



What's After Pot?

The Post-Marijuana
Prohibition Economy Forum
Mateel Community Center

Agenda:

6-7pm - Stakeholder introductions

7-9pm - Affinity workgroups

9 - 10pm - Summaries and assignments

Bring your own snacks, paper and pen
Tell your friends / Build our economic future

**** FREE ****

Tuesday, March 23, 2010 6 - 10pm

for info contact: Anna Hamilton @ 707-223-2500





HUMBOLDT CANNABIS-A FUTURE OF OPPORTUNITY

A Conference on the Present and Future of Cannabis in Humboldt County

Panels and presenters will share the latest information:

- Proposition 19 Tax and Regulate Cannabis 2010
- County, City and State Regulations
- Medical Cannabis Law and Criminal Marijuana Law
- Doctors, Patients, Providers and Dispensaries
- Lab Testing
- Cannabis as an Economic Anchor in Humboldt
- The Dynamic Marijuana Marketplace
- Sustainability
- Collectives
- Political Action and Local Opportunities

GET THE FACTS AND PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE

BAYSIDE GRANGE

2297 Jacoby Creek Rd. Bayside (just south of Arcata)

Saturday, July 24

2 to 6pm FREE

For more information go to www.HuMMAP.org

Meet Anna Hamilton

Born in Southern California in 1947, I've lived in Southern Humboldt for 28 years. I arrived here in the Fall, just months after my first vacation to the area in 1982. I felt I had found my peer group, and the demographic at that time was predominantly people of my age.

I've been a musician all my life, and soon got a gig in Shelter Cove, which I held for 19 years, through three owners and two locations. In that time I watched a generation of my peer's children grow up, and lived through C.A.M.P., C.L.M.P. and every possible kind of bully, neighbor and friend. I obtained a 215 in 2001, after years as an "outlaw."

When KMUD radio got going in Southern Humboldt I became a programmer and have produced music and talk shows for 16 years. I did a weekly gardening show for nine years, but we never talked about the biggest garden of all, marijuana.

About six years ago I wanted to do a mild form of "shock jock" community radio and kicked off my current talk show, "Rant and Rave." I felt the need to shake up our complacent progressive and politically correct listeners. I have brought many topics to the air that needed to come out of the closet, from our very high youth mortality rate to the campaign to "Stop the Spill" of diesel associated with rural indoor grow houses.

Since 215 passed in 1996 the price of outdoor marijuana has continued to drop, going for a thousand dollars a pound less than indoor. I have seen the local economy contract and I felt it was time to talk about it openly, especially given the possibility that recreational use of marijuana may become legal this year, with the probable impact of further lowering the value.

It is clear that the lawmakers don't understand the two distinct marijuana cultures, urban and rural, and that they have no idea how unstable the rural economies have become, or how flooded the market is. All this threatens our communities and the State's tax revenue projections.

The State and the Counties have become stakeholders in a stable marijuana market, but I don't think they understand that yet. Cities and Counties in California continue to roll out regulations that stifle the emerging markets. We are faced with a unique and complicated situation: With the Fed's looking over our shoulders we must try to organize the marijuana economy.

Californians in the marijuana industry can make a major contribution to sensible regulations for use, production, transportation and sale of medical and recreational marijuana. If we don't, we face decades of poorly thought out legislation with tragic unintended consequences.

www.KMUD.org

talk show
Rant and Rave with Anna Hamilton Jan. 1st, 2010
7-8pm

Preparing for the Post-Marijuana Economy

Whenever marijuana becomes legal, revenues from sales tax and property tax will go down drastically by an unknown amount. Given that we know marijuana is the biggest agricultural crop in California, and that Humboldt County has an international reputation for it, isn't it possible that the County may lose 15% to 30% of its revenues?

The value of this black market is a mystery to County officials. But a quick, informed look through any local paper will show you dozens of legal businesses that have collectively made millions of dollars meeting the needs of growers in this County.

The effects of the economic disaster facing Humboldt can be blunted by a pro-active effort on the County's part. Embrace the emerging legal marijuana economy, and trademark the County's international reputation as the capital of the finest marijuana in the world.

How will the officials in County government and administration receive this wave of talent and much needed revenue? I think it's time for a change in attitude about marijuana. There is simply too much revenue and potential at stake.

Opinion Editorial

After Pot, What?

The legalization of Marijuana will be the single most devastating economic event in the long boom and bust history of Northern California, impacting local businesses, non profit organizations, the workforce and County tax revenues. The increased availability of marijuana after the passage of 215 decreased the street price for outdoor pot from \$4,000 a pound to \$1,600 over a period of ten years. It is a common assumption that pot prices could drop to as low as \$500 a pound after legalization.

The displacement of persons deriving supplemental income through clipping, gardening and distribution of marijuana dwarfs the number of growers who will lose their income entirely. Accurate estimates of the annual value of this crop are impossible to find, but one local economist guesses that at a minimum it is \$500,000,000 a year. Five hundred million in this County alone.

When marijuana is legalized, and its value drops, the divide between the counter culture and the straight community will be irrelevant; we will all face this economic catastrophe together. For the sake of our region it is time to begin planning for this upheaval now, together.

There is a wide misconception of who the marijuana grower is. A percentage certainly does fit the profile of the "greedy grower", but most are property owners with children in school, just making a good living. Their ages range from 17 to 75. Their hair is short and they pay taxes. In fact they are so thoroughly integrated into our society that they take part in every aspect of Northern California culture. They have built schools, fire departments, credit unions, radio stations, health clinics and hundreds of other legitimate businesses. If we are to be honest we have to admit that their financial contributions of the past thirty years have been a welcome boon to our economy. It has been a live and let live arrangement. Them are us.

So, let me skip straight to the task of preparing for the economic trauma that is sure to follow legalization, and let those who understand begin to prepare for it now.

There are two measures proposing legalization in the works for this year; one is the people's initiative and the other is Assemblyman Tom Amiano's bill. The imminence and inevitability of legalization requires swift action by our County and State representatives. In order to effectively influence the course of events stakeholder groups must be formed. These are: The non profits; the businesses; the 215 medical community; the growers; the workers; the County and the State.

It is in the State and Counties' interests to establish a price support system. The State plans on taxing pot at \$50 an ounce, or \$800 a pound. If the value drops below a certain level their tax scheme fails.

The Counties need to lobby the State for the authority to administrate marijuana growing franchises, similar to those in the tobacco growing regions. The South, in order to protect its regional economies, established that cigarette manufactures could not grow tobacco and must purchase it from a fair distribution of grower franchises. The Counties could thus derive direct revenues from licensing these franchises, and not be dependent on the State to return tax revenues to them. This also creates incentive for the Counties to keep production local and protect the market price.

Local business leaders need to face up to their dependence on the pot economy and form a stakeholder group. The growers are already forming coops and associations, but they need to find people to

honestly communicate with the County, and lobby for keeping production in local, not corporate hands. The 215 interests are by far the best organized and are leading the way with their fearless openness.

The community most dramatically impacted will certainly be the non profit groups. Non profits have sprung up to meet community needs as government services have shrunk. Humboldt County has more non profits and donations per capita than anywhere in the nation. Given our "official" economic status you can well imagine that this support comes from easy money. Just an off the cuff list of non profit services that will be impacted include: animal welfare; environmental advocacy and restoration; domestic violence; child welfare; civil rights; schools support; community centers; community radio; recreation and dozens more. Our non profits represent a powerful stakeholder group and need to organize now.

These stakeholder groups need to let their County representatives know that legalization without protections for local production, price supports and regional administration will ruin the rural Northern California economy. In turn, our County officials need to lobby the State for these interests.

Start talking now among your groups, Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, economic development agencies and anyone who will listen. The huge dislocation that will follow the end of marijuana prohibition may not be preventable, but it is possible to salvage something, if we start working together now.

Anna Hamilton 707-223-2500 annabanana@asis.com

THE INDEPENDENT

ER 11

TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2012

lanker: Humboldt County's Marijuana Economy Is Slouch

BY DANIEL MINTZ INDEPENDENT STAFF WRITER

A local banker has named \$1 bilon as the minimum value of the unty's marijuana economy, and e's warned the Board of Supervisors the potential effects of its decline. In a presentation to supervisors at their March 6 meeting, Jennifer Budwig, the vice president of Redwood Capital Bank and its Fortuna branch manager, said she's conservatively estimated that 800,000 marijuana plants are grown annually in the county. The yearly marijuana mass

amounts to \$1 billion, which is 26 percent of the county's economy, she continued.

But the recent emergence of a "supply glut" has undermined prices. "As I'm sure a lot of you are aware of, we've seen a drop in the price of marijuana which has already depleted

dollars out of our economy, said.

Ten years ago, the price grown marijuana was \$5,000 a pound, she continuing to \$4,000 a pound a years ago. She said indoor p

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Banker Says Local Marijuana Economy Is Slouching

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STREET, STREET

valued at \$2,500 a pound.

The price of outdoor pot, ranging from \$3,500 to \$4,000 a pound a decade ago, has also dropped sharply, down to as low as \$700 a pound, Budwig said.

"So as these prices continue to drop, unless people are growing more, what happens is that those margins are decreasing and ensuring there's less discretionary income being spent in our economy," she continued.

Studies have predicted as much as a 90 percent drop in pot prices if legalization occurs, said Budwig.

Several statewide marijuana legalization efforts are focusing on the November election and legislative lobbying. Proposition 19 failed in 2010, with 54 percent of the county's voters opposing it, apparently due to fear of economic impacts.

Budwig said that if legalization is approved, the impacts would depend

on how it's implemented and the extent of federal interference. But the county would "see a dwindling of these monies" and recent trends suggest a continued decline.

"With pot prices already coming down because of the increase in supply there's been cushion to the erosion but many people feel this is only the beginning," said Budwig. "And there's going to be a lot of discretionary income pulled out because of those margins shrinking."

Long-term impacts "have the potential to be devastating," she continued, and the best hedge against the loss of marijuana income is a diversified economy.

Saying the county is "at a cross-roads," Budwig said the marijuana industry "backfilled" losses from the declines of the timber and fishing industries and "if those dollars continue to leave, the question is, what's going to backfill that?"

Budwig said attracting new businesses and encouraging entrepre-

neurship are key to diversifying the county's economy and making it less dependent on marijuana income.

Her \$1 billion annual estimate is based on the amount of plants seized by law enforcement, which in recent years has averaged about 200,000 plants. Budwig said police think they're seizing only 2 percent of the county's total yield but she gave them credit for 25 percent to ensure that her estimate falls well on the conservative side.

She told supervisors that she thinks marijuana actually accounts for much more than 26 percent of the local economy.

Supervisors acknowledged the value of Budwig's research but Supervisor Jimmy Smith vouched for the contributions of the county's natural resources industries. He said the county is still the number one timber producer in the state, the fishing industry has stabilized and this year's Dungeness crab season has been the best ever.

Banker Says Local Marijuana Economy Is Slouching

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> Kenneth Quigley McKinleyville

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isan up the mess he ent; they just can't help themselves. We must be very, very wary and demand that they do their jobs, now.

> We all have a limited amount of money to do what we need to live. The SHUSD should be no different. Voters held these bureaucrats' feet to the fire in the past. Apparently, they eventually elected to do the job they signed on for. What a revelation. This is the way it's supposed to work. They should all be ashamed.

"Government doesn't solve problems - it subsidizes them." - Ronald Rea-

Thank you.

Robert Berry Miranda

Senior Legislature may lose staff member

To the Editor:

The California Senior Legislature (CSL) is about to lose its one and only paid staff member because of Governor Schwarzenegger's mandatory furloughs, even though the salary of the staff member is being paid by voluntary donations made to the CSL.

The current Executive Secretary of the CSL, Sherry Jenkins, may be forced to leave her position in July because of the financial effects of the mandatory furlough. Jenkins is universally appreciated by the members of the Senior Legislature and is the glue that holds us together. Without an experienced staff person providing support, it will be difficult to impossible for the CSL to operate.

The members of the legoperty owners). islature are people over 60 who come from all parts of

Guest Opinion

After pot, what?

By Anna Hamilton

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When marijuana is legalized, and its value drops, the divide between the counter culture and the straight community will be irrelevant; we will all face this economic catastrophe together. For the sake of our region it is time to begin planning for this upheaval now, together.

There is a wide misconception of who the marijuana grower is. A percentage certainly does fit the profile of the "greedy grower," but most are property owners with children in school, just making a good living. Their ages range from 17 to 75. Their hair is short and they pay taxes. In fact they are so thoroughly integrated into our society that they take part in every aspect of Northern California culture. They have built schools, fire departments, credit unions, radio stations, health clinics and hundreds of other legitimate businesses. If we are to be honest, we have to admit that their financial contributions of the past thirty years have been a welcome boon to our economy. It has been a live and let live arrangement. Them are us.

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Anna Hamilton

From:

"Anna Hamilton" <annabanana@asis.com>

Sent:

Monday, March 22, 2010 1:07 PM

Subject:

Fw: Forum Decorum

"What's After Pot?"
A Forum on the Economic Impacts of Marijuana Legalization
Tuesday, March 23rd
Mateel Community Center, Redway, Ca.
6-10pm

Everybody is talking openly now. This is a huge step in the right direction, so we have already achieved our first goal!

We will have representatives from Humboldt Area Foundation, The Board of Supes, Cal Norml, local businesses, non-profit orgs, College of the Redwoods, Democracy Unlimited, 215 organizers, farmers, the press, So. Fork Hi Radio Project, the District Attorney's office, service organizations, "self employed rural residents", the work force, the arts, candidates, YOU GUYS! and more.

Thanks Bob for the 30 pound box of collated documents for distribution at the Forum. Thanks to Mendocino Medical Marijuana Advisory Board for 50 copies of the Uklah Daily Journal's special section all about Mendo Marijuana. Thanks Ellen for providing copies of Legalize 2010.

6:15: I will make the introduction and define the purpose of this Forum; to develop the conversations and connections we will need to have with County Gov, economic development agencies and educators to prosper through the transition to legal marijuana and a successful new economy.

6:30: Eric Kirk will take the mike and guide us through the survey instructions, including asking people to sit at the table with the name of their Stakeholder group (business, education, etc..) I, Liz, Charlie and Richard Murray will be the "floaters" to assist during the survey period and keep things focused. I would like a couple of people to take the surveys upstairs (which will be closed) and make an informal summary of people's comments, to be presented around 8pm. Eric, would you like to help with that so you can present the summary?

7:30: Q and A. I will open the Q and A by refocusing on the elements germane to building the infrastructure for a new economy: Informed County planning that supports the new emerging economy; education for success in new endeavors, and building a regional strategy that supports value-added, high quality marijuana products and services. Erik will facilitate the Q and A. Since there are so many people with special knowledge, we won't have a "panel of experts", except for Ellen Komp of Cal Norml who will answer questions about legislation, and, representatives from the licensed 215 provider community. We will have a remote mike and pass it around, with the help of the "floaters". So, if you have special knowledge and feel you know the answer to any question please raise your hand and speak

9pm: Supervisor Lovelace and Humboldt Area Foundation Community Development Director Kathy Moxon have to leave at 9pm, and that will end the formal portion of the Forum. The rest of the evening till 10pm will be networking, conversation and passing the hat. Please help collect donations and promote membership to Cal Norml.

This Forum should set the stage for the establishment of the H.M.A.P. (Humboldt Marijuana Advisory Panel). We are building new relationships that will help us forward a rational discussion resulting in good public policy for years to come.

Committees will be formed after the Q and A period, which will be conducted one table at a time, so each Stakeholder group can stay focused on their strategic place in the discussion.

Anna

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FRONTPAGE

Afraid of being uprooted

With legalization of pot a possibility, Humboldt County ponders its future.

SAM QUINONES REPORTING FROM GARBERVILLE, CALIF.

In this region renowned for potent marijuana buds, many in Humboldt County long accepted that legalizing the weed was the right thing to do.

Now some folks aren't so sure.

A statewide initiative in November would allow cities to regulate pot possession and cultivation. Assemblyman Tom Ammiano (D-San Francisco) has proposed a broader legalization. Neither is certain to pass.

Yet as medical marijuana has spread and city and state budgets are being slashed, legalized marijuana is becoming more possible than ever. That has some people here thinking twice.

Wholesale prices have dropped in the last five years — from \$4,000 a pound to below \$3,000 for the best cannabis — as medical-marijuana dispensaries have attracted a slew of new growers statewide, Humboldt growers say.

Recently, "Keep Pot İllegal" bumper stickers have been seen on cars around the county. In chat rooms and on blogs, anonymous writers predict that tobacco

[See Marijuana, A12]

ventional wisdom here is that fully legal weed might fetch no more than a few hundred dollars a pound, as more people grow it and police no longer pull up millions of plants a year.

Illegal marijuana "is the government's best agricultural price-support program ever," said Gerald Myers, a retired engineer and former volunteer fire chief who moved to the county in 1970. "If they ever want to help the wheat farmers, make wheat illegal."

On the other hand, increased demand for legal pot might buoy its price.

"If it's regulated like cigarettes, you're going to have a massive increase in demand for it, I would believe," said Erick Eschker, economics professor at Humboldt State. Either way, though, talk of legalization raises a question: Is Humboldt's competitive advantage in growing pot, or in growing pot illegally?

Plantations divert water from streams and rivers. Some growers use huge diesel generators to power greenhouses on mountainsides - growing indoors in the outdoors. Occasional spills from these generators have devastated streams. Indoor growers, meanwhile. devour electricity. Officials estimate that 800 to 2,000 houses in Arcata are devoted partly or entirely to growing marijuana. Humboldt County is also known for its lax prosecution compared with other counties.

"That advantage, if you will, is going to be gone if it's legal," Eschker said.

Any well-designed legalization ought to ensure that "other people in the community won't have to pick up the tab for an industry cutting corners," said county Supervisor Mark Lovelace. "People would have to learn to turn this into a legit above-board business."

How many could do that is unclear.

At stake, many locals say, is more than a business; it's a way of life. The cannabis economy has spawned numerous nonprofits and community health and arts groups, which depend on growers for sustenance.

"It's morally right that marijuana be legal," said Kym Kemp, a journalist who blogs about life in southern Humboldt County. "But I know why they want to say, 'No, don't let this happen to us,' because we're going to

economic house of cards."

Once legal, marijuana cultivation might well lose its outlaw glamour, to be replaced by the daily grind and smaller profits that farmers all face. Growers would have to keep books, pay taxes and abide by pesticide regulations.

Grocery stores, car dealers, construction-supply outlets and other retailers would have to adjust. So, too, would thousands of residents, many with full-time jobs, who make ends meet by trimming marijuana at harvest season for \$25 an hour.

With so few voters, Humboldt is unlikely to influence what happens statewide. "We're better off trying to figure out what the pathway would be to a robust industry cluster with [marijuana] as its product," said Kathy Moxon of the Humboldt Area Foundation, a community nonprofit.

Radio host Hamilton has suggested new school curricula, urging that a community college satellite campus planned for Garberville offer more classes in accounting and business administration. Others have proposed classes in marijuana testing.

Moxon sees an opportunity to take business away from Oakland-based Oaksterdam University, which offers classes in marijuana growing, the science of cannabis, new methods of ingestion, even the weed's history

"We're the place where people should come to learn to grow," Moxon said. "Who wants to go to Oakland to learn to grow?"

Then there is the Napa Valley model, where vintners thrive by focusing on premium wines, branding and wine tourism. Appellation—the branding of the Humboldt name like Champagne or Bordeaux—is a route people here find promising.

But achieving a Napa Valley of marijuana might require the kind of collective action that Humboldt weed growers have found anathema. Remarkably, Hamilton's "What's After Pot?" meeting was the first time the topic was discussed so openly and thus stunned many locals. And no one seems to have investigated how a Humboldt appellation might be acquired.

Still, the idea resonates. Said Hamilton: "It's appellation or Appalachia."

sam.quinones @latimes.com



SAM QUINONES Los Angeles Times

FACING THE FUTURE: Garberville radio host Anna Hamilton organized a community meeting addressing "What's After Pot?" It attracted more than 150 people, including a county supervisor and business owners.

Pondering pot legalization

[Marijuana, from A1] companies will crush small farmers and take marijuana production to the Central Valley.

With legalization, if residents don't act, "we're going to be ruined," said Anna Hamilton, a radio host on KMUD-FM (91.1) in southern Humboldt County.

In March, Hamilton organized a community meeting in Garberville addressing the question "What's After Pot?" It attracted more than 150 people, including a county supervisor, economic development consultants and business owners.

All this was unimaginable to the hippies and student radicals who came here in the 1960s and '70s, escaping a conventional world they abhorred. As marijuana's price steadily rose, it funded their escape. In time, mom-and-pop growers became experts.

The plant thrived in the tolerant climate — cultural and geographic — of far Northern California. Small

plots got bigger. An Emerald Triangle of premium marijuana growers formed in Humboldt, Trinity and Mendocino counties until, virtually alone, they supported the economies.

Following Hamilton's lead, a meeting will be held in Ukiah, Mendocino's county seat, on April 24 to discuss "The Future of Cannabis in Northern California." Speakers include the director of the Ukiah Chamber of Commerce

For years the plant was only a small part of the Humboldt economy, as logging and fishing provided most of the jobs.

Today, harvestable redwoods are mostly gone; so, too, the sawmills. Salmon beds are covered with silt. Marijuana stands as a major source of income, even for many whose grandparents worked the sawmills and 40 years ago railed at the potsmoking hippies moving into their midst.

Humboldt State economists guess that marijuana

'We're the place where people should come to learn to grow' marijuana.

> — KATHY MOXON, Humboldt Area Foundation

accounts for between \$500 million and \$700 million of the county's \$3.6 billion economy.

Though growing is wide-spread, particularly in southern Humboldt County, it remains illegal for those not connected to a medical marijuana collective. Every year growers are arrested and sent to prison. Some live in paranoid isolation, telling their children not to discuss their parents' work. Meanwhile, they've gotten used to selling a weed for thousands of dollars a pound.

Legalization could take many forms. But the con-

die. It already happened with the logging industry."

But others say legalization would create a more solid, independent economy in the long run for the county, which has a population of 129,000. Instead of depending on one crop, "the community would learn all over again about economic self-sufficiency" that the original hippies moved here to achieve, Myers said.

More houses and agricultural land might again find legal uses, the theory goes, thus making property more affordable. The county might actually be invigorated, said Clif Clendenen, a Humboldt County supervisor and owner of an apple cider business in Fortuna.

"It saps some community energy when you have your best and brightest out in the hills growing and not contributing in the same way they would if they went off to college and came back to teach," he said. "Whenever you have 20-year-olds making six-figure incomes, it's an

L.A. TIMES - FRONT PAGE

Anna Hamilton



Humboldt County afraid of being uprooted from pot perch

As legalization of marijuana grows as a possibility, the Northern California enclave where weed culture thrives ponders its future. Would its pot economy wither or does greater opportunity await?

By Sam Quinones

April 7, 2010 | 5:54 p.m.

http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-humboldt8-2010apr08,0,2570863.story

Reporting from Garberville, Calif.

In this region renowned for potent marijuana buds, many in Humboldt County long accepted that legalizing the weed was the right thing to do.

Now some folks aren't so sure.

A statewide initiative in November would allow cities to regulate pot possession and cultivation. Assemblyman Tom Ammiano (D-San Francisco) has proposed a broader legalization. Neither is certain to pass.

Yet as medical marijuana has spread and city and state budgets are being slashed, legalized marijuana is becoming more possible than ever. That has some people here thinking twice.

Wholesale prices have dropped in the last five years -- from \$4,000 a pound to below \$3,000 for the best cannabis -- as medical-marijuana dispensaries have attracted a slew of new growers statewide, Humboldt growers say.

Recently, "Keep Pot Illegal" bumper stickers have been seen on cars around the county. In chat rooms and on blogs, anonymous writers predict that tobacco companies will crush small farmers and take marijuana production to the Central Valley.

With legalization, if residents don't act, "we're going to be ruined," said Anna Hamilton, a radio host on KMUD-FM (91.1) in southern Humboldt County.

In March, Hamilton organized a community meeting in Garberville addressing the question "What's After Pot?" It attracted more than 150 people, including a county supervisor, economic development consultants and business owners.

All this was unimaginable to the hippies and student radicals who came here in the 1960s and '70s, escaping a conventional world they abhorred. As marijuana's price steadily rose, it funded their escape. In time, mom-and-pop growers became experts.

The plant thrived in the tolerant climate -- cultural and geographic -- of far Northern California. Small plots got bigger. An Emerald Triangle of premium marijuana growers formed in Humboldt, Trinity and Mendocino counties until, virtually alone, they supported the economies.

Following Hamilton's lead, a meeting will be held in Ukiah, Mendocino's county seat, on April 24 to discuss "The Future of Cannabis in Northern California." Speakers include the director of the Ukiah Chamber of Commerce.

For years the plant was only a small part of the Humboldt economy, as logging and fishing provided most of the jobs.

Today, harvestable redwoods are mostly gone; so, too, the sawmills. Salmon beds are covered with silt. Marijuana stands as a major source of income, even for many whose grandparents worked the sawmills and 40 years ago railed at the pot-smoking hippies moving into their midst.

Humboldt State economists guess that marijuana accounts for between \$500 million and \$700 million of the county's \$3.6 billion economy.

Though growing is widespread, particularly in southern Humboldt County, it remains illegal for those not connected to a medical marijuana collective. Every year growers are arrested and sent to prison. Some live in paranoid isolation, telling their children not to discuss their parents' work. Meanwhile, they've gotten used to selling a weed for thousands of dollars a pound.

Legalization could take many forms. But the conventional wisdom here is that fully legal weed might fetch no more than a few hundred dollars a pound, as more people grow it and police no longer pull up millions of plants a year.

Illegal marijuana "is the government's best agricultural price-support program ever," said Gerald Myers, a retired engineer and former volunteer fire chief who moved to the county in 1970. "If they ever want to help the wheat farmers, make wheat illegal."

On the other hand, increased demand for legal pot might buoy its price.

"If it's regulated like cigarettes, you're going to have a massive increase in demand for it, I would believe," said Erick Eschker, economics professor at Humboldt State. Either way, though, talk of legalization raises a question: Is Humboldt's competitive advantage in growing pot, or in growing pot illegally?

Plantations divert water from streams and rivers. Some growers use huge diesel generators to power greenhouses on mountainsides -- growing indoors in the outdoors. Occasional spills from these generators have devastated streams. Indoor growers, meanwhile, devour electricity. Officials estimate that 800 to 2,000 houses in Arcata are devoted partly or entirely to growing marijuana. Humboldt County is also known for its lax prosecution compared with other counties.

"That advantage, if you will, is going to be gone if it's legal," Eschker said.

Any well-designed legalization ought to ensure that "other people in the community won't have to pick up the tab for an industry cutting corners," said county Supervisor Mark Lovelace. "People would have to learn to turn this into a legit above-board business."

How many could do that is unclear.

thursday march 25, 2010 vol XXI issue 12 • humboldt county, calif. FREE north coast Of POLITICS, PEOPLE AND A GROWI Cannabis Cruise

Superification

Fumboldi B

Welcome to Pot Gity!

ve the Humboldt County economy from legalization, ave to become the Napa Valley of weed. Here's how.

By Kym Kemp

The Stuff They Like

t isn't perfect, but health care reform as many feeling better already

y Heidi Walters

idiwalters@northcoastjournal.com

ure, a buncha states' AGs are suing over it. Sure, some people think we've rounded the bend and are now hellbent toward permanent commieland. And, retainly, many others think it doesn't easure up to the ideal of single-payer ealth insurance.

But those cheering passage of the \$940 lion Patient Protection and Affordable are Act, signed into law this Tuesday by esident Obama, say that while it's not erfect it goes a long way toward fixing ome of the more troublesome problems ith the country's current health care stem.

"It's an important and very positive first ep," said Dr. Luther Cobb, a local physian who is on the executive committee the California Medical Association, on lesday afternoon.

The act will expand insurance coverge to more than 31 million Americans. It
ill put an end to insurance companies'
ropping people when they get sick, and
of denying coverage to people with "preexisting conditions." And it will prevent
insurance companies from putting a lifetime cap on insurance benefits. It also will
make substance abuse disorder and mental health services required benefits, and
will invest in prevention strategies. And it
would allow kids to stay on their parents'
health coverage plans until age 26.

The act is supposed to under the

and Alaska Natives, however, will see expanded health care programs through the reauthorized Indian Health Care Improvement Act, part of the overall health reform package.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act provides for subsidies, on a sliding scale, for which the Congressional Budget Office estimates about 19 million people will be eligible. People making, on the top end, an income no more than four times the federal poverty level (about \$44,000 a year for an individual and \$88,000 a year for a family of four) would only have to pay about 10 percent of what they make on health insurance, and the rest could be subsidized. Those making less would be responsible for an even smaller percentage of their insurance. And, people making less than 133 percent of the federal poverty level income would be eligible for Medicaid, which will be expanded under the act.

Businesses with more than 50 employees will have to offer health insurance to their employees, or possibly pay a substantial fine for not doing so. Businesses offering insurance also might be required to offer a voucher to their employees who make less than roughly \$44,000 so they can shop for cheaper insurance on the exchange. Small businesses, meanwhile, could get tax credits to cover up to 50 percent of their premium costs.

30,644 uninsured people between the ages of 0 and 64. By 2018, when reform is in full swing, there'll be about 6,873 uninsured people in Humboldt.

Connie Stewart, executive director of the California Center for Rural Policy at Humboldt State University, said more than 2,900 seniors in Humboldt will see an immediate benefit of a \$250 rebate on prescription drugs as part of the legislation's closure of what's called the "Medicare Part D Donut Hole." Also, more than 22,000 Medicare beneficiaries will also receive free preventive and wellness care.

Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services Director Phillip R. Crandall said on Tuesday that it's too soon to understand the full impacts of federal health care reform. But they'll be huge.

"This is health care reform on steroids," he said. "Its passage is an event that will profoundly impact Humboldt County residents, from children to seniors. While the costs of the reform package are significant, doing nothing would cost us much more, financially and morally." Local doctor Alan Glaseroff, chief medical officer for the Independent Practice Association, said he's had a lot of post-job and pre-Medicare patients who've put off care, such as knee replacement surgery, because they couldn't get insurance coverage.

Cobb told the story of a local man who got a minor scratch on his hand and didn't seek care because he couldn't afford it and didn't have health insurance. It festered. He finally went to the emergency room of a local hospital, but it was too late and he died of infection, said Cobb. "I've had a number of colon cancer patients who knew they had it but wouldn't get treatment," he added.

Glaseroff and Cobb both said there are serious issues with the new legislation. But they're happy to have it.

Care Improvement Act reauthorized — it expired in 1992 — it finally happened. Simone doesn't know yet what the appropriations from that act will be, but he anticipates they'll inject much needed cash into new facilities across the country and into behavioral health services — things such as suicide prevention and substance abuse treatment. The act could benefit the 15,000 patients served by the UIHS's Potawot Village in Arcata, he said.

"We've had two recent suicides in our community, and that made us want even more to see this act reauthorized," he said. •

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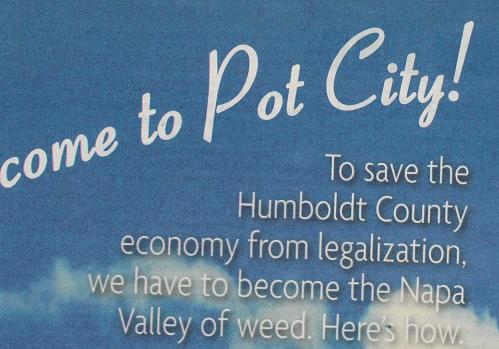
100 Fires Bookstore 8am-8pm Keynote Speaker 6pm

Steve Heckeroth, Contributing Editor to

Mother Earth News

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Cannabis Cruise Humboldt Bay

GET THE FULL GROWING EXPERIENCE

By Kym Kemp

newsroom@northcoastjournal.com

Emerald Learning Farms

NS BY LYNN JONES, OGRAPHS BY KYM KEMP,

T, ARCATA CA

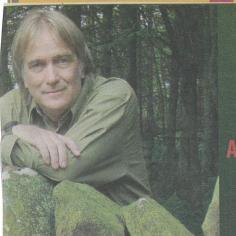
f you grew up in the Emerald
Triangle, marijuana permeates the
fabric of your life in ways people
from outside the area cannot imagine. It threads throughout much
of the social and political aspects of the
Humboldt world. But it is with money,
money, money that this intertwining is
most apparent — and this financial aspect
subtly weaves through even in the most
conservative household on the North

Any business here in Humboldt relies in part on money from the marijuana industry. There isn't a trade or company that doesn't receive a goodly portion of its monthly income either directly or indirectly from cannabis. Even churches receive tithes from people whose jobs wouldn't exist if marijuana money didn't support the framework of the North Coast economy.

Today, an enormous tsunami is poised to drown the economics of this area. If — and, with an assembly bill and a ballot initiative to legalize marijuana pending, a better word is "when" — marijuana is legalized, corporations could wrench control of cannabis production from locals and prices could fall. The result for Humboldt could be the failure of many of the small businesses that rely on marijuana money. First, the obvious ones like horticulture companies and head shops will go under. But then the wave will begin to destroy grocery stores and insurance brokers, doctors and dentists, volunteer fire departments and hospices — for these are indirectly subsidized by the massive influx of marijuana income to the area. Yes, even churches and nursery schools will feel the tidal wave pulling them under. As each business collapses, its employees will quit supporting another level of stores and tradespeople. Then, in turn, those businesses will crumple and pull down another level of commerce.

Anna Hamilton, founder of the Southern Humboldt-based What's After Pot (WAP), says when she talks about the consequences of legalization the "most concerned ... are business people who have already seen the ball drop ... These

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people are pragmatic ... They know what is happening and they are scared to death!"

Does it have to be this way? Or are there methods for Humboldt to prepare for a future without wallets full of illegal cash?

One possibility would be to become the destination of choice for the marijuana tourist. Are there such creatures? And, more importantly, are they worth wooing?

In fact, there are already successful venues for marijuana tourism — think Amsterdam and Jamaica. Right now, Denver is positioning itself to rake in large piles of legal money from the cannabis consumer. Eric Sligh, editor of Humboldt Grow Magazine, describes how during a recent visit to Colorado he saw "streets full of well dressed 25- to 30-year-olds trying to pitch their marijuana related products. [It is] like Mad Men — everyone has their eyes on the prize ... It feels like the gold rush but much more corporate. [There are] lawyers and medical marijuana consultants ... The dispensaries have a nice-coffee-shop-in-Venice feel." (Disclosure: I also write for Grow.)

Sligh thinks that in spite of the fact that Humboldt itself is a marijuana mecca, "[Denver] is going to put us out of business. The state over there is facilitating the whole process." This difference between California's and Colorado's marijuana climate is best seen in an article by the Marijuana Policy Project,

which

quotes Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley as saying that all collectives are illegal and "are going to be prosecuted." Meanwhile, Cooley's counterpart, Boulder County District Attorney Stan Garnett, recently explained that in regards to medical marijuana, he was the "most progressive of any DA in Colorado" and indicated that he's willing to consider full marijuana legalization. Earlier this month, a bi-partisan group of lawmakers in the Rocky Mountain state sent an e-mail to Attorney General Eric Holder asking him to "consider imposing a moratorium on medical marijuana sector raids." They added, "[W]e believe it is a mistake to put the activities of the legitimate medical marijuana community in the same category as ... criminal conglomerates." These dissimilar attitudes can create communities that will either surf the coming changes or drown beneath them.

Humboldt does have brand name recognition, but we don't have obvious support from county officials for the cannabis vacationer. Can we as a county do more to bring marijuana tourists to our area? Do we want them? If we do, how do we attract them?

Marijuana tourism is hard to quantify. People are unlikely to admit that they come here to experience an illegal culture or consume an illegal product. Nonetheless, indications that the marijuana tourist is a regular customer in Humboldt can be found. Quick perusals of marijuana

continued on next page





Web sites and chat rooms show frequen referrals to Humboldt and Mendocino vacations. Several large events in the are seem likely to appeal to the cannabis visitor—Reggae on the River and Reggae Rising being prime examples. The money from these festivals brings much-needed cash to the area. In addition, anecdotal e idence suggests entrepreneurs move her to be part of the marijuana culture and start up small businesses. But we could d more to support the toke-and-travel tou

ist and these small business people. "Any targeted tourism market depends on the local business suppliers to turn an idea or a resource into a product," says Tony Smithers, executive director of the Humboldt County Convention & Visitors Bureau. "We would need ... [an] MJ museum, hands-on growing experiences, pot bars, special events, etc. before there would be anything to market. Having said that, if these services do develop then I fully intend to market them ... I will lobby vigorously to serve this market. Marketing is about giving the customer what he wants, and the market will decide whether this form of tourism will thrive. Amsterdam seems to do okay." Though Smithers makes it clear that these opinions are his own and are "not reflected by the bureau and the board or the clients, etc.," he is not alone in thinking that Humboldt could tap into a lucrative market if it had the right kind of draws to bring in the right kind of tourist.

Some people worry that the marijuana tourist will be a panhandling transient more likely to suck services from the county than to drop money in local businesses. Smithers disagrees. "The people

CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU PHOTO COURTESY HUMBOLDT COUNTY

HOW TO ENTICE MARIJUANA TOURISTS TO HUMBOLDT tony smithers (left) and anna hamilton (right) have big ideas on



says. "Do you advertise in High Times or in Sunset? Target people with fat wallets." who come are those you market to," he

coastline and the delicious local foods. weed but for the Redwoods, the beautiful appreciation not only for the Humboldt theme and focusing on the current trend bring older, well-heeled tourists with an for authentic (not Disney) vacations could Power movement, perhaps with a tie-dye ad campaign tied to evoking the Flower include recapturing the '60s," he says. An now retiring and 'reinventing themselves' "bulge in the snake." "Many of them are Boomers are a large part of society recapturing their youth, which could Smithers points out that the Baby

showing that Boomers are increasingly marijuana. In fact, the latest research is using cannabis for both recreation and issues that they may choose to treat with Boomers are older and facing medical Furthermore, he points out these Baby

> some of the things we need to do now to to-do cannabis aficionados, then, what are maximize our tourism potential? attract. If we want them and other welltargets for Humboldt County to try to Humboldt has to offer seem like good with an appreciation for all the products 2002. These older, prosperous tourists olds the use of marijuana has tripled since Services Administration, among 55-59 year the Substance Abuse and Mental Health medical reasons. According to surveys by

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labeled Humboldt Red putting out packs of substandard pot preempt R.J. Reynolds Co. and its ilk from from co-opting our name. We need to name. In other words, we need to start working now to stop corporate America Humboldt could carry the Humboldt in a similar fashion to the Champagne 2). We should look into branding weed region in France (215 dispensaries have a quasi-legal status) only weed grown in

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tony smithers (left) and anna hamilton (right) have big ideas on HOW TO ENTICE MARIJUANA TOURISTS TO HUMBOLDT.

who come are those you market to," he says. "Do you advertise in High Times or in Sunset? Target people with fat wallets."

Smithers points out that the Baby Boomers are a large part of society — a "bulge in the snake." "Many of them are now retiring and 'reinventing themselves' — recapturing their youth, which could include recapturing the '60s," he says. An ad campaign tied to evoking the Flower Power movement, perhaps with a tie-dye theme and focusing on the current trend for authentic (not Disney) vacations could bring older, well-heeled tourists with an appreciation not only for the Humboldt weed but for the Redwoods, the beautiful coastline and the delicious local foods.

Furthermore, he points out these Baby Boomers are older and facing medical issues that they may choose to treat with marijuana. In fact, the latest research is showing that Boomers are increasingly using cannabis for both recreation and

medical reasons. According to surveys by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, among 55-59 year olds the use of marijuana has tripled since 2002. These older, prosperous tourists with an appreciation for all the products Humboldt has to offer seem like good targets for Humboldt County to try to attract. If we want them and other wellto-do cannabis aficionados, then, what are some of the things we need to do now to maximize our tourism potential?

Here are a few suggestions:

1). We should embrace our status as one of the premier cannabis areas in the world. Whenever people hear the word "Humboldt," the first thought on their

mind is potent, green buds. Trying to rebrand us - ignoring the name recognition we already have — is like Hollywood wanting to be known as the palm tree capital. Why ignore what we are already famous for in favor of what few people recognize? That doesn't mean disregard other good commodities like grass fed beef and beautiful coastlines, but these should be packaged with our marijuana status, not instead of it.

2). We should look into branding weed (215 dispensaries have a quasi-legal status) in a similar fashion to the Champagne region in France — only weed grown in Humboldt could carry the Humboldt name. In other words, we need to start working now to stop corporate America from co-opting our name. We need to preempt R.J. Reynolds Co. and its ilk from putting out packs of substandard pot labeled Humboldt Red.

A local blog suggested a simple green

triangle displaying either an H, T or M for the famous trio of counties making up the Emerald Triangle — Humboldt, Trinity, and Mendocino.

The We should build up our marijuana infrastructure. As Smithers explained, we need places for the cannabis consumer to come visit. We already have some wonderful head shops and glass blowers in the area. Garberville's The Hemp Connection, a clothing shop, provides an excellent model for servicing both local residents and vacationers with its unique combination of hemp fabric clothing and headshop atmosphere, as well as its main street location, situated to grab the curious tourist.

As a county, we should encourage the marijuana entrepreneur. Perhaps small business grants and classes to help entrepreneurs get off the ground could be targeted right at these alternative capitalists.

Types of businesses likely to draw in the people searching for an authentic cannabis experience could include those like the Emerald Triangle Marijuana University, which is beginning to offer classes on how to grow good ganja. Not only do businesses such as this bring in people from outside the area with money to spend, they continue to promote Humboldt as a premier marijuana destination.

The more authentic these places are the better. For years, people have floated the idea of having some small 215 farms available for people to visit. A former local resident, Debbie Green, suggests these small farms could be called "marijuanaries," after the specialty wineries that make up much of Napa and the surrounding areas. With a 215, a medically

certified client could come out into the hills to stay at a bed and breakfast that offers a clip-your-own-bud experience with the finest local ganja. The legality of such places would have to be carefully researched, but the potential for wealthy customers eager to immerse themselves in nature and capture a true cannabis experience can be seen in wine consumers flooding the Napa area for education and pleasure. If marijuana becomes legal, the potential for such marijuanaries would explode with tourists from outside the region and even outside the country eager to experience a genuine aspect of the Humboldt lifestyle.

In addition to the for-profit business model, something more like a Marijuana Museum, which would focus on the history of cannabis, would be an important draw. With the advent of Proposition

215, it is perfectly feasible to have legal marijuana available for people to see and smell and even purchase as long as they are medical patients. Let's face it: People from other areas are titillated by the brush with the wild side that Humboldt can afford. Other areas capitalize with exhibits on alcohol prohibition or the outlaw lifestyle found in the Old West. We could do the same with marijuana.

In addition, the Garberville Hospital is looking into becoming the first medical facility in the nation that is also a dispensary. Firsts like this could build Humboldt's

ONE IDEA FOR

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DESIGN BY LYNN IONES.

AN EMERALD

reputation and hook into the medical tourist phenomenon that is currently supporting large numbers of facilities throughout the world.

4). We should connect Napa to Humboldt — encourage tourists who are already visiting Wine Country to swing up north to see the marijuana world. Tours of cannabis culture could be combined with tours of Wine Country both by bus and by bike. As a bonus, our local breweries and wineries could benefit, as well as our local restaurants and hotels. A Weed and Wine Tour could offer the 215 tourist a look at both the top notch wines of the region and the highest quality buds of Humboldt, Trinity, and Mendocino. Later, after marijuana is legalized, the North Coast could pull in many eager tourists from around the world.

with the other Emerald
Triangle counties to build
brand recognition for the
whole region. If people
travel a long distance, they
want more than one small
county to see and do
things in. While Humboldt
has the greater name
recognition, Mendocino
— and to a lesser extent,
Trinity — also have names
in the marijuana world.
Furthermore, their similar

rural roots and scenic byways make them a natural choice to be promoted as a group.

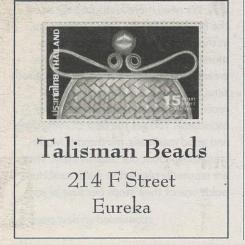
6). We should provide a Web site and a

paper tourist guide to the cannabis attractions of the Emerald Triangle. These tourist maps should list headshops, glassblowing stores, events and dispensaries, as well as natural tie-ins to the marijuana tourist trade such as our excellent restaurants and local breweries. They should also feature articles on local products such as the cheeses, ice creams, flowers and grass-fed beef that are provided by other local business people. Farmers' Markets should also be highlighted in them. We need guides that will point out where to find goods and services that the marijuana industry in the area can provide. People come here looking for dispensaries and headshops, but we don't do a good job providing information on how to find them. As excellent as some of our local tourist information is, we need something that shines a spotlight on the culture that provides the major stimulus to the local economies. Perhaps something called Smokin' Places to Visit for the Marijuana Tourist. Or Eat, Drink, Toke: Humboldt County. Or Herbaceous Humboldt: A Guide to the North Coast and the Marijuana World.

We need more festivals. Reggae on the River and Reggae Rising already draw in thousands, but the audience wants more than the music — they want the weed. "Humboldt County is always a good time," reggae great Michael Rose was recently quoted as saying in the *Times-Standard*. "You get the best of everything and good marijuana, mmmmm!" Music stars know about our famous plant. They are reputedly pleased to make rural Humboldt one of their stops because of its

continued on next page





ON THE COVER

continued from previous page

location between Portland and San Francisco and access to its well-known weed. Snoop Dogg reportedly passed around a collection bucket for the local bud three times during his last concert here. And music stars aren't the only ones pleased to be in Humboldt. Music fans come to hear top music and come to be part of the famed marijuana culture.

The Mendocino Emerald Cup, which occurs in December, has the potential to become a huge draw for ganja guys and gals. (The Emerald Cup, in a strange turn of events, is a marijuana competition inspired by the Amsterdam Cannabis Cup, which was originally based on what High Times called "spectacular California harvest festivals of the '70s.")

There are already some fine music festivals in the area, as well as some good local arts events and some that are hard to define — Mushroom Fair, the Hemp Festival, and Godwit days. The more there are, and the more they are tied to the local marijuana, the better for the local economy now and in the future if marijuana is legalized.

B). Finally, and most importantly, we need to focus attention on growing the unique and flavorful strains that gave Humboldt its preeminence for years. We need to produce high-quality weed that has the exclusive essence of the California fog and sunshine woven into its fiber. What we don't need are more generic buds that can be produced anywhere. That might mean that indoor growers should begin to work on developing unique outdoor strains at the same time they are producing the indoor that they

are currently making the most money on. (The growing consensus is that outdoor is best for the environment and can be nearly as profitable as indoor. However, those unwilling to give up indoor growing now should consider developing strong outdoor strains to prepare for legalization. This will be best for their financial future and for the future of the county.) As a new local blog, High Like Me states:

"The Emerald Triangle didn't rise to mythic status in the world of weed-craft because it has the best subterranean grow rooms. The baristas in my L.A. pharmacy didn't whisper in hushed tones about Mendo weed or Humboldt fields of green because of the lighting fixtures. Beyond the reservoirs of knowledge, beyond the fabled genetics, the Emerald Triangle has a reputation because of what and where it is

"You can hang a grow light in a SoCali basement as easily as in a Humboldt grow house, but you can't replicate a redwood forest terroir in a concrete jungle."

The concept of a terroir is that the soil, weather and farming techniques of a certain region contribute to the flavor of a product. This is why the French only allow sparkling wine from Champagne to carry that label. Humboldt should emulate this practice and thinking.

Should Humboldt encourage legalization? There are those that worry that legalizing marijuana will lead



to more than the economic downfall of our county. Dr. Ken Miller worries that legalization could lead to more young people consuming cannabis. He feels that marijuana's illegality is a "gatekeeper standing in the way to keep it from being marketed to the youth." According to him, one-third of college students binge drink, and most smokers start in their teens. If marijuana were legal, corporations would

start targeting marijuana advertising at vulnerable young people. He suggests we look to decriminalization as a way to both keep corporate hands off marijuana and keep marijuana users from suffering serious criminal consequences. According to him, decriminalization, as opposed to legalization, would keep corporations from waltzing in and taking over marijuana production. Decriminalization would keep penalties for growing down but keep cannabis growing clandestine and outside of the legal framework.

Nonetheless, with current trends being what they are, marijuana seems more and more likely to be legalized. Humboldt County would do well to position itself with that future scenario in mind. "Visioning is what we are supposed to do so we don't get caught off guard," Tony Smithers says about the tourist industry. That should apply to all of us.

Anna Hamilton of What's After Pot (WAP) agrees. She's trying to get the community to work together to advocate for their economic survival.

Hamilton knows that many people don't think citizens can affect change, but she has learned differently. "I've never been a visionary," she says. "I never thought KMUD would get off the ground. If I was here before the Credit Union and the Health Center, I would never have believed." But those Southern Humboldt institutions — along with others, such as the Environmental Protection Information Center, the Civil Liberties Monitoring Project and Sanctuary Forest — have done well and benefited the community, she says. "[I]f the same talent applies itself to planning the transition to legal marijuana

then we can protect at least some of our interests."

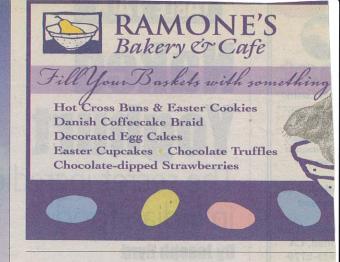
If the language of legalization is well written it could protect this area. As both Smithers and Miller point out, Humboldt has a lot of talent in the marijuana industry. Smithers says that we are the "Silicon Valley" of cannabis. He points out that we have a great deal of knowledgeable people living here — a pool of people who would be useful to draw on for information about growing.

With this pool of people and county officials willing to go to bat for us, we could position ourselves well for the coming tsunami of legalization. We could do this by supporting small local growers and positioning ourselves to be the cannabis destination of choice.

Legalization is likely to come. Whether it happens next year or in the next decade is up for debate, but it is almost assuredly coming. The North Coast needs to do all it can to make this place a dream vacation spot for someone from Alabama or Paris, and one way we can do that is to market not only our majestic redwoods but our mystical marijuana.

After legalization, would the North Coast have as much money as it does now? It is unlikely, but we can cushion the crash. The more we layer the marijuana experience and conflate it with Humboldt and the North Coast, the more the toking tourist will flock to us to get a taste of the marijuana world. But we need to start planning now.

"Preparing for the legalization of marijuana properly will take a long time," Hamilton says. "I'd like three years. I'd rather have five. God help us if it legalizes this year."



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Anna Hamilton

From: To: "Anna Hamilton" <annabanana@asis.com>
"Anna Hamilton" <annabanana@asis.com>

Sent:

Friday, April 02, 2010 1:47 PM

Subject:

Fw: forum survey results

Marijuana meeting surveys reflect diverse groups

The Times-Standard

Posted: 03/27/2010 01:27:09 AM PDT

The surveys filled out at Tuesday's meeting on the possibly approaching post-marijuana economy painted a picture of a community threatened by marijuana legalization, but one ready to cooperate in the search for a solution.

The survey had five questions and a section for comments or extra questions:

- * Will legalization improve the economic situation?
- * What are your strengths if marijuana is legalized?
- * Weaknesses?
- * Threats?
- * Assets?

To the first question, most of the 11 stakeholder groups said no, some said maybe, while none of the groups said yes.

Many groups said they were afraid of the intervention of the federal government, "corporate takeover," and the issues that come with implementing regulations.

While nonprofits, which made up one group, said they had "organizational capacity and skills," they also said they are "underfunded," and "overextended." They are afraid the confusion around legalization will cause people to donate less to nonprofits, causing services to shrink, yet they also hope nonprofits can help the community to "mobilize."

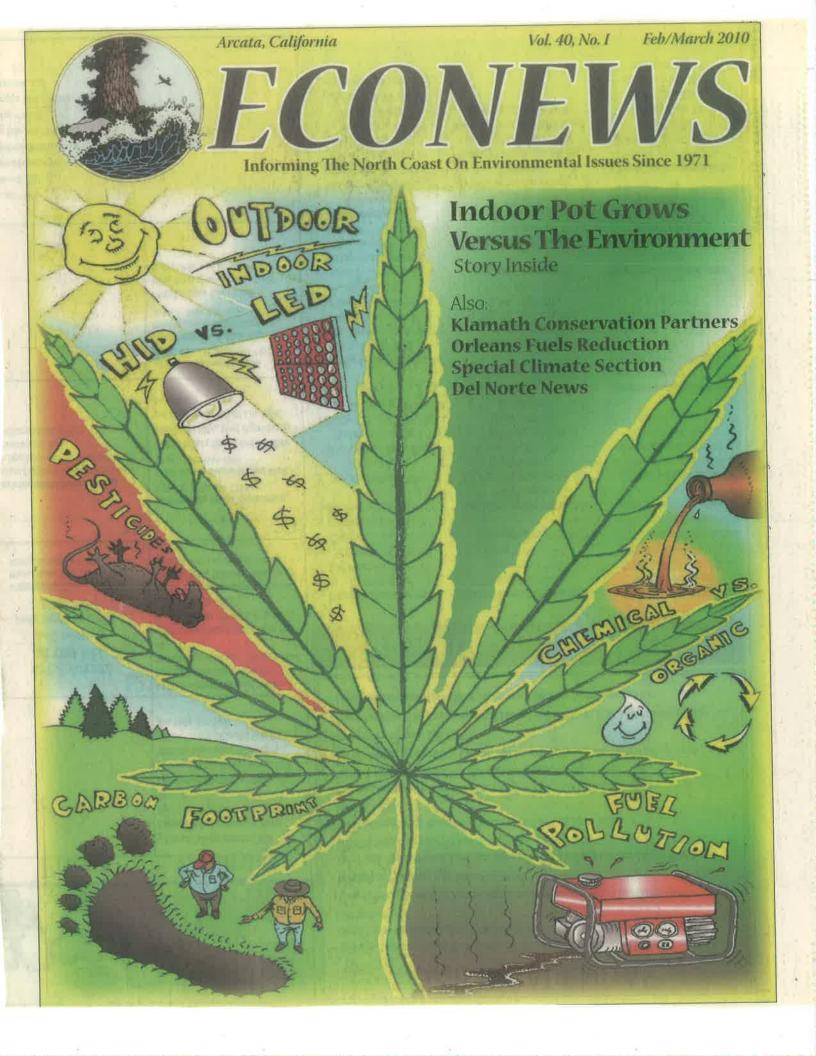
Businesses, which made up another group, said they understand branding and marketing, and have the know-how to operate a legal business, but they also worried over possible failures to brand successfully, what success might bring and how associating with an illegal industry might affect them. They also said they have a resistance to structure and regulation and feel that there are a few "bad apples" who give the industry a bad name. Businesses said they can pool their resources and encourage "young entrepreneurs' involvement." They also wanted to promote tourism.

Educators said they want to "be a part of the transition to legality, especially educating youth on potential abuses of pot; (and) educate (residents) about options (for) making a living in other economies."

Members of the art community said they have marketing and graphic-design skills, but are limited by "fear-based thinking and planning."

Organic outdoor growers said they have experience, and the ability to educate others and regulate their product, as well as a "dedication to environmental sensibility, to a good product and to good treatment of workers."

They acknowledge that they are contributing to "increasing water usage," and they are threatened by county land use codes. Growers were concerned about being able to "pay clippers well," and want to establish a processing



HEINDEPEN

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2009

Pot culture of secrecy of and Reactions Among Youth in Southern It County, California Spring Community Adults 3 Pare supportise Adults, Extended Families

CRISTINA BAUSS/THE INDEPENDENT

Emma Worldpeace, a 2004 graduate of South Fork High School, wrote her senior thesis at UC Berkeley on deaths among youth in Southern Humboldt. She discussed the issue in a public forum at the Garberville Civic Club last Friday.

CAUSES, IMPACTS, PREVENTABILITY OF COMMUNITY'S YOUT

South Fork Grad Presents Grim Statistics, Potential Solutions

> BY CRISTINA BAUSS INDEPENDENT STAFF WRITER

The Garberville Civic Club was packed on Friday evening, March 13, when almost 100 people attended "Youth Alive!" to discuss the high death rate among young people in Southern Humboldt. Spearheaded by Emma Worldpeace and facilitated by

Dr. Lauren Oliver, the event attracted a wide cross-section of the community: school staff, including teachers and administrators; business leaders; healtheare workers; local artists; community activists; back-to-the-landers; fire and rescue personnel; war veterans; and high-school students.

Worldpeace, a 2004 graduate of South Fork High School, wrote her senior thesis at UC Berkeley on deaths among youth in Southern Humboldt, using data from the Humboldt County Public Health Department She also

conducted extensive interviews with nine residents - five youths and four adults - and found that the same themes resonated through all of them. Worldpeace made a presentation of her findings on two consecutive evenings: at the Board of Trustees meeting of the Southern Humboldt Unified School District (see story, Page 1) on Thursday evening, and at Youth Alive! on Friday.

"Throughout my time in high school and college, I kept losing friends and family way too young," Worldpeace

Causes, Impacts, Preventability of Community's Youth Deaths Examined

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said, noting that some college friends "who had grown up in the Oakland ghetto" had never lost a single friend to a car accident, much less several. "I decided to do a statistical analysis, and I wanted to know: How has this issue impacted people living here?" For purposes of her thesis, "youth" was defined as anyone between the ages of 12 and 24 who had suffered a violent or untimely death — suicide, homicide, or traffic accident (long-term illnesses, for example, were not included).

Worldpeace distributed a flyer at both meetings, with a breakdown of the numbers available from Public Health. They paint a grim picture: from 1997 to 2007, there were 37 deaths in the 12-to-24 age group, 16 female and 20 male. Of those, 16 died in motor-vehicle accidents, nine committed suicide, six were murdered. and six died in miscellaneous accidents. "Compared to other Humboldt County census areas," Worldpeace reported, "Southern Humboldt's youth death rate per 100,000 population is significantly higher — 28.3 to 14.2 [countywide average]." The area with the next-highest numbers — Trinity-Klamath, which includes Hoopa and Weitchpee - had 23.4 youth deaths per 100,000, with Arcata coming in a distant third at 14.5.

The actual numbers are even higher, though: for purposes of the study, only those youths who died within the borders of the SHUSD were included. However, several have died outside of the area, including Reia Shapiro, who perished in a car accident in Southern California; Stevie Shroyer, in another car accident at Ruth Lake; and Jenny Barnett, who died a few weeks ago in Mount Shasta, the apparent victim of an overdose.

Worldpeace also discussed the above-average incidence of high-risk behaviors among Southern Humboldt youth. A California Healthy Kids survey conducted in spring 2008 revealed that 17 percent of 7th-graders and 42 percent of 11th-graders had engaged in binge drinking in the 30 days prior to the survey, compared with five percent and 21 percent, respectively, statewide, 25 percent

Sharing Concerns, Brainstorming Ideas

Taking on the multiple reasons for local youth deaths, and finding potential solutions, was the task at hand at the March 13 event. Participants were encouraged to write the names of lost loved ones on paper hearts that they subsequently attached to a paper tree on the wall; after Worldpeace's and Oliver's presentations, they shared their own stories of loss, and ideas for both more adult outreach and youth involvement. To that end, attendees were divided into nine different groups, and each group brainstormed solutions within its area of interest.

James Holland, a counselor who has spent several years working with youth, asked Worldpeace if she had any suggestions about "reducing the stigma of coming to get help - we've had [grief] groups, but they haven't been well attended." Worldpeace responded that one young man had suggested reaching out via MySpace or Facebook, while others felt, "I shouldn't have to seek help - if you know I just lost my best friend, call me!" Referencing the marijuana culture, another attendee said adults must maintain substantially clearer lines of communication: "They're told, 'Don't talk to anyone about what's going on,' but then we as parents demand, 'Talk to me about what's going on!' Well, which is it?"

Brian Ormond, chaplain of the Garberville Veterans' Association, noted that many veterans only feel comfortable speaking with others who have undergone similar experiences, and that in some areas - such as Montana — counseling is mandated for veterans. In that vein, a suggestion followed to have "a memorial day at school, where everyone can go to the gym and talk about it." Other concerns and ideas included addressing the "cool factor," and getting the message across that it's okay to seek help; having more organized physical activities available for youth; having more hobby groups, such as food and cooking clubs, available for those who would enjoy them; compiling contact lists of people interested in different April 14 through 17. A series of artists' workshops will be held with Redway students, each one based on a different world culture.

• A "SoHum Motorcycle Youth Support Group" was formed; Greg Pfau offered to donate use of his shop so youths can learn about motorcycle maintenance, setting up tool kits, and properly checking cycles before riding. Local landowner Duffy Griffin offered the use of his property to youths wishing to ride there, provided their parents bring them.

• The "Teenage Grief Group" pledged to recruit more adult volunteers, especially those of the grandparents' generation, to be a stronger presence in local schools.

• The "Suicide Prevention Group" will concentrate on working with Big Brothers, Big Sisters, along with developing a communications strategy for teens who have suicidal friends.

• The "Don't Drive Me Crazy, Drive Safely" group will take a closer look at local drivers' training programs, and try to implement at Teen Taxi or Safe Riders program. The group will meet again at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1 at Redwoods Rural Health Center; anyone wishing to attend may do so.

• The Community Learning Center group will examine how youth will best be served at the South Fork library, which will soon undergo a major overhaul with funds received from the Southern Humboldt Schools Foundation. Ideas discussed included online resources, such as extension classes, and educational games.

• Fauna Meeks, a South Fork graduate who is now a member of the Southern Humboldt Technical Rescue Team, said she and others will make local volunteer fire departments "more accessible and less intimidating for youth to get involved with," via more outreach such as a demonstration at South Fork and first-responder courses for young people.

Community members also pledged to make individual contributions, including instituting a "Friday Night Live" event at South Fork; volunteering for "Spring Into Arts"; promoting Youth Alive! on campus; starting afterschool pick-up soccer games; of 7th-graders and 83 percent of 11th-graders had "ever been high on drugs," as opposed to seven percent and 36 percent statewide; and 41 percent of 9th-graders and 48 percent of 11th-graders admitted to drinking and driving, or being a passenger in a vehicle where the driver was drunk.

Reckless driving was one of the emergent themes in the interviews she conducted, Worldpeace explained, adding that high alcohol consumption "drinking just to get drunk, passing the bottle of Crown" - was of major concern to all the interviewees. Fear of seeking help, self-medicating with alcohol and drugs, and engaging in other high-risk behaviors after another young one's death was also discussed: "You see people drinking at memorials, or you see them smoking way too much weed — or drinking at a friend's memorial, then driving home drunk. It feeds back into itself."

Lack of boundaries on the part of adults was a recurrent topic, as was the accompanying need for extended families and supportive adults "like Joani Rose and Barbara Penny [of Recycled Youth]." Perhaps the saddest emergent theme, Worldpeace said, was "acquiescence to death" — feeling numb and overwhelmed. "People had lost so many friends, students, et cetera," she continued, "they could no longer process their grief. ... Some would go through 25 or 30 names in their minds and ask themselves, 'Have I ever properly grieved any of them?"

The answer for many was "no" — and, deeply disturbing for Worldpeace, "People feel it's become part of the experience of living in this community. That, for me, was the 'put on the brakes' moment in these interviews, because these are all preventable deaths."

Perhaps the strongest theme to emerge — one that the interviewees were afraid to broach, but couldn't speak honestly omitting it - was the marijuana culture and what Worldpeace calls "the secreey oxymoron." 'It's a huge part of our economy and how we define ourselves, but no one's allowed to talk about it, much less to feachers and other 'official' adults," she said. "There's a lot of stuff that's never dealt with because they don't want to compromise their family's livelihood. ... There's also a sense that a lot of young people in this area don't know the value of a dollar. Many have no drive, especially if they can make \$150,000 a year right after high school, or even if they've dropped out. It's especially an issue for young men, who wind up isolating themselves from the community at large.

activities, "so you can meet people who are into the things you're into

— like if you're into music and no one in your family is, you can meet others with the same interest"; having a "safe space" where teens "can be real, and talk about secret things

— where the rules don't apply, the truth applies"; starting a 24-hour taxi service, so teens aren't drinking and driving; and restoring funding for Challenge Day at South Fork.

A KMUD programmer who identified himself as "Bobby G." suggested that mentoring in trades, such as blacksmithing, could be a valuable outlet as well; he recalled learning welding skills when he worked in a shipyard at age 19, "and I use those skills to this day." Another suggestion was to have clubs "where people get together to race and repair motorcycles, trick out cars, stuff like that." In a similar vein, South Fork graduate Andrew Hedin noted that teens need safe places both to drive for fun, and to learn how to drive on local roads: "I have five names on this card," he said, "and every one died in a car accident. We need better places to practice driving vehicles the proper way. ... We have to go all the way to Eureka for drivers' training, but driving around here is totally different."

Adult Outreach, Youth Involvement

Following the larger group discussion, attendees had about 20 minutes to brainstorm ideas in their respective subgroups. They made excellent use of their time: at least two of the groups set dates to meet again, and most made concrete plans for youth activities they would like to institute. Below is a brief overview of each.

• Local AmeriCorps workers detailed their previously-discussed plans for the "Spring Into Arts" camp, which will be held at Redway Schoo doing clerical work for the effort; writing grants through the Teen Center; providing hospice services through the schools; and working on outreach to local media.

Worldpeace is currently employed with AmeriCorps through the Southern Humboldt Family Resource Center, located at 344 Humboldt Avenue in Redway (by Redway School). Community members interested in reading her thesis, or becoming involved with youth, are encouraged to call the FRC at 923-1147.

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"What's After Potp" makes it to 'Seven-o-heaven April I, 2010



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S.W.A.T. SURVEY

Work on this survey with the people at your table

STAKEHOLDER TABLE		
. Do you think legalization of ma of your table? Yes No	_	the economic situation Don't Know
What STENGTHS can your table bring to this transition?		
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
What WEAKNESSES do you	perceive in your table	e's current position?
What ASSETS can your table b	ring to this opportuni	ty?
What THREATS do you see to marijuana economy?	your table's ability to	transition to a legal

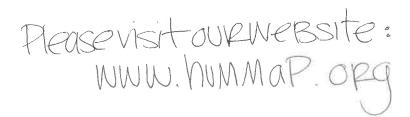
HumMAP

Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel

Statement of Purpose:

The Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel is a community based nonpartisan policy body, whose purpose is to develop a comprehensive educational approach to legal marijuana policy, integrating related health, safety, economic and regulatory issues in the County of Humboldt, the State of California and the Nation.

HumMap has been established for the purpose of advocating for the interests of legal marijuana growers, patients, caregivers, distributors and other related support services of Humboldt County.



HE INDEPENDEN

TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2010



BRIAN CLAWSON / THE INDEPENDENT

THE SETTING SUN is seen from Kettenpom on Earth Day, April 22.

Medical Marijuana Group Forms for Humboldt

HUMMAP Aims to Be Umbrella For Future Trade Associations

BY CYNTHIA ELKINS INDEPENDENT STAFF WRITER

A meeting to discuss marijuana legalization in Redway last month sparked the formation of a new medical marijuana group for Humboldt County and movement towards establishing trade associations for those involved in the industry.

A group of residents met in Southern Humboldt last week and appointed a steering committee for the new group, which they are calling the Humboldt County Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel, or HUMMAP. Steering committee member Robert Suther-

land — better known as Man Who Walks in the Woods, or Woods — said the group is "the will of the community moving forward en masse."

"This organization is intended to be the umbrella organization for the startup of trade associations and various other associated groups that will help make the transition to a possible legalized marijuana economy," Woods said, adding, "or if those laws do not fall into place they will very legitimately deal with issues surrounding the medical marijuana situation in the county."

Voters will decide whether or not to legalize marijuana for personal use in California in the November election. Medicinal marijuana was legalized in the state nearly 15 years ago, and many local people believe Humboldt County has been slow in responding as compared to Mendocino County and other places.

A similar group, the Mendocino Medical Marijuana Advisory Board, formed in Mendocino County in 2006 to "research and recommend policy guidelines and goals, including new medical findings, current litigation and potential legislation," according to the group's website.

"I know that the Mendocino [group] has been functioning for quite a few years," said Syreeta Lux, chairperson of the HUMMAP steering committee. "And I think it's time for us to have an organization that can speak and cooperatively work with our county government and officials and agen-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Medical Marijuana Group Forms for Humboldt

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cies to create effective and fair policy and regulations for the marijuana industry."

Woods said he does not know much about the role the Mendocino organization has played, but he thinks HUMMAP will be "a little more expansive" with its actions.

"We aren't dealing just with medical marijuana in the sense that we want to establish such things as 'Humboldt' as a brand name to take advantage of the reputation that our county has earned on this issue," Woods said, adding, "We don't want to lose any value out of that name and so we would like to act to protect it. And that has the potential of applying not merely to medical marijuana but also to legalized marijuana."

Some who attended last week's meeting said there was debate on whether or not indoor marijuana growers should be represented by HUMMAP. However, Lux believes an advisory panel "is there to represent everyone in the industry."

Lux said the group has identified nine stakeholder groups within the medical marijuana industry, "and we would like to represent all of the those people."

"Each focus group needs to have its own representation," Lux said, adding, "but then there needs to be a place where all those organizations can come together and say, 'This is what we would like to say to the county,' and have a body that the county accepts to interface with them."

Lux also hopes HUMMAP can help solve environmental problems associated with marijuana growing, saying, "There's a lot of discussion, of course, because there's a huge controversy within the industry itself about the environmental issues in indoor and outdoor [marijuana growing], and that is all going to come to the table. ... That's what we are hoping to foster, is an open dialogue."

Woods has been researching the possibility of forming different trade associations, and he said he has found some "legal impediments." But he said, "Finally I think we can come up with the correct forums to form some associations."

Many people have expressed concerns over possible negative economic effects that could come if marijuana is legalized, but Woods believes a proactive approach could help reduce those impacts.

"I think it's only a matter of time before marijuana is legalized," Woods said, adding, "Whether it will happen this fall or not is a question, but when it is legalized, I think that the economy is going to shift strongly. And the better prepared we are to deal with that, the more hopeful the future of our county is."

"Our focus is to keep Humboldt on the map through all the changes that are going to be coming in the next few years," Lux said. "And the only way we can do that is by coming together."

Both Woods and Lux said they are looking to expand the membership of HUMMAP, which is meeting every Tuesday. A location and time have not been set for the meetings yet, but the group will soon have more information available online at www. HUMMAP.com.

Legalization is dawning . . . It's a New Day! Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel

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PROGRAM SCHEDULE FOR HUMMAP AT BAYSIDE GRANGE 7-24-10

- 1) (5 min) 2:00-2:05: MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Anna
- 2) (10 min) 2:05-2:15: HUMMAP INTRODUCTION by Syreeta
- 3) (15 min) 2:15-2:30: PERSPECTIVES ON OPPORTUNITY with Hank Sims, Kym Kemp and Kevin Hoover
- 4) (15 min) 2:30-2:45: CITY, COUNTY AND STATE with Mark Lovelace, Eureka to be announced, Arcata-Susan Ornelas
- 5) (15 min) 2:45-3:00: MEDICAL AND CRIMINAL MARIJUANA LAW with Mel Pearlston and Ed Denson.
- 6) (15 min) 3:00-3:15: PATIENTS AND PROVIDERS with patients and providers from Humboldt Patient Resource Center of Arcata and the Hummingbird Healing Center by Eureka.
- 7) (20 min) 3:15-3:35: DOCTOR WILLIAM COURTNEY on medicinal values of cannabis
- 8) (15 min) 3:35-3:50: SUSTAINABILITY with Charley Custer of the Tea House Collective
- 9) (10 min) 3:50-4:00: LAB TESTING AND SCIENCE with Ian Hammon-Hogan and Charles Davy (20 min) 4:00- 4:20) BREAK
- 10) (20 min) 4:20-4:40: THE DYNAMIC CANNABIS MARKETPLACE with Dan Rush of UFCW5 United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 5, San Jose.
- 11) (25 min) 4:40-5:05: TAX AND REGULATE CANNABIS (PROP. 19) with Mauricio Garzon
- 12) (20 min) 5:05-5:25: CALIFORNIA COURTS AND COUNTY REGULATIONS with Pebbles Tribbit of MMMAB
- 13) (20 min) 5:25-545: POLITICAL ACTION with Ellen Komp Deputy Director of California NORML
- 14) (10 min) 5:45-5:55: LOBBYING with Haylee Corliss
- 15) (5 min) 6:00: HuMMAP CLOSSING STATEMENT

6pm: MEET THE PRESS-Television, radio and print media invited into hall to interview and film willing members of the public and speakers.

Snacks provided by Humboldt Patient Resource Center and the Gastronomes' Incredible Edibles. Accommodations for out of town guests provided by Hummingbird Healing Center. All proceeds go to cover Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel's costs of producing this educational event. For more information go to www.HuMMAP.org.

Getting ready for legal pot?

Medical marijuana panel urges industry to seize opportunities

John Driscoll
The Times-Standard

As Humboldt County's well-known marijuana industry faces potential legalization, cannabis experts gathered in Bayside Saturday to share information about how it might seize the opportunities of the day and prepare for a different future.

Some of those who spoke on the Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel warned that while legalization may decriminalize marijuana, it will also mean significant government regulation, and that some areas - Oakland was repeatedly mentioned - are likely years ahead in preparing for it. The message was one of that people urgency, involved in the marijuana industry should act now to ensure the Humboldt brand will last beyond legalization.

Medical marijuana attorney Mel Pearlston told a packed Bayside Grange that California's Proposition 215 law remains vague, but more than a decade after it passed, there appear to be two legal means of growing marijuana collectively. One is to form a collective, usually with family or friends, each of which can provide something — space, equipment, expertise - to grow marijuana for their own use or as a primary caregiver to a medical marijuana patient.

One can also form a California consumer cooperative, which can be taxed and must sell marijuana on a

opportunity is here and can be taken advantage of," Pearlston said.

Plenty of dispensaries in big cities, he said, would be willing to come to Humboldt to buy or lease farmland and employ thousands of workers to grow the crop.

Some of the panelists acknowledged a fear of change as they watched the industry shift 20 to 30 years ago. As more people became involved in growing marijuana, said Redway blogger Kym Kemp, she saw prices fall significantly, and with it hospitals and fire departments in Southern Humboldt suffer. But with attitudes changing about marijuana, Kemp said there may be a bright light ahead.

"I'm thinking instead of a world of doom and gloom, there's a world of possibilities," Kemp said.

Humboldt County Supervisor Mark Lovelace said that Humboldt County's familiarity with marijuana means it should be actively involved in how marijuana is regulated if and when it becomes legal. Legalization isn't going to be carte blanche. Lovelace said: there



But Pearlston said that selling marijuana to another person or a dispensary is illegal, unless the grower is an employee of the dispensary, a model that is being used more and more. That is where Humboldt County can seize an advantage today—and whether the marijuana bill on the November ballot passes or not, he said. "It's legal now and the

ON THE WEB:

ments "get it right."

www.HuMMAP.org

many of the people in the

state who will be regulating

the herb "can't say marijuana at full volume," he said.

He said the people in the

industry now will have to

help state and local govern-

Cannabis conference continues

SoHum legalization discussion is making its way to NorHum

Donna Tam
THE TIMES-STANDARD

Those invested in the pot industry down south are bringing the conversation to Northern Humboldt this weekend, with the hopes of having an allinclusive conversation.

Following a discussion earlier this year on what will happen to the marijuana industry if pot is legalized, members of the recently formed Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel (HUMMAP) are continuing the conversation by organizing.

March's unprecedented conversation, garnering the attention of local, state and national media, resulted in a discussion about how to make Humboldt County economically viable through third-party product regulation and the branding of an environmentally friendly technique and product.

Organizer Anna Hamilton said this will be the first countywide cannabis conference and she hopes growers — legal or otherwise — will come to the table.

"You can't do harm reduction unless you have put on everybody's shoes," she said.

The line up will include local journalists, government officials, lawyers and medical cannabis experts, as well as those involved with the Bay Area cannabis industry. The meeting is scheduled from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Bayside Grange and features more than 15 speakers.

Hamilton said bringing in those from the outside will give local growers a chance to interact with people they may not agree with. Speakers will include Dan Rush of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 5, which recently unionized hundreds of medical marijuana workers, and Mauricio Garzon with the Proposition 19 campaign. Proposition 19 is an initiative to legalize and tax marijuana sales and will be on the ballot in November.

Another speaker will be Kevin Hoover, editor of the local newspaper the Arcata Eye. Hoover, who has gained national attention in recent years for trying to bring Arcata's illegal grow house issue to light, said he hopes to have a "rational discussion" at Saturday's meeting, especially considering how heated conversations about legalization can get. He said he recognizes HUMMAP's efforts to come up with a plan.

A6 Times-Star

MARIJUANA: 'We deserve a bigger place at the table when it comes to policy decisions here'

FROM A1

"We've got this multibillion dollar industry which is completely entangled and bound up in a bunch of nonsensical and contradictory laws ... rather than have this thing run away with itself, they are starting to come up with a framework," he said.

Hamilton said some
Humboldt County growers may have
animosity toward legalization or the
large scale industry being proposed
in the Bay Area, and she hopes Saturday's
conference will be a good discussion.

Most of all, Hamilton hopes Humboldt

growers come out of the meeting with a better sense of direction and a stronger voice.

"The people in the cities make the regulations without any understanding of how it affects the rural growers," she said. "We deserve a bigger place at the table when it comes to policy decisions here. And, after 30 years of contributing to economic development ... we have something to contribute, and we don't deserve to be marginalized anymore."

For the meeting's full list of speakers and a schedule, go to www.hummap.org.

Donna Tam can be reached at 441-0532 or dtam@times-standard.com.

es-Standard

FRIDAY, JULY 23, 2010

Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel presents

HUMBOLDT CANNABIS— A FUTURE OF OPPORTUNITY

A Conference on the Present and Future of Cannabis in Humboldt County

Panels and presenters will share the latest information about:

- · Proposition 19 Tax and Regulate Cannable 2010
- · County, City and State Regulations
- . Medical Cannabis Law and Criminal Marijuana Law
- · Doctors, Patients, Providers and Dispensaries
- . Lab Testing
- . Cannable as an Economic Anchor in Humboldt-
- The Dynamic Marijuana Marketplace
- Sustainability
- · Collectives
- . Political Action and Local Opportunities

GET THE FACTS AND PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE

BAYSIDE GRANGE 2297 Jacoby Creek Rd. Bayside (just south of Arcata) Saturday, July 24, 2 to 6pm

FREE

www.HuMMAP.org for more info

COAST JOURNAL . THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2010

TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2010

WEEK

SATURDAY, JULY 24

• Humboldt Cannabis: Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel will present a free conference titled "Humboldt Cannabis: A Future of Opportunity" at the Bayside Grange from 2 to 6 p.m. The event marks the first countywide conference on cannabis and the role it plays in Humboldt's economy. A wide variety of speakers and topics are expected to include representatives of local, city and state officials, medical collectives and dispensaries, unions, the Tax and Regulate Cannabis 2010 Initiative, laboratory testing, sustainability, political action, and the future of marijuana as an economic anchor in Humboldt. For more information go to hummap.org.

'Humboldt Gannabis: Future of Opportunity' July 24

Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel will present a free conference titled "Humboldt Cannabis: A Future of Opportunity" on Saturday, July 24 at the Bayside Grange from 2 to 6 p.m. The event marks the first countywide conference on cannabis and the role it plays in Humboldt's economy.

A wide variety of speakers and topics are expected to include representatives of local, city and state officials, medical collectives and dispensaries, unions, the Tax and Regulate Cannabis 2010 Initiative, and laboratory testing.

For more information go to hummap.org.

A Future of Opportunity," a Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel presentation and discussion, takes place this Saturday, July 24 from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Bayside Grange. More information, page 10. hummap.org



CHARLEY CUSTER, secretary of the Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel (HuMMAP) addresses the audience during "Humboldt Cannabis — A Future of Opportunity," held at Arcata's Bayside Grange on July 24. HuMMAP, a community-based policy group established to promote legalizing marijuana and address health, safety, economic, and regulatory issue organized the conference to focus on the future of Humboldt County's economic base.

Custer compared the changes afoot in the marijuana industry to the history of the timber industry in Humboldt. "Timber was our economic base, it was worth fighting about and required continuous improvement; we can do the same thing with our current economy. Let's take the bags off our heads, pay attention and keep it real!"

In a follow-up phone interview, Custer said, "One of our main hopes is that the conference will jump-start conversations with the local politicians and get them to recognize that we need to regulate medical marijuana as a model for the future of the industry without waiting for Prop. 19. This is our main economic basis, and everything in this county is fraught with division because it is illegal."

GRETCHEN BROOKS / THE INDEPENDI



A California Not-for-Profit Mutual Benefit Corporation

The Tea House Collective promotes the health of our patient members and our planet by providing sustainably grown natural botanical medicine. Our cannabis is grown outdoors under the Humboldt sun, using organic methods and permaculture techniques that promote the health of the soil and the safety of all wildlife in our watersheds.

We bring together sustainable farmers of organic medical cannabis with patients concerned about the safety and purity of their medicine. We actively support education and incentives for patients and growers that increase sustainable practices in cultivation and create the <u>highest quality natural botanical medicine available</u>.

Tea House Collective is a fully legal California Not-for-Profit Mutual Benefit Corporation

We operate in strict compliance with the California Health and Safety Code and the Attorney General Guidelines.

Tea House Collective will succeed with member growers who

- Understand our goals and practices
- Believe in and support our mission
- Advocate for the sustainable future—be proud of what you're doing and share it with everyone!

Membership requirements

- Grower members must be medical cannabis patients with a valid doctor's recommendation.
- Membership share to join is \$1500, plus one pound of your medical cannabis to assist with initial cash flow and medical distribution.
- You must meet the minimum level of sustainable practice to become a member.
- Your cannabis must be organically grown, free from molds and mildews and never sprayed with chemical pesticides or fungicides. It will be lab tested.
- Members receive a percentage of equitable contribution as wages based on the amount of cannabis they contribute to the collective.*
- Grower member will receive compensation for labor and materials as wages and (when we are successful) additional wages at the end of each year based on product credit (after expenses).

*Sales of cannabis are not permitted by California law. Within a legal collective, grower members may receive compensation based on fees that are reasonably calculated to cover overhead costs, labor, and operating expenses.



Cannabis connected: Businesses and rauthorities blaze path through new regs

Kym Kemp

EYE CORRESPONDENT HUMBOLDT – When Bob Wiener. tried to deposit money in Humboldt County banks, they turned him down, His business, Canna Labs Collectives, is designed to test medical marijuana for pesticides and percentages of can nabanoids.

Because of concerns about how the federal government might view funds from a cannabis related business, banks refused to open an account for money he

had obtained as a loan on his home.

An/increasing number of Humboldt businesses depend on cannabis - from multi-million dollar horticultural supply stores to small enterprises that make salves and edibles.

Most, such as garden stores or soil producers like McClellan Mountain Ranch and Foxfarm, don't overtly refer to the huge boost they get from the marijuana market.

But a few others are beginning to

► CANNABUSINESS | 7

Cannabusiness | Frustra

FROM 1

proudly base their business model on being connected to cannabis.

707 Cannabis College

Kelly Dodds and her partners, for instance, are enthusiastically building around marijuana. They are starting a facility that aims to be "the premier cannabis educator in the United States" — 707 Cannabis College.

Dodds relates that her idea came after attending an advanced class at Oaksterdam in the Bay Area and discovering "they only (taught) indoor hydro." She decided that students needed information about a more organic and sustainable production growing outdoors.

She decided to start a facility in the heart of marijuana country, Humboldt County. Here, she says, there is a great deal of focus and support for environmentally sound farming. "Our intense focus is on the environment. You can grow your medicine in an industrial environment or... out in the sun — organic and sustainable. I believe it is healthier."

Though the Humboldt community is hospitable, Dodds and other cannabis entrepreneurs face what she calls "the fear factor" when dealing with local government and financial institutions. When first approached, officials were concerned and cautious about her new business.

Canna Labs Collectives

The situation is difficult because both officials and entrepreneurs are treading on new ground. Bob Wiener of Canna Labs Collectives explains that even though "people in charge of political issues are aware and intelligent enough to understand the ramifications of legalization, they also have to be careful and cautious.

They have to protect their constituents, weighing each decision because very few cannabis businesses have been established here before. Wiener explains, "[The officials] are just as naïve as I am." He knows that they are nod about an over-proliferation



Kelly Dodds Co-founder of 707 Cannabis College



Bob Wiener Canna Labs Collectives CEO



lan Hammon-Hogan Canna-Labs chemist

problems that more conventional startups don't.

For instance, just finding a place to put their money can be an issue. Banks are reluctant to accept accounts from clients in this new field. Weiner's business, Canna Lab Collectives, was repeatedly turned down by nearly every bank in the county (as was the 707 Cannabis College.) Reportedly, the banks feared federal retaliation.

Eventually, only the local community credit union would allow them to deposit money and then only after discussing the issue at a board meeting. This problem is being felt by cannabusinesses across the United States. Just recently, the backers of marijuana legalization in Washington State announced that part of the obstacles they failed to overcome in their bid to put their measure on this fall's ballot was difficulty in finding banks willing to take online contributions from an organization connected with marijuana. They were turned down by eight different institutions.

Dispensaries in Colorado recently saw the only institution willing to take their money, Wells Fargo, stop taking on new accounts. One dispensary owner, Ryan Vincent stated to John Ingold of the Denver Post, "It's interesting to see that there's money and no one wants to hold onto it... We're

Knowing that money for marijuana businesses is difficult to come by, Palmer, who has managed to "sock some money away," plans to help her fellows purchase small items like advertising, jars for jams, or legal services. These microloans will help support tiny enterprises as well as help start a fund to build a community kitchen in which they can all create their products. "I believe in the potential of people uniting around a vision and manifesting," says Palmer.

Engaging the future

Many groups in the community are quietly envisioning the future they want and actively trying to achieve it. The largest area of expansion seems to be collectives formed to allow groups of medical marijuana patients facilitate the sale of excess medicine to patients who don't grow.

Weiner, Canna Lab Collectives's CEO, says that "more people than you realize are involved in collectives." Tea House Collective is one such business which has created a buzz and there are a surprising number of others quietly operating already. Tea House's motto is 'Cannabis with a Cause."

One of the causes that they espouse according to Liz Davidson, a partner in the collective, is "helping rural economic development by supporting farmers through a cooperative enterganic and sustainable production growing outdoors.

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They have to protect their constituents, weighing each decision because very few cannabis businesses have been established here before. Wiener explains, "[The officials] are just as naïve as I am." He knows that they are concerned about an over-proliferation of marijuana businesses popping up in residential areas and he is sympathetic. "Grow houses have become a public nuisance."

In spite of these concerns, both he and his chemist, Ian Hammon-Hogan, are impressed with how helpful officials are. Hammon-Hogan says, "The local county government has been very, very supportive..." Both he and Wiener feel this is because they have been careful to follow county and state laws - consulting with representatives of the various county agencies at each step.

They are vigilant about approaching officials openly and honestly. From the first, Wiener has informed officials of his intentions. He has met with both Mike Downey, sheriff elect, and with District Attorney Paul Gallegos striving to address concerns as soon as possible. Kelly Dodds is also planning to introduce herself and her business to the sheriff and "form a relationship."

The money's too green

Even with county officials working with them, cannabusinesses face

She decided to start a facility in problems that more conventional

CO-lourider of 701

Cannabis College

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Canna Labs

Collectives CEO

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Dispensaries in Colorado recently saw the only institution willing to take their money, Wells Fargo, stop taking on new accounts. One dispensary owner, Ryan Vincent stated to John Ingold of the Denver Post, "It's interesting to see that there's money and no one wants to hold onto it... We're trying to be a legitimate, above-board industry in Colorado..."

Cannabis entrepreneurs have come up with creative ways to overcome the obstacles in their paths. Jill Palmer of Leggett, with a background in nursing and social services, explains that she and around 20 other women have been developing plans that will help them adapt to the shifting market. Palmer says.

"A lot of women who depend on jobs during harvest worry that life is changing." The group has been discussing ways to survive in the new world. "[We] decided there are a lot of people who might want to buy products from here," They determined an online catalogue featuring both cannabis and non cannabis products could be profitable.

Knowing that money for marijuana businesses is difficult to come by, Palmer, who has managed to "sock some money away," plans to help her fellows purchase small items like advertising, jars for jams, or legal services. These microloans will help support tiny enterprises as well as help start a fund to build a community kitchen in which they can all create their products. "I believe in the potential of people uniting around a vision and manifesting," says Palmer.

Garria-Labe

chemist

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These new businesses are not only creating jobs but they are encouraging growth in other sectors. For instance, 707 Cannabis College has a waiting list of students from outside the area and outside the state that are eager to come to Humboldt to take classes. These students will stay in motels and eat in restaurants as well as engage in other tourist activities while they are here. Their money will bring in revenue and increase employment.

These first businesses are pioneers working with government officials and the few financial institutions that are willing to partner with them to blaze a path for the cannabis companies that will follow--each new storefront that opens providing jobs, services, and taxes to enrich our communities.



This and last week's Arcata Eye Cannabis Chronicles editions only captured a handful of the stories pertinent to what is snaping up as one of the premier. issues of the season. Expect still more news and features covering the cannabis scene in weeks to come

LETTERS TO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Legalizing Marijuana Key To Ending Recession

Dear Editor,

Concerning America's biggest cash crop: Sometime down the road when today's lawmakers are dead and gone, you'll be able to go into any market or convenience store and buy a pack of marijuana cigarettes, totally legally.

The price you pay will help provide jobs for millions of Americans. The tax you pay will help keep all levels of government solvent and in the black.

The kids of today, who consider marijuana to be "business as usual," will be the lawmakers of the future who'll make all of that happen.

Sadly, today's lawmakers lack the foresight to realize that legalizing marijuana is the key to ending this crippling economic recession that we have endured for over three years. So equally sadly, this recession will continue for many years to come.

So tighten your belts, fellow Americans. Today's cookie-cutter lawmakers will die or be voted out eventually. Todav's youngsters will grow up and take over the reins. Then they will legalize what should have been legalized decades ago. And the American economy will flourish once again.

David L. Hornberger, Mennonite St. Petersburg, Fla.

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residential



Downtown Garberville, CA 95542 r Complete Lodging info visit: www.garberville.org



707 Cannabis College Classroom



Humboldt Redwoods State Park



707 CANNABIS COLLEGE

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1030 Garberville, CA 95542 President: Kellie Dodds Email: kellie@707cannabiscollege.com Director of Education: Donna King Email: donna@707cannabiscollege.com

Visit Us on The Web at:

www.707cannabiscollege.com



GARBERVILLE HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CA

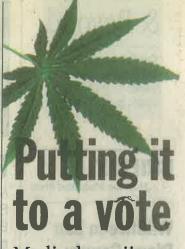
Welcome to 707 Cannabis College!

We are committed to providing the highest quality education in the health benefits of appropriate cannabis use, sustainable cannabis horticulture and evolving cannabis law.

We are located in the heart of the famous "Emerald Triangle" in its capital city of Garberville, Humboldt County, California.

We offer a variety of classes from some of the most experienced and talented local experts. We will also host special events to address current topics in this ever changing field that will feature experts in those areas.





Medical marijuana ordinance up for approval Tuesday

> **Allison White** THE TIMES-STANDARD

Eureka's medical marijuana ordinance will be back before the Eureka City Council on Tuesday for possible approval after months of debates, town hall meetings and a moratorium.

The ordinance is modeled loosely after Arcata's and will also handle the issue with a land-use approach if passed. The council introduced the ordinance at its July 20 meeting and made a few changes. Those included striking the requirement for dispensaries to distribute only to patients with medical marijuana identification cards and delaying until 2011 the requirement to test the medical cannabis for potency and chemicals.

According to a city staff report, the ordinance will require additional time from Community Development Department staff, and resources to implement and enforce the new ordinance. City staff will also be sending out requests inviting collectives or cooperatives interested in applying for the permits to process, cultivate or open a distribution facility in Eureka if it is passed.

In the ordinance, provisions for personal use would allow qualified patients to grow marijuana only in in spaces of up to 50 square feet and only in their personal residences. While the ordinance specifies that medical marijuana can be grown only in the residence of the qualified patient, it does allow caretakers to come into qualified patients' residences to grow it.

The ordinance also requires that special wiring for medical marijuana grows receive a permit from the city's building department and that lighting shall not exceed 1,200 watts. Using gas products is prohibited, and there must be no external evidence of

marijuana cultivation.

III See ORDINANCE/A10

IF YOU GO:

WHAT: Eureka City Council meeting

WHERE: 531 K St., Eureka

WHEN: 6 p.m. Tuesday

ORDINANCE

FROM A1

If the city receives infor- City staff have recommendcontact the property owner through a certified letter to request they schedule' an inspection. If the owner has not responded after seven days, fines of \$50 per day will apply and the city will begin the process of seeking an inspection warrant.

In other matters, the council will also discuss the draft environmental impact report for the Ridgewood Village Development Project, which is near the intersection of Ridgewood Drive and Eggert Road. As proposed, the project would contain about 1,400 residential housing units, about 327,000 acres of commercial space and some open space.

mation that a residence is ed the city submit comout of compliance, it would ments on the EIR before the Aug. 30 closing of the comment period, citing "issues and concerns," including adverse impacts to city public safety resources and personnel and to other city services and resources.

The council will also consider an exclusive right to negotiate agreement with Humboldt Waste Management Authority, and a text amendment to streamline architectural review on historically designated properties, among other items.

The council meeting will be at 6 p.m. Tuesday at City Hall, 531 K St., Eureka.

Allison White can be reached at 441-0506 or awhite@times-standard.com.

KMUD's Cannabis Chronicles

KMUD radio's *Cannabis Chronicles* is a three-part documentary on the rapidly changing state of marijuana from black market to industry in California. It's produced and hosted by Liz Davidson and free to download at *KMUD.org*.

The first installment looks at the Tax and Regulate Cannabis initiative, with views from California NORML director Dale Gieringer and medical activist Dr. Frank Lacido. It also looks at the legal medical industry, tax money, the industry in Oakland, the impact on the black market, and what these might mean for Humboldt's largest industry.

The second installment focuses on the medical cannabis industry. Attorney General guidelines and the state Health and Safety code name collectives and/or cooperatives as the basis of cannabis cultivation or distribution, but laws are poorly defined and even more poorly understood. Liz Davidson talks with cannabis law attorney James Silva about agricultural cooperatives and dispensaries, reports on safe legal avenues of distribution, and describes some misunderstandings that might cause patients or caregivers to unknowingly commit a felony. Liz also talks to dispensary owner Mariellen Jurkowitz about her concerns, USDA/ Clean Green inspector Chris van Hook about organic cannabis, and looks at the future of regulation of this growing industry.

The Cannabis Chronicles concludes with "Inside or Outside" a look at the environmental impacts of cultivation, both indoor, and outdoor. Interviewees include Hardy, Tyce Fraser, Chris Van Hook, Dr. Michael Geci, Mariellen Jurkovich and Dr. Frank Lu-

cido.

The *Cannabis Chronicles* can be downloaded anytime. Go to the Programs tab on the KMUD Homepage, *kmud.org.*, and scroll down to "Specials."

cannabis culture together for the first time at the first county-wide cannabis conference, Saturday, July 24 at the Bayside Grange, from 2 to 6 p.m.

The goal is to build an effective voice for reasonable regulation of cannabis in the county and cities of Humboldt, and begin to rebuild Humboldt's place in the cannabis market.

"Humboldt Cannabis-A Future of Opportunity" will offer a wide variety of topics. Panels and presenters will share the latest information on Proposition 19-Tax and Regulate Cannabis 2010; County, City and State Regulations; Medical Cannabis Law and Criminal Marijuana Law; Doctors, Patients, Providers and Dispensaries; Lab Testing and the latest scientific discoveries; Cannabis as an Economic Anchor in Humboldt; Sustainability; Collectives; The Dynamic Marijuana Marketplace; Political Action and Local Opportunities.

Pointear Action and Docar Opportunities.
Plan to attend the first county-wide cannabis conference at the Bayside Grange, Saturday, July 24 from 2 to 6 p.m. This educational event is free. For more information, visit HuMMAP.org.

Anna Hamilton is producer of the combustible talk show Rant and Rave on KMUD. The show airs the first Friday of every month at 7 p.m. To listen to past shows go to the archives at kmud.org. To find Anna go to Anna Hamilton.net

Humboldt Chunkers Ama Hamilton

Never has opportunity and crisis

That's After Pot? Cannabis!

paired off more squarely than in Hum-

use of marijuana is either the best or the worst

thing to ever happen to Humboldt's

It's probably both.

boldt County, 2010. Legalization of recreational

economy.

The journey out of the downward spiral starts Saturday

they all hinge on legalization. That alone offers the vehicle that can carry us into a market place where quality and reputation increase value, and markets can absorb our production capacity: But there's a steep learning curve. Clear analysis of the current situation requires access to accurate information and sound advice.

ignored the tell tale

Although 215 has been around for 14 years,

signs of a changing economy. But now even the Rand think tank is weighing in on the economic impacts of legalization. The Humboldt County bear market is coming out of its slumber, waking

Humboldt growers have

to falling prices and thréats of economic insta-

bility. That's the crisis.

It's important to realize that the forces driv-

That is where HuMMAP.org comes in.

ready done most of their work. 215 increased the

ing down the wholesale prices of pot have al-

ed markets and lower wholesale prices. Urban

availability of marijuana, contributing to flood-

developments in the marketplace have shifted attention away from the once famous Humboldt

Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel is the round table for informed discussion. It is a county-wide organization dedicated to providing a platform for growers, dispensaries, patients, suppliers, the Humboldt economic community, the county and city governments access to each other and the latest information possible. HumMAP strives to influence cannabis policy in Humboldt and the State.

Tasks of the organization flex with the needs of the times and members. The current mission is to bring the Northern and Southern Humboldt

overproduction this year will certainly break the

groaning back of the camel. What's a bud to do?

Big Bud. Dispensaries grow their own. Demand is down for outdoor marijuana. And our own

There are many cures on the horizon, and big

opportunities for farsighted entrepreneurs, but



Wednesday, July 14, 2010 · 16 Pages Volume 14 Number 40 ·Est. 1996



The Bye of Mariellen Jurkovich HPRC Director

month inches . Weed Esters .

Cannabis

Looming legalization undermines paradigm

Cultivation, enforcement, commerce, taxation all in play

What's going to happen?

A number of cannabis-related issues are currently in play, including a form of legalization on the November ballot, a recent court ruling affecting enforcement, Arcata cannabis centers coming into conformance with Arcata's Land Use Code, various stakeholders looking to the future and more. Over the next two editions and beyond, the Arcata Eye will attempt to bring readers up to date on the ever-changing state of cannabis.

HPRC: Not your father's medical cannabis center

Kevin L. Hoover

EYE EDITOR

ARCATA - When pleading their cases before the City Council and Planning Commission during various pot-pertinent proceedings, Arcata's cannabis dispensaries invariably extoll their positive contributions to the community, their responsible business practices and their openness to public involvement and inspection.

But just try and get a conversation going with operators of these centers. Unless you're a government decisonmaker in a position to expedite their wishes, expect more unreturned messages, slammed doors and even yelling than you normally get at, say, the florist or barber shop.

Except at the Humboldt Patient Resource Center on Sixth Street. From the

► HPRC | 6

HPRC | Wide-ranging menu of community services

▶ FROM 1

tropical fish in the lobby to the senior citizens doing Tai Chi at its adjunct Humboldt Wellness Center in Valley West, HPRC has evolved well beyond the exploitative "pot shop" image that has stigmatized other cannabis centers — in some cases deservedly.

Organized as a cooperative, HPRC offers a range of services, many free. It sees about 100 patients per day, offering cannabis in the form of edibles along with the traditional smokable type. A staff nutritionist offers counseling, with some patients taking their marijuana medicine via juice and vaporizers.

"I'm really into an integrative approach to health," said

HPRC Director Mariellen Jurkovich

HPRC's on-site grow rooms are strikingly different from the high-tech installation at the neighboring Humboldt Cooperative located in the same building, the former Isackson's Ford dealership. For one thing, HPRC isn't a hydroponic operation – it grows its cannabis in soil, or as Jurkovich calls it, "dirt."

Another distinction is invisible. Not all the cannabis grown



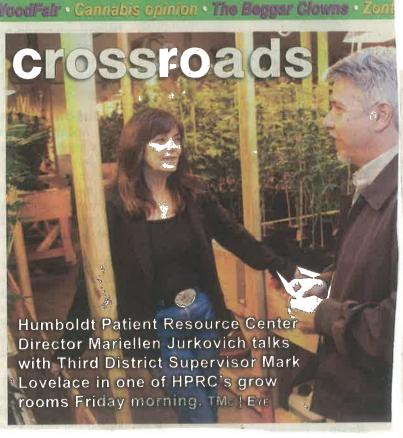
Hula-robics is one of many all-ages fitness classes offered at Valley West's Humboldt Wellness Center. It is taight every Saturday at 9:30 a.m. by a mother-daughter team of Tina and Tatiana (seen above) Robinson. TMC | EYE

there will get anyone stoned – it's "non-psychotropic," bred to maximize cannabinoids with health-helping, rather than mind-bending properties.

What is high at HPRC is overhead. The PG&E bill is \$4,000, and rent is \$4,800. Jurkovich said HPRC has 14 employees, all

making at least \$15 per hour plus benefits.

Another costly program HPRC supports is its Humboldt Well-



ness Center (HWC), located at 5050 Valley East Boulevard. In operation since November, the center offers an astoundingly varied menu of classes for people of all ages, ranging from art to exercise, even homework help for children. humboldtwellnesscenter.com

"It's all free and open to everybody, said HWC Director Tanya Rodgers. "We're trying to get the word out." HPRC has submitted two Conditional Use Permit applications with the City, one for its current operation and another to open up a new grow facility in Aldergrove Industrial Park.

The secure building-within-a-building would use lowerwattage lights and solar power. Counseling and other services

would also be offered there.

Third District Supervisor Mark Lovelace, who is studying ways to update the county's cannabis policies, toured HPRC Friday morning. Afterward, he said HPRC is "on the cutting edge of trying to make this work."



Carol Sue Barboza, Instructor Jarrett Smith and Laura Guldin at a Friday afternoon drawing class. KLH | EYE

wednesday, July 14, 2010

Read flawed Prop 19 for yourself and decide

am continually being asked by the press, my patients, and community members how I feel about California's Proposition 19, also known as the Regulate, Control and Tax Cannabis Act of 2010. The questions range from: How will it affect medical marijuana? Will it save California's incredible budget woes? How will it impact our county? Will it get rid of cartels? Will it be dangerous for my children? What are the pros and cons of this initiative? How should I vote?

These are all valid questions and concerns. My first suggestion always is for anyone interested in this complex subject to read Proposition 19. Know that this is a voter-driven initiative which cannot instantly or easily be changed without a vote from the people or by statute passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor... so, in other words, know who the shareholders are and where personal agendas lie, read between the lines, review your own values and concerns, be careful what you vote for, and in short, become informed.

I took my own advice and read Proposition 19 and did some of my own research.

First, I want to address that this act will allow people 21 years of age or older to possess, cultivate or transport marijuana for personal use. There are restrictions on the amounts that one can possess (1 oz.) and the square footage one can grow in (25 square feet). Many people recognize that the "war on drugs" or prohibition on cannabis for non-violent offenders is not really working.

To allow and limit the amount would, hopefully, eliminate some of the burden and money woes put onto the legal and prison systems. Since, I, personally, feel that too much taxpayers' money is being spent on prosecuting and imprisoning marijuana users, this seems like a positive move.

It also addresses commercial grows in that they will need to be licensed and regulated by the area they are situated in.

This initiative has excited some because of the prospect of helping California climb out of its deficit problems by promising jobs and a huge tax revenue to the state. Some estimates are that



the taxes on cannabis sales could generate billions of dollars in revenue.

The backers of Proposition 19 also feel that millions will be saved by not arresting, prosecuting and incarcerating non-violent cannabis users. This would open up resources and time to combat the dangerous criminal elements that we fear. It is also thought by some that the cartels and dealers will no longer be doing business in an accepted, legal and controlled cannabis industry.

This is all theory, and only time will tell. How is this envisioned? By allowing outlets for sales and commercial growing, cities are allowed to regulate control and tax cannabis. Oakland is a good example. Oakland has been very pro medical marijuana. This city is looking at possibly approving a seven-acre parcel that would make available 371 union jobs, pay an average salary of \$53,700 a year, produce 58 pounds of cannabis a day and generate 59 million dollars a year which the city could heavily tax.

This could be the wave of the future. Cities that want to increase revenues may take this model to heart. There is also the possibility of cities and counties encouraging hemp production since this seems to be allowed under Proposition 19. Fear that Marlboro or RG Reynolds could move in and take over are probably premature. This product is still federally illegal and considered a schedule 1 drug by the U.S. Government.

In order to cover public concerns, the writers of Proposition 19 have included the right of cities to tax and regulate cannabis within the city limits. They have also given cities control over cannabis through land use. It would still forbid driving under the influence, disallow interstate or international transportation, retain employ-

ers' rights to not allow cannabis consumption that would affect job performance and medical marijuana laws would remain intact.

This initiative has some positive concepts and ideas. We do need a way to save our fiscally strapped state and stop needless prosecution. I am not sure, though, if this would be the solution and what kind of negative impact could come from the passage of this initiative. I do know that, on one hand, the writers of this initiative pride themselves on having recreational users protected from arrest and prosecution.

What it does not do is protect our young adults. The harsh penal sanctions put on our youth are the reason why I will personally vote NO ON PROPOSITION 19. Only adults who are 21 years or older are allowed to be covered and protected under this initiative. If anyone 18 years or older furnishes a minor with cannabis, they "shall" be punished by imprisonment in state prison for a period of three, five or seven years.

That means that if your 18-year-old is at a party and smokes with a 17-year-old then he or she could be in jeopardy of losing part of their youth in prison. Sending our young adults to prison for three to seven years for cannabis use, in my opinion, is dangerous to our youth and not good for our society. This initiative also states that you cannot use cannabis in front of children. You can smoke and drink alcohol, which are far more dangerous. What happens if you do smoke in your own home in front of children? Can they be taken from you?

There are some good points in this initiative and if these specific points were different, I might be able to support it. This, of course is only my opinion.

I encourage everyone to read The Regulate, Control and Tax Cannabis Act of 2010, also known as Proposition 19. Reach your own conclusions and go out and vote. This is a historical moment in time that you do not want to miss out on.

Mariellen Jurkovich is director of the Humboldt Patient Resource Center, a medical marijuana collective in Arcata.

Humboldt Wellness Center

5050 Valley East Blvd, Arcata www.humboldtwellnesscenter.com 707-822-2456



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
All our classes are FREE! Thanks to funding from Humboldt Patient Resource Center—980 6th Street, Arcata						
2	3 10:30am Qi Gong 12pm Alignment Flow Yoga w/ Ali 4pm Yoga w/ KaliShakti 5:30pm Zumba 6:30pm Pilates	4 11 am Circuit & Stretch 12 pm lyengar Based Multilevel Yoga w/ Cyndy 4 pm Mommy & Baby Yoga w/ Kendra 6:00 pm Zumba	5.30 pm Loughter Yoga 5.30 pm Pilates 5.30-7:30 pm Painting Oil & Vistercolor (Students o provide their own penting 5, pplies for this class) 6-8:30 pm Reiki & Wellness Blessings Mini Sessions (Call for appt) Donation: Appreciated! Donation: go to Relay for Life	6 12pm Circuit Training/Stretch 5pm Kattlebell 6:00pm Zumba	7 12pm Lunch & Learn—Let Food Be Thy Medicine 5:30 Basic Cooking Techniques: Baking 5:45pm Cardio Belly Dance	8 9:30am Hula-robics 11am-12pm Art For Kids-Recycled Jewelry 1-2:30pm Women's Support Group (Grown Chakra) 4-6pm Acting & Improv
9 Center Closed!	10 10:30am Qi Gong 12pm Alignment Flow Yoga w/ Ali 4pm Yoga w/ KaliShakti 5:30pm Zumba 6:30pm Pilates	11 11am Circuit 12pm Multilevel Yoga w/ Cyndy 3-6pm Gentle Body Relief (appt required) 4pm Mommy/Baby Yoga w/ Kendra 6:00pm Zumba	12 8:30am Laughter Yogs 11am Thinner, Healthier You 5:30pm Pilates 5:30-7:30pm Painting Oil & Watercolor (Students to provide supplies) 6-8:30pm Reiki & Weilner's Biessings *	13 12pm Circuit Training/Stretch 5pm Kattlebell 6:00pm Zumba	14 5:45pm Cardio Belly Dance	15 9:30am Hula-robics
16 1-3pm Parenting: Happiness, Praise & Behavior 4pm Yoga 5:30 Cooking: Quick & Easy Soups	17 10:30am Qi Gong 12pm Alignment Flow Yoga w/ Ali 4pm Yoga w/ KallShakti 5:30pm Zumba 6:30pm Pilates	18 11am Circuit 12pm Multilevel Yoga w/ Cyndy 3-6pm Gentle Body Relief (appt required) 4pm Mommy/Baby Yoga w/ Kendra 6:00pm Zumba	19 8:30 am Laughter Yoga 2pm Ta Chi 5:30 pm Pilates 5:30-7:50 pm Painting Oii & Watercolor 6-8:30 pm Reiki & Weilnes Biessings * Mini Sessions (Call for appl)	20 9:30-3 Massage\$ (appt required) 12pm Circuit Training/Stretch 5pm Kettlebell 6:00pm Zumba	21 5:45pm Cardio Bally Dance	9:30am Hula-robics 1-2:30pm Women's Support Group (Chakra Alignment) 3-5pm Beading Embellished Necklace 4-6pm Acting & Improv
23 4 _{pm} Yogs	24 10:30am Qi Gong 12pm Alignment Flow Yoga w/ Ali 4pm Yoga w/ KaliShakti 5:30pm Zumba 6:30pm Pilates	25 11am Circuit 12pm Multilevel Yoga w/ Cyndy 3-6pm Gentie Bod, Relief (appt required) 4pm Mom my/Baby Yoga w/ Kendra 6:00pm Zumba	26 8:30am Laughter Yoga 11am Trinner, Healthier You 2pm Tai Chi 5:30pm Pilates 5:30-7:30pm Painting Oil & Wistercolor 6-8:30pm Reiki & Wellness Biessings *	27 12pm Circuit Training/Stretch 5pm Kettlebell 5:30 Cooking: Thai Food 6:00pm Zumba	28 5:45pm Cardio Belly Dance	29 9:30am Hula-robics
30 4 _{pm} Y _{oge}	31 10:30am Qi Gong 12pm Yoga w/ Aii 4pm Yoga w/ KailShakti 5:30pm Zumba 6:30pm Pilates				\$2) Massage 20/hr for RC Patients

County takes pot dispensary to court

Dispensary argues no conditional use permit needed

Thadeus Greenson The Times-Standard

Is a medical marijuana dispensary a store?

The answer to this question may well determine the fate of the Hummingbird Healing Center, a medical marijuana dispensary in Myrtletown, just outside of Eureka city limits, that has been operating since last year without a county-issued conditional use permit.

Humboldt County - arguing that the center needs a conditional use permit to operate legally - is now seeking a preliminary injunction from a Humboldt County Superior Court judge to force the center to close its doors until it procures a permit or the court finds it does not need one. Preliminary injunctions are court orders made at the request of one party that prevents another party from pursuing a course of action until a conclusion of a trial on the merits of the case.

Wednesday, both sides offered oral arguments before Judge Dale Reinholtsen, and it seems the issue may not be as cut-and dried as many may think.

For the county, Deputy County Counsel Davina Smith argued that the court should issue the injunction because medical marijuana dispensaries are not a principally permitted use in any zoning designation in Humboldt County, and consequently require a conditional use permit issued by the Humboldt County Planning Commission, as per county code. County code currently says

nothing about medical marijuana dispensaries, Smith said.

"If it's not specifically enumerated (in the code), you need a conditional use permit," Smith said.

Chris Johnson Hamer, representing the Hummingbird Healing Center, argued that there is simply no need for the center to pursue a conditional use permit from the county, as it is a principally permitted use.

"At the least, a medical marijuana dispensary is a store," Hamer said. "This is a store that sells medical marijuana."

County Code Section 314-2.1 outlines the principally permitted uses for a neighborhood commercial zone within the county, the same zoning designation shared by the Myrtletown shopping center that houses the Hummingbird Healing Center. The code states that principally permitted uses are "stores, agencies and services of a light commercial character, conducted entirely within an enclosed building, such as antique shops, art galleries, retail bakeries, banks, barber shops ... drug stores ... food markets."

Further, Hamer argued that the law is vague, and therefore unconstitutional because it could serve to entrap the innocent.

"There is nothing to lead a person of ordinary intelligence to believe that a medical marijuana dispensary would not be permitted in the (neighborhood commercial) zone," Hamer said, adding that the county code leaves too much room for discrimination. "There's no notice that if you have a store that sells medical marijuana, that's somehow different than a store that sells anything else."

• See Pot/A2

HUMMINGBIRD TAKES A HIT

A2 Redwood Times

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

From A1... Pot

Hamer also argued that granting the preliminary injunction would irreparably harm her clients, putting the center out of business, and that no judgment should be made until the county's case against her clients can be fully adjudicated.

In questioning the attorneys, Reinholtsen seemed to seize on the question of whether a medical marijuana dispensary is, legally, any different than a store.

"Why is a store that distributes marijuana legally different than a drug store?" Reinholtsen asked.

Reinholtsen then turned his attention to the use of the phrase "such as" in the county code, pointing out that the phrase is usually used to offer examples, not to enumerate an exclusive list.

"It seems to me that's very vague," Reinholtsen said, before asking Smith if a store selling computers would be required to get a conditional use permit because it is not specifically listed as a principally permitted use under the code.

Smith maintained that if it's not specifically listed, a condiional use permit would be equired.

"I would suggest to the court that if you wanted to open your computer store in the (commercial neighborhood) zone, you would have to go to the Planning Commission and make your case."

Reinholtsen took the matter under submission, and said he hopes to issue a ruling by the end of next week.

Rave busted, four arrested

Redwood Times

The Mendocino Major Crimes Task Force were tipped to a rave music concert at Area 101 ten miles north of Laytonville and their follow-up on the information led to the arrest

of four people.

The information was received on July 5 that the concert would be held on July 9 and 10. Rave concerts commonly have designer-type drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA), psilocybin and LSD. The workers at this event were known to be sellers of these drugs and to use them during the concert. This concert was said to be the 10th anniversary of the event and tickets were sold for prices ranging from \$180 to \$200.

Agents from the task force were assisted by agents from the California Alcoholic Beverage Control and performed an undercover investigation during the event on July 9. Agents were able to purchase ecstasy from staff worker Jethro Lloyd, age 38, of Humboldt County. During the arrest of Lloyd, agents located 15 individual baggies of ecstasy, which the report says has an estimated street value of \$100 per gram. About an ounce of ecstasy was located on Lloyd, along with about \$1,200.

Deputies were also offered psilocybin by TiaMaria Boxberger, age 28, a transient.

Free marijuana was given to another undercover agent by staff worker Ted Muth, age 18, of Santa Cruz. Additional marijuana was found on Muth at the time of his arrest.

While inside the dance area, agents arrested another individual, 18-year old Jordan Irwin, for public intoxication.

This event was not advertised locally, according to the report, and tickets were only available through an outlet in Sacramento and another in Reno. Tickets were also sold over the Internet.

The investigation into the promoters and staff workers at "StillDream" is continuing.

Xi .



Prop19 | \$1.4 billion tax revenue, crime reduction forecast

▶ FROM 1

Another by SurveyUSA polled adults in April of this year with a persistent tally of 56 percent favoring the personal, legal, recreational usage of cannabis in California.

Within weeks of Prop 19 becoming a reality two studies surfaced predicting the fall and possible rise of pot prices on the legal market.

Taxing pot by the ounce

The State Board of Equalization released its own findings with legislative bill analysis (AB 390) co-authored by California State Assemblyman Tom Ammiano of San Francisco. The state's resale tax collecting entity predicts collecting a hefty \$50 an ounce, netting the state an estimated \$1.4 billion in revenue a year from the estimated \$14.8 billion a year industry. Within four pages of comments, item number three poses this interesting question: "What if marijuana is sold in amounts less than one ounce?" Good question.

According to the Associated Press, the Rand Drug Policy Research Center based in Santa Monica predicted the current market price of \$375 an ounce (28.5 grams) dropping to a mere \$38 with Prop. 19's nod. Add the \$50 tax and you have an ounce possibly just under \$100. Rand does, however, take into account that supply and demand in all its greatness

will keep suppliers happy.

Humboldt County District Attorney Paul Gallegos feels the high price of marijuana is currently fueled not only by the fact it's illegal, but its physical girth, which makes it difficult to hide. He believes the price will plummet once cannabis is legal, but demand will still be high — and Humboldt County will still have a black market environment.

"Dropping prices will result in high demand from other states where it is still illegal and expensive, creating an economy based on the exporting of marijuana," he said. "This increased price will, once again, promote that export-based economy."

Even the discussion of reporting possession for taxation purposes has Gallegos stumped.

"The law allows for taxation, but possession, cultivation and use is still a Federal crime. How do people declare what they are possessing, cultivating and using for taxation purposes and not expose themselves to Federal prosecution?" Gallegos questioned. "They cannot. If they cannot, how can California prosecute them for not declaring their taxable income when doing so might [probably] violate their privilege under the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution?

Personal plethora of pot

While predictions and hearsay run amok, just what will Prop 19 and the legalization and regulation of cannabis mean to Humboldt County, the self-proclaimed cannabis capitol of California?

Third District Supervisor and Vice-Chair of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors Mark Lovelace, who sits on a county subcommittee investigating issues surrounding medical marijuana, has his own educated take on the subject.

"The most important thing you need to know about the Regulate, Control and Tax Cannabis Act is that it does none of those things," Lovelace explained. "It legalizes it for personal use, and allows local jurisdiction to 'regulate, control and tax' it, if they so choose."

Those hoping for a pass may already be setting up pots for planting, with Lovelace giving

a go-ahead.

"The day after the initiative passes a person could start a personal grow – not a commercial grow – in their own home," Lovelace said. "So long as it's not larger than 25 square feet, regardless of whether or not they have a doctor's recommendation."

Amendment doesn't just come in bags

The plus with Prop. 19, Lovelace said, is that it allows for amending – something lacking in Prop. 215's framing.

"It specifically allows the State Legislature to amend the act – so long as it furthers the purpose of the act – and establish a statewide regulatory system for a commercial cannabis industry," Lovelace said. "Ultimately this is the thing that will help to define the rules of the marketplace."

Local attorney and KMUD radio host Ed Denson predicts some seeing green while oth-

ers stay put on the issue.

"The most important point, I think, is that there is almost complete local control over almost all aspects of pot cultivation and use," Denson said. "They can license premises or ban sales; they can increase personal use and cultivation and even allow commercial cultivation. If this passes, certain counties and cities are going to make a lot of money in fees, fines and sales taxes, and others are going to remain 'pure but poor."

Gallegos gives a green light, if that's what the county and its constituents want.

"I believe in the democratic process," he said. "If the Board of Supervisors believes raising the personal limits is appropriate then that's what is going to happen, and I have no objection with them exercising their discre-

tion as provided by the law."

Whether the county or individual cities within the county choose to amend or not Gallegos said it's not the solution to all our

problems when it comes to pot.

"If it passes, we will have many legal and community challenges," he informed. "We can fail to work to solve them and just blame others and pine endlessly for the good old days or we can roll-up our sleeves and get to work. I value human life. I see people getting killed and robbed over marijuana, when marijuana, in and of itself, is more a public education and health issue than a public safety issue. I want a solution that is rational, cost-effective and works. The current system achieves none of those goals."

To prosecute or not to prosecute

Under Prop. 19 Gallegos believes the county will be able to redirect dwindling resources away from the "war on marijuana" and focus on violent and serious crimes – and he'd rather not spend another minute prosecuting marijuana offenders with legalization pending.

"It's tough to prosecute marijuana cases with legalization looming because you don't want to have to go through all the work of prosecuting someone just to find out it was all for nothing," he explained. "I also don't like to have people sitting in jail that shouldn't be there, or shouldn't have been there. If I don't prosecute them and it doesn't pass, then I've made a wrong decision. If I do prosecute them and it passes, I have made a wrong decision. That's not a good position to be in."

Taking the criminal element out of the neighborhood is something Gallegos said he's behind and sees indoor, residential grows as negatively impacting a community. He also blames the powers that be for creating the sit-

uation in the first place.

"The problem we have seen is our legislators have failed to step-up and adjust to the issues created by the compassionate use act," he said. "It's easier to do nothing and blame others. How is it that we can regulate dog ownership but not legal marijuana cultivation and possession? I think it's absurd to say we cannot do it, and I think we've been dis-served by those who have chosen to blame others for the problem rather than working to find a solution."

For complete text and information on Proposition 19, visit the California Secretary of State's site, voterguide.sos.ca.gov, Oaksterdam University, taxcannabis.org, Ballotpedia, ballotpedia.com.

Next week: Commerce, distribution, legal

ramifications and more.

Prop 19: Bringing bud to market

Sharon Letts

EYE CORRESPONDENT Second of two parts

Over the counter, crossing county lines

With controls being handed down to the local levels, commercial growing, sales for recreational use and distribution of cannabis and or ensuing products thereof would not be legal if Proposition 19 were to pass. Counties and incorporated cities would first have to choose to legalize it for those purposes.

Mark Lovelace, vice-chair of the Humboldt



▶ PROP 19 1 7

Prop 19 | New complications

▶ FROM 1

County Board of Supervisors, said this is the crux of Proposi-

"It's likely to result in a patchwork of wildly-varying regulations, similar to what we have under Prop. 215," he said.

Lovelace, who sits on a county subcommittee investigating issues surrounding medical marijuana, compared this scenario to the "wet county/dry county" situation during the prohibition of alcohol in the Old South.

Inter-jurisdictional conflicts such as this, he said, may hinder distribution efforts within the

For instance, he said, what if Mendocino, Humboldt and Sonoma Counties all give a thumbs-up on selling and moving commercial product, and more conservative regions like Orange and Riverside Counties do nothing?

Lovelace believes the "safe and secure transportation" stipulation on moving commercial marijuana can prevent growers of neighboring counties from transporting product through that county.

"Because of these jurisdictional uncertainties, I believe it will be difficult for an 'area of origin' like Humboldt to develop a truly effective regulatory framework, without knowing how the marketplace will be regulated elsewhere in the states," he said.

Some counties and cities are already looking at these issues and Lovelace added that they are running into this same problem.

"Presumably, there will be some period where 'early adopters' will develop some exploratory models of regulation," he co-authored of one of the three initiatives to regulate and tax cannabis this past year.

Though their bill didn't make it to the ballot, they have dedicated themselves to educating others about the laws surrounding cannabis use, presenting a "Cannabis Legal Symposium" at the Arcata Community Center this August (see ad, page 4).

Rogoway sees another fly in the ointment within Prop 19 in dealing with the buying and selling of cannabis in a legal market, "There is not currently a law prohibiting buying cannabis; it is the possession that is disallowed," he said. "This could mean that this act criminalizes 'buying' cannabis when no such law previously existed."

Mugwort or marijuana?

Charley Custer of the Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel (HUMMAP) said he and the organization are bent on the legalization of marijuana for adult recreational use, and supports what he called a "flawed porting marijuana illegal." initiative" with reservations.

goal of adult recreation use," he mporting a crime, but is silent said. "No one should be jailed for on exporting. Transportation is mugwort or marijuana.'

Custer said, are only too eager to which makes me think that 'imexploit first-out-of-the-gate state-porting' may mean 'arranging wide marketing advantages.

nomic foundation can be en-across the state line." couraged in myriad ways that the county can plan with its producers, and these conversations Bay area attorney Joe Rogocan begin today by cooperatingway is co-founder of the Can-

The free-market holds un-He, along with associate Omar certainty for Custer who said heFigueroa with Oakland disfeels it will still be "half-bakedpensary owner James J. Clark. and richly contradictory."

ontinued. "Many of which will kely fall by the wayside over me as counties, the industry nd the market move towards ome kind of normalization.

Ed Denson defense attorney nd talk show host on KMUD adio in Southern Humboldt. as another take.

"I know it sounds odd but I an't find a law that makes ex-

According to Denson, "Health "It's a first step toward the and Safety Code 11360 makes llegal, but that's true whether Jurisdictions such as Oakland, 'ou are importing or exporting, for marijuana to be imported' "Our own export-driven eco-rather than actually carrying it

> To buy or possess? That is the question

to regulate medical marijuana." nabis Law Institute in Oakland.

"Too many interests are lined up to prevent the free market from working, if that's even possible in our country any more," he said. "I suspect prices will remain higher than they should be, and opportunities for profit up here will continue. But I expect the industry up here to evolve rather than grow.

Custer hopes the black market pot industry's most destructive practices (indoor grows and outdoor waste) will be the first to be priced out of business by sheer inefficiency.

"Edibles. extracts themed tourism have easy advantage here if regulations work with, instead of against their development," he added. "I'm a Maoist about this, let a thousand flowers bloom, then follow the honeybees."

For complete text and information on Proposition 19, visit the California Secretary of State's site, voterguide.sos. ca.gov, Oaksterdam University, taxcannabis.org, Ballotpediaballotpedia.com.

oe woke up to the alarm sounding off in the distance. "Four in the morning," Marcy said, jumping out of bed.

"It's the barn," Joe said, grabbing his pants and boots.

By the time they arrived the damage was done. The new alarm system notified the police who showed up seconds later.

"That was quick," Joe said to the officer getting out of his car.

"Looks like the bad guys were quicker," the officer said inspecting a large hole in the side of the barn.

The vandals had driven a farm truck through the barn wall. It looked like a crow-bar was taken to the vault room, but they couldn't budge it. The grow room, however, was a mess.

"It's legit, 215," Joe said to the officer, trying to appease his surprise. "We have insurance."

"You have insurance for your grow room?" the officer said, even more surprised.

"Yeah, it's a new thing this year," Joe replied. "Looks like we got it just in time, huh?"

"They left the plants - a month from harvest, go figure," Marcy said under her breath. "All the equipment's gone," she yelled.

Ninety-nine soon to be harvest-

Covering the crop

A fictional account of real life behind the Redwood Curtain

Ferndale: Marcy and Joe

ed plants in full bud lay smashed on the floor.

"What's the value of the equipment in here?" the officer asked, stepping into the room within the barn.

"Around fifty thousand," Joe said. "That includes lights and the watering system. We have an inventory list, per the insurance company - everything should be covered."

"You have inventory inside that vault?" the officer asked.

"Yeah, the insurance company advised us to install that metal door. A video camera, watering system in case of fire, inventory lists – even the cycle of the plants are recorded. See how close we are to harvest?" Joe said, holding up a branch heavy with furry, purple buds. "The clones aren't covered that was our choice. But, these are because they are near market-time when we have the most to lose and no time to recoup this crop."

"Man, you have a real business here." the officer said, scratching his head.

"Well yeah, man," this is our subsidy so we can ranch, you know?' Joe responded, intent on enlightening this man. "You know my dad up the road, you know my grandfather and his dad before him homesteaded this land. You think I can keep this going the way ranching is today? This crop insures our life as we know it on this ranch."

"You guys going to be alright with this today, you want some help?" the officer said, softening.

which I think it is, we should be up and running again within 45 days but, thank you for offering. We appreciate it," Marcy said, putting her cell phone in its holster.

"That was our personal carrier. It seems there was an exclusion for any growing of marijuana on the

property," she said.

"Where does it say that in the policy?" Joe asked, dismayed.

"The claims department said it was under health hazards, and that growing or selling medical marijuana falls under what they called this 'exclusion," she said.

"I hear that all the time. No one wants to tell their landlord, their insurance carrier, no one. How can anyone run a business like that? And you are a legal 215 - posted right there," the officer said, pointing to the wall. "Well, I give you an "E" for effort," he said, walking toward his patrol car to leave. "If you guys need help, let me know. I can have a whole posse here in an hour. Keep up the good work."

For more on Joe and Marcy in Ferndale, see Behind the Curtain No. 6

Note: The information gathered "If all my paperwork is in order, came from an actual case settlement from Statewide Insurance Services, the only carrier covering legal 215 medical marijuana grows in the country. It's important to note that only detached grow rooms are covered, not those inside a dwelling or other mixeduse building.

... Turning over a new leaf.

WEST COAST LEAF

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ISSN 1945-221X · VOLUME 3 NO. 2

SUMMER 2010

IT'S ON THE BALLOT

Cali measure for legal adult cannabis faces November vote By Chris Conrad

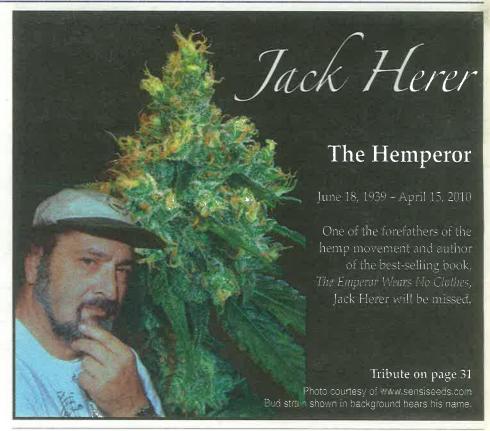
The Secretary of State confirmed March 24 that the Control and Tax Cannabis initiative will be on the Nov. 5, 2010 ballot, the first non-medical use initiative to qualify in the state since the 1972 California Marijuana Initiative. The mere fact of cannabis being up for a vote with a slim majority of support among CA voters has stoked national and international media discussion of how legal adult cannabis use is to be regulated in the future.

The campaign is garnering a growing string of endorsements, which already includes the CA NAACP, political and union leaders, Oakland City Council, economists, and most cannabis reform groups. It is forming coalitions of physicians, attor-

neys, faith leaders and organizations, who are generating support for the initiative amongst their constituents.

Vocal opposition is led by lobbyist and spokesperson for the California Peace Officers Assn, John Lovell. The typical line-up of law enforcement, MADD, drug rehab companies, career politicians and fringe religious groups are coalescing under the banner, 'Public Safety First,' headed by the 'No On Prop 5' strategist Wayne Johnson. They have vowed to block the initiative, as have some dealers and illicit growers, so it is expected to be a close vote.

Campaign spokesperson Dale Clare said that Oaksterdam University founder and initiative sponsor Richard Lee made sure the measure protects existing medical use laws, winning the strong support of advocates and co-proponent Jeff Jones of *Please turn to page 19*



Medical marijuana coming to nation's capital

By Mike Meno, MPP

Washington DC will soon be added to the list of jurisdictions that give seriously ill patients legal access to medical marijuana, after a unanimous May 4 vote by the District council approving amendments to a medical use law passed in 1998 by 69 percent of voters in the nation's capital.

For more than a decade, Congress blocked its implementation via the so-called "Barr Amendment" — a clause in the approach that approach the approach is the approach to the ap

Georgia), the notorious restriction's name-sake, who later reversed his position — the ban was at last lifted last year, opening the way for the Council to enact what would have been the country's second medical use law. Once Mayor Adrian Fenty signs the law, it goes to Congress for a 30-day review period, but there are no indications the Democratically controlled Congress will try to intercede.

"A well-working medical marijuana program in the nation's capital will pro-

Cannabis has little effect on driving, study shows; most drive more slowly

By Paul Armentano NORML

Subjects exhibit virtually identical psychomotor skills on a battery of driving simulator tests prior to and shortly after smoking marijuana, according to clinical trial data published in the March issue of the *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*.

Investigators from Hartford Hospital in Connecticut and the University of Iowa again 30 minutes after smoking a single marijuana cigarette containing either 2.9 percent THC or zero THC (placebo).

Investigators reported that volunteers performed virtually the same after smoking cannabis as they did sober. "No differences were found during the baseline driving segment (and the) collision avoidance scenarios," authors concluded.

priates money to the District of Columbia.

After years of lobbying by the Marijuana Policy Project (MPP) and others - including former Rep. Bob Barr (D-

New Colorado law to regulate dispensaries

By Warren Edson, Esq.

The 2010 Colorado legislative session brought dramatic changes to the medical marijuana community, due to the passage of House Bill 1284. Provided that Governor Ritter signs the bill, as he said he will, Colorado will begin regulating - and legitimizing — the industry on July 1, 2010.

In order to create a clean legal slate, the bill creates three new statutory defenses, the language and general framework of which will be adopted by local municipalities over the next year.

Dispensaries will now be known as Medical Marijuana Centers. An MMC is allowed to be a for-profit business, and it is specifically not the patient's 'caregiver.'

The MMCs will be able to retail to patients, and they will be able to wholesale up to 30 percent of what's in their storefront to other MMCs, Infused Product Manufacturers (IPM, a new category, described below), and caregivers. By Sept. 1, they will need to have at least 70 percent of the cannabis in their storefront produced by their own growers. A \$5,000 bond will be required to license an MMC.

Medical marijuana grow facilities will now be known as Option Premises Cultivation Operations (OPCO). The OPCO has to be connected to an IPM or MMC, and all their cannabis has to be sent to that one IPM or MMC.

The final new cannabis business license Please turn to page 30

vide a unique opportunity for members of Congress who have never seen such programs up close to do just that," said Karen O'Keefe, MPP's director of state policies.

"Once they see for themselves that these laws do nothing but provide compassionate care for seriously ill patients, hopefully they will understand the need to create a federal policy that no longer criminalizes patients in any state who could benefit from this legitimate treatment option."

Unfortunately, amendments approved Please turn to page 15

Carver College of Medicine assessed the simulated driving performance of 85 subjects in a double-blind, placebo controlled trial. Volunteers responded to various simulated events associated with automobile crash risk — such as avoiding a driver who was entering an intersection illegally, deciding to stop or go through changing traffic lights, responding to the presence of emergency vehicles, avoiding colliding with a dog who entered into traffic, and maintaining safe driving during a secondary (in-the-car) auditory distraction. Subjects performed the tests sober and then

Investigators noted that "participants receiving active marijuana decreased their speed more so than those receiving placebo cigarette during (the) distracted section of the drive." Authors hypothesized that subjects' reduction in speed on this task suggested that they may have been compensating for perceived impairment.

"[N]o other changes in driving performance were found," they reported.

Please turn to page 14

Humboldt group looks ahead to the legal market

'Branding,' cannatourism and sustainability all on agenda

By Liz Davidson, HUMMAP

The Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel (HUMMAP) was formed on April 20 to promote the virtues of Humboldt-grown cannabis, to educate county communities and government, to help draft regulations, and to ease local growers' transition to possible legalization.

HUMMAP is a coalition of cannabis patients, cultivators and associated community members united to develop a comprehensive countywide medical cannabis regulatory policy. Its goals are to integrate all related health and safety issues under Please turn to page 12

Cannabis Freedom Day marked around the globe



Cannabis Freedom Day 2010, AKA the Million Marijuana March, was celebrated around the world on May 1 and 8. Events were held in 334 cities. This historic 10,000 person march took place May 8 from Plaza de Mayo to the National Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Photo courtesy of revista Haze. See cures-not-wars.org for May 7, 2011 info.

Medi cannabis helping California pay its debts

Taxes receipts around \$100m

By Dale Gieringer California NORML

The California Board of Equalization reported that the state is collecting \$50 -\$100 million annually in sales taxes from medical marijuana. The report confirms an estimate previously published by California NORML* and independently confirmed by Americans for Safe Access.

California NORML currently estimates the state's domestic retail market for medical cannabis at over \$1 billion per year in a total adult use market of \$6 billion. Even more is shipped out of state.

Prohibitionists, led by Los Angeles District Attorney Steve Cooley, have sought to choke off the state's lucrative medical market by claiming that sales are illegal. Advocates argue that medical sales are legal under SB 420, and the state stands to lose millions in sales tax revenues if LA's dispensaries are closed.

Regulated adult use could net the state \$1.4 billion in revenues according to the state Legislative Analyst's office, or over \$1.2 billion by Cal NORML's estimate.*

* canorml.org/background/OakFinancialReportRelse.htm; also canorml.org/background/CA_legalization2.html.

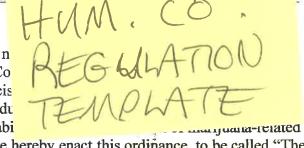
Proposal for a Humboldt County Marijuana Legalization Ordinance (and/or input into Tom Ammiano's legalization bill) from CaNORML.org, Emerald chapter, to be presented at the 707 Cannabis College Event an 7.10.2010 and the HuMMAP event at the Bayside Grange on 7.24.2010

Submitted by Ellen Komp Ca NORML ellen@canorml crast 2, 7/9/2010

Based on:

Proposed Massachusetts State Legal http://www.mass.gov/legis/bills/hous and California Business and Professi http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/dis24000&file=23355-23405.3

Whereas, the laws against marijuana have n marijuana use and abuse, The Humboldt Co Voters of Humboldt County seek) to exercis cannabis consistent with respect for individuour objectives to be the reduction of cannabi



crime and the raising of public revenue, we hereby enact this ordinance, to be called "The Humboldt County Cannabis Control Ordinance."

Section 1. There is hereby created an authority to be known as the Humboldt County Cannabis Council. The Council shall be made of up seven members, appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and shall serve 4-year terms, subject to re-appointment. The Board shall include in this membership a representative for cannabis farmers, one for retailers, a human rights advocate, an agricultural inspector, a business expert, a legal expert, and an expert in weights and measures. They shall be paid a part-time salary based on a percentage of tax generated by this ordinance.

The Council shall have general supervision of the conduct of the business of cultivating, possessing, distributing, sale at retail and wholesale of cannabis, and also of the quality, purity and grade thereof. The authority shall make such rules and regulations as it deems necessary to enable it to carry out and enforce the provisions of this act, and shall prescribe the forms of application for licenses under this chapter and may require therein such information as it deems necessary.

Section 2. Cannabis shall be classified and taxed according to its THC content.

At the retail level, cannabis shall be taxed as follows:

Class A (20-30% THC) \$50/ounce Class B (10-20% THC) \$35/ounce of cannabis shall be conducted in only one place. The annual fee for a processing license shall be \$1000.

Cannabis shall be packaged in quantities of one ounce, by dry weight, or rolled into cigarette form in packages not to exceed one ounce. The processor shall cause a label to be placed on each package bearing the following information:

- (1) The name and place of business of the processor;
- (2) The cannabis grade;
- (3) Certification that the produce is organic and/or that it is free of pesticides;
- (4) Whether it was grown indoors or outdoors;
- (5) Whether or not water conservation measures such as catchment tanks were used in the cultivation and processing of the cannabis; and
- (6) The following statement: The Operation of a Motor Vehicle under the influence of cannabis, alcohol or any other intoxicant is a crime punishable of a fine of up to \$1,000 or imprisonment up to two years, or both, and may result in the loss of your license to drive.

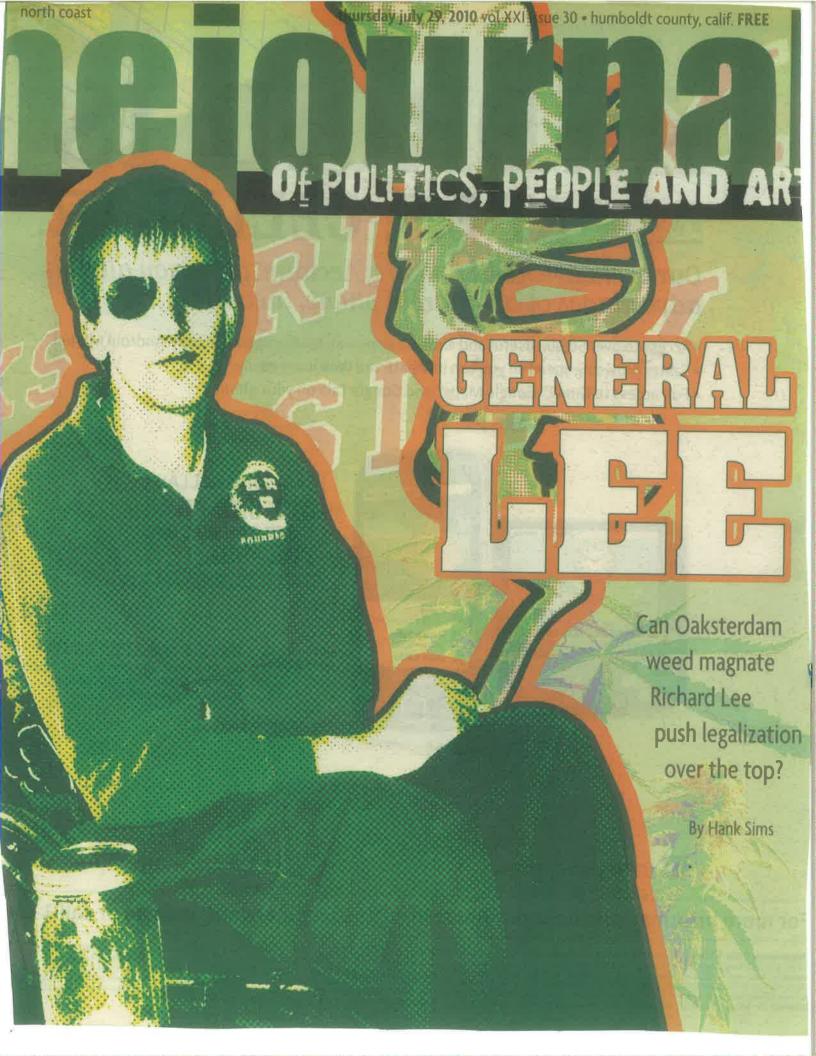
The processor shall affix upon each cannabis package a tax stamp or such other documentation as the authority may require, and shall transfer neither title nor possession of same to any person without the said stamps affixed.

The holder of a processor license may apply to the Council for a cannabis sales event permit. The cannabis sales event permit shall authorize the sale of cannabis products at festivals, state, county, district, or citrus fruit fairs, civic or cultural celebrations, or similar events approved by the department. The sale of cannabis shall not be the primary purpose of the event, and the sale shall be for consumption off the premises where sold. The permit shall be valid for a maximum of five consecutive days during the event period.

- D. The holder of a wholesale license, his or her agents and employees, may obtain cannabis only from a duly licensed processor or importer, and may possess cannabis only bearing valid documentation required to be affixed to all packages. S/he may keep, store, warehouse, and transport same, and may sell cannabis only to duly licensed retailer. The annual fee for a **wholesale** license shall be \$3,000.
- E. The holder of a **retail** license may sell cannabis only to adult members of the public, not visibly intoxicated or otherwise in such condition as may present a threat to public safety. All sales of cannabis to the public must take place within the licensed premises of the retailer, which premises must be enclosed. A retail license shall be exercisable only at the location specified in the license.

The holder of a retail license may sell cannabis to consumers for consumption on the premises in a bona fide coffeehouse or eating place, which is located on the licensed premises or on premises owned by the licensee that are contiguous to the licensed premises and which is operated by and for the licensee. At such bona fide public eating

Proposed Humboldt County Ordinance submitted by: emerald@canormt.org date: 7/9/10 p. 3/4





looking to get their start in the industry. Unlike most jurisdictions, the city of Oakland had become accustomed to working with the medical cannabis industry early on, says John Geluardi, author the book Cannabiz: The Explosive Rise of the Medical Marijuana Industry, which will be published in October. The city was working with legendary marijuana horticultural guru Ed Rosenthal, even granting him an official city title to permit him to grow pot for patients within the city's borders. According to Geluardi, Lee's early genius was to cement this relationship with official legislation that would work to the benefit of both parties.

"I think [Lee] took what was a good, casual relationship between city officials and dispensary owners and made it official," Geluardi said.

At first, Lee worked through the auspices of the Oakland Civil Liberty Alliance, a political action committee that he founded. In 2004, the OCLA sponsored a citywide initiative — Measure Z — that would direct the Oakland Police Department to make enforcement of marijuana laws its lowest priority. In a city infamous for its high rates of violent crime, the measure passed by a 2-1 vote.

A couple of years later, Lee championed a different initiative, one that would increase the amount of business taxes paid by marijuana industries in the city fifteenfold. This initiative, Measure F, passed by an even greater margin in July 2009. Fully 80 percent of the Oakland electorate voted in favor. The city would only collect an infinitesimal increase in tax revenue — around \$300,000 per year, at least at first — but it sent a message that the marijuana industry was a friend of the city.

All of which set the table for the city of Oakland's most startling embrace of the industry to date: the decision, earlier this month, to license four mega-sized industrial warehouse growing operations, a measure passed by the Oakland City Council earlier this month. The city is already receiving hundreds of applications for the licenses, and some bidders estimate that each warehouse might be able to pump out something like 50 pounds of product per day.



AARON HOUSTON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF STUDENTS FOR A SENSIBLE DRUG POLICY, SAYS THAT TAX CANNABIS RUNS "THE MOST PROFESSIONAL MARIJUANA CAMPAIGN YOU'VE EVER SEEN."



WITH THE TAX CANNABIS INITIATIVE — PROPOSITION 19 ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT — RICHARD LEE (ABOVE) HAS PUSHED THE MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION MOVEMENT FARTHER THAN WEED ADVOCATES WOULD HAVE DARED DREAM JUST A FEW YEARS AGO.

It's unclear how much Lee participated in the drafting of this latest City Council effort, though Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan, a strong Lee ally, was one of the two sponsors of the ordinance. In any case, Lee's political attention had by then moved away from Oakland and onto a larger stage. In 2009, he convened a group of people — lawyers, activists, businessmen and government types — to start discussing and drafting what would become the Tax Cannabis ballot initiative.

The measure they came up with has several parts. Firstly, it establishes absolute baselines for people who want to grow for personal consumption. Anyone, anywhere in the state, would be able to devote 25 square feet of their own property to growing their own weed. At the same time, it would introduce penalties for anyone providing marijuana to minors, or to consuming marijuana in the presence of a minor. ("Minors," in this case, defined as anyone under 21 years of age).

In the case of marijuana as a commerical activity, the initiative is much trickier. It follows on the heels of existing California medical marijuana law, such at it is, by charging local jurisdictions — cities and counties — with developing their own guidelines for commercial operations. One county might decide to ratchet down on the marijuana trade as much as possible, while others might throw open the flood gates and try to attract as

much of the industry as possible. Local jurisdictions can also set their own tax and licensing rates for commercial marijuana farms, and they may also increase the amount of space that someone can use to legally grow their own. One invariable criticism is that the initiative, if passed, would make for a messy patchwork of commercial marijuana law in the state, and would punt enforcement off to strapped local governments.

Lee said that this patchwork approach, with each city council and board of supervisors deciding for itself how much marijuana it wants to permit, is the most politically viable route to legalization.

"This is following the history of alcohol prohibition," he said last month. "Same thing happened there. Not every state legalized right away when federal prohibition ended. Even to this day, states handle it totally differently. Different cities and towns have different laws, about how many alcohol permits they allow, and different zoning regulations."

Besides spearheading

the drafting of the initiative, Lee spent around \$1.5 million to fund a signature-gathering effort, according to campaign finance disclosure statements filed with the California Secretary of State's office in April. (At the time, Lee's contributions, through Oaksterdam U. and a related entity, S.K. Seymour LLC, amounted to

should just be free for everybody to grow! Peace and love!" Lee is not a hippie.

What are Prop. 19's chances? Most pub-

They have got it

down. It'll be the

most professional

marijuana campaign

you've ever seen."

- Aaron Houston, Executive Director,

Students for a Sensible Drug Policy

lic polls released recently show the initiative trailing somewhat. The most recent Field Poll showed the initiative barely trailing at 48-44 percent against. (The poll carried a 3.2 percent margin of error.) The leadership of the California Democratic Party decided two weeks ago to take no position on the initiative. The party's major statewide candi-

dates for office — Sen. Barbara Boxer and gubernatorial aspirant Jerry Brown — have actively come out against it.

On the other hand, it would be a mistake to underestimate Lee. In just a few short years he has built a massive empire around medical marijuana. He owns a coffee shop-style medical marijuana dispensary, a supply store, a nursery selling starts and, of course, the flagship Oaksterdam University, offering non-accredited classes in cultivation, politics, law, business and even marijuana cookery. (The university also has its own off-site gift shop, as well as three affiliate schools around the country — in Sebastapol, Los Angeles and Flint, Mich.)

More importantly, though, Lee is an uncommonly canny political player, at least on his own home turf in Oakland. His enterprises are now woven into the very fabric of city government. Local ballot

measures he has championed have put

millions in the the city treasury at a time of cutbacks and layoffs. The few blocks of downtown he has colonized are now lively, clean areas of the city that draw visitors from around the world. One of Lee's companies prints an Oaksterdam tourism

map. The medical marijuana movement has a visibility and legitimacy in Oakland unequaled anywhere else in the state, and

> much of that can be traced back to Lee's savvy.

For folks who pray for legalization, and for those who fear it, the question is whether or not Lee can replicate his success at the municipal level with a statewide initiative. How for-real is he? Locally, a lot depends on the answer to that question. Blackmarket marijuana

is a huge part of the Humboldt County economy — if the voters pass Prop. 19, we will quickly be thrown into turmoil. A recent analysis from the RAND Corporation predicted that legalization would drop the price of marijuana by nearly 80 percent — more than enough to put most small Humboldt County growers out of business.

There's every reason to be concerned. The team Lee has put together for the Prop. 19 campaign is very real indeed.

"I've been around a lot of very professional political operations. I'd like to think that I've run some professional political operations on my own," said Aaron Houston, executive director of Students for a Sensible Drug Policy, during a visit to Oaksterdam last month. "I mean — it's very, very good. They are good. They have got it down. It'll be the most professional marijuana campaign you've ever seen."

land started out slowly enough. He moved to the city in 1997, one year after Proposition 215 legalized marijuana for medical use in California. He started growing pot for a buyer's collective, and after two years he founded his own coffeeshopstyle marijuana dispensary. He named it "Bulldog Coffeeshop," after a famous marijuana cafe in Amsterdam.

It was a welcoming climate for people continued on next page

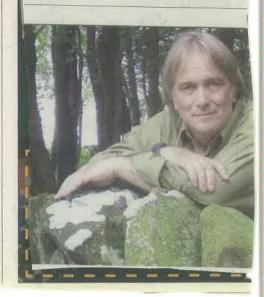
come close to it. If not, it will have to try to step up its grassroots, volunteer get-out-the-vote effort. In the meanwhile, the April round of campaign finance documentation showed that the opposition was in even worse shape, at the time — it had yet to gather any contributions at all.

With the best Players Club no.

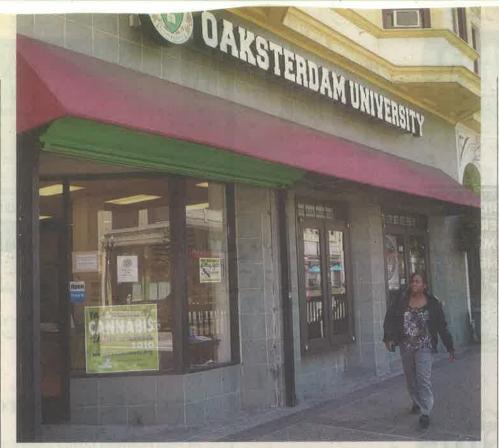
Humboldt County's name is still synonymous with high-quality weed nearly everywhere you go. But the world is edging away from prohibition - not only California and the nation, but the entire developed world — and in the meanwhile we have lost some of our market advantage. In preparing for legalization, there is little doubt that we are a few years behind cities like Vancouver, Denver and especially Lee's Oakland. The local marijuana economy is comprised of thousands of small- to mid-sized growers, operating clandestinely and thoroughly dependent on the price controls offered by government-enforced prohibition. If marijuana went for, say, \$300 per pound wholesale — and under Prop. 19, there's no reason why it wouldn't go that low or lower — then the entire Humboldt County marijuana industry would all but go belly-up overnight.

Lee is unsympathetic. "The long and short of it is, it is black-market prices right now, and there's nothing we can do to keep little mom-and-pop places going that were making the money they were making before," he said. "It's gotta come down."

This is a legitimate consumer-protection argument, and the businessman in Lee can't be blamed if he has foreseen and prepared for the sudden price drop that will occur with legalization (or for the







OAKSTERDAM UNIVERSITY IS THE CENTERPEICE OF "OAKSTERDAM" — OAKLAND'S CANNABIS-CENTRIC DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD — AND THE HEART OF RICHARD LEE'S BUSINESS OPERATIONS.

more gradual, continuous drop in price if Prop. 19 fails). If anyone is well positioned to make the leap from quasi-furtive success in the marijuana gray market to out-and-out industry moguldom in a world where weed is legal, he is that person. He has capital, resources, a solid political base and a huge stake in the high-profile "Oaksterdam" brand. Oakland growers will soon possess a warehouse operation pumping out product on an unprecedented industrial scale.

Unsurprisingly, the survival of the Humboldt County economy in the face of legalization isn't among Lee's top con-

cerns at the moment. That's something that we're going to have to figure out for ourselves — the more quickly, the better. Even if Prop. 19 fails at the polls, the industry will continue its slow march out of the closet, driving prices down toward what they would be if the marijuana trade operated in anything like a free market. Nevertheless, when prompted Lee was happy to spare a few brain cycles woodshedding ideas for us.

"Well, the tourism factor," he said. "You got beautiful redwoods, you got beautiful country up there. You have stuff to offer that we don't have."

But what about our marijuana? Good old Humboldt County/Emerald Triangle sinsemilla, organic and grown in the sun—the variety that made our name? Indoor, energy-intensive pot, with its exotic varietal names and chemically engineered effects, has already taken most of the medical dispensary market, and looks to take even more with legalization.

"The outdoor, I was thinking they'll have to start making a lot of hash out of that," he said. "Bring a hash resurgence to the country. We haven't seen hash in the United States to any degree since the '70s, since it was coming into the country from Lebanon. Midnight Express. That holds a lot of history, right there."

To people who take pride in Humboldt County's reputation in the world of weed, such an idea is a slap in the face. There are local efforts to adapt to the coming reality; a group called the Humboldt Medical Marijuana Advisory Panel has been holding forums around the county to seek ideas, and another Southern Humboldt group, treading in Lee's footsteps, has formed something called the "707 Cannabis College." People are starting to talk more openly about forming growers' cooperatives, organic or "salmon-safe" certifications, promotion of "Humboldt County" as a marijuana appellation a la Burgundy or Bordeaux. But almost no government action has been taken to date, and while the local industry has plenty of ingenious business people, none of them have pushed beyond the gray market to seriously imagine the day when the internal contradictions of the war on marijuana inevitably fall apart.

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nearly all of the money the campaign had raised to that date. Another round of financial disclosure, covering fundraising and expenditures through June 30, is due next week.)

But last month the Tax Cannabis campaign was starting to seriously gear up for the fight, and Lee said that his own role in it was growing "less and less every day." The campaign's political headquarters had set up shop just a couple of doors down from Oaksterdam University, and had staffed itself with veteran political operatives and freshfaced volunteers from around the country.

Staffers were abuzz with their newest recruit, a New Jersey student who had apparently taken the bus across the country and shown up at the headquarters unannounced, asking to be put to work. There was a tableful of campaign literature spread out at the entrance, behind a wall of posters telling the stories of people who have been incarcerated for growing marijuana. Whiteboards tracked press coverage of the campaign and charted the increase in the campaign's number of Facebook fans.

It is a slightly low-rent office in a slightly low-rent neighborhood, and it had the vibe of a grassroots, up-from-the-people political effort, which in some ways it is. Organizers are depending on the plausible idea that this is the one thing on the November ballot in California that is going to motivate young people, idealists and infrequent voters to get out to the polls. Voting for it would make a concrete change in California society, the broad outlines of which are easily grokked. A

MARIJUANA
BY THE NUMBERS
\$14,000,000,000+
PROJECTED ANNUAL
SAVINGS AND REVENUE
FROM REGULATION

700,000
SIMPLE
POSSESSION
ARRESTS ANNUALLY
U.S. CASH CROP
NUMBER OF
DEATHS
TROM MARIJUANA

END
MARIJUANA

SNAPPY CAMPAIGN GRAPHICS SELL THE MESSAGE — ENDING MARIJUANA PROHIBITION WOULD BE FISCALLY PRUDENT AND MORALLY JUST.

PROHIBITION

"yes" vote for Prop. 19 is
the most defiant protest
vote available in November — a protest
against Drug War
policies going back to
the Reagan era and
beyond.

In fact, though, the top levels of the Tax Cannabis campaign are stuffed with top-level political veterans from the Obama and Clinton years. Chris Lehane, a Clinton spin doctor during the Monica Lewinsky years who now works as a public relations manager in Sacramento, is donating his services to the campaign. Blue State Digital, the consultancy that ran Barack Obama's groundbreaking Internet strategy, is now performing the same services for Tax Cannabis. The campaign is being coordinated by Doug Linney, president of The Next Generation, a political firm that has man-

aged many successful ballot initiatives and candidacies for the California State Legislature. That's on top of volunteers from allied organizations, including Aaron Houston's Students for a Sensible Drug Policy, that will be throwing all their resources into Tax Cannabis well before November.

But if it seems that the campaign hasn't yet really turned on the gas, that's because it hasn't. The election is a little more than three months away, and the buzz around it hasn't quite built to a level that is driving people crazy to get to the polls. Is the campaign saving its ammunition for the home stretch, or is it failing to generate enough excitement?

Last year, shortly after Tax Cannabis qualified for the ballot, Lee estimated that the pro-legalization campaign would need to raise between \$10 and \$20 million to compete in November. On Tuesday, when the next set of finance documents are due to be released, we'll know if the campaign has been able to hit that mark, or at least

continued on next page

Recipe TOMASO'S SPECIALTY F

SUMMER PESTO PASTA SALAD

- Prepare 1 box ziti pasta cooked al dente, boil 4new potatoes until soft & steam 1 lb green bear 1 cup mayonnaise, 1-2 containers Tomaso's pes
- Place pasta, green beans and quartered potatoes cooled, in mixing bowl. Salt and pepper to taste mayo and pesto, then toss to mix. Garnish with Reggiano Parmesan, hot chili flakes and fresh ba

FIND TOMASO'S PESTO IN THE REFRIGERATED SECTION OF YOUR LOCAL GR

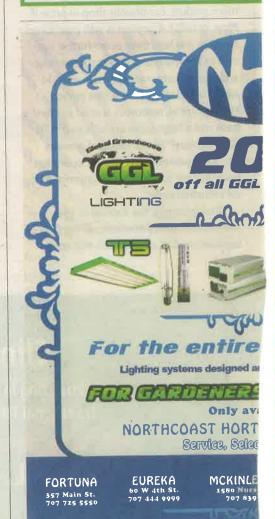


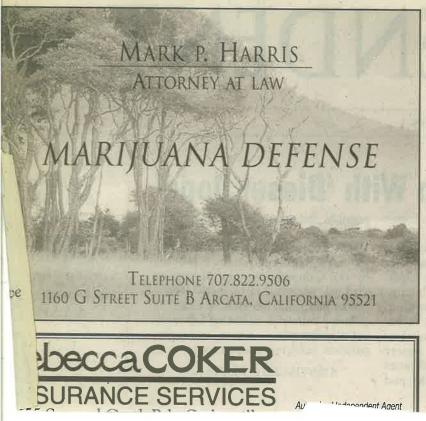
MELVIN B. PEARLSTO

Attorney at Law

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Measure T Falls as County Settles Laws

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

a 55 percent voter majority in the June 2006 election is now null and void.

Emerging not long after the Pacific Lumber Company spent \$300,000 on an unsuccessful bid to recall District Attorney Paul Gallegos, Measure T briefly prohibited "non-local corporations" from spending money on political campaigns. Companies that employed even a single out-of-county worker were defined as non-local under the measure, and unions were exempt from it.

The county's stance is that the injunction ruling spelled out the obvious — that Measure T attempted a Don Quixote-like local overturn of "corporate personhood," the constitutionally-guaranteed right of corporate free speech. Kaitlin Sopoci-Belknap, the spokesperson for the Measure T campaign, didn't return calls for comment,

support to the Board of Supervisors to do the right thing every step of the way — instead they chose to make this decision without soliciting input from the people of Humboldt County who were looking to them to defend our rights and respect our authority to determine what is best for our local elections."

She compared Measure T to historic social advances. "Past social movements like the civil rights struggle, the abolitionists, women's suffragists and the trade unionists have shown us that when people don't back down, justice ultimately prevails," Sopoci-Belknap said. "All movements have their wins and losses, and the movement for local democracy and citizen sovereignty over large corporations will prevail. Humboldt County will play a role regardless of whether the current Board of Supervisors has the

theirs as well as ours."

Schiff said a better effort wou to devise campaign finance re that's actually legal. He was a about Belknap's portrayal of as a corporate-sponsored aggre that the county "caved in" to. "clients in this case are small-to Humboldt-based companies that I been doing business here for decand employ many local people," replied. "Which proves the pothat you don't have to be a big minational corporation to find so thing wrong with Measure T."

County Counsel Wendy Cha said an evaluation of Measure chances of court success is what to the settlement. "I don't believe board or the county succumbed any kind of pressure from [PLF any corporate entity," she continu "When the board evaluates a laws

THE INDEPENDENT

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OLUME 12, NUMBER 47

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2008

FRE

Community Group Will Ask Supervisors to Help With 'Diesel Dope'

Concerned Residents Will Make
Presentation Next Month

BY CRISTINA BAUSS INDEPENDENT STAFF WRITER

A group of concerned citizens that as been meeting to discuss the effects "diesel dope" will make a presentaon to the Humboldt County Board of upervisors on Dec. 9. The group has held a number of meetings since April, including a July 30 public forum at the Garberville Veterans' Hall. Formed in Salmon Creek by a number of neighbors who share concerns about both the environmental and health effects of growing marijuana indoors, the group has now attracted participants from other watersheds as well — including environmental activist Robert "Woods" Sutherland, who is spearheading an effort to educate the

The group has held a number of Board of Supervisors about the issues eetings since April, including a July surrounding diesel dope.

During a Nov. 13 meeting in Garberville, the group solidified the main points it plans to present to the supervisors, which include a brief history of the industry since its explosion in the 1980's; current challenges faced, especially environmental degradation; fire risks; a proposal to enact a county ordinance requiring that fuel deliveries only be made to "certified" tanks; and

possibly, the potential of a countywide "carbon tax."

The Southern Humboldt marijuana industry was largely driven indoors by the Campaign Against Marijuana Planting, instituted in the early 1980's. Indoor marijuana has since become the industry standard, including for medical dispensaries — where, ironically, patients suffering from diseases such

CONTINUED ON PAGE A6

The Board of Supervisors will be asked to approve a certification system for fuel tanks that received



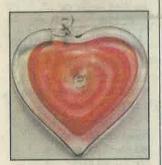
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NORTH COAST LIFE

'Light Up A Life'

Remember loved ones at annual ceremony

➤ Page B1



SPORTS

Cats grab 13th NCS title

Ferndale's 567 rushing yards too much for St. Vincent

➤ Page C1



Marijuana institute takes shape at HSU

Third in a series of lectures Tuesday

Luke Ramseth

THE TIMES-STANDARD

A first-of-its-kind academic institute focused strictly on marijuana issues is taking shape at Humboldt State University this fall semester. The interdisciplinary institute, made up primarily of HSU faculty, is hosting a series of lectures that are open to the public and digging into marijuana-centric research in several academic fields.

"They finally tapped into something that's a big local concern and part of the identity here," said politics professor Jason Plume, who hosts a

talk on marijuana regulatory reform Tuesday night at 5:30 p.m. in HSU's Native Forum.

The lectures have focused on hot marijuana-themed topics in our area — the Campaign Against Marijuana Planting, and the effects of cultivation on local wildlife. An October gathered symposium Humboldt County Sheriff Mike Downey, District Attorney Paul Gallegos, two county supervisors

and a Fish and Game biologist to talk environmental impacts of marijuana production, and possible policy changes.

Plume will speak Tuesday night on recent marijuana legalization efforts in several states, and the regulatory structure needed for them to succeed.

Sociology professor Josh Meisel, who co-chairs the institute, said faculty members started discussing the idea - now officially titled the Humboldt Institute for Interdisciplinary Marijuana Research — in July 2010. Around that time, Meisel said, marijuana became a more publicly and academically accepted topic to research. He said there was a "culture-shift" after

IF YOU GO:

WHAT: Marijuana regulatory reform lecture by professor Jason Plume

WHEN: 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday WHERE: HSU's Native Forum: Behavioral and Social Sciences room 162 More marijuana-themed lectures continue through

the end of the spring



BUSINESS

100th anniversary for Calif. rice

One of state's largest ag exports celebrates

> Page D1



ENTERTAINMENT

Film predicts Superstorm

Documentary "Shored Up" in editing when Sandy hits

> Page E1

WEATHER > C7



BECOMING SUNNY

Eureka	60/40
Crescent City	58/41
Garberville	61/37
Willow Creek	59/35

What's Inside

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Annie's Mailbox	B4
Business	
Classifieds	E6-E12
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Government	A6
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Opinion	A4, A5
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TV Tonight Sunday	D3
TV Tonight Monday	E
World	D5-D
HOILD MANAGEMENT	

Sunday — \$1.50



Proposition 19, the marijuana legalization initiative, was on the California ballot in 2010.

There are other American universities with illicit

drug research institutes, Meisel said, but none solely devoted to marijuana. Eleven HSU faculty members are listed on the institute's website.

complete schedule, go to

www.humboldt.edu/hiimr/

about.html

"Across the county, there was the tendency to ignore the 'green elephant' in the room," Meisel said. "People across the spectrum became concerned after Proposition 19."

Meisel said he and other university faculty saw something lacking from the discussions surrounding legalization.

"With these public discussions, there were a lot more questions than there were answers," he said, which motivated some HSU faculty like himself to go after the topic in an academic context — not one steeped in "conjecture" and "wild claims."

Erick Eschker, an HSU economics professor and the institute's other co-chair, said he received calls from the media and the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, asking him about the effects of legalization on the economy when Proposition 19 hit the ballot.

"Then it hit me that this just isn't a local issue," said Eschker, who is in the process of gathering and studying marijuana production data in the county, and working to show its correlation with local employment.

Eschker said the institute is not about advocacy. It's a place where top-notch research is done, he said, and a place people can go to get their marijuana questions answered. And people are beginning to hear of it. Eschker said he's received a call from New York Magazine and several researchers from around the country.

See MARIJUANA/A7

Ambrosini Elemen

Fortuna police continue search for burglary suspects

Kacl Poor
THE TIMES-STANDARD

School officials at Ambrosini Elementary School may be looking for a little extra help this holiday season as the Fortuna Police Department continues to look for the suspects who caused thousands of dollars in damage to the school on Oct. 28.

In addition to breaking windows and forcing entry into four classrooms, the vandals stole thousands of dollars worth of school equipment, including four laptop computers. The classrooms were covered in so much glass, said Fortuna Elementary School District Superintendent Patti Hafner, that an outside agency was required to come in to clean up the damage.



Broken windows and effects of property dan at the Norman G. Am Fortuna. The school wa ism incident that caus to classrooms last we to share classroom sparepaired and renovated

"Right now we are look at about \$50,000 for all of repairs," Hafner said.

Books, soft materials including a reading soft one classroom and stu animals in another — as

MARIJUANA: 'Our goal is to try and aid some more informed policy-level decisions'

FROM A1

"The stigma for marijuana research is pretty much lifted," said Anthony Silvaggio, a sociology professor who is studying the environmental effects of marijuana cultiva- from that identity, why don't we tion, both indoors and outdoors. He's interviewed growers to find out about their practices and pesticides they use, and is working to ing to get the word out about its collect data on pesticides and fertilizers found at marijuana grows.

He and a graduate student recently compiled a video tour of 600 outdoor grow sites around Humboldt County using Google imagery to show the scope of the environmento get the word out, and pursuing tal marijuana problem. Silvaggio said he hopes the institute will help him get more funding for the research, something he says has been hard to come by in the past.

all-academic focus, he doesn't want sions," Meisel said. to shy away from the Humboldt County "pot" identity.

own that in a proactive way and on topics ranging from Dutch drug define the terms?" he asked.

He said the institute is still work- on the local economy. existence. It's not a household name yet - Meisel didn't get calls from including the successful legalization national media after legalization was recently passed in Colorado and Washington, for example.

The focus is on the speaker series research funding opportunities. The institute is also working to create a special section of the HSU library devoted to marijuana.

Plume's lecture Tuesday night will be the third in a series of seven mar-"Instead of distance ourselves ijuana lectures being held at HSU this year. The next four will touch

> recent marijuana movements, efforts in Washington and Colorado, and an unsuccessful proposicampaign directors of legalization efforts in the three states and Arcata — for his research.

ture that needs to be in place before legalization efforts can succeed. Both Washington and Colorado were prepared, he said, with a committee and structures already in place that could craft a regulatory policy to the impacts of legalization scheme for marijuana. He said Oregon had less of a plan in place, and Plume has been researching it was somewhat fitting that legalization did not pass there.

Plume said the institute's formation signals a recent acceptance of marijuana as a legitimate area of tion in Oregon. He interviewed study. When he started his Ph.D. dissertation at Syracuse University, entitled "Cultivating Reform: Vice Mayor Shane Brinton about Nixon's Illicit Substance Control Measure I — the electricity grow tax Legacy, Medical Marijuana Social Movement Organizations, and In his lecture Tuesday, he said he Venue Shopping," it was hard to get "Our goal is to try and aid some plans to discuss marijuana reform, people on board. That was in 2008, Meisel said despite the institute's more informed policy-level deci- advocacy and the regulatory struc- and he said that skeptical sentiment | Iramseth@times-standard.com.

toward his marijuana research continued into 2010.

Plume said he is now in a place receptive to his research, and he thinks it may have played a part in his being hired at HSU prior to this semester. The institute is still putting together the "nuts and bolts," he said, and trying to find cohesiveness.

Eventually, Eschker said, he'd like to host a big marijuana-themed conference for national and international marijuana researchers.

"If anyone is going to have a marijuana institute, it really should be Humboldt State," he said. "It has the potential to be a world-class institute, and we're just getting going."

Luke Ramseth can be reached at 441-0509 or

Women won this time, but men are voting's X-factor

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An audience, mostly

play, that it should be a part-

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ORDINANCE NO.

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 9.31 OF TITLE 9 OF THE MENDOCINO COUNTY CODE ENTITLED "MEDICAL MARIJUANA CULTIVATION REGULATION"

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino ordains as follows:

Chapter 9.31 of Title 9 of the Mendocino County Code is amended to read as follows; CALIFORNIA

"MEDICAL MARIJUANA CULTIVATION REGULATION

Section 9. 31.010 Purpose and Intent.

It is the purpose and intent of this Chapter to regulate medical marijuana in a manner that is consistent with State law and which promotes the health, safety, and general welfare of the residents and businesses within the unincorporated territory of the County of Mendocino by balancing: (1) the needs of medical patients and their caregivers for enhanced access to medical marijuana; (2) the needs of neighbors and communities to be protected from public safety and nuisance impacts; and (3) the need to limit harmful environmental impacts that are sometimes associated with marijuana cultivation. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to: (1) allow persons to engage in conduct that endangers others or causes a public nuisance as defined herein; (2) allow the use or diversion of marijuana for nonmedical purposes; or (3) allow any activity relating to the cultivation, distribution or consumption of marijuana that is otherwise illegal under California State law.

Section 9.31.020 Findings.

- (A) The voters of the State of California approved Proposition 215 (codified as Health and Safety Code Section 11362.5 and entitled "The Compassionate Use Act of 1996").
- (B) The intent of Proposition 215 was to ensure that seriously ill Californians have the right to obtain and use marijuana for medical purposes where that medical use is deemed appropriate and has been recommended by a physician, and to ensure that patients and their primary caregivers who obtain and use marijuana for medical purposes upon the recommendation of a physician are not thereby subject to criminal prosecution or sanction. The Act further provides that "nothing in this section shall be construed to supersede legislation prohibiting persons from engaging in conduct that endangers others, or to condone the diversion of marijuana for non-medical purposes."
- (C) The State enacted SB 420 in 2004 (codified as Health and Safety Code Section 11362.7 et seq.) to clarify the scope of The Compassionate Use Act of 1996, facilitate the prompt identification of qualified patients and primary caregivers, avoid unnecessary arrest and prosecution of these individuals, provide needed guidance to law enforcement officers, promote uniform and consistent application of the Act, and enhance the access of patients and caregivers to medical marijuana through collective, cooperative cultivation

CD Release Announcement - ANNA HAMILTON TRIO - DREAMER

I am pleased and proud to announce the release of my first full length live CD, Dreamer. Recorded from the live broadcast of KHUM's "Live From the Backporch at Curley's in Ferndale" last December by host Larry Trask, and with the generous permission of KHUM to reproduce it, Dreamer represents the best of my live performance, the humor, the songwriting and the musicianship.

Performing with me in **The Anna Hamilton Trio are Bill Andrews on stand-up bass and Ray Moreta on drums**. This is a unique combo, and the tone we create together is clearly represented on this recording. We sound like a much larger ensemble.

Dreamer features two genres of **my original music**, blues and progressive songs. I hesitate to call them jazz, but they hold up as serious songwriting for the mature performer and represent my strongest work, spanning four decades of songwriting. **Please give a hard listen to Dreamer, You're Not Here and Scary and tell me what you think.**

Here is a precise of the songs:

Dreamer-progressive
Not Here-progressive
Scary-progressive
I Told You So-6/8 blues
Down-R&B
Lowlife-humorous blues
Sweepin' Blues-humorous blues
Sparrow-Rocking R&B
Friends-White girl Ska
Flame-Funky

CD release party schedule: **Aug 1**st: Arts Alive Eureka @ the Himalayan Rug Traders on 2^{nd} street, starting @ 6:30.

Aug 4th: Hosting the Jambalaya Blues Jam in Arcata, starts @ 8:30.

 $\mathbf{Aug}~\mathbf{8}^{th}:$ Buddy Brown Blues Festival, @ the Dell Arte School in Blue Lake. Performance @ noon.

Thanks for taking the time to listen, Anna Hamilton

www.annahamilton.net

707-223-2500

projects and to allow local governing bodies to adopt and enforce rules and regulations consistent with SB 420.

- (D) Marijuana plants, whether grown indoors or outdoors, especially as they mature prior to harvest, may produce a distinctive odor that may be detectable far beyond property boundaries.
- (E) Each year since 2004, the Mendocino County Air Quality Management District has received a significant number of formal complaints of odor related to the cultivation of marijuana in residential neighborhoods.
- (F) Marijuana, whether grown for medicinal purposes, or diverted to the black market, may be sold for thousands of dollars per pound.
- (G) The strong smell of marijuana may create an attractive nuisance, alerting persons to the location of the valuable plants, and creating a risk of burglary, robbery and armed robbery.
- (H) There have been several marijuana related incidents of burglary, robbery and armed robbery, some including acts of violence resulting in injury or death.
- (I) Marijuana that is grown indoors may require excessive use of electricity which may overload standard electrical systems creating an unreasonable risk of fire. If indoor grow lighting systems are powered by diesel generators, improper maintenance of the generators and fuel lines and the improper storage and disposal of diesel fuel and waste oil may create an unreasonable risk of fire and pollution.
- (J) The right of qualified patients and their primary caregivers under State law to cultivate marijuana plants for medical purposes does not confer upon them the right to create or maintain a public nuisance. By permitting no more than twenty-five (25) marijuana plants on any one (1) legal parcel, the County anticipates a significant reduction in the complaints of odor and the risks of fire, crime and pollution described herein.
- (K) The County finds that the indoor or outdoor cultivation of more than twenty-five (25) marijuana plants on any one (1) legal parcel within the unincorporated area of the County for medicinal purposes will likely result in an unreasonable risk of crime and will likely create odors offensive to persons living nearby notwithstanding the limitations on cultivation that are imposed within this Chapter. The County further finds that the indoor cultivation of more than twenty-five (25) marijuana plants on any one (1) legal parcel may create an unreasonable risk of fire and/or pollution.
- (L) The County further finds that qualified patients and primary caregivers, either as individuals or who operate or are members of collectives and cooperatives as defined herein may be granted an exemption to cultivate medical marijuana in excess of twenty-five (25) plants per parcel, provided they apply for, obtain, and operate in compliance with a permit, as provided for herein, that is conditioned to limit environmental, neighborhood, and community impacts.



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Section 9.31.030 Definitions

As used herein the following definitions shall apply:

"Applicant" means a person(s) who applies for an exemption to the twenty-five (25) plant per parcel limitation as specified under 9.31.110.

"Attorney General's Guidelines" means Guidelines for the Security and Non-Diversion of Marijuana Grown for Medical Use issued by the Attorney General in August 2008.

"Church" means a structure or leased portion of a structure, which is used primarily for religious worship and related religious activities.

"Cultivation" means the planting, growing, harvesting, drying or processing of marijuana plants or any part thereof.

"Identification card" shall have the same definition as California Health and Safety Code Section 11362.5 et seq., and as may be amended.

"Indoors" means within a fully enclosed and secure structure that complies with the California Building Code (CBC), as adopted by the County of Mendocino, that has a complete roof enclosure supported by connecting walls extending from the ground to the roof, and a foundation, slab, or equivalent base to which the floor is securely attached. The structure must be secure against unauthorized entry, accessible only through one or more lockable doors, and constructed of solid materials that cannot easily be broken through, such as 2" x 4" or thicker studs overlain with 3/8" or thicker plywood or equivalent materials. Plastic sheeting, regardless of gauge, or similar products do not satisfy this requirement.

"Legal parcel" means a parcel of land for which one (1) legal title exists. Where contiguous legal parcels are under common ownership or control, such legal parcels shall be counted as a single parcel for purposes of this Chapter.

"Medical Marijuana Collective" means qualified patients, persons with valid identification cards, and the designated primary caregivers of qualified patients who associate by written agreement, or form a cooperative in accordance with Section 12300 of the Corporations Code within the unincorporated area of the County in order to collectively or cooperatively cultivate, store, and/or dispense marijuana for medical purposes, as provided in Health and Safety Code Section 11362.775. The term collective shall include "cooperative" unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Outdoors" means any location that is not "indoors" within a fully enclosed and secure structure as defined herein.

"Parcel" means a "legal parcel" as defined herein.

"Permittee" means an individual or collective to whom an exemption permit is issued as set forth in Section 9.31.110.

"Primary caregiver" means a "primary caregiver" as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 11362.7(d).

"Qualified patient" means a "qualified patient" as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 11362.7(f).

"Residential Treatment Facility" means a facility providing for treatment of drug and alcohol dependency.

"Sheriff" or "Sheriff's Office" means the Sheriff's Office of the County of Mendocino or the authorized representatives thereof.

"School" means an institution of learning for minors, whether public or private, offering a regular course of instruction required by the California Education Code, or any child or day care facility. This definition includes a nursery school, kindergarten, elementary school, middle or junior high school, senior high school, or any special institution of education, but it does not include a vocational or professional institution of higher education, including a community or junior college, college or university.

"Youth-oriented facility" means elementary school, middle school, high school, public park, and any establishment that advertises in a manner that identifies the establishment as catering to or providing services primarily intended for minors, or the individuals who regularly patronize, congregate or assemble at the establishment are predominantly minors. This shall not include a day care or preschool facility.

"Zip-ties" means plastic ties with individualized numbers stamped on them, issued by the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office for the purpose of identifying a legal marijuana plant.

Section 9.31.040 Cultivation of Marijuana.

- (A) It is declared to be unlawful for any person owning, leasing, occupying, or having charge or possession of any parcel of land within any unincorporated area of the County to cause or allow such parcel of land to be used for the outdoor or indoor cultivation of marijuana plants for medicinal purposes in excess of the limitations imposed within Section 9.31.050.
- (B) The indoor cultivation of marijuana plants shall be limited to no more than one hundred (100) contiguous square feet per legal parcel.
- (C) The indoor or outdoor cultivation of marijuana shall not subject residents of neighboring parcels who are of normal sensitivity to objectionable odors.
- (D) The use of light assistance for the outdoor cultivation of marijuana shall not exceed a maximum of six hundred (600) watts of lighting capacity per one hundred (100) square feet of growing area.

- (E) All lights used for the cultivation of marijuana shall be shielded and downcast or otherwise positioned in a manner that will not shine light or allow light glare to exceed the boundaries of the parcel upon which they are placed.
- (F) The indoor or outdoor cultivation of marijuana shall not exceed the noise level standards as set forth in the County General Plan Policies DE100,101 and 103.
- (G) Nothing in this Section shall be construed as a limitation on the County's authority to abate any violation which may exist from the cultivation of marijuana plants or any part thereof from any location, indoor or outdoor, including from within a fully enclosed and secure building.

Section 9.31.050 Cultivation of More Than Twenty-Five (25) Marijuana Plants, Indoors or Outdoors, on One (1) Legal Parcel is Prohibited.

The cultivation of more than twenty-five (25) marijuana plants on one (1) legal parcel, either indoors or outdoors, within the unincorporated area of the County, regardless of whether the person(s) growing the marijuana is/are a "qualified patient", "primary caregiver", or "collective", is hereby prohibited except as set forth in Section 9.31.110.

Section 9.31.060 "Zip-Tie" Provision.

- (A) For the convenience of the property owner and to assist in the enforcement of this Ordinance, and to avoid unnecessary confiscation and destruction of medicinal marijuana plants, marijuana grown for medicinal purposes in unincorporated Mendocino County may have "zlp-ties" issued by the Mendocino County Sheriff's Department. For proper identification, such "zip-ties" should be securely attached to the base of individual flowering marijuana plants.
- (B) "Zip-Ties" can be obtained through the Mendocino County Sheriff's Department. All applicants for "zip-ties" must present a State-issued medical marijuana identification card or a valid medical recommendation. The fee for the "zip-ties" shall be set by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations and the Master Fee Policy. Any zip-tie fees may be discounted by fifty percent (50%) for Medi-Cal, SSI, and CMSP recipients, and equivalent income-qualified veterans.

Section 9.31.070 Limitation on Number of Plants.

(A) The cultivation of more than twenty-five (25) marijuana plants on any legal parcel, whether grown collectively or individually, either indoors or outdoors, within the unincorporated area of the County is prohibited unless cultivated by individuals, collectives or members thereof who apply for, obtain, and are in compliance with a permit for an exemption as set forth in Section 9.31.110. This limitation shall be imposed regardless of the number of qualified patients residing at such location. Further, this limitation shall be imposed notwithstanding any assertion that the person(s) cultivating marijuana is/are the caregiver(s) for

qualified patients, or that they are members of a medical marijuana collective except as set forth in Section 9.31.110.

(B) Wherever medical marijuana is grown, a copy of a current and valid,
State-issued medical marijuana identification card or physician
recommendation must be displayed in such a manner as to allow law
enforcement officers to easily see the card without having to enter any
building of any type except as set forth in Section 9.31.110.

Section 9.31.080 Notice to Legal Owner of Legal Parcel Where Marijuana is Grown.

Any person who is not the legal owner of a parcel and who is cultivating marijuana on such parcel shall give written notice to the legal owner of the parcel prior to commencing cultivation of marijuana on such parcel and shall provide proof that the landowner has been informed.

Section 9.31.090 Limitation on Location to Cultivate Marijuana.

- (A) The cultivation of marijuana, whether grown collectively or individually, in any amount or quantity, shall not be allowed in the following areas:
 - (1) Within one thousand (1,009) feet of a youth-oriented facility, a school, a park, or any "church" or residential treatment facility as defined herein.
 - (2) Outdoors within one hundred (100) feet of any occupied legal residential structure located on a separate legal parcel.
 - Outdoors in a mobile home park as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 18214.1 within one hundred (100) feet of an occupied mobile home that is under separate ownership.
 - (4) In any location where the marijuana plants are visible from the public right of way or publicly traveled private roads.
- (B) The distance between the above-listed uses in Section (A) (1) and marijuana that is being cultivated shall be measured in a straight line from the nearest point of the fence required in Section 9.31.100, or if the marijuana is cultivated indoors, from the nearest exterior wall of the building in which the marijuana is cultivated to the nearest boundary line of the property on which the facility, building, or structure, or portion of the facility, building, or structure in which the above-listed use occurs is located. The distance in Sections (A) (2) and (A) (3) to any residential structure shall be measured from the fence required in Section 9.31.100 to the nearest exterior wall of the residential structure.

Section 9.31.100 Fencing Requirement for All Outdoor Cultivation.

All marijuana grown outside of any building must be fully enclosed by a secure fence at least six (6) feet in height. The fence must include a lockable gate that is locked at all times when a qualified patient or caregiver is not in the immediate

area. Sald fence shall not violate any other ordinance, code section or provision of law regarding height and location restrictions and shall not be constructed or covered with plastic or cloth except shade cloth may be used on the inside of the fence.

Section 9.31.110 Requirements for Exemption from the Twenty-five (25) Plants Per Parcel Limitation.

- (A) Medical marijuana growing collectives, individual members thereof, or individual patients who possess a valid doctor's recommendation stating that more than twenty five (25) plants is necessary to meet the medical needs of the patient may be granted an exemption from the limitations set forth in Section 9.31.070 provided they apply for and obtain a permit from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office. Any legal parcel for which an exemption is sought shall be a minimum of five (5) acres in size and under no circumstances shall the permitted amount exceed ninety-nine (99) plants per legal parcel. A separate permit application shall be required for each parcel for which permission to exceed the twenty-five (25) plants per parcel limitation is sought. All permits shall be site specific and once issued shall not be transferred or sold. All permits that have been issued are subject to annual renewal.
- (B) The permit procedure shall include an application, which shall set forth, under penalty of perjury, all of the following:
 - (1) The name and address of each person applying for the permit and any other person who will be engaged in the management of the collective;
 - (2) A unique identifying number from a State of California Driver's License or Identification Card for each person applying for the permit and any other person who will be engaged in the management of the collective;
 - (3) Written evidence that each person applying for the permit and any other person who will be engaged in the management of the collective is at least eighteen (18) years of age;
 - (4) That the applicant or any Individual engaged in the management of, or employed by, the collective has not been convicted of a violent felony as defined in Penal Code Section 667.5 (c) within the State of California, or a crime that would have constituted a violent felony as defined in Penal Code Section 667.5 (c) if committed in the State of California and is not currently on parole or felony probation. A conviction within the meaning of this Section means a plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of noto contendere:
 - (5) A statement acknowledging that the permit applied for will be issued in conformance with the laws of the State of California and that such issuance does not confer upon the applicant, managers, employees and members of the collective immunity from prosecution under federal law;

- (6) The applicant's waiver and release of the County from any and all legal liability related to or arising from the application for a permit or the enforcement of the conditions of the permit;
- (7) The location of the parcel where the cultivation of medical marijuana will occur;
- (8) The number of plants for which an exemption is sought and the measures that will be taken to minimize odor-related complaints, or a statement explaining why such measures are not necessary;
- (9) Proof that the owner of the property, if other than the applicant, has been notified as set forth in Section 9.31.080;
- (10) A statement that the requested use will not violate the limitation locations set forth in Section 9.31.090;
- (11) A statement that the requested use will not violate the fencing requirements set forth in Section 9.31,100;
- (12) A statement describing the proposed security measures for the facility that shall be sufficient to ensure the safety of members and employees and protect the premises from theft;
- (13) A statement describing the proposed source of power for indoor and/or outdoor cultivation (electric utility company, solar, diesel generators), the size of the electrical service or system, and the total demand to be placed on the system by all proposed uses on site. This statement shall be referred to the Department of Building and Planning and may be referred to the appropriate Fire District for a determination if additional conditions, permits or inspections shall be required;
- (14) If diesel generators are proposed to be used on site, a detailed description of the proposed methods of storage, delivery and containment of the diesel fuel must be included. This statement shall be referred to the Department of Environmental Health and the Air Quality Management District for a determination if additional conditions, permits or inspections shall be required;
- (15) If the applicant is organized as a non-profit corporation, the applicant shall set forth the name of the corporation exactly as shown in its Articles of Incorporation, and the names and residence addresses of each of the officers and/or directors. If the applicant is organized as a partnership, the application shall set forth the name and residence address of each of the partners, including the general partner and any limited partners. Copies of the Articles of Incorporation or Partnership Agreement shall be attached to the application;
- (16) The applicant shall provide proof of either, a physician recommendation that the amount to be cultivated is consistent with the

applicant's medical needs, the needs of the patients for whom the applicant is a caregiver, or a written agreement or agreements, that the applicant is authorized by one or more medical marijuana dispensing collectives to produce medical marijuana for the use of the members of said collective or collectives;

- (17) A statement that the requested use will not utilize water that has been or is illegally diverted from any stream, creek, or river;
- (18) A statement describing the measures that will be taken to prevent erosion or contaminated runoff into any stream, creek or river, or an explanation of why such measures are not necessary;
- (19) Submission of payment of a permit fee sufficient to cover the cost to all County departments of investigating and processing the application in an amount that shall be set by the Board of Supervisors in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations;
- (20) That upon receiving a completed permit application for an exemption from the twenty-five (25) plants per legal parcel limitation, the Sheriff shall refer the application to the Department of Planning and Building for a determination of the zoning, parcel size, surrounding uses and other relevant information:
- (21) That the Sheriff is hereby authorized to require in the permit application any other information reasonably related to the application including, but not limited to, any information necessary to discover the truth of the matters set forth in the application;
- (22) Authorization for the Sheriff, Fire District, and/or other appropriate County employees or agents or their designees, including building and fire inspectors, to enter the property only during normal business hours for the purpose of examining the location to confirm compliance with this Section.
- (C) No permit shall be issued if the Sheriff finds:
 - (1) That the applicant has provided materially false documents or testimony; or
 - (2) That the applicant has not complied fully with the provisions of this Chapter; or
 - (3) That the operation as proposed by the applicant, if permitted, would not have complied with all applicable laws, including, but not limited to, the Building, Planning, Housing, Fire, and Health Codes of the County, including the provisions of this Chapter and regulations issued by the Sheriff pursuant to this Chapter.

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(D) All permits shall be issued within ten (10) business days from completion of inspection by the Sheriff as set forth herein, or from receipt of report if inspected by a third party inspector as defined herein.

- (E) Medical marijuana collectives and individual permittees shall comply with all of the following:
 - (1) Operate on a non-profit basis as set forth in Section B.1. of the Attorney General's Guidelines;
 - (2) Apply for and obtain a County business license from the office of the Treasurer-Tax Collector;
 - (3) Apply for and obtain a Board of Equalization Seller's Permit and collect and remit sales tax to the Board of Equalization if they intend to sell directly to qualified patients or primary caregivers;
 - (4) Employ only persons who are at least eighteen (18) years of age and comply with all applicable state and federal requirements relating to the payment of payroll taxes including federal and state income taxes and/or contributions for unemployment insurance, state workers' compensation and liability laws;
 - (5) Follow the membership and verification guidelines as set forth in Section B.3. of the Attorney General's Guidelines, except that wherever "should" appears it shall be replaced with "shall";
 - (6) Require all prospective members to complete and sign a writtenmembership application acknowledging and agreeing to abide by all the rules of the collective and all applicable requirements of this Section;
 - (7) Prohibit sales to non-members as set forth in Section B.5. of the Attorney General's Guidelines;
 - (8) Allow reimbursements and allocations of medical marijuana as set forth in Section B.6. of the Attorney General's Guidelines;
 - (9) Possess marijuana only in amounts consistent with the medical needs of the members of the collective; and only cultivate marijuana consistent with the limits of the exemption granted pursuant to a permit issued in conformance with this Section, but in no case more than ninetynine (99) plants per parcel;
 - (10) Indoor marijuana cultivation shall be limited to a single indoor growing area that shall not exceed one hundred (100) contiguous square feet per legal parcel;
 - (11) Secure all buildings where marijuana is cultivated or stored, sufficient to prevent unauthorized entry;

- (12) Purchase and attach a zip-tie to any flowering marijuana plant that is grown in compliance with a permit that has been issued pursuant to a request for exemption.
- (13) In lieu of the requirements of Section 9.31.070 (B), display copies of the permit issued pursuant to this Section, in a conspicuous place at the entrance to each garden area and immediately inside the entrance to any building where medical marijuana is cultivated, processed, or stored;
- (14) Cultivated marijuana plants shall not be visible from the public right of way, or from publicly traveled private roads;
- (15) Exterior signage shall consist only of the site address;
- (16) Traffic to the site shall be limited to employees and/or members who are essential to the cultivation of medical marijuana;
- (17) Designate the premises where cultivation occurs as the point of sale for all transactions subject to the state sales tax;
- (18) All weighing and measuring devices shall be inspected by the Agricultural Commissioner in accordance with Mendocino County Code Chapter 10A.16.
- (F) As an alternative to the on site inspection by the Sheriff called for in Section 9.31.110 (B) (22) of this Ordinance, the Permittee may, at their expense, select a qualified third party inspector from a list that shall be established and maintained by-the-Sheriff-and-who-shall-be-authorized-to-conduct-said-inspection. Nothing herein shall limit the ability of Fire District or other appropriate County employees or agents from entering the property to conduct the inspections authorized by this Ordinance or the ability of the Sheriff to make independent compliance checks. The Sheriff shall determine the criteria for establishing the list of third party inspectors and may request any information specified in Section 9.31.110 (B) of this Ordinance or any other information the Sheriff deems reasonably related to verification of the qualifications of the third party inspector. The third party inspector shall submit a detailed written report to the Sheriff regarding each of the items inspected/verified, including recommendations for improvements to the operation.
- (G) The third party inspector, as authorized by the Sheriff, shall inspect and verify all of the following:
 - 1. The identity of the person(s) assisting in the inspection and their relationship to the applicant/collective.
 - 2. That the address and/or location of the parcel conforms to that specified in the application.
 - 3. That exterior signage is limited to the address of the location.

- 4. The precise location(s) where the marijuana is to be cultivated, processed and/or stored.
- 5. The location, if any, where marijuana is to be grown indoors, that it not exceed a single space of not more than one hundred (100) contiguous square feet, the source of power, the number and wattage of lights, and any indicia of substandard electrical conditions.
- 6. That marijuana cultivated on the site will not violate the limitation locations set forth in Section 9.31.090.
- 7. That marijuana cultivated on the site will not violate the fencing requirements set forth in Section 9.31.100.
- 8. That marijuana cultivated on site will not violate the prohibition on objectionable odors set forth in Section 9.31.040 (C).
- 9. That marijuana cultivated on site will not violate the lighting requirements and limitations set forth in Sections 9.31.040 (D) and (E).
- 10. That the security measures for the site are sufficient to ensure the safety of members and employees and protect the premises from theft.
- 11. That all buildings where marijuana is cultivated or stored are secured sufficiently-to-prevent-unauthorized-entry.
- 12. The source of power for indoor and/or outdoor cultivation (electric utility company, solar, diesel generators), the size of the electrical service or system, and the total demand to be placed on the system by all proposed uses on site;
- 13. That the diesel generators, fuel and waste oil, if any, to be used on site are stored, delivered and contained as specified in the application.
- 14. That the site does not utilize water that has been or is illegally diverted from any stream, creek or river.
- 15. That appropriate measures have been taken to prevent erosion or contaminated runoff into any stream, creek or river.
- 16. That upon any subsequent inspection copies of the permit are displayed in conformance with Section 9.31.110 (D) (16).
- 17. That zip-ties are properly attached to any flowering marijuana plant grown in compliance with the permit specified in this Section.
- 18. That a valid County business license has been obtained from the office of the Treasurer-Tax Collector.

- 19. That a Board of Equalization Seller's Permit has been obtained if the permittee intends to sell directly to qualified patients or primary caregivers.
- 20. That the applicant has sufficient collective membership, or is a member of and has an agreement with one or more dispensing collectives sufficient to account for the total amount of marijuana produced or estimated to be produced pursuant to a permit issued in conformance with this Section.
- 21. That the applicant has established procedures and systems sufficient to do all of the following:
 - (a) comply with all applicable state and federal requirements relating to the payment of payroll taxes including federal and state income taxes and/or deductions for unemployment insurance, state workers' compensation and liability laws:
 - (b) comply with the membership and verification guidelines as set forth in Section B.3. of the Attorney General's Guidelines:
 - (c) maintain records of the signed membership applications of all members:
 - (d) maintain records of the total amount of marijuana produced;
 - (e) track and report all sales subject to sales tax:
 - (f) prevent sales or diversion to non-members as set forth in Section B.5. of the Attorney General's Guidelines:
 - (g) allow reimbursements and allocations of medical marijuana as set forth in Section B.6. of the Attorney General's Guidelines.

Section 9.31.120 Appeal from Denial of Permit or Renewal.

The Sheriff's Office shall review all permit and renewal applications, and all other relevant information, and determine, based on current information, if the permit should be granted or renewed. If the Sheriff's Office determines that the permit should not be granted or renewed, the reasons for such denial shall be in writing. The applicant shall then have fourteen (14) business days to correct the reasons for denial and request a re-inspection of the property. The cost of any reinspection shall be borne by the applicant. The applicant may appeal such decision by filing a written notice with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors within ten (10) days stating the grounds for the appeal. Such notice of appeal shall be accompanied by the payment of an appeal fee which shall be set by resolution of the Board of Supervisors in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations and the Master Fee Policy. If a notice of appeal is not filed and the required fee paid within the ten (10) day appeal period, the decision of the Sheriff's Office shall be final.

A violation of any provision of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be a pub nuisance and subject to the enforcement process as set forth in Sections 9.31.140 through 9.31.300 of this Chapter.

We are denied protection by Civil status A violation of any provision of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be a public

Section 9.31.140 Enforcement.

- (A) The County may abate the violation of this Chapter by the prosecution of a civil action, including an action for injunctive relief. The remedy of injunctive relief may take the form of a court order, enforceable through civil contempt proceedings, prohibiting the maintenance of the violation of this Chapter or requiring compliance with other terms.
- (B) The County may also abate the violation of this Chapter through the abatement process established by Government Code Section 25845 as set forth in Sections 9.31.150 through 9.31.300 beginning with the service of a Notice and Order to Abate.

Section 9.31.150 Service of Notice and Order to Abate.

The Notice and Order to Abate shall be served by the Enforcement Officer in the following manner:

- (A) By certified mail, addressed to the owner, his or her agent, at the address shown on the last equalized assessment roll or as otherwise known. Service shall be deemed to have been completed upon the deposit of said Notice and Order, postage prepaid, in the United States mail; and
- (B) By certified mail, addressed to anyone known to the Enforcement Officer to be in possession of the property at the street address of the property being possessed. Service shall be deemed to have been completed upon the deposit of said Notice and Order, postage prepaid, in the United States mail; and
- (C) By posting such Notice and Order to Abate conspicuously in front of the property on which, or in front of which, the nuisance exists, or if the property has no frontage upon any street, highway, or road, then upon the portion of the property nearest to a street, highway, or road, or most likely to give actual notice to the owner and any person known by the Enforcement Officer to be in possession of the property.

Section 9.31.160 Administrative Civil Penalties.

In addition to any other remedies provided by County Code or State Law, there is hereby imposed the following civil penalty for each violation of this Chapter, as imposed by the Enforcement Officer:

1. No less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per day and no more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per day for the first violation; no less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per day and no more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per day for a second violation of this Chapter within one (1) year; and no less than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per day and no more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per day for each additional violation of this Chapter within one (1) year for each day that the violation exists after the date of mailing of the notice of violation through to its abatement by whatever means.

- 2. The Enforcement Officer shall have the sole and exclusive discretion to set the amount of civil penalties within the ranges set forth in this Section. The Enforcement Officer shall not impose a penalty greater than the minimum amount in range of civil penalties set forth in this Section, unless the Enforcement Officer's department has established a written policy setting forth how civil penalties within the ranges are determined. Such policy shall take into account the facts and circumstances of the violation including, but not limited to, whether or not the violation poses a threat to human health, safety or to the environment; the seriousness or gravity of the violation; the length of time the violation has existed; the culpability of the person in violation or the willfulness of the violation; the sophistication of the persons creating or causing the violation; the extent of the violation and its effect on adjoining properties; attempts, if any, to comply with the applicable ordinances; and any other information which might be relevant to the determination of penalty to be imposed by this Section.
- 3. If the penalty is imposed for violation of this Ordinance there shall be imposed a fine of \$250.00, plus the actual costs of abatement.
- 4. At the discretion of the Enforcement Officer, or his or her designee, or upon the appeal of the property owner, the determination may be referred to a Hearing Officer of the County, duly appointed to hear such matters as described in Sections 9.31.170, 9.31.180 and 9.31.190. The determination of the Hearing Officer as to the amount of charges properly imposed under this Section shall be final, subject only to judicial review.
- The charges imposed by this Section shall-not apply if the property owner establishes all of the following: (i) that, at the time he or she acquired the property, a violation of this code already existed on the property; (ii) the property owner did not have actual or constructive notice of the existence of that violation; and (iii) within thirty (30) days after the mailing of notice of the existence of that violation, the property owner initiates and pursues, with due diligence, good faith efforts, as determined solely by the Enforcement Officer, to meet the requirements of this code.
- In the event a property owner, in the opinion of the relevant Department Head(s), abates the nuisance in a timely manner after the Notice and Order to Abate has been issued, the relevant Department Head(s) has (have) the authority to waive or reduce the amount of penalties owed, if in his or her opinion such a reduction is warranted.

Section 9.31.170 Hearing Officer.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 25845(i), the Chief Executive Officer shall contract with at least three (3) individuals as defined in Government Code Section 27720 et seq. to act as Hearing Officers on a rotating basis for the appeals described in this Chapter. The Hearing Officer shall have all powers and authorities described in Government Code Section 25845. In lieu of a Hearing Officer, the Board of Supervisors at any time may exercise the option to appoint a Hearing Board which shall consist of three persons, appointed by the Board of

Supervisors, who shall receive compensation for attendance at hearings at a rate fixed by the Board of Supervisors. A quorum for the Hearing Board to meet shall be two members. Concurrence of two members shall be required for decisions of the Hearing Board.

Section 9.31.180 Appeal Procedure.

Any owner or other person in possession of the property may appeal a Notice and Order to Abate to a person designated as a Hearing Officer or Hearing Board. The appeal shall be submitted in writing, specify the grounds upon which the appeal is taken, contain the name, address and telephone number of the appellant, be accompanied by the payment of an appeal fee in an amount established by Resolution by the Board of Supervisors and be filed with the Department specified on the Notice and Order to Abate within ten (10) calendar days of the issuance of the Notice and Order to Abate. Timely appeal shall stay any further abatement action until the hearing is conducted. In accordance with the noticing provisions set forth in Section 9.31.150, the Hearing Officer shall notify the parties in writing of the date and location of the hearing, at least ten (10) days prior to said date.

Section 9.31.190 Hearing Procedures.

- (A) Pursuant to Government Code Section 25170, the Hearing Officer or Hearing Board may issue subpoenas as necessary to require the attendance at the hearing of persons or the production of books, papers or other things related to the subject matter of the hearing.
- (B) The Enforcement-Officer-with-jurisdiction to cause the abatement of the alleged nuisance shall first describe the acts or conditions constituting a nuisance and shall respond specifically to the grounds set out in the demand for hearing. Thereafter, the objector shall present whatever evidence is relevant to refute the allegation.
- (C) Formal rules of evidence or procedure in any proceeding subject to this Chapter shall not apply. Any relevant evidence may be admitted if it is the sort of evidence on which responsible persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs. Any failure to make a timely objection to offered evidence constitutes a waiver of the objection.
- (D) The hearing shall be conducted in the English language. The proponent of any testimony by a witness who does not proficiently speak the English language shall provide an interpreter who has been certified an interpreter by either the State of California or the County of Mendocino.
- (E) Hearings shall take place at the earliest practical date following the notice of appeal. The failure of the appellant to appear shall not prevent the hearing from proceeding providing proper notice has been given in accordance with this Chapter. The hearing may only be continued upon request of a party to the hearing and upon a showing of good cause but in no event shall there be more than one continuance allowed.

Section 9.31.200 Determination.

- (A) At the conclusion of the hearing, the Hearing Officer or Hearing Board shall determine, based on the evidence before it:
 - 1. Whether the acts or conditions specified in the Notice of Abatement exist:
 - 2. Whether those acts or conditions constitute a nuisance;
 - 3. If a nuisance is determined to exist, whether it should be abated by the County; and
 - 4. The appropriateness of the penalty imposed.
- (B) If the Hearing Officer or Hearing Board finds that the alleged nuisance does exist and should be abated, abatement of the nuisance shall be ordered. An Order of Abatement is final immediately, unless the Order or a provision of this Code expressly provides otherwise.

Section 9.31.210 Abatement by Owner or County.

- (A) A copy of the written decision and Order of Abatement shall be served personally or by mail upon each objector and all other persons upon whom the Notice and Order to Abate was served. The Order may direct that any occupancy, use or activity cease immediately if its existence or continuation is found to be an immediate threat to health or safety. Otherwise, abatement shall be commenced by the owner within five (5) calendar days of the service of the decision and Order, or any longer period provided in the Order, and shall continue with reasonable diligence until complete. Reasonable diligence shall be determined by the Enforcement Officer.
- (B) Upon-the failure, neglect, or refusal to properly comply with the Order of Abatement issued by the Hearing Officer or Hearing Board within the prescribed time period, the Enforcement Officer authorized to enforce the Ordinance or other designated County employee may cause to be done whatever work is necessary to abate the public nuisance. An account of the cost of abatement shall be kept for each separate assessor's parcel involved in the abatement.
- (C) When the County has completed the work of abatement, or has paid for such work, the actual cost thereof, together with an administrative cost, including reasonable attorneys' fees as set forth in Section 9,31.300 and all fines shall be charged to the owner of the property. The combined amounts shall be included in a bill and sent by mail to the owner, or his or her agent, for payment, if not paid prior thereto. The bill shall apprise the owner that failure to pay the bill within fifteen (15) days from the date of mailing, may result in a lien upon the property.

Section 9.31.220 Failure of Owner to Abate or Appeal.

If, within ninety (90) days from the issuance of the Notice and Order to Abate, the property owner has not filed a timely appeal in accordance with Section 9.31.150,

or has failed to pay any outstanding fines or penalties, the amount of the penalties as established pursuant to Section 9.31.160 for the 90-day period shall be totaled and the same shall be considered due and owing. Notice of the amount of penalties shall be mailed to the property owner by certified mail, addressed to the owner, his or her agent, at the address shown on the last equalized assessment roll or as otherwise known. Any continuing violation after the aforesaid 90-day period shall be considered a subsequent offense and the penalty for such new violation shall be the basis for a second or third violation and the procedures set forth in this Chapter shall be followed as if the violation was a new violation. Nothing in this Section shall be interpreted to extend the time given to the property owner to abate the nuisance as set forth in the Notice and Order to Abate. Nothing in this Section shall be interpreted as limiting the Enforcement Officer's discretion to abate the nuisance at the County's expense and to seek reimbursement from the property owner or responsible party for all costs associated with the abatement.

Section 9.31.230 Summary Abatement.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter, when any unlawful marijuana cultivation constitutes an immediate threat to the public health or safety, and where the procedures set forth in Sections 9.31.160 would not result in abatement of that nuisance within a short enough time period to avoid that threat, the enforcing officer may direct any officer or employee of the County to summarily abate the nuisance. The enforcing officer shall make reasonable efforts to notify the persons identified in Section 9.31.150 but the formal notice and hearing procedures set forth in this Chapter shall not apply. No summary abatement shall occur prior to consultation with the Office of County Counsel.

The County may nevertheless recover its costs for abating that nuisance in the manner set forth in Sections 9.31,220 and 9.31.300.

Section 9.31.240 No Duty to Enforce.

Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed as imposing on the enforcing officer or the County of Mendocino any duty to issue a Notice to Abate Unlawful Marijuana Cultivation, nor to abate any unlawful marijuana cultivation, nor to take any other action with regard to any unlawful marijuana cultivation, and neither the enforcing officer nor the County shall be held liable for failure to issue an order to abate any unlawful marijuana cultivation, nor for failure to abate any unlawful marijuana cultivation, nor for failure to take any other action with regard to any unlawful marijuana cultivation.

Section 9.31.250 Report and Notice of Lien Hearing.

The Board of Supervisors delegates the responsibility to conduct a lien hearing in conformance with this Chapter to a Hearing Officer.

If the bill for the cost of the abatement, administrative costs, attorney fees, and all fines imposed pursuant to Section 9.31.160 or Section 9.31.220 and Section 9.31.300 are not paid within thirty (30) days of issuance of an order pursuant to Section 9.31.200 or the date of mailing of the notice described in Section 9.31.150, the Enforcement Officer authorized to enforce the Ordinance shall

render an itemized report in writing to the Clerk of the Board for submittal to the Hearing Officer listing the costs of abatement, administrative fee, attorney fees and all fines and/or fees. The Hearing Officer may then order for a lien hearing and confirmation. Names and addresses of persons having any record interest in the property shall be attached to the report. At least ten (10) days prior to said hearing, the Hearing Officer through the Clerk of the Board shall give notice, by certified mail, of said hearing to the record owner of each assessor's parcel involved in the abatement, the holder of any mortgage or deed or trust of record, if known, and any other person known to have a legal interest in the property. Said notice shall describe the property by street number or some other description sufficient to enable identification of the property and contain a statement of the amount of the proposed lien.

Section 9.31.260 Hearing on Account and Proposed Lien.

At the time and place fixed in the notice, the Hearing Officer will hear and consider the account and proposed lien amount, together with objections and protests thereto. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Hearing Officer may make such modifications and revisions of the proposed account and lien amount as the Hearing Officer deems just, and may order the account and proposed lien amount confirmed or denied, in whole or in part, or as modified and revised. The determination of the Hearing Officer as to all matters contained therein is final and conclusive.

Section 9.31.270 Notice of Lien.

Upon confirmation of a lien by the Hearing Officer, the Enforcement Officer shall notify the owners by certified mail, return receipt requested, of the amount of the pending lien confirmed by the Hearing Officer and advise them that they may pay the account in full within thirty (30) days to the Enforcement Officer in order to avoid the lien being recorded against the property. If the lien amount is not paid by the date stated in the letter, the Enforcement Officer shall prepare and have recorded in the office of the County Recorder of Mendocino County a notice of lien. The notice shall contain:

- (A) A legal description, address and/or other description sufficient to identify the premises;
- (B) A description of the proceeding under which the lien was made, including the order of the Hearing Officer confirming the lien;
- (C) The amount of the lien;
- (D) A claim of lien upon the described premises.

Section 9.31.280 Lien.

Upon the recordation of a Notice of Lien, the amount claimed shall constitute lien upon the described premises, pursuant to Section 25845 of the California Government Code. Such lien shall be at parity with the liens of State and County taxes.

Section 9.31.290 Collection with Ordinary Taxes.

After recordation, the Notice of Lien shall be delivered to the County Auditor, who will enter the amount of the lien on the assessment roll as a lien. Thereafter, the amount set forth shall be collected at the same time and in the same manner as ordinary County taxes, and is subject to the same penalties and interest, and to the same procedures for foreclosure and sale in case of delinquency, as are provided for ordinary County taxes; all laws applicable to the levy, collection and enforcement of County taxes are hereby made applicable to such lien.

Section 9.31.300 Attorneys' Fees.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 25845(c), in any action, administrative proceeding, or matter commenced by the County to abate a nuisance, or to collect the cost of abatement or any penalty or fee related thereto; the prevailing party shall recover its attorneys' fees. The recovery of attorneys' fees under this Section is limited to those actions, administrative proceedings, or matters in which the County chooses at the initiation of the action, administrative proceeding, or matter to seek the recovery of its own attorneys' fees. In no event shall an award of attorneys' fees under this Chapter exceed the reasonable amount of attorneys' fees incurred by the County in the action or proceeding.

Section 9.31.310 Use of Money Collected Under This Chapter.

All money collected for penalties for violations of this Chapter and all money collected for recovery of costs of enforcement of this Chapter shall be made available to the Department responsible for the enforcement action for training and further code enforcement actions.

Section 9.31.320 Compliance With CEQA.

The County finds that this Chapter is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15061(b)(3) (there is no possibility the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment). In addition to the foregoing general exemptions, the following categorical exemptions apply: Sections 15308 (actions taken as authorized by local ordinance to assure protection of the environment) and 15321 (action by agency for enforcement of a law, general rule, standard or objective administered or adopted by the agency, including by direct referral to the County Counsel as appropriate for judicial enforcement).

Section 9.31.330 Severability.

If any provision of this Chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this Chapter, including the application of such party or provision to other circumstances shall not be affected thereby and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, provisions of this Chapter are severable. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase hereof irrespective of the fact that any one (1) or more sections.

subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases be held unconstitutional, invalid or unenforceable.

Section 9.31.340 Effective Date.

The Clerk of the Board will publish the Ordinance codified in this Chapter as required by law. The Ordinance codified in this Chapter shall take effect thirty (30) days after passage."

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, State of California, on this day of, 2010, by the following roll call vote:
AYES: NOES: ABSENT:
WHEREUPON, the Chair declared the Ordinance passed and adopted and SO ORDERED.
CHAIR, Board of Supervisors
ATTEST: KRISTI FURMAN Clerk of Said Board
Ву:
APPROVED AS TO FORM:
JEANINE B. NADEL, County Counsel



Proposal for a Humboldt County Marijuana Legalization Ordinance (and/or input into Tom Ammiano's legalization bill) from CaNORML.org, Emerald chapter, to be presented at the HuMMAP event at the Bayside Grange on 7/24/2010

Submitted by Ellen Komp Ca NORML <u>ellen@canorml.org</u>
Draft 4, 7/24/2010
<u>Underlined sections have been challenged or added.</u>
Strikeouts are from previous versions.

- Whereas, the laws against marijuana have not succeeded in eliminating or curtailing marijuana use and abuse, and

Whereas, An extensive literature review of recent Dutch-language research on cannabis cultivation has concluded that small-scale cultivation is the most effective means to remove crime from the marijuana trade, and that there is a market for outdoor, organically grown cannabis;

We hereby proclaim that we voters of Humboldt County seek to exercise some measure of control over the use of cannabis consistent with respect for individual freedom and responsibility; and declaring our objectives to be the reduction of cannabis abuse, the elimination of marijuana-related crime and the raising of public revenue, we hereby enact this ordinance, to be called "The Humboldt County Cannabis Control Ordinance."

Section 1. There is hereby created an authority to be known as the Humboldt County Cannabis Council. The Council shall be made of up seven members, appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and shall serve 4-year terms, subject to re-appointment. The Board shall include in this membership a representative for cannabis farmers, one for retailers, a human rights advocate, an agricultural inspector, a business expert, a legal expert, and an expert in weights and measures. They shall be paid a part-time salary based on a percentage of tax generated by this ordinance.

The Council shall have general supervision of the conduct of the business of cultivating, possessing, distributing, sale at retail and wholesale of cannabis, and also of the quality, purity and grade thereof. The council shall make such rules and regulations as it deems necessary to enable it to carry out and enforce the provisions of this act, and shall prescribe the forms of application for licenses under this chapter and may require therein such information as it deems necessary.

Section 2 [formerly Section 5]. No license or permit shall be required for the cultivation or processing of cannabis for personal or family use, and not for sale, by a person over the age of 21 years. The aggregate amount of cannabis with respect to any household shall not exceed 12 pounds of cannabis flowers if there are two or more adults in the

Proposed Humboldt County Ordinance submitted by: emerald@canorml.org date: 7/24/10 p. 1/6

Cannabis cultivator eligible for the certified farmers' market sales permit shall not sell more than 50 pounds of cannabis flowers annually. The fee for any permit issued pursuant to this section shall be fifty dollars (\$50) per year.

A cultivator's license also authorizes the person to whom issued to conduct tastings of cannabis produced by, or produced and packaged for, the licensee, either on or off the cultivator's premises.

The holder of a cultivation license may also have upon the premises all cannabis products, regardless of source, for sale or service only to guests during private events or private functions not open to the general public. Cannabis products sold at the premises that are not produced by, or produced and packaged for, the cultivator shall be purchased by the winegrower only from a licensed wholesaler. The holder of a cultivation license shall actually produce on his or her licensed premises, not less than 50 percent of all cannabis sold to consumers on his or her licensed premise or premises and any licensed branch premise or premises.

- B. The holder of a nursery license may cultivate up to 1000 (2000; 10,000) cannabis plants from seeds or cuttings for resale to licensed farmers. The annual fee for a nursery license shall be \$750. The holder of a nursery license may apply to sell live plants at farmers markets, not to exceed 1000 plants per year.
- C. The holder of a processing license, his or her agents and employees, may obtain cannabis only from the holder of a cultivation license. S/he may possess, transport, process, package, box and crate cannabis, and may transfer cannabis only to the holder of a trade wholesale or retail license, his or her agent or employees. Processing, packaging, boxing and crating of cannabis shall be conducted in only one place. The annual fee for a processing license shall be \$1000.

Cannabis shall be packaged in quantities of one pound or one ounce, by dry weight, or rolled into cigarette form in packages not to exceed one ounce. It may also be processed into edibles, such as baked goods, oils, and drinks; or into tinctures or salves, subject to Health Department regulations. The processor shall cause a label to be placed on each package bearing the following information:

- (1) The name and place of business of the processor;
- (2) The cannabis grade;
- (3) Certification that the produce is organic and/or that it is free of pesticides;
- (4) Whether it was grown indoors or outdoors;
- (5) Whether or not water conservation measures such as catchment tanks were used in the cultivation and processing of the cannabis; and
- (6) The following statement: It is unlawful for any person who is under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or drug, or under the combined influence of any alcoholic beverage and drug, to drive a vehicle. Do not drive, operate machinery, or engage in any hazardous activity until it is established that you are able to tolerate marijuana and to perform such tasks safely. Special care should be taken whenever

date: 7/24/10

p. 3/6

operates at any golf course facility, entitles the licensee to make sales of cannabis from any golf cart, as defined In Section 345 of the Vehicle Code, that the licensee operates on the golf course premises.

A hotel or motel having a retail license may sell cannabis to its registered guests by means of a controlled access cannabis cabinet located in the guestrooms of those registered guests, provided that each of the following conditions is met:

- (1) Access to a controlled access cannabis cabinet in a particular guestroom is provided, whether by furnishing a key, magnetic card, or similar device, or otherwise, only to the adult registered guest, if any, registered to stay in the guestroom.
- (2) All employees handling the cannabis to be placed in the controlled access cannabis cabinet in any guestroom, including, but not limited to, any employee who inventories or restocks and replenishes the cannabis in the controlled access cannabis cabinet, shall be at least 21 years of age.
- F. The holder of a farmer-processor-retailer license may cultivate, transport, process and retail cannabis subject to the same requirements of this ordinance relating to labeling, grading and taxation of a processor license, provided all cannabis processed and sold is grown on a licensed premises. The annual fee for a farmer-processor-retailer license shall be \$2,500.
- G. The Council may issue research, horticultural and breeding licenses for a bona fide conduct of medical, social, behavioral or other research, upon such conditions and terms as the authority may prescribe consistent with the objectives of this ordinance. The holder of a plant breeders license will have discretion to maintain enough male and female Cannabis plants in seed or vegetative form to operate a plant breeding program with sufficient diversity in genetic material to develop superior lines of Cannabis for medicinal, recreational, or horticultural interests. Holders of a plant breeders license may make their Cannabis varieties available for resale to licensed farmers, nurseries and farmer-processor-retailers. The fee for a plant breeder license shall be \$1500.

Section 5. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors shall not expend or authorize the expenditure, nor shall any expenditure be made by the city, of public funds for any activity or activities performed by any employee or agent of the city, including but not limited to members of the Berkeley police department, directed towards enforcement of Sections 11357, 11359, and/or 11360 of the California Health and Safety Code. No Humboldt County law enforcement personnel or funds shall be used to assist or aid and abet in the enforcement of Federal cannabis laws involving acts which are hereby no longer illegal.

This will reduce the current expenditure of public funds for senseless enforcement of marijuana laws, decrease tensions between the police and members of the community who are made to feel like criminals as a result of marijuana law enforcement; reduce the theft of marijuana plants by making it possible to report such thefts to the police; and make available funds for needed community services.

All existing laws and ordinances governing medical marijuana remain in full effect in Humboldt County.

Proposed Humboldt County Ordinance submitted by: emerald@canorml.org date: 7/24/10



Proposal for a Humboldt County Marijuana Legalization Ordinance (and/or input into Tom Ammiano's legalization bill) from CaNORML.org, Emerald chapter, to be presented at the HuMMAP event at the Bayside Grange on 7/24/2010

Submitted by Ellen Komp Ca NORML <u>ellen@canorml.org</u>
Draft 4, 7/24/2010
<u>Underlined sections have been challenged or added.</u>
Strikeouts are from previous versions.

- Whereas, the laws against marijuana have not succeeded in eliminating or curtailing marijuana use and abuse, and

Whereas, An extensive literature review of recent Dutch-language research on cannabis cultivation has concluded that small-scale cultivation is the most effective means to remove crime from the marijuana trade, and that there is a market for outdoor, organically grown cannabis;

We hereby proclaim that we voters of Humboldt County seek to exercise some measure of control over the use of cannabis consistent with respect for individual freedom and responsibility; and declaring our objectives to be the reduction of cannabis abuse, the elimination of marijuana-related crime and the raising of public revenue, we hereby enact this ordinance, to be called "The Humboldt County Cannabis Control Ordinance."

Section 1. There is hereby created an authority to be known as the Humboldt County Cannabis Council. The Council shall be made of up seven members, appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and shall serve 4-year terms, subject to re-appointment. The Board shall include in this membership a representative for cannabis farmers, one for retailers, a human rights advocate, an agricultural inspector, a business expert, a legal expert, and an expert in weights and measures. They shall be paid a part-time salary based on a percentage of tax generated by this ordinance.

The Council shall have general supervision of the conduct of the business of cultivating, possessing, distributing, sale at retail and wholesale of cannabis, and also of the quality, purity and grade thereof. The council shall make such rules and regulations as it deems necessary to enable it to carry out and enforce the provisions of this act, and shall prescribe the forms of application for licenses under this chapter and may require therein such information as it deems necessary.

Section 2 <u>Iformerly Section 5</u>]. No license or permit shall be required for the cultivation or processing of cannabis for personal or family use, and not for sale, by a person over the age of 21 years. The aggregate amount of cannabis with respect to any household shall not exceed 12 pounds of cannabis flowers if there are two or more adults in the

Proposed Humboldt County Ordinance submitted by: emerald@canorml.org date: 7/24/10 p. 1/6

household, or 6 pounds of cannabis flowers per calendar year if there is only one adult in the household.

Section 3. Cannabis <u>not for personal, medical or spiritual use</u> shall be classified and taxed according to its THC content.

At the retail level, cannabis shall be taxed as follows:

Class A (20-80% THC) \$50/ounce Class B (10-20% THC) \$35/ounce Class C (4-10% THC) \$20/ounce

Oils, tinctures, salves and food products shall be taxed not on total weight but rather on the weight of cannabis contained therein, and by its grade. Any cannabis grown by a patient, caregiver, or collective member for medical use shall be untaxed by this ordinance. Anyone claiming spiritual use for cannabis shall have a hearing in court for tax relief.

An excise tax of \$5/oz on low-grade (1% - 5% THC) marijuana or \$10/oz on high grade (over 5% THC) shall be paid by the commercial cultivator to the Humboldt County accessor. A portion of that money, as well as a portion of the fees herein, shall be used to promote Humboldt county's brand through tourism, advertising, research, and public relations, to be done through the Cannabis Council.

Section 4. The Council shall, consistent with the objectives set forth in the preamble to this ordinance, issue the following licenses to such applicants as may qualify under this act and the rules and regulations of the authority: cultivation licenses, processing licenses, trade licenses, retail licenses, import licenses, research licenses and farmer-processor-retailer licenses. No such license shall be issued until the applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the authority that s/he is twenty-one or more years of age, is familiar with all laws and regulations relating to cannabis, and will exercise said license in premises adequately secure and otherwise suitable. License holders must be legal residents of the State of California who live more than 50% of the year in Humboldt County.

A. The holder of a **cultivation** license may possess, propagate, grow and cultivate cannabis and carry on such other horticultural activities as are reasonably required for the commercial cultivation of cannabis, up to 25 plants per licensee or 99 plants per parcel, whichever is less. (100 plants per licensee? per acre?) A cultivation license shall be exercisable in one place only. The annual fee for a cultivation license shall be \$500.

The holder of a cultivator's license may transport cannabis for the purpose of legal cultivation and sales, and may apply to the Council (Agricultural Commissioner?) for a certified farmers' market sales permit. A certified farmers' market sales permit shall authorize the licensee, a member of the licensee's family, or an employee of the licensee to transport and sell cannabis grown by the Cultivator to a certified farmers' market at any place in the state approved by the department to anyone 21 years and over. The licensed

Proposed Humboldt County Ordinance submitted by: emerald@canorml.org date: 7/24/10 p. 2/6

Cannabis cultivator eligible for the certified farmers' market sales permit shall not sell more than 50 pounds of cannabis flowers annually. The fee for any permit issued pursuant to this section shall be fifty dollars (\$50) per year.

A cultivator's license also authorizes the person to whom issued to conduct tastings of cannabis produced by, or produced and packaged for, the licensee, either on or off the cultivator's premises.

The holder of a cultivation license may also have upon the premises all cannabis products, regardless of source, for sale or service only to guests during private events or private functions not open to the general public. Cannabis products sold at the premises that are not produced by, or produced and packaged for, the cultivator shall be purchased by the winegrower only from a licensed wholesaler. The holder of a cultivation license shall actually produce on his or her licensed premises, not less than 50 percent of all cannabis sold to consumers on his or her licensed premise or premises and any licensed branch premise or premises.

- B. The holder of a **nursery** license may cultivate up to 1000 (2000; 10,000) cannabis plants from seeds or cuttings for resale to licensed farmers. The annual fee for a nursery license shall be \$750. The holder of a nursery license may apply to sell live plants at farmers markets, not to exceed 1000 plants per year.
- C. The holder of a **processing** license, his or her agents and employees, may obtain cannabis only from the holder of a cultivation license. S/he may possess, <u>transport</u>, process, package, box and crate cannabis, and may transfer cannabis only to the holder of a <u>trade</u> wholesale <u>or retail</u> license, his or her agent or employees. Processing, packaging, boxing and crating of cannabis shall be conducted in only one place. The annual fee for a processing license shall be \$1000.

Cannabis shall be packaged in quantities of <u>one pound or</u> one ounce, by dry weight, or rolled into cigarette form in packages not to exceed one ounce. It may also be processed into edibles, such as baked goods, oils, and drinks; or into tinctures or salves, subject to <u>Health Department regulations</u>. The processor shall cause a label to be placed on each package bearing the following information:

- (1) The name and place of business of the processor;
- (2) The cannabis grade;
- (3) Certification that the produce is organic and/or that it is free of pesticides;
- (4) Whether it was grown indoors or outdoors;
- (5) Whether or not water conservation measures such as catchment tanks were used in the cultivation and processing of the cannabis; and
- (6) The following statement: It is unlawful for any person who is under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or drug, or under the combined influence of any alcoholic beverage and drug, to drive a vehicle. Do not drive, operate machinery, or engage in any hazardous activity until it is established that you are able to tolerate marijuana and to perform such tasks safely. Special care should be taken whenever

Proposed Humboldt County Ordinance submitted by: emerald@canorml.org

cannabis is consumed orally, since the dosage is harder to determine and effects can be felt at varying times after ingestion.

- (7) The label "Humboldt Homegrown" if desired
- (8) The genetic strain of cannabis, if desired

The processor shall affix upon each cannabis package a tax stamp or such other documentation as the authority may require, and shall transfer neither title nor possession of same to any person without the said stamps affixed.

The holder of a processor license may apply to the Council for a cannabis sales event permit. The cannabis sales event permit shall authorize the sale of cannabis products at festivals, state, county, district, or citrus fruit fairs, civic or cultural celebrations, trade shows, or similar events approved by the department.

- D. The holder of a wholesale license, his or her agents and employees, may obtain cannabis only from a duly licensed processor, cultivator, or farmer/processor/retailer and may possess cannabis only bearing valid documentation required to be affixed to all packages. S/he may keep, store, warehouse, and transport same, and may sell cannabis only to duly licensed retailer. The annual fee for a wholesale license shall be \$3,000.
- E. The holder of a **retail** license may sell cannabis only to adult members of the public, who are not visibly intoxicated or otherwise in such condition as may present a threat to public safety. All sales of cannabis to the public must take place within the licensed premises of the retailer, which premises must be enclosed. A retail license shall be exercisable only at the location specified in the license.

The holder of a retail license may sell cannabis to consumers for consumption on the premises in a bona fide coffeehouse or eating place, which is located on the licensed premises or on premises owned by the licensee that are contiguous to the licensed premises and which is operated by and for the licensee. At such bona fide public eating place cannabis may be used in the preparation of food and beverages to be consumed on the premises. Warnings about driving under the effects of cannabis, particularly when consumed in food or drink, shall be posted at these places.

All cannabis sold by a licensed retailer must bear all appropriate labels and documentation required by this act and prescribed by the Council. Cannabis shall not be sold or distributed to any person under twenty-one years of age. The annual fee for a retail license shall be \$2,000.

The Council may, if it shall determine for good cause that the granting of any such privilege would be contrary to public welfare or morals, deny the right to exercise any on-sale privilege authorized by this section in either a bona fide eating place the main entrance to which is within 600 feet of a school or church, or other licensed cannabis retail premises, or both.

Any license issued to any golf course facility, or any license issued to a licensee that

Proposed Humboldt County Ordinance submitted by: emerald@canorml.org date: 7/24/10 p. 4/6 operates at any golf course facility, entitles the licensee to make sales of cannabis from any golf cart, as defined In Section 345 of the Vehicle Code, that the licensee operates on the golf course premises.

A hotel or motel having a retail license may sell cannabis to its registered guests by means of a controlled access cannabis cabinet located in the guestrooms of those registered guests, provided that each of the following conditions is met:

- (1) Access to a controlled access cannabis cabinet in a particular guestroom is provided, whether by furnishing a key, magnetic card, or similar device, or otherwise, only to the adult registered guest, if any, registered to stay in the guestroom.
- (2) All employees handling the cannabis to be placed in the controlled access cannabis cabinet in any guestroom, including, but not limited to, any employee who inventories or restocks and replenishes the cannabis in the controlled access cannabis cabinet, shall be at least 21 years of age.
- F. The holder of a **farmer-processor-retailer** license may cultivate, <u>transport</u>, process and retail cannabis subject to the same requirements of this ordinance relating to labeling, grading and taxation of a processor license, provided all cannabis processed and sold is grown on a licensed premises. The annual fee for a farmer-processor-retailer license shall be \$2,500.
- G. The Council may issue **research**, **horticultural and breeding** licenses for a bona fide conduct of medical, social, behavioral or other research, upon such conditions and terms as the authority may prescribe consistent with the objectives of this ordinance. The holder of a plant breeders license will have discretion to maintain enough male and female Cannabis plants in seed or vegetative form to operate a plant breeding program with sufficient diversity in genetic material to develop superior lines of Cannabis for medicinal, recreational, or horticultural interests. Holders of a plant breeders license may make their Cannabis varieties available for resale to licensed farmers, nurseries and farmer-processor-retailers. The fee for a plant breeder license shall be \$1500.

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This will reduce the current expenditure of public funds for senseless enforcement of marijuana laws, decrease tensions between the police and members of the community who are made to feel like criminals as a result of marijuana law enforcement; reduce the theft of marijuana plants by making it possible to report such thefts to the police; and make available funds for needed community services.

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Proposed Humboldt County Ordinance submitted by: emerald@canorml.org date: 7/24/10 p. 5/6

Based on:

Proposed Massachusetts State Legalization Bill

http://www.mass.gov/legis/bills/house/186/ht02/ht02929.htmand

California Business and Professions code, Sections 23355-23405.3, 23356.1

http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=bpc&group=23001-

24000&file=23355-23405.3; http://law.onecle.com/california/business/23356.1.html

http://law.onecle.com/california/business/23355.2.html

Jack Herer's CHI Initiative www.jackherer.com

California Vehicle Code Section 23152

http://www.canorml.org/laws/vc23152.html

Prescribing information for Marinol (synthetic THC)

http://www.drugs.com/pro/marinol.html

Berkeley Lowest-Priority Enforcement Ordinance

http://www.canorml.org/laws/berkeleycannabisordinance.html

With comments from community members.

COMMENTS TO:

CA NORML POB 1203 **REDWAY, CA 95560** Emerald@CaNORML.org

Proposed Humboldt County Ordinance submitted by: emerald@canorml.org

date: 7/24/10 p. 6/6 CUBBENT MENDEINO CRISIS - DEA/SHERIFF
5 QUESTIONS FOR SHERIFF TOM ALLMAN
7-27-10

CANNABIS PATIENT CONCERNS AND REMEDIES -- FIVE QUESTIONS FOR SHERIFF ALLMAN

BOTTOMLINE REQUREMENTS FOR A SUPPORTABLE PROGRAM

1) WRITTEN MEDICAL MARIJUANA INSTRUCTIONS TO DEPUTIES TO BE POSTED ON THE MCSO WEBSITE

Will the Sheriff's Office create and post written comprehensive medical marijuana guidelines to be used in the training of deputies about common encounters between law enforcement and qualified patients at the gardensite, i.e., a primary point of friction.

2) <u>INDEPENDENT NEUTRAL THIRD PARTY GARDENSITE VERIFIER POINTS TOWARD A MORE TRUSTWORTHY PROCESS</u>

Will the Sheriff agree to open the independent third party verifier process to include a diversity of patient input on criteria & choices.

prior to decisions, not after decisions are made? This applies no matter which regulatory law is in place. (A sheriff's meeting consisting of verifier interviews is taking place Thursday July 22.)

The purpose of the third party verifier is to increase patient-grower trust in the process by way of a neutral witness. There must be patient input into the choices of the verifiers and the criteria used in making those choices, or it is not neutral. Decision-making solely on the part of the sheriff without patient input is untrustworthy & likely to be skewed toward a law enforcement bias in violation of patients' rights.

This points to the need for a laison committee, such as a Citizens' Advisory Board or CAB, or an ombudsman, to communicate & run interference between local government agencies & the patient community on a range of relevant issues.

3) SHERIFF'S OFFICE CALL FOR INVESTIGATION INTO WHAT LED TO THE FEDERAL DEA RAID ON JOY GREENFIELD'S COVELO PROPERTY

Will the MCSO as well as the Board of Supervisors call for the proper authorities to initiate an investigation into what led to the federal DEA raid on Joy Greenfield's 90-acre Covelo property, in violation of Obama's federal policy, while she was simultaneously approved by the Sheriff for a 99-plant exemption permit?

An investigation by the Ca Attorney General's Office may be the most appropriate avenue, since the Greenfield situation involves both the AG Guidelines and the Holder Memo

A change in policy is required in light of the protection promised going terribly wrong and the DEA raid being widely condemned. Joy Greenfield, 68, elderly, nearly blind with glaucoma, the first 99-plant zip-tie exemption applicant on the sheriff's program, was raided on July 7 by the federal government with all 99 plants confiscated and with MCSO knowledge and complicity.

4) <u>SHERIFF'S OFFICE LENDING OF ASSISTANCE TO FEDERAL AGENCIES FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA RAIDS IS A CONFLICT OF INTEREST.</u>

Does the Sheriff agree to not materially assist any branch of federal law enforcement involved in raiding zip tie patients approved by his office?

Examples of material assistance are:

- a) the MCSO "leasing helicopters" to the feds for patient raids, including the Joy Greenfield raid.
- b) COMMET deputies playing a plant eradication role on federal raids, instead of merely back-up for officer safety.

5) SHERIFF'S OFFICE USING ASSET FORFEITURE FUNDS FOR DEPUTY OVERTIME PAY IS A CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

Will the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office decline to use citizens' forfeited assets to pay sheriff's deputies overtime pay?

a) Officers seizing money from citizens to pay themselves is a breeding ground for corruption and theft.

- b) The federal rule is that law enforcement can use forfeited assets for overtime pay, since it is not considered salary.
- c) This allows deputies to increase their budget by seizing private assets from their own constituents to pay themselves overtime salaries for the seizures.
- d) We cannot solve our economic problems with asset forfeiture monies.
- e) It only puts more stress on the economy exacerbating job losses, bankrupcies and home foreclosures already in free fall, pouring gasoline on the fire.
- f) It further erodes the value of the county's taxable base.
- g) It further erodes the integrity of the office.

Mendocino Medical Marijuana Advisory Board

7/17/10

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Dane Wilkins

GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY

"The intent is one of mutual respect between neighbors; to avoid adversarial positions; to treat others as one would like to be treated; to keep an open mind; and be willing to cooperate with neighbors with a goal of creating a safe and healthy neighborhood environment."

MMMAB ~

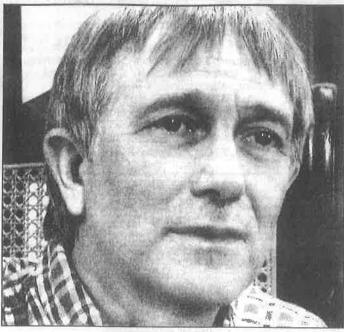
MUUAA

issue 142 • augmented reprint

INTERVIEW

S Postaç PAID

medical marijuana lore



new: mendo county guidelines

flowering females • possession of /2 pounds processed medical marijuana

Harvest, then Hide It, still?

the need for Referendum in local law Pebbles Trippet

"It is entrapment. Patients are legal in growing 25 plants, but as soon as we move from the cultivation stage to the possession stage where it is turned into medicine, we can become illegal. We are illegal the minute we hang our plants, strip them of leaves, and try to focus on the bud if it amounts to more than two pounds.

"SB420 allows for compensation for expenses, provision of medicine and related services, including reasonable salaries.

You don't have to be a collective, or a cooperative if you are simply organized collectively or cooperatively and can convince a court of your legitimacybased on the Urziceanu precedent you should be considered legal."

Dr. Bill Courtney

"The cannabinoids are fatty molecules that communicate harm between cells.'

Kate Clark

biodynamic farmer caught in the enigmas of 215 & 420

"Here was this beautiful, little organic farm, practically hallowed ground, and there was no farmer.

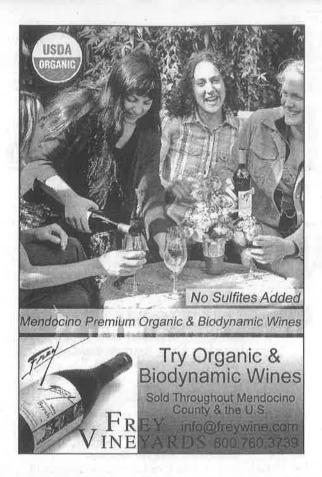
. . . Definitely, I didn't feel comfortable a lot of times, navigating the rules. Things seemed out of hand to me. The plants seemed too big. These plants want to grow."

What kind of rules, Kate?

"Very fuzzy areas that need to be addressed about canopy and numbers; and truthfully, what makes the comfort zone with law enforcement

But on the other hand, what's fair in terms of the patient regarding crop loss due to insects and disease. Half of my crop that year had powdery mildew and had to be destroyed. It's dangerous to the patient.







Letters to the Editor...

Dear Beth

I was absolutely knocked out to find a copy of NEW SETTLER in my mailbox again! It's a terrific issue, and I want to get a couple more copies to send on to other people—so I'm enclosing a check for that and to help a little in general. The Courtney interviews were amazing in toto, and in particular I had never understood that CBD was the medically effective side of the plant, nor that breeding for highs reduced that so much. Rather changes the picture in important ways, I think—possibly important from a legalization standpoint, no?

... I looked in the front and back for some general picute of what's happening—are you going to be able to resume publication? If you'd tell me what you've done about the *Ballanco Chronicles* so far, in looking for a publisher, I might have some further ideas.

Of course, I was intrigued by Skip Wollenberg's thoughts, and heartily agree with what he says about the potentials. While he's right that the Ecotopians (probably) resorted to bomb threats, he neglects the political prerequisites that went along with them, and I don't see (yet) enough political prerequisites for a plebiscite

or secession. (Another year or so of Geo. Bush might help, though.) Business spin-offs are not really a good metaphor-they're not done just for altruistic reasons, but to increase the money/power of certain participants. And the peripheral republics of the Soviet Union were not spun off by the Soviet regimethey walked off of their own volition. In the real world, I suspect that California may ultimately be dismembered into North and South not by its own doing, but by it growing so large that it legislatively wags the national dog, which the rest of the county won't countenance . . . though a water war, of the kind I imagined in the offing in ECOTOPIA EMERGING, isn't impossible. Ernest Callenbach Berkelev

Editor's Beforeword

Blame Michael Delbar for talented young marijuana horticulturists seeking solace and authentication in the new thug culture blooming in the hills.

Blame Jim Wattenburger who can't see beyond mattresses and malls. Blame your Sheriff every time the DEA is assisted in a raid on a medical marijuana garden or farm. There are mechanisms in SB420 that allow California counties to arrive at honorable pacts with rural growers.

I was transcribing the interviews for the next issue of *New Settler*, when the requests for additional copies of 142 (the "back-to-the-millstone issue" as Davy Rippner put it in his letter to me) came roiling in, along with calls from the food stores that they were out and customers were clamoring for more copies. I'll do a quick reprint, I said. Maybe even correct the spelling errors.

Then, a dysfunctional Board of Supervisors slammed medical marijuana patients and their providers with an unconscionable double whammy, and the simple reprint became this augmented broadside meant not only to deeply inform and inspire, but also incite!

Alas, for those who savored the retro interview with the (briefly) former marijuana smuggler, now ocean dermatologist for the Navy, Walt McKeown and our conversation re. the moral dilemmas of ingenious devices as they pertain to "the Special Ops" guys he took under wing, or Skip Wollenberg's musings on expatriating California, they are still in my computer and the text yours for an email request to nsi@mcn.org

I still seek a publisher willing to gamble on *The Ballanco Chronicles*, should any of you have a face-to-face relationship. Need I hint? thirty years ago, no publishing house would stake the paradigm-shifting novel, *Ecotopia*, which Ernest Callenbach took to self-publishing, and is now extant in its multimillionth copy, in practically every language we, as human mammals, speak.

-Beth Robinson Bosk

There's a very wide range of active molecules in this plant. And the only reason they can have action is because they bind to our receptors. So the question is: how did they develop this capacity?

But the bigger challenge is at least appreciating that the system is in place, and that it does have efficacy, as attested to by 6000 years of use.

Medical Marijuana

William Courtney, MD

interviewed by former 5th District Supervisor Norman de Vall on KZYX/Z 'The Politics Behind the Local News'

Norman de Vall: My morning guest is Dr. Bill Courtney. He maintains an office in Mendocino, lives in Elk, and is—in my experience—the most knowledgeable physician I have spoken to relative to the attributes of medical marijuana.

It's a difficult mix, the politics and medicine of marijuana. But without question, the impacts of medical marijuana and marijuana in general in the Mendocino community is far and wide, and involves just about every agency and structure of local government. And what I would like to do here is to clear the air and really try to point out the attributes. I've spoken to a number of doctors who think it's just an absolute myth that marijuana can have any psychological or medical positive effects on people whatsoever.

Bill, you are a doctor—but not one of those doctors—and I want to give you as much time as you would like to talk about medical marijuana: beginning with the history; how it works; what you know and what you can share with us—in a way that we can understand it.

BILL COURTNEY, MD: I think we have to start with the science. (I also have to admit that a couple of years ago I was one of those doctors: I refused to approve use by a fellow physician because I was so skeptical.)

I understand the skepticism.
I also understand the way around;
that is by looking at
the bio-chemistry, the physiology
—the science behind the medicine.

Once you do that, there really is no argument left. In particular, what helped me to appreciate the breadth of its application is how old the process is.



The cannabinoids are a fatty molecule that communicates harm between cells.

This system was in place 600 million years ago, and began to appear three billion years ago.

That's curious.

Because over that 500 million years of evolution, animals (to my knowledge) evolved that process of allowing one cell to provide feedback to the adjacent cell as to whether it was in pain, inflamed, had excess of energy, needed energy, needed water.

So, communication (particularly early communication) depended upon this molecule, which is essentially a small part of the membrane.

When you had single cell organisms coming together to develop symbiosis, they needed a way to gain the benefit of that symbiotic relationship. What they developed was to take a small, fatty molecule from the membrane (which is a universal structure), modify that slightly, then use that to provide communication to the adjacent cell.

That is what a cannabinoid is. Sadly, it is called a cannabinoid. I'd rather call it a 'fatty messenger molecule' —anything other than a



Beth Bosk

R.D. Deines

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O New Settler Interview 2007

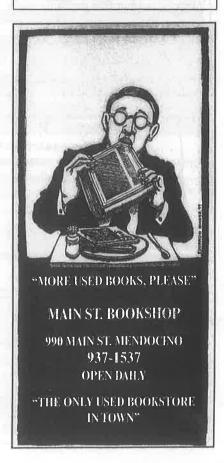


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cannabinoid, because cannabis didn't appear until 34 million years ago. Consequently, you have a system that is a billion years old called the 'endogenous cannabinoid system',

And that creates confusion in my mind (and I'm not sure what kind of confusion it creates for other people) because the plant is very young. Yet, because of that plant we found the Endogenous Cannabinoid System.

For ten, twenty, thirty years—through medical school, residency and in the practice of medicine—I thought transmitters were unidirectional by their design: You have an impulse coming down a nerve; a vesicle fuses and it releases its contents into the synaptic cleft—which, whether it's dopamine, or serotonin (whatever the transmitter is)—it drifts across the space between the cells and attempts to stimulate the second cell.

That system, obviously, can't go backwards: by its structure, by design it's unidirectional.

So we had neurology by fiat. And it wasn't until we labeled THC that we found that there was a receptor that cannabis bound to. Then, once we found that receptor, we were able to go looking for the body's own cannabinoids.

We now know that the body produces three chemicals that stimulate the system called an *agonist*; and one chemical that inhibits the system called an *antagonist*. So we have in the body at least four chemicals that we know of today, and three receptors, that are involved in this communication of harm or disease in the body.

Norman de Vall: So, it does work—both medically and psychologically. . . You are also a psychiatrist.

BILL COURTNEY:

Yes. It works wherever there is a system that is out of homeostatic balance.

Whatever the normal operating tone is, when a system gets out of that normal range, it attempts to provide information to its adjacent cells and monitoring cells that there is something amiss. And this feedback system is involved in that communication. In the immune system, where it's hugely successful. In the autoimmune disorders. Inflammatory disorders.

We now know that inflammation drives Alzheimer's, cardiovascular disease. The arthritides. All those are vastly aggravated by the autoimmune system, that is kind of over-active. And when you can down-regulate that system, you pull that inflammatory system away from the heart, the brain, and the joints; and you allow the system to restore itself to a better resting state

And so, the exogenous cannabinoid—is what cannabis is. . . . —We've got these terms: endogenous: most people are familiar with endorphins. That arosé because we had morphine, which is a plant product; we found out that it bound to a receptor, which we called the opiate receptor. Then we looking in the body and we found an endogenous morphine molecule, which we contracted to endorphins. In a similar fashion, cannabis is an exogenous plant molecule, binds to a protein receptor in the membranes; and then we looking and found that the body produces endogenous cannabinoids: we just haven't contracted that term yet. So, we have this big, old, long term.

But essentially: the brain, the intestines, the immune system, the endocrine glands: everything produces these cannabinoids.

As an interesting aside, we produce them, often, from arachidonic acid, which is a 21 carbon fatty molecule.

It's part of the Omega-6 essential fatty acids. Which means, you have to have it in your diet or you develop a deficiency syndrome.

Norman de Vall: What is the relationship of cannabis and chocolate?

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BILL COURTNEY: Chocolate has three of the cannabinoids. But in very trace amounts. So low that they really are negligible. Whereas, cannabis has 66 different cannabinoids in nine major classes. You've got THC. You've got CBD (which is a very potent medical molecule called *cannabidiol*); you have CBG; you have CBN; you have THC variant. You have a lot of cannabinoids—at least 66.

You also have terpenes and flavonoids. There are 140 molecules in cannabis, and those molecules are widely divergent. The flavonoids bind to the serotonin 1 and 2A receptor. And, they are involved in mood stabilization.

There's a very wide range of active molecules in this plant. And the only reason they can have action is because they bind to our receptors. So the question is: how did they develop this capacity?

But the bigger challenge is at least appreciating that the system is in place, and that it does have efficacy, as attested to by 6000 years of use.

Norman de Vall; Why did Nature put this plant on Earth? . . . In Nature, what should the plant be doing? Does it grow where it supports other plants? Garlic, for instance, is a herbicide/pesticide. Does the marijuana plant have any function in the neighborhood where it lives?

BILL COURTNEY: This could be wideranging personal beliefs—at least I'll preface them at that.

There's a virus, which is called a 'broad host' virus, which allows genetic information to be moved across kingdoms and species and phylum. It has very specific host reaction with the cells; but it can move DNA from a bacterium to a plant, to a human; and it uses this 2000-base pair of loop DNA called the *plasmid* to move around genetic information.

There is a genetic flow, laterally, that is of phenomenal proportions.

Ten percent of the broad host virus do nothing but move host DNA.

They really are a vector.

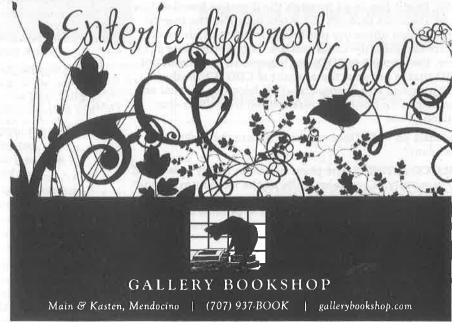
They are an extension of ourselves moving our DNA from us into other organisms.

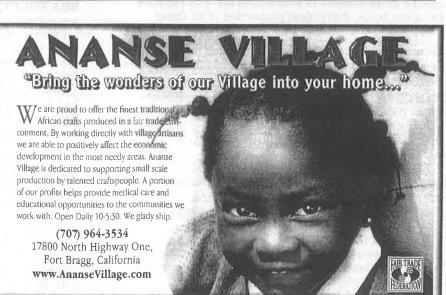
A plant is a part of that web.

A plant has a whole different relationship with light and energy. How different from us is the plant if we shared genetic information via this virus?



maryinmendo@hotmail.com





Why do plants accumulate protein molecules that are so incredibly specific it can't be an accident: it's of biochemical cost to that plant.

They have to spend energy to build these molecules.

Why would they do that?

There is definitely a Nobel Peace Prize lying there waiting.

Norman de Vall: Where does the word come from, cannabis?

BILL COURTNEY: You know, I don't know.

Norman de Vall: Fortunately, I don't have many prescriptions, but nowhere in my memory has a doctor suggested I smoke a prescription. What is, if you are taking marijuana for medicinal or psychological purposes, the best way to imbibe it?

BILL COURTNEY: One of the best is eating. For thirty-four million years, animals probably just ate the plant. It probably evolved to develop what they call 'a first pass profile', which is: how much chemical gets past the liver into your blood.

So, first it has to go through the digestive tract—it has to be absorbed through the intestine; then, the liver filters out and alters the profile of the different chemicals pretty significantly. Once you are on the other side of the liver, the amount of THC that is present; the amount of CBD that is present; the amount of CBG, CBN—these 140 terpenes and flavonoids—that becomes the real active profile that probably was evolved over thirty-four million years.

Norman de Vall: Does smoking negate the abilities of the plant?

bill Courtney: The plant has been highly hybridized by humanity. If you take 100% as the maximum amount of cannabinoids that can be present, just through routine plant genetics we've been able to develop strains that have 94% tetrahydrocannabinol, and strains that have 94% cannabidiol.

I don't know if anyone quite knows what a cannabis plant was like before humanity started hybridizing it. I would be very interested in the ruderalis, or the very basic plant, which would probably have THC, CBD, CBG. The plants would probably have developed a profile very specific to its mission in this web of life. But I'm sure we've lost track of the ideal proportion of all those chemicals in that plant.

Norman de Vall: If imbibed for medicinal purposes—or psychological purposes—to get the health benefit of the plant, should it not be smoked?

BILL COURTNEY: Smoking produces a tremendous spike. But it's like: Should morphine not be used? Morphine is an incredible pain analgesic; and if you've had an arm ripped off in the field, you're awfully glad to run into some morphine.

It's hard to get a plant into your vein, and so there is some processing involved. Smoking is a human process—most animals will run from smoke

But because your lungs are about the size
of a tennis court if you stretch out
all the alveolar gas-exchange space;
when you inhale those little fatty molecules,
all they have to do is cross a single membrane
before they are in your blood
and on the way to the brain.

Most addictive problems are related to the rapidity of onset. And inhaling allows a very rapid onset to occur.

Smoking produces very large spikes of the cannabinoids. It doesn't go through the liver, it's not filtered by the liver; it just drops right into the system.

If you are having neuropathic pain (as someone with MS suffers with) what happens is the myelin (which is the insulation that surrounds the nerves) is being attacked by the immune system, and the nerves have been stripped of their insulation and they're shorting out between themselves.

You have this kind of arcing going on, and it produces pain: Montel Williams (a talk show host with MS) said the pain was so bad he wanted to blow his brains out—and this is from a very articulate and impassioned individual. But that describes the character of the pain, and THC in its inhalational spike —nothing can touch neuropathic pain like THC.

So there are applications. It rather depends on the severity of the pain. And, if one has severe pain and is using THC, you definitely want to look to the vaporizer.

—And it's good to know that the current vaporizers allow you to fractionate the cannabinoids.

The boiling point of THC is either a 157 or 175 (that's the way my brain works), but the boiling point for CBD is higher; and so you can select for high THC or you can select for high CBD.

CBDs are very useful for arthritides, inflammation, muscle spasm (other types of pain); and so you can select the cannabinoid profile that best suits your medical condition.

And self-titration is such a precise way to administer medicine: the person in the hospital has their finger on the morphine button; they know when they need it and no else does. Cannabinoids are like that. If you get too much, you can't get any work done.

Norman de Vall: JAMA (the Journal for the American Medical Association) and Lancet, the British version of that: how much of what you've been sharing with us has either been in JAMA or in Lancet?

BILL COURTNEY: More and more these days. The pharmaceutical companies are seeing windfall.

Bayer aspirin made its big name on a willow bark extract; it's not afraid of botanical extracts. Bayer has boughthe marketing rights to Sativax, which is a 49% CBD/51% THC botanical extract made by G W Pharmaceuticals in England, available legally by prescription in Canada. If on had MS, you would hope you could visit Canada often; because to be able to get a 49% cannabidiol sublingual—spritz—is huge.

Right now, in this county, our plant has 4% CBD and we struggle to preserve that, and saturate, and hope to build up levels. Sativax, which is 49% CBD/51% THC is an immediate sublingual. You don't have to smoke, you're not inhaling. It would be great to have a source here.

(I would still augment it with leaf. I just think the leaf has such broad applications, it's like saying No, to water. The idea is that you can titrate it: one spray gives you a certain amount and you can build up the number of sprays. If you become intoxicated, you can back it down and it's not intoxicating. So, it allows you to get mass quantities of both

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what's interesting
is that
CBD and THC
competitively bind
at the same
CB1 sites;
and CBD will block
the psychoactive
effect of THC.

You're able to get not only very elegant levels of cannabidiol, but very elevated levels of THC.

—Which would be very beneficial for Alzheimer's, as well.

You'll be able to have very high levels of both to be able to make these enzymatic impacts.



(Without the CBD to mitigate the THC, you often times become so intoxicated that you don't get enough CBD. The spray is a way of getting both in very elevated and sustained levels that otherwise you wouldn't. In order to get the 49% CBD, you couldn't inhale enough, tolerate so much to get that level of CBD.)

In addition, for many people for whom THC is dysphoric, the CBD blocks that dysphoria so they can achieve the elevated levels that gives them the benefits of THC, but without the intoxication that normally would occur if it was unblocked by the cannabidiol. You get the benefits of both of them by being able to titrate down the psychoactive, if one would want to do that; and, if you want the euphoria, it's easy to add it.)

Another product released in England is called Rimonabant. It's a CB1 blocker.

—The first thing that the pharmaceuticals think of is:
Okay, since it stimulates appetite, let's make a synthetic
antagonist and we'll block appetite!
They're going to sell an appetite suppressant
based on cannabinoids.

But I would urge everyone be extremely careful if it is approved in this country, because the *breadth* of that system and the *blocking* of that receptor in the name of weight loss is likely to make the side effects of Vioxx seem reasonable.

Norman de Vall: Whether they're coming from medical doctors or physician assistants through the doctors they are related to, there is no lack of those who have the prescription, especially in Mendocino County. Do you think that most of the doctors that are making the prescriptions have close to the knowledge that you do? Do you speak with other doctors about these specifics?

BILL COURTNEY: There is a group called The Society of Cannabis Clinicians that meets down in the Bay. They are the ones that actually put together the newsprint journal O'Shaughnessy's: The Journal of Cannabis in Clinical Practice. I've written an article for the next issue on the origins of the system.

Because it sounds like snake oil until you understand the genetic history which allows this system to be fully embedded in the body. Whether you talk about cannabis being of assistance with your arthritic shoulder, your bladder that's having an autoimmune interstitial cystitis, or even Hashimoto's disease (an autoimmune disorder that attacks the thyroid.



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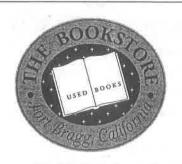


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If someone had come to me a couple of years ago and said: "I've got my migraines managed, marijuana helps my mood and it decreases my gout," I'd respond: "Well, probably it's a tincture of alcohol and you're probably drinking a pint of it and you're getting support from the alcohol more than the medicine."

Because it's impossible to understand until you understand the genetic history.

Norman de Vall: We have a caller, Bill.

Caller: Do you think this should be made an agricultural product under the Department of Agriculture so it can be overseen to avoid a lot of the problems that are coming up with toxics being applied in some gardens?

BILL COURTNEY: In Canada they grow 30,000 acres. China and Russia produce a lot agriculturally.

We now understand that cannabis fixes CO2. And, an acre of cannabis fixes five times as much CO2 as an acre of forest. It could be an enormous help in turning around our global warming situation.

The oil produced from the cannabis plant, Henry Ford used in his first cars. And people are again driving up and down the coast using biodiesel gasoline. It's an alternative to using dead dinosaurs as a way of getting around on the planet.

The oil is also a source, a perfectly balanced source, of essential fatty acids. I have a chart in my office which shows that in comparison to flax, canola, or safflower, cannabis has the Omega 6s in a ratio of 3-to-1 to the Omega 3s. It also has additional trace fatty acids not found in any other normal oil.

The plant should be an agricultural item, it should be a dietary item. And, it should be kept clean because we should be eating it, smoking it when we need it—in a vaporizer; using sublingual applications.

The plant is a part of ourselves and really, we need to get it back together.

When you deal with a prohibition, it's then you have toxic sprays, and all kinds of problems which are not necessary.

Norman de Vall: What is the difference between ditch weed and hemp as grown in Kansas and sinsemilla in Mendocino?

BILL COURTNEY: Probably a lot of human intervention . . .

Norman de Vall: Clinically?

BILL COURTNEY: Chemically, the ditch weed in the Midwest is going to have a lot of CBDs—I would estimate 30-to-40% cannabidiol, which for many people would be a very ideal medicine to have available.

In California, we have selected for very high THC, which is useful definitely for the extreme pains, and possibly useful in treating Alzheimer's. According to a Scripps Institute article published last October 2nd, it appears THC blocks the formation of amyloid plaques, which is one of the main pathological mechanisms in Alzheimer's.

THC also blocks the inflammator reaction—which drives Alzheimer's. Microglia cells, little white cells that surround the nerves then attack nerve cells.

Caller: Please explain the vaporizer.

BILL COURTNEY: Yes, the vaporizer is an amazing device. We've been waiting for ten grams from the federal program in order to test the efficacy of the vaporizer, and we have not been able to test the plant as there's probably concerns on the part of the federal government that it may be as successful as it is. There is a part of our society that really wants to block access to this plant. Although, vaporizers are available on the web . . .

Norman de Vall: . . . They're available on Highway 1 . . .

BILL COURTNEY: [laughs] Yeah. Or Highway 1 and 101 in Mendocino.

Again, what they do is gently heat the cannabinoids to their boiling point, these little fatty molecules go into the vapor and you collect them without combusting the plant. Cannabis is very protective against lung cancer.

There was a huge study in Los Angeles that found it's safer to smoke cannabis than breathe the air down there. This research was done by Tashkin, who had published most of the negative research for the past two decades. The vaporizer allows you *not* to combust the plant, but to get the cannabinoids. It reduces your risk of emphysema and COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease).

Caller: Two questions: What is your experience with the vaporizer using not bud, but leaf, which has different constituents and is readily available for free.

BILL COURTNEY: The leaf definitely has a predominance of cannabidiol over THC. They bind competitively at the psychoactive sites. So the CBD is non-psychoactive and it blocks the action of THC.

When you are smoking leaf, you are going to get more of the CBD, which is tremendously important for muscle spasm and controlling and regulating the immune system.

For the arthritides it is a very important molecule, and leaf is a much better source of it.

When you do heat leaf, though, you reduce the amount of CBD. So if you have ditch weed (which is 30—40% CBD), then you could heat it, volatilize it, and get a huge spike, which would be tremendously important. Right now, our leaf has 4-7% at best because all the rest is THC; therefore, when you heat it, you actually convert the CBD into THC.

There is a trade-off going on with the heating process.

Whereas, if you dry it, and put it into a capsule;
you preserve the amount of CBD present.
However, you want to use those capsules
within a couple of weeks;
as the CBD breaks down, THC will come out and the product
will become psychoactive after a month or two.

You want to be very careful if you are using the capsules as a non-psychoactive support. You could take it in the morning and suddenly, you become psychoactive— it will happen to everybody once. Just make sure you don't keep them too long. Make a small amount, throw it away when it gets too old.

Caller: Could you speak about your experience of using cannabis for the joint pain of Lymes?

BILL COURTNEY: Lymes has a significant autoimmune component, an inflammatory system in play. CB2 is the second cannabinoid binding receptor that is found throughout the immune system. It's found in the thymus gland, the lymph node, the T-cells.

The entire immune system is tied together by CB2 and Lymes is definitely an immune system problem where it is over-activated by this organism, and so down-regulating that is of benefit.

And I've had many people who have said that it has helped with their Lymes conditions. But you want to treat the organism.

Caller: I want to ask about two different experiences with medical marijuana: I've had it stop a migraine with just a small amount—stop a migraine right in its tracks, which was a wonderful experience for me, without causing any adverse side effects that would keep me from working or doing anything else.

But, then when I've tried to use it for really chronic, long-term osteoarthritic pain, I find that it actually decreases my threshold, and I was wondering as you were explaining about the cannabinoids communicating between the cell membranes, I was wondering if, because I've had this pain for so long, if my body has sort of put up barriers to the pain as a survival mode for me, and when I take the cannabinoids, do they then increase the communication, and actually increase the perception of the pain?

BILL COURTNEY: A very good question. THC, which is found in high concentration on our county's cannabis plant, can focus the mind on pains. And I'll have ten people come in: five who use it for cramps, five who swear whenever they use it, it focuses their mind on the pain and makes the pain worse.

The THC component can have variable effects in terms of whether it allows you to drift away from the pain, actually blocks the pain, or focuses your attention on the pain.

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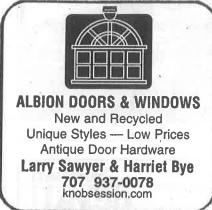
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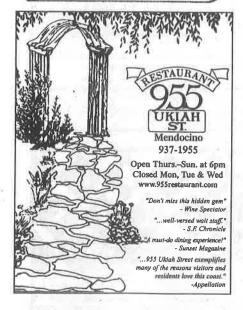
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For some types of pain THC is very beneficial. For joint pain, what you are looking to do there is decrease the inflammatory reaction:

The arthritides are driven by inflammation. So, you may have started out with a traumatic joint, then the immune system sees this roughened cartilage, and goes in there, tries to clean it up and turns that traumatic joint into a degenerative joint.

CBD is a much better molecule to approach that inflammation. If you have both plants, you could put a little of each in so you could titrate the amount of psychoactive versus CBD.

CBD is totally non-psychoactive; and it's best taken like a daily, dietary support.

It's in that vitamin class of—if not essential oils—semi-essential.

Norman de Vall: Can you get respiratory or lung damage from smoking?

BILL COURTNEY: Yes, you can, which is why you want to vaporize if you want to inhale it.

You don't combust the plant. If you combust the plant you're overheating it.

By not combusting it, you're volatilizing the molecules, and you're getting that in without the products of combustion. It probably still is not ideal or perfect, but it's vastly better to vaporize than it is to combust.

Norman de Vall: A number of us have been prescribed Lipator, which we take for awhile until we get these exceedingly painful side effects of muscle seizure and cramping. Can medical marijuana relieve those pains in any way—or is Lipator just a bad thing to take?

BILL COURTNEY: It's been such a turn around for me over the last couple of years, in terms of being way up in the National Boards and being pro-Western to an extreme.

Then seeing what has happened with Vioxx and Celebrex, and with ibuprofen; the number of people who have GI bleeds from over-the-counter medicines is horrifying.

I don't want to swing the pendulum so far I get bashed against the other side, but there's a part of me that would say:" Yes, CBDs would

definitely decrease the muscle spasms. But is that a warning sign of something else?" I would hate to mask a bigger problem by taking the pain away and allowing you to continue on with something that I don't really know if it's good or not.

Norman de Vall: The issue's been around for thousands of years. There's a big spike now in the United States. When is big Pharma going to move in and try to get control.

Norman de Vall: Oh, it's already done.

BILL COURTNEY: It's done. Bayer Pharmaceuticals bought the marketing rights to Sativax in Canada. They're the ones I said had used willowbark to make Bayer aspirin, and understand the tremendous potential of cannabis. There are so many synthetic versions:

They'll sell you Marinol for \$1200
a month with horrible side
effects, because it took
one molecule out of this
144-combination botanical
product. They're just salivating.

Norman de Vall: I want to get into the politics of marijuana. But first the next caller.

Caller: There is just so much information here

Norman de Vall: I know, he needs his own program, doesn't he?

Caller: Yeah. And I'm wondering how we could get the website, phone number: some way we can get more of this information and be able to work it through.

BILL COURNEY: My number in Mendocino is 937-4937; my number in Willits and Ukiah it is 456-0420 My email is drcourtney@mcn.org.

—And I've got a lot of electronic articles should you come by. Harm Reduction by the professor of biology at University of Colorado, is five pages, but it has 140 different science articles that support each of his contentions or claims for the actions and applicability. It's a great place to begin, because if you find something specific, you can go back to the basic science articles behind it.

I also have a Compassionate Use Act website (it's currently a dot.com; we're trying to massage it into a dot.org as I get politically correct in life). That will be a source of a lot of information.

I also have power point presentations I'm thinking of maybe doing. All together, a three hour power point with a lot of visuals, and I could do questions and answers.

Norman de Vall: Tell me, is the AMA (American Medical Association) trying to silence this movement. Or are they beginning to see the values of medical marijuana carefully done?

BILL COURTNEY: I try to go back to the way I felt two or three years ago when I refused to approve of its use by a fellow physician, because I was so uninformed.

Yes, there are a lot of politics. And if you have a particular politic, you talk about all the problems with youth, how it's such a horrible thing. Yet, how can you extract that from the whole issue of prohibition and illegality; knowing that

if you take cannabis away
from the zygote,
it won't implant;
if you take it away from
the fetus, it won't suckle.
This is a system
that is involved
from the conception
through death.

If we could get to the science then we could get around some of the politics.

Norman de Vall: My last question: Years ago when I was running for office and marijuana was not in the medical definitions anywhere I urged that if you wanted to keep it around, keep it away from kids. We're all challenged with raising our kids and keeping them (we think) on point and focused. What comment do you have? Would you prescribe medical marijuana to a child under eighteen? If the brain is still growing and not maturing until twenty-five: are there any age limits?

BILL COURTNEY: The age limit is conception. It really is. The cannabinoids are essential for the zygote to implant in the uterus. The cannabinoids are present all the way along.

Anything to excess is problematic: whether too much milk, too much water, too much coca cola. When you make something illegal, you're going to raise the curiosity of those who are denied access to it.

Prohibition fosters such incredible problems.

Kids also have whole psychological networks that they come from. And kids will have problems and they will act those problems out with whatever substance is the venue of choice.

Cannabis doesn't cause those problems, but it could play into them. Alcohol could play into them. Or pharmaceuticals. Anything. Cannabis is very helpful for certain conditions with children.

But you certainly need a whole support of parents and community networks.

There's this whole difference between grossly intoxicated, and supporting a system without which we would not be alive.

There's a huge territory between there; and if our children are who we care about, we certainly would not want to deny them something when it is of benefit. . . . but it is tricky. Incredibly tricky.

Norman de Vall: Does being a psychiatrist, as well as a medical doctor, give you a perception, a way of looking at this that an MD, a general practitioner, might not, would not, could not?

BILL COURTNEY: As a psychiatrist you have a different sets of interests, and maybe a little more availability to believe somebody when they say something is of benefit. The political position has been so overpowering. "It's going to make you grow breasts." . . . "It's going to make you schizophrenic." . . . "It's going to make you run amuck."

It's embedded in Congress It's written into our laws. It's in our records

We have to live with that. Digging out from underneath, that is a challenge.

Caller: If you make hashish from the leaf, would there be a different THC content than if it is made from bud? What would you recommend?

BILL COURTNEY: I don't understand the process of making hashish. I don't know if there is heat involved. Leaf definitely has CBD, which is a molecule that is veryimportant for some conditions.

And particularly, if you are using plants that are very high in

THC in the first place, that means they are very low in CBD.

If you are using an industrial hemp plant with 30 or 40 or 60 or 90 percent CBD, then you have plenty; and you could waste some in a heat extraction process.

Depending upon how hashish is made, which I am ignorant of, I would say that leaf, in general, is a good thing to work with. However, if you are using a California recreational plant, you want to use as little heat as possible to preserve the cannabidiol, if that is the molecule of choice.

Norman de Vall: Doctor Bill, we're going to let you go to get on to your next appointment. And we will have you back. You really could have your own program once a month. It really is something a lot more people need to know a lot more about. Some thousands of people are listening this morning from Healdsburg into Humboldt County. It's the kind of discussion with the specifics that needs to get out there. -Not just for others in the medical society, but also those who are in the health system, the legal system, the public systems, school systems, all the way down to families.







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the struggle

medical marijuana farming in Mendocino County

biodynamic farmer Kate Clark



You have a story you are ready to tell . . .

KATE CLARK: The story really begins many, many years ago when I had my first farm and realized that was my calling, my real work. And I felt so fortunate to be so young and to discover that that was what I was meant to do in this lifetime, to be a farmer.

I participated in a group back east called Philadelphia Ecology Action; their work was very radical: putting in inner city gardens in North Philly, which is a very, very poor area. I honed my skills there and learned how to farm organically. We built compost piles and helped the neighborhood organize Farmers' Markets. I heard Buckminster Fuller speak.

Alan Chadwick was busy here on the west coast; we heard tales of him and we all started double digging our beds, laying the foundation for what would be the new movement that John Jeavons continue today.

Alan Chadwick inspired us all. didn't talk about biodynamics (lat on I would learn about Rudolph Steiner.) What Alan talked about was an organic farm as a whole etity. He said: you've got to make your own compost; you've got to pretty much self-sustaining: you can't look for outside sources of fetilizer, it will compromise your organics—which is the primary prolem of industrial farming: bringin in all this chemical fertilizer.

Chadwick was also kind of "fair ish" in a way. He believed in natu spirits and he had a strong connetion to everything that grows. He had a profound influence on the Organic Movement everywhere. I know I was very moved by his tap and lectures, and I listened to the at a time of my life when I felt isolated intimately.

But to backtrack: I came west and worked on a farm in Pasco, Washington when I was just eighteen. That was an industrial farm: we set up irrigation—these huge wheels that we rolled around in the fields. I was so young and it gave me a perspective about what industrial farming was about. Those were the giant wheat farms, primarily, in eastern Washington.

Were you shocked, or in awe?

KATE: I was in awe of the waving fields of grain, being from the east coast and really having no grasp of the enormity and the beauty of this country, and the potential for producing food. That energized me to go on. I worked at a Del Monte processing factory for two seasons—the factory canning—and saw the process to completion. The camaraderie there, in that way it was an interesting experience: Lots of "lifers", we called them: the women who worked seasonally their entire lives and that was what they knew.

Not for me. I married young (too young) and we bought a five acre farm out in rural in southwest Washington—Ridgefield, Washington, off the I-5; not too far from Mount Saint Helens . . .

What made you fall in love?

KATE: A child who had been left by a mother, and was just a baby being raised by his father who didn't really have any knowledge about what to do with such a young child, practically a baby.

So I fell in love with the baby first.
And then went on to have two children
with the father.
And lived there. . . . That was my first farm.

I cultivated two acres and raised goats. My son was allergic to cow's milk. Got the goats, started milking, and became a little neighborhood enterprise in a small town with my vegetables.

To what extent was it an inter-species liaison between you and the does? I imagine they would butt up against your breasts; probably at those very times when you were nursing yourself. Did you get that first hit of awareness; how little differentiation there truly is between our selves and other



mammals?

KATE: What I enjoyed was that it was the same peaceful feeling as when I nursed my children as when you milk a goat. When you lay your head up against the side of the goat when you are milking: it's the same sensation as the letting down of the milk. I was very aware of that.

And I loved the experience of milking the goats. That's something that has stayed with me, and for the first time in three years I have three pregnant goats. And I'm really excited about milking again.

So, you get the oxytocin flush once more . . .

KATE: And it also guarantees I'll stay on the farm. Because I have had to work outside the farm. . .But that's later on in my story. This past week I've been nursing a goat threatening to miscarry. My daughter who is being home schooled has participated in the conversations about bloody show, contractions, mammals, how mammals give birth. We talked about when babies die: all the life lessons are at a farm,

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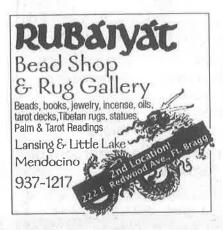
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I can't tell you, Beth,
how important it is to me,
to the culture, when you care
for an animal intimately,
that will provide you with food
and companionship.

From that farm in Washington, I made my way to California.

I divorced my husband. He had become an alcoholic who regularly threatened to take away the children and harm me, and I felt that I needed to protect myself and leave. I had come out as a lesbian.

I was very, very conscious when I arrived here that there was a wonderful women's community. I needed to embrace the lifestyle of coming out completely. I was very, very happy to find this place. It spoke to me immediately. There were lesbians in the Mendocino Bakery singingl

That was about twenty years ago.

And when did you come out to your-

KATE: Well... I was in love with my best friend for years. That was my primary relationship when my kids were young and we raised children together. But she was heterosexual, so it was very poignant and painful, and I realized at a certain point I wouldn't realize my dream of sharing a life with her, and it gave me the propellant to get away from southwest Washington.

—And also the weather. That was an issue: I had chronic asthma and the mold, and everything I was experiencing told me I needed to find a drier, sunnier place. Where I could also grow food year-round.

So that began my odyssey here.
—And I never thought I could afford land here. I'm working class, which I'm proud of. My mother's Mexican, full-blooded, and I come from a long line of professionals on her side of the family, and also farmers. It runs the whole gamut, and that was a lesson in itself. My mother had thirteen brothers and sisters, which was consistent in those days. That's why they had so many children; to work the farm.

My grandfather's farm awakened me. I didn't know him as a child because we were raised very white. I went to visit once when I was on the road at the age of fifteen, hitchhiking (in Texas of all places. Never do that!) and worked side-by-side with my grandfather and grandmother hoeing the vegetables. They spoke no English.

My father, he was an orphan of Jewish/Irish background, raised in an orphanage after he was conceived illegitimately by a Jewish doctor and an Irish nurse, and then abandoned. That was fairly common in the 1930s that children born out of wedlock we not treated well. My father grew up wanting to be a doctor, and went on have a medical laboratory; that's was what he did with his aspirations. He was very intelligent. Went to Yale. We spent a period in Connecticut when we were children while he was in graduate school. I got both worlds: m mother's world and my father's. And it's the working class background the I'm proud of. I had a paper route whe I was nine. I always worked.

I love physical manual labor, It's essential to our wellbeing that we all do a certain amoun That's where I fit in this world in this lifetime.

Pre-industrial working class. The wor ing class has a tradition that precede the industrial experience.

KATE: And it's physical. It's something that you do with your hands. And talent.

KATE: It's very talented. It used to be associated with craftspeople, and for some reason in this century it became something less than it really is. We need a renaissance of the working class. I think we are about ready to have one. —All be it, kicking and screaming.

So, to return to your story: you are drawn to Mendocino County because its strong community of women who love each other openly.

KATE: Yes, The openness here inspired me. This place also spoke to me. It's like the Sharon Doubiago poem of Mendocino: You say the name, it gives you that feeling. Some of us, we stay. This place called to mand I had to make my home here.

But when I looked at land prices I wondered: Is that really possible for me in this lifetime? I got into partner ships with women: Michelle Martin, Meadowsweet Farm north of Fort Bragg. I did dried flowers. Then got into a landscaping business, which was very successful, and worked all over the coast.

Fast forward many years later: Charles Martin called me. He owned Martin Organic Farm in Comptche. He and his wife had moved to Willits to The Golden Rule, an intentional Christian community.

Here was this beautiful, little organic farm, practically hallowe ground and there was no farmer.

It was in a sad condition; the buildings in various states of disrepair. A lot of work. Charles asked me if I

would get the farm going again, get it up and running so he could sell it.

And I thought to myself: I'm in my early forties! It was too late in my life to take on a project like that for someone else.

I said to him: "The only way I'm going to do this is if you give me an opportunity to purchase this land because I really want to farm." And he, in his wisdom or guidance, gave me a lease option. That's how I got my foot in the door.

But he didn't make it easy. I think he regretted it immediately because he saw my tenacity. I think he thought: There's no way she could do this. And I had to come up with a lot of money in the first year.

> And I have to say that it was women in this community that stepped up-in some cases with their life savings—and gave me money in order to come up with the down payment.

Which was very, very amazing to me. I mean, I put it out to the Universe: I said: "I want to do this. This community needs this farm." It came to me that if you have a clear intention, and you are in the right place, this can come true. You can manifest this.

Did you create any kind of Community Supported Agriculture structure for yourself to acquire the money to buy the farm? A prepay for delivered vegetables as-you-harvest kind of thing?

KATE: I looked at creating a structure through the CSA. What I found was that, yeah, people wanted the vegetables; they wanted the service. I felt the generous outpouring. I felt the community wanting me to get such an endeavor going. But no one realized how much work there was to sustain a CSA. Mostly people were saying: "We want you to do this Kate-whatever form it takes. You've worked in our gardens and you've been saying this for years: that you want to farm."

And that was awesome. It was also a tremendous responsibility. And quite honestly, it was probably more than one person could handle. But I felt very supported.

Peering at events through a Gaian perspective, the whole kept in balance by way of an altruistic contribution either to the individual or to the few: What do you think your having this farm with very few strings attached contributed to your larger community—and not only the community of women who came through for you?

KATE: Well, let me just be clear: I had to pay the money back. So there were strings. It wasn't free money. Ever. But I feel that the initial support of people opening their wallets and their savings accounts meant they knew I would finish the project.

And in terms of community gain: You know there are so few of us right now on Earth who are farmers. It's a dying profession, and sadly so.



A lot of people dream of the small farm, but the reality of someone who can organize on that level and see that picture, and work it on a daily basis

-you've got to be about ten different things: handywoman, soil analysis, animal husbandry. Everything! It's just amazing what you have to juggle to farm.

I think they recognized that I was the real deal. They knew they would get a farm in their community for the rest of time. And I've kept good on that promise and put the farm into that





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kind of trust and created a farm where on an almost constant basis younger people can come and stay and acquire the acumen.

No matter what, this place will remain a farm when I'm gone and the skills will migrate.

And that's important. We need land in this community that is designated farmland. We need more land.

So. You have your initial loans . . .

KATE: So, I'm burdened with a lot of debt. . . . And it is such a long story. To this day, it's hard for me to wrap around it. . . .

But I managed to get through it. Got a little further in debt. Had to borrow a little more money. . . . And that leads me to really what I wanted to speak about, which is the growing of medicinal cannabis in our community.

For the longest time I thought that is not right livelihood. And I saw my older children, especially my son interested. I saw a lot of people around me: business people, people in the community who were being quite successful because they were growing cannabis medicinal or otherwise.

I thought: I'm never going to do that, I'm a farmer. I don't want to be known as a pot farmer.

It's kind of funny: you're out in the world and you tell people you have a farm in Mendocino and it is the first thing they say: "Oh, right! Sure! Yeah you grow vegetables and herbs!"—wink, wink.

And I would say: "No. That's really

what I do. That's my passion."

At a certain point, when so badly in debt, I real; I needed to do someth to get out of debt, and I d to do a strictly medical.

Strictly medical.

I had, already, a connection of HIV community in San Francis I had met through my partner a time, Jill Abram. Very sick peol desiring a farm such as mine to their scripts.

Nine of us got together and puthink it was a twenty-five plant at that time;) there were maybe some plants when the tally cam when the police came.

Definitely, I didn't feel comfor lot of times, navigating the rules Things seemed out of hand to m plants seemed too big. These pla want to grow. There were a lot o sions I would have changed, in t of being at the helm of that proje

What kind of rules . . .?

KATE

Very fuzzy areas that ne to be addressed about can and numbers; and truthfu what makes the comfort z with law enforcement.

But on the other hand, what's terms of the patient regarding croloss due to insects and disease. I my crop that year had powdery n dew and had to be destroyed. It's gerous to the patient.

And I think it is unfair to say h much medicine somebody needs. really should be between a patient a doctor, not between a patient at law enforcement. That is so impose

Within my group, we had talked about the Bush administration ar drug policies and were afraid of the feds coming in in the next year; so decided to grow a larger amount to cover what could possibly be a few years of medicine. I knew I wasn't ing to grow that much again.

In the end, there was a lot of corsion and lack of leadership on my part. And being that it was my lan and I would be the one who would suffer the consequences. I was dismayed the rules were so ambiguou it was very important for me to foll the rules.

Were you growing with people you knew locally, or folks from afar?

KATE: Both. People from San Francisco who lived in apartments with full-blown AIDS; local people who lillnesses. All documented. All scrip

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And what kind of instant community did you become? Akin to the band of brothers thrown into a battle zone without borders?

KATE: We definitely had a goal.

Everyone was very excited about being able to have their medicine without going into the streets.

And there was a lot of joy. The plants were beautiful. There was a lot of collaboration—because some plants are good for one illness, other plants for others and I did a lot of research.

We found that sativas were good for depression and indicas were good for pain, so were able to zero in on people's needs. We felt we were doing this in a really righteous way. I felt:: How can I go wrong? This is a beautiful, medicinal plant—not unlike the other medicinal plants I grow in my herb garden.

There was always a certain wariness about the rip-offs; where you're a bit more frightened about people coming in and taking your crop. But the summer proceeded on, and we were getting ready to harvest. It was September 16th . . . it's been two years.

... To go back a bit: that summer I had growing concerns about my older daughter, who lived up the road about 2 ½ miles with her boyfriend. Her behavior was erratic and I had no clear idea why.

What happened was, she went to Solano County with (I think) two pounds of marijuana and sold it to an undercover cop. Unbeknownst to me, her drug of choice was heroin at the time—I didn't realize that! And that afternoon a judge in Solano County signed a warrant for both of our properties.

How my name came up, is still a mystery to me. We think most probably it was the person who set up the deal in Solano County, a man who was a known methamphetamine addict here in Comptche. He called my daughter to set up the initial contact. We think that he told the cops that me, the mom, has a grow on her farm.

But when they came, what we became aware of was that they weren't looking for marijuana, they were looking for heroin.

Apparently, they thought that my daughter was intent on purchasing heroin, which was quite available in Fort Bragg that year. (There were rumors of black tar heroin coming in through Noyo Harbor.) It's my guess that they thought they were going to get some big heroin bust going on here, and what they found was a marijuana farm—Also, an organic vegetable farm—and they preceded to cut it all down.

As for Mendocino County—I guess Solano called them in to drive them in. Whether Mendocino County knew I existed or not, I don't know. Initially, Mendocino did not actively participate in the bust. Then somehow it got transferred and Sgt. Noe came on the property. I didn't know who he was until later during my Preliminary hearings. He asked me, and I told him it was medicinal. But for some reason they decided it was too big.

"We're pulling it".

Describe the day for me, Kate. . .

KATE:

There were carpenters here, working on the buildings.

There were about eight of us on the property.

They came in—Solano County, the whole Task Force,
six or eight suburban vehicles—they came in
like gangbusters, they came ripping in.

It was mid-day. It was lunchtime. I remember because Terry was here, one of my HIV friends. I was cooking him some vegetable stew to take with his medication, his cocktail. Out of the corner of my eye (the front porch was still there) I saw motion, and the next thing I knew, I was being held at gunpoint on the ground. They pushed us all to the ground. Into the gravel. Holding guns on us. Put handcuffs behind all of our back. And then they put me in the hot sun.

Eugene "Ed" Denson

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It was like a bad cop movie, a B-grade movie that you would see on TV. I went into shock. I said to them: "This is a medical grow, we have scripts." I told them where the scripts were.

Maybe an hour passed. I was very upset because my daughter-in-law was about ready to have a baby, my first grandchild, and she and my son were living in my little cottage. They were growing their scripts but they were not on the property during the raid, and I did not want them back on the property. I did no want anything to happen to them.

At that point I think I said something foolish like: "It's all min Let everyone go, please." I just wanted to take full responsibility because I knew I had to, anyway. It's my property and I wanted especially, my son and my daughter-in-law to be safe..

Of course, almost immediately the raid became known and Comptche began to circle to see what the hell was going on and got the message to one of the people behind the gate to go to the store, to go an get my daughter-in-law's mom, and make sure they sit down there and head our kids off. Tell them not to com back to the farm. I so remember that. Just wanting my kids to safe.

At that point is when they read me my Rights, and Noe came in and they started to destroy my houses. They were very inappropriate: they hung my underwear on the knobs of the drawer They destroyed so much. They took away all of my tax form: pa perwork that maybe they thought they were going to find some evidence of sales or whatever.

And I am still face-down in the gravel. Cuffed behind my back in that excruciating wa meant to punish as much as restrain. Then finally, after maybe an hour and a half, they let us sit up.



All this time, I'm aware the crop, probably all of is being pulled.

But even more than. feeling the shock of the loss I was more shocked at their behavior, which was very inappropriate:

Where they were exclaiming over the qualit and they were making these little hand bouque and posing for each oth and having personal ph tographs taken.

They're exclaiming, "Look at this!" and "Oh my God, I've neve seen anything like this!" And I'm thinking: What!?! This is not appropriate behavior of law enforcement.

They were also very nasty to me.

In what way? Were they nasty to you as a lesbian woman? As woman, period? How?

KATE: As a mother, primarily.

My teenage daughter had her bedroom. As with a lot of teen agers in our community, policing her was very difficult. Typica teenager, probably the worst stage-late-thirteens. The doors have skull and crossbones on them. You're lucky if you cross threshold, much less check to make sure they don't have anything they shouldn't. At one point, an officer came within an i of my face, screaming that I should get the Mother of the Year award, and how horrible I am to do this in front of my childre

It was pretty awful. And I would say they were looking to br me down. To get me to say something I shouldn't. I felt such h tred towards me. And it was so shocking—as though I was a murderer. I think the most shocking thing to me was that I w

being treated like a criminal—over a plant. That just didn't compute! If they were looking for heroin, they didn't find any.

And the truth of the day is that they didn't take me to jail. After all of that and after taking my crop, they drove away.

Just how many officers from Mendocino.were involved?

KATE: Just Noe. The officer from Anderson Valley drove them in. But it was Noe who then gave the approval. But he was never a part of the harassment. Actually, during my Preliminary trials, I grew to respect Sgt. Noe and I think he grew to respect me, as well. I really held my own in that process, I said: "No. I will not go to jail. And I will not have a criminal record for growing what I felt was a legal medical crop."

I hired an attorney (I also hired one for my daughter in Solano County, because she was facing serious charges). My attorney, Don Lipmanson, he had never had a marijuana trial before . . .

Other than his own . . .

KATE: [laughing] Yes. Other than his own. But it would have been helpful.

We introduced the Mauer Motion. and that was thrown out. The Mauer Motion is the motion that protects medical marijuana. That if law enforcement shows up and you can prove you have Medical, The DA can say: "Okay. This is medical. We're not going to go to trial. We're not going to prosecute."

I had Dave Nelson as a judge, and Don kept saying: "Oh, Dave Nelson. You're in there. You're fine. Things are going to go great."

No way. Nelson threw out the Mauer Motion. He allowed the prosecution to

procede. I was shocked.

But I held on. I held on throughout the Preliminaries. I would not concede. Matt Finnegan, from the DA's office was the prosecuting district attorney, and I said: "You'll have to take me to trial. Somehow, I'll find the money I'm not going to say 'Okay', and go quietly on this."

At that point the district attorney's office decided to let me have Diversion-is what they ended up giving me. And then AOPD pushed me through in three months. Usually, you can't go to Rehab for less than six months. Yet in less than three months AOPD told me: "You don't belong here. You're not an addict. We don't know why they did this but we're getting you out of here as soon as possible."

They were extremely supportive. I smoked marijuana the entire time. I do it for my particular chronic illness. Never once did my pee test register.

So, I don't know if somebody was helping me from other places within the System or without. But I interpreted that as being supportive of what I thought was right: That I should not have to pay any higher price than I already had . . . And, continue to pay the price.

> The hard thing for me was the fall from grace, Beth.



Because getting busted in this community, everyone runs from you. It's not like when someone here has a chronic illness, even though it's the same devastating results, financially and otherwise.

Mostly, I got criticism. I got criticism because somehow it must be my fault that it happened. I got criticism in the category of the old 'the apple doesn't fall far from the tree.' - "You're a bad mother, therefore your children have these problems.'

I even was criticized to the extent of: "Well, what do you expect when you're growing marijuana?" I was just absolutely amazed! knowing this community.

So, that began for me a period of disillusionment. —Not with farming, But coming to grips with: What is this marijuana community doing? What do we need in this community to get this out of the closet? What is the forward way? What is the positive thing I can take from this?

A little soul searching.

In the last year, I have talked with many people about legalizing marijuana in Mendocino County. Doing so in the context of looking at some of the current modalities of cultivation of marijuana as real problems.

What we have a problem with are people who are making too much money, illegally. Not really putting it back into this community—a lot of





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Tues.-Fri. 9-5 Sat. 9-4 Mon. by appointment only them. And the very bad example for our young people, about this plant: saying one thing and then treating it a different way. Not really having a philosophy that would support the growing of a plant that is beneficial for hu-

The 'hypocrisy'-that's the word I need to use-is what

I've been wanting to address.

I'm hearing some rumblings from the Board of Supervisors about maybe being the first county in the country that legalizes marijuana. If marijuana was legalized, farmers like myself would have a value-added product that could be profitable enough to support a legitimate marketplace, like other value-added products.

And that's an interesting subject: the profit of marijuana. There is no reason why marijuana cannot be treated just like any other plant. Say, heirloom tomatoes.

Any other fresh herbs.

Especially since it is so essential to sustenance. .

KATE: It breaks my heart that seventy years ago, if marijuana, if hemp, had been chosen as a raw material for industry, for pharmaceuticals, instead of criminalized, these companies (DuPont) all of the (I would say)"big criminal elements" that have caused so much destruction-not only to our culture, but also to our environment-would not exist. What would have happened if we had taken the road less traveled with cannabis? Why did we have to synthesize? It was all about profit.

Tell me, at this moment, your most intimate thoughts about the plant itself. And why and how it fits so well into the way you have chosen to farm.

KATE: The first thing I found was that it makes fabulous compost. That just blew me away, the quality of the compost. From the leaves and the stalks. Fertilizer is one of the top ten dirty deeds done. Chemical fertilizer is right up there in the destruction of the environment. And cannabis as a cover crop and as animal feed and as all the things we need to survive as a culture, fills the bill. It also shows promise as a Co2 scrubber. Can you imagine all the clear cuts seeded with cannabis and the emissions dropping immediately?

It's an amazing work of art, that plant; an amazing piece of incredible plant work botanically. It possesses so many nutrients. It's so life-giving. Not just as medicine, but also as fiber, as a soil conditioner, as plant feed, as food for us. And that it has been demonized, I think it's pretty obvious

to everyone.

Yet, even people who I would call 'progressive': they stop short of wanting to legalize it for medicinal uses, which would open the gateway for its use for everything else.

We hav ea third-generation folks cultivating marijuana in this region. We now have a 2nd generation of children who have been born directly into criminality, raised with the family secret they are responsible to keep. That's quite different than the re-inhabitants of the late-sixties, early seventies who stepped out of government-sanctioned childhoods and created a rural underground economy. So you grow up in a culture where you have to plan your schooling around, your birthing choices around, your friendships around, your romantic fantasies around—and in the last decade, your energy sources around—a cash crop which requires a lot of savvy, a lot of labor; hunted by brutes who will actually fly down out of the skies at you, throw your parents handcuffed to the ground, tear up your bedroom, shoot your dog. I'm amazed at how much morality remains in this agriculture three generations into it. . . Young adults who have beit. . . Young adults who have become fantastic botanists, who are making medical discoveries . . . who problemsolve over mold.

KATE: But also, some who are using shortcuts which depredate the plant.

Yes, and some who took to Uzis, and the worst of the old frontier ways.

KATE: Even more, the destruction in families. The greed. The lack of clear thinking about what large amounts of money, which legalizing would address. What it does to a family: the in-fighting in families when some children feel left out of the ability to be able to use properties. The acquisition of properties. In my own fam ily, with my own granddaughter: I'm not allowed to see my granddaughter. That's how heartbreaking this whole thing has been.

—Because of my connection with my son's partner. Their family was busted years and years ago in Comptche, and it destroyed their family. A divorce fol-

In my family now, there is another generation coming into this secretive, manipulative, unhappy way of existing in the world. And hiding. Hiding out. And I find tha to be the most destructive aspect of all. Families are suffering. Children are suffering. And it's a plant.

This is almost beyond my reason. There is no rational thought that can support the continuation of the crimi nalization of marijuana. It's unreasonable. It's irrationa And! this county could use the money for universal health care, for better schools. For training people to support an economy that supports human beings.

I'm not much of a smoker, I do ingest small amounts for my asthma. I have a chronic disease that threatene to kill me many times in my life. Since I have been usir small doses of cannabis on a regular basis, I have had no hospitalizations, no major attacks. I'm off all the pharmaceuticals. I don't know how it works, but it doe

Tell me how you process which portion of the plant and what strain of cannabis for your own use for asthma. How it is you proceed from seed . . .

I plant later in the season because I find tha this plant loves to grow. I can't deal with a twenty foot tall plant. I wait until June, Ju and keep the plants small, because it is safer

And I have started using only clones, because I want specific medicine. I want medicine that opens my airways. I want medicine that is not a sedative. I want medicine that gives me the propertie that helps me to function in my life, which I find the sativas do.

I don't have pain. I don't need to manage pai People tell me the indicas manage pain.

And I had developed several strains of sativa, but when the police came, they took everything. They took all my strains! All my seeds! Everything from me. I had

to start over from scratch.

A couple of my strains did come back to me. There was an indica cross: a sweet tooth that is very good for me, very powerful medicine for me. And I like to use something called a 'hash plant', which is a cross betw a sativa and indica. So, I asked some friends last year and they brought me the clones and then I put them pots of good compost. Planted them out in late-July ir amended holes.

Pretty much, this plant just wants to grow. Unlike a lot of things I grow, marijuana is not a high maintenance plant.

—Unless you are plagued with spider mites and powdery mildew.

Does where a moon is in the lunar arc have sway over you?

KATE: I always plant by moon cycles. I use the biodynamic calendar. I look for when its time to plant the flower plants and I go by that cycle. Always.

I have my entire farming life used moon cycles as guidance.

Truth be told, Kate, I did not know you as a "grower." I must have been gone from the county when your farm was raided I knew you as one of those new generation artisan farmers who shared her earth with many others as a mentor, and whose spiritual realm revolved around cultivation by the moon. Actually, that's what I thought I was coming to talk to you about: The sway of the moon. How it works for you. When you knew.

KATE: Some of it comes instinctually. In the beginning, I never really knew there were names for my practices. It was just very clear to me that there are times when you plant, when the ground is open and fertile; and there are times when you absolutely don't: when the moon is in a cycle that is sterile or (what is the other word they use when you can't have a child?

—"Barren!" is the word that they use.

In the biodynamic system, there are planets that are barren; and as the moon goes through its cycles in the year, through the fertile and the barren, it passes through the ones in between where you can go either way.

You just become aware.
Cancer: extremely fertile.(Fits, doesn't it.) Cancers are extremely home-oriented; stick like glue. So, you want to crack your seeds in a fertile cycle. And you want to prune when it's a barren cycle; or clean up; or cultivate. You stay away from working with the plant materials.

And then biodynamics hones the skill even further. It says: okay, flowers here; leaf here; root here. In terms of times of the month.

What kind of calendar is it?

KATE: There are people who scientifically pull this information together by looking at the progression of the planets and the moon in relation to each other and Earth.

Have you an understanding of just how the gravitational pull of the moon

affects the soil so that it is more receptive to a flowering plant at different times than a root vegetable?

KATE: When the moon is waning and waxing, yes. Both of those forces work on plant growth. And, it's logical. With a waning moon, there's less potential for the lifting of the energy.

Then with a new moon versus a full moon: A lot of full moons are barren. I found that to be intriguing. Maybe there's too much energy, so everything just is in awe. Standing still with all that power. New moons are very fertile times.

The Biodynamic Association of North America figures it out each year. And you can buy this great calendar, the Stellanatura Calendar. Every year is different. Because you have eclipses. You have planets that are squared and trined and opposed (which means they're not harmonius: it's a difficult connection.)

It's very, very precise—and subtle—these shifts, and I'm just grateful they do it. I've often thought of doing a cannabis calendar in the same modality as the Stellanatura, and create essays from these wonderful young growers that are figuring out the best medicine. Who are trying to inspire people to get away from looking at cannabis as just this profiteering, illegal mess that we created!

It's a beautiful plant. We're the ones who find ourselves in this mess that we've created, by attitude and greed.

Off the top of your head, what would the month of say, February be like in your cannabis calendar?

KATE: It would be preparing compost. I'm turning my piles and using my worm compost. And adding different layers of dried material and the goat waste. I'm just turning things and getting them going. Activating them. Opening them up.

I would be cracking seeds for other farm crops, but in terms of the cannabis, it would be the season to be trying to acquire some more strains; maybe looking at some seed sharing.

(People have become too proprietary and strains get lost in raids. That's abysmal: that people go, "No, no. You can't have my strain." Why risk the loss? If I hadn't given other people strains I had developed, I would have lost everything. Because they took everything.)

And then, for cannabis, nothing in



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March. Not until, probably June when I'd be starting getting the cuttings going. Rooting the cuttings. Getting the finished compost into smaller pots. The farm is bursting by that point with all kinds of tasks. The tomatoes are getting ready to go in. The farm is busy.

But cannabis is just a very small corner of it now, a very

small amount for personal use.

Do you give your cannabis plants companion plants?

KATE: On my farm they have companionship all over the farm because I interplant them. But it's such a hardy plant. It doesn't seem to ask for anything other than: "Gimme a good sunny spot, and I'll give you so much in return."

But I find it a good companion to other plants. It's a very good companion to any leafy vegetable because it's a nitrogen-fixer—that's one of its amazing duties. I've also seen it be beneficial with roses; it seems to boost them. The two plants just seem to like each other. And roses can be finicky in this climate. And I have had good luck with strains that are mold-resistant.

Of course, out here in Comptche we don't have the problems that the coastal people do. That's another reason why the County should address legalizing marijuana, and allow people who are botanists and horticulturists and

farmers to grow this plant.

It should be so well monitored that people who are sick don't even have the potential to get something bearing chemicals or powdery mildew. Which is damaging! I met someone in the City once who was recovering from a form of pneumonia that was brought on by smoking marijuana with powdery mildew.

That should be criminal! That's exactly the opposite of the plant's intent. When greed rules people get careless or just plain don't care. I hate to use the word 'control'. But this crop need environmental guidelines, due to the many micro-climates, where people can collectively grow canna-

bis and make the medicine safe.

Meanwhile, back to the personal ramifications for an organic farmer like yourself in the middle of this runaway history . . .

KATE: There is a lot of stigma attached to when your kid goes down the tubes. You feel horrible about I, too. Like: 'What could I have done? Or What did I do'? A mother tends to take on that blame themselves—especially when you are a single parent.

And it's scary that this has happened to you, Kate. I always saw you as the model mother. Integrating your daughters into your flower business, your catering career; taking them along on your deliveries. You were raising them in a milieu where you had a sacred pact with Nature, in what many consider a perfect environment for kids. Tasks they can help with. Clean air, fresh water. Family land. And you weren't isolated: there were always energetic, forward thinking young people around. You were willing to share that land-scape with everybody's children as part of your community supported farm.

KATE:

You know, Beth. The outside forces are great in our culture with children right now.

The great experiment of peers being role models for our children, hopefully is over. Because really, peers have no business being role models.

You have to hang onto your children at that age when they don't want you around.

Then you have to really insist, as hard as it is.

I guess I put too much faith in such a good community. I thought: 'Oh no, that would never happen here'. We kids are experimenters. They'll find a way to get into things if you don't keep your eyes wide open.

But I loved that certain really wonderful people in our community sought me out to say: "Our kids, too. We know your heart is broken. But don't take this so far that you lose perspective. And get drowned in you own feelings of inadequacy as a parent because it happens to many kids over every kind socio/economic stratum."

No one is immune to drug and alcohol addiction in of culture. So, I was very happy to have the acquaintance of several families that were suffering from their children's addictions during my retreat. It hasn't helped in my relationship with my oldest daughter, because she continues to associate with people I find to be not appropriate people. I have a younger child I have to be concerned about.

Sometimes outward appearances are deceiving. It's neasy being a single mother, straight down the line. And this farm took a great deal of my energy over the last seven years. Just getting it into my name and having to work so much.

Contrary to what anyone would think,
this wasn't a pot farm
and I didn't grow marijuana to pay for it.
It was three jobs and constantly having
to make a living to pay bills.
Pot farming is not what I do.
I grow food & medicine & flowers and fruit.

The farm has gone through yet another cycle. I'm planting two acres of berries, my new cash crop. Mostly blueberries. I'm very excited about doing 'You Pick' and getting families back to the farm. I want to continue my work in developing strains of cannabis and growing other herbs for medicine. I'm inspired by the young peo ple who are so excited over plants. If it takes cannabis, then that's a righteous way to enter this field. And farming is a true calling.

During that moon cycle in which you harvest marijuana, what phase do you wait for, and how afterwards do you prepare the cannabis for your own specific medicinal needs?

KATE: For myself, the harvest of the few plants that I grown medicinally begins in the fall. Usually, I harvest first thing in the morning, on a flower day. You look on the calendar and plan the harvest accordingly.

And why in the morning?

KATE: It seems to me to be when the plant is most receptive in terms of the amount of medicine it is producing. That it is then at its fullest.

It seems that when it comes out of the dark it has the highest content of medicine.

That's why you don't want the sun to shine on it that day.

Everything has a peak. Not only is it because it's an annual plant, it's peaking in the fall, and the flowers, they themselves are bursting with the most amount of medicine they could have then.

I check for mold as I clean the plant and make sure that there is none, so when it is hanging to dry there ar no mold spores in one plant that could contaminate the others. Then I add it to olive oil to add to a dish; or I pu it in butter and freeze it, and then add it to a baked good; or put it in a sauté and ingest a small amount of

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it. You can barely taste it. This small amount keeps my chronic illness from flaring up. In many years of having chronic asthma, nearly dieing several times, believe me, what a relief to be off steroids. To carry an inhalant only as (I call it) my 'binky. But I have no need for the many medications I was on.

When you say you are using only small amounts, is that throughout the day? What kind of schedule are you on?

KATE: It depends on the weather. It depends on whether I feel like I'm getting an upper respiratory condition. I do other things as well: other herbs, different teas. But usually once a day, I'll put some cannabis in some soup or stew. Or, make a muffin and eat a little of it throughout the day. That's all it takes. And I never feel impaired. I know that its illegal to drive with cannabis, but when it's such a small amount, and the body becomes conditioned, it's not detectable. It's working it's magic without anyone ever really being able to tell. But my body knows.

And! it didn't even show up in my urine. I thought that amazing. Because they'd said: "You're going to have to not use your

medicine." I was like: Please!

I mean I had gotten to the point where it was working—which is verified by many physicians who give pharmaceuticals: that

you have to get levels going in your body.

Asthma kills people on a regular basis. It's an autoimmune disorder, not unlike arthritis and many other autoimmune disorders where your body actually turns against itself, and then you literally can suffocate. And it can happen so quickly.

Mainstream medicine really doesn't understand asthma well enough to treat it. In fact, one of the pharmaceutical medications some doctors were prescribing increased the death rate of

asthma victims five times!

We know that pollutants are involved in asthma; we know that some people have hyper-sensitivity to the environment. And to know that you can die within a very short period of time from air restriction, that makes you deal with lifestyle changes.

You definitely go: What can I do? And being doomed to a lifetime of steroids is unacceptable. Steroids can alter your personality. I found they made me very tense and very angry. And they destroy your kidneys and your liver eventually. To be doomed to a lifetime of that kind of pharmaceutical, yes! I would try something other than that. I didn't believe it at first, but I came right around when my body told me: 'Hey. You're doing fine. You can breathe. You're not having these reactions.'.

Peter McWilliams of LA—you don't know about him? He was working on a condominium of information about cannabis when he was raided, his plants confiscated. And even though he had AIDS, part of his getting out on bail was he couldn't use the one medicine for him that checked his nausea. He feared violating the mandatory weekly urine test. Well, his t-cell count shot up. He had nothing to curb the nausea. He choked to death in the bathroom of his mansion on his own vomit. . . . Do you ever make hash?

KATE: I don't, but I know a lot of people do. I think people who have been heavy smokers develop a strong resistance to whatever they are smoking over a period of time, and the hash is just a more intense experience. More of the medicine. AIDS patients especially, use hash because it is the strongest that they can get.

And I know that people use bags with ice, which separates the little tricones from the plant material, and then they scrape it up. I remember hash from the Sixties and it was a dark, gooey mash. A real treat. This resembles it, but it doesn't look quite as nasty as the stuff I remembered.

You know it is a Class 3 felony. The federal government has separated hash from marijuana and they treat it the same as opiates. I think that deters a lot of people from using it in that form, even though it might be the better medicine for them. It's supposed to be amazing, the contact, using it in a massage oil.

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You worked collaboratively with nine other people who were growing and utilizing cannabis as their medicine. Tell me the kitchen lore you picked up working with your group.

KATE: Many made goodies and baked with it. A lot of the HIV community really enjoyed eating the cannabis goodies. But most of them smoked. And a lot of them used vaporizers to avoid ingesting any other smoke. Many used it for chronic pain. That's the top use. One, extreme arthritis. Several with HIV. They were a very conscious group of people, my community; and it was so horrible that they lost all of their medicine. All the work they put, everything was gone.

Tell me more, then, about the biodynamic cannabis calendar you have in mind. The essays \dots

KATE: The young people who believe in the culture of cannabis as one of the primary plants to help save our civilization, I get inspired when they tell me about what a powerful connection they have with their plants and I've asked them to please write this down.

I remember a young man who told me an experience he had while he was sitting with his plants: he felt the energy of the plant come out, and he felt supported; he felt like he was being given power from the plant, from having nurtured it.

That he had a full relationship with the plant.
That the plant was sitting with him.

He was explaining to me how powerful an experience that was; that it motivated him to not look at the plant as a recreational substance—something he might use as alcohol. He felt a reverence, at that point with the plant. And he told his friends: "We have to be more respectful and careful with this plant." The conversation was with an intern who worked for me a year. An amazing young man who came from a horticultural background up in Washington State. His father had a nursery and he loved plants. He especially loved the cannabis plants.

Tell me about having interns. Probably beyond mentoring. We think of mentors as someone a young person goes to, has their insightful conversations with, then closes an office door behind them. You've been much more than a mentor...

KATE: I've had a lot of Woofers—that's Willing Workers on Organic Farms. I think I'm on the list, and sometimes they call me when they're going to be in the area, and they come for a few weeks, sometimes more. I never thought of myself as a teacher, but I came to understand that sometimes just working alongside of these young people and sharing life experiences, that not only the synergy of getting more work done, but also, sharing our experiences as people who worked with soil, people who worked with plants, that we were able to inspire one another. I always thought that we were comrades: that we were part of a

body of people—not that they were subservient at all t me, or that I was the head honcho. I felt that we were working together for a common goal. I've always held the belief that small farms would save the world. Each community needs many small farms, and needs to foster many community gardens to reall help save the world.

These kids are great. They need land.

They need support. They need their own farm now. They need the opportunities.

One thing that I do want to do in the next couple of years is find a way to create legislation that would eithe lower or eliminate property tax for people who are actually growing food for their own county. To inspire people to grow food—organically, hopefully would be one of the stipulations. That's so very important given the propert values in this county. My property taxes are outrageous I'd really like to see that money go towards growing mo food. I'm not quite sure where my property taxes go righnow. Farmers need to be supported in that way so I'm going to personally work on that issue.

Which foods and herbal medicines do you grow here? And, how easy are some, how difficult others—when the are grown guided by biodynamic protocols?

KATE: Comptche has an incredibly wonderful climate. have plenty of water. I grow everything. My favorite things to grow are leafy green vegetables.

Michael Pollen wrote a fabulous article about nutrition for The New York Times saying that seeds and leaf are the two primary food groups.

Of them, too many seeds and not enough leaf.

So, I love growing leafs. And I love encouraging people to eat the dark leafy vegetables. And they grow like weeds, so no problem there. I consider them to be medicine. Dark, leafy vegetables on a daily basis have kept me healthy (as well as the medicinal marijuana) for years.

Root crops. Fabulous. This is a little heavy soil; I would admit I have difficulty growing the perfect carrot in Comptche with the clay. But years of compost and cover crops and turning it in, I have great soil right now, so I can grow some great roots.

Do you aspire for this great carrot?

KATE: [laughs] Not necessarily, but that's going to take a little education for everybody around me; because many folks still want the straight carrot and they still want the spots off the apple.

What are the secrets of getting close to a straight carrot in a clay soil?

"Wine is a constant proof that God loves us and wants to see us happy." - Benjamin Pranklin

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KATE: Thinning. I would say that's the number one thing, thinning them very well. And also, a nice sandy loam will grow a perfectly straight carrot. My soil tends toward the clay and the rock, so it's a little more difficult. Just as tasty, though.

Daikon radish. I discovered that recently. It's a blood purifier, as all radishes are. I've been making a salad every day with daikon radish grated up with a little bit of celery, and a little poppy seed dressing. Mmmmm.

Making yourself an anti-depressant there?...

KATE: [laughs] No, I would call it a tonic. Which now that I am definitely menopausal, I need my daily tonic to keep up with this busy schedule.

Medicines I grow include the herb parsley—also a good blood purifier, very high in iron, high in the folic acid. As a medicinal it's good for digestion. Chew a couple of sprigs of it if you're have a bout of bad breath and you need to cleanse your mouth. Amazing plant, beautiful plant.

Primarily, I grow heirloom tomatoes, flowers, and a mixture of everything else. A lot of summer squash. A lot of winter squash. I love to grow pumpkins. I try to stay away from corn; it's a bit thirsty. People love it, but I prefer growing the leafy vegetables. But I love growing vegetables; there isn't anything I wouldn't try.

As a biodynamic farmer I use something called "preps"; which are preparations of plants that have been potentialized by either fermenting, brewing, or burying in the earth

People use the term "homeopathy for the soil" but it's not that simple.

It probably has more to do with quantum physics, because you have these very small particles that you add to a barrel of fresh spring water and you activate it by actually stirring it a precise number of times; and then spraying it on your land and crops.

What you are looking for here is to increase soil fertility. That's the basis. And to a certain extent, there is healing that can occur on lands that are damaged.

And why burying in the earth?

KATE: I'm in awe of what appears to be an ancient ritual of cow horns filled with these herbal preparation buried for years at a time.

Do you find your own spirituality, so linked to your methods of cultivation changing in any way given the changes in global climate? How have you been warped or wrapped up?

KATE: I'm worried about global warming, and these heat storms that we'll probably continue to have here.

> I'm thinking out-of-the-box in terms of different kinds of row covers, and creating a haven down by the creek for my animals to go, to protect them from the heat storms.

I know that I'm going to have to modify some of my growing techniques. It's going to be profound, I know, in my life time. I was thinking that maybe our generation would not have to deal as intensely. But I've changed my mind in the last year; I see that change is going to come, and rapidly'; and farmers will be profoundly effected.

Because those heat storms, they take all the moisture from the soil at a time when water is going to be such an issue. Right now in northern California —in all of the west—we are in a drought.

What does the ambiance of a heat storm feel like to your farmer

KATE: Last year I would come into my house which normally stays pretty cool, and I would have to lay on the floor by four o'clock in the afternoon, because the heat was so intense, there was just no way around it.

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—And actually go out and spray the chickens down with the hose. And, still, we lost some. They just dropped dead.

So, I was concerned, that this was more than I had ever experienced before for days in a row, knowing that I was going to have to make some contingency plans to protect the plants and the animals.

The one plant that sailed through without a bit of scorching or problem was the cannabis.

The cannabis amazed me.

All the leafy crops had to be cut back. The damage to the crops was significant during that heat wave.

So, yes. We are going to have to take notice and develop some kind of spun cloth to cover our plants—hopefully out of hemp. We're going to have to put on our thinking caps and get together to protect our food. Very essential! We do need food. We do need air. We do need water. It is going to become clear what we need in the next ten years.

And how do you find your spirituality shifting with changes portending?

KATE: I have a stronger belief in my earth-based spirituality, knowing that I am part of this incredible system, this incredible dynamic of relationship. And I feel affirmed.

But I am also very concerned that the damage is destroying entire species, and possibly will impact many of my own human species. When Nature roars in, she doesn't choose this one or that one. There is going to be a lot of suffering due to the lack of foresightedness and the lack of the Precautionary Principle in the last fifty or one hundred years. It's not going to be easy for a lot of people to make the changes necessary. Just giving up their vehicles is going to be most difficult. Perhaps we'll develop some hemp-based oil that will run an unconventional vehicle.

And if not hemp, locally algae or wild mustard. . .

KATE: But definitely not corn, not ethanol. Definitely not any of the traditional food stock. And definitely not petroleum. We need to give up our notions now that they will play any part of our future.

Currently, the most important issue that I have is that we do come to a civilized, rational and reasonable agreement in our community about the use and the sale of marijuana. The time has come for all of

us to come to the table and admit that this is an important issue economically, socially; and, in terms of our existence as a people here in this community. Stop denying that it is here. And deal with it. And deal with it in a way that everyone wins. I think there are a lot of good people working on this problem and I hope I can help.

How would you address the person who is not growing who feels jeopardized by a neighbor who has twenty-five plants in their back yard? They are afraid of a theft that might involve their home, too. Perhaps its simply a pervasive aroma they perceive as a trespass on their personal space. They feel that there is no separation wall between what their neighbor is doing and their own well-being. That there is not a high enough hedge. A sizeable number of people living in the small cities of Mendocino County who voted for Proposition G, (which allowed for up to twenty-five plants for whatever personal use) have had second thoughts because they didn't realize it might mean 'twenty-five next door to me'. They perhaps thought of it more for the rural roads.

KATE: Of course they need to be invited to the table of this discussion. Their concerns are legitimate. It's just like a barking dog. Or if someone has too many dogs. Or they are not taking care of their property and there is trash, which bring rodent problems—it's the same thing. People have the right to say: "This concerns me and I'm uncomfortable with it."

By legalizing marijuana and creating value-added for the farmers and people who do cultivate, and then taxing it, people would have a legal source for their medicine. But you can't have it both ways. You can't have the high profits of an illegal economy that thrives in some underbelly, and a legal economy that supports us. You have to choose. People are sensible. Sacrifices will have to be made, but it will be better for all of us and our children if we legalize marijuana.

Do you have a partner now, Kate?

KATE: No. I haven't found the love of my life yet. I'm hoping someday I will. But I applaud and salute the women who have been here with me through the hard times and all the hard work, and wish them well. But I think I'm a little too much of a handful . . . [laughter]

Why do you suppose this plant takes the burden of a practically universal remedy, a medicinal, for humans and even other animals? Why this plant? How this plant? It just seems to be so serviceable. It's roots are a remedy for landslides and erosion. You're saying the stalks and leaves break into an incredible compost. It heals so many infirmities. It knocks out pain, infection, the irritation and breakdown of tissue that results in arthritis, it holds that at bay. So why was all this responsibility, do you suppose, set on the shoulders of this one plant species?

KATE: I think of it as a gift to us, as many of the plants and animals are. They work with us. And I think that it has come into our conscious realm just at a time when we need it the most. It was always there.

It's been used since the beginning of Time. It's been recognized by every culture. And now, it seems to inherently know that we need it, because everything we've created synthetically is not working. Everything we've created.



And I know people would argue: "Look at those wonderful heart valves," and for all of the plastics that have been created. But the trail that they leave and the residue and the making of them, it is not working. None of it is working. Cannabis provides us with a way back into magical thinking. A way back into understanding our connected-ness. To knowing that we have relationships with plants and animals, not dominion over. That was never meant to be.

And, it's fighting its way to the surface through our culture. And the young people have been powerful and imaginative about it, We started it—we really started bringing

it up in the Sixties, and now, it's surfacing and its saying: "I'm here. Pay attention. Look what I can do for you."

And why? We're really lucky to live upon this incredible planet with all these magical plants. I could say the same thing about the mushrooms. The mushrooms also coming up into our consciousness and providing us with solutions to problems: cures for a lot of our disease, remediation—bioremediation—for the poisons and toxic wastes we have dumped on our soils. They are here. We just need to be conscious enough to use them and support cannabis and love it and care for it.

OUTSIDE, WALKING to the POND



KATE: You can't believe how cold it was out here, Beth Everything is so sad. Things have just fried. I'm amazed my bamboo made it.

Sad as a result of the summer heat?

KATE: The dust, the frost. Things have been stressed in this weather.

How many acres do you have, Kate?

KATE: Five. Perfect size for a small operation. Because you can keep your fingers in it. You never lose sight. . .

AT THE POND

KATE:

The Board of Equalization just started charging us for the water.

The Board of Equalization charges you for catching rainwater in a pond that looks like it has been here for years? How does that work?!!

KATE: I have no idea. They just started sending me a bill: three hundred dollars a year.

For catchments! Have they started charging for rain barrels?



KATE: I've got a grey heron living in here. I love the way we share this land.

The Board of Equalization can charge you for water that comes from the sky because you have a place for it to surface?—where you are providing wildlife habitat?

KATE: Isn't that amazing. But it looks like I have plenty of water. This pond is maybe twenty feet deep.

Did you dig this pond?

KATE: Charles Martin did. He got a grant from the State. We're sitting at the headwaters of the Albion River here. That's why they put in the funky bridge. They did a salmon restoration project. Of course, this year there is no water.

OFFHANDLY AS SHE WALKS

KATE: I've been working away from the farm the last year and a half. Catering. In the Bay Area, primarily.

Oh! really working away from here.

KATE: Exactly. The bills still had to be paid.

But this is your place, now, Kate. Right?

KATE: Finally. . . . I've got my mortgage. But it's so reasonable. *[KATE STOPS TO FIX THE GATE]*. Always something. . . . We should go down and see the goats.

THE GOAT YARD

KATE GREETS THE GOATS WITH SWEET TALK, SNUGGLES THE ONE WITH A SNIFFLY NOSE. **KATE:** Aren't they adorable. When Chuck Hinch rolled his tractor and passed, his family called me and said, "We can't keep the goats. Would you be interested in taking one or all?"

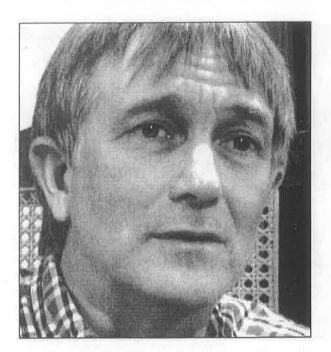
So, I said, "One." And we got little Stella. She was a little bit small, and needed to build up and she's had a couple of years, and now she's going to produce her first babies.

What are you going to do with your goats milk?

KATE: As far as the county is concerned, I have to throw it away. But a lot of young mothers who will be weaning their babies will be calling me *[laughs]*. . And then I'll say, "Oh, here's some nice goats milk to feed your chickens . . ." wink, wink.

Because that's how I have to do it. And unfortunately, until there's a structure in this county where it isn't so expensive to have a little cottage industry, people are going to figure out other ways.





William Courtney, M cannabis, part the sherpa & olive tree

late at night, after a long day's work

To your mind, Bill what is "the mission of the cannabis plant in the web of life"—as you put it to Norman de Vall?

—In a Gaian sense; in the sense of intelligent design that does not necessarily require a designer. As in James Lovelock's Gaian theory regarding the planet Earth: that every thing about the planet—its atmospheres, its seas, all its systems— work towards the sustenance of life itself: as if life is an entity and all the systems work for its continuation. . . .

You said to Norman, "A plant has a whole different relationship with light and energy. How different from us is the plant if we shared genetic information via this virus? Why do plants accumulate protein molecules that are so incredibly specific—it can't be an accident: it's of biochemical cost to that plant. They have to spend energy to build these molecules. Why would they do that? There is definitely a Nobel Peace prize lying there waiting."

My question is: what is the physiological cost to the plant? And, using your language: Why does this plant take the burden of a practically universal medicinal? That's the big question: its place in the whole scheme . . .

DR. BILL COURTNEY: It seems the whole of life is a form of life, itself, a web. The term 'web' has a lot of overlay because of the Internet (Matrix is another concept.) The idea that there are different expressions of the life of the Earth, and some are mammalian, some plant, and some are in-between. Some live independently, like the plants and the animals; some forms live inbetween those life forms, like the viruses, where they are dependent on their host to reproduce, and survive; and in exchange for that host's support, some provide functions. One of which is the movement of DNA between organisms that normally are incapable of interchanging genetic information.

There are RNA viruses, DNA viruses, there are probably protein pieces that have the capacity to move information. For the simplicity, if we stick with the DNA virus, many animals, including humans, have devices called plasmids, which are small loops of DNA. And I doubt it could be a coincidence that the size of that loop is about the size of a genome of virus. And that certain of these viruses, particularly the broad host virus, arecapable (when they leave a host's cell) of packaging not only viral DNA but host DNA

Some proportion (10% sticks in my mind). When viruses leave a host, they perform no function other than the transportation

of hosted DNA to another member of that ho group. A broad host virus may host on ten o fifteen different organisms (that isn't host on 'hosted by'; we have such metaphors built in our language). This is a very specific relation between the cell that supports the virus and virus that conducts the transmediation of ve important genetic information.

On this plasmid, which is this small group about 2000 base pairs (2000 nucleic acids), located very important information for that c Because a plasmid can quickly reproduce its and make many copies, like a high speed st age system. If say, it's a single cell organism: comes into an environment in which there is lot of penicillin; penicillinase (the enzyme /p tein produced by penicillin-resistant bacteria that breaks down penicillin) would be stored a plasmid and then suddenly, in a dangerou environment, that plasmid could be replicate

Suddenly, there could be hundreds of copi of that loop. Next, those could be transcribed RNA and then from RNA to the protein penic nase. At once, the cell could mount a defense a hostile environment, which it previously we not have been able to survive in.

So this plasmid is in a unique position with the cell to house very important information.

It can't be coincidental that the virus is ab pick up that plasmid with that very importar information and move it to other organisms it this way.

The plant cannabis is unique in tha the molecules it chose to consolidate, warehouse and provid is a transmitter molecule that comfrom a system that is at least 600 1000 million years—even a billion years.)

Bacteria are possibly 3 1/2 billion years old the very oldest bit of bacteria. After 2-2 ½ bil

years, it seems that single cell organisms decided that there may be a benefit in collectively operating together, and in order for them to achieve the benefits of that collective life form they needed to communicate.

It seems that the first means of communication was through these little fatty molecules that we call 'endogenous cannabinoids'.

But, it's important to note that these early organisms used this communication system many hundreds of millions of years before cannabis first appeared.

We label them cannabinoids due to the fact that
we found that system
because we used cannabis, and in particular, THC.
Labeled it. Found the initial receptor for THC,
and then, we found there were chemicals in the body
that also were designed to work at that receptor.

Next, we went looking for these molecules in other organisms. One of them was the *hydra*, which we know first appeared six hundred million years ago, which, I believe, is before plants and animals left the ocean. This was when everything was in a waterborne environment.

Given that it, still is alive, it's quite likely there were other organisms which had this communication system before *hydra*, which is why I extended it back from six hundred million, rounding it off at a billion, because "a billion" is an easy number and probably comes close to when organisms first started needing communication.

Human bodies have so many receptor sites for the activity of cannabis. Only recently in modern Western civilization have we recognized the extent to which cannabis could be perceived as a silver bullet medicinal. But, looking at it in terms of the Gaian concept, humanity is a very dangerous collective on Earth; we are a threat to life itself on this planet. Cannabis "fits" us, and in some sense pacifies us both as individuals and as collectives of individuals. Do you think that is its purpose, perhaps?...

BILL: Cannabis has been around for thirty-four million years and we've been around for maybe two or three. I do not think it's here to pacify us from our destructive potentials. I think it is here to optimize our homeostasis and operate in a reduced-harm environment. It's here to optimize lifeforms, and I believe it does that for many, many animal lifeforms. We are just a life form that gained the ability to look back in at ourselves, find these elements, begin to see the relationship, then wonder and speculate about the relationship. Wonder How does this plant, which has incorporated a billion year-old transmitter system that is embedded in all cells of the body do it?

—What helped me was to ask: How can this plant be so effective in so many different ways?

First, I had to discover that every cell had means to connect to the cannabinoids; and then, that their particular function was the identification of disease and a reduction of those states of dis-ease through modulation and the restoration of homeostasis.

So, in my mind, it was refined over millions and millions of years with biological forms before the plant first occurred. There is, I believe, a Nobel Peace Prize in understanding the intimacy of the relationship between plants and animals with these cannabinoids. It really ties life into a single lifeform, in which our very existence is based upon the interaction with the viruses that move information back and forth. The various components of this lifeform carry out different work. Plants that can take light and through the blue/green algae that have been incorporated into an ongoing part of our life, turn that into food that sustains

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other lifeforms that do other things for the Web.

If we can appreciate the intimacy and integration of life, that will hopefully give us cause to consider the whole of the Web, which we are destroying, rather than thinking that we are something apart and can only make such a limited mess that we would be able to clean it up ourselves, as opposed to really shaking the whole web to its core.

We used to speak about 'indicator species' here: If the numbers of northern spotted owl pairs diminish, it is an indication you are wiping out the whole ecosystem with your logging practices. Spotted owls need big trees if their fledglings are to survive. If spotted owls are pushed to extinction, the rodent population in a forest thrives. Hello, bubonic plague. The cannabis plant, it seems to occupy a category at the opposite end of that spectrum of survival.

... I need to develop this thought more. Let me say instead, more simply: It appears special to you, certainly as a me-

dicinal plant.

BILL: There are many plants that bring factors which tie animals and plants together in this whole web of life, stitched by these viruses that take the benefits of one situation and offer them to the whole of Life; which Life can pick and choose if it works for a particular life form.

This particular plant, in having the bodhisattva of communication makes it so special because it is such a primordial communicator, this molecule.

It was the very first, it is entirely embedded; and while there have been more elaborate communication—proteins and vasiculated transmitters with various specific adaptations and advanced neurological systems—all of them seem at their bases (as ontogeny redounds phylogeny) to include as a primordial feedback mechanism this very elegant membrane-synthesized compound, that can on-the-fly address deficiencies and alert to issues of dis-ease.

And if a multi-cellular organism of some component becomes inflamed or in pain or is in some state of dis-ease, it needs to communicate that for the organism as a whole.

And these appear to be the means by which that state of harm is alerted, and when it modulates the organism back to a state of health, it reduces that state of harm to a state of optimal function.

It's the specialness of that class of chemicals that really sets aside the whole system. Because if it had focused on a different element (say the foxglove—some other element which could be very important to the operation of any specific organ; the benefit while very significant isn't nearly as broad as the molecule involved in homeostasis.

But, Bill, how does cannabis know to focus on a particular infirmity, given that it addresses so many infirmities?

BILL: Because it is the molecule of dis-ease. It provides feedback. And feedback generally is information that one cell provides to the adjacent cell. Theoretically it could be a communication about excess sugar; or 'Tm deficient in minerals.' 'Tm deficient in water'. Obviously, a deficiency state or a state of dis-ease is of the highest priority because it portends serious, if not debilitating, issues.

And so, when a cell is in pain or when a cell is inflamed because of mechanical, antibiotic (whatever the cause of the disease is), that distress is communicated to its monitoring systems (if there are cells monitoring it, there are systems that are monitoring it) and at the very least, to its its adjacent neighboring cell that things are 'Not right here in Denmark.'

As the molecule that communicates that provides feedback, it's central. If a cell is perfectly at rest there is no need for feedback. And so, it targets the communication of need, harm; and it escalates towards the more moribund the state of the cell, the more it's attempting to stabilize itself by reaching out to its adjacent cells with a cry for help. . . . That's awfully anthropomorphic but essentially, it's seeking assistance through communication, and these cannabinoids are the messengers that appear.

Do you suppose the Ur plant—the Mother plant, the original cannabis plant—which no doubt changed due to climate change, due to soil types (and most significantly, due to human interventions and selection) presented a distribution of psychogenic THC and the non-psychotropi CBDs et.al. which more matched itself to the human condition. Whereas today, we've encouraged the high THC varieties—the so-called "recreational" strains that aren't as efficient re. joint pains, other ailments.

BILL: If you're harboring some Ur seeds, you need to cu

loose with them. [laughter] . . .



Before human intervention, this was a plant that represented thirty-four millio years worth of field and trial work. And so, it probably had a profile that best addressed the broad range celli lar communication needs of probably a wide variety of animal life. It probably

had a very diverse, but well-represented collection of these different cannabinoids, terpenoids and flavonoids It's so complex that it baffles the mind as to *how* it coul arrive at that particular cocktail in terms of how much

this and how much of that.

But, with thirty-four million years and a lot of feed-back, you can refine the mix. I would believe that the initial plant probably would have evolved a very ideal profile of cannabinoids that were able to address immunologically the needs of the CB2 receptors; able to address the direct enzymatic actions that we are just beginning to discover.

—We're discovering that this enzymatic action is another whole chapter that is unfolding. Previously, we restricted it to (first) CB1; first the cannabinoid-binding receptor 1, and then 2, and now we've got a CB3.

Receptors activated by cannabinoids are highly concentrated in the cerebellum and the basal ganglia, area of the brain responsible for motor control. Which may help explain why marijuana eases muscle spasticity in disorders like multiple sclerosis; the hippocampus (responsible for storage of short-term memory); and the amygdale, which is part of the limbic system (emotiona control, memory of fear, memory of pain.)

These receptors are now known as CB 1 receptors.

The 2nd and non-euphoria inducing cannabinoid receptor is CB2. CB2 was initially detected in spleen cells, white blood cells, and other tissues associated with the immune system.

But it turns out that possibly, some of the most dramatic actions are directly on the protein catalyzed reactions. In particular, acetylcholine esterase, with its ability to increase levels of the acetylcholine transmitter, improves communication and memory, and offsets the condition such as Alzheimer's.

But then, CB2 can also bind the acetylcholine esterase's enzyme in another position and alter its ability to synthesize amyloid plaques. It appears that there are ways by which THC (and a new article implicates CBD) can affect Alzheimer's in a manifold number of ways.

It can reduce the inflammation that drives Alzheimer's; reduce the microglial that result in the immune system packing injured nerve cells: and it can increase the ceb cholinesterase levels that improve memory and function. It now looks like cannabis is altering the formation at these little beta amyloid units by weaving them together into sheets of amyloid protein. It then folds into the amyloid plaque, which very well could be pathologic.

We're still not certain whether it's the cause or a consequence. However, there is definite reason to believe it is central to progressing the conditions. And these direct enzyme actions throw open the field, in terms of an incredibly wide range of actions that we have yet to begin to catalog.

Muse more about yourself as an experiential clinician, that long and reputable tradition of medical discovery... Let's continue to use Alzheimer's as an example. Somebody comes in who has the initial symptoms (maybe advanced symptoms) of Alzheimer's: how are you suggesting, recommending that person uses the plant—which strain, what delivery system—to moderate the progression of the disease?

BILL: There's a phrase in traditional medicine which means the FDA approves a particular drug for a particular action: that's called the "Label" Off-Label is when you use a medication for conditions in which it appears to provide relief, while it has not been indicated as one of its

specific functions.

There are a very wide variety of Off-Label uses for cannabis.

And particularly in Alzheimer's there is so much basic research.

I really hope to galvanize this County into facing the challenge of bringing in a couple of mass spectrometers (or a gas chromatograph) so we can analyze the plants we are growing and use them better.

With the knowledge of what it is we are using, we'll be able to be much more specific in our recommendations. When we see someone benefiting, we'll be able to look at how they're benefiting. My current position is one based more on empirical than sound evidence in terms biochemical analysis of content.

The Hindus used bhang for thousands of years. They rolled up the leaf and they just used a little bit of leaf.

Some four thousand years ago
Krishna was bringing the
Mountain of Immortality;
and where the nectar of
Immortality landed on Earth,
Indica sprang forth.

They have a mythology thousands of years old, which informs them that long life and good health are based is on this plant, *indica*. And their use of *indica* had been with taking little bits of leaf, and rolling it in a ball, and kind of using it as a vitamin pill.

Just eating a little bit of leaf as part of a dietary supplement, the way we would pursue alfalfa or wheat grass or sprouts

Another dietary detail: the interesting thing about eating a very small amount of leaf is that these cannabinoids, fatty molecules, go into the adipose tissue and saturate in four to six weeks. Whether they are all broken down into an inactive metabolite, and that saturates the adipose, or if they *individually* move into the adipose and occupy that adipose; a certain amount of CBD, CBG, CBN, THC, THC-variant, each of these classes are all represented, and saturated.

Then, when you take a little more leaf in, rather than being immediately whisked into the adipose tissue once saturated, the leaf remains in the serum, and you have an operating level.

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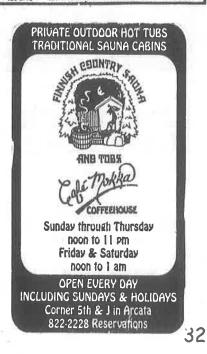
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With a fully saturated storage system, then a little bit of leaf would provide a higher serum level because, it wouldn't be able to be removed quickly.

It is my fervent hope that in that state of saturation you're able to have all of the cannabinoids present and, at a very optimal level.

And conditions in which enzymes are optimized by direct allosteric activity, meaning, you bind a protein and alter it's configuration in a site. That then allows that enzyme to either do something better, or be more active or less active. So you agonize, antagonize: you can change the function by attaching to these proteins that catalyze reactions in the body.

With a fully saturated system, you're going to have THC and CBD; you're going to have these things present. And if that article in *Molecular Therapeutics* from the Scripps Institute is correct (the report showed that THC, at half the of concentration of Aricept® and Cognex®, had a highly superior action bordering on possibly 100% reduction in amyloid plaque formation. This compared to 7% and 22% for the two current pharmaceuticals used in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease.)

You can have optimal levels of THC and CBD, all without moving to a level of intoxication.

You can have all these beneficial communication systems optimized without there being an alteration.

When people are sick we make allowances for them: we don't force them go to work, they lie in bed as long as they are feverish and sneezing. They get to sleep more. We urge them to drink more liquids.—Tender Loving Care. What is the matter with adding intoxication to that mix?

BILL: I don't think it wrong.

Donald Abrams, who did the milestone medical marijuana treatment for the searing pain of peripheral neuropathy with AIDS afflicted patients said it best:

"I don't consider euphoria a bad side effect in someone who is ill."

It's just there are many folks who, with our recreational plant, become dysphoric. It accelerates their heart rate and increases anxiety. They are

seeking certain relief that they will do anything to achieve. Much like, say you believe you have breast cancer and it has been in your family (many relatives have died, some survive) and you're given a choice: "Here's a chemical that may make your hair fall out, but it also may give you another ten, fifteen years of life."

You respond: "Okay, I'll take that side effect in exchange for the benefit of an extended life."

A significant percentage of people want the relief from inflammation and pain, and other benefits of cannabis; they may have enjoyed the euphoria twenty, thirty years ago but now are made uncomfortable and dysphoric by the psychoactivity.

For folks of that nature, it is a side effect they tolerate, but they have to isolate themselves, they have to reduce stimulus; they stay away from people until they come down, and then re-engage with their environment and family.

So, if it is euphoric, then go for it. If it is dysphoric, there are other ways you can benefit.

When you look in the animal kingdom, where researchers were looking at means of maintaining health (not so much convalescing) animals did not want to become intoxicated: it may reduce their chances of survival if they were not able to be alert and move quickly.

There are ways of using the plant where you can sustain an optimal level of operation without any indulgence. And, there may be more spiritual aspects of the plant.

What animals besides primates use cannabis medicinally, naturally? Do you know?

BILL: Many people ask me about veterinary applications.

And it is one of those off label applications, on which I'm not really qualified to speak. I have however, heard stories pretty hard to explain without reverting to a healing model.

Horses with terminal internal organ illnesses who were losing hair and their skin was cracking (others probably would have put them down immediately. Suddenly, despite dire predictions, they grew their hair back and are alive and carrying on well with life. Due to cannabis.

The diagnostic acumen with animals may not be as rigorous. Not as much money is spent studying the cytopathology. Yet there is a lot of

anecdotal evidence . . .

Are these animals who seek or find the plants and start munching? Or have they been dosed with cannabis by their human companion?

BILL: Some of these applications are provided as inadvertent medicine, some as an intentional medicine. The plant, even though it is widespread in Mendocino County, is not readily munchable by most animals. Occasionally rabbits or deer get to it (and people are upset the deer are eating *their* medicine. People go out of their way to protect their plants from being munched on.

Some forms are quite intoxicating, if not dangerous, to small animals. When they eat highly hybridized sources of tetrahydrocanibinol, they get quite intoxicated, stagger and salivate.

How are humans dosing their animal companions? Are they using tinctures? teas? salves?

BILL: Often times by just mixing leaf in with food sources. It would be better if you could find a veterinarian inclined to speak to your question.

People have inquired curiously: They often come to me with a little story, and they put out tentative feelers. They generally have some little vignette that they are curious about, and want to know if there are other vignettes out there. I really should start cataloging them. It appears to be a plant animals, probably in the past when the plant was available, would eat with their graze. They would eat a little grass, eat a little from the plant. Animals seem to have a knowledge of which plant they need for which condition.

How they get that knowledge, how they transmit it . . .

How they know where to find hidden water?...

BILL: How butterflies fly to South America? There are so many things animals are able to do that we barely comprehend.

I imagine very few men in this region do not eventually suffer a sore back. What do you recommend for the various chronic back ailments?

BILL:

A significant percentage of the people come to me with their own treatment modality pretty well worked out.

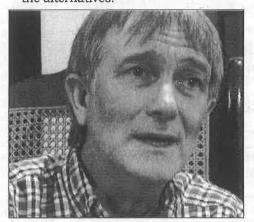
The naïve user is a whole new class for the person who is working in the

area of cannabis.

"Cannabis Approval": the whole terminology is based upon the notion: you have a condition, you find it provides relief, and I am approving of your use for the relief it gives you.

When someone comes in who has not used it before, it is a whole new level of engagement that probably will have ramifications in the medical profession.

Suddenly, you're kicking it up to a "Recommendation", in some sense. The person wants relief, and they've tried other medicines: but it makes them groggy, it causes their stomach to hurt or bleed; if it's steroids they are on, their features have puffed up. They are dissatisfied with the alternatives.



There are applications of cannabis that make some people quite uncomfortable.

I have articles that look at tissue, and animal studies involved with tumors, in which it appears that some of the cannabinoid receptor concentration marks increase.

This results in cells being targeted for the immune system to remove pre-cancerous cells.

There are pretty phenomenal things going on in the way of health maintenance that cause *tremendous* anxiety in other health professionals. And, causes me some anxiety when I get calls and emails from people stating: "You better have an oncologist that will back you up with the Medical Board if you continue this blather."

When people in a position of power—authority—feel they have to protect their own medical premises, they are not shy about doing just that. I really try to restrict myself to hard core science articles.

Sometimes I do extend: I'll say, "You know, it looks like there's been some benefit in this, this, and this area; and by extension, if I had a cancer that maybe has not been

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looked at, at a cell tissue level or in an animal model, I would definitely consider that its general ability to enhance the immur system may be of benefit there as well."

Thus, I move into screening Off-label indications: "If this, if this, if this; therefore, maybe that." - And I try to be very explicit that: "I don't have studies on this, I would certainly do whatever anyone else is recommending; however what I would also consider is a general immune enhancement."

If you're male & your back doesn't hurt you you've led a lazy life

BILL: [laughs] I don't know if you have to go quite that far. With lumber work, fishing urchins, and construction, back pain is very common in this county.

We know that inflammation drives all the illnesses of middle age whether it is the arthritides, coronary vascular disease, or Alz heimer's. Very divergent illnesses are all really aggravated by the inflammatory reaction.

The inflammatory reaction is a life and death reaction.

A foreign body stuck in your finger introduces bacteria, some of which are opportunistic pathogens; and if they get into your bloodstream they become septicemic. If the bacteria grow in you blood, there's a good chance you could be dead in 12, 24, 48 hours. It becomes a very serious condition once you have centrally circulated bacteria.

So the immune system is charged with intercepting the foreign invaders as soon as they break the integument (the skin).

When you have a foreign body stuck in your finger and there bacteria on that foreign body, the immune system is marshaled You've disrupted the mast cells that lie beneath the entire integument of the body. As soon as those cells are disturbed, they de-granulate, or release cytoglobins, which are little protein molecules that go to the nearest blood vessels and open the blood vessels large enough so that cells can extravasate (which means so they can come through the walls of the blood vessels.

Normally, this vessel is a high-pressure vesselthat keeps fluid inside (exchanges some small fluids and gasses) but certainly

does not allow cells to migrate up.

These cytoglobins open up the tissues and neutrophil granulocyte macrophages—killer cells the entire white blood cell armortorium comes out into this area where these mast cells have been de-granulated.

They are there to mark antibodies and attach them to white blood cells. These cytoglobins are there to engulf the white bloo cells, turn them into puss cells, extravasate the foreign body and seal the integument (the skin) back up.

A very, very life and death, powerful reaction.

But, the problem with any powerful system is it's a little on the hair trigger side.

Sometimes, it gets over-gingered, over-zealous and begins to look at a damaged joint and goes: "There's something wrong here. This is a rough surface, it's supposed to be smooth!" and it begins to attack mechanically traumatized joints-theoretically, trying to help, while in fact causing considerable secondary, friendly fire damage. Joints that were initially injured, go from a traumatic joint to a degenerative joint, primarily driven by the inflammatory system

And so, when you have a plant that (some studies say) is twenty times as powerful as aspirin as an anti-inflammatory, and you have some cultures that encourage daily use of a leaf for

that is misfiring.

sustaining the system, saturating the individual. You're able to enjoy middle age and older life—because everyone has these traumatic events.

The real key is, if you can limit it to a trauma rather than go into a ten or twenty year degenerative course that grinds the cartilage away, puts you bone-on-bone, reduces your mobility and enjoyment of life until you are extremely arthritic.

It's most powerful use, in my mind, is as an anti-inflammatory and analgesic.

Analgesic is interesting, but the anti-inflammatory prevents the deterioration and allows healing.

Which is the best way to apply the plant? . . . BILL:

It depends upon the intensity:
if you get muscle spasm, then a high CBD salve
can help by getting very high levels in that area
and help with that muscle spasm.

If there is inflammation, similarly it can help with local inflammation.

So if you have an arthritic joint, if you have an arthritic degenerative back and secondary muscle spasms trying to split that back to reduce movement; you want to treat the inflammation, you want to treat the muscle spasm, you want to treat the pain, and you want to treat the inflammatory reaction that's driving the deterioration.

So you would want to use the leaf to fully saturate.

You would want to make sure you have a sufficient amount of arachidonic acid in your diet—which is an Omega 6 essential fatty acid.

The body can't produce arachidonic acid (no mammal can produce arachidonic acid) and yet the endogenous cannabinoids are all produced from arachidonic acid.

You need to make sure that your own body supplies the basic building blocks, and you take care of vitamin E, vitamin C. You want to make sure that you take care of your arachidonic acid. You need to ingest it and one source said that it is not found widely in the plant kingdom. I haven't heard of the vegetarian source. One person told me, peanuts; then I read elsewhere that it wasn't There is just so much information, trying to sort out which is actually accurate is quite a task. But maybe fish oil could be a source of the arachidonic acid diet. The exact sources are yet to be determined. We do know it's a good thing to make certain it is there.

In preparing for our conversation, I came across Ethan Russo and his fascinating concept of the "Endogenous Cannabinoid Deficiency Syndrome" . . .

BILL: Ethan Russo is a medical doctor, a specialist in neurology. Also, an ethnobotanist. He wrote a book about the medicinal uses of psychotropic herbs. He founded *Journal of Cannabis Therapeutics*. He specializes in child neurology, migraines and chronic pain. . .

Russo spent months in Peru's remote rainforest researching the use of medicinal plants by the Machiguenga tribes. In the interview I read he muses: "Indigenous people have interesting methods of administering psychoactive and medicinal plants. Sometimes they crush leaves or flowers which they drip into their eyes to treat migraine or enhance their hunting prowess."

BILL: I had decided to attend the Cannabis Therapeutics conference last year in a large part as an opportunity to meet Ethan Russo. My primary interest was in the evolution of the plant and how it had acquired such broad efficacy for illnesses suffered by humans. Somewhat set back by the breadth of the question, we sought a pair of comfortable chairs and sat for several hours discussing our mutual respect for the chemistry and physiology that tied us to this plant and its cannabinoids. Why this plant undertook the biochemical obligations of constructing and warehousing the cannabinoids and terpenes and flavonoids that so impact our health and wellness.

And the answer. . .

BILL: I don't know if there is an answer yet. Its more a respect and curiosity for the synergy between plants and animals. I was more obsessed with the viruses in exchanging genetic information between plants and animals in catalyzing the rate of evolution of life.

I'm going to read from a review of Ethan Russo's work—his mindset—which I came across, printed a portion of (somehow neglecting to note the source) and have not been able to re-locate. My apologies to the author . . . It summarizes no less than a paradigm shift!

Clinical Endogenous Cannabinoid Deficiency

"... Russo states his concept of clinical endogenous cannabinoid deficiency as a possible factor in various diseases which are not amenable to existing therapies.

Having earlier postulated that these could include migraine, idiopathic bowel syndrome, and psychiatric conditions such as obsessive-compulsive disorder; he also adds causalgia and allodynia, as in brachial plexus neuropathy and phantom limb pain; post-traumatic stress disorder; bipolar disease; glaucoma.(A report of improved night vision with a CB medicine and CBs' known neuroprotective and antioxidant effects lead him to theorize that CBs may be useful in retinitis pigmentosa and in senile macular degeneration. (Interestingly, the night vision study was sparked by simultaneous ethnobotanical reports of claims by fishermen in Jamaica and Morocco that cannabis improved their night vision.)

Russo mentions claims for CB medicines in neuroprotection and in treating closed head injuries; stroke; amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; Huntington's and Parkinson's (in addition to Alzheimer's diseases); and seizure disorders. He posits they should be studied for use in "slow viral" (or prion) diseases such as Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, a.k.a. bovine spongiform encephalopathy or Mad Cow disease.

He writes that recent psychiatric theories view depression as a "disorder of neuroplasticity"; suggesting that CBs' neuroprotective effects may be beneficial in treatment—4000 years of history would point us in that direction. Russo points to extremely compelling results of reduced spasticity and spasms in MS and spinal cord injury with CBs, which may be useful in other spasmodic disorders, and raises the 19th century idea of synergy between combined CBs and opioids in pain relief, which could lead to reduced opioid dosage and fewer adverse effects.

Russo explores the extension of cannabis research into the "forbidden territories" of obstetrics, gynecology and pediatrics. In women's diseases and in pregnancy and childbirth where cannabis has been employed for millennia. Unexplained fetal wastage, he says, may be another manifestation of CB deficiency.

Finally, although the prospect may be "anathema" to crit-

35

ics, Russo holds out the promise that CBs may be useful in intractable pediatric conditions such as infantile colic, childhood asthma (new delivery methods could offer unique benefits to asthma sufferers) and cystic fibrosis and other failure-to-thrive states.

Already used to relieve nausea in children undergoing chemotherapy as well as in adults, it was recently reported that the CB cannabidiol inhibits glioma cell growth, promoting cell death independently of CB and vanilloid receptor activity. In child psychiatry and neurology, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder is reported anecdotally to respond to cannabis; it is possible that it could benefit children with autism or Asperger's disorder.

Russo concludes by stating that: "when cannabis establishes its efficacy in pediatric diseases, it shall have achieved a fair measure of redemption from the derision it has elicited during the past century."

So the remedy for all the above afflictions is to find a means to add cannabis to the body, is that what all this says?

BILL: That's what I am quite saying.

Central sensitivizations—the epitenia, the cutenias, the fibromyalgias —that may actually be a cannabinoid deficiency.

This whole system requires receptors that are built from protein. These are serpentine proteins that go back and forth through the membrane seven times; they are embedded in the lipid interlayer and they have an aqueous phase outside the cell and an aqueous component that's in the cell; these are locked in the membrane. . .

Water . . .

BILL: Yes. It has the water interstitial and the water in the cell and they are also called G-coupled protein because they use guanine triphosphate, the energy is like ATP but it's GTPTDP (that's guanine triphosphate diphosphate) that changes the structure of these cells that allows either cannabis or the cannabinoid to attach to the outside that changes the inside, that alters the internal environment by sickling; it somehow alters the function of the interior cell. We know that a single amino acid causes a red blood cell to sickle, which may be of benefit with malaria.)

A single acid variation can produce a variation in a protein, the protein shape—which can affect binding, which can affect function. So with this whole system, we will find genetic deficiencies in individuals who have deficiencies in the enzyme that breaks down the cannabinoid, that binds the cannabinoid and anymide synthase, the enzyme that makes the endogenous cannabinoid that cre-

ates from arachidonic acid,

Anandamide, an endrogenous bliss . . . a nice word for certain communities.

Sickle cells. . . B E Smith, a Vietnam veteran, was sent to federal jail for two years, lost his hearing while the lawyers and judges were wrangling over whether the federal government could swoop in and supersede the State's Compassionate Use law. B E was growing an open and declared crop of medical marijuana in Trinity County, not only for his own ailment, but to provide sickle cell patients in Watts, Los Angeles with medicine they could not safely grow themselves. How does it work with sickle cell?

BILL: I have to claim full-blown ignorance . . . However, I know sickle cell causes much pain and I know how cannabis interfaces with pain. In terms of whether it is actually involved in getting the cells through the arteries, or

whether there is anymore conformational change, enzyme binding-I know how it works for pain relief but not whether it has a more central action.

"Crushed leaves or flowers dripped into the eyes to trea migraine or enhance hunting prowess." Let's talk more about 'delivery systems.'

BILL: Besides eating, there are topicals, tinctures, ther are transdermals. It's a fatty molecule that goes through the skin, so there are many ways to get a localized, high concentration, particularly if you have a high THC situation tion where there is some relief without having to have a full-blown serum THC that for some people may not be as easy to accommodate as for other individuals who have tolerance or have a euphoric result rather than a dysphoric result. The topical application allows localize concentrations and convenient access.

Rain leaf? Inner leaf, like the pelt, like the hair closer to the scalp? Which kind of leaf—high on the plant, low on the plant? Which leaf is best to prepare a medicinal? You are a new advocate for leaf—Yea! Finally.

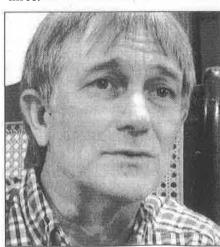
BILL: For the leaf. For the male pollen. For the fertilized seed. For the profile of a plant that is running its full biological course. There are so many things for us to loc at and play with. We must! as a community, encourage this county to lead the way.

Keith Faulder, now a candidate in his own right for District Attorney, has taken Proposition G to the Attor-

ney General.

A blisteringly bold and insightful move that blindsided the community to its own potential.

Here's this community advocating for the right to have three pound.—Well, I know people who need five pound I know people who need twelve. Proposition 215 does no tell us to make it a burden for those who need a bit mor than someone else. So I'm girding my loins to say: "People need more than two pounds, they need more than three."



Keith saw everybody struggling and trying to come up with a number and in his capacity of acting DA he asked: "Is there law to guide us?"

 Rather than reinventing, and all these haggling negotiations, with some people going: "Recriminalize it. Take it back to six plants". We have DAs in Cali-

fornia elsewhere saying: "Six plants! Eight ounces is more than you need—and you should have nothing, but we'll grudgingly give you that because we can't fix the state law. We'll fix it as soon as we can."

There's an incredible vector in play right now that has horrific consequences for this community. And if we fall asleep for a second, and we allow a vote split to occur that results in the wrong action, then we got to lay down in front of the bulldozers again- [laughs] which some of

us galvanize towards, it making us feel good that we are out there slaughtering ourselves on the spears of whomever.

But we can circumvent that fate if we could figure out how to act on the wisdom of the 60% of the people of this County who believe that you should not struggle with having enough to meet your needs and voted for Proposition G. Twenty-five plants or its equivalent in product will take care of just about 100% of the needs of anyone I've yet met.

Proposition G would allow anyone in Mendocino County to grow twenty-five plants for their own use. And "own use" was not defined in the ballot measure, it was left to the sensibilities and common sense of people what they do with their own plants. . . How does Keith Faulder propose to make use of this ballot measure heretofore treated by law enforcement as a Recommendation, only? A message to the Legislative branch.

BILL: There is state law against recreational use, and we're still hung up on what is "nutritional" vs. "recreational". Prop G gives 25 or less plants the lowest priority with regard to law enforcement attention. If we've got so many police that we are spending police time on this, then we need less police. . .

Because, you're speaking to sustenance, Bill. You're not even talking about a nutritional need. You're talking about something the body needs to sustain a human being.

BILL: To prevent Alzheimer's, to prevent diabetic retinopathy, idiopathic bowel syndrome, to treat causalgia, allodynia, conditions such as obsessive-compulsive disorder, phantom limb pain . . .

So Keith sent a letter to the new State Attorney General, Jerry Brown. More or less he said that the people of this County, through Initiative and through vote by a preponderance of a majority have decided that 25 plants and its equivalent in product is what they believe is the guideline.

And, accordingly Senate Bill 420 specifically says that a county can deviate from the state guidelines by adopting pre-existing, or creating guidelines.

In Keith's mind, there is no higher authority than the voting populous. While they did vote the Supervisors and the DA and the Sheriff, those elected officials are not as high as

the sum total of their voice in an Initiative.

It is his belief that Initiative G is the highest law regarding marijuana guidelines in this County. (And if the voters now think twenty-five plants is ludicrous, and they want to go back to six or eight ounces, they can run another Initiative. Right now the Initiative stands at a level that will cause controversy.)

There is what is known as
a "Severability" clause in Prop G
which says: If any part of this
ordinance is illegal,
that part is null and void.
But that does not effect
the remaining parts.

So, Jerry Brown may very well come back and say: "Sorry, you can't have twenty-five plants for recreational or personal use. But! the medicinal does stand,"

It moves medicinal from two, maybe three plants to an amount that will meet the needs of anyone that I've seen in one year of practice.

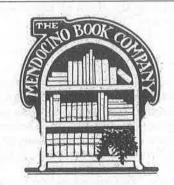
... And, it will raise a whole new level of potential fear and anxiety.

We can work it out....The more marijuana is decriminalized, the fewer the thefts as a consequence. It was a brilliant idea. It shows that Keith Faulder can listen deeply and resolve out of the box.

BILL: People were pounding on him for month; he could see the sides were gearing to butt heads: Less/More/Less/More. He could see this was going to be one hell of a mess.

—As with the voting situation: Should we have a new election that permits new candidates if one of the two candidates chosen in the Primary dies before the General Election? If we have one person running unopposed, is that an election? Is there any choice there? And Keith was able to get not only the Appellate level on a 5-0 decision, and the California Supreme Court to say choice is an important part of an election; but the state is also willing to cover the cost.

I'm heartened to see any route to legitimizing marijuana as an open field agricultural on the ridges. It's so sad to witness another generation of youth in our region criminalized because they have learned how to best tend a plant beneficial—if not necessary—to health. If your twenty-five plants are restricted to medical use, that's a start. Keith's route is one step in the direction of legalizing medical marijuana farms. . .



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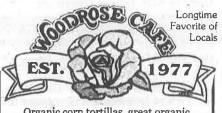


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BILL: This whole Prohibition is unnecessary. Such an extravagant expense: 700,000 people in jail. Extra jail time, millions of dollars, laws, different degrees of prohibition . . .

I'd characterize you as a warrior, taking great risks (not only with your professional life, but also your liberty—you can end up in federal prison; other physicians have in California.) The warrior is one who defends a boundary, takes a stance: "You cannot go any further. Anymore. I'm going to protect this landscape—this plant, the human utilization of this medicine."...
What metaphor would you choose?

BILL: I hate to draw any type of analogies. . . . You know, Einstein's religion was awe. I don't know if 'awestruck' is the word. 'Curious' borders on it. pretty close. But it's much more driven .

I've watched you expend a lot of quiet, persuasive strategic effort. You get involved in political campaigns, the patients movement: not only so patients have access to a medicine that you feel is of enormous value, but also, to some extent, to protect your own curiosity about this plant, to be able to delve into its nature. . . . Is this a more complicated life than you became used to?

BILL: Much more complicated. I had never been involved in politics until I met Tom, and then needed the safety. Keith Faulder has in mind many surprising and wonderful protections, and one of them is Safe Access. There are people in law enforcement who want to snatch every person growing cannabis, and if you are entitled and struggle and fight, Okay, they'll let you go.

The analogy that Keith uses (and it's maybe somewhat flawed in its description) but the dolphin is the one that is entitled to use it and not the tuna, the fish that we're trying to catch to eat. In his mind, rather than just catching all the fish and letting the dolphins go, you protect the dolphins first, and then figure out how to catch the tuna without it endangering the dolphins.

In his mind you protect those entitled to safe access and use, and you don't drag them through the mud and beat them up and cause all these problems because



you are interested in the person who wants to spray Avid over the hillsides causing problems in the environment or shooting at people walking through the woods because they are afraid of loss of revenues. As much as you want to stop that activity, you don't harm the dolphins in your eagerness to act on the command to go after the illegal uses and those harmed by inadvertently getting shot because they are in the wrong place at the wrong time.

There is little violence associated with boutique grapes in Mendocino County, the bastion of organic grapes. If growers could concentrate on growing good, clean, specific medicine, theft and violence would dissipate. People would not use chemicals on their plants because others don't want to buy that kind of bud or grape—or leaf.

BILL: Keith is a wonderful person. We have four weeks to get through to those people who voted for Prop. G. And he's just started a murder trial. . . .

What do you think your influence was on the new sheriff, Tom Allman, who had never smoked nor ingested marijuana?

BILL: Tony Craver says it's never too late.

Tony Craver with his bad back . . .

BILL: We've had a mutual influence on each other.

Tom's brought me to a level of comfort with sheriffs and police that previously I never could have imagined.

He's been open to looking at biochemistry, physiology, histopathology, and the whole area that the vast majority of physicians are too busy, too reluctant, too terrified, too unknown, too fearful of.

And so, with a strength uncommon, Tom was willing to look at things that he had previously discounted, and suddenly say: "Seems like there is an awful lot going on here for the FDA to say there is no medicinal value." —As much as I would like the FDA to have meaningful contributions as a western physician. Their role is to oversee studies and assure that there is some level of non-bias, and valid information coming out. You want them to provide some useful evaluation.

Tod Mikuriya refers to them at the "Fully Discredited Administration" and that seems so much closer to their political agenda than reasonable science

So Tom is a brave person and willing to confront his own areas of less than adequate information and is able to take that and move it forward and tell other people that there is more here than you are discounting. That they're toss ing the baby out of the bathtub along with the bathwater.

There are problems. We're tryin to figure out where the balance is We certainly don't want people ou there killing our kids in the woods. But the solution is not Prohibition. Tom draws the line at his officers being intoxicated. I keep pushing him on the nonintoxicating benefits. Everyone should consider the prophylactic benefits of cannabis: which includes the prevention of diabetic retinopathy that more than seven teen million Americans suffer; which includes reducing the onse of Alzheimer's, which dements millions of Americans.

I think everyone should have access to the preventative powers of cannabis.

How much threat do you feel you are under as an exclusively medical marijuana physician?

BILL: Yes, that's my practice now it's totally exclusive. . . .

[sighs] I know they send professional actors trying to see if I would give someone permission to take care of themselves that in their minds shouldn't have permission to take care of themselves. And . . . [phone rings] I'll tell a story to get us back on track. In 1965, my husband opened a storefront recreation center in an enormous inner-city neighborhood known as Hough where there was not one cityprovided Rec Center. All the recrea tion centers were in the white residential areas. Black kids used street corners to gather, where they were constantly harassed by cruising police.

I was a Mrs. Robinson then. My husband and I were in the Civil Rights
Movement and when he was fired from
his City job, with the help of a group of
black Vets, he rented a storefront down
the street from our house, one that had a
kitchen in the rear; we brought in ping
pong tables, had music going and places
to slouch. Hung art shows, re-framed
black history. And recruited. In Cleveland, where most black adults held jobs
and could be and were (like my husband)
fired for participating in civil rights demonstrations, like SNNC in the South, we
reached out to teenage kids for bodies.

Cleveland schools were segregated by virtue of a city precisely divided into neighborhoods by race and ethnicity. When schools in the black neighborhoods became overcrowded beyond double shifts, elementary school children were bussed to a school in an Italian conclave called Murray Hill. The black students were stoned by residents as they got off the bus. My husband organized a group of men to protect those children.

A boycott followed. Freedom schools. CORE's objective was to get new schools built between the black and ethnic neighborhoods so that integration of the schools could occur naturally.

We were picketing a site, jumping into ditches as they were dug, to halt the construction of a new school deep into a segregated neighborhood. My son is named after a young minister who was crushed to death by a bulldozer. That sparked the first riot, the death of a white man.

This was the time when the integrationist civil rights movement was morphing into the Black Power movement. Afros got higher, ties replaced by dashikis. And our storefront the JFK House, the Jomo Freedom Kenyatta House, was infiltrated by two undercover agents.

One day, I'm painting placards with some of the girls, preparing to go downtown to City Hall to protest the police shooting of a black youth on our street corner—the incident which provoked the second summer of riots. One of the boys comes over to me and whispers indignantly: "Ms. Robinson, no real brother walks in here in a dashiki wearing white socks underneath his sandals. I believe that man is a plant."

Indeed. And plant they did: a box of codeine in the basement, hustled out of the building by the same alert youth just hours before the storefront (as well as our house) was raided. When I was hauled in front of a Grand Jury (a new baby at my breast, a toddler clutching my hem) accused of abetting the Hough riots, there he was, an undercover officer in a plainclothes suit. . . . Do you have those kind of cues and instincts—



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beware! white socks under sandals—as to who is trying to set you up?

BILL: The most challenging thing in my mind is trying to decide, Do they (even though dissimulating and entrapping and intent on disabling me), do they also have a right to their own health?

And so, I make my strongest and most articulated expression of the benefits of this plant in preventing ail-

ment:

I try to find out is there is a family history of Alzheimer's; were there fears of Alzheimer's? What is their family history?—any prostrate cancer in the family? If there was a medicine that reduced the risk of prostrate cancer . . .

I just try to plant seeds, so that at the very least they walk away with things that bother them at night. When you watch a family member die of Alzheimer's it leaves an indelible mark. Or if you have a member die of prostrate cancer, breast cancer.

And so, if I suspect by their story, that they are attempting to paint a picture of someone who wants to be able to say that they were requesting recreational use rather than medicinal, I really try to point out that there could be severe consequences to their being so intentionally oblivious and ignorant to what is Shiva's gift to the world in terms of health.

And, as a physician you are allowed to practice preventative medicine . . .

BILL: Yes. I've actually designed a sign over in Willits for Complementary and Alternative Medicine. I attended Wayne State Medical, where a Hindu woman now heads a Complementary and Alternative Medical department. My daughter just went back to Michigan as a sophomore to spend six months at the high school I went to; there are three thousand kids there as to opposed to 300 at Mendocino High, and thirty percent are black students—it's a whole new world for her.

It turns out that her first hour teacher and I went to high school together and she has all these memories. She was relaying a story to the entire class today (the class is about expository writing)—and she, the teacher, was talking about how I was so upset way back then, about not being able to have hair on my collar and not allowed to have facial hair.

She was painting this picture for the class as an example of expository writing, and my daughter was somewhat horrified that this woman was talking about her father in ways she had not heard before.

Then the teacher wanted to know what her father did today, and my daughter said: "Oh, he practices alternative medicine."

The teacher goes: "Oh! I know what that is." [laughs] So, Alternative Medicine is certainly in an outhouse way out in the back field. But at least it has a name and practitioners. [laughs]

And, in this county it's nice because there is enough crossover; many doctors being so frightened of losing their license—twenty-five years to get a license and the sacrifice—that instead of making the medical marijuana recommendation themselves, they'll say to some patients: "If ibuprofen is tearing up your stomach and you really don't want to bleed to death, there may be another way to get some relief. Try Dr. Courtney."

It's easier in this county than it would be probably many places.

The doctors' fears are not unwarranted. Two female MD who practice in Mendocino County have been forced to a with stressful and expensive Medical Board hearings be cause they recommended medical marijuana in the cour of their practices. How else are you protecting yourself fithat experience.

BILL: I bought an organic chemistry book and a bioch istry book this Saturday night. Most people go to the mies. I scrounged around on Amazon and found books twill educate me on the esoteric occasion of possible lipid I want to understand the chemistry of this plant. And I want to understand it to the best of my ability.

And if they give me enough time, I will educate mysel into a monster [laughs]. . . and look forward to their as ing questions. Because, I believe we have answers. At le we can raise more questions than they can raise; and r more doubts than they can raise. The science is an available.

lanche coming down.

And Big Pharm wants to cut it up and sell it, and reit; they want to take a plant that has 140 active ingredients and sell you 140 separate medicines at fourteen m lion dollars, ignoring the synergetic activity. I plan to fig that tooth and nail. Because though they have a right to profits—and profiteering—individuals have a right to health and relationship. And this is a plant that for a thirty-four million years, evolved a relationship with us and we really deserve the benefits of that.

Some people have hybridized it to 98% THC, which maybe has a value in certain areas. That's the plant tha gets the publicity. I'd like to find the profile of the basic plant. . . . There is a fellow in one of our local communi who lets the males and females grow together, which pr duces seeds and he eats the seeds, and it mitigates the profile. His plants are not nearly as potent and no one wants to steal them because his plants have seeds in it. This person is wise beyond his years.

So he medicates with the seeds? . . .

BILL: Medicates with the plant that produces seeds. It I a whole different profile. It's a little milder. It's still pote He doesn't have neighbors trying to break down his fend and steal his product because it is valuable.

It's like: "Oh my god! you have seeds in your bud; whe wants that?" And so he's foiled so many of the minor issues that plague this community. Of people in danger. He's got consemilla.—"Who wants that? I want sinsemilled.

Consemilla? . . .

BILL: With seed.

Long's Drugstore in Fort Bragg (of all places) has six pact of regionally brewed hemp beer On Sale right across from the cash registers. I was amazed. How mainstreamed.

BILL: And I hear that the Hemp bill that was presented Schwarzenegger last year called for the plant to be so altered as to really not be good, despite the fact that it seemed like the Senate and Assembly agreed that hemp should be able to be grown in California. Aficionados in hemp industry said that there's too many Faustian bargains in that deal.

The hemp the farmers want to farm has so much to of fer. Once we can wrest the political action committees (thave all their own agendas) we could make some kind of peace. It's a wonderful fiber, it's incredibly durable, it makes silks and linens and long-term fabrics.

You practiced psychiatry before you became a medical m juana doc, Bill. Psychiatry has such an unreliable, often

often megalomaniac history. Where do you say: "But I'm not Freud with his unitary theory of the psyche and neurosis. I'm not like the guy who said the only way to correct insanity was to lobotomize. Or the current psychiatrists who get up on a stand and testify the sole cure for teenage ennui is to give them adult depression drugs." The true believer tunnel vision. You're taking risks, Bill, for medicine that does have its silver bullet aspects.

BILL: It is a delicate, delicate walk between censors.

You know, it wasn't until 1992 that the Catholic church finally absolved Galileo. For 400 years, he was in Purgatory because he had the heretical thought that Rome was not the center of the Universe. Psychiatrists (I guess due to the ephemeral nature of what they do) tend to grasp on to some territory and turf I've had the misfortune of trying to calm down. There is this difficult dance between approving what some one says is a benefit to them, and fearing the wrath of emails and phone calls, the threats to "take it higher" made by other psychiatrists. You could go up in flames very quickly.

I know people who have reduced their use of Prozac from 80 mgs to 10 on leaf. That's an awful lot of knowledge to hide in fear.



I'd have a hard time going to some one who was on 80 mg. of Prozac and saying: "Here, try some leaf. It may reduce your dependence upon this medicine."

It's made so much easier to approve someone's knowledgeable foray into an area of Off-Label use.

I don't believe cannabis is a panacea for each and every individual. But I do know that it has tremendous benefit for so many. And the nice thing about "Approving" is that you get to work with people for whom it has only had a positive affect. That's a pretty cushy job.

And yet, if you have someone using cannabis, and they say it is a benefit, and then they tell their psychiatrist that they are using cannabis, you still will have incredibly irate clinicians on your hands saying: "It's not science! It's not medicine! What are your therapeutic levels? Are you drawing blood levels? How are you monitoring this? What about the interactions? -What happens with this? With that? It's bad science."

Anyone can throw up that type of thing, and particularly in the area of psychiatry where every year a new wonder drug comes in and last year's goes out .-- And I must say, they don't seem to throw up those same defenses to each other.

When someone comes along with something they say is amazing—"My ability to have an acceptable life required the ROY BAKER, O.D.



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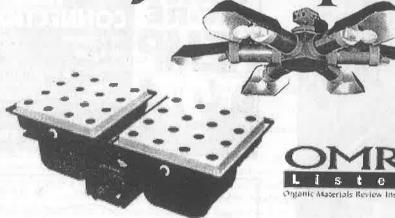
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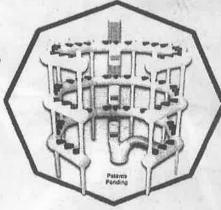
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absolute ultimate dosing of Prozac, and now I can reduce my dependence. I can't get rid of it, but ten milligrams are all that I need."

—That causes very much anxiety and acting out on the part of other professionals who feel very threatened by admissions like: "I can't explain this and certainly it's not constant. And the drug quality varies. Dosing varies. And there's so many variables."

Or if you tell them: "If you fully saturate your adipose tissue with sixty-six cannabinoids, one hundred terpenes and flavonoids, the synergistic effect of all these is such that flavonoids bind serotonin 1A and 2A; one is a direct agonist, one is an antagonist that has direct action on the serotonin receptors. That theory is as powerful as the receptor-uptake theory; and not only that, this person says it helps them."



The new thought is that the placebo effect may very well be mediated by endogenous cannabinoids.

The placebo effect is phenomenally powerful. You go back and research any psychiatric drug, and part of what a psychiatric drug has to do, it

has to test against a placebo. In order for it to be called a "drug" and sold for hundred of thousands of dollars, it has to be as good as a placebo.

And, a lot of these Big Pharm drugs just barely clear acting as a placebo: 5% better, sometimes, not even as good. And more side effects.

Going to see a health care provider you trust attenuates pain, inflammation the minute you walk in the door, sit on the sofa and wait for healing to begin.

BILL: And that very well is mediated by the endogenous cannabinoid system. Because if you are in a self-harm mode, if you intend and are trying to galvanize your psychological and other resources, you're going to be optimizing this system of harm reduction.

The ultimate apogee! . . . Grasping all this is like wending your way through a James Joyce's novel . . .

BILL: I started in family practice during my psychiatric residency. I've always had an interest in general medicine. You can certainly over-specialize yourself into anything, but I've always held quite a curiosity about how common things are common. A lot of dis-ease can be simply addressed . . .

You spell that dis-ease . . .

BILL: Yes. When you look at the cellular function: if ease is homeostasis; dis-ease is being away from that state, and the restoration of returning to an optimal level of stimulation, function, peristalsis—whatever—is the state of comfortable action. One of the most beautiful words for cannabis is that it is a 'modulator'.

It up-regulates, it down-regulates. If it is over-stimulated it down-regulates, if it's under-stimulated it up-regulates bringing a system that is either under or over stimulated to a level of optimal stimulation. It provides either in-

creased stimulation or decreased, depending on what is needed to restore that level of tone.

I really believe a sense of independence is a good thing to sustain. And when I found our place in Elk (which is a whole other, incredible story) as part of our strategy to be self reliant, we were going to plant an olive grove.

Olives are a sign of peace.

For years, the branch of the olive tree indicated a consensus for peace.

And because it took so long for the tree to grow into fruition—and quality fruition—and then last for a thousand years, even in times they would have wars and burn down cities, they would try not to damage or harm the olive groves because they are such an enormous effort and take such an enormous time to replace. That's how it became the sign of peace. I figured, it couldn't hurt to have a little bit of that around.

Plus, Having been a creature of comfort, a source of oil was a primary concern of mine—not to mention that I also love olives, and so to pickle them would be an obvious enterprise. But being able to press something into oil, the olive tree, at one point loomed large in my mind as a multi-functioned tree. And that was when little did I know that cannabis seeds could also be a source of oil that had many uses, and was certainly was more adapted to a foggy environment.

Because of the coastal conditions, it turns out that there is not quite enough heat to set the fruit, but nothing that a little greenhouse couldn't muster if were really in a bind for making your own oils, bottles of fresh olive oil. We have many cultivars on the coast that could be easily be moved inland.

How many different olive trees did you try, hit and miss?

BILL: As many olive choices that were available (there were eight or nine: quite a selection of small ones and dark ones and green ones and red ones) mainly trying to find out which one would grow best in a cool environment. Not knowing that, I figured I'd try one of each to see which ones would best adapt.

So far we get the fruit to set. But it doesn't quite grow all the way out. With the slightest amount of heat, I think we would be there. You really could put it into a greenhouse and go into production. It would probably be just as easy to move up the hill about a half mile to find a climate more conducive.

If you look at history over time, there is the possibility that we will need to be able to maintain ourselves. Most useful is a sense of being able to feed yourself—and that borders on the huge, given the gophers ability to drive the Russians out of here.

You don't decide tomorrow I'm going to grow all my food and do it without a lot bruised knees and rapid retreats to the grocery store.

But, if one wants to make a concession to self-sufficiency, cannabis certainly is a plant that belongs in everyone's garden and some comfort in growing it.

It's a highly superior anti-oxidant, more potent than vitamin E or C. It's got anti-tumor capabilities. It's phenomenal anti-inflammatory capabilities. It has anti-spastic capabilities for muscle spasm. It augments the immune system, decreases autoimmune disorders. It augments tumor detection and elimination in the pre-

cancerous stages. It blocks the formation of amyloid plaques; it addresses the changes in the colon with colitis. It addresses irritable bowl; it addresses sphincter tone problems; peristaltic problems. It deals with all physiological levels of functioning. It's a miraculous plant people should feel comfortable with, and should spare nothing at preserving their right to have access to.

Salves, rubbing oils: What is the best way to carry cannabis to and through the skin? Can you give any guidance as to how to prepare them?

BILL: I've not personally done nor seen closely—though many people give me anecdotal references.

The cold extraction methods seems to be important because of our low CBD.

If we had a high CBD plant then we could use more heat; we could tolerate a loss of the CBD if we were using beeswax when you wanted a firmer, stiffer salve; if you didn't want something soft and runny. But given how little CBD we have in the plants we tend to grow in this county, the cold oils allow a gradual extraction that can move this fat molecule out of the plant and into the oil, and be filtered.

If we could get some of these plants that had 60, 70, 90% CBD, it would be easier to formulate a firmer transdermal patch or a stiffer salve. It's tempting now to use the stiffer fats that require heat to do the extraction. And then you end up with a high THC, which I don't give a lot of lip service to. I see it as a molecule that has a lot of benefits, it's just so out of proportion, I struggle for the underdog.

Benefits specifically for what ailments?

BILL: THC is very good for neuropathic pain; it appears to be good throughout the whole nervous system and nerves are involved in the perception of pain.

It appears that CBD has more activity; but THC does have some; so if you have massive quantities of some activity, you probably have a therapeutic effect that may be comparable, given a higher therapeutic modality, but in lower concentration. There may actually be a wash, in the sense that while THC is not as effective at a particular inflammation, there is so much of it, that even operating at 10%, gives you a net gain.

It's something that needs to be tested empirically. And given that we have so much leaf, if there are ways that it can be useful, might as well go for it because we just don't

have the really high-access CBD.

I'm really curious about the hashish that are made from leaf, because some of them have 30, 40, 60% CBD—a phenomenally high CBD content. If I was going to be making a salve, if you could get to a hash, then you could heat it and move it into a stiffer medium that would allow you to have a harder-working salve. Hashish made from leaf preserve the ratio found in leaf, i.e. CBD>THC.

Mold is an ever-present threat. What is the best way to dry the parts of the plant used for medicine. And, is it possible to safely eliminate mold once it colonizes?

BILL: Some of the molds are very serious. Aspergillus flavus produces aflatoxin, which can cause liver cancer. If I met an aflatoxin on a dark street I wouldn't know him, but surely, this is something we should come to identify quickly, clearly and succinctly. And, should probably have laboratory tested. It would be nice if there was a colored dye we could use.

There are molds that are more benign. My preference is to make sure leaf is very clean, well washed, and then dried quickly in a dehydrator; particularly on the coast where if you try to dry it in the open air it could take weeks and all kinds of molds could grow.

With a dehydrator you are using a little bit of electricity for heat, which facilitates the drying process; a small fan moves the humidity out. The dehydrator should be sterilized to the best of your ability. Molds will build up so clean it well between uses (it doesn't have to be a Pasteur thing) so that you don't seed your plants with mold.

Once the plant is quickly dried, grind it in a coffee grinder. Also keep that clean. If you are really obsessive you probably could try gloves when you package it because you can get the mold on your fingers.

Then refrigerate the capsule. Someone asked me abor freezing it. That would, theoretically, slow the fungus down longer, and the question was: whether or not that would also slow down the degradation of the CBD? Would you be able then to get five months out of capsules, rather than three? All good questions which, hopefully, the Mendocino County Agricultural Department would help us resolve by having equipment that would tell us what the levels are as they taper off. And we could then plot it out.

All kinds of new technician jobs . . .

BILL: Yes. With that one machine we could accrue all kinds of results.

You don't know where the word cannabis comes from?

BILL: Since Norman asked me, I read a short piece in a magazine about its origins. I love the history of words and if you have an origin send it to me. This could have been an article that very well could have been flippant its derivations: it twined the word cannabis to twin state the Twin Dogs. But I'm continually interested in a good solid derivation.

The Hebrews had a word—'geneh bosem', reed of balm In Exodus God commands Moses to make a holy oil of myrrh, cinnamon and geneh bosem (pronounced very much like cannabis) to anoint the Ark of the Covenant (more prosaically: use it as a fragrant furniture polish) and forbade its use for anointment of any other than the priests. There it is: the beginning of the Prohibition at the dawn of patriarchy. . . . And what of your past?

BILL: I was brought up the third of three boys by an industrious couple who had built their own house and raised their own food, including fruits and honey bees and vegetables that were canned and frozen and burie for use throughout the winter.

A sense of self sufficiency that was left over from my parents' exposure to the Great Depression and has left me with a desire to preserve the capacity for self-sufficiency. And in that vein, Shiva's gift of long life an good health is the plant we are in the process of reuning with. There is no other plant that provides such a breadth of sustaining and healing properties as cannabis, which is well adapted to our local environment.

I was a curious kid as a child.

As a child my curiosity would lead me for hours peering through microscopes and drawing those animated cartoons in which microscopic life forms could be captured and replayed as you flipped through the cards.

It's somewhat haunting that life has brought me bat to the *hydra* as the example of one of the oldest living animals with an endogenous cannabinoid system. My fascination with chemistry began when I was ten years old. The interaction of substances, their ability to combine and react; and that evolved through college where biochemistry became the basis for physiology and life. With this recent immersion in the cannabis chemistry, I've gone back to the very basic principles of organic and inorganic chemistry to better understand the beauty and depth of the biochemistry of cannabis.

It seems like so much of my life has been a preparation for today. The curiosity, the love of basic science, whatever it is that allows you to study life and death in medicine and then to bring all of those interests to bear on a mystery: this mystery of cannabis and those it heals and maintains.

In high school I was given an opportunity to create my own educational experience. Was allowed to design a number of subjects (novel topics: the history of rock and roll) in classrooms with no desks, with advanced peer counseling.

I immersed myself in Oriental philosophy, in particular Lao Tzu, a Taoist who lived the celebration of the ephemeral. I became aware that one could take control of one's growth and development. I read every book on Summerhill and self-education and the local Department of Education was gracious enough to provide the resources to create new curriculum. They gave us rooms and teachers and budgets:

And once empowered
with self-education it's not
easily relinquished.
—And nearly resulted in my
termination from medical school
because of my insistence
on including nutrition
as a core concept
in medical education.

I remember studying too hard in medical school. And I would judge the effort expended in developing test questions by the professors; would rate questions according to whether a professor had attempted to craft a challenging question—maybe "tricky" was closer to my criteria. There was a coterie of peers plagued with eidetic memory who were capable of prodigious feats of memory or capable of studying 24 hours a day for days on end, raising not only the bar, but the capacities of those around them.

When you go from medical school to a residency, you've finally moved 45

fully and completely into the hospital. Essentially 24 hours a day, six or seven days a week, you live within the hospital. At the end of medical school at Wayne State University, hair to my waist, beard to my solar plexus, I fled to San Francisco and ended up in ultra-conservative Nob Hill.

To prevent the administrators of the residency from having a panic attack, I shaved all the hair off my head and my face and endured three years in the clutches of a biologic psychiatrist, the department chair, who felt electroshock therapy was a solution.

I chose Grand Rounds that accentuated the conflict between the chairman and myself. Formal presentations on a subject of choice. My first subject was two-tier psychiatry; comparing and contrasting the efforts extended to the wealthy vs. the poor, a gut-wrenching inequality. My second Grand Rounds was on the psychic numbing of the potential of nuclear war.

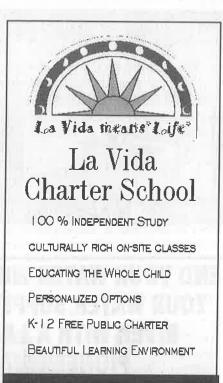
I almost went into surgery. But after performing hundreds of Caesarian sections, and at all hours of the day and night, I became inured and afraid I'd become insensitive; whereas psychiatry lacked the repetitiveness and allowed for any and all activity as grist for the mill.

When I went into private practice, it was as both a family physician and a psychiatrist. The desire to preserve that Depression era self-sufficiency demanded the study of primary care (of bladder infections, earaches, pneumonia); while the curiosity of the unconscious favored the dream work.

Mesmerized by the potential of the interface between consciousness and primary process, my next twenty years was a foray into the role of the hypnogogic and hypnopompic transitions as a problem solving means. Much time has been spent in mining that interface between consciousness and the unconscious.

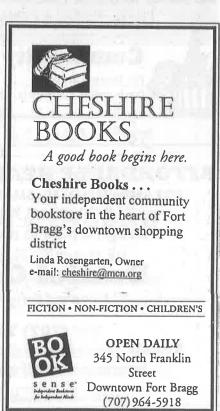
For me, hundreds of inventions have evolved, then precipitated, then patented.

With one foot firmly in wakefulness and the other in the psychosis of primary process (which allows the creative juxtapositioning of the unimaginable with the imagined. As I give way to the process, it accelerates and the night while exhausting (sometimes twenty, thirty times a night) allows the divergent to con-



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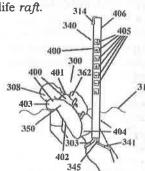
BILL: Two miles off shore from Zouteneau, Mexico, I nearly drowned. Early the next morning I woke from a dream that ended with my mother's go pen falling from my pocket, which is m personal injunction to pick up the pen to transcribe the dream. This dream wa solution to the danger of the previou day: a life raft, small enough and light enough that it would be with you when you needed it. I began sketching. . . And, just this last week twenty-three years later, the injection molds have been ordered from China to make the raft's inflator.

Water safety and survival begins an ends with being able to remove yoursel from the ocean. To create a life raft small enough, light enough, inexpensive enough that it can included within you garment, within your jacket. It was a challenge that took me several decades to figure out.

In the mid-'80s it took three days to hand glue a one-person raft. Now it takes three seconds on a radio frequency welder in China. To reduce the amount of material required to make such a raft, required a mobius-like contortion in which the chamber is firs formed, then the fabric sealed back upon itself to create a whole raft capab of protecting the individual from exposure.

350

Inflating such a raft required a ventu inflator to amplify the volume of gas available from a very small cylinder. The venturi operates off the force of a high pressure jet to create a vacuum that draws in the ambient air that allows a cylinder that provides 35 pounds of lift in a life *jacket* to now provide 300 lbs.o lift in a life *raft*.



The intelligence of the inventive process (because it almost seems like it is more than mine) is speculative, but standing out of its way allows it to unfold. And the simplicity of its solution is proportional to the Eurekal that occurs

as the totality is appreciated. It comes like pearls on a string, and although individually they may seem discrete, there's a synergy that is greater than the sum of the parts.

Some of my inventions are particularly florid: a number of inventions per page, 104 drawing in a single patent application

I went through a number of years
where I would spend most of the night
feeling like the courier, standing out of the way
of the process, coming up with a life jacket
that was edible, for instance:

Rather than carrying 35 pounds of foam, you are carrying 35 pounds of food, and as you eat your life jacket there is a bladder inside of the jacket that allows you to replace the displacement lost as you consume the jacket with a breath of air.

So that rather than having a jacket structured of foam, you have a jacket structured of thousands of calories: energy so essential in a survival situation.

And for those who are willing to think outside a box, your life raft can be inflated with a pillowcase, a simple cloth bag, that traps air against the water surface. As the raft is inflated, the air scoop is converted into a hydrostatic pump. As you stand on the air scoop's handles, you use the water column to compress the air, allowing you to generate 2 ½ psi, which rigidly inflates the raft, conferring optimal structure and performance.

With this design, the entire raft can be constructed from Mylar allowing the raft to be compacted to the size and cost of a deck of cards. I can inflate this raft in the ocean faster than you can on land with a 120 volt pump. The simplicity of a fabric pump is that there is no inflator, no need for compressed gas; it can be compacted to an extremely small size that does not require the maintenance of a traditional life raft.

Then there was what I call the Sherpa, a chimerical device that serves as a traditional life jacket, but can be converted into a buoyant device that can place the wearer into a horizontal open-ocean position, so as they descend a wave face, it allows the distribution of their kinetic energy across a broader cross-sectional area.

This prevents the survivor from being plunged beneath the wave trough, as is common in traditional life jackets.

This same device, however, can be placed beneath the arms and suspends the survivor in a vertical position, allowing maximum freeboard. In this position, a secondary strap can be used to encompass a child or spouse drawing them into a vertical huddle position as recommended by the US Coast Guard.

This same device can be attached end-to-end and encircle two to twenty significant others. Alternatively, the Sherpa can be wrapped about the feet and neck of a single individual

whereby it compresses them into H.E.L.P., which is Coast Guard-ese for Heat Escape Lessening Posture

Further, the Sherpa can be fully inflated and turned into a six-foot signaling device for securing the attention of passing vessels or search and rescue activities. The Sherpa can be packed invisibly, within a pull-over jacket, included as an optional bladder in a foam life jacket, or rolled tightly into a belt pack worn about the waist.

Then there is the PSD, or Personal Survival Device. This

is a single bladder that first mediates a safe water entry as a venturi-inflated life jacket. The volume-amplifying venturi inflator is turned off after the life jacket is filled. After surviving water entry, the life jacket's bladder is removed from its cover and the venturi inflator turned back on to convert the life jacket into a life raft, at which point the venturi is turned off.

A two step ladder is integrated into the bow of the raft allowing the raft to be raised upright into a massive distress signal. Alternatively, the ladder allows easy entry by the injured hypothermic survivor. Once inside the raft, the bow can be closed to reduce exposure. The same venturi inflator can be detached from the life raft and used to operate a piercing air horn to attract the attention of passing vessels. . . . Most of my use of this method of hypnogogic problem solving has to do with water. It has been an evolving solution that becomes evermore simple in conception.





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Kate Clark . summer ending



KATE CLARK: [saaly]. . . I have been spending a lot of time in the City with my friend, Terry Kennedy, who is dying from AIDS. He was here when the Solano County Task Force came in, and for many hours endured being unable to take his medicine, and being brutally interrogated.

Being held at gunpoint on the ground-obviously a frail man-then, hours and hours and hours of questioning. Asked to say there was some connection with heroin, to which he kept saying: "I've never met her daughter. There's no connection. I'm here to get

my medicine."

They kept interrogating him and repeating the same things over and over again—as though he would eventually lie and give them what they wanted.

He was very frightened.

Later, much later, when we talked at great length, Terry disclosed that the loss of his medicine that year was a tremendous blow. And he was forced to go back to the streets, which for someone who is very ill is a difficult process.

After that, his health began to spiral down, and at this point, he has wasting syndrome, he has a rare form of TB, he's been in the hospital for two weeks at the Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco, and they don't expect him to pull out this time.

And I link this directly to the loss of his medicine that year. From then on he suffered tremendously. Emotionally, psychologically, as well as physically, from what had occurred that day.

Where are you in your life, now, Kate?

KATE: I'm farming still. Trying to pull my daughter through her adolescence. My youngest daughter: she's doing quite well after her own problems. It's ironic:

a few weeks back we were both on the radio talking to Sheriff Allman from different telephones during the same show. She didn't know I had called earlier. She called in and said: "Why are we talking about marijuana? Why aren't we talking about methamphetamines?"

Hearing this young voice who had been through methamphetamine abuse asking directly: "What is the reasoning behind continuing to persecute this plant and the patients who use it?"

And I'm not saying I don't agree with going after people who grow 5000 plants. But, I still say, there are too many people in the middle of this discussion who need protection as well. And what right do the Board of Supervisors, do law enforcement, does anyone have to ask: "What is a proper dosage of medicine?"

That's between a patient and her or his physician.

And seriously: why don't they look at pharmaceutical companies? Why are they demonizing cannabis? Pharmaceutical czars are more the drug-pushers in this culture than anybody who uses cannabis for medicinal purposes.

Dr. William Courtney

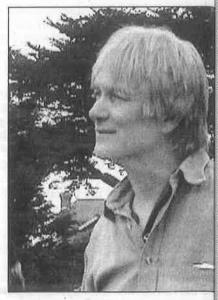
... back from a set of summer symposia

I just came from seeing Peter Leech, wheelchair bound, post-polio; a psychotherapist, who is unable to make it into the office. I went to his home for our first interview.

The home visit is a part of medicine sadly slipping between our fingers which allows an understanding of an individual and their entire environment unavailable in a rigid office setting.

In the comfort of one's home, strengths hard-earned are in evidence. His ability to be comfortable moving about the house, entertaining, was a very welcome disclosure.

Post-polio syndrome is one of those conditions where after one contracts polio, there's a concerted effort to recover various abilities. Then, after decades, there's a relapse because the adaptations are overworked, eventually give way and the losses return. Cannabis, in this particular syndrome provides relief from the muscular strain and the 48 pain from peripheral neuropathy in



the way that doesn't cloud the sen sorium, which is a common side effect of the opiates, or traditional analgesics.

This post-viral condition exempl fies the critical role of the CB2 receptor. This May, in a conference held in Banff, Canada, the entire conference was based on the CB2 receptor. For three days research scientists the world over gathered exchange their findings on the rap idly evolving relationship between the immune system and the endogenous cannabinoid system.

It's quite amazing that we've pre gressed to the point that there cou be an entire conference held on jul one of three cannabinoid receptors

The CB2 receptor is found on th T-cells, B-cells (another one of the white blood cells); on the thymus gland, the spleen, the lymph node tying together the communication between the elements of the immu system. The immune system is one of the highest expressions of physi ology. Its job is to distinguish self from non-self. To distinguish the virus, the bacteria, the wooden sliver from normal tissue and to di tinguish the pre-cancerous tissue from the healthy tissue.

The immune system is delicately balanced between being overreactive (as in the inflammatory condition such as arthritis) and be ing under-reactive in terms of detecting pre-cancerous and cancerous changes. The modulation of th immune system is the purview of the endogenous cannabinoids.

You have to step back from the diverse conditions that are responsive to cannabis by seeing that car nabis is not specific to all the endorgan illnesses, but to the process illness.

Post-polio is an immune condition in which the phytocannabinoids (the stuff from the plant) can enhance the body's endogenous system as it attempts to restore operation. CBD is the ideal cannabinoid to offset the pain for the post-polio victim, and we find ourselves at the juncture of not having the means to analyze cannabis and be more specific in the strain selection. Everyone would benefit if our county would embrace establishing a laboratory to analyze the specific cannabinoid content of the medicine being used.

Earlier in the day, a patient who was contemplating this very situation, told me such a research facility should be established under the combined auspices of county government, a local hospital like Howard Hospital, and possibly located on tribal lands. It's a sad commentary that science has to jump through all these hoops out of fear of the federal government.

In Marijuana and the Cannabinoids by El Sohly, published this year, the specific activities of the cannabinoids were cataloged: CBN is an anticonvulsant; CBG an anti-fungal and an antibiotic; CBD an antispasmotic and antioxidant; CBC is anti-inflammatory. Yet without access to an analytic laboratory, we have no way of knowing which strain to recommend, which local strain is the best source for a particular medical condition.

It's hard to let science guide policy making in terms of plant counts required for health, required for medical necessity without access to the basic analysis of cannabinoid content.

Mendocino is poised to lead this nation in this critical correlation between plant genetics and medical efficacy and specificity. Currently we're thrown to trial and error anecdotal research in which individuals, some with excruciating conditions, select their medicine by trial and error. In addition, care providers are attempting to develop strains specific to medical conditions, and their efforts would be expedited by access to an analytic lab capable of identifying the cannabinoid profiles being created by hybridization. People are also trying to produce strains that produce better salves and better treatment for inflammation, once again, through trial and error, without the guidance of analytic science.

Considerable excitement abounds regarding the recent introduction of a couple of high CBD strains capable of providing significant advantage to 49

those struggling with conditions such as muscle spasm and inflammation recently brought to the county. Without access to a Gas Chromatograph coupled Mass Spectrometer it will be difficult to detail the gains from such exciting strains. In the absence of such a county facility, we'll be forced to trial and error clinical applications.

A month after the CB2 conference, the International Cannabinoid Research Society held its annual symposium in Montreal, Canada. Three to four hundred research scientists gathered to exchange their findings of the last year. One of the most exciting papers presented confirmed that one of the sesquiterpenes (which provide the aromatic qualities to cannabis) in addition, was shown to directly bind to the cannabinoid receptors.

So why is that so significant? In addition to the 66, 20-carbon icosanoids (also known as the cannabinoids); the terpenes, which number around one hundred, also impact cell physiology, through their ability to bind and modulate the cannabinoid receptors embedded in all cell membranes.

This means the neighbors are right?

BILL: What's strange is, the smell of cannabis is identified by some as a problem and by others as neutral or even pleasing. What in the past was seen as an aspect, may now be considered a benefit. We now know that at least one of these aromatic compounds influence the immune system. The future will tell us if other terpenes are equally intriguing and medically effective. The excitement is that there is this whole new class of molecules that are now known to bind to the cannabinoid receptors, and effect changes in the functioning of the cells of the body. It's not just the cannabinoids, we now have the terpenes, also, binding and effecting cell physiology.

Green leaf and a sticky bud

BILL: Let's talk more about green leaf. A patient returned this spring after using the vegetative leaf to control the incredible bladder pain known as interstitial cystitis/ IC. This individual was able to avoid the use of opiate analgesics over the last year because of her daily ingestion of a small amount of green leaf.

On the other side of this country, the wife of a close friend had been presented with a painful dilemma: the pain from her interstitial cystitis was to be dealt with by one of two means: the installation of a markedly toxic chemotherapy to chemically kill the

nerves enervating the bladder, or be placed under general anesthesia and have her bladder dilated until the nerves were mechanically ripped from her bladder.

Rarely have such diametric treatment modalities been suggested based on the restrictions of political climate.

Let me close with an update of diabetes and medical marijuana. Diabetes is one of the major medical conditions effecting Americans

A recent report in *The Journal of AutoImmunity* noted that in a mouse strain genetically predisposed to develop diabetes, for 86% of the individual mice, the use of five milligrams per kilogram per day of cannabidiol resulted in the reduction of diabetes by 60%. The ramifications for mitigating the emotional and financial tragedy of this widespread illness is staggering.

Our county recently affirmed that its citizens were entitled to grow twentyfive plants. Within that right lies the chance to have access to the amount of CBD needed to forestall medical conditions such as diabetes. It's known that plants in this county provide approximately 3.6 grams of CBD per pound of cannabis. For an average size adult, this means that a pound of cannabis would supply approximately ten days worth of CBD. In the year 2000, the selection of 25 plants by citizens who voted for Measure G was a good beginning. But current science clearly shows that 215, the Compassionate Use Act, should not be restricted by numbers.

in the middle of runaway history...

KZYX/Z Community News with Annie Esposito

August 20, 2007

Annie Esposito: The Mendocino County Board of Supervisor's are revising medical marijuana policy, and recently passed a rule that the legal limit of plants will be 25 per patient card. They also included a more controversial equivalency of two pounds of processed marijuana. The Supervisors' Criminal Justice committee, which includes supervisors Michael Delbar and Jim Wattenburger may be next considering restrictions on the number and location of dispensaries in the county. Medical marijuana expert, Dr. William Courtney takes a look at the decisions coming out of the supervisors' chambers.

DR.WILLIAM COURTNEY: . . . If you are a single cycle, outdoor medical



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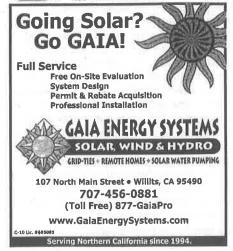
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marijuana grower, if you are only allowed two pounds at the end of the harvest, there is no way that that will supply you with twelve months of cannabidiol, because we know there is only three to four grams in a pound. So, it's something that needs to be addressed. It's kind of been turned into concrete, now that the Board refused to reconsider the decision, despite the fact that it wasn't opened for public debate. And I think the general consensus is that Measure G is pretty clear, in that it says "25 plants or its equivalent". And, if you happen to be on the coast, the equivalence of 25 plants is going to be different than the equivalence if you were living in a hot and dry area. So there is a real wide range. Measure G seems like it would supply protection once you had the money spent in a court situation. But the hope was we could come up with a more reasonable threshold so that we could avoid the whole legal expenditure avenue of trying to explain why two pounds is not sufficient.

So, it is murky. But it is certainly better than in 56 counties, where they only allow you eight ounces. But it is certainly inadequate from a medical perspective, in terms of using the plant for strict medical uses.

Annie Esposito: But 25 plants *is* adequate, but the two pounds isn't.

DR. COURTNEY: Yes, Because the twenty-five plants in many places could produce 25 pounds, 50 pounds, 75 pounds. With there being less than four grams of CBD in a pound, some studies (the one in the Journal of Auto-Immunity recently) showed that you need five milligrams per kilogram. Which means that if you could extract 100% of the CBD, a pound would probably last you ten days! Which means thirty-six pounds a year would be a more sufficient number based on current science, which shows what is required for controlling significant symptoms like diabetes.

Annie Esposito: Just to sum up what you are saying is that there is no connection, whatsoever, in *your* looking at it between twenty-five plants and two pounds. It's just arbitrary numbers..

DR.COURTNEY Yes. It was an arbitrary historical number. And Tom Allman has called me several times afterwards to tell me it was supposed to be an historical footnote in personal conversation with him—that it was more what had been the County rule for a period of time, not really anything based on medical experience or scientifically assessed need.

Annie Esposito: The Criminal Just Committee is next going to be look at dispensaries and doctors. Do yo have some ideas about how Count policies should look around that? Like how many and where?

DR. COURTNEY: It's such a conte tious issue in terms of those who dispensaries as being nothing but "playground of the devil" kind of the versus people who are houseboun elderly, unable to grow for themse and that's their sole connection w something that we now know can vide immense relief from a numbe conditions. And so it really is both some that we are acting as if it we all being used for illicit purposes, rather than to provide what the St says should be affordably and reasonably available. Yet, there are ex treme opinions on the benefits of pensaries, what should be allowed

Let's restrict Ukiah to a single pharmacy and see how far that flie in terms of being an acceptable alt native. The idea that you are going restrict them. A lot of people take ephedrine products and use them making meth; and since pharmaci sell those, should we shut them al down? It's as arcane a concept as that. Just because there are probl that come from pharmacies doesn mean that we eliminate them. The same works for dispensaries: Bec there are misuses and problems doesn't mean you punish everyone everyone for those who may be tak advantage of the spirit of the law.

Annie Esposito: In addition to wa ing to establish some sort of rule for the number of dispensaries and he far they can be from schools, etc; pervisor Delbar also said he wants differentiate between medical practioners who are within the law and those who are just trying to make money from medical marijuana. As he wants to filter those out. What your reaction to that?

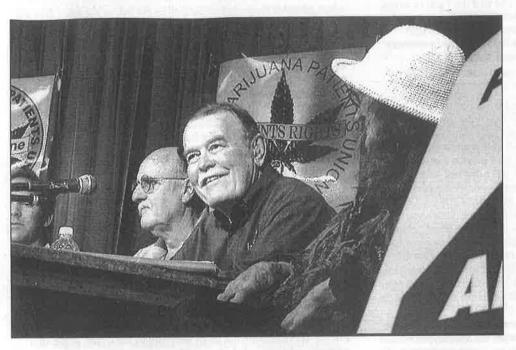
DR. COURTNEY There's a whole Medical Board division which work with physicians that are abusing MediCal, whatever. I'd be curious to how Delbar would be capable of making an independent decision of that, because he has declared himpretty clearly in terms of his understanding of the science, which is a different than those who spend a famount of time studying the science So it's more than a little bit disturing: I don't know who is going to be exercising that authority; and ther already is a body involved in that.

"Anless we put medical freedom into the Constitution, the time will come when medicine will be orgaized into an undercover dictatorship. . . . To restrict the art of heaing to one class . . . and to deny equal privileges to others will constitute the Bastille of medical science.

All such laws are un-American and despotic, and have no place in a Republic. The Constittion . . . should make special privilege for medical freedom as well

as religious freedom.

—Benjamin Rush, physician, Signer of the Declaration of Independence



Harvest & Hide It, Still?

Think Judy Bari without a bullhorn or her staff, instead wearing an iconic hat. Think Tony Serra, his courtroom passion authenticated by an old car held together with duct tape.

Pebbles Trippet, citizen

co-founder of the Medical Marijuana Patients Union & the Mendocino Medical Marijuana Advisory Board

PEBBLES TRIPPET: In November of 1996 marijuana for medical purposes was changed by the voters from a crime to a series of rights—the right to obtain, use, possess and to cultivate with a doctor's authorization, referred to as a Physician's Approval or Recommendation for any condition for which marijuana provides relief. The following year, my own Appeal on transportation and retroactivity was heard, and established the additional "implicit right" to transport.

Rights. The rights the voters estab-



lished are based on the idea of medical freedom, comparable in significance to religious freedom. There is a quote from one of the original signers of the US Constitution, Doctor Benjamin Rush, to the effect that medical freedom should be put in the Constitution as the equivalent of religious freedom, or America would turn into an medical dictatorship.

Quite an amazing idea.

So we have to start with the voters, who declared that they wanted to allow the use of medical marijuana in their state by bona fide, qualified patients. Initiatives are the voice of the people. Once a Measure is adopted it becomes law until another set of voters changes it. But ever since Proposition 215 passed, most case law in the state has agreed with expanding the rights of qualified patients. Starting with the highest state authority, the California Supreme Court, which declared in the Mower decision that people who use marijuana for medical purposes are "no more criminal than" those who use prescription medi-

The voters are the number one precipitating factor for new legislation. The Initiative process is the highest form of democracy. It allows the people to go around the courts, around the politicians and around the special interests directly to the voters.

The voters in the past had just never been asked their opinion: And when we were, we erased the crime. The paradigm shift

The paradigm shift of the century.

—And, the courts are doing very well right now. In fact, they are leading the way in the 2005 *Urziceanu* case towards legalization in the future.

Urziceanu was an unanimous interpretation of Senate Bill 420, and that bill's most important clause: "collective, cooperative cultivation projects."

Bundle Prop 215 and Senate bill 420 for me: how together they have changed marijuana for medical purposes from a crime to a series of rights.

PEBBLES: Prop 215 first established the basic right to medical use, possession and cultivation. (Valerie Corral of Santa Cruz WAMM, pressured the drafting committee to add cultivation or her group would not support the Initiative.) Senate bill 420 enhances the rights in Prop 215 to include transportation, which my Appeals Court case *People versus Trippet* had made an implicit right; the language wasn't in the original Initiative.

The point of the Trippet case was that you had the right to carry with you the medicine you can otherwise legally possess.

The case also allows for the principle of Retroactivity, which means that you should not have been punished yesterday for something that is legal today.

Establishing case law is an enormous accomplishment. When did it all begin? When were you were arrested?

PEBBLES: 1990, '92, '94, '96, '98... [laughs] in five different counties. In 1990 I was arrested in Sonoma County carrying three pounds of leaf in my car. It was for my own personal use, a six month supply, and given to me as a harvest gift. It was as a result of that arrest and conviction that I learned how to take a case through the state process and all the way to the US Supreme Court on a Constitutional issue that had never been raised, which was: Is it unconstitutionally cruel to punish a medical act?

I lost through the State courts, and then I went directly to the US Supreme Court on a Cert petition (that's short for *Certiori*) which you can do if you have a Constitutional question that has never been asked before.

The Court read my petition, but did not agree to review my constitutional challenge. But National NORML had gotten interested (the first time they expressed interest in a constitutional challenge of the marijuana laws for lack of medical access that I know of) and said they would represent me if the Court took the case. I was handing them a finished product, with all the arguments detailed.

Raich v. Gonzalez did not raise constitutional questions other than the Commerce Clause and States' Right. I had asked the attorneys to include constitutional questions such as Equal Protection, Unreasonable Searches and Seizures of medicine, Cruel Punishment, and

extending a woman's right to choose abortion to medicines and medical treatments other than surgery by adding Roe v. Wade as a precedent case.

(Raich should have presented a comprehensive list of constitutional violations, rather banking on the Commerce Clause alone, even though we should have won on that basis.) Anyway, the Court declined to consider my Cert Petition in 1992, but I learned how to work the process. And I learned how to lose and the importance of losing at the lower, trial court levels.

It's a good thing to lose, in the end. Because then you have the capacity to win higher for everyone. Not just for yourself.

If you win in the lower court you win for yourself, only. There is no precedent value for anyone else—including yourself. You can get busted the next day, and your Acquittal at trial would not apply to the new case—except as a spiritual precedent of sorts.

Like Eddy Lepp: the first Prop 215 defendant in the State was acquitted at trial and considered it some protection for himself in the future. But it wasn't. Certainly not against the feds.

Tell me more about the journey, Pebbles: you were arrested how many times in this pursuit for change . . .

PEBBLES: Ten times in eleven years. And always because I was carrying a quantity of leaf, with no commercial value; but value for my own personal medical use. Even though the law hadn't changed, it was my chosen migraine medicine. Already, there was ample evidence that the prescription medicines for migraine such as Inderal had dangerous side effects. (In fact, Hank Gathers, a famous basketball player had dropped

dead on the basketball court as a result of withdrawal from his daily Inderal.)

My bad luck stemmed from having a habit of driving at night, and especially after midnight, when law enforcement is looking for drunks. I refer to it as the "lush hour and I got caught in that net. I don't drink alcohol so it wasn't in my consciousness that police would be more likely to stop people between midnight and 2 am.

I did my time, which was County jail in each case, rather than prison. Six months in Marin, eight months in Sonoma and six months in Contra Costa, where I eventually won on Appeal—even though I had already served the time—and won a right to a new trial.

This is beginning to sound like Rosa Parks . . . or the Freedom Rides. Or Gandhi, how many times he was arrested before the Salt March, which gathered thousands of Indians on the way to the sea. I love the thought of a liberation movement that pivoted on salt. . . salt, humble like hemp.

PEBBLES: I so much respected Rosa Parks. I was influenced by her when I was a teenager and became part of a team that integrated the Tulsa, Oklahoma lunch rooms in 1960. I learned from Rosa Parks that if you keep at something long enough, you will eventually get there. One of the times I was incarcerated, I organized a play reenacting the Montgomery, Alabama Bus Boycott . . . [laughs] I played the bus driver who tried to throw Rosa Parks off the bus.

How was SB420 expanded by the Urziceanu case?

PEBBLES: It was expanded by 'Sales and Distribution' of marijuana for medical purposes, 'Maintaining and Managing a Warehouse' for these same purposes; as well as avoiding Nuisance charges. . . As I see it now, the Senate adopted the ruling in People v Trippet (1997) ignoring People v. Wright, the case law in another jurisdiction, which did not allow any transportation as legitimate. The Senate could have adopted the other decision, which was on a par with my case. But they didn't. They adopted the Trippet precedent, and it was incorporated into SB 420 language.

It often takes an unknown person who believes in the issue to endure the journey, the complications of ignorance and the injustice in the System.

Pro Per defendants are not taken seriously by the Court, or the attorneys you are seeking help from without money. Most people go to jail for lack of a good lawyer, and so I did too.

The importance of my precedent is that a huge number of cases involve transportation, which is simply possession in motion, for patients carrying medicine for their own use.

Still, by volume alone, patients risked victimization by the CHP, which only recently caved in, due to a lawsuit brought by two women, patients of a Mendocino County medical cannabis specialist, Dr. Richard White. We can talk about him later.

Who is Urziceanu?

PEBBLES: Michael Urziceanu (pronounced Ur-zi-see-on-oo) was a qualified patient (and former corrections officer) and a proprietor of FloraCare, a dispensary near Sacramento in Citrus Heights. He and his partner, enlisted several hundred medical cannabis users in what they defined as a cooperative. Urziceanu and the staff grew cannabis and bought pounds from growers cultivating in other counties to meet members' demand. The members reimbursed FloraCare by making "suggested donations."

FloraCare was first raided in September, 2001. It reopened and was raided again. A jury trial in a Sacramento Superior Court in the Fall of 2003 resulted in acquittal for Urziceanu on marijuana cultivation and sales charges, but conviction for conspiracy to sell. He received a three-year sentence. The Appeals Court reversed that conviction and remanded for a new trial on improper jury instructions on Conspiracy and Mistake of Law.

What the Appeals Court said was that FloraCare was transforming their operation into a genuine coop; and Senate Bill 420 instructs that

"collective, cooperative cultivation projects are exempt from criminal penalties."

The court decided that although FloraCare wasn't registered as a legal coop, it was cooperatively organized and self-identified as such; and that protected them under the Appellate Court's interpretation of Senate Bill 420, in which distribution and sales were made legal.

SB420 allows for compensation for expenses, provision of medicine and related services, including reasonable salaries.

The *Urziceanu* interpretation of SB420 only prevails as law, right now, in the 3rd District. It's *controlling* in the 3rd District. In every other district lawyers refer to it as "persuasive, but not controlling." (That was Mendocino County DA Norm Vroman's line.) Regardless, any other district in the state could adopt that logic, and apply *Urziceanu* protections to a distribution or a sales case.

Urziceanu is important because it shows the thinking of the future. It was an unanimous decision of a conservative Appeals Court..

You don't have to be a collective, or a cooperative if you are simply organized collectively or cooperatively—and can convince a court of your legitimacy.

Based on the *Urziceanu* precedent, you should be considered legal.

The court laid out a detailed legal alternative to the club model of medical access, based on "collective cooperative cultivation projects" rather than individual profit. SB420 provides no definition of "collective" or "cooperative", but legal cooperatives have financial disclosure requirements and collectives do not.

In addition, the *Urziceanu* ruling protects caregivers as follows: If the primary caregiver is providing for more than one patient there is no limit to the number of patients a caregiver may provide for. The number of doctor approvals has to be sufficient to authorize the quantity being grown or otherwise provided.

Shortly after the *Urziceanu* Appellate decision in September of 2005, MendoHealing in Fort Bragg was raided. Nobody here knew about the *Urziceanu* ruling, and did not for many months. We only later came to realize what an extraordinary, principled, future-oriented ruling it actually was.

We have been in criminality, under conditions of Prohibition so long that many of us don't know how to do it legitimately.

Don't know how to take care to walk properly, to keep our paperwork updated and on our person at all times, especially if we are transporting.

In this issue of New Settler, Kate Clark tells a poignant and cruel story of attempting (as a biodynamic farmer) to help a handful of AIDS patients grow their own medicine on land she owned and lived upon. The Urziceanu interpretation must include the so very compassionate way Kate was involved in the cultivation and preparation of medical marijuana with and for others... collectively. When the raid came she was sautéing vegetables in a cannabis butter for one of the patients from the City.

PEBBLES: And consciously collectively. Don't let one person decide everything. It means you should be accountable financially to one another, and you should know what each other are doing. The division of labor shouldn't be carried out in isolation. Different skills are needed for different parts of the medicine-providing process.

—What if you are de-leafing the wrong way and thus leaving a source of mold in the future? What if you don't know what mold looks like, exactly, and are not experienced in how to save the whole plant? The mold is a stem disease and goes right up or down the stem rapidly if you don't remove it.

And if you are collectively and cooperatively organized, you're sharing the abundance—by definition. (That's why a lot of people resist it.) And you're sharing the risk. So that if one person is in jail, another one might be able to come through with some bail. Or supply support if you end up in jail for weeks or months, like many of us have.

And these are not mistakes.

These are simply law enforcement playing itself out as we exit Prohibition.

Law enforcement is primarily driven by complaints.

And so it's a good idea to know your neighbors, get along with them, keep the traffic down. It seems to me we have to be patient, and let this *Urziceanu* decision guide us toward the future. Let us not give up on the courts, because right now in California they are on our side. The *Mower* decision is a good example. That Court said: People who use marijuana for medical purposes are "no more criminal than" (or exactly equal to) people who use prescription medicines.

We couldn't have hoped for better. Equal treatment, of course, is the principle. It's an equalitarian principle: all medicines should be treated equally. You should be able to carry with you medicine you can legally possess, like Vicadin, Prozac— any other medicine. The Court decided in favor of patients' rights, based on the principle of Due Process, just as Roe v Wade was decided on that basis.

Senate Bill 420 put the determination of guidelines for each county into the hands of the Board of Supervisors. (The Compassionate Care Act (Prop 215) as much a philosophy of care as anything, with too scant a set of rules for the Legislature) . . . As an act of caprice by a brand new chair of the Board, the preliminary steps towards establishing guidelines re cultivation numbers, distribution sites, etc. were handed to the Criminal Justice Committee, composed of the two members of the Board who are openly hostile to marijuana. Michael Delbar and Jim Wattenburger—who themselves couldn't agree on plant numbers.

After months of Criminal Justice Committee hearings the full Board met on August 7th ending with a Resolution that allows the cultivation of 25 mature female plants and the possession of two pounds of processed medical marijuana. . . . Let's ruminate on that hearing: what happened, what did not happen. The pertinent personalities involved. The big disconnect. How single-cycle solar growers—the outdoor growers who have but one harvest each year— are affected.

PEBBLES:

Let's start with the misconception:
Senate Bill 420 puts the decision over guidelines,
if they are greater than the State's in the hands of counties and cities,
not necessarily in the hands of the Supervisors.

Usually, the Supervisors are the traditional legislators. However, in Mendocino County, the question went to the voters, the other legislators. The Supervisors have a rival: the voters. Voters actually supersede the Supervisors in terms of authority. The question went to the voters as Measure G. Prior to the passage of SB420, but after Prop 215.

So, Senate Bill 420 enacted in 2004 put that decision of guidelines into the hands of each county. For three years, the Mendocino County Supervisors absented themselves from any decision, leaving it up to law enforcement to create the guidelines for the County, as they had all along since Prop 215 passed in 1996. Only law enforcement—The Sheriff and DA—were doing anything in Mendocino County about implementing Prop 215. The Sheriff and the DA had a partnership and they came up with the first county-wide medical marijuana ID program in the State. Tony Craver and Norm Vroman truly created the precursor guidelines of Senate Bill 420.

And then we came along, the Medical Marijuana Patients' Union in 2000, and started influencing the Sheriff and DA. There was a plant limit we couldn't live with. Six plants. "We're concerned about *your* credibility," we said to Tony, and at patients' urging the guidelines went from six plants to twenty-five. That decision was not based on Measure G, and it was made in 2002, before SB420 gave counties the legal right to decide.

Measure G was more or less disavowed as "advisory" by both DA Vroman and Tony, and having no authority. And, it didn't

The voters took the power before they had it.

PEBBLES:

In 2004, Norm Vroman's guidelines changed from plant numbers to canopy footage—100 square foot of canopy, plus two pounds processed marijuana.

Deputies had been arresting innocent people by counting little clones as plants.

The COMMET commander, Rusty Noe, even had a label for it: "clone-plants'. This was in violation of the definition in SB420, of medical mari-

juana as "mature, flowering female plants."

I was not involved in the wording of the Measure G Initiative that received voter approval in 2000. It was the local Green Party's Initiative. Essentially what Measure G was saying was: Nobody has come up with proper guidelines. The sheriff and the DA, at least, have made a start. But their allowances are inadequate for our community. Our community's guidelines are more "expansive."

Hence, "twenty-five plants or the equivalent." The heart of the Measure.

Measure G had two fundamental components: one was based on removing COMMET's authority over small personal use marijuana gardens-personal use of all kinds; and the other was a "medical purposes" component that could be separated out.

Just a few people were involved in the basic work: Richard Johnson, Dan Hamburg, Maria Brooks. Popular support spread through the local communities like wild fire. (I just learned from Dan Hamburg that the campaign received \$15,000 from George Soros of Open Society, and George Zimmerman, the owner of Men's Warehouse. The Measure G folks spent the money on advertising on the backs of buses. The message was something like: "25 plants. Go for it!" And then, of course, there was a primal upheaval against the advertising of political messages on the back of countyowned buses, and advertisements of a political nature were banned.)

But the moral of the story is:

It doesn't take a huge number of people. Just the savviest.

Measure G was approved by 58.5% of Mendocino County voters, because the community genuinely understood, from its own growing experiences, that twenty-five plants is a very good guideline. There was room for flexibility. You had room to make mistakes, to lose portions of a crop.

Measure G allows how much processed marijuana?

PEBBLES: The Measure says—and repeats in three sections-twenty-five adult (mature) flowering female plants or the equivalent in dried marijuana." In other words, whatever is processed from the plants into useful medicine is the equivalent!

The "equivalent" part is the stumper.

And the Supervisors gave no real thought to that when they permitted 25 plants. The whole two hours of public input had to do with cultivation numbers. The two pound possession limit of processed medical marijuana was tacked on at the very end without any input from the public. None!

Twenty five plants was selected as the guiding plant count by the Supervisors after endorsements from three Supervisors, County Counsel, the new DA and the new Sheriff himself as to how Measure G should be the primary inspiration of a new regulation.

And then! everyone with any say-so after the public discussion was cut off forgot the very principle they had advocated when the 54

issue of a Possession guideline came up in the last two minutes and they hastily adopted a two pound limit (the status quo) without even considering what would be the equivalent of the 25 mature, flowering females they had just permitted because of Measure G.

Let's review how Board chair Kendall Smith handed over a Motion made by Supervisor David Colfax encompassing the 25 plant limit to County Counsel Jeanine Nadel, and directed her to "turn this into law"...

PEBBLES: The Board had turned over to the two most eager Supervisors, without regard to their cultural biases, the task of coming up with Medical Marijuana guidelines the Board as a whole would adopt. Or not.

And Delbar, whose main concern with marijuana is its "polluting effect" on the community, had come up with a recommendation, forwarded to the Board, of six plants-the State minimum.



Supervisor Wattenburger, in writing had recommended twelve plants (perhaps as a compromise, because 25 was the patients' recommendation, but also because he'd had a conversation with Sheriff Tom Allman at some point, who told him that ten or twelve plants was approximately the number that fit within 100 square feet.)

That was his written Recommendation to the Board as chair of the Criminal Justice subcommittee.



But, by the time of the full-Board hearing, Wattenburger had changed his mind. Wattenburger was back from a month-long vacation in Canada, where (he said) someone handed him a reprint of a Canadian study that used the equivalent of six plants to manage patient pain for a year, and showed an over-all average of improvement. This one piece of research, plus the one friend of a medical marijuana patient

he always quotes, convinced him six plants were enough. He threw in with Delbar.

These two members of the Criminal Justice sub-committee . . .

PEBBLES: An inappropriate designation to begin with, because the voters have already changed the use of marijuana for medical purposes from a crime to a right. The matter should have been placed (and we later requested) in Government Operations.

Or, Public Health and Safety. Because, 215 was part of the Health and Safety code!

PEBBLES: Anything but what the Board did. They just tossed it to the two Prohibitionists. And it's hard to say whether that was just cluelessness or consciously an attempt to undermine patients rights. But as a result, two hours had to be spent on convincing a Board majority that twenty-five plants was the legitimate

I'd say close to one hundred people attended the hearing, most of us pro-G advocates. That turnout was necessary because the two Supervisors, Delbar and Wattenburger, who presented the Criminal Justice Committee Resolutions had gone through months of devising various restrictions.

And at no time would this two-man committee meet with the Mendocino Medical Marijuana Advisory Board officially, as a policy advisory group. Nor would County Counsel.

Instead they spent all that time that could have been devoted to collaborative conversations (a real consensus to bring to the whole Board) focused on proposals like the onegrow-cycle limit per year-which would force people underground, or wipe out indoor growing, which typically has three to four cycles a year. Another proposal was a requirement that recommendations by doctors would have to be renewed each year. Consistently, they were trying to tell the doctors how to practice medicine without being medical professionals themselves.

The Criminal Justice Committee began its hearings in February, immediately attempting to roll Mendocino County guidelines back to the six plant limit-before Measure G was codified April 17, 2007. Meaning that the twenty-five plants would become County law while they are simultaneously trying to institute a six plant limit. I don't know if these two men even knew that the codification of Measure G was imminent. Or cared.

Explain what that means, Codification. How did that change what Measure G was? Its standing?

PEBBLES: There are three steps in the process of an Initiative becoming law. First the voters pass it; then the Supervisors codify it; followed by the Supervisors ratifying it

According to Marsha Wharff, the Clerk of Elections, an Initiative becomes law the moment it passes. But there is a process you have to go through in order for the County to recognize it as law. Measure G sat on the shelf ignored by the Supervisors for seven years. This is why Jeanine Nadel, when finally asked, told the Supervisors, "You have to contend with Measure G."

Measure G is now MCC9.36 and placed in the County Code book as of April 17^{th. (} and, I would add, is reprinted in full on the County website).

So, relate how we got from the Criminal Justice Committee's six plants to twenty-five plants that afternoon.

PEBBLES: One of the people who spoke was former interim DA, Keith Faulder, who addressed the Board on behalf of the Mendocino Medical Marijuana Advisory Board (MMMAB). Keith handed the Board of Supervisors a folder that explained how the law would break down in terms of cultivation and possession if we were to apply Measure G: the twenty-five plants or the equivalent. He formally presented the idea of the third option, Measure G, with a five page "brief" containing all of the other relevant law.

The third option was presented to the board by a former interim District Attorney. . . .

PEBBLES: . . . who had been defeated by Meredith Lintott, who disagreed with Faulder's support of the 25 plant limit during the campaign, but spoke in favor of it, in turn, after Keith. (And after another attorney from her office, Deputy DA Matt Finnegan rallied for a six plant limit). She said she wanted her office to be consistent with Sheriff Allman

And then, Sheriff Allman spoke for the twenty-five plants.



Tom Allman has been the most authoritative and consistent voice in support of twenty-five plants as the law.

That morning at a press conference, Tom exhibited his first batches of 25 zip-tag-per-patient tracking devices.

He too, referred to Measure G. He was looking for consistency with his zip-tag program. It's the law, Beth. That's all that matters in he end. It doesn't matter what the Prohibitionst viewpoint is for the moment

I remember at the first meeting of the Criminal Justice Committee, Sheba Love from Albion said: "We are not a six-plant county": a succinct explanation of the problem. "Pervisor David Colfax from the 5th District then made a Motion . . .

PEBBLES: Made the motion to adopt the twenty-five mature, flowering, female plants in Measure G as the cultivation standard for the County. It was seconded by John Pinches . . .

But before the vote could be called, Supervisor Kendall Smith from the 4th District turned to County Counsel and started discoursing about a two pound limit on processed plant material.



PEBBLES: She asked: "Do we want a limit on possession? Don't we want to give law enforcement something to wrap themselves around. Give them a handle."

It was towards the end of the allotted time for this timed item, and absolutely no discussion on what could be possessed after harvest had occurred. Because the public input had been limited—both by the sub-committee chair, Wattenburger and by Kendall Smith—to plant numbers. They each said it more than once.

PEBBLES: This is true. The discussion was limited in the early stages of the timed hearing by Kendall Smith. Kendall said: "We are talking here about one guideline—on the plant count. It is the only issue before us."

So, we thought: All right. You can set those rules. We'll just talk about the equivalency issue next time. We felt that if their decision was to bifurcate the issues it was logical to focus on the plant count to start with and figure out the equivalency later.

—Actually, MMMAB preferred doing it in two stages. Because that way we could get the DEA Field Yield study out at the next hearing.



What is the DEA Field Yield study?

PEBBLES: The University of Mississippi grows for the federal government. And although we object to their politics, we found that their canopy research numbers are accurate. Agricultural yield—vegetables and

herbs—is usually determined by canopy not plant numbers: you can have a little scrawny plant and a huge blossoming plant, and they should not be considered the same because they don't yield the same. The Mississippi study showed that a 100 square foot plant canopy will yield 3.1 pounds.

One of the gardeners connected with Sonoma Alliance for Medical Marijuana decided: "I think I'll see how that works out." He replicated the field yield study, and came up with 3.1 lbs of bud... per person for every 100 square foot of canopy.

It was remarkably identical We wanted an opportunity to bring in front of all the Supervisors the results of those government studies. The DEA had suppressed the study for nine years and when it came out, they were scrambling to defeat their own persuasive argument.

We would have brought in this kind of evidence. As well as a multiplicity of people with different views, including some who don't think there should be any number on the guidelines for the equivalency of twenty-five plants, because it varies so much from grow to grow.

Instead what happened: it was getting close to the end of the two hours allotted . . .

PEBBLES: The last two minutes . . .

... When suddenly, a two pound limit on dried marijuana (and who knows how many parts of the plant that applies to) was attached to Supervisor Colfax's motion.



PEBBLES: He was asked by County Counsel Jeanine Nadel: "Supervisor Colfax, would you like to have a Resolution on this as opposed to just a Motion? A Resolution would be more formal."

In short order Allman was asked to make the decision on possession. What he offered them was the County's current policy—two pounds. But, he left it up to them to set a limit. He repeated what he's been saying all along: "I don't make law; I enforce it."

Allman now talks about the two pounds as the "historical number"; that he never meant to guide the Supervisors, but was asking for guidance from them.

PEBBLES: He said: "Whatever you all go with I'll accept."

He reported the number of pounds (two) of processed medical marijuana arbitrarily chosen by Norm Vroman as chief law en-

forcement officer of the County, at a time when no one else in State government was willing to come up with any guideline.

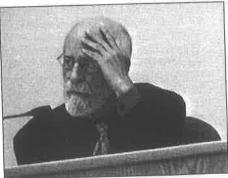
We (again meaning the MMMAB) had not recently discussed the Equivalency issue with Tom; it was our understanding it had been taken off that day's agenda, and Tom was so fully focused on his zip-tag program, which he was having difficulty launching.

Measure G itself says nothing about equivalency in terms of ironclad weights, merely that: "That the District Attorney shall not seize any property in any single case involving 25 or fewer adult flowering female marijuana plants or the equivalent in dried marijuana. . . . Nor shall the Sheriff's Office make arrests or issue citations" for the same." It says nothing about how much marijuana that might be.

And we know that Rusty Noe of COMMET has testified repeatedly that one pound is the equivalent of one plant. Hypothetically, if we were to cut that amount in half, that would give us a possession limit of 12 ½ pounds, instead of a threshold due to the political peculiarities of the pre-SB420 days.



County Counsel Nadel was pushing to include some specific numerical figure in the Guideline Resolution regarding processed marijuana. The number "two pounds" had been suggested in a Draft Resolution sent down by the Criminal Justice Committee which Nadel had herself written.



So the discussion continued by badgering Colfax into accepting a two-pound possession limit to "help law enforcement out." That phrase was repeated by Jeanine Nadel, by Kendall Smith, by Supervisor Pinches.

It became their mantra.

Finally, David Colfax accepted the two pounds tack-on to the end of his original motion, 56

regardless of that making it an internally inconsistent measure.

They voted 3-2 for two pounds and twenty-five plants The idea of an equivalency had vanished. And there were no findings.

We followed Kendall's rules and the Board didn't. The lesson I'm taking is to talk about the whole picture, rather than any one single part every time I appear in front of this Board of Supervisors. In case it all comes up for a vote, we will have at least tried to cover the issues.

All within three minutes. . .

The next day Supervisor Colfax would admit to a "senior moment" and announces he had asked for a Reconsideration vote on the possession part of his Motion, mainly because there had been no opportunity for public input—but also acknowledging the disconnect from Measure G.

On the phone, Colfax assures me he had the necessary three votes for Reconsideration. His Amended Motion was passed without any opportunity to say: "Wait! We haven't had a chance to address possession after a harvest." Supervisor Smith was allowing no interruptions of what she took to be Board business, now.'

What was happening in the chambers was that another group of people were pouring in on the next issue, which was a Reconsideration of the 40% pay raise the Supervisors had given themselves weeks previously. Getting to that issue with an argument she had obviously deliberated in detail, was foremost in the mind of Supervisor Smith—and Johnny Pinches, the third vote on 25/2.

Pinches had come prepared with a Motion that would eliminate the two annual increases tagged to the generous raises State judges accrue each year—also a part of the Supervisors new pay package—and replace that with an every-other year consideration of their salaries by the Board at budget time. Kendall's mind was on how to defend the basic salary increase, under attack by people carting a petition signed by another 2000 voters. None of the Supervisors—nor County Counsel or Sheriff Allman—were concentrating on what they had just done: the disconnect between Measure G and two pounds.

The following week, Colfax made a valient attempt: he told his fellows: "Measure G is the law. Two pounds was not what was intended by Measure G. Two pounds and 25 plants don't even compute!"

David added: "You can't arrive at a number through Measure G. . . Maybe through the Sheriff. "Maybe the Sheriff has leeway.

[sigh] So! let us discuss the predicament of allowing 25 mature plants but the posses-

sion of only 2 pounds of processed medical marijuana —To begin with, from the viewpoint of the single cycle solar grower: the outdoor growers who have only one harvest a year.

PEBBLES: First: it's a one-size-fits-all. If you are an outdoor grower on the coast you are going to have a different yield than you will have if you are inland. On the coast, it's not uncommon to lose1/3rd of your crop to mold. Inland, where you can grow larger plants and produce a greater yield, you might find yourself accused of being out of compliance—because you did too well. I've heard people say this a lot: "It just grew beyond my expectations."

If you are growing inland, and getting large yields—if you're growing knowingly, and if you are growing organically—what this "guideline" requires you to do (in the middle of fire season, mind you) is get rid of your excess harvest.

What does that mean? Burn it?
In the middle of fire season in a county that prohibits the burning of vegetation in burn barrels. Compost your excess harvest? Within your curtelage? That's still possession—at least for awhile. The "guideline" is a noose. The sheriff is planning on hiring "compliance officers" with money he will accrue next year from his zip-tag program

(which, by the way, changes daily—does regard patient input. Tom will not be charging Medicare patients for the first six plants to accommodate poor patients.)

But would it mean you have compliance officers showing up on a complaint, not interfering if they count 25 plants or less, but, making note or keeping in mind, how big those plants are, how large a harvest could be predicted; coming back later to confiscate your excess and arrest you for what they consider to be "too much."

In my mind, SB420 held out the hope of decriminalizing and introducing a measure of respect to people who grow medicine in this County. Our Supervisors have turned that opportunity for a generous plant allowance into a trap.

PEBBLES: It is entrapment. Patients are legal in growing twenty-five plants, but as soon as we move from the cultivation stage to the possession stage where it is turned into medicine, we can become illegal. We are illegal the minute we hang our plants, strip them of leaves, and try to focus on the bud if it amounts to more than two pounds.

There are deputies who consider themselves not rouge, but rather, just officials following the law and trying to rid the world of marijuana the best they can; they're going to have an eye out for people who are trying

to take some of their well-gotten gain from their land to somebody else's land so that they can be within the actual possession limits to feel safe. . . . it's a contortion.

It's forcing us to say: "Harvest what you have. And then hide it to be safe."

SB420 leaves it up to the counties to decide their own guidelines if they are greater, not lesser, than the State's. Measure G's 25 plants, or the equivalent in dried processed marijuana, is a good example of Sentate Bill 420's encouragement to local communities to create their own guidelines according to community standards

In my mind, twenty-five plants was the essence of our goal. The house has been built, the foundation has been laid, the sides have gone up. But, the roof is not on. The roof is important. When the County lost its ability to arrest and prosecute us for cultivating under twenty-five plants, the Supervisors moved to arrest and prosecute us for possession. To have, and to hold . . .

PEBBLES: To have and to hold, and to use when and as we see fit, even if it means that we are using the leaf and the trim. Really leaf and trim are not legally supposed to be counted as part of what you possess, but often they are. Everything is taken at once at the arrest site and then sorted out later in court-never to your advantage.

What suggestions do you have to getting down to the bud so that nothing else is counted in terms of weight?

PEBBLES:

One person has suggested to me that when you hang your plants, they are still plants. Not to be counted as "processed".

Another person said that he is going to strip his plants while they are still in the ground of all leaf and excess stem, removing the bulk weight but leaving the bud. The discarded leaf could be taken to a community bank. We could use phone trees of trusted people for leaf pick up and delivery, as well as drop-off places. We need to work as a community. . I don't think Sheriff Allman will try to entrap us on that level, and bust us for carrying leaf. We will win in court if he does.

Consider finding another place to dry a portion of your bud, reducing your processed weight at home. In case you are stopped while driving, carry your physician recommendation for each two pounds per patient.

What we need is law enforcement's help in getting over these humps in the initial stage. In a word: we are asking law enforcement to leaf us

I understand how the Supervisors penalized one-cycle growers, outdoor growers-the majority of people who grow moderate amounts of marijuana. How does this penalize indoor growers, whose apparatus enable them to grow four cycles a year.

PEBBLES: Measure G doesn't really apply to indoor growing. Sheriff Allman has said privately that he knows it doesn't. A 25 plant compliance limit is unfair indoors. The average sea of green grow is approximately 100-125 relatively small plants. Half the size, on average, of outdoor plants. If you are only allowed 25 plants indoors, in order for your 100-plant sea of green garden to be legal, you have to grow for four patients to have the same privilege as a one-patient outdoor grow. Which is why three or four annual grow cycles is a standard approach.

Explain how you are using the term 'sea of green'.

PEBBLES: Most people grow indoors under this concept called 'sea of green', which is where you fill every little space on your growtable with little plants (and lights overhead), so you are not wasting your space and are getting the maximum yield possible.

One hundred square foot is the size of an average, small room found in most houses. Many of us believe a 100 square foot canopy is a more viable guideline for indoors, not 25 plants. However, 25 plants (if that's all you are growing) or 100 with four recommendations, will fly with law enforcement, as long as your paperwork is there.

There are many more problems with powdery mildew and all the various conditions and diseases that can occur when you are growing indoors, as well as the enormous expense and requirement of special skill— as opposed to the simplicity of putting your plants in the sun 57 and watering them: the traditional way. We have to remember that most people—95% of the patients—cannot grow for themselves.

To make matters worse, here in Mendocino County, cities are banning outdoor grows. Prohibition has re-entered Willits and Ukiah. In Ukiah, you can grow twelve plants indoors, only. Six plants per person — allowing you to have two patients in the same house.

Until recently, Ukiah allowed a greenhouse set up-an interim category between outdoor and indoor—but they are not allowing that anymore. In the beginning, the greenhouse was the saving grace, which allowed us to

salvage something from the backyard ban.

In Willits, the City now requires the greenhouse to be "a secure structure"; which means four inches of insulation (I know it sounds ridiculous) and a locked door that can't be torn off. Just like any snug, code cabin. Ignorance breeds arrogance. Who in the world would build a greenhouse like that? They've talked to no one who knows anything about growing medical marijuana for sick patients.

What is meant by "mature, flowering female" in an indoor context.

PEBBLES: It means you wouldn't count any of the plant until the final resinous, flowering stage, ready to be harvested as medicine. If law enforcement came early, and they saw fifty plants, and twenty-five of them could eventually be determined to be males, those would not be counted.

The leaf would not be counted, the trim would not be counted. That's usually excess and not considered medicinal under the law. It's either thrown away (unfortunately) or used in some other capacity-for baking or making tinctures, salves, oils, and even hash, a concentrate—all of which are legal as products of the plant, but under this new Resolution are in a No Man's land.

How is two pounds to be calculated with tinctures, topicals, salves, butters, etc. since only a proportion of the weight is cannabis?

The average person can't grow at all, either because they have no land—or can't grown in their rented apartment, or have no experience. And of the people who can grow, throw away leaf by the pounds—bury it, burn it, whatever, afraid to be charged for a commercial quantity. If law enforcement would recognize the definition of 'mature, flowering female', we wouldn't have to worry about offing our leaf. It would just be there as something you hadn't gotten to yet.

That implies we have to have a relationship of cooperation with law enforcement—where they don't confiscate everything in sight, whole gardens, whole plants, including what is not countable as medicine (even though it can be used as such.) We don't have that relationship yet. We don't know how this is going to play itself out.

What MMMAB and Sheriff Allman had worked out during his campaign, was that, if given the chance, he would raise the two pounds to three pounds to be consistent with Sonoma County and Humboldt County guidelines on possession limits, the counties to the north and south. We brought up to him the problem with being legal in a neighboring county if you were carrying three pounds and becoming immediately illegal in Mendocino County if you were carrying more than two pounds per patient traveling either north or south.

We all agreed that consistency is legally desirable.

Either Allman forgot about our agreement, or had other Sheriff business on his mind when the Board voted, or was just plain tired out. But if he were focused on patients' interests, he would have changed the "historical" two pounds to three pounds when the issue came up. The Board would have gone along with him on such a small change.

So we gained nothing from that public promise he made at several sheriff candidate debates. Our gain was from his standing by the twenty-five plants. But the disconnect with G is his responsibility to address now.

Are these foolish times, or do we now have pragmatic guidelines? It is harder to hide twenty-five mature, flowering plants growing outside than two pounds of processed medical marijuana. There is not that much outrage about the disconnect as you would expect.

PEBBLES: It's because patients are happy about the right to a basic garden of 25 plants. And partly because many patients and the primary caregivers growing for them really don't know quite what is going on.

It's a new experience to be legislating Medical Marijuana guidelines,

as opposed to simply making policy with law enforcement. Our process with Tony Craver and Norm Vroman was extemporaneous in many ways: especially with Sheriff Craver, because he met with us at the drop of a hat. We felt like we had a good enough relationship with those County agents, that the Supervisors weren't needed if they weren't motivated to take up the matter of creating legal guidelines for the County. We were satisfied to leave the process with law enforcement.

When we formed the Medical Marijuana
Patients Union in 2000, there was a disproportionate emphasis on dispensaries,
rather than patients,
where the real legal power lies.
It's patients the law protects.
Clubs have no rights.
They are considered public nuisances.
The Oakland Cannabis Buyers Club was not even allowed a jury trial.

The Oakland Cannabis Buyers Club brought the first case that reached the US Supreme Court without a single patient being presented for consideration. One of the judges asked the defense attorneys: "Counsel, how do you expect us to rule on Proposition 215 though you do not have a single patient before us?"

We knew there would be no success unless the focus was on patients. No development of the power base we were trying to build unless it focused on the lack of access to medicine by patients.

Mendocino County was leading the way in 1999, based on Sheriff Craver and DA Vroman's promise to honor Prop 215 by creating a local program that all sides of the community could live with. They kept their word and created the first countywide Medical Marijuana ID program in the State. It allowed six mature and twelve immature plants (which the State later adopted as its own guidelines.)

The relationship that we built through the Patients Union, with law enforcement was based on respect and cooperation. For the first time many of us felt we had met two politicians whose agreements we could trust. And that trust lasted over a period of six years, from the time we formed in 2000 until 2006 when Sheriff Craver took an early retirement for medical reasons, and Norm Vroman died during his campaign for re-election shortly afterwards.

In early 2000, I was at the house of an acquaintance (he wasn't even a friend) when I said in frustration: "I cannot let this year pass without forming the seed of a future cannabis patients movement."

The man handed me a thousand dollars to do so. It was that quick.

The Patients Movement grew in Mendocino County because of our focus. And because patients saw it was possible, at least in part, to work with law enforcement as friends rather than enemies. And that idea came from Sheriff Craver himself with whom I had a warm, reciprocal friendship.



One of the first meetings we had at Sheriff Craver's office was trying to figure out the parameters of what was legal. I had a locally-made cannabis tincture with me. I put it on the table and shoved it across the table for him to see. I asked: "What do you think about tinctures, Tony? Where would tinctures stand in the eyes of the law?"

Tony said: "Put that away. That's illegal."

I responded, "I beg to differ with you; it's a product of a legal, medical plant."

The next day he called to say: "You are right, Pebbles. I went back and read the original law. Thank you so much for informing me. I realize that tinctures and other concentrates are, in fact, legal."

What a tremendously un-egotistical person Tony Craver is.

In the heady days of the Union, we had forty-five people at the founding meeting. Maurice Meikle and I did the day-to-day work that carried the ball forward. He was a cofounder of the National Welfare Rights Organization, a Jamaican citizen, a patient who Tony often visited in his trailer (where he was growing 14 plants for himself and a few others). They developed a warm feeling of mutual affection.

One time Tony went by and Maurice only had four of his original fourteen plants (most had been lost to plant illness.) It was then Tony realized the difficulty in growing indoors, and how unblameworthy an average patient like Maurice was in terms of any criminal intent.

Maurice died the day before he was to receive his stipend from the government for the Agent Orange exposure he suffered from in Viet Nam.

Let me tell you here the highlight of our efforts: it came in 2004 when the Patients Union sponsored a Medical Marijuana Conference entitled 'Law and Medicine Working Together' in Fort Bragg. The high school auditorium was packed. There were three panels: doctors, patients, and law enforcement. Ram Dass was our featured cannabis patient. We had one of the Matt Rowland tents set up outside of the school yard as a place to medicate (with the acceptance of the Fort Bragg police lieutenant, who considered the tent a remedy so that he didn't have to ticket people medicating in the street.).

When we invited Norm to the conference, he readily accepted, and it seemed like his main

interest was in hearing Ram Dass, whom he once told me he considered his mentor.

"Ram Dass is my guru and I've read everything he wrote more than once," is the way he put it. After Ram Dass suffered a stroke he became an outspoken cannabis advocate based on his recovery experiences using medical marijuana.

To return to the predicament of 25/2. **PEBBLES:**

The two pound disconnect problem is not something that's unsolvable. It's easily solvable in court with the next case that has more than a two pound harvest as a result of 25 plants. We will take that case to the Appellate court, should we not win at the trial court level.

Two pounds of processed medicine is not the equivalent of twenty-five plants. And you can't defy the voters, you can only go back and ask them if they have changed their minds. That constituency that opposes the twenty-five plants should go to the voters and introduce their alternative medical marijuana guidelines.

The MMMAB is now in the process of writing the text of a new Initiative, which will take up policy issues not addressed by Measure G. Including indoor plant guidelines and grow cycles, collectives, cooperatives, dispensaries.

Two pounds by any standard is not the equivalent of twenty-five plants. And so people are going to be routinely violating that incongruous standard. Because they cannot fight Nature. And honestly don't want to.

I had a passing conversation with attorney Susan Jordan as she left the hearing. Susan commented: "What 25/2 means is that the Sheriff is not going to arrest you and confiscate your marijuana if you have twenty-five plants and two pounds of bud in your possession. But that has nothing to do with what's going to happen in Court if you have more. There is the whole idea of medical necessity that has not been addressed."

PEBBLES: One thing to underline is that the Supervisor's new Resolution (or whatever it is at this time) does not say "twenty-five plants or two pounds. It's twenty-five plants and . . .

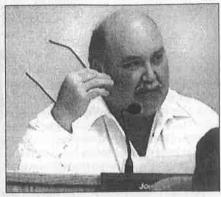
Pebbles, I wasn't at the Reconsideration Motion hearing. Is there anything else to tell?

PEBBLES: Well, the Board wouldn't let Colfax detach the two pounds from the 25 plant part of his motion. Colfax wanted only to open up the discussion that had never taken place. But Delbar was adamant: "Only if we open it up to Reconsideration of the 25 plants."

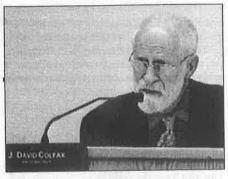
Colfax shook his head, 'No." It was so sad. It was really up to John Pinches, the swing vote. And he said: "We owe it to the Sheriff to give him something definite. Let's give it a year's chance and see what happens," and he voted against Reconsideration.

John Pinches traded his vote for two votes on a \$60,000 high flow water study on the Eel River three weeks later.

guidelines can be used to entrap people with too many pounds. That's what we are afraid of.



Lately Pinches has been confusing medical marijuana with the huge outdoor plantation grows in his district. Talks about bastards mowing down mountain tops. His daughter was caught up in a sweep at his grandson's father's house, and I think John Pinches is just pissed in a pox on all your houses sort of way. He's gone from riding the white horse for the legalization of marijuana to taking water from the wild and scenic Eel.



Have I mentioned Johnny's failure to support Colfax's request for a Reconsideration of the Possession limit was a reckless betrayal of the 3rd District growers who gave him the block vote returned him to office.

PEBBLES: I feel Allman will probably try to be fair in terms of his medical marijuana raids. He's very busy busting huge grows. Ironically, the bigger the haul of plants the fewer the arrests. Only two arrests so far this year. . . . There was a criminal case in the courts at the same time the Mendocino County Supervisors were messing with numbers—The Parker Brothers' case. Pebbles, you were in the courtroom every day. Would you explain what that case was about.

PEBBLES: These two brothers, Memo and Mark Parker, are unusual in the City of Ukiah, where it is difficult to be a medical marijuana grower, even if you are usual, and do it out of sight, quietly. They had been growing in their backyards even though they were already warned not to by the City. Last year they became targets of Ukiah's new Nuisance Ordinance.

Usually when medical marijuana patients get warned (or threatened) they stop. The

Parker brothers didn't, because they felt their rights preceded the technicalities the City was imposing.

They are also African Americans, among the very few living in the city itself.

And the brothers were considered a team, in the sense that they lived next to each other on property that Memo owned. But their purposes were entirely different. Mark was merely growing for himself. Memo was growing for the Green Cross Collective.

It was wrong to put them together. To amalgamate their cases. And to claim they were both growing the amalgam, both responsible for the total amount.

Law enforcement just threw everything together as if from one back yard —all leaf, stem, trim and mature bud.

Memo was the expert, and was growing for the purpose of getting a special purple strain off of Mothers, then taking them to San Francisco to distribute them through the Green Cross collective.

"Collective, cooperative cultivation projects" as defined in Senate Bill 420, legalizes Memo Parker.

However, that wasn't of any interest to the City of Ukiah, which saw the two brothers as nuisances. There's a great quote from the spokesperson from the City Planning office regarding patients who live in Ukiah. He said: "We don't want to stop you from growing. We just want you to do it somewhere else."

They were intending to run
the Parker brothers out of town
one way or another.
What they came up with was
a strategy to get them on criminal
as opposed to civil charges.

The civil guidelines that the Ukiah City Council imposed meant that you couldn't grow outside. The penalty was a fine.

Instead, the DA just skipped that part and went after both brothers with criminal charges—Possession for Sale, Cultivation for Sale, Transportation, and (in Memo's case, Tax Evasion, a charge that eventually got dismissed by Judge Nelson.)

The important thing about the role of the DA in this case was that Deputy DA Lee Nerli attempted to get the judge to deny both brothers a Medical defense—both a 215 defense as an individual patient, and a 420 defense as a collective. They would have had no defense had Meredith Lintott's office gotten away with getting the judge to deny these two defenses.

Judge Nelson told them, "No. They are entitled to a defense and it is for the jury to decide."— (Apparently, there's doubt as to whether Meredith Lintott knew what her deputy DA was doing—which she alleges— in which case she's responsible for not knowing what her people are doing. Somebody must take responsibility for attempting to deny legal patients a medical defense.)

It was claimed her deputy was nearly hysterical in court at times . . .

PEBBLES: Lee Nerli is the chief marijuana prosecutor for all of Mendocino County, has been ever since Norm Vroman appointed him (unbeknownst to us) two years ago. He's been subverting the County policy of making the distinction between medical and non-medical ever since. There are between 100 and 200 marijuana cases in the Prosecution's pipeline right now, many of which would be legal medically. We know this based on medical cases already dismissed, and from the Sutherlin acquittal.

Mark Sutherlin, a resident of Brooktrails, was growing 597 plants indoors within a 300 square foot canopy for four people. Meaning they had a right to 400 square foot total, 100 square foot per patient. He was not growing up to the limit. And a local jury found him Not Guilty of all charges, to Attorney Ed Denson's credit. Sutherlin's acquittal was a stunning defeat for the Prosecution.

Sutherlin was the first Medical Marijuana trial in the County since 1996.

The other was Memo and Mark Parker's trial, which ended finally, in a hung jury.

There have been exactly no convictions at trial in Mendocino County.

Lee Nerli is definitely on the Prohibition edge. His *modus operandi* is to use all leaf and all trim as part of the padding of the Prosecution's case.

David Nick and Edie Lerman, the attorneys for Memo and Mark Parker respectively, showed that the majority of the marijuana (as much as 90% of it) was throw away leaf and trim, not medical grade bud.

The Defense won the important Motions and then went on to hang the jury.

Mendocino County jurors are extremely reluctant to convict when medical purposes are shown. The Parkers are not criminals. They are both patients who at the very, very most "grew too much" for what the City of Ukiah could tolerate.

Of course, when people are accused of being drug dealers, and trying to put one over on people to get rich— along with the bogus claims of wreaking havoc on the neighborhood with backyard odors—all these extremely negative connotations that will influence some jurors to consider them criminals, unless our side proves otherwise.

And in the Memo and Mark Parker case so much was left out.

Memo, in particular, is a disk jockey. Makes some low income type money that way. Ten years ago he got a large settlement for a back injury on a construction job.

The judge was persuaded that the tax evasion charge was totally absurd. He threw it out saying: "They may have just neglected to pay," which is not the same as evading, or willful disregard of the law.

And in fact, that is what happened: Memo had filed income tax returns up to 2005 and was planning to file for '06 as soon as the case was over. It's just another way they padded the Prosecution case.

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So to go back to the beginning, Memo alone (by himself not with his brother) became part of the Green Cross collective (which doesn't have any legal requirements; Co-ops have, including financial disclosure requirements.)

The idea of collectives stretches back to how people relate to each other on the land in this county. As applied to marijuana, it was put into SB420 at the insistence of the cannabis patients' and caregivers community. So that people not interested in defining themselves as a Co-op and becoming official, could nonetheless be protected by the term "collective".

That's why, it seems to me, Memo Parker was protected. When the police came to the door, he had his Green Cross t-shirt on.



And, as he's said, he made regular trips there because he is a sophisticated grower whose interest was in helping the future of Medicine with the strain he was developing, a strain that would be a panacea across ailments; a universal approach to pain.

However, at trial, the Green Cross representative did not deal with issues relating to money in his testimony, such as how much money was taken in, how much money was paid out, how many pounds were received.

He told the court: "That's not my job as president. We have treasurers who handle that." He gave no answers on that level because he wasn't required to testify on finances. The defense lawyer said the burden was on the Prosecution to prove that the Parkers were making illegal millions.

The defense attorneys could have done more to build the case for innocence as opposed to letting the Prosecution prove guilt. To build a case for Innocence, including that there was no ill-gotten gain.

The jury split 11-1 for Acquittal of Mark. And 10-2 for Conviction of Memo.

Memo Parker was brought up on a collective in Mendocino County. He was brought up with access to alternative herbs, country living, encouraged to think for himself, be who he was, in an environment where that is possible.

He carried that to the city when he bought property in Ukiah and moved there. 60

It did not exactly fit—considering his unique personality, being African American, being a cannabis researcher and someone who goes by his own drum; even after he's in trouble.

It says something about the nature of the people who believe in this herb. We should find ways to lend support to Memo Parker in case he is recharged because he actually hasn't done anything wrong other than follow his own beliefs.

Memo told me he grew outdoors because hedoesn't agree Ukiah law is valid, and thought that is what he would be testing in court.

He believed he was sticking up for people who can only grow outdoors. That "DA Vroman had made it clear the city law was garbage and he wouldn't enforce it." That the City couldn't make rules that are harsher than the State minimums. That the State doesn't specify where medical marijuana can be grown or limit the number of patients.

And said Memo, he had no where else to go. His backyard was in Ukiah. He was not intentionally trying to bother people.

I was curious about his experimentation: He told me his strain was a result of an accidental cross: an old purple erkle, big bud cross he named the Snow, that he got from Arcata with a 100% full purple erkle. He was hoping this cross would mix the benefits of the high THC pain reliever of the Snow with the color and flavor of the erkle. He felt the combination of color and the sweet aroma—the qualities of the flavonoids—was itself therapeutic, and that his strain would both help people sleep better and better address pain.

Memo claimed his varieties yielded dense plants with lots of resin. When fully dried his resins were in the 20% range. Mixing his snow with the purple did not transfer the intensity of the erkle flavor, yet yielded its own pleasing mild aroma. His strain matured fast, finished better. Memo was also experimenting with nighttime thermal attributes.

At the time he was raided Memo said he had thirty-five different strains, 70 mothers to keep the varieties alive. He was very conscious of continuing a genetic pool. "They took everything in the raid, chopped the plants to the ground, not leaving a single branch to clone. Even destroyed the babies in the bathroom.' His strain was wiped out, he thought. Until he got out of jail and found a few of the seeds on the table survived.

Memo has taken to eating leaf to deal with the skin eruptions that resulted from the stress of the raid and his trial. He says he simply folds the leaf and eats it, and finds the effect to be extraordinarily medicinal, better than any over-the-counter topical. Originally, he used medical marijuana to address the pain of a herniated disk, the result of a construction accident. He worked in construction for fifteen years, ever since graduating high school. In many ways, he is a Ukiah guy, a man with a bad back... Pebbles, for which purposes do you grow medical marijuana? And how much are you growing?

PEBBLES: I'm growing for myself and six others who I see as needing my help, because they don't have any place to grow for themselves. In my own case, it's for migraine control and prevention. I had migraines all through my childhood, since the age of five. I didn't discover marijuana until I was twenty years old, and used it irregularly through the 1960s. I came to realize my migraines were lessening and were less severe, but didn't quite understand the connection until I read Dr. Tod Mikuriya's book, Marijuana Medical Papers: 1839-1972; historically, cannabis was the medicine of choice for migraines.

A light went on. He became my doctor, and I went through the court system with him testifying that I legitimately used cannabis under his approval. Even before the law changed. Dr. Tod died earlier this year, a great soul, our Joan of Arc. I owe him a debt of gratitude. And, I have adopted his practice of presenting written proposals instead of simply speaking extemporaneously at meetings.

Do you identify your self as the caregiver of six patients? Or as part of a collective?

PEBBLES: I identify as a member of a collective, sharing with others whose goal is the good of the whole, rather than individual profit. Growing for just a few encourages me to be open, forthright, transparent and accountable in my dealings. The collective/ cooperative approach, either way, is a very good idea, and I am grateful to the Appeals Court for having offered us this opportunity to live up to our principles and our ideals of sharing the wealth within the law.

By 'wealth' I mean the medicine, itself.

The Urziceanu Appellate ruling points out that not only do you have the right to be compensated for your expenses. You also have the right to be compensated for your services.

And yet, still, there is an ever-present, gnawing fear that law enforcement is going to ruin your life for their Prohibitionist purposes

And it's especially unnerving when you are involved with other people who should not have to face any law enforcement activity just for their assistance, their much lesser involvement, where they don't own the land.

Usually in the end, the people who do not own the land are let go. But they are often hassled, any money they have on them is taken and never returned and they are threatened with future prosecution-any where in the next five years. The federal guidelines are that for over 100 plants (no matter the age, sex or size) you face a five year mandatory prison sentence, with a ten year mandatory minimum for over a thousand plants. No wonder people grow on land they don't own and disappear.

Sometimes the rip-off threat is at least as scary as the threat of law enforcement intrusion. The fear that they carry guns and will do anything for the treasure they are taking from you to turn it into money. Strangers who surveil your road and you become uneasy about their intent. Yesterday, four people in a vehicle unknown to anyone on our road came to my house when my car wasn't there. They left when someone in my collective approached them. We take that as a sign of alarm. Since we are categorically opposed to having guns on the land, the only security is extra human beings staying up all night and dogs barking. Last year I had six plants stolen, on the last night, after I had harvested all the others.

Value-added processing. I'd like you to talk of your use of leaf these days. And how minute portions of leaf fits into any possession equation.

PEBBLES: Those are complicated questions.

I'll tell you how I started out. I'm an anomaly in this world. Leaf was the only thing I could afford. I only needed a medicinal touch to prevent migraines. And in all my busts I had two pounds or three pounds of leaf. Never bud. This was truly my medicine. I could afford it: the difference between \$100 a pound and \$3000 or \$4000 a pound is immense. I knew exactly what class I was in. I was left destitute from multiple prosecutions. I was willing to be a test case. I was going to see this through—and, I was going to have my leaf at the same time.

Leaf to me has a very high value. It's a balancer, and has enough psychoactivity in it (including smaller amounts of THC and other cannabinoids) to balance the "non-psychoactive" CBD (or cannabidiol.) To speak of the 'up' from THC and the 'down' from CBD is a popular way of showing why it is that the plant in balance is what we need, not ex-

cessively oriented towards THC and bud.

'If you don't cough, you don't get off'. That preposterous expression may come from the imbalance inherent in over-emphasizing THC, causing people to cough It also may not be properly cured.

-something that has underestimated,, by myself included. And because of that, my collective is doing something about it. When Dr. Courtney and I met, and he introduced his ideas about leaf to me, they were very compatible with my own ideas; in fact, he took them much further. The concept of multiple medical treatments (delivery systems)—baked goods, edibles of all kinds, salves, tinctures and liquid topicals— is permeating the community now.

You can put salves directly on arthritic pain and it soothes it immediately!

Tinctures (either alcohol-free or with alcohol) are becoming a big factor. Candies. Lollipops. Capsules. You can suck on a candy or lollipop all day long, not be noticed in any way, not have telltale signs, like the smell of smoke. Patients are finding alternative systems that suit their purposes, allowing them to be functional all day without unwanted side-effects, like psychoactivity, getting high. . .

You are experimenting now with capsules . . .

PEBBLES: People who grow routinely have lots and lots and lots and lots and lots of extra leaf. And what to do with it is truly a problem. So we-meaning my small group, my collective-has a set up in a barn silk screen trays stacked on top of each other high up towards the ceiling.

We pour leaf on the silk screens to dry them slowly, moving the leaf around to avoid pockets of dampness, which can bring the mold.

And for large quantities of leaf, it's easiest to dry it spread out in dozens of paper bags, mixing it regularly, every day, until it dries. It's a labor intensive, undervalued process. You have to be as conscientious with leaf as you are with bud, in its own way.

Then we sift dried leaf and grind it into a powder. We have a Ouji board-type contraption with little holes in which we put the capsules and sift the leaf that's been made fine by a blender (or a grinder) into each capsule and put the cap on.

We distribute those capsules as sleep aids.

We hope to reach out to people who have legitimate reasons not to want to smoke. Especially the elderly, many of whom, for the first time, are considering cannabis as a remedy, with their prescription drugs failing them one after another.

Some edibles can discombobulate some people, because the effects 61

don't come on for a half an hour to an hour. Those effects are strong and delayed baked goods, and can cause allergic or overdose reactions in highly sensitive people. With capsules, because it is dried, fresh, green leaf-mild in nature-primarily people are relaxed. That is why it is so good as a sleep aid. You don't experience the standard psychoactivity, except perhaps in your dreams. The leaf allows you to have the restful sleep that you need.

Do you use the leaf of particular strains in your capsules?

PEBBLES: Not yet. We will be more aware of that in the future. We are just seeing whether people like this ingestion method.

Leaf has no connection to criminal activity in a medical context. It's exempt from any legal penalties or punishment. It is considered separate from bud under the law. It is simply not counted as medicine,

I think eventually Tom Allman may introduce classes educating his deputies with information only patients and caregivers can provide. Tony Craver said he would be happy to make a video with his voiceover, guiding deputies through a medical marijuana garden, making necessary medical distinctions.

So, the leaf that's sitting around or will be burned or buried or unused or thrown away should be passed on to others who will value it. Our collective is contemplating the concept of a bank where people can drop off their unused leaf and shake without feeling any fear of the weight they are carrying.

> Every deputy will not recognize that definition of 'mature, flowering, female . . .' We have got to make sure they do.

What else matters? . . .

PEBBLES: Democracy matters. This prohibition is victimizing young black men the most. The prisons are filling up with young African American men to a most pathetic degree. It's the legacy of slavery. We should be concerned about these statistics as the most egregious part of the War on Drug. The profiling and incarcerating of young African American men.

Yesterday two medical marijuana patients who are now defendants in their own Racial Profiling case in Los Angeles County called me on the phone for advice.

They were in a 7/11 parking lot getting ready to pump gas. Police who were there on another matter, searching another car, walked up to them and proceeded to search their car. The two men had their medical marijuana with them. They were arrested and are now looking for lawyers and court support. And definitions of their rights. This was beyond DWB. This was 'Existing While Black.'

-And of course, there is a profile on hippies, as well. Even though there was an Appellate-level hippie profile case that prohibits officers from stopping cars based on specific appearances: long hair, dreadlocks,

colorful clothing, old cars.

But African American men are being targeted to a degree that you wouldn't really know about unless you were in the black community. Because they are going in and out of jail so fast, taking pleas so fast: it is in the fabric of the community. It is pervasive, not extraordinary. Profiling is a sign that this society is in decay. Rather than offer remedies for problems we offer prison cages, deprivation of people's life and liberty. And part of that is the deprivation of medicine. They go handin-hand.

There is another dimension to cannabis. Marijuana has such a feminizing influence. It temporarily reduces testosterone, and my theory is that the relatively common use of marijuana during the 1960s contributed to the anti-war and anti-draft attitudes that eventually prevailed. Marijuana was, a pacifying element in the Sixties . . .

... which drew the genders together.

PEBBLES: ... engendered by the use of marijuana, which is spiritual and unifying in its nature. I think Mendocino County should show the way, should turn to the voters to make difficult decisions regarding medical marijuana guidelines we can all live with. And let the other counties take heart and take their own proposed guidelines to the voter. What is so sad here is that that future is foremost in the hands of two lame duck Supervisors hostile to marijuana cultivation . . .

PEBBLES:

The best legislators are the voters. They read the ballot arguments over their kitchen tables; they talk about high level information amongst their family and friends.

And, the more they know, the more likely they are to vote, especially on matters of extreme importance to their community.

It's not quite as easy to get on the state-wide ballot—although, we got Prop 215 originally from the State. And it is a very good law (no matter what anybody says). The 1996 Compassionate Use Act is one of the best laws in the country. How many times do you come around the corner and find a new law with Rights that are protecting you? It is so unusual.

I believe that the voters understand marijuana is a beneficial medicine. They are our best bet for reaching a rational future without marijuana prohibition. The Supervisors should be ashamed for letting such

an opportunity pass.

Elderly people vote. They went through another Prohibition that didn't work. And now, their friends, family and neighbors are coming up with conditions in their old age that nothing is better for than cannabis. Marijuana has such a multifaceted nature. I think it is the universal plant. The apex of the plant world. It has never been known to have killed anyone. It's not too strong and it's not too weak.

Cannabis has a way of pushing and pulling. There is a very odd circular way it seems to act. Retrograde is what they call it. If the fire is suddenly very hot you move back; if you have a need for warmth you move toward the fire. It's purpose is to balance systems. That's why it is known for increasing circulation and appetite because everything flows better. Even mental, spiritual and creative processes flow better. Life's biological processes are guided by a desire for the whole to be in balance. Tony Craver once called marijuana a "benign herb"

It's a popular herb. You can find it in the pockets of most young people, sooner or later. And a huge number of people are getting victimized by the Prohibition against cannabis: 2000 a day, 750,000 a year are busted for marijuana, many of whom, I do believe, are using it for medical purposes which they will realize eventually.

In this decade and a half-long journey of mine, there were a couple of times when I opposed the dismissal of my own case. One of them involved the concept of Jury Peremptory challenges, where jurors are dismissed—are disenfranchised from voting on a jury—with no stated reason. There is a statute that says the prosecutor doesn't have to give a reason to dismiss any given juror. I oppose that statute because it is inherently discriminatory, and is routinely used against minorities.

In my case I wanted to have a rule that no Peremptory would be used on either side, only dismissal for cause, or they adopt the "Trippet Rule" which would be that the prosecutor could use no more Peremptories than the defense, and I intended to use zero. Prosecutors routinely use this practice to eliminate black women who are considered the most undesirable jurors from a prosecutor's point of view.

Other victims of discriminatory Peremptory Challenges are librarians, scientists, Jews, fat people, people with cornrows, anyone who might feel a particular sympathy for a defendant. These have all come out in Appeals Court precedents on the subject reversing convictions based on these discriminations.

In one case, I presented a Murtishaw Motion to gain access to the prosecutor's jury book to search for discriminatory notes or reasons they might dismiss one or another type of person. The Judge ruled for my Motion and gave me access to the jury book. But the prosecutor refused to let me take it home to study it; I only got half an hour to look at the hundreds of names of prospective jurors. The next day, the prosecutor called and offered me a time-served misdemeanor conviction (one day) and I turned it down. She dismissed my case immediately.

This was all over possession of three ounces of leaf.

I want to give credit to my political partner of three decades whose help on my Transportation precedent and my OCBC and Mower Amicus briefs was invaluable. He was virtually unknown, always in the background.

—And while I'm at it, to the three cops who helped me out and changed my mind about law enforcement necessarily being our adversary. In Marin County, I was stopped with six ounces of leaf. The expected search was conducted by me and the officer inside the car, side by side. It was like an office: I had to explain to him "This is my bumper sticker box, buttons box, books for sale, other literature."



My name is Paula Deeter and I am running for 4th District Supervisor.

We have a need for strong representation of the 4th district and creative solutions to our issues here. I have been a part of the coastal community for 28 years and my experience as a County Land Use Planner, SEIU Union Steward, and Small Business Owner have served to keep me in touch with our environmental and economical issues. I feel I can make a significant contribution to the needs of our community and I would like to hear from you. Let's start talking to one another. What are your ideas? Your needs? Your Discontent? I am looking forward to hearing from you.

DEETER4THDISTRICT@HOTMAIL.COM

PAID FOR BY THE VOLUNTEERS TO ELECT PAULA DEETER 4TH DISTRICT SUPERVISOR



Everything had its place. To support myself, I s vending First Amendment and protected terial on street corners and fairs.

The officer gave me a possession ticket. I told I wouldn't pay it, but would go to trial. le said: "I might end up helping you." In what way? Do you mean you would testify as sober?"

"Yes," he said. That kind of thing." Testify to state of mind. Nor did he arrest me. He tickme. That was a big help.

and yet, I ended up doing six months in jail, maximum sentence. The judge was furious at for not accepting my punishment—a fine nout a fight. Mad at me for fighting on Conitional grounds. Sometimes the cops are better the jurists. That's because they are on the and they know the difference between real

I shared Highway 1 offices for many months with Dr. Richard White. He was my doctor for a time. Richard White charged the least for a visit, \$100. He was really dedicated to the needs of poor patients. At one point, he went to Covelo to help the Native American community on the reservation at Round Valley-until the Bureau of Indian Affairs disallowed his recommendations for medical marijuana. The contradiction was that tribal lands are federal lands.

Richard came back to the coast with a Mohawk, which was an odd combination given his understated professorial presence. He was fascinated by the science of cannabis, and in the latter days of his life was writing an article on the phenomenon of cannabinoid deficiency.

Earlier, he did research on Albion River biota. He ran a scholarship program of sorts for high school students: each year he offered cash prizes for the best essays about medical marijuana. He just plowed in there in his quiet, unassuming, unprovocative, knowledgeable way.

There is a case anchored to Richard White's practice . . .

PEBBLES: The CHP lawsuit. The California Highway Patrol was sued for violating patients Prop 215 rights: highway patrolmen continuously saying: "We don't recognize Prop 215." They'd take patients' physician approvals, throw them on the ground; tore them up. Intimidated patients. The CHP was making the point they had contempt for

Two out-of-county women, both of whom had recommendations from Dr. White, sued the CHP when they were so rudely treated. They won that suit. And that lawsuit established that the CHP is not exempt from enforcing the protections of the Compassionate

Bill Lockyear was Attorney General at the time, and the victory was a slam dunk. I happened to be at a law class where the Attorney General was giving a routine speech, during which he was served the CHP papers. The moment he was served he remarked: "My mother, my sister both have cancer. Sometimes you are given a situation where the best thing to do is just settle."

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I think Richard White was very humble and modest, partially because of his own health problems. I remember asking him at one point: "How are you today, Dr. White?"

He said: "I'm having a hard time getting across the room today."

He had a heart condition. He was waiting for a heart replacement, and he died before the heart came.

I know doctors who exemplify rare courage. I just had a conversation with Dr. Phil Denny, whose home office is outside Sacramento. He was buoyed by the scientific developments he picked up in Canada at the recent International Cannabinoid Research Society Conference. Research on built-in layers in the body's own neurochemical systems. on "binding selectivity

"Terpenes," he said, "have just come into a new focus in cannabis research. They are known for their characteristic odor. You can assess the potency of a plant by its terpene content. In fact, one of the main criterion in buying cannabis is the terpene odor—you smell it to decide if you buy it."

The laboratories are currently working on research to enhance terpene content. One researcher removed cannabinoid oils taking up space in the receptor site, and the terpenes flooded into the receptor. This is what they call selective affinity of bioactivity. It's now being considered that the terpenes-the smells and what underlies them-are an





Doctor Denney is suing the Drug Enforcement Administration because government agents attempted to mislead him by visiting his office and posing as legitimate patients.

One of them even pointed to an injury, giving Dr. Denny reason to believe his list of symptoms.

Then he was made "the subject of an Investigation," one of nine cannabis physicians investigated by the California Attorney General in sync with the California Medical Board.

I talk with Dr. Denney frequently in my role as a patient advocate, and he told me that as a consequence of the invasion into his medical practice, his first response was to become more suspicious of his patients in general, and less willing to discuss medical marijuana use.

He has a First Amendment Right to those discussions!

The Conant ruling, a Federal Appeals Court decision, declared that doctors have a the First Amendment right to discuss cannabis as a treatment with their patients without regard to federal laws against medical marijuana.

Dr. Denney decided not to be chilled. And he sued the feds for this invasion. His lawsuit *Denney v DEA* is based on his claim of DEA retaliation against him for speaking out in favor of cannabis as a medical treatment.

Phillip Denny is an itinerant physician, in the best tradition of country doctors. He has a philosophy that true access means being able travel to a doctor and return home in the same day. He's opened up several offices around the state.

The reason I bring up Dr. Denny is because last month a judge ruled against the DEA's effort to Dismiss his case.

The other reason I bring up Dr. Denny, is because he was one of the few physicians courageous enough to testify when Dr. Mikuriya was prosecuted by the California Medical Board. Dr. Tod was charged with "violating the standards of medical practice", when in fact, at the time there were no standards applicable to medical cannabis; the law was so new. That struggle was a very expensive, labor-intensive ordeal for Tod, and may have killed him. He got sick right after his conviction.

Dr. Denny testified for Tod Mikuriya, and when the Medical Prosecutor asked him what he felt the consequences of his testimony might be, he responded something to the effect: "I fully expect a knock on the door." ... Indeed, it came.

Dr. Denny's suit is based (I'll use the legal language) on the DEA having an "impermissible motive" to interfere with his First Amendment Rights as a doctor; their motive being retaliation. Secondly, that the DEA's conduct would "chill any MD of ordinary firmness" from exercising future First Amendment activities related to their medical practice. And finally, that the DEA would not have engaged in the deception but for the Retaliatory motive.

If I were betting, I would back Doctor Denny's chances of winning against the DEA.

The patients rights that have emerged in law over the past eleven years could not have happened without the protection of a dozen or so pioneer physicians who led the way, making patients use of marijuana as medicine possible. And here, in Mendocino County, Dr. William Courtney has joined that class of doctors. It's so true, what Dr. Benjamin Rush, that founder of our country, predicted: "Unless we put medical freedom into the Constitution, the time will come when medicine will be organized into an undercover dictatorship. . ."



Every October it rains somewhere In Mendocino County. Last year, the threat of rain a month early motivated my problem-solving bent and I needed to find 140 umbrellas to cover our plants. Every store that had umbrellas was too expensive. Then it dawned on me to call around the Dollar Stores. And there in Willits I found 140 Chinese parasols. The perfect solution. The ultimate purpose was mold prevention. When the rain sets into the crevices of the marijuana flower, it remains, sometimes for days, and becomes a source of mold. No matter how much you shake the water from the plants. —PT

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An Odious & Unconstitutional Political Ploy: "Nuisance" Laws

Regulating Medical Marijuana by

Medical Cannabis users are the only category of people classified with loss of constitutional rights for the purpose of regulation.

By Pebbles Trippet

Mendocino is the first county in the state, following numerous cities, to regulate medical-cannabis collectives and cooperatives as potential "public nuisances" --- comparable to garbage, stream pollution, rotting carcasses, lead paint, asbestos in schools- and subject to severe penalties for minor offenses.

Nuisance ordinance 9.31 contains a trickbag of "gotchas" such as a broken gate lock, a fencehole, a distinctive aroma. Minor conflicts between neighbors will inevitably be the basis for "nuisance" complaints.

Under a nuisance framework, cannabis patients, caregivers and collectives are classified on the bottom rungs with the gross ills of society and treated accordingly. Regarding a medical cannabis regulatory system, it is a step backward: arbitrary requirements without due process, unequal protection, loss of rights and a subsidiary second-class status as "public nuisances." Ordinance 9.31 undermines the highest purpose of the law -"to enhance access to medical marijuana through collective cooperative cultivation"- affirmed by the Supreme Court in Kelly (2010).

Cannabis patients are the only category of people classified with loss of constitutional rights for the purpose of regulation. It is unconstitutional on its face and as applied.

Minor conflicts between neighbors will inevitably be the basis for "nuisance" complaints.

Ignoring these constitutionality problems, the Mendocino Board of Supervisors, guided by John McCowen, voted three-to-two to pass the 25-plant-per-parcel nuisance law with a 99-plant option reserved for a relatively small group of property owners. It does not allow any exceptions or variances to its unreasonable requirements.

Full disclosure: I co-own 4.2 acres in

requires a minimum five acres, so my 99-plant application would be rejected on that basis alone. Each member of my collective of 10 would be reduced to 2.5 plants due to a ceiling of 25 per parcel.

The issue of whether a local nuisance ordinance can supersede the rights of patients to collectively associate will be ruled on soon by the 4th District Appeals Court in a case involving the city of Anaheim, which banned collectives outright. That ruling will serve as precedent for Hill v Mendocino County, a suit challenging the constitutionality of the county's attempt to restrict the rights of collectives under a nuisance ordinance.

Under a nuisance framework, admin-

Sheriff's deputies have no training in nuisance abatement, only in criminal law enforcement. Since medical marijuana is no longer a crime but a health issue, why is law enforcement in charge of civil regulation?

A deputy issues the "Notice and Order to Abate" and delivers it to the patient-grower's door without a warrant. A'civil' exchange with law enforcement can easily turn criminal. If a deputy suspects "fraud," the situation devolves into an investigation of possible criminal activity with confiscation of plants a standard component of the process.

The instant the abatement order is received, the penalty clock starts ticking at \$100/day.

The patient, collective or propertyowner is found guilty of a violation before having any knowledge of what it's for and must pay a non-refundable fee

Nuisance Ordinance 9.31 — Constitutional Violations

- California Civil Code 3482: "Nothing which is done or maintained under the express authority of a statute can be deemed a nuisance" (Health & Safety Code 11362.5 and H&S11362.77).
- Civil Code 3480: "A public nuisance is one which affects at the same time an entire community or neighborhood, or any considerable number of people."
- Civil Code 3481: "Every nuisance not included in the definition of the last section is private."
- Civil Code 3482.5 ("Right to Farm Act"): "No agricultural activity, operation or facility...shall be or become a nuisance, public or private...after it has been in operation more than three years... if it was not a nuisance at the time it began."

istrative law classifies cannabis patients, caregivers and their collective membership associations as "public nuisances" with significantly fewer constitutional rights than under criminal law.

Patients lose their-

- right to a jury trial.
- right to protection from law enforcement gaining warrantless access to growers' property.
- right to corroborating evidence beyond a single deputy's authorization.
- · right to dispute accusations before a' finding of guilt, i.e., presumption of innocence.

A disgruntled neighbor or overzealous deputy can complain about a fencehole, aroma, visibility of a plant, or a broken lock on a gate. Then the Sheriff's Office, instead of Planning and Building, initiates nuisance abatement action against the accused nations

of \$1,140 within 10 days to appeal the accusation. The attorney costs another \$1,000. The fine stretching over 10 days at \$100/day is another \$1,000. Can this be seen as "protection" money?

There is also an eminent-domain property-forfeiture provision if the "nuisance" is not properly abated. The nuisance ordinance is as much an issue of property owners' rights as patients' rights, since owners will ultimately be held responsible.

Ed Denson, Humboldt County attorney, called Mendocino County "a failed state" with regard to medical marijuana policy and law.

The Courts will surely not allow this level of law enforcement intrusion and violation of patients' rights under state law to stand.

The 3rd District Appeals Court inter-

tive cooperative cultivation" to mean the right to sell and distribute to other association members for collective good, as a legal alternative to the profit mode (*Urziceanu 2005*).

The historic Supreme Court Kelly ruling did three things.

- 1) It voided arbitrary numerical quantity limits of six plants/eight ounces) as restricting rather than enhancing patient access.
- 2) It affirmed the established quantity standard as "whatever is reasonably related" to the patient's (or collective's) annual medical needs.
- 3) It left the ID Card Program intact since it fulfills the law's primary purpose —"to enhance access through collective cooperative cultivation."

Twenty-five plants per parcel under civil law is as arbitrarily restrictive as six plants per person under criminal law. Whether civil or criminal, local ordinances cannot violate state law.

Hill v Mendocino County will decide whether collectives, as 1st Amendment protected associations with the right to collectively associate, trump a local nuisance law.

The plaintiffs in the *Hill* case — four patient-growers represented by E.D. Lerman and J David Nick — filed their constitutional challenge in Sept 2009 and an amended complaint in June 2010.

The long awaited appellate case, Qualified Patients Association v Anaheim, due July 19, will decide whether dispensing collectives can be banned under a local nuisance ordinance and the Hill case will decide whether the rights of patient-collectives can be reduced under a local nuisance ordinance.

No matter how Mendocino Superior Court Judge Behnke rules on the constitutionality of 9.31, the other side will take it higher. That gives a constitutional challenge the opportunity to set a statewide precedent rather than merely a local win.

In the Courts, we can stop this odious neo-prohibitionist nuisance trap before it becomes a trend in the counties. The alternative supported by the patient majority is to regulate according to land use impacts under zoning laws that balance environmental and neighborhood concerns with patients' rights.



What does it mean to be "Clean Green Certified"?

The Clean Green Certification review program is based on National and International Organic and Sustainable Farming Methods. The certification process includes an on-site inspection of each operation, a review of the farming methods and record keeping used verifying the use of natural, non-synthetic sprays and fertilizers. The careful tracking begins with soil care and seed or cutting selections, to planting and growing to harvest and continues through handling, processing, packing and labeling. The Clean Green program is designed to provide a safer product to people who want a greater level of confidence.

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cleangreen@earthlink.net

RIGHT

Agricultural Co-Operative

A Homegrown Grassroots Not for Profit Organization

Our Mission:

We the people have come together in a agricultural cooperative to become a common voice for the patients, collectives, workers and growers in the legal cannabis industry per local law.

To defend the rights of patients, to receive and consume legally grown and processed medicinal cannabis and to defend the rights of the growers and workers to do business where ever it is legal in these United States.

"We demand an end to the arbitrary and inconsistent enforcement of the law."

Our long term goal is to establish market stabilization for growers, fair wages for workers, and to promote quality standards and fair distribution through collectives for consumers of alternative agricultural products.

We do not advocate the illegal use, cultivation, distribution or sales of cannabis products recommended for medical or any other use.

Why a Co-operative?

As a group we can become a common voice. As a group we can lobby the government to treat us fairly. As a group we can be in control of our own industry.

We can set the standards of operation, quality and regulation. If we don't you can bet they will! Let's not be left out and don't let our industry go the way of big business.

Keep it grassroots, encourage local cultivation, employ local workers, establish good working conditions, fair and affordable fees and easily accessible locations for collectives and most important keeping quality high and costs low for the patients who use our products.

Even if it is legalized, Marijuana products will still need to be regulated, have quality standards in place to make sure it is pure and low cost to patients who may not otherwise be able to readily obtain it. And for the safety of the general public.

We have a moral obligation to help those in need and we will not be deterred from that obligation. Look beyond today, Let's start planning our future for this alternative agricultural revolution! Of the people, by the people, for the people.

Who will benefit?

You!

With the help of your supporting contributions we will strive to achieve these basic rights for our members.

The Patients

- Safe and easy access
- Low prices
- High quality
 No intimidation from law enforcement

The Workers

- Unionization
- Fair Wages
- Heath care and retirement benefits
- Safe work conditions
- Job security
- Fair treatment by law enforcement

The Collectives

- Accessible shop locations
- Price stabilization
- Fair permits and fees.
- Fair treatment by law enforcement.

The Growers

- The right to cultivate in local communities
- Price stabilization
- Fair permits and fees for cultivation
- Decriminalization still unjustly allows for the prosecution of cultivation. We hope to change public opinion

The Community

- Tax revenue from sales

- Lower crime by taking it off the streets
 Real blue collar job creation
 Educate the public on the usefulness of marijuana as a medicinal herb

Are you a Lawyer?

Add your practice to our list of lawyers specializing in Medical Marijuana cases. Our members need your help!

DON'T LEAF US OUT



Kevin DeLang - Founder UL13

Hi, my name Is Kevin.

Thomas Jefferson once said said, "It is the duty of all good citizens to participate in their government especially when it needs to be fixed". I invite you to come together with Union Local 13 in the pursuit of our common concerns.

Ever since 215 and 420 passed, many other patients like myself have been denied our rights to safe and easy access to our legally recommended medicinal marijuana.

We are tired of being treated as criminals and second class citizens!

Whereas, we have decided to come together with our natural allies, the growers, the processors, the distributors and their workers to influence the provincial governments in responding to the voice of the people.

So, to this end we have created an all inclusive grassroots co-operative union encompassing all of the facets of the cannabis industry.

Union Local 13 will be a uniting force in growing our industry. We will provide a means to come together with our allies to be a determined and unshakeable movement that will promote our industry for, of and by the people.

Please support us in our most important goal, to provide affordable and safe access to medical marijuana for patients like myself.

Please join now and help make our industry strong!

Thank you, Kevin DeLang

Collectives

Advertise your Products and Services

Advertise your Collective's products and services on our website! Place your advertising in our multimedia event display.

All UL13 Collective members will receive a free web page on our website. We can create an HD custom video to display at events like this or on your UL13 webpage using **YouTube**_{TM}!

Ask us about our advertising packages.

YouTube™, is a registered trademark and is not affiliated with UL13.

Union Local 13 is a California Non Profit Public Benefit Corporation March,13th 2010. EIN 27-2116582. Contributions to Union Local 13 are not currently tax deductable as we are in the process of applying for 501(c) 3 tax exempt status. We will inform you when we have applied.

How do we plan to do this?

How we plan to use your contributions:

- Create a "Medicinal Use is Not Abuse" multi media public relations campaign to break the negative social stimga of medicinal use.
- Open channels to federal, state and local elected officals to rally their support.
- Work with the local government and collectives to create co-operative cultivation and distribution centers operated by the local collectives and patients.
 NO BIG BUSINESS!
- Unionization of the workforce...
- Promote fair wages for workers.
- Healthcare plans for workers and members.
- Rally volunteers and fundraising for local concerns.
- Open "Cannabis Testing Centers" using state of the art testing standards. Free to patients.
- Use the Internet to create an open network for discussion, a democratic process of decision and enaction of our common plans and goals.

Learn more online!

Visit us online at:

UNIONLOCAL13.ORG

Get the latest news and information. Search for collectives in your area. Find support groups. Join and participate in forums and polls. Post and finds jobs.

Consult with legal help. View our Bylaws and other UL13 documents. Find out how to start a fundraiser in your area. Start a local chapter. View videos and other multimedia presentations. Register to vote.

We will continue to bring you the latest news on Union Local 13 members, activites and events. Join our RSS Feed!





Stay informed with editorials and stories by our UL13 senior writer. Kate Woods.

Help us Grow our Co-operative!

Join Union Local 13 and become an active supporter for FREE! Then if you like, you may upgrade at any time to a participating membership.

We have several different participating plans for Members and Collectives.

And if you decide to upgrade, to show our appreciation, we are offering several thank you gifts depending on your membership level.

(Cut along line)

To subscribe to our newsletter and begin the application process. please fill out the form below.

Name and mailing address or email is required. We will contact you to com-plete the process by email. Or if you leave the email field blank we will mail

Mail it to us at: Union Local 13 PO Box 28721 San Jose, Ca. 95159-8721

You may then at any time upgrade from an Active Supporter to a Participating Membership Package best suited to you. Your free Active Support Registration will not expire.

First Name

Email

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Last Name

Address

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UNION WOCAL 13

The Cultivators

- The right to operate in local communities as it stands today, federal, state and local laws are enforced arbitrarily. Due to the vague nature of these laws, jurisdictions are able to interpret them selectively to promote their own agendas. In the absence of clearly defined laws these agendas will invariably conflict with one another making it impossible for growers to determine their legal standing. We refuse to be treated as criminals!
- Price stabilization prices for medical marijuana can very enormously. Our
 goal is to stabilize these prices by mutual agreement so that growers can rely
 on predictable rates. The co-operative will not dictate prices. Our goal is to
 establish a standard pricing for cannabis products as a collective agreement.
- Fair permits and fees we promote the equitable treatment of cannabis growers as any other legal business when issuing permitted fees. We refuse to be treated as criminals!

The Processors

- Industry processors/workers should have their contributions recognized and their work respected. The average wage of trimmers, as example seems to range from \$20.00 to \$30.00 per hour or about \$200.00 a pound of product. Hash making is a relatively new profession. Traditionally Hashers are paid percentage of their yield (a 40 to 50 percent split is typical). This union will not dictate prices but we should all be able to agree what is a fair wage.
- Counter workers should receive traditional wages and benefits commensurate to the local wages for like workers.
- Safe working conditions-we will recognize existing O.S.H.A law.
- Fair treatment by law enforcement.

• The right to pursue their professions.

The Distributors

- Accessibility distributors and owners of collectives should be able to open a place of distribution.
- Fair permits and fees We promote the equitable treatment of cannabis distributors as any other legal business when issuing permit fees.

 We refuse to be treated as criminals!!!

The Consumers

- Patients will be relieved that they now have a union to help fight for their rights as citizens to have safe and easy access to their medicine.
- Places of distribution close to home.
- They will also benefit from the union standards of full disclosure of growing techniques. i.e., whether the product was grown organically, hydroponically, with or without the use of chemicals or pesticides and the percentage of THC, CANNIBANALS and CANNABINNALS.
- The union will post co-operative clubs open for business. Ensuring a competitive market and low prices for consumers.
- The co-operative will always demand that consumers not be harassed by police or civic agencies.

We refuse to be treated as criminals.

Don't leaf us out!!!

Why form a Cooperative?

We are a unique industry. A hidden industry, a misunderstood industry. But we are real a industry.

We are unique in that we are forced together by law. So we should use that to our best advantage.

Current laws allow for you to operate because it is discriminatory for the government not to allow legal business to operate.

All Persons operating Medical Marijuana business' are commonly linked together with consumers and workers since they all must have a doctors recommendation to be able to legally operate, sell, purchase or consume. We are all patients, that is our common ground and equal concern. And the only reason it is legal to operate in California.

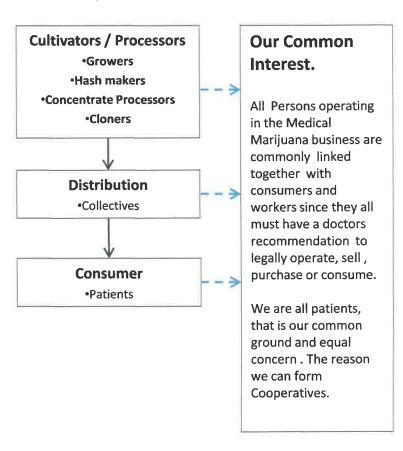
However, they do not give real direction in how we should operate. And use this confusion against us. The current measure on the ballot suggests that the local governments will decide on how to proceed if legalized. Which sounds good but again there is no direction. And no protections for your business.

Our goal is to band the industry together. To create local cooperatives, a union of all our common interests.

This is not typical. Usually the producers, distributors, workers and consumers form Coops and Unions to protect their individual interests from each other. But as patients we all have a common ground because the law forces us to.

We don't know what the future will bring but we do want to be able to have a say in it. A Cooperative Union will give us that voice and strength.

Current simple model for the distribution of medical marijuana .



What is a Cooperative?

A cooperative is not much different than your own non-profit business. It has bylaws, board of directors and members like any other non-profit.

A cooperative does not direct how you do your business. It only opens up opportunities for you to run your business fairly.

The cooperative is owned by you! You're membership entitles you to equal voting rights over the bylaws and operations of the cooperative. One person. One vote. Majority rules.

We won't go into detail here about the different types of cooperatives or how they operate as there are many.

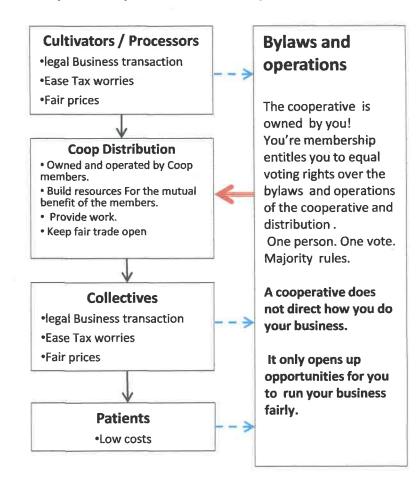
However, they are all owned and operated by the members who introduce and adopt the bylaws and amendments in benefit of their mutual or public interest.

With this we can build a business model for the distribution of product through a cooperative. Keeping that distribution fair and open. We can set standards for quality and good working conditions as well.

By providing locally owned cooperative distribution centers, both Growers and Collectives have a fair place to do business. Without worry of illegal purchase or sale. And Workers will have a central and stable place to go for work.

We will be able to work with the government regulations through our cooperative distribution channels and separate it from your individual business. Just pay the tax there. With verifiable records. This is the main thing the government wants. Lets work with them through a cooperative for and in our own best interest as patients and business persons.

Cooperative operation and UL13bylaws



Who would pay for the operations?

The Cooperatives operational resources would come from your locally owned coop distribution centers and pay for itself.

A small operational fee will be collected on a per transaction basis. This rate will be defined in the cooperative bylaws as decided upon by a majority vote of its members. Books will always be open for member review to assure compliance.

Members maybe able to have a tax write-off for the expense of this fee since they are non profit operations. Check with your lawyer/accountant as it depends on your current tax status.

Membership dues will basically be used to pay the costs of administration of the membership roll. This will keep the actual membership dues low and affordable.

We will be eligible to obtain public safety grants for testing product quality.

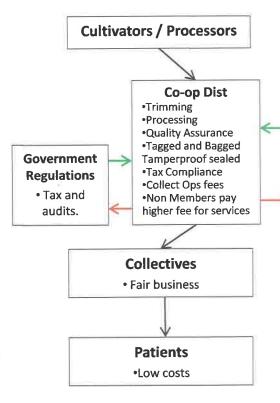
As resources grow we will be able to promote public relations. build legal resources, and provide ourselves with other resources, banks of supplies, land to cultivate, good paying work centers. Even help to pay for your employee healthcare requirements. What ever we want for our own good and public benefit, not profit. And we can help our business thrive. We are only limited by ourselves .

Most importantly it would not affect the cost to you , the patient.

Please consider the alternatives of doing nothing.

Then Join us!

Operation, costs and taxes



Members are not required to use the Co-op Distribution centers. Non-Members may also participate. We believe in an open market but we recommend that members give first chance to negotiate with the Co-op. The more resources we build the stronger we become!

Operations costs and taxes.

A small operational fee will be collected from the Cultivators/ Processors and Collectives on a per transaction basis. This rate will be defined in the cooperative bylaws as decided upon by a majority vote of its members. Books will always be open for member review to assure compliance.

We will be able to work with the government regulations through our cooperative distribution channels and separate it from your individual business. Just pay the tax there. With verifiable records.



Five Golden Rules

(The easiest way to avoid the most trouble)

1 Don't smoke in a vehicle. The odor of cannabis emanating from a car is the single most common way people get busted. Keep it in the trunk, out of sight in an odor-proof container, such as a glass jar or oven roasting bag. Don't use car ashtrays to hold your roaches or pipes.

Don't sell cannabis. Every customer is a potential undercover police officer or informant, and penalties for sales are much more serious than for possession.

Stay well under legal limits and keep the plant count as far below 100 as possible.

Don't smuggle. This is clearly federal jurisdiction. Getting caught crossing international borders creates more serious problems than it is worth.

5 Don't share it with minors; cannabis is for adults only.

Corollary # 1: Don't break more than one law at a time. For example, if you are driving with cannabis in your car, make sure all the lights work on your vehicle and your registration is up to date. You have a legal right to possess a firearm, but not if "illegal drugs" are on your property; that can add years to a prison sentence.

Corollary # 2: Remain silent if you come into contact with police; say, "I choose to remain silent and I want to see my lawyer." And stick to it.

Drug Testing Tips

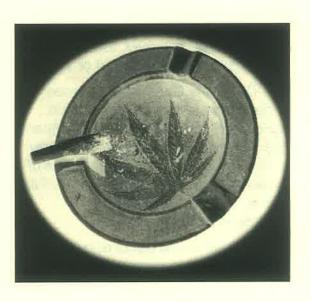
It is important for cannabis consumers to be able to work and support themselves and their families, just like everyone else. Drug testing is morally offensive, job-based discrimination, since it judges a person by the content of their urine and not on work performance. Pre-employment drug testing prevents many hard-working cannabis consumers from joining the workforce. While it is best to refuse or avoid a drug test whenever possible as a matter of principle, for some people, there seems to be little option.

If you are facing a pre-employment urine test, abstain from using cannabis for as long as possible (1-5 days for occasional users, 1-3 weeks for regular users, 4-6 weeks for heavy users). Flush your system by drinking lots of water or liquids and urinating as often as possible during that time period. Use a home drug testing kit to check that the metabolites have exited your body before taking one at work.

Do not submit the first urine of the day. Take a Vitamin B12 or multi-B complex to add color to your pee. You may want to check into other products to help you pass a drug test, if necessary, but be careful not to dilute or contaminate the specimen you turn in.

Now, get to work and join us in demanding "impairment" testing in place of drug testing. It's only fair.

How to Use Cannabis Responsibly and Safely



Cannabis Consumers Campaign

www.cannabisconsumers.org

What is responsible adult cannabis use?

Responsible cannabis consumers come from all walks of life and are good, contributing members of society. People use cannabis safely in social settings or at home for relaxation, medical or spiritual purposes, sensory enhancement and creativity, and for other personal reasons without problems. When integrated into a healthy, balanced and responsible lifestyle, cannabis can be a positive and highly beneficial part of life. Like anything else, however, too much of a good thing can be misused or abused.

The Cannabis Consumers Campaign is dedicated to dispelling negative myths and sterotypes about marijuana that perpetuate prohibition. One way to do that is by being a role model of responsible use and coming out of the closet to show the public what upstanding citizens we are.

We deserve equal rights and to be held to the same standards as everyone else. By upholding our obligations to ourselves, families and community, we will show that cannabis can be used successfully without problems.

Please consider the following tips to to help you maintain a good relationship with cannabis and avoid trouble.

Consider the following:

Responsible adult use suggestions for avoiding cannabis misuse and abuse

Be aware of your set and setting, and consider whether or not it is appropriate to use cannabis there.

2 Know how cannabis affects you, and know your limits. If it makes you tired or distracted, don't use it if you need to be alert and focused.

Do not use the excuse that you got "too high" to get things done, or blame pot for a lack of self-control or not achieving your goals. If you do, it's time to assess how you use it. If it gets in the way of fulfilling obligations and responsibilities to vourself and your loved ones, wait to use it until after you've completed these tasks (or don't use it at all. It's fairly easy to stop, as cannabis is not physically addictive like alcohol and tobacco.) Cannabis is a great reward for a job well done at the end of the day, when it's time to relax. Some prefer to limit it to weekends or special occasions.

Don't use cannabis before going to work or school unless you have a valid medical reason to do so. Employers have the right to expect their employees not to be high, stoned or drunk on the job, so it is fair to be expected to conform to reasonable workplace standards. What you do on your own time is, of course, another matter. College students need to concentrate and study at school and while doing coursework. It's best to hold off until your day's work is done.

Don't drive or operate vehicles while impaired. Wait at least 15 minutes after smoking before getting behind the wheel. Perform a sobriety test on yourself by standing on one leg to test your balance and determine if you are impaired or not. Don't drink and smoke pot before driving; alcohol impairs skills and judgment; smoking cannabis does not sober you up.

6 Be aware that cannabis can have a synergistic effect with other drugs, so if you are taking any other drugs, take care to be informed of possible contraindications.

Listen to and consider the advice and constructive criticism of others. If your behavior after smoking makes others uncomfortable, it makes sense to reassess your usage.

Educate yourself about the laws, your rights, health risks, and any consequences of using cannabis. With the exception of medical use in some states, it is still illegal and penalties can be extremely harsh.

Adults only! Use by minors should be discouraged unless there is a valid medical reason. If an adult is found by authorities to have furnished cannabis to minors, it can lead to other serious ramifications.

Respect others: Don't smoke in designated non-smoking areas.

Come out of the closet and join us.

Take action to legalize adult use.www.cannabisconsumers.org

I will raise up for them a plant of renown, and they shall be no more consumed with hunger in the land, neither bear the shame of the heathen any more.

(Exchict 34:29)

(Ezekiel 34:29)



Every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused if it be received with thanksgiving....

If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine.

(Paul: 1 Timothy 4:1-6)

FAMILY COUNCIL ON DRUG AWARENESS
PO Box 1716, El Cerrito CA 94530
www.fcda.org Item # MB-2K01

A wise man will hear, and will increase learning. (Proverbs 1:5)

WHAT DO THE 10 COMMANDMENTS SAY ABOUT USING MARIJUANA?

Thou shalt not hold it as a false god, not "steal" it "covet" it or "bear false witness" about it (*Exodus 20:1-17*). Nowhere in the Bible does it forbid people to grow, use or smoke cannabis hemp.

DOES THE BIBLE EVER MENTION IT?

Only once. The original Hebrew language texts of the Old Testament mention cannabis in a recipe for an oil of holy anointment, an ointment compound after the art of the apothecary: it shall be an holy anointing oil. (Exodus 30:22-29). The word was mistranslated into English as "calamus."

WHOM DID JESUS SAY CAN JUDGE OTHERS FOR THEIR CHOICES?

Jesus reserved judgement to God alone. "Let him who is without sin cast the first stone." (John 8:7) "Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgement ye judge, ye shall be judged." (Matthew 7:1-4) Jesus preached love and forgiveness.

WHAT ABOUT MEDICAL MARLJUANA?

Jesus repeatedly broke the law to heal the blind and the crippled, and the authorities pursued Him for it. Matthew 12, John 9, Luke 6.

Reproduced as a public service by

First Amendment to the US Constitution:
"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof ..."

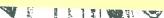
MARIJUANA

THE



BIBLE

WHAT WOULD JESUS SMOKE? INDOOR OR OUTDOOR?



I will raise up for them a plant of renown (Ezekiel 34:29)

Researched and produced as a public service by the

FAMILY COUNCIL ON DRUG AWARENESS (FCDA)

www.fcda.org

WHAT IS THE WORD OF GOD ON THE CANNABIS PLANT?

The hemp plant (scientific name: cannabis, slang: marijuana) is one of the many useful herbs "yielding seed after its kind" created and blessed by God on the third day of creation, "and God saw that it was good." (Genesis 1:12) He gave hemp for people to use with our free will.

God said, "Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed which is upon the face of all the earth...To you it will be for meat." ... And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. (Genesis 1:29-31) The Bible predicts some herb's prohibition. Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times, some shall ... speak lies in hypocrisy ... commanding to abstain from meats which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. (Paul: 1 Timothy 4:1-3)

The Bible speaks of a special plant. I will raise up for them a plant of renown, and they shall be no more consumed with hunger in the land, neither bear the shame of the heathen any more. (Ezekiel 34:29) A healing plant. On either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare 12 manner of fruits, and yielding her fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. (Revelations 22:1-2) A gift from God.

HOW WAS CANNABIS USED IN BIBLICAL TIMES AND LANDS?

Cannabis was used 12 ways: clothing, paper, cord, sails, fishnet, oil, sealant, incense, food, and in ceremony, relaxation and medicine. For so the Lord said unto me, "I will take my rest and I will consider in my dwelling place like a clear heat upon herbs. For afore harvest, when the bud is perfect and the sour grape is ripening in the flower, he shall cut off the sprigs with pruning hooks and take away and cut down the branches." (Isaiah 18:4-5)

WHAT ABOUT CANNABIS TODAY?

Hemp today has thousands of uses. Modern technology has devised many new uses for the hemp plant—like biomass energy, building materials, fuel, plastic and so on. Hemp is ecological and its seed is among the best food crops on Earth. Selected varieties produce flowers that provide an herbal relaxant and a spiritual tool. Its herb is used globally as medicine.

DOES THE BIBLE DISCUSS DRUGS?

Alcohol is the only drug openly discussed in the Bible, so it must serve as our reference. Wine is drunk during religious occasions such as Passover — the Last Supper of Jesus and His disciples. It remains a sacrament in modern church services.

Jesus began his public life by miraculously turning water into wine at the Wedding at Cana (John 2:1-10) when the reception ran out. The Bible distinguishes between use and misuse. It says, Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts. (Proverbs 31:6-7) but Woe unto them that ... follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them! (Isaiah 5:10)

Yet the simple joys of drinking were also sung. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth; And wine that maketh glad the heart of man and oil to make his face to shineth. (Psalm 104:14-15)

DID JESUS SPEAK ABOUT CHOICE?

He said not to criticize other people for their habits. "Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; that which cometh out of the mouth defileth a man." (Mat. 15:11)

The apostle Paul wrote, I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean. ... For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. (Paul: Romans 14:14,17)

DID HE SPEAK OF GOVERNMENT?

Jesus said to keep church and state apart. "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's and unto God the things which be God's." (Luke 20:25) As we have seen, it was God, not government, who gave man the herbs to use. And it was government that put Jesus to death.

PROPERTY FORFEITURE LAWS?

He warned us about seizure and forfeiture laws. "Beware of the scribes which ...devour widows' houses.... The same shall receive greater damnation." (Luke 20:46-47) Jesus, too, was a victim. The soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part. (John. 19:33)

WHAT ABOUT THE DRUG WAR?

Prisons and the drug war do not save souls. The Bible speaks of mercy, peace and a persecution of God's children. The wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God (James 1:20). Blessed the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. ... Blessed the peacemakers (Matthew 5:7,9). They persecute me wrongfully; help thou me (Psalms 119:86). The Lord... hath sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening of the prison to them that are bound (Isaiah 61:1).

WHAT SHOULD THE MINISTRY DO?

Teach God's truth. Warn your congregation that the war on marijuana is unchristian and must be ended. My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you, that you will be no priest to Me ... for I desired mercy and not sacrifice (Hosea 4:6, 6:6).

Remember: Every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused if it be received with thanks-giving.... If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine (Paul: 1 Timothy 4:4-6).

FAMILY COUNCIL ON DRUG AWARENESS (FCDA) POB 1716, El Cerrito CA 94530 • www.fcda.org

latimes.com SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2012 16 PAGES © 2012 WST

THE GREEN RUSH

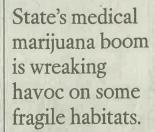
State's medical marijuana boom is wreaking havoc on some fragile habitats.

By Joe Mozingo

EUREKA, Calif. - State scientists, grappling with an explosion of marijuana growing on the North Coast, recently studied aerial imagery of a small tributary of the Eel River, spawning grounds for endangered coho salmon and other threatened fish.

In the remote, 37-squaremile patch of forest, they counted 281 outdoor pot farms and 286 greenhouses, containing an estimated 20,000 plants - mostly fed by water diverted from creeks or a fork of the Eel. The scientists determined the farms were siphoning roughly 18 million gallons from the watershed every year, largely at the time when the salmon most need

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"That is just one small watershed," said Scott Bauer, the state scientist in charge of the coho recovery on the North Coast for the Department of Fish and Game. "You extrapolate that for all the other tributaries, just of the Eel, and

[See Pot farms, A20]



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Los Angeles Times

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Sources: ESRI, TeleAtias, USGS
Graphics reporting by JULIE SHEER
LORENA FLEBEE Los Angeles Times





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Pot farms'

[Pot farms, from A1] you get a lot of marijuana sucking up a lot of water.... This threatens species we are spending millions of dollars to recover."

The marijuana boom that came with the sudden rise of medical cannabis in California has wreaked havoc on the fragile habitats of the North Coast and other parts of California. With little or no oversight, farmers have illegally mowed down timber, graded mountaintops flat for sprawling greenhouses, dispersed poisons and pesticides, drained streams and polluted watersheds.

Because marijuana is unregulated in California and illegal under federal law, most growers still operate in the shadows, and scientists have little hard data on their collective effect. But they are getting ever more ugly snapshots.

A study led by researchers at UC Davis found that a rare forest carnivore called a fisher was being poisoned in Humboldt County and near Yosemite in the Sierra Nevada

The team concluded in its July report that the weasel-like animals were probably eating rodenticides that marijuana growers use to keep animals from gnawing on their plants or were preying on smaller rodents that had consumed the deadly bait. Forty-six of 58 fisher carcasses the team analyzed had rat poison in their systems.

Mark Higley, a wildlife biologist on the Hoopa Indian Reservation in eastern Humboldt who worked on the study, is incredulous over the poisons that growers are bringing in.

"Carbofuran," he said. "It seems like they're using that to kill bears and things like that that raid their camps. So they mix it up with tuna or sardine, and the bears eat that and die."

The insecticide is lethal



WILDLIFE TECHNICIAN found regularly at large-scale



to humans in small doses, requires a special permit from the EPA and is banned in other countries. Authorities are now regularly finding it at large-scale operations in some of California's most sensitive ecosystems.

It is just one in a litany of pollutants seeping into the watershed from pot farms: fertilizers, soil amendments, miticides, rodenticides. fungicides, plant hormones, diesel fuel, human waste.

Scientists suspect that nutrient runoff from excess potting soil and fertilizers, combined with lower-thannormal river flow because of diversions, has caused a rash of toxic blue-green algae blooms in North Coast rivers over the last decade.

The cyanobacteria outthreaten public health for swimmers and kill aquatic invertebrates that salmon and steelhead trout eat. Now, officials warn residents in late summer and fall, to stay out of certain stretches of water and to keep their dogs out. Eleven dogs have died from ingesting the floating algae since 2001.

The effects are disheartening to many locals because healthier salmon runs were signaling that the rivers were gradually improving from the damage caused by more than a century of logging.

"Now with these water diversions, we're potentially slamming the door on salmon recovery," said Scott Greacen, director of Friends of the Eel River.

In June, Bauer and other state scientists accompanied game wardens as they executed six search warrants on growers illegally sucking water from Trinity River tributaries. At one, he came upon a group of 20somethings with Michigan license plates on their vehicles, camping next to 400 plants. He followed an irrigation line up to a creek, where the growers had dug a pond and lined it with plastic.

"I started talking to this guy, and he says he used to be an Earth First! tree-sitter, saving the trees," Bauer said. "I told him everything he was doing here negates everything he did as an environmentalist."

The man was a smalltimer in this new gold rush. As marijuana floods the market and prices drop, many farmers are cultivating ever bigger crops to make a profit. They now cut



AN INDOOR grow room at a medical marijuana dispensary in Long Beach. A study in the journal En Policy calculated that indoor pot cultivation could be responsible for 9% of the state's household electronic could be responsible for 9% of the 9% of

huge clearings for industrial-scale greenhouses. With no permits or provisions for runoff, the operations dump tons of silt into the streams during the rainy season.

Scanning Google Earth in his office recently, Bauer came upon a "mega grow" that did not exist the year before — a 4-acre bald spot in the forest with 42 greenhouses, each 100 feet long.

Figuring a single greenhouse that size would hold 80 plants, each using about 5 gallons of water a day, he estimated the operation would consume 2 million gallons of water in the dry season and unleash a torrent of sediment in the wet season.

"There has been an explosion of this in the last two years," Bauer said. "We can't keep up with it."

Every grow has its own unique footprint. Some farmers on private land avoid pesticides and poisons, get their water legally, keep their crops small and try to minimize runoff. Urban indoor growers might not pollute a river, but they guzzle energy. A study in the journal Energy Policy calculated that indoor marijuana cultivation could be responsible for 9% of California's household electricity use. Other producers, like the Mexican drug trafficking groups who set up giant growing operations on public lands next to mountain streams, spread toxins far and wide and steal enough water to run oscillating sprinkler systems.

But it's not just the big criminal groups skirting the rules, Tony LaBanca, senior environmental scientist at Fish and Game in Eureka,



GEORGE UNSWORTH tends plants in Mendocino County, where people ca grow 25 if they buy zip-ties from the Sheriff's Department and allow inspecti

said less than 1% of marijuana growers get the permits required to take water from a creek, and those who do usually do so after an enforcement action.

Responsible growers could easily get permits, with no questions asked about what type of plant they're watering, LaBanca said. They just need to be set up to take their water in the wet season and store it in tanks and bladders.

Fish and Game wants to step up enforcement, he said, but the staff is overwhelmed. The agency has 12 scientists and 15 game wardens for the entire four counties on the North Coast, covering thousands of mountainous square miles.

Until the last few years,

dealing with marijuana cultivation was usually a minor issue. Now, LaBanca said, it is "triage."

On a recent day, Higley, the Hoopa wildlife biologist, took a reporter and photographer to some of the damage he finds in the most remote mountains, where bears, fishers, martens, rare salamanders and spotted owls live in cloud-mist forests. With his colleague Aaron Pole at the wheel, Higley headed north up the Bigfoot Highway and then up a dirt logging road 13 miles into the snow-peaked Trinities.

They were going to a grow that the sheriff had raided by helicopter in August. Deputies cut down 26,600 plants in eight intercon-

nected clearings alon Creek, which flows in Trinity River.

They parked the and started threading precipitous slopes, the thick wet brush and fo They stepped over bear slippery roots and col giant salamanders.

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Sources: ESRI, TeleAtlas, USGS
Graphics reporting by JULIE SHEER

LORENA ELEBEE Los Angeles Times

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Humboldt Growers Association launches membership drive

In 2010, the Humboldt Growers Association (HGA) was formed by local medical cannabis farmers who saw a need to give input on critical decisions being made at the county-level. These decisions affect many aspects of our community, including patient access, our local economy and public safety. It is clear that input and involvement is needed from those who know the industry best—the growers.

The HGA is a non-profit, member-based business association that promotes the sustainable cultivation of medical cannabis in Humboldt County.

Commission's draft ordinance for medical cannabis cultivation in the unincorporated areas.

The HGA represents Humboldt's medical cannabis growers and patients both locally and on a state-wide level. By representing and promoting our local farmers statewide, the HGA is working to ensure that Humboldt's cannabis farmers can successfully have a place in the larger medical cannabis market.

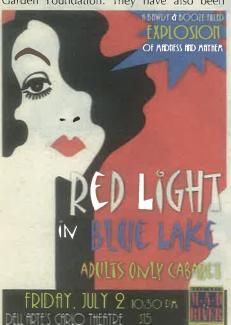
"We're excited to get the community involved and have launched our membership drive to ensure that this impor-

Bob & Lynne Wells Dell'Arte Lifetime Achievement Award

This year, we can think of no more deserving recipients for the Dell'Arte Lifetime Achievement Award than Bob and Lynne Wells. Having been outstanding local advocates, leaders and patrons of the arts for more than four decades, Dell'Arte is proud to honor Bob and Lynne for their exceptional achievements in the field of the performing arts

This extraordinary couple met and fell in love while pursuing their mutual passion, theatre, in Humboldt County. Their love of laughter, art, beauty and the magical personal transformations of live theatre have sustained a wonderful partnership that rejoices in giving back to the community.

Graduates of the Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre, Bob and Lynne have toured and performed with the Dell'Arte Company, as well as have starred in dozens of other local community productions. As members of the Chamber Readers, they have delighted local school children with their captivating stage presence. Both are active supporters of the Humboldt Botanical Garden Foundation. They have also been





board members and contributors to the North Coast Cultural Trust, Dell'Arte and the Jacoby Creek Water Board.

Believers in the ability of the performing arts to lift us out of the mundane and into the realms of imagination, Bob and Lynne have spent a lifetime investing in the creativity, productivity and passions that have been so important to their own. Please join Dell'Arte on June 25 as we celebrate this accomplished, fun-loving couple.

Tickets to the Dell'Arte Lifetime Achievement Awards dinner, which includes performances by Bob and Lynne Wells, are \$75. Price of admission also includes entry to "Mary Jane: The Musical." For further information, please visit www.dellarte.com or call (707) 668-5663.

Holy
Cahones
Humboldt!
A Clown
Play with
Rats and
Guns



Ten years after their debut as a clown trio at Dell'Arte, Joe Krienke, Stephanie Thompson and Lauren Wilson return to the stage in a brand new work of clown theater. "Three Trees" tells the story of three circus clowns who defy their country's militarism and lust for war, unleashing the subversive power of laughter through the hilarity of their routines.

When war breaks out and the military takes command of society, the clowns create a routine so funny it paralyses the rank and file with laughter. What if, instead of following orders, soldiers began to laugh hysterically at those who gave them? What would become of war, and of those who caused such laughter in the first place?

A mixture of rollicking clown routines, metaphysical humor and poetic theatrical

imagery, "Three Trees" is a powerfully funny and poignant celebration of the clown, and of the irreverent power of laughter in the face of military insanity.

A clown play in one act for adults and brave children (13+) July 14 - 17 at 8pm in the Carlo Theatre, Blue Lake. Advanced tickets are \$15/12/10 please visit www.dellarte.com or call (707) 668-5663.

The Humboldt Folklife Society presents
2011 Folklife Festival
July 16 - 23

7/16 Kick off Party Mad River Brewery
7/18 -Annie & Mary Day Fiddle Fest
Noon-5 in Perigot Park, Blue Lake
7/18 Women's Songwriter Night
in the Carlo 7:30pm, Blue Lake
7/19 - Acoustic Jazz
in the Carlo 7:30pm, Blue Lake
7/20 - NEW! Country Music Night
out back at Dell'Arte 6pm, Blue Lake
7/22 - Bluegrass and Beyond
out back at Dell'Arte 6pm, Blue Lake
7/22- Barn Dance, Arcata Vet's Hall
7/23 - All Day Free Festival
starts at 11am, all around Blue Lake
for folklife tickets contact the HFS at

www.humboldtfolklife.org





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Dell'Arte goes green Artists open up Loggers, an *Inspector*, a Marley and more





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Open Studios



OYSTER FESTIVAL, PHOTO BY BOB DORAN



PAINTING BY DUSANKA KRALJ



14 Arts Night
Arts! Arcata — Friday, June 10, 6-9 p.m.

15 Arts Night

McKinleyville Arts Night — Friday, June 17, 6-8 p.m.



North Coast Journal Inc. www.northcoastjournal.com

ISSN 1099-7571 © Copyright 2011







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Joan Schirle as Mary Jane in Dell'Arte's *Mary Jane: The Musical*, photo by Terrence McNally www.arcataphotostudios.com

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lane: The Musical

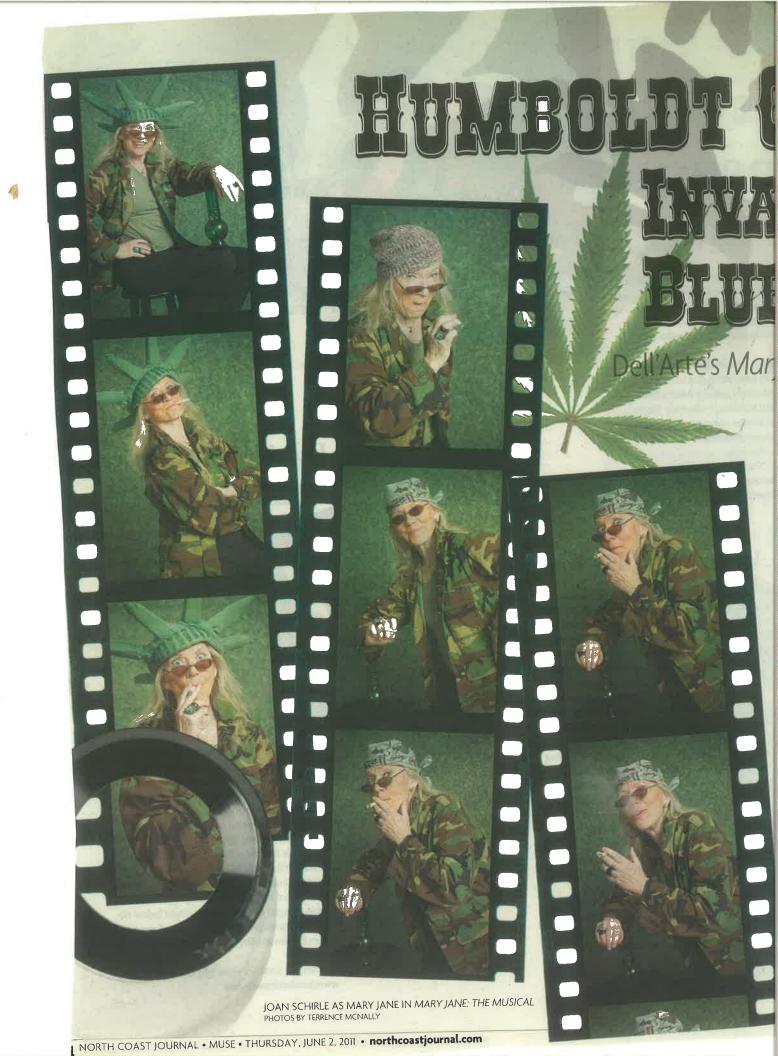
BY BOB DORAN

oobdoran@northcoastjournal.com

he credo of the internatic ally renowned theatre con pany and school we know simply as Dell'Arte is akin t that most famous portion of Lincoln's Gettysburg Ad dress — "of the people, by he people, for the people." For Dell'Arte'. rtisans, it's something they call "Theatre f Place" — plays "about where you live, or and with the people where you live ... ork that goes deep into the landscape of lace and people."

For its annual Mad River Festival, startig June 23 and running well into July, Blue ake's Dell'Arte Company is hard at work n a musical theatre piece that takes a ook at the green side of Humboldt's curent landscape. As we go to press, Mary ine: The Musical is still a work in progess, and the way Michael Fields and Joan chirle, Dell'Arte's co-artistic directors se , the piece will still be a work in progre hen they debut it later this month. The an is to continue their exploration of ne place marijuana has come to hold in ur community. This first run is simply a arting point.

It began with a character called Mary ne (to be played by Schirle), a firsteneration dope grower who came to umboldt in the early back-to-the-land ays. All they needed was a play and a aywright; Schirle and Fields were too isy to do it. Plus, they recognized their nderstanding of the "phenomenon" of ot in Humboldt was not deep enough.



boldt enings

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your motor running and head on down the highway to od Run running **June 10-12**. A loud and proud, two-1977, the theme of this year's Run is "Back to Tradition" ing put on by Kiwanis of the Redwoods, Garberville uns, you'll want to plot a course for the **Bowman Ranch**,

mes, wet T-shirt contests, tattoo artists, vendors, food by dose of live road tunes from bands sure to rev your ar's run is legendary, road-tested guitarist **Ronnie Mon**tly named hard rock band Montrose in the early '70s and mula of featuring singer Sammy Hager in bands named yer the years, Ronnie has also shredded for artists as erbie Hancock and Van Morrison.

'hil Lewis' version of **L.A. Guns** (long story), **Tommy Cas-Fryed Brothers, Kaye Bohler Band** and **II Big** to name a Run check out **www.kiwanisrwr.com**.

--- Andrew Goff



PHOTO BY TERRENCE MCNA

Humboldt Made Fair

June marks the first of two fairs on the Humboldt summer calendar, but just in case there is any confusion in your brain about

"Humboldt Made Fair" is being advertised as taking place at Redwood Acres Fairgrounds during the week usually reserved for your beloved "Redwood Acres Fair" — this year from June 23-26 — fear not. They're the same

why this mysterious, shiny, new

thing. Kinda.

The name change
is part of a rebranding
attempt. Additions to the
fair, spearheaded by the
folks at Made in Humboldt,
will naturally be Humboldtcentric. Throughout the week,

attendees will notice a focus on local products, including food, beverage, arts and crafts. One night is slated to be a local film night. Another, a local music night.

But while the name and focus are slightly different, you'll still be able to enjoy the usual fair delights. Organizer Cindy Bedingfield said that they're "adding to the fair, not taking anything away." (i.e. You'll still be able to regret eating greasy food right before riding the Gravatron.) Also, returning will be Exceptional Rodeo, Cattleman's Day and various 4-H competitions and displays.

Change is good. For more info, check out www.humboldtmade.com.

— AG

Arcata Oyster Festival

Get shucked, Humboldt! In willful defiance of Levitical law, the Oyster Fest has become arguably the biggest single-day annual social event on Humboldt's calendar, and definitely the most delicious. Thousands will descend on the **Arcata Plaza** on **Saturday**, **June 18** to see how many slimy bivalves they can consume whilst still downing frosty beverages. It could get ugly.

In addition to countless oyster booth offerings from local tastebud tinglers, throughout the day attendees will witness live music from Vinyl, Full Moon Fever and Woven Roots, the highly competitive Shuck and Swallow Contest — three-time defending champions Aiden Semingson and Conor Eckholm are gunning for the "Four-peat" — and the sometimespainful-but-often-adorable Oyster Calling Contest. Check out www.oysterfest.net for more info.

Later that night if your stomach can hang, stick around for the Official Oysterfest After Party at HumBrews in Arcata featuring alternative rock elder statesmen — and heroes to Kurt Cobain — **The Meat Puppets**.

If your gut can still handle more ocean fare the next day, we'll also note that Sunday (June 19) after Oyster Fest, the **54th Annual Trinidad Fish Fest** features a day of local beer and wine, kids events, Trinidad Head Lighthouse tours, Coast Guard rescue demos, live music and, of course, fish — notably salmon and whitefish dinners.



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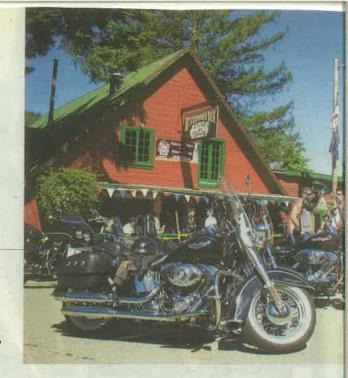
Redwood Run

Motorcycleheads, get your motor running and head on down the highway to Piercy for the 2011 Redwood Run running June 10-12. A loud and proud, two-wheeled celebration since 1977, the theme of this year's Run is "Back to Tradition" as the event returns to being put on by Kiwanis of the Redwoods, Garberville Chapter. Unlike previous runs, you'll want to plot a course for the Bowman Ranch, this year's site.

In addition to biker games, wet T-shirt contests, tattoo artists, vendors, food and brews, expect a healthy dose of live road tunes from bands sure to rev your engine. Headlining this year's run is legendary, road-tested guitarist **Ronnie Montrose**, who formed the aptly named hard rock band Montrose in the early '70s and pioneered the winning formula of featuring singer Sammy Hager in bands named after the lead guitarist. Over the years, Ronnie has also shredded for artists as diverse as Edgar Winter, Herbie Hancock and Van Morrison.

Other groups include Phil Lewis' version of L.A. Guns (long story), Tommy Castro Band, biker faves The Fryed Brothers, Kaye Bohler Band and II Big to name a few. For more info on the Run check out www.kiwanisrwr.com.

- Andrew Goff







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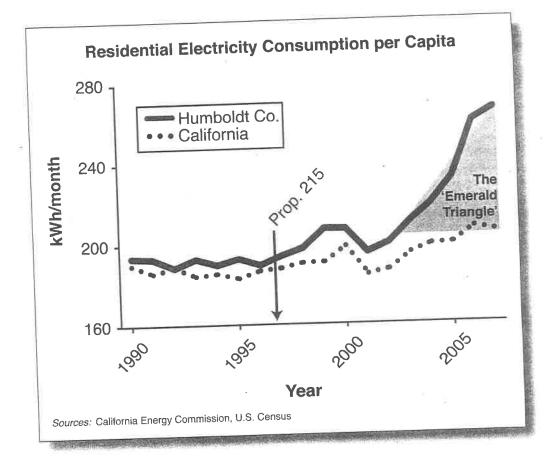
OTO BY BOB DORAN



The Climate-Killers Inside

Measuring the astoundingly high environmental costs of grow houses

By Peter Lehman and Peter Johnstone



he grow house scene in Humboldt County has made us famous, like it or not. What goes along with growing pot indoors, and what is often overlooked, is the enormous amount of electricity that grows consume.

We like to think of ourselves as an environmentally aware community, and in many ways we are. Humboldt County has twice as many solar panels per household as any place in California. But with pot grows, we're using our precious energy resources to grow a plant indoors, a plant that grows like a weed outdoors. It's expensive, it's bad for the environment and it's wasteful.

Electricity is a wonderful form of energy. It's quiet and clean. It powers

In 2008, the average California household used only 64 percent as much electricity as the average American household. Good for us.

But look what's happening in Humboldt County. The graph above shows per capita residential electricity use for California and Humboldt County beginning in 1990. In the early '90s, use of electricity in our county more or less tracks the use in the state as a whole.

That was then. In November 1996,
Proposition 215 passed and things changed
— gradually, at first, and then dramatically
in the last few years, Humboldt County's
residential electricity use has soared.
Why's that? Our lifestyle hasn't changed
much, but the number of indoor pot
grows has. The graph shows the "Emerald

There's more. Many growers have no reportable income so they qualify for subsidized electricity under PG&E's "CARE" program, which is intended to help low income households keep the lights on. That means we all pay higher electricity rates and underwrite lower rates for growers who use this assistance program.

There are environmental consequences of what we're doing. Generating electricity kills fish, emits carbon dioxide (CO2) into the atmosphere and contributes to climate change. The extra electricity used by grows in Humboldt County totals an astounding 90 million kWhs a year — about 70 times the total output of all the solar panels in the county, or enough to power 13,000 typical homes. Generating that electricity, even with PG&E's relatively low-carbon grid,

On-grid and off-grid, indoor pot growing in the county adds about 40,000 metric tons of CO2 to the atmosphere each year. To put that into perspective, consider that the City of Arcata just sold carbon credits to PG&E in a landmark deal. The contract calls for the city to sequester 10,000 metric tons of CO2 a year by not cutting trees in city forests. Unfortunately, this effort is being swamped 4 to 1 by grow lights.

There's no question that indoor grows are a huge benefit to our local economy. There's also no question why people grow indoors. They get more crops, make more money and their valuable crop is more secure. But the energy and environmental costs are high.

There's an obvious solution to this situ-

he grow house scene in Humboldt County has made us famous, like it or not. What goes along with growing pot indoors, and what is often overlooked, is the enormous amount of electricity that grows consume.

We like to think of ourselves as an environmentally aware community, and in many ways we are. Humboldt County has twice as many solar panels per household as any place in California. But with pot grows, we're using our precious energy resources to grow a plant indoors, a plant that grows like a weed outdoors. It's expensive, it's bad for the environment and it's wasteful.

Electricity is a wonderful form of energy. It's quiet and clean. It powers our lights, electric motors, refrigerators and all the other electric appliances that make our lives so much healthier and richer. Electricity is so valuable that we go through a lot of trouble to generate enough of it. We build power plants that burn fuel, make steam and turn turbinegenerators. We build dams to block rivers and generate hydropower. We build transmission lines to carry valuable electric cargo to almost every corner of America.

California households use less electricity than almost anywhere else in America, and this despite the fact that much of California has a large air conditioning load in the summer. Our state has strict building standards, and Californians are particularly frugal in their use of power.

In 2008, the average California household used only 64 percent as much electricity as the average American household. Good for us.

But look what's happening in Humboldt County. The graph above shows per capita residential electricity use for California and Humboldt County beginning in 1990. In the early '90s, use of electricity in our county more or less tracks the use in the state as a whole.

That was then. In November 1996, Proposition 215 passed and things changed — gradually, at first, and then dramatically in the last few years, Humboldt County's residential electricity use has soared. Why's that? Our lifestyle hasn't changed much, but the number of indoor pot grows has. The graph shows the "Emerald Triangle," which represents the increase in electricity consumption that we believe is due to indoor grows. By 2007, the last year we have data for, that extra consumption amounted to an average of 61 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per month for each Humboldt County resident or 145 kWh for each household.

That's the average for all households in the county and only a few of them contain grows. To bring the average up that high, grow houses use much more electricity than the rest of us. In a case prosecuted by Maggie Fleming in the DA's office, one grow house used almost 10,000 kWh a month, or almost 20 times as much as an average household. It's probably not the highest.

There's more. Many growers have no reportable income so they qualify for subsidized electricity under PG&É's "CARE" program, which is intended to help low income households keep the lights on. That means we all pay higher electricity rates and underwrite lower rates for growers who use this assistance program.

There are environmental consequences of what we're doing. Generating electricity kills fish, emits carbon dioxide (CO2) into the atmosphere and contributes to climate change. The extra electricity used by grows in Humboldt County totals an astounding 90 million kWhs a year — about 70 times the total output of all the solar panels in the county, or enough to power 13,000 typical homes. Generating that electricity, even with PG&E's relatively low-carbon grid, puts 20,000 metric tons of CO2 into the atmosphere. And that's without considering the energy and environmental costs of using chemical fertilizers, which are significant.

Grows on the grid are only part of the story. Many of the largest indoor grows are off-grid in the more remote areas of the county. These operations use diesel generators to provide the electricity and have even worse environmental consequences, since there are fuel spills as well as CO2 emissions. Setting aside the issue of spills, we used estimates from Jack Nelson of the Humboldt County Drug Task Force of the number and size of off-grid grows to estimate the amount of CO2 they emit—another 20,000 metric tons a year.

On-grid and off-grid, indoor pot growing in the county adds about 40,000 metric tons of CO2 to the atmosphere each year. To put that into perspective, consider that the City of Arcata just sold carbon credits to PG&E in a landmark deal. The contract calls for the city to sequester 10,000 metric tons of CO2 a year by not cutting trees in city forests. Unfortunately, this effort is being swamped 4 to 1 by grow lights.

There's no question that indoor grows are a huge benefit to our local economy. There's also no question why people grow indoors. They get more crops, make more money and their valuable crop is more secure. But the energy and environmental costs are high.

There's an obvious solution to this situation — grow marijuana in the sunshine, where it is meant to be grown. Grow organic pot with no pesticides, fungicides or artificial fertilizers. Grow in greenhouses if security is an issue. Plants are the original solar collectors, and they're really good at it. Solar powered pot can provide all the medicine we need, just as it has for centuries. And we can be kind to the earth in the bargain.

Peter Lehman is the director and Peter Johnstone is a research engineer at the Schatz Energy Research Center at Humboldt State University. Views expressed in this article are those of the authors and not those of the Schatz Center or HSU.

Dell'Arte presents

Mary Jane: The Musical

by Michael Fields and the Ensemb	le to to
Director	Lydia Foreman Laura Muñoz
CAST Mary Jane, Queen of the Emerald Ball Manny Miller Fixit, a lawyer Dharla, Mary Jane's land partner Daphney, Mary Jane's land partner Chanterelle, Mary Jane's niece Crazy Jeannie, Chanterelle's partner Gemini Giovanni, a traveler Ravi, Mary Jane's yoga teacher Kev Bissel, Editor of The Cutten Ear Hank Burt Michael, a local carpenter with three first names	
Tim Randles. Marla Joy Mike LaBolle. Scott Menzies.	Base Woman
PRODUCTION STAFF Production and Stage Manager Technical Director Assistant Stage Manager Assistant Technical Director Carpenter Master Electrician Sound System Designer and Engineer. Properties Construction Costume Assistants	Daniel SpencerDevin BozzelliLeighland HooksColin Trevino-OdellAnthony ArnistaTim GrayKatherine DawsonLauren Wilson

© Dell'Arte International 2011

Latest Buzz on New Dell'Arte Show

MARIJUANA: the economic engine of Humboldt County, Dell'Arte's home in "The Emerald Triangle."

What began as a back-to-the-land movement out of the wreckage of the Summer of Love has become the largest cash crop in California!

A spiritual movement becomes a prohibitionstyle enterprise! Healing or harmful? A community scourge or a community salvation?? From medical marijuana to the impact of growhouses on neighborhoods, the debate around the legalization of marijuana rages on.

Whole new economic classes have emerged. Cultural divides have widened as a result. In the new landscape of our lives will "Purple Kush" become the new Zinfandel??

Out of this milieu DAI has envisioned a true theatre -ofplace production: "Mary Jane: The Musical." "MJM" is a unique musical event, part concert, part show. With songs commissioned from over a dozen songwriters, "MJM" reflects the broad spectrum of our community's attitudes, beliefs, fears, hopes and dreams about the herb.

Sung in concert style by a cast of fourteen singers, actors and musicians, the evening is led by DAI's founding artistic director loan Schirle as first-generation grower, Mary Jane. "MJM" promises to reflect the good, the bad, the funny and the sad, in new original songs born of our local marijuana culture. Whether you think Mary Jane's an industrial pollutant or a magical mystery, there'll be a song for you!

Theatre of Place is about where you live, for and with the people where you live, in work that goes deep into the landscape of place and people. Pioneers in Theatre of Place, DAI once again steps to the forefront of a burning local issue (no pun intended!). Our goal is "to hold as 'twere the mirror up to nature" (Hamlet, Act 3) and thus give us all the chance to laugh and learn together.

Please help us do this today by becoming a member of the Dell'Arte 215 Club. And get your tickets to the Mad River Festival -- for a fabulous concert evening with great music, characters, and songs, directed by Michael Fields, musical arrangments by Tim Randles.

Original songs from Lila Nelson, Joyce Hough, Fred Neighbor, Joani Rose, Tim Randles, Jeff DeMark, Joan Schirle and many others! A muscial in two acts in Dell'Arte's Rooney Amphitheatre (dress warm!) June 23 - July 3 at 8pm. Advanced tickets are \$15/12/10 please visit www.dellarte.com or call (707) 668-5663.







SPECIAL INSERT TO THE NORTH COAST JOURNAL • THURSDA

JAZZ

BACKYARD

Unless otherwise noted the performances will take place inside Dell'Arte's Carlo Theatre.

BACKYARD

STARTS AT

Please let us know of any specia needs, such as wheelchair space

2009

Supervisors to Hear About 'Diesel Dope'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

as cancer often have no idea that they might be inhaling toxic residues, including cancer-causing agents.

The environmental devastation caused by red-dye diesel spilled into soil and waterways has been well documented by the county's Division of Environmental Health; in May, a 1,000-gallon spill in Hacker Creek, a tributary of Salmon Creek, resulted in community outrage and a hefty fine for the property owner, whose tenants

fled the scene before the spill was discovered by a neighbor. The story received countywide news coverage, including a North Coast Journal cover article written by Salmon Creek resident Kym Kemp.

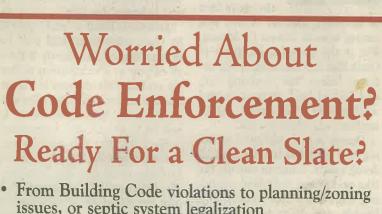
Fire is a major concern for Southern Humboldt residents, and Sutherland is entreating local fire chiefs to cooperate with the county in the creation of a brochure about the high fire risks endemic to marijuana-growing operations. At the July 30 Garberville meeting, Sutherland reported

an e-mail.

at the Nov. 13 meeting, though, was a proposal to "yellow sticker" tanks that receive fuel deliveries. Under the proposal, Sutherland wrote, a tank owner would "voluntarily register his or her tank by signing an affidavit that he has a spill plan, that the tank meets certain specifications, etc., and that he is personally liable for any misstatements or deviations. So he gets a yellow sticker to put on his tank - no inspection, but basically a guarantee of liability. For other tanks, [the] fuel deliverer can say, 'Yes, I can deliver to your tank, if you allow me to certify it.' He then inspects the site, sees the spill plan, etc. He has no obligation to look beyond the tank to which he delivers, except to say [for example] he knows he cannot deliver 1,000 gallons to a 500-gallon tank (i.e., if the grower has another uncertified tank downhill)."

The yellow stickers would be imprinted with serial numbers, and any tank of a certain size or above would require one. Should a marijua-

that several fire chiefs told him that between 70 and 90 percent of all Southern Humboldt structure fires are caused by indoor growing scenes - a fact that often isn't reflected in official reports, because fire personnel may fear retaliation from growers. Fires can be caused by a number of factors, from "generators, wiring, and sloppy fuel handling" to "water pumps running dry, careless smoking, [and] automated (and thus unattended) grows," Sutherland wrote in The idea discussed in most detail

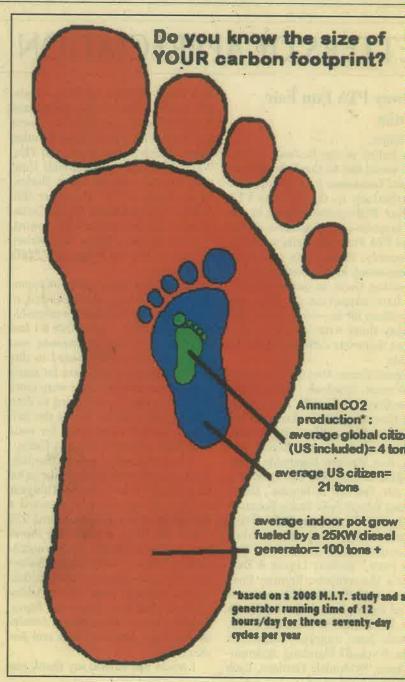


- issues, or septic system legalization
- We can help you by outlining the steps to compliance
- And provide estimated costs for permits

Jim Truitt Truitt Construction

Phillip Beinhauer Earth & Sun Designers

THE REAL "BIG FOOT"



Southern Humboldt's Original Medical Marijuana Dispensary Established in 2011



HUMBOLDT

78 Bear Canyon Road
Garberville, Ca 95542
(Behind Renner's Gas Station)
Hours Tues-Sat 10-4pm
707-923-2175

PLANTSALE

Name:

Double OG Sour Diesel aka., "OG Sour"

Genetics: OG and

Sour Diesel

Yield: Heavy

THC Potency: 22%

Indoor/Depi: 65 Days





Story: Big and beautiful, OG Sour is a new strain that comes straight to us from Ganja Rebel. Her citrusy Sour Diesel heritage gives her a strong frame and she's surprisingly vigorous, though keep in mind she's sensitive to light and moisture conditions. This THC queen has a wonderfully smooth diesel smoke with an OG end.

Characteristics:

- · New strain from Ganja Rebel · Strong structure
- High potency Chunky pods Vigorous

\$15.00 per potted clone \$10.00 per starter clone

Unique Tidbits:

• Monitor PH and water • Sunlight hungry • Best height to flower: 9-10 inches Indoor

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Need CBD plants? Stop by the nursery for up to 5 plants per patient, no charge. Valid 215 required.



Name: Blue Dynamite 10:1



Name: The Remedy 30:1



Name: Suzy Q 20:1



Name: AC/DC 18:1



Name: Cannatonic 18:1



Name: Harle-TSU 10:1

Ratios shown are CBD:THC

Other CBD strains available: Harlequin 1-1, Omrita 10-1, Swiss Tsu 15-1, Oracle 15-1

SUPERCONCENTRATES



Plushberry Live

Berry flavored, sweet and terpene rich. "Live" means the plant was harvested and the fresh untrimmed buds were immediately refined.

\$90/g



OG Kush Live

Smooth and almost creamy. Premium experience, stimulating, awakening, and pleasant. "Live" means the plant was harvested and the fresh untrimmed buds were immediately refined.

\$90/g



Agent Orange

Sweet, citrus, reminiscent of fresh tangerines. Creative and uplifting. A "just right" experience. Full bud product.

\$80/g



OG Kush

Well rounded classic OG, rich and complex taste and effect.

\$70/g



DCC OG

Nitrogen processed premium product. Stunning texture, refined taste, mellow, uplifting, and well developed taste and experience.

\$70/g



Blue Kush

Natural kush flavor, gentle and sedative. A positive pain relieving experience.

\$60/g



Mr. Nice

Calming body & mind effect, only mildly sedative. Distinct taste of Mr. Nice with sweetness and flavor.

\$60/g



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Read more about the intricacies of the cannibis industry at TheGanjier.com

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Cannabis Industry Has a PR Problem

BY WONDERLAND NURSERY

In a previous column, we examined how the success of the Cannabis Movement has given rise to both a "Cannabis Cause" and a "Cannabis Industry." Though related to each other, the Cause and the Industry have (at times) different goals and issues.

These two branches of the Cannabis Movement also have different problems. Mutual cooperation to address these problems could provide significant solutions.

Media Loves Bad News, Skips the Good News

The Cannabis Industry's problems seem to grab more headlines. Stories of bad actors engaging in environmental destruction have become prominent. Businesses competing for limited numbers of licenses in certain geographic areas creates controversy and resentment. Illicit indoor cultivation in a residential neighborhood resulting in law enforcement responses always makes the evening news.

Successes for the Cannabis Industry like Job Creation, Taxes Paid, Neighborhood Development, Patient Assistance, Regional Brand Advancement — these rarely seem to become news events. Farmers using best practices aren't highlighted, and best practice farmers generally aren't law enforcement targets, so they don't appear in negative coverage anyways. Delivery services are not publicly lauded for switching their fleet of cars over to Plug-In-Hybrids. The lack of law enforcement problems at well-run dispensaries isn't a news item.

Further, it is easy for what might be deemed a "success" to be deemed as a "problem" to the media and the public at large. Since Colorado legalized, a small number (3 by this author's count) of persons died while under the influence of cannabis products. Matters of other drug use or pre-existing mental health issues were not a consideration in the nation-wide media coverage.

Headlines did not read, "1400 die per year of alcohol in Colorado, 3 from Cannabis, maybe."

The Cannabis Industry, and by extension the entire Cannabis Movement, has significant public relations challenges. The process of resolving these problems won't be easy. It will take time, money, skill, and a very good plan.

Teaching the Public About Cannabis

A major component of this plan will need to be educating the public about cannabis, and teaching that cannabis is normal for adults, but not for children (excepting outlier medical cases). Additionally, as a newly emerging Industry, we have the opportunity to proactively prevent new problems from occurring. By promoting social norms that reduce social harm we can bring about social change. Mutual cooperation between the Cannabis Industry and the Cannabis Cause could provide significant solutions.

DISPOSABLE

BULLSHIT

BAG

SEAL B.S. IN

DIRECTIONS:

- 1. OPEN BAG BEFORE OPENING MOUTH.
- 2. TUCK OPEN BAG BENEATH CHIN.
- 3. START "TALKING' LET THE B.S. FLOW.
- 4.PLEASE DO NOT LITTER YOUR B.S.AROUND.
- 5. WHEN FULL, SEAL BAGAND DISPOSE OF B.S. IN ITS PROPER PLACE.

NOTICE:

This bag is recommended for all forms of self-pity and self-justification to blame any other person, place, or situation for not being exactly the way it is supposed to be.

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Arcata, California

MARIJUANA

Pot's hit on our water supply

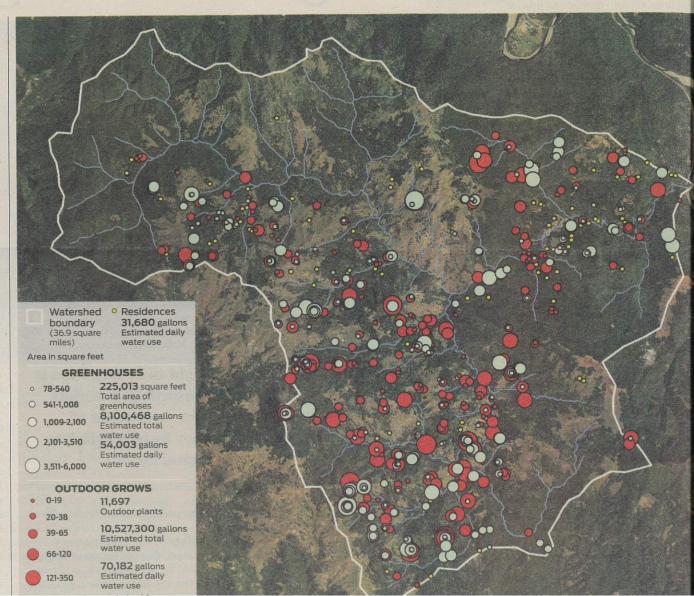
Legalization must address problem of poaching from state's stream

By Brian Johnson, **Curtis Knight and Mike Sweeney**

California, the nation's top agricultural producer, also is the source of up to 70 percent of the marijuana consumed in the United States. The marijuana industry is largely unregulated and there are few protections to ensure illegal water diversions for grows don't dry up rivers and destroy salmon and steelhead habitat. As the state begins to debate whether to legalize recreational marijuana, these concerns are amplified. With or without legalization, California needs to grapple with the environmental consequences of this enormous industry.

The longer the drought, the greater the tension among the demands for water for agricultural crops, urban water and the need for cold clean water for fisheries. Almonds bring in upward of \$6.4 billion annually. Dairy products and wine grapes inject \$6.9 billion and \$3 billion, respectively, into our state economy. The economic value of these industries pales compared to medical and black market marijuana sales, which together amount to \$16 billion.

Marijuana is a thirsty crop, typically grown off the beaten path on private property and illegally on public lands. And it is often grown in the most sensitive watersheds with significant wildlife habitat. Along the North Coast, it takes twice as much water to grow one marijuana plant as it takes to grow one wine grapevine. Water for these plantations often is taken illegally. Such diversions can significantly reduce stream flow during California's dry season partie



NATION

Pot takes toll on water supply

Marijuana from page E5

the first time, the state has allocated limited funding to enforce environmental laws around marijuana production. The first piece of legislation to address extensive environmental damage caused by cannabis cultivation is working its way through the Legislature. Unfortunately, the clandestine nature and sheer number of marijuana gardens, combined with insufficient enforcement, have allowed this industry and its detrimental environmental effects to flourish under the radar. Resources allocated are insufficient to meet the need.

The recently released Blue Ribbon Commission report on policy options for regulating marijuana in California includes important recommendations, and we urge their adoption into any potential legalization framework. State agencies need sufficient resources to bring marijuana farmers into compliance with existing state environmental laws. They also must begin the process of reversing the extensive environmental damage caused by this booming industry, including developing new policies to regulate water rights in a region where thousands of independent water diversions are having devastating cumulative effects on rivers and

Adequate funding is essential. Should recreational marijuana be legalized in California, a portion of associated revenues (e.g. taxes, fees, penalties) should be dedicated to preventing environmental effects or restoring land and waters degraded from cultivation.

California has limited water supplies available to support agriculture, residential and commercial uses, and wildlife. We must bring marijuana production into the conversation about how best to allocate this precious resource.

Brian Johnson is California state director for Trout Unlimited. Curtis Knight is executive director of nonprofit fish and watershed advocacy organization California Trout. Mike Sweeney is executive director of the Nature Conservancy in California. To comment, submit your letter to the editor at www.sfgate.com/submissions.

DIGITAL PRIVACY

Graphic photos show for 'right to be forgo

By John M. Simpson

Nine years ago, Nikki, the 18-yearold daughter of Christos and Lesli Catsouras, died in a horrific automobile crash in Orange County. Graphic confidential police investigative photos of her remains were leaked and posted on the Internet. Today, those gruesome images are still linked to her name and the names of other Catsouras family members in Internet search results.

The failure of search engines like Google, Yahoo and Bing to honor the "right to be forgotten" in the United States is not an abstract issue. Their callous decision hurts real people, like the Catsouras family.

"Since the leak, my family has been forced to relive the shock every time the horrific images reappear simply because there are no tools in place to stop it," says Christos Catsouras.

"'The right to be forgotten' is the only chance for my family to find closure

and to finally grieve."

In May 2014, the European Court of Justice ruled that Europeans have the right to request the removal of search engine links from their name to information that is "inadequate, irrelevant, no longer relevant, or excessive." In deciding whether to grant removal requests, a balance must be struck between the public's right to know and the individual's right to privacy, the court ruled.

The right to be forgotten is not censorship. It simply restores an element of "privacy by obscurity" to the digital age. The original published item is not removed or altered. The link from a person's name may be removed, but the item still can be accessed using other search terms.

Google, the dominant search engine, compiled data just uncovered by the Guardian newspaper showing that 95 percent of right-to-be-forgotten removal requests it received came from private individuals concerning private information. Only 5 percent concerned



An illuminated sign of the Google logo is show Messe in Hanover, Germany.

The right to be forgotten is not censorship. It simply restores an element of "privacy by obscurity" to the digital age.

criminals, politicians or public officials.

According to its "transparency report," since Google began considering right-to-be-forgotten requests in Europe, Google has received 286,521 removal requests. The Internet giant evaluated 1,041,732 URLs and among those cases fully processed has dropped 364,097, or 41.2 percent. It has declined to remove 519,119, or 58.8 percent of the links. Americans deserve the same right to be forgotten.

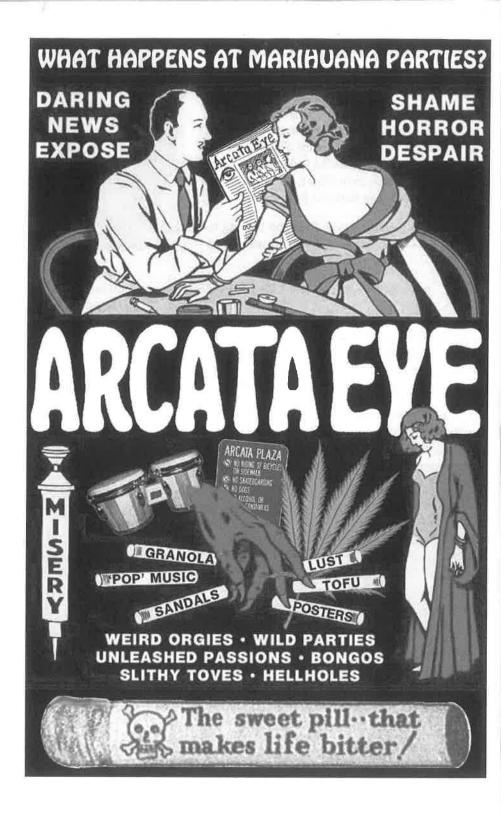
The Internet giant's June 19 announcement that it would honor requests to remove links to "revenge porn" — nude or explicit photos posted without the subject's consent — unde also requ

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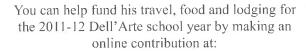
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Bring Lloyd from Zimbabwe to Dell'Arte!

Lloyd Nyikadzino is a theatre artist in Zimbabwe. We've invited him here to train at the Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre; we're waiving tuition. While we've had students from across the globe join us in Blue Lake, we've never had a member of *la famiglia* from Zimbabwe.





www.indiegogo.com/Get-Lloyd-from-Zimbabwe-to-DellArte.

Please help us with this cross-cultural exchange opportunity. Lloyd's year of study at Dell'Arte will conclude with the Rural Residency Program, in which our students immerse themselves in a local rural community to create a work of art by, for and about that community. By celebrating each area's uniqueness, the program enlarges the worldview for everyone involved.

As Michael Rohd, a contributor to Lloyd's online IndieGoGo campaign commented, "International collaboration via the arts and training opportunities is a beautiful thing — Dell'Arte, as always, works to bring people together."

Dell'Arte thanks the following businesses for being a part of our festival famiglia:

Producer's Circle: Pierson Building Center, Humboldt Growers Association, Wildberries Marketplace, Stephany Joy of RE/MAX Humboldt Realty, Trim Scene Solutions, Chapala Café, Good Relations, Revolution Bicycle Repair, David L. Moonie & Co., LLP, North Coast Horticultural Supply. Japhy's, Finnish Country Sauna and Tubs

Kind thanks to the following for their in-kind donations: Comfort of Home Catering, Mad River Brewing Company, Arcata Photo Studios, Los Bagels, HealthSPORT, Eureka Boiler Works, Holly Yashi, Moonstone Crossing, Cypress Grove Chevre, The North Coast Co-Op, Nonna Lenna's, Fish Brothers, Brio Breadworks, Tofu Shop, Sun Valley Floral Farms, Plaza Grill, Earthly Edibles, Organic Matters, Deep Seeded Community Garden, filmmaker Maria Matteoli.

And to our wonderful media friends: To the Arcata Eye (look for our homage to Kevin in Mary Jane: The Musical,) Bob at the North Coast Journal, it's always a pleasure, Mo and Patrick at Lost Coast Communications- keep rockin' it!, The lovely Claire and Karen at KEET-TV, Phil at KIEM-TV, please bring back Betsy anytime to dance with us on stage!, Jeff at KHSU-FM, what would we ever do without you?, and to the indomitable Mr. Rosso at the Times-Standard. Thank you.

Effects of drought on local marijuana prices still unclear

Jillian Singh THE TIMES-STANDARD

It may be too early to estimate the effects of California's drought on the Humboldt County marijuana market, which provides an estimated \$400 million a year to the local economy but has been flooded with product for quite prices to the amount they some time.

"If the water situation remains dire, prices will go up, but if people can find the product cheaper, that will push the prices down," said Chip Perry, manager of Medical Cannabis Consultants and Evaluations in Eureka. "Consumers dictate the prices, and they'll try to find the cheapest medicine out there. I'd estimate marijuana prices could increase by 10 to 20 percent because of the drought, but the increase still won't raise



were in 2010,"

Perry said a pound of indoor marijuana cost about \$3,500 in 2010 and the same amount of outdoor grown marijuana cost about \$2,500. He said an indoor pound now costs about \$2,200 and outdoor costs about \$1,100.

"Marijuana prices have gone down almost 40 percent in the last couple of years because supplies are so high," Perry said. "In the last four years, the amount of people growing has at least doubled."

factor. "From talking to those in as steal

the industry, one large outdoor marijuana plant typically needs 3 to 5 gallons of water a day," Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Lt. Steve Knight said. "Plants are typically harvested after two to three months of growing."

Humboldt County Sheriff of Washington, Jennifer Budwig Mike Downey said he thinks the effects of the drought found that the marijuana would be the same for outdoor and indoor marijuana

"It may not be as lucrative lion annually into Humboldt for people to grow indoors as it has been in the past," Downey said. "If the drought is significant and persistent enough - and the price of would cause a 25 percent water and electricity goes up — there could be pressure to significantly reduce the amount of marijuana grown."

An outdoor marijuana grower in the county, who was contacted via Craigslist and requested to remain anonymous, said he works under Proposition 215, which covers marijuana possession and cultivation for personal medical use. He said he thinks the drought will certainly affect the local industry.

"I'd love for it to rain, but I'm not sure what will happen," he

When it comes to marijuana said. "I think if people don't production, water is a major have water here, they might try to do other things to get it, such it or route it from someone else."

Bridgeville Elementary School was forced to close for a day in September when staff discovered

20,000 gallons of water had been stolen from an onsite water tank. The theft came one month after 20,000 gallons of water were stolen from the Weott Community Services District Board, which provides water to a community of 330 people including Agnes J. Johnson Elementary School, the Cal Fire station, the post office and a state park campground.

The thefts have never been tied to marijuana growers.

California National Organization for the Reform of Mariiuana Laws coordinator Dale Gieringer said he thinks it's too soon to tell the effects the drought will have on Northern California marijuana prices.

"Illegal water diversions to marijuana gardens have been an issue in the past," Gieringer said. "It will be an interesting

experiment to what see actually happens.

I have friends in the growing community who said there will be a huge outdoor marijuana drought this year, but that was when the state was bleached white before the last round of rain."

Gieringer said Northern California marijuana prices are probably at the lowest level that they've been in a long time.

"I don't think the drought will have a huge effect on consumer use," Gieringer said. "It could result in more marijuana being imported into the state from other parts of the country or world. California is typically a big export state for marijuana, but I don't think it will be this year."

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PARTLY CLOUDY

Eureka	58/43
Crescent City	
Garberville	65/41
Willow Creek	70/43

HUMBOLDT: A8

In her thesis for the Pacific

Coast Banking School gradu-

ate program at the University

of Redwood Capital Bank

industry, based on conserva-

tive estimates, was responsible

for pumping at least \$400 mil-

County's economy. If the

industry were to be disrupted

— potentially due to legaliza-

tion or other factors — it

reduction in local economic

activity, Budwig concluded.

SPRING **PICTURES**



MONE BUSINESS

"It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change." -Charles Darwin

What do monkeys and business have in common?

Adaptation is the secret to survival and regardless of how you feel about good ol Darwin, there's a lot to be said about those who are most responsive to change.

The medical and recreational marijuana industry is the fastest evolving industry and owners are faced with having to deal with change on a regular basis. Although cannabis businesses are reaping the benefits of this booming industry, rapid growth poses a threat. Seasoned entrepreneurs know that fast success can often cause more harm to a business than so-called "failure." Why is this?

"All failure is failure to adapt, all success is successful adaptation." - Max Mckeown

Fast industry growth and success brings a tremendous amount of change and shifting dynamics along with it. Cannabis business owners have to navigate the tempestuous waters of day-to-day operations (of multiple operations for some), changing laws, new environmental stipulations, unclear local regulations, etc., and because the industry is moving forward, it speeds all of this up. That's a lot of change to deal with!

On top of all that, as Murphy's Law would have it, things go haywire at the worst of times! Equipment failure, HVAC unit goes out, product spoilage, employee gets hurt on the job... the list goes on. As you read this article, many cannabis farms are struggling to recover from

BANANA

(THIS ARTICLE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH BANANAS)

GENERAL LIABILITY

Protection for the insured to to lawsuit in the event of a property damage/bodily injury claim. This usually includes slip & fall accidents, slander, libel, copyright infringement and more

PREMISES LIABILITY

This coverage is to suffice a lease requirement for slip, trip & fall hazards

MEDICAL PAYMENTS

Supplements medical payments for slip, trip & falls and can prevent occurence claims.

HIRED/NON-HIRED AUTO

Incidental liability coverage provided to vehicles being used in the cannabis business

PRODUCT LIABILITY

Protection for cannabis grows, and product related lawsuits such as illness, rash, etc.

CROP COVERAGE

Protects against loss of crop due to events such as fire, theft and vandalism

CYBER COVERAGE

If patient/customer data is breached; helps with recovery process & loss reimbursement

EQUIPMENT COVERAGE

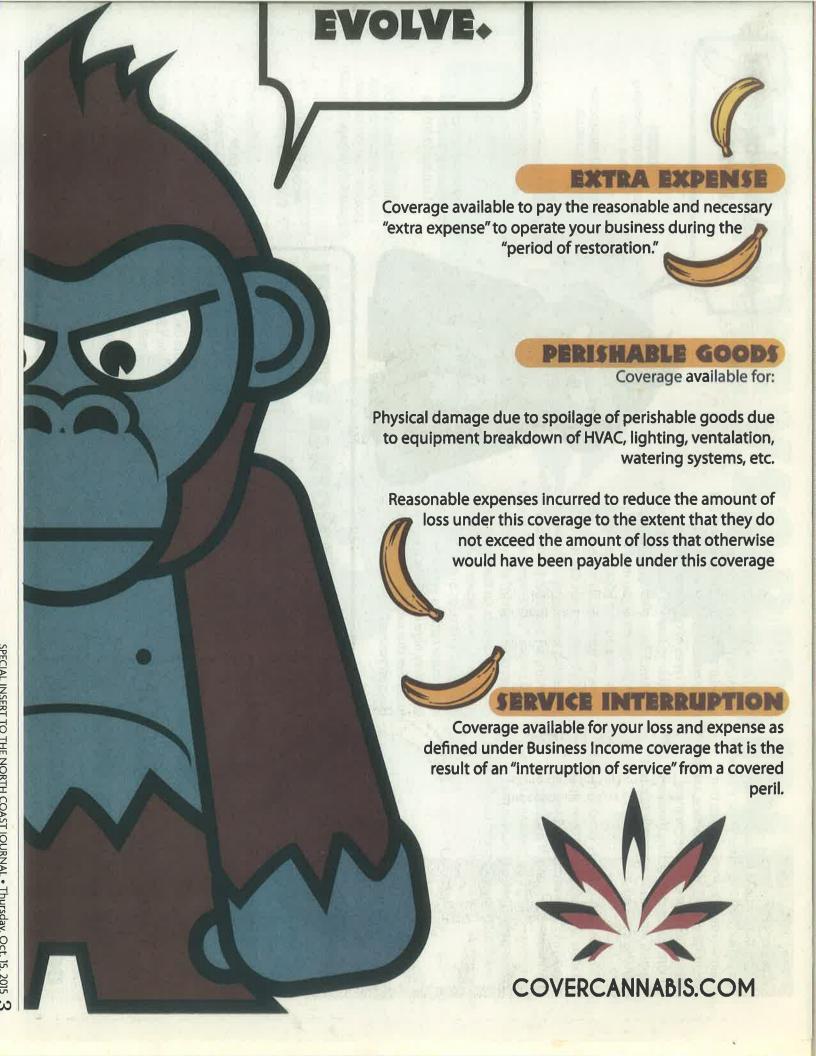
Coverage to replace equipment in events such as fire, theft, vandalism, etc.

ENHANCED BROADENED COVERAGE

In addition to general liability, there are a number of other types of coverage you can protect your business with.







major losses due to fire and current drought conditions make these matters even worse. These are realities that business owners inevitably face, and the businesses that can adapt to these circumstances will outlast those who cannot. Are you in a position to adapt? Will you survive?

Many cannabis growers, producers and retailers are transitioning from small "backyard" operations to full fledged businesses consisting of multiple enterprises. Most are beginning to put protections in place to outlast the competition and withstand the demands

of the industry. General liability insurance programs have become popular and are a good first start, but many owners are not aware of the other types of coverage that are available to them to ensure their ability to bounce-back after a catastrophe takes place. Have you ever heard of Cyber coverage? If your business is online, or you digitally store patient/client records, this is something to seriously consider. Programs are available to cover service interruptions, "extra expenses" during a "period of restoration," and perishable goods... think about that next time you have a major power outage, or your HVAC unit goes out! There are many more options available. The take-away here is that the only way to survive this evolving industry is to position yourself to adapt.



PROPERTY
Up to \$10,000,000 (including finished stock)

EQUIPMENT BREAKDOWN Up to \$35,000,000

CARGO/TRANSIT COVERAGE ENDORSEMENT \$5000 \$25,000

GENERAL LIABILITY \$1,000,000/\$1,000,000 \$1,000,000/\$2,000,000

WORKERS COMPENSATION \$250,000/\$250,000/\$250,000 \$500,000/\$500,000/\$500,000 \$1,000,000/\$1,000,000/\$1,000,000

> PRODUCTS LIABILITY \$1,000,000/\$1,000,000

> > CROP Up to \$5,000,000 \$5,000,000+

CYBER \$1,000,000/\$1,000,000 \$1,000,000/\$2,000,000

> EXCESS LIABILITY Up to \$4,000,000





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JUST ANOTHER EXPENSE!

Let's talk straight. When leasing a property, or doing business in a state where insurance isn't required, most marijuana growers, processors, and retailers view insurance as an unnecessary expense. We speak with countless business owners who forego insurance to save. It's like trying to save a few bucks per month by passing on road side assistance.. then suddenly you need a tow, you lock the keys in the car, etc. For a business owner, insurance is something you don't think you need... and then when something happens you realize it how much it would have helped. Our most successful clients understand this and fully insure their operations. We want you to be successful too. Call us with any questions, and we are happy to find you a solution that fits your needs.