treatment. This also means that the DEA and FDA know, and have evidence, that cannabis is medicine.

For the past 12 years the DEA has left cannabis as a schedule 1 narcotic. This puts it in the same class as heroin and cocaine, that it has no medicinal value. They have lied to the American people kept the public sick, and now some laugh at us while the cannabis community is trying to change laws to better the world around us.



The Dogs of the Feds

The DEA regularly raids medicinal cannabis facilities and Indian tribal lands. They arrest, abuse, neglect and destroy the lives of countless cannabis consumers. Medical patients and recreational consumers alike suffer the wrath of the DEA everyday. There are no public benefits from cannabis prohibition! The medicinal aspects combined with potential taxes are unquestionably positive. The simple implementation of taxation on cannabis will help to eliminate the black market. This puts a lot of politicians, local sheriffs, and other individuals out of extra income they have enjoyed for years.

Katree Saunders felt the wrath of the DEA during Operation Chronic Pain



(left) Saunders medical card next to her state prison issued identification card.

and now you know her story. From being hooked on prescription drugs at 15, to meeting the President of the United States, to prison, to an avid cannabis

activist, Saunders' struggle is all too familiar to many Americans, except for meeting Mr. Barack Obama.

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#01332697
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HAYFORK – \$350,000
±18 Acres with amazing mountain views, this property is a must see! Features include a well, 2 water storage tanks, septic, electric, and a 2 story barn with sleeping loft. Lower section has creek frontage, one side of the property borders a swimming hole, and upper level has a cleared home site that is ready for your dream home!



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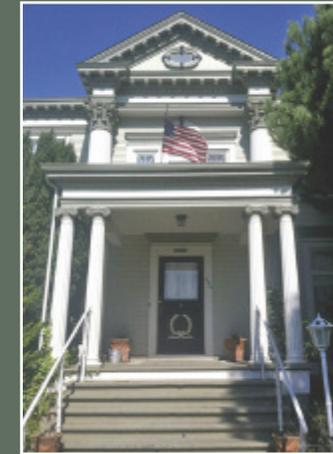
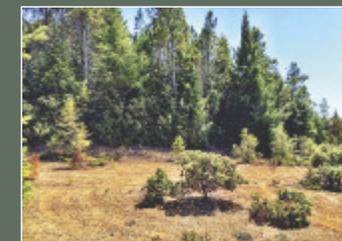
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Two bedroom, two bath cabin on ±40 acres featuring both wooded oak lands and rolling meadows. Great timber and recreational investment. Water sources are both a pond and creek. Beautiful valley views.

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Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom home situated on ±2.46 acres, secluded and private with your own forest and creek just steps from the house. Several out buildings with excellent sun exposure perfect for gardening!

FEATURED
SMITH RIVER – \$159,000

Property is made up of two separate parcels, ±20 acres each. With building sites, flats, ocean views, a well and existing cabin all this affordable parcel is missing is you!



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12 legal parcels totaling ±2,240 acres only 30 minutes from Arcata! Property has convenient deeded access off of HWY 299 and Titlow Hill Road, scenic Redwood Valley views, and some parcels offer PG&E power. Water sources include creeks and natural spring fed ponds. Parcels have a variety of timber including Maple, Tan Oak, Cedar, Fir, Alder, Pine and Madrone. Several investment opportunities available. Qualified Buyers, please call us to discuss.

RUTH – \$60,000
±5.5 Beautiful acres conveniently located next to the Ruth Store and Bar, just 10 minutes from Ruth Lake! Property features community water, PG&E at the street, and a developed camping site. Mostly wooded with a small meadow and creek as one of the boundaries.

SMITH RIVER – \$499,000
This beautiful ±75 acre “banana belt” property features a small barn, a 1680 square foot two bedroom home complete with a bonus atrium, power, multiple building sites, community water and stunning views of the Smith River Valley. Property is comprised of 4 separate legal parcels.

NEW LISTING
HYAMPOM – \$199,000
Conveniently located between Hyampom valley and Route 1, this landlocked property is an excellent timber investment. The parcel is heavily timbered and features a large year-round creek and a small, cleared building site.



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