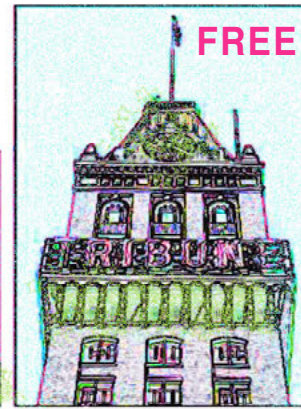


OAKSTERDAM NEWS



www.OaksterdamNews.com

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ASA Report:

Patients fight on, from local courts to CA High Court

By Rebecca Salzman*

Americans for Safe Access is a patient advocacy group on the forefront of the defense of patients' medical marijuana rights. ASA organizes rapid response actions, as needed, and maintains legal and political arms. Here are some recent highlights of its activities.

Court takes job discrim case

On Sept. 7, 2005, the Court of Appeal for the Third Appellate District issued a published decision denying a qualified medical marijuana patient any remedy for being terminated from his employment simply for testing positive for cannabis.

In *Ross v. Ragingwire Telecommunications, Inc.*, the court relied on federal law to defeat Gary Ross's state law causes of action for wrongful termination in violation of public policy and employment discrimination under of California's Fair Employment and Housing Act.

The plaintiff, Gary Ross, 43, is a US Air Force veteran and the father of two children, who suffered a January 1983 back injury while in the Air Force.

Americans for Safe Access joined as co-counsel in the case, and was granted review by the state Supreme Court on Nov. 30, 2005. ASA will be arguing that the Compassionate Use Act expressly declares that it is the public policy of the state to ensure the legal right of seriously ill
Continued on page 6



Dispensary information and reviews on page 7. Photo by Jaime Galindo

Zogby Poll: Growing numbers of Americans want pot regulated like alcohol

East, West Coast voters back local option for cannabis sales

By Chris Conrad

A national poll of likely voters found that nearly one out of two Americans support

amending federal law "to let states legally regulate and tax marijuana the way they do liquor and gambling."

Forty-six percent of respondents to the Zogby International poll said they support allowing states to regulate cannabis in a manner similar to alcohol, with 49 percent opposed and five percent undecided.

However, majorities of 53 percent of respondents on the East Coast and 55 percent on the West Coast favor taxing and regulating cannabis as a local option.

"These poll results are a tremendous boost to our 'tax and regulate' campaign," said California NORML Director Dale Gieringer. "We included gambling because, unlike alcohol, it's something that isn't legal everywhere. That helped emphasize the local option aspect of the approach."

Respondents' stated opinions on cannabis law reform was strongly influenced by age and political affiliation.

Continued on page 3



Patients and supporters rallied outside the Oakland federal building March 16 to protest federal DEA raids that hit medical patients, caregivers and providers in Riverside, Oakland and Emeryville. Photo by Mikki Norris

Jury nullification hangs SF sales trial

By Martin Williams

Public interest in the power of a juror to refuse to convict a defendant in the interest of justice has been stoked by the March 1 outcome of the "Nurse Tom" Juzbasic case in which a single holdout juror forced a mistrial. When the case was argued and sent to the jury, one juror refused to convict or to deliberate, making a consensus verdict impossible to achieve.

"When the judge asked jurors how many would have voted to convict Juzbasic on the first count of possession of marijuana for sale, all jurors but the one uncooperative juror raised their hands," reported freelance journalist Annie Harrison. "On the second count of selling cannabis, all but two jurors indicated that they would have voted to convict."

The DA's office soon re-filed charges.

The case originated in 2003 — before SB 420 legalized some medical marijuana sales, but its provisions are retroactive. The charges, an alleged sale to an undercover narcotics agent and possession with intent to sell, were controversial because

Juzbasic actually is a nurse who took the stand admitting that he provided cannabis to patients. He had a bicycle delivery service. The sales and intent to distribute charges centered on whether the lenient verification system Juzbasic used to qualify and identify his patients was too lax and whether he met the definition of a caregiver under state law.

"Juries cannot be punished for their verdicts and juries do not have to explain their verdicts."

The judge passed questions from the jurors to the defense and prosecution for consideration. One juror raised the question of what happens when a patient has an oral approval rather than a written recommendation. Defense expert Chris Conrad discussed the difficulty for a caregiver to authenticate that information, particularly when many doctors will not discuss their
Continued on page 6

NORML convention returns to SF

By Tristin Coffman

Where on Earth will ganja devotees and reform activists gather from around the nation to mark 4/20 under one roof with the serious goal of legalizing the nation's number one cash crop? San Francisco, naturally, at the 2006 National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws convention; fueled by today's best speakers, panels and topics in the cannabis movement.

With ten years of electoral victories under its belt since California legalized medical marijuana, cannabis reform is one of the strongest and most vital of the nation's political movements. The conference will consider how to leverage past success into future victories.

Last year's NORML conference was its largest and most popular convention
Continued on page 3

Law Enforcement Against Prohibition:**Oakland prosecutor comes out against Drug War, finds that he's not alone****By James Anthony**

"Cops say legalize drugs — ask me why," blared the tee-shirts on a dozen volunteers as I walked into the Drug Policy Alliance national conference at the Long Beach Marriott last November.

They all looked like cops too; big burly guys with short hair, except for a few cop wives and a couple of guys who might have been undercover narcs.

I had paid good money from my non-profit salary for registration, hotel, car, and airfare from Oakland to learn more about drug policy reform, and was feeling a little afraid that I was going to get down there and be surrounded by thousands of old hippies in a big joyous be-in.

These cops look you in the eye and say, "We should legalize all drugs because that's the only way we're ever going to control them."

Well, I'd just walked in and already I was surrounded by cops — screamingly open cops, who'd walk right up to you, shake your hand, look you in the eye, and say, "We should legalize all drugs because that's the only way we're ever going to control them." Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP) was in the house in a very big way.

It became very clear to me. The drug policy reform movement is not just NORML anymore and it's not just people who enjoy drugs. It's also people who hate drugs (and want to control them effectively), and people who don't care about drugs

**James Anthony**

(but care about the \$70 billion the US wastes every year on the socially harmful, but politically expedient, Drug War).

It's grown to include academics, doctors, churches, formerly incarcerated persons, the labor movement and nice, straight, middle-class college students from the mid-west who feel guilty that they get to go to college, while many kids from the inner-city can't because a drug conviction keeps them from getting financial aid.

It's not just William Buckley conservatives who realized years ago that the drug war makes no sense economically; even the staid Wall Street Journal turned a corner in February to raise the question of whether the Drug War is doing more harm than good.

The drug policy reform movement is expanding everywhere, and nowhere more surprisingly — or more rapidly — than among law enforcement personnel.

Started just a few years ago, LEAP now has over 5,000 members, and a goal of 10,000 this year. Its members include not only police officers, but also drug prosecutors, judges, and prison guards from all over the country. LEAP has introduced a "friend" category for its non-law enforcement supporters, with a goal of a million friends this year.

LEAP's strategy for ending the Drug War is to use its members' credibility as speakers in heartland settings such as Rotary Club meetings. LEAP's speakers' bureau is over 100 strong and growing.

These speakers have seen the consequences of prohibition first hand, and they make a convincing presentation that the Drug War has not only failed to reduce



MEDICAL MARIJUANA RAID — Oakland police stood by Mar. 16 as federal DEA agents raided the site of a former Oaksterdam dispensary that was allegedly still being used to grow cannabis. The raid was part of a larger attack on patients and providers that targeted "Beyond Bomb," a medical marijuana candy supplier for patients who cannot or prefer not to smoke their medicine. The DEA has repeatedly argued that cannabis cannot be a medicine because it is smoked.

Angry constituents approached the Measure Z Oversight Committee that same evening at its hearing, asking for an investigation into the role that local agencies may have played in the raids and investigations that led up to them. Oakland voters in 2004 passed an ordinance telling law enforcement agencies to make private cannabis sales and cultivation the lowest priority and telling police to concentrate on violent and serious crime. The city's murder rate is among the highest in the nation, as Mayor Jerry Brown campaigns for state Attorney General. Polls show that 90 percent of city voters consider the Drug War a failure. Photo by Jaime Galindo

drug problems — it has actually made things worse and caused untold harm to individuals, families, communities, minorities, our nation, the world and to law enforcement itself. They then open the question, if what we're doing isn't working. What to do next?

Each speaker has their own ideas on what detailed shape legalization should take, but all agree that the American people can come up with a better system once

they see how bad and unworkable the Drug War really is.

For more information on LEAP, and to join as a law enforcement member or friend, see www.leap.cc

* Anthony is a LEAP speaker and an award-winning former Oakland civil drug prosecutor, now practicing land use law. He is available for public speaking engagements and is eager to talk with LEOs who are interested in adjusting drug policy, and can be reached at Anthony@leap.cc

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OVERSIGHT — Committee members posed for Oaksterdam News after the second Measure Z Committee meeting. Council members, the mayor, city administrator and auditor each have appointees that meet monthly to take action on the voter-mandated reform.

Photos: Jaime Galindo



Measure Z oversight group gets to work

Oakland's Measure Z Oversight Committee held its first official meeting Feb. 16 and will meet every third Thursday of the month at 6 PM in Oakland City Hall.

Dan Siegal was elected chair and James Anthony vice chair. A quick poll of committee members found unanimous support for statewide cannabis legalization. The public are invited to speak during open forum and let the committee know how they think Measure Z can best be implemented. At the March 16 meeting, numerous citizens and supporters of reform encouraged the Committee to study policies in Amsterdam and other cannabis friendly communities, to begin monitoring of police activities, and to work with state and federal officials to legalize, tax and regulate adult cannabis use.

NORML Conference 2006:

San Francisco will host the NORML national cannabis conference on 4/20

Continued from page 1

ever – with nearly 600 supporters of cannabis law reform packing a San Francisco hotel and meeting space. Given the rapid pace of recent developments, this year's event should be even bigger.

NORML Executive Director Allen St.



Pierre expects a good turn out as the issue moves toward an historic tipping point. "As great and cannabis-friendly as The Netherlands and parts of British Columbia have become in the last 20 years," he said, "we all know where we really want the free market and freedom of choice to prevail — the good old USA, now in its 69th year of cannabis prohibition."

He encouraged people to reserve a space well in advance for the annual conference online via www.norml.org, by calling 202-483-5500 or sending an email to norml@norml.org.

"Along with all of the fascinating exchange of information and networking,

Jon Nicholson performs on April 20

the social events are not to be missed including the Art Auction and NORML/High Times Party."

Conference panels cover research, political organizing, lobbying, media relations and cultivation.

The NORML conventions have historically rotated to different locations around the country and frequently end up in Washington DC, where participants have a chance to lobby their national officials. NORML has done quite well in drawing a big turnout to northern California due in part to the speakers and panels and in part to the vibrant cannabis-friendly reputation

of the Bay Area.

The annual conference, fueled by top-rated speakers, panels and workshops on the hottest topics in cannabis reform, dates back to 1972 as a public forum that builds genuine community. St. Pierre encourages participants to join NORML and form local chapters to achieve meaningful changes in local and state cannabis laws that will drive national reform.

"I invite one and all to come to NORML's annual conference to enjoy the beautiful and tolerant San Francisco Bay Area – the epicenter of the cultural and medical efforts to reform US ganja laws," said St. Pierre.

The conference will be held April 20-22 at the Holiday Inn Golden Gateway, 1500 Van Ness Ave.

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Tentative agenda for NORML 2006 convention

This year's National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws conference will feature a host of valuable presentations. You don't want to miss it.

April 20, 2006

- Grassroots to Grassroots: Activists Effectively Working Together At All Levels
- Reefer, Rhetoric and Retorts: Winning Ways To Frame The Debate
- Different Strokes for Different Folks: A Look Ahead At This Fall's Pot Initiatives
- Breakout sessions
 - 1) High Tech Communications for Effective Advocacy
 - 2) Cultivation and Hash Making: Toward Patient Self-Sufficiency
 - 3) NORML Activism 101 (for new and aspiring activists)
- NORML/High Times Annual Activist Awards and Art Auction
- Special Musical Performance by Warner Brothers Recording Artist **JON NICHOLSON**

April 21, 2006

- Cannabis Dispensaries and Their Carrying Capacities
- Reality Check: Challenges Facing Doctors and Patients
- Marijuana and Health: Myths, Facts and Mysteries
- Breakout sessions
 - 1) NORML Chapters and A affiliates: Effective Grassroots Advocacy
 - 2) Hemp Is Happening
 - 3) "And God Saw That It Was Good:" Religion, Sacrament and Marijuana

April 22, 2006

- Race, The War on Drugs and Effective Legal Advocacy
- American History, Marijuana and Marijuana Prohibition
- Big Brother Is Watching: Drugged Driving, Student Drug Testing and Dog Searches
- Emerging Clinical Applications For Cannabis
- Pot Planet: An International Review of Marijuana, Laws And Culture

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www.norml.org • 888-67-NORML



Supporters of I-100 rallied for the initiative passed in Denver last November. Photo by Steve Fox

SAFER campaign moves forward on local, statewide ballot measure

Cannabis comparison as a safer alternative to alcohol wins regional, national support for equal rights and treatment

By Chris Conrad

Safer Alternative for Enjoyable Recreation (SAFER) has used the ballot box to advance the policy that cannabis is safer to use than alcohol and hence should be treated no more severely. Last fall SAFER scored a big victory by getting voter ordinance I-100 passed in Denver that legalized an ounce of cannabis for adults.

Colorado state initiative

Local officials attempted an end-run around the voters by sending cases to state

rather than municipal court. In response SAFER has launched a statewide initiative strategy. The group made progress on its Colorado campaign in March when the ballot language was approved and adopted.

"This can often be a difficult process, but we made it," SAFER Executive Director Steve Fox said. "We ended up raising about \$3,500 and, thanks to this fund, we were able to launch our signature drive in February. We have more than 300 volunteer signature gatherers and they seem really fired up." The signature drive

needs to collect some 68,000 valid signatures by Aug. 7.

The campaign is gaining traction, with 25-30 volunteers at its first training in Boulder, 40 the next night at CSU in Ft. Collins, and a day later 30 came to the Grand Junction training. The local CBS affiliate showed up and gave a favorable story. A Denver Post column expressed that Mason Tvert is leading a true grass roots movement in the state.

Texas, Florida students embrace cause and equation

Meanwhile, support for the campaign is continuing to spread among college students with two significant victories on university campuses in February. Students at both Florida State U and U of Texas at Austin decisively passed SAFER-style referenda. The margin of victory at FSU was 60-40; at UT Austin it was 64-36.

There were two significant victories on university campuses in February. Students at both Florida State U and U of Texas at Austin decisively passed SAFER-style referenda.

"It seems the Colorado success can be replicated if local activists follow a specific media plan. The coordinators in Austin followed this plan and got widespread media coverage (www.safertexas.info). There are two other major college campuses where referenda appear likely — Ohio State and the U of Maryland," said Fox.

"One fun upcoming event will be the SAFER St. Patrick's Day campaign, to call for a moratorium on marijuana arrests on St. Patrick's Day so that people have a recreational option other than drinking themselves stupid. I've been working with an activist in Ireland who is going to launch the SAFER Ireland campaign in Dublin on March 14 or 15. On the same day, we will do an event near a Coors facility in Colorado. I am also close to convincing activists in St. Louis to hold an event outside an Anheuser-Busch facility and would like to get something going in Boston and maybe Milwaukee."

To learn more see www.safertexas.org and please visit the SAFER donation page. www.safertexas.org/d_donate.html

National poll finds strong support for 'local option'

Continued from page 1

Nearly two-thirds of 18-29 year-olds (65 percent) and half of 50-64 year-olds think federal law should be amended to allow states the option to regulate cannabis, while majorities of 30-49 year-olds (58 percent) and seniors 65 and older (52 percent) oppose such a change.

"Public support for replacing the illicit marijuana market with a legally regulated, controlled market similar to alcohol — complete with age restrictions and quality controls — continues to grow," NORML Executive Director Allen St. Pierre said. "NORML's challenge is to convert this growing public support into a tangible public policy that no longer criminalizes adults who use marijuana responsibly."

"The question wasn't about support for a particular paradigm. It was about whether people supported the feds changing law so that states could adopt such a policy if they wished," noted Doug McVay, Director of Research at Common Sense for Drug Policy. "The question was

about marijuana yet it was ultimately about states' rights."

Among those respondents who identified themselves as Democrats, 59 percent back allowing taxed and regulated cannabis but only 33 percent of Republicans. Forty-four percent of Independents and 85 percent of Libertarians supported such a change.

Respondents' opinions were also influenced by religious affiliation. Nearly 70 percent of respondents who identified themselves as Jewish, and nearly 60 percent of respondents who said they were non-religious believe that states should regulate cannabis, while only 48 percent of Catholics and 38 percent of Protestants support such a policy.

The national poll of 1,004 likely voters was commissioned by the NORML Foundation www.norml.org. A previous

An earlier Zogby poll of 1,024 likely voters found that 61 percent of respondents opposed arresting and jailing non-violent marijuana consumers.

Omar Figueroa
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We support tolerance and believe that cannabis sales and cultivation should be legal for adult consumption. We provide a free listing for California cannabis outlets and patient support groups that are on the public record. Any service provider who is *not* interested in this feature needs to advise our office using the contact information below:



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Oakland set to permit new dispensaries

By Richard Lee

Public hearings were held Feb. 16 concerning the four remaining applicants for two open Oakland Cannabis Dispensary permits that were revoked last September for building code violations.

Sparky Rose, the manager of Compassionate Caregivers who bought out the company assets and reorganized under the name New Remedies, hopes to reopen at 2135 Broadway. New Remedies operates in San Francisco the only remaining outlet of what was once a seven-outlet mega-dispensary. The company reputedly grossed millions of dollars per month at its height, but collapsed last summer when its West Hollywood branch was raided and bank accounts seized by Los Angeles police. No owners or employees have been prosecuted or indicted to date.

Steve DiAngelo and David Wedding Dress laid out plans for an 1840 Embarcadero location. DiAngelo started a successful hemp business in the 1990s and Wedding Dress is a masseuse. They hope to enhance their club with a holistic clinic that includes acupuncture, yoga, and classes on cannabis gardening, self-defense and legal issues.

Next came Winslow Norton of Compassionate Collective of Alameda County, with plans to bring up to code the old Oakland Compassionate Healing Center location at 578 Grand. He has been open in Hayward since 2004 and is seeking an Alameda County Health Department permit for a commercial cannabis kitchen.

The final applicant was Keith Stephenson who hopes to open the Purple Heart Center at 415 4th street.

Stephenson has been a part of the Oakland Cannabis Industry since the 1990s, when he worked at The Zoo, the first club to open in Oakland after the OCBC, Oakland Cannabis Buyers' Coop, was shut down in 1998.

City Administrator Debra Edgerly will grade the applicants and award points on such criteria as proof of capitalization, staffing and security plans, and site inspections.

The two with the most points will be given conditional approvals.

The actual permits will be awarded and the new clubs will be allowed to open after any needed remodeling is complete, most likely sometime this summer.

Cannabis Therapeutics conference

Santa Barbara college to sponsor a medical marijuana CME symposium

By Tristin Coffman

The Fourth National Clinical Conference on Cannabis Therapeutics will be held April 5-8, hosted by Santa Barbara City College and accredited by California health organizations.



Irv Rosenfeld, one of seven federal medical marijuana patients, shows a canister of 300 joints. Photo: Mikki Norris

that specializes in the education of health care professionals about the efficacy of cannabis.

Patients Out of Time President Mary Lynn Mathre, RN, MSN, CARN said, "The accreditation of our educational work by the University of California San Francisco's Office of Continuing Medical Education, the hosting of the forum by the Santa Barbara City College, coupled with the co-sponsorship of the California Nurses Association has ensured that the US federal government's claim that cannabis has no medicinal value will be, again, completely rebutted." UCSF designates AMA PRA credits and includes CME credits toward Pain Management and End-of-Life Care.

The conference will cover use of cannabis for physical, mental and emotional disorders.

"The patients' therapeutic cannabis use have always been supported by the academic and medical communities which have publicly, in huge numbers, called for the immediate access to cannabis under medical supervision," continued Mathre.

Past educational credits for the work of this national group have been granted by the Colleges of Nursing and Medicine of the University of Iowa; the Virginia Nurses Assn., the University of Virginia's Schools of Medicine, Nursing and Law; the Oregon Department of Human Services, Health Services and the Oregon Nurses Assn., among other conservative, professional health care organizations.

Online registration, a faculty list and full agenda for this internationally recognized conference series is available at www.medicalcannabis.com. For more info contact Al Byrne, 434-263-4484 or al@medicalcannabis.com.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY ODAM NEWS — This issue marks the first anniversary of the Oaksterdam News. The newspaper has expanded its focus from a local community paper to statewide in scope. The publication has grown from 12 pages to 20, the print run / circulation has gone from 10,000 to 50,000 copies per issue, and the paper has an online version at www.oaksterdamnews.com. Shown here (l-r) are founders Chris Conrad, Richard Lee, and Jaime Galindo. Photo by Mikki Norris.

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ASA organized a support rally for Aaron Paradiso's legal defense.

Paradiso claims legal victory; ASA forms medical advisory board

Continued from page 1

Californians to obtain and use cannabis medicinally.

No federal law mandates that a patient be fired for following state medical marijuana laws.

No federal law mandates that Gary Ross be fired for exercising this right in the privacy of his own home. The Court brief, filed by ASA on Feb. 7, includes important issues of federalism and argues vehemently against employment discrimination.

Quadriplegic Aaron Paradiso has Central Valley victory

Aaron Paradiso, a quadriplegic medical

marijuana patient, won a victory in Stockton in February, when the district attorney quietly dropped felony drug charges against him.

Aaron and his mother Debra, also his caregiver, were arrested in August 2003 when sheriff's deputies found 52 cannabis plants at his house, and they were charged with felony cultivation and possession for sales. Charges were dropped against Debra, and Aaron's case was dismissed on a technicality in December 2004. The district attorney immediately reinstated the charges against Aaron and his mother.

Throughout the hearings, ASA and other local groups organized grassroots and media support for his case. At one of his preliminary hearings, more than two-dozen patients and advocates packed the courtroom, including carpools of patients that had traveled to Stockton from the Bay

Area and Sacramento. This support and successful press outreach by ASA staff led to several positive media stories in the local press.

Sheriff's deputies found 52 cannabis plants at his house, and Paradiso was charged with felony cultivation and possession for sales.

Aaron recently thanked ASA, "Your support was crucial to my victory. One of the conditions of my plea bargain was that I would stop the medical cannabis rallies, and that there would be no demonstrators, banners, or tee-shirts present at my pleadings."

ASA Announces creation of its Medical Advisory Board

Americans for Safe Access formed its Medical Advisory Board in early 2006. Members of this board will help ASA outreach to important medical, scientific, and condition-based organizations in an effort to influence organizational positions on medical marijuana.

The board's initial advisory members include Rick Doblin, PhD, the founder and director of the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS), an organization helping to end the federal government's monopoly on the production

of cannabis for research purposes.

Others include Sara Henuber, PA-C, a licensed Physician Assistant and member of the International Assn. for Cannabis as Medicine, now working in a private medical practice specializing in the use of cannabis therapy; Claudia Little, RN, MPH, retired nurse practitioner who became aware of cannabis for pain control through local patient support groups, who worked with a biopharmaceutical company that launched a monoclonal antibody therapy for Crohn's Disease and rheumatoid arthritis; and Philippe Lucas, founder of the Vancouver Island Compassion Society, and Vice-Chair of the Victoria Downtown Advisory Committee. Rounding out the group are Robert Melamede, PhD, associate professor of Biology for the University of Colorado; and Jahan Marcu, a cannabinoid researcher at the California Pacific Medical Center currently studying the phenomenon of "synergy" among various cannabinoid compounds.

ASA launched its medical campaign a few years ago in order to provide patients and medical personnel current medical and scientific information about the medical value of botanical cannabis. Since then ASA has produced and distributed a series of medical marijuana condition-based pamphlets, and facilitated the formation of patients' unions as a vehicle for lobbying and public education.

For more information on any of these or any of ASA's other activities, go to www.safeaccessnow.org.

SF sales case hung in apparent jury nullification

Continued from page 1

patient's medical records. Those patients cannot get access to the state's licensed cannabis outlets that require written records and a photo ID.

California requires a unanimous verdict in criminal court but not in civil court. Some states, such as Oregon, do not require a unanimous criminal verdict and require three dissenting jurors to block a

conviction.

Drug policy reformers have for some time predicted that jurors can effectively change the law by refusing to convict.

"Juries cannot be punished for their verdicts and juries do not have to explain their verdicts," points out Richard Lee, a 15-year member of the Fully Informed Jury Association.

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NATURAL SELECTION — HopeNet offers qualified patients an assortment of choices in San Francisco. Photo by Jaime Galindo

Part two in a series:

A patient takes a look inside San Francisco dispensaries

By Marcy Boas

I again had the opportunity to visit several dispensaries in San Francisco. This time, I covered the Sunset, St. Francis Wood, Haight, Western Addition, Nob Hill, and Civic Center sections of the city. All of the Dispensaries had security who checked my ID and recommendation before ushering me in to the facilities. Pricing for products was competitive at each of the dispensaries. Here's what I found:

The Hemp Center

4811 Geary Boulevard (@12th)
415-221-HEMP

Hours: Monday-Friday 11am to 7pm,
Saturday 12pm to 5pm

Accessibility: ADA accessible, public transportation, close to freeways, ample street parking.

Atmosphere: The Hemp Center offers an energetic and friendly atmosphere. While I was there, patients were consuming on-site while surfing the net and chatting. Employees were easy-going and very helpful. There are high ceilings and funky decor. They have been at this location for eight years, but have only been known as "The Hemp Center" for four years.

Products:

- Medicine: dried product, keif, hash, elixirs, tinctures, tainted candy bars, edibles (vegan, sweet and savory).
- Accessories: none.
- Extras: free internet access, tv with cannabis related viewing, water pipes and vaporizers available for use on-site.

Alternative Herbal Health

442 Haight (between Fillmore and Webster)
415-864-1300

Hours: Monday-Saturday 10am to 8pm

Accessibility: Public transportation, close to freeways, street parking.

Atmosphere: This facility is full of energy. Patients were medicating and playing games at the table in the sitting area. There was a big screen TV playing and employees were laughing and interacting with patients. Consumption is allowed on site.

Products:

- Medicine: dried product, keif, hash, purple cream honey oil, tainted candy bars, butter, balm, and assorted edibles.
- Accessories: no
- Extras: water

The Vapor Room

609 A Haight (@Steiner)

Hours: Monday-Friday 10:30am to 8:30pm; Saturday, Sunday 12pm to 8pm

Accessibility: ADA accessible, public transportation, close to freeways, street parking.

Atmosphere: When I entered The Vapor Room, I immediately felt comfortable and relaxed. One manager appropriately described the facility as a "Sixties-style living room." The colors, furniture, and accessories (specifically the fish tank) all lend themselves perfectly to this genre.

The employees were all nice, attentive and knowledgeable (they are all CPR certified). In fact, the staff is so informed about their products, they have organized the service counter so that patients can find

sativa, indica, and crosses in separate sections. This is extremely helpful for patients who are trying to address specific needs. The Vapor Room is sensitive to the needs of some of their less-fortunate regular patients, so they have enacted a compassion program (ask for information). There is consumption on site and there are plenty of places to sit and medicate.

Products:

- Medicine: dried product, keif, hash, the capsules, honey, teas, chocolates, ice cream, edibles.
- Accessories: grinders
- Extras: compassion program.

Cannamed Care Center

1211 Sutter (lower, @Polk)

415-885-8007

Hours: Monday-Saturday 2 to 9pm,
Sunday 2 to 8pm

Accessibility: public transportation, close to freeways, street parking.

Atmosphere: offers a large array of medicine, in a pleasant and professional environment. See their ad on page 12.

Products:

- Medicine: dried product, concentrates, edibles
- Accessories: no
- Extras: no

The Divinity Tree

958 Geary (between Larkin and Polk)

Hours: Monday-Saturday 11am to 7pm,
Sunday 11am to 5pm

Accessibility: will make accommodations for disabled patients. Public transportation, close to freeways, street parking, pay lot (across the street).

Atmosphere: The Divinity Tree is a tranquil and relaxing dispensary. Employees and patients are easy-going and mellow. There is a very calming vibe. The employees were very helpful and kind. In addition to selling medicine, the Divinity Tree also sells Oracle DVD's and informational cannabis books. They also offer free pamphlets and reading material in the front of the facility. There is a sitting area for patients. They are temporarily allowing consumption on site.

Products:

- Medicine: dried product, keif, hash, chocolates, tinctures, balms, assorted edibles.
- Accessories: oracle dvd's and cannabis books
- Extras: water

Alternative Relief Co-Op

1944 Ocean Avenue (between Fairfield and Keystone)

415-239-4766

Hours: 12:00pm-7:00pm daily

Accessibility: ada accessible, metered street parking, non-metered parking on corner of Fairfield, public transportation (Muni K Line).

Atmosphere: This relaxed and mellow dispensary sits on the quieter end of town. It has a very relaxed and pleasant aesthetic. It is clean, quiet and professional and has been around for four years. They offer their walls to local artists, so have a constantly evolving eclectic mix of art (mixed media, painting, photography, etc.) decorating their facility. There are couches for patients to sit and relax. They make a point of only allowing one patient to enter the dispensing area at a time, to honor the privacy of each patient.

Their edible products are baked in-house, in the interest of quality and dosage control. They have a special program with local hospitals to deliver medicine for qualified inpatients with special needs. For more information about this facility, please visit www.alternativerelief.org.

Products:

- Medicine: dried product, assorted extracts, keif, hash, tinctures, joints, chocolates, and (in-house baked) edibles, THC capsules (made in-house). Clones also available.
- Accessories: none.
- Extras: free water, candy, art by local artists.

San Francisco Patients Cooperative

350 Divisadero (between Page and Oak)
415-552-8653

Hours: Tuesday-Friday 11am to 7:30pm,
Saturday-Monday 11am to 5:30pm

Accessibility: ADA accessible (restroom as well), limited street parking, public transportation (encouraged).

Atmosphere: This cooperative began on August 24, 1999. It is a non-profit organization and its focus is community outreach and activism. They utilize their space by hosting numerous groups (including AA, NA, Men's and Women's groups), and offering peer and social service navigation.

They also offer various other activities like Open Mic night, harm reduction seminars, Daily Focus at 4:20, and field trips (for a complete schedule and more information please visit www.sfprc.org).

Only dedicated volunteers work at San Francisco Patients Cooperative. They all receive disaster preparedness training. The site itself is artfully decorated, with banners and posters on the wall.

While I was there, the room was filled with a writers group. Patients were discussing politics while medicating. Reverend Randy was took time to speak with me about her cooperative. She makes certain that, aside from all of the help she offers to the medical community, she also adheres to a "good neighbor" policy.

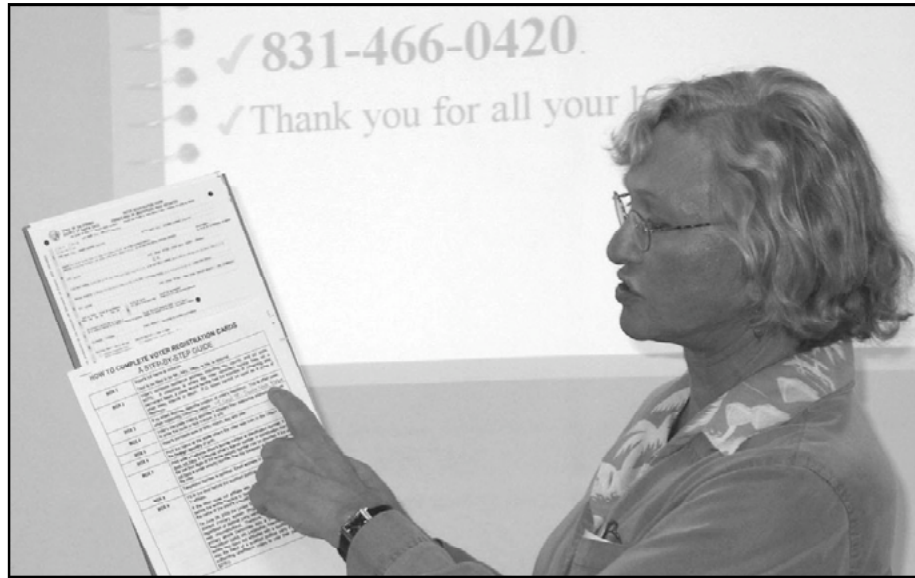
- Medicine: dried medicine, keif, hash, tinctures, oils, teas, edibles (vegan, sweet and savory), topical solutions.
- Accessories: none.
- Extras: political literature, countless seminars and activities.

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KIND BUD — A sample of Purple Kush bud from the HopeNet collection.
Photo by Jaime Galindo



Above: Andrea Tischler explained how to register a new voter to sign a city ballot petition in Santa Cruz.

Left: Ethan Krawitz, Heather Poet and Lauren Vasquez led an enthusiastic group discussion in Santa Barbara.

Below: Mikki Norris speaks at the Santa Cruz kickoff. Photos by Chris Conrad

Voter petition drives kickoff California Cities Campaign

By Mikki Norris*

Petition drives have begun in four California cities to place citizen initiatives on local ballots that make adult cannabis offenses law enforcement's lowest priority. Volunteers are needed in each city to reach the required number of signatures in time.

Inspired by Oakland's Measure Z ballot victory in 2004 and Seattle's I-75 in 2003, activists have formed committees to run initiatives in Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, West Hollywood, and Santa Monica.

I have been traveling up and down the state working with these local committees as a consultant to the California Cities Campaign, and recently attended the petition drive kickoff events in Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz. My husband, Chris Conrad, the 1996 Prop. 215 petition volunteer coordinator who also helped Oakland's 2004 Measure Z campaign, came along to train volunteers to collect valid signatures. The petitioning firm of Ken Masterton is also collecting signatures for the various local efforts.

This is a strategy of "think globally; act locally." Each city is part of a larger effort to gain support and build momentum around the state, with an eye towards getting reform legislation or even a statewide voter initiative in 2008 or soon thereafter.

Sensible Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara is vital to the effort; as a city that is relatively conservative, a victory there would signal a mandate to reform state laws. Sensible Santa Barbara (SSB) is the committee running an initiative in that city. It held a very successful kickoff on Feb. 26 at the downtown library. The event introduced the initiative and bought in volunteers to help collect signatures for the petition drive. Over 50 people attended; many enthusiastically signed up to gather signatures to qualify the initiative for the November 2006 ballot.

Ethan Krawitz, SSB chair and UCSB NORML co-chair, facilitated and was joined on a panel by SSB committee members Heather Poet and Lauren Vasquez.

They gave background on the initiative process and explained that the initiative

calls for Santa Barbara city law enforcement to officially treat cannabis possession and use by adults as a less serious offense than all other crimes. It creates a community oversight committee to ensure speedy implementation and track police arrests, prosecutions, incarcerations and property seizures. It requires the city clerk to transmit notification to state and federal representatives that the city has de-prioritized cannabis and wants other governmental bodies to make similar changes.

Santa Cruz Citizens

The Santa Cruz initiative, like West Hollywood's, makes all cannabis offenses law enforcement's lowest priority, with the exception of sales and distribution to minors, offenses committed on public property, and driving under the influence.



This initiative also creates a community oversight committee, and takes notification of its policy statement to state and federal representative a bit further. If passed, a letter generated by the city clerk would state "The citizens of the city of Santa Cruz have passed an initiative to deprioritize cannabis offenses and request that the fed-

eral and California state governments take immediate steps to tax and regulate cannabis use, cultivation, and distribution and to authorize state and local communities to do the same." It would make it official city policy to support legalization.

Santa Cruz Citizens for Sensible Marijuana Policy held its volunteer kickoff event March 11 at the Loudon Nelson Community Center. Interest has been generated around the initiative effort following an article on the Bay City News Wire, a news outlet servicing more than 150 radio, television and newspaper subscribers. Andrea Tischler, the chair of this committee and owner of the medical-cannabis friendly Compassion Flower Inn, has been inundated with media requests and interviews.

"There is great opposition to the way the Drug War is being done," Tischler said. "Many believe the drug war is a failure and those who use cannabis should not be criminalized. The money they spend invest-

A large student population resides at UC Santa Cruz, and a volunteer coordinator came out to the kickoff to work on generating signatures on campus. With the turnover in student housing every year, student voters need to fill out a new registration form to keep their status current.

Santa Cruz petitioners have until April 20 to collect and submit their signatures. The other petition drives have until mid-May to complete gathering their signatures. Rainy weather conditions in February and March have hampered petitioning efforts throughout the state, as fewer people are out and about to sign petitions. Organizers are hoping for better weather to pick up greater numbers of signatures. Ten to 15 percent of registered city voters must sign petitions to qualify for the ballot, a serious project.

Other areas of the state

West Hollywood Civil Liberties Alliance and Santa Monicans for Sensible Marijuana Policy, the committees leading local efforts in their Southern California locales also need volunteers to help out with signature gathering as well as to pursue city ordinances. The West Hollywood City Council has unanimously voted to direct City Attorney Mike Jenkins to draft an ordinance that makes cannabis enforcement a low priority. It is expected to be presented at the April 17 City Council meeting.

For more information on the California Cities Campaigns initiatives and local efforts, please check the web sites: www.taxandregulate.org and www.sensibleantabarbara.com

Volunteers needed: Please contact the local committees to get involved and collect signatures: Sensible Santa Barbara, 805-698-5822. Contact: Ethan Krawitz, emkman@gmail.com. Santa Cruz Citizens for Sensible Marijuana Policy: 831-466-0420. Contact: Andrea Tischler, reservations@compassionflowerinn.com West Hollywood Civil Liberties Alliance: 213-804-6121. Contact: Ngaoi Bealum, wehola@yahoo.com. Santa Monicans for Sensible Marijuana Policy: Contact Corey Garnett, sensiblestantamonica@gmail.com

* Norris is a board member of Oakland Civil Liberties Alliance and a consultant to the California Cities Campaign. For more information, see www.taxandregulate.org.

Recent rise in CA cannabis prisoners

Increase in state POWs reverses long, post-Prop 215 trend

By Dale Gieringer*

The number of cannabis prisoners in California increased 11% in 2005, reversing a decline dating from the passage of Prop. 215. As of Dec 31, 2005, the Department of Corrections reported 1,429 prisoners for cannabis and hashish offenses, up from 1,289 in 2004.

The number of prisoners began to decline following passage of Prop 215 after posting an all-time peak of 1,905 in 1997. However, it has remained far above the modern low of 98 posted in 1980.

"It appears that Prop. 215 produced a modest decline in cannabis prisoners, but this trend has petered out," commented California NORML coordinator Dale Gieringer. "More dramatic reforms will be needed to realize the full benefits of decriminalization." Currently fewer than 10% of California's cannabis users are legal medical users under Prop. 215.

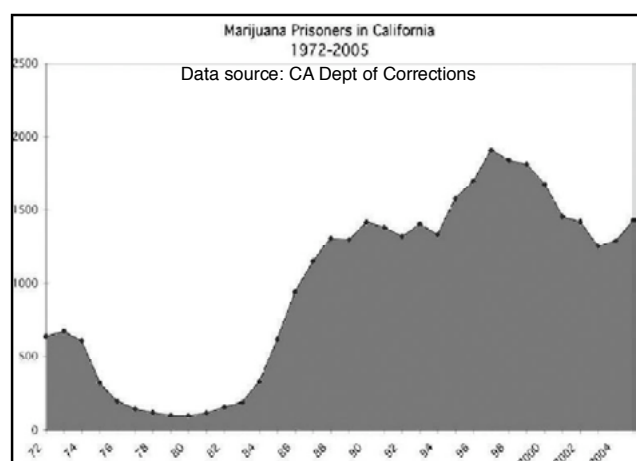
California NORML advocates completely decriminalizing personal adult use cannabis offenses and moving toward a system of legally taxed and regulated dis-

tribution. This policy was approved by 65% of Oakland voters in 2004 in the

city's Measure Z initiative, and similar ordinances are expected to be on the ballot in several California cities this year.

California NORML estimates that cannabis enforcement currently costs the state's taxpayers about \$160 million per year, whereas an adult use "tax and regulate" system could yield the state up to \$1.5 - \$2.5 billion in revenues.

* Dale Gieringer is CA NORML Director. For info, www.canorml.org



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Sacramental plant use wins in US Supreme Court case

Feds told drug prohibition can accommodate religious use

By Omar Figueroa*

The US Supreme Court ruled Feb. 21 that the federal government couldn't prohibit a "religious sect with origins in the Amazon Rainforest" from receiving "communion by drinking a sacramental tea, brewed from plants unique to the region, that contains a hallucinogen regulated under the Controlled Substances Act."



Omar Figueroa

based in Brazil with an American branch of approximately 130 individuals — from importing, distributing, and using sacramental ayahuasca or hoasca tea. The primary active ingredient in the tea is DMT.

The unanimous opinion was authored by Chief Justice John Roberts, who noted that a big factor in the court's decision was that the

government conceded that UDV's use of the sacramental tea was a sincere exercise of religion.

The case dates back to 1999, when US Customs inspectors intercepted a shipment containing three drums of hoasca. The inspectors confiscated the intercepted shipment and threatened the church with prosecution. The UDV filed a countersuit invoking the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 (RFRA), which prohibits federal agencies from substantially burdening a person's free exercise of religion unless necessary to further "a compelling governmental interest" and utilizing "the least restrictive means" of doing so.

The Bush administration claimed its blanket prohibition did not conflict with RFRA because of three supposedly compelling governmental interests: protecting the health of church members, preventing diversion of DMT to recreational users, and complying with the 1971 UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances.

The Court rejected all the arguments, and Roberts wrote that everything the government said about the DMT in hoasca also applies to the mescaline in peyote,

which Native Americans have been allowed to use in religious ceremonies:

"Everything the Government says about the DMT in hoasca — that, as a Schedule I substance, Congress has determined that it "has a high potential for abuse," "has no currently accepted medical use," and has "a lack of accepted safety for use ... under medical supervision," 21 USC §812(b)(1) — applies in equal measure to the mescaline in peyote. Yet both the Executive and Congress itself have decreed an exception from the Controlled Substances Act for Native American religious use of peyote. If such use is permitted in the face of the congressional findings in §812(b)(1) for hundreds of thousands of Native Americans practicing their

faith, it is difficult to see how those same findings alone can preclude any consideration of a similar exception for the 130 or so American members of the UDV who want to practice theirs."

The same can be argued for THC and cannabis use as an exception for members of a cannabis church to practice their faith. Notably, the court stated that a litigant who wants to invoke RFRA bears the burden of showing that application of the Controlled Substances Act would (1) substantially burden (2) a sincere (3) religious exercise. Only time will tell how federal RFRA jurisprudence will evolve, but one thing is clear: there is much to look forward to.

* *Figueroa is an attorney at the Pier 5 Law Firm in San Francisco.*

The same can be argued for THC and cannabis use as an exception for members of a cannabis church to practice their faith.

Since cannabis is also classified as a Schedule I substance under federal law, this opens the door to a viable religious defense to federal marijuana charges. Given prior federal case law approving the possession and use of ganja by Rastafarians, the prospects are excellent for recognition of cannabis as a sacrament under federal law.

In this landmark case, the High Court upheld lower court findings that the government failed to demonstrate a compelling interest in forbidding members of *O Centro Espirita Beneficente União do Vegetal* (UDV) — a Christian Spiritist sect

Cannabis used in ancient and modern religions

By Justin Baker

The use of natural plants as sacraments is a common religious practice dating to pre-historic times. When such plants have psychoactive properties and are used as sacrament, they are called *entheogens*.

A subcategory of entheogens are those religions that use cannabis and are referred to collectively as *Cantheism*, a term coined by researcher Chris Conrad.

Conrad identified a number of practices common to such religions, such as considering the plant to be sacred, community sharing of the herb and a belief in the mystical ability of the plant to help put the believer into closer contact with God and/or nature. He argues that these beliefs fit both under the First Amendment as an exercise of religion and under the 14th Amendment's protection of "creed."



Ancient Egyptian hieroglyph for hemp rope is a symbol of Cantheism.

Cannabis has been used as a sacrament by followers of many of the world's great religions, such as Zoroastrians, Coptic Christians, Sadhu Hindus, Sufi Muslims and — perhaps best-known — Rastafarians. Modern religious use includes the THC ministries, based in Hawaii, and Our Church, based in Arkansas. An online discussion group on this topic can be accessed at cannabichurches@yahoo.com.

Many of the modern Christian-based Cantheist faiths cite scripture such as *Genesis 1:12* and *1:29-31*, which state that God gave man "every green herb" to consume and "saw that it was good."

Exodus 30:22-29 listed cannabis in an oil for anointing the priests of Israel but was mistranslated in the Greek, Latin and English Bibles as "calamus," until Hebrew

Continued on page 15

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- Allen St. Pierre, Executive Director, NORML, Washington, DC (www.norml.org).

"...this is one hell of a book, quite stunning, actually. It has more useful, color pictures and diagrams than I have ever seen in ANY horticultural how-to, and I have seen them all. Sound too strong? Just thumb through a few pages and tell me I am wrong...you lose. The photos are fascinating, including some exceptional close-ups and magnified shots; those of plant infections and insect-caused inflections illustrate common gardening diseases and pests better than I have ever seen. Call me a liar, until you check them out. Clearly, if it was legal to grow marijuana, this would be THE Bible to have to learn how to grow and prepare it."
- Jeff Lowenfels, America's Longest Running garden columnist, Fellow and Hall of Fame member, GWA, America's dirtiest lawyer.

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- Chris Conrad (www.chrisconrad.com).

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- Lyndon, Editor in Chief, CCNEWZ magazine (www.CCNEWZ.com)

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Medical Marijuana Evaluations



This frosty bud is an example of a medical bud. This photo was given to me by a medical grower in Northern California. It is an all organic bud.

By Jorge Cervantes*

This column will initiate a new program, "Plant for a Patient," for medical marijuana growers and patients. The purpose of the Plant for a Patient program is to raise awareness about medical cannabis patients needs. By planting cannabis for a patient you can save an ailing person the financial burden of purchasing their medicine.

Many growers are able to grow much more than they could possibly need for themselves. Sharing a part of this bounty would really help patients in need.

In this column, we would like to profile

"Plant for a patient" New column will profile medical gardens, tips

different medical gardens. Publicizing medical gardens helps get growers into the mood of growing cannabis for medicinal use. Many times people think growing great medical cannabis is difficult. It actually can be easier to grow cannabis than many other backyard vegetables.

To start this column off, I have provided some examples of the types of photos we are looking for. Most of these were taken in Switzerland.

The garden photo contest

Every issue, we will choose a winner of the contest for medical gardens and send them an autographed copy of *Marijuana Horticulture: the Indoor/Outdoor Medical Grower's Bible* - 512 full color pages and 1120 professional color images.

We urge other publications and websites to start similar programs in their communities. We must raise the awareness of medical marijuana growers and patients.

Here is what we are looking for:

1. High quality digital images, at least 5megapixel in size.
2. Medical marijuana gardens only
3. Send digital images with a short



This photo of a Swiss garden was taken from the top of a storage silo. The plants were short, about 4 feet tall. You can distinguish different strains by their color.



Above: I snapped this photo of a tray of clones at the Native Suns Dispensary in San Diego. They are in such high demand that these clones are just starting to show roots!



Right: This efficient Swiss greenhouse has mother plants up on top where there is more sunlight and clones on the bottom where the light is less intense. Photos by Jorge Cervantes

descriptive paragraph and return e-mail to: jaime@oaksterdamnews.com.

Please include a few words to a paragraph or two about each photo you submit when possible. The information provided by the images of cannabis gardens will help other qualified medical growers produce better gardens. The contest will also help expand the feeling of community within the cannabis community.

The more information other growers have about medical cannabis gardens, the better they can grow.

* We do not advocate the breaking of any laws with the information that is provided in this column.



This beautiful Swiss garden covered about two acres.



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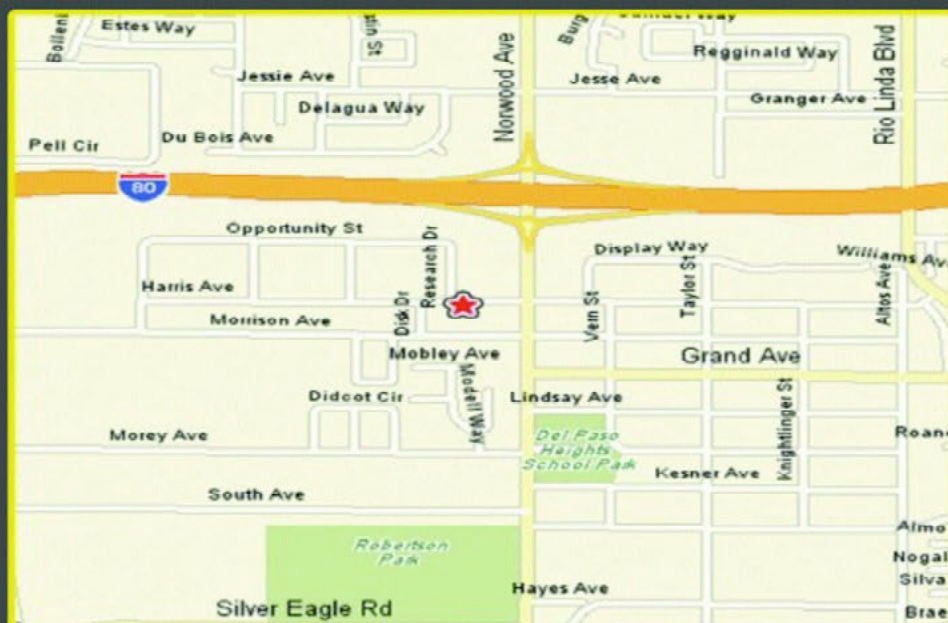
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A century of Lord Buckley:

Long Live the Lord of Hip!

By Ellen Komp*

Though largely unknown today, nearly 100 years after his birth, Lord Buckley has been cited as an influence by George Carlin, Robin Williams, Bob Dylan, Jerry Garcia, and Frank Zappa, among others.

Born in April 5, 1906 in Tuolumne, California, Richard Myrle Buckley began performing on the streets of Tuolumne as a child, and honed his comedy act performing along with Red Skelton at dance marathons in the 1920s, sometimes staying on stage for ten hours at a time. He appeared on Ed Sullivan's "Toast of the Town," the Tonight Show with Steve Allen, and "You Bet Your Life" with Groucho Marx. Lord Buckley hipped his audiences to the language of jazz in courtly manner, referring to them as "M'Lords and M'Ladies."

In Buckley's language of the hip, "Friends Romans and Countrymen, lend me your ears" became "Hipsters, flipsters, and fingerpoppin daddies, knock me your lobes!" In his Gettysburg Address (by "Lanky Link") Buckley envisions "a jumpin, swingin, stompin, wailin new nation, hip to the cool sweet groove of liberty, and solid sent upon the ace lick that all cats and kitties, red white or blue, are created level in front." He also translated bible stories for his cabaret crowds, and his version of Jonah and the Whale has Jonah smoking pot inside the whale.

Buckley provided the voice of Go Man Van Go in the 1960 Beanie and Cecil cartoon "The Wildman of Wildsville." After landing at Pismo Beachnick, Beanie's crew travels through Green Witch Village, past the Kingston Tree-O, and Cecil meets

a clinging vine at Hollow Wood and Vine who first coos "Groovy" and then "Doobie" at him. "If you can't beatnik 'em, join 'em," Cecil concludes as the gang rocks out in the end.

Some 50 people were busted for holding pot at the first services of The Church of the Living Swing, which Buckley founded in Topanga, California in 1954.



Buckley, who had been an alcoholic for 20 years, was "like an evangelist where marijuana was concerned. He thought it was the panacea for everything," said Mel Welles, a writer, actor, director, and Buckley collaborator in "Dig Infinity! The Life and Art of Lord Buckley" by Oliver Trager (Welcome Rain Publications, 2001). Welles said some 50 people were busted for holding pot at the first services of The Church of the Living Swing, which Buckley founded in Topanga, California in 1954. He also wrote a book titled, "Pot: How to Plant-Cultivate-Harvest-Cure-Prepare...Enjoy."

Orson Bean, the comedian and "To Tell the Truth" panelist, recalled smoking with Buckley in the late 1940s at the Touraine Hotel in Boston. "I had heard of marijuana but had never seen it," Bean said. "I smoked it and it remains in my experience the finest pot I've ever smoked...I remember that night with fondness, walking down the carpeted corridor of the Touraine Hotel and feeling I was about a foot off the floor...it was quite wonderful."

Eldon Setterholm, a young bohemian working in film industry who knew Buckley in 1950s, wrote in a 1987 article in "Irregular Quarterly" magazine, "He smoked Pall Malls while he did his act...When O'Grady, the Hollywood Vice fuzz was trying to nail him when he was playing at Jazz City on Hollywood Blvd., Buckley would put a joint under his forehead and smoke it in the head before he went onstage, because he liked to be stoned when he worked. The Hollywood vice were trying to get Buckley because he was so upfront about smoking it."

Every once in a while instead of giving

his usual jazz-oriented act, Buckley would give an AA sermon, telling the audience that booze is the tool of the devil and the destroyer of life and health. "Why are you people drinking that vile devil's brew?" he'd say. His audience would often get up and leave when they realized he was serious. This must have popularized him no end with the club owners.

In 1943 Buckley was arrested for cannabis possession in Chicago, but charges were dismissed when Ed Sullivan intervened (he toured with Sullivan on a USO tour from 1942-45, and the two became good friends). In 1958-1959 Buckley took part in experiments with LSD (then legal).

On October 19, 1960 Buckley's "Cabaret Card" enabling him to perform was revoked by New York City Police, purportedly because of a 1941 arrest in Reno for public drunkenness (while on tour with Gene Krupa). On November 12, Lord Buckley died after suffering a stroke aggravated by malnutrition and a kidney ailment (and most likely, police harassment). At a memorial for Lord Buckley at The Village Gate in New York City, Dizzy Gillespie and Ornette Coleman performed.

Jerry Garcia said Buckley was not just a stand-up comedian, but "like a medicine man, a shaman." "I feel that Lord Buckley is an almost lost resource," Garcia said. "He was on the track."

A centennial celebration of Buckley's birth will be held on April 5 at the Tuolumne City Memorial Museum, see www.tuolumnemuseum.org/events.htm

* Komp keeps track of more celebrity tokers at www.veryimportantpotheads.com

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Steve Kubby in front of the Bulldog in Oaksterdam. Photo by Jaime Galindo

Kubby gets early release due to jail overcrowding, then sent back in

It was neither judge nor jurors that freed Steve Kubby from jail temporarily on March 6; it was overcrowding at the Placer County facility. Judge John Cosgrove, who presided over Kubby's 2001 trial, had

rejected a request for a hearing to modify Kubby's original 120-day sentence only days before his release.

Then, on March 14, Kubby turned himself in to serve a 60-day sentence for fail-

ure to appear in court. The situation underscored the outspoken reform advocate's point that America has better use for law enforcement than to persecute cannabis users. His rare adrenal cancer can cause life-threatening blood-pressure spikes that his doctors say are controlled by use of up to an ounce of cannabis per day. Kubby and his wife, Michelle, were targets of a high-profile medical marijuana case that began with a raid on the patients' basement garden on Jan. 1, 1999.

Michelle was acquitted of all charges, and jurors hung on the charge that Kubby

was growing to sell; but he was convicted and sentenced to four months in jail for fragments of peyote and mushroom.

Kubby, active in the Prop 215 campaign and a Libertarian gubernatorial candidate in 1998, fled to Canada with his family five years earlier but Canada deported Kubby, his wife, and their two young children to the US, where he was promptly arrested.

Judge Cosgrove denied Kubby's request to use medical marijuana behind bars, but did authorize marinol, a pharmaceutical synthetic-THC product.

Hemp industry growing strong roots

By Justin Baker

This year California and Vermont could become the eighth and ninth states to pass agricultural hemp farming legislation. Currently seven states (Hawaii, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Montana, North Dakota and West Virginia) have passed pro-hemp farming laws.

The California State Grange has sent out a legislative action alert for AB 1147, the California Industrial Hemp Farming Act. The state Assembly passed it on Jan. 25 and the bill now goes to the Senate. Vermont legislators will consider H 455 this year to define hemp and allow licensed farmers to grow the crop. More information about hemp legislation and the crop's many uses can be found at www.VoteHemp.com.

Hemp markets 1995 to 2005

The Hemp Industries Association is a trade group of more than 250 hemp companies, including wholesalers: manufacturers and distributors; retailers: stores, mail order, internet, mobile; consultants; researchers, authors, publishers; farmers, processors; and other services.

Sales of hemp foods in 2004/2005 grew by 50 percent over the previous 12-month period. US retail sales of hemp products are estimated to now be \$250 to

\$300 million per year. More than 2.5 million cars on US roads contain hemp composites. Hemp cultivation in Canada exceeds 24,000 acres per year, while European farmers now grow more than 40,000 acres.

"In 1995 we conducted a casual market analysis of 19 of our companies," said HIA Executive Director Johanna Schultz, "which showed a growth from \$26,000 to \$7.5 million in sales from 1990 to 1995. Estimated hemp sales totaled \$150 million for 1999. Overall sales in the industry hit the \$180 million mark in 2001. Due to the DEA attempt to ban hemp foods and body care, sales dropped in that sector for a few years."

The HIA won its case against the DEA in March 2003, and by 2004, SPINS reported sales of hemp foods and body care products back up to the level they had achieved in 2000, now including the tanning product sector. The whole hemp market was estimated to be \$250 million.

Foods are now up to \$12 million, according to a recent survey done by Leson Consulting and presented at the November 2005 HIA Convention. A Fiber Survey is underway to determine the latest market analysis. Paper alone is projected to achieve a sales increase of more than 100 percent for 2006.

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No cannabis link to "Amotivational Syndrome"

Study: Cannabis users prove just as motivated as anyone else

By Paul Armentano* according to survey data published in the current issue of the Substance Abuse Treatment, Prevention, and Policy journal, Cannabis use — including daily use of the herb — does not impair motivation,

Many religions use Cannabis as sacrament

Continued from page 10

scholars in Jerusalem confirmed that the word is actually "qaneh bosm," or cannabis. *Isaiah 18:4-5* describes God using "a clear heat upon herb," similar to modern vaporizers, and describes pruning an herb "afore the harvest, when the bud is perfect," as in the sinsemilla cannabis stage before the seed crop ripens for use in food, oil or plantings.

Whereas the federal government does not recognize medical marijuana, religious use remains a viable argument in federal court

Ezekiel 34:29 describes "a plant (sometimes translated as a farm or plantation) of renown." St Paul predicted in *1 Timothy 4: 1-6* an age of prohibition where men "speaking lies in hypocrisy" forbid people to partake of God's herbs (meats), but then states that "every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer."

Non-Christian faiths that use cannabis have included the Oracles at Delphi and Thebes in ancient Greece and Egypt, whirling Dervishes and modern Hindu sects that honor Shiva in India, Nepal and elsewhere. Hundreds of Hindu holy men, devotees and tourists smoked cannabis near a temple in Nepal's capital on Feb. 26 of this year as part of festival celebrating the Hindu god Shiva that drew more than 150,000 people.

Ironically the fact that cannabis has been used in religious creed and practice for thousands of years by millions of people is counted against it by the government as one reason its religious use is banned, claiming that its popularity among religious and non-religious users constitute a form of drug abuse while hoasca is used by only a few score of individuals in the US.

In another irony, when Congress passed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) in the 1990s to protect the use of natural entheogens by churches was ruled unconstitutional because it infringed on States Rights (the reverse of its opinion on medical use in the *Gonzalez v. Raich*) but remains a Constitutional barrier against the federal government. In other words, whereas the federal government does not recognize medical marijuana, religious use remains a viable argument in federal court that is largely untested. This is due in large part to the fact that every religious use case argued has been tainted by commercial or non-religious activity. Meanwhile, in California sacramental use is not protected, but medical marijuana is. Has anyone ever heard of faith healing?

online at www.substanceabusepolicy.com.

Four hundred and eighty seven volunteers (243 daily users and 244 non-users) completed items from the Apathy Evaluation Scale (AES).

"These findings refute hypothesized associations between heavy cannabis use and low motivation," authors concluded.

Participants responded to 12 statements regarding their own feelings of motivation on a four-point scale (e.g. Not at all; Slightly; Somewhat; Very much). Researchers have successfully used similar measures of apathy in previous studies of substance abuse and motivation.

"Participants who used cannabis seven days a week demonstrated no difference

from non-cannabis users on indices of motivation," investigators found.

After quantifying subjects' responses through advanced statistical procedures designed to identify even slight differences between users and non-users, researchers still did not detect any decreases in motivation among daily users of cannabis.

"These findings refute hypothesized associations between heavy cannabis use and low motivation," authors concluded.

"Thus, emphasizing a cannabis-induced amotivational syndrome in drug prevention does not have empirical support and could harm the credibility of ... [drug] prevention efforts."

The full text of the study, "Cannabis, motivation, and life satisfaction in an internet sample," is available online at: www.substanceabusepolicy.com

* Armentano is Senior Policy Analyst at the NORML, 202-483-5500.

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Freedom Calendar ...

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April

Santa Barbara hosts cannabis therapeutics research symposium

Apr 6 - 8: *The Fourth National Clinical Conference on Cannabis Therapeutics* at Santa Barbara (CA) City College. Open to public, limited attendance. Registration fees from \$155 to \$355. CME credits from UCSF and California Nurses Association; other professions also accredited. Faculty, agenda, online registration: www.medicalcannabis.com.

ASA Cocktail Reception in DC

April 18, 6-8 PM ET in Washington, DC at the historic and beautiful Old Ebbitt Grill, just blocks from White House, Capitol, and national monuments. Contact abby@safeaccessnow.org for details.

NORML Conference in SF

Apr 20-22: National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws returns to San Francisco for its annual conference. Register online at www.norml.org

Huntington Beach rally

Apr 29 *Rally Against the Failing War on Drugs*, 1:30-4:20 at Huntington Beach Pier. See www.ocnorml.org for more info; sponsored by OC NORML, November Coalition and Association of Patient Advocates.

May

Million Marijuana March

May 6-7: Cannabis Liberation Day events held worldwide this weekend, including May 6, noon to 6 pm in San Francisco; SF booth space available, email to freemansullivan@yahoo.com. Details TBA and posted online at www.cures-not-wars.org. SF info at HempEvolution.org or call 415-424-0125.

June

Race, Racism, Incarceration

June 1: Oakland: A panel discussion sponsored by the Socially Responsible Network of the East Bay. www.srbay.org

Weedstock

June 2-4: Weedstock, a campout/music event in Central WI; 'Back by Court Order.' Details TBA, weedstock.com

Oakland City Elections

June 6: Vote for Dellums or Nadel.

July

Washington DC Cannabis Rally

July 4: Annual protest across the street from the White House; High noon.

August

Seattle HempFest in WA

Aug 19 - 20: Seattle Washington hosts the world's biggest reform rally: two days, five stages, many bands and speakers. Free, but please donate generously as it takes 1500 volunteers and a lot of coordination and money to pull off this event.

Oly Hempfest in WA

Aug 27: Annual event at Olympia, WA www.olyhempfest.org

September

Boston Freedom Rally

Sept 16: Boston, MA www.masscann.org

Santa Barbara Hemp Festival

Sept 30: Eighth Annual Santa Barbara Hemp Festival, Santa Barbara, CA. www.santabarbarahemp.com

Missoula Hempfest

Date TBA: Hempfest and Alternative Living Faire, Caras Park, Missoula, MT. www.missoulahempfest.com

October

Great Midwest Harvest Fest in WI

Oct 7-8: Annual event, Madison, WI.

November

National election day

Nov. 6: Vote for a candidate that supports reform, or a voter initiative if possible. Work get out the vote for campaigns.

Humboldt Hempfest

Nov 11: Annual event, near Garberville at Mateel Center, Redway.

High Times Dutch Cannabis Cup

Thanksgiving weekend, Amsterdam; great city, great bud. www.hightimes.com

HIA Hemp Industries Convention

Details TBA: Annual convention, www.hempindustries.org

December

Mari-wanna Christmas, one and all

National candlelight vigils April 22

By William Haney

PhillyNorml will host a Candlelight Vigil for Victims of Medical Marijuana Prohibition on April 22 at 8 PM on Ben Franklin Parkway at 21st Street in Philadelphia, PA. The annual candlelight vigil commemorates deceased medical cannabis patients, as well as those living in prisons and jails, on parole and or probation, and the families divided by the drug war.

Event sponsors are encouraging other interested parties to hold a simultaneous event that evening. The vigil raises awareness by informing the public of the medical benefits of medical marijuana, which is now legal in many states. Maine, Vermont, Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Montana, Nevada, Oregon and Washington allow cannabis to be grown and used for medicinal purposes. On Jan. 3, 2006 Rhode Island became the 11th state to legalize medicinal cannabis.

The US Supreme Court ruled June 6, 2005 that people who use cannabis with a doctor's approval can still be prosecuted under federal drug laws but did not overturn any State Laws. Federal authorities have conceded they are unlikely to prosecute most individual medicinal cannabis patients. For more information about last years' successful vigil, www.universalarts.net/candl.html.

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California NORML

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Cannabis Consumers Campaign

www.cannabisconsumers.org/ Come out of the closet to stand up for equal rights.

Change the Climate

www.changetheclimate.org/ Mass media campaigns to open the dialogue.

DRC Net

www.stopthedrugwar.org/ Drug Reform Coordination Network is a national and global network of drug policy reformers from perspectives such as harm reduction, sentencing and forfeiture law reforms, medicalizing schedule I drugs, and promotion of open debate on prohibition.

Drug Policy Alliance

www.drugpolicy.org/ DPA works on new drug policies based on science, compassion, health, human rights and a just society free from prohibition.

Drug Policy Forum of CA

Listserves for California cannabis and drug war issues. Send email to canorml@igc.org to subscribe.

Drug Sense

www.drugsense.org/ A daily compilation of drug-related news excerpts.

Family Council on Drug Awareness

www.fcdca.org/ Accurate information on the effects of various drugs and drug policies. Offers downloadable literature for local activists to print and hand out.

Harm Reduction Coalition

www.harmreduction.org/ The HRC works to reduce drug-related harm among individuals and communities, by programs such as clean needle exchange.

Hemp Industries Association

www.hempindustries.org/ The HIA is a non-profit trade group representing hemp companies, researchers and supporters.

Human Rights and the Drug War

www.hr95.org/ This project puts the drug war into the perspective of preserving and respecting human rights for all.

Law Enforcement Against Prohibition

www.leap.cc/ Current and former members of law enforcement who support drug regulation rather than prohibition.

Marijuana Policy Project

www.mpp.org/ MPP focuses on removing criminal penalties for cannabis use, with a particular emphasis on making cannabis medically available to seriously ill people who have the approval of their doctors.

Media Awareness Project

www.mapinc.org/ Have your voice heard; MAP has helped generate for millions of letters to the editor. Help gather news for their clearing house.

MAPS

www.maps.org/ Multidisciplinary Association on Psychedelic Studies, 2105 Robinson Ave., Sarasota FL 34232. 941 924-6277. Membership-based, non-profit 501(c)3 research / educational group that helps scientists design, fund, obtain approval for and report studies of risks and benefits of cannabis and psychedelics.

NORML

www.norml.org/ National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. The original activist group; info, legal referrals and annual convention. 202-483-5500

November Coalition

www.november.org/ National support group for Drug War POWs. Publishers of *The Razor Wire*.

Oakland Civil Liberties Alliance

www.taxandregulate.org Political action committee behind Measure Z in Oakland. 1714 Franklin Street, #100-118 Oakland, CA 94612

SAFER

www.saferchoice.org/ Safer Alternative For Enjoyable Recreation. PO Box 40332, Denver CO 80204, mason@saferchoice.org

Students for a Sensible Drug Policy

www.ssdp.org/ Students seeking to reduce the harms caused by drug abuse and drug policies.

VoteHemp

www.votehemp.com/ Lobby for industrial and horticultural hemp.

Drug War Facts

www.drugwarfacts.org/ Just the facts.

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Principles of Sensible Cannabis Use

Tips from the Berkeley Patient Group

Like anything, cannabis can be misused. Excessive or inappropriate use can contribute to problems including sleepiness, overeating, and time management issues. Due to the political climate surrounding cannabis research, clinical studies have produced widely conflicting conclusions about the benefits and potential side effects of cannabis. Always listen to the advice of your doctor and use good judgment when using medical cannabis.

These guidelines help identify ways of using cannabis in a positive way.

1. Adults should use cannabis as part of a healthy, balanced, and responsible lifestyle.
2. The decision to use cannabis should be made freely, and not as a result of social pressure.
3. Cannabis users should be well informed about its effects on themselves and others. These effects include legal and health risks as well as personal consequences.
4. Never use cannabis as an excuse or a cue for antisocial or irresponsible behavior.
5. Cannabis users should model and reward responsible use, particularly with new users.
6. Use cannabis as part of positive social interactions, rather than primarily in isolation or as a remedy for negative feelings.
7. Develop sensible cannabis use limits for yourself based on personal, health, situational, and cultural factors. It is important to be objective about your personal cannabis use and listen to the constructive advice of others.
8. Avoid cannabis use that puts you or others at risk, such as when driving, at work, or in public places.
9. Use of cannabis by children is inappropriate and should be discouraged.
10. Cannabis use should contribute to, rather than detract from, users health, well-being, creativity, work, relationships, and social obligations.

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Patient Services & Support

Thanks to California Norml. Online updates at canorml.org. *Oaksterdam News* makes no representation as to the service, quality, reliability or compassion of any of these groups. For a discussion of the legalities of cannabis clubs, see CA NORML's *Tips for Would-be Cannabis Providers*.

Oakland

• **Official city patient IDs**, info: The Co-op Store. 510-832-5346. 1733 Broadway. www.rxcbc.org.

City Licensed Clubs

• SR-71, 377 - 17th St. Open M-F 9-8; Sa 10-8; Su 10-6
• CARE. 701 Broadway
• Two city permits under review

Berkeley / East Bay

• Berkeley Cannabis Coop. Shattuck Ave, 510-486-1025
• Berkeley Patients' Group. 2747 San Pablo Av. 510-540-6013. berkeleypatientsgroup.com
• Berkeley Patients' Care Collective. 2590 Telegraph. 510-540-7878. medicalmarijuana.info

Contra Costa

• ME Delivery 510-758-3269
• Maricare - 2155 Colfax St, Concord (also deliveries) 925-459-2929. 11am - 7 pm
• Holistic Solutions 925-609-9655 1120 Contra Costa Bl, Concord
• Natural Remedies Health Center Coll., 3817 Macdonald Ave, Richmond 510-965-1735.

Alameda County, Hayward Area

• Hayward Patients Resource Center. 22550 Foothill Bl. daily 11-9; also delivery, MD clinics. 510-581-8640. 888-389-6360.
• Local Patients' Cooperative (22630 Foothill Bl. 2nd Floor). Daily 10-10 (wheelchair access to 9:30, call first) 510-537-2405.
• Garden of Eden, 21227 Foothill Blvd Castro Valley. 9-9 daily, 510-881-2160.
• The Health Center, 15998 E. 14th St, San Leandro 510-278-4251. 11-7 Daily

• Alameda Co. Resource Center 16250 B E. 14th St, San Leandro 510-317-2150. Open M-Sa 11-8 (high grade organic).
• A Natural Source 510-276-7224. 16360 Foothill Blvd, San Leandro. M-F 11-7. Sa-Su 12-6.
• Compassionate Collective of Alameda Co, 21222 Mission Bl, Hayward. M-F 9-7, Sa-Su 11-7.
• Tri Valley Area: The Greene: 580/680 access. M-F 2-8pm, Sa 12-4. For appt: 925-989-0724.
• We Are Hemp 913 E Lewelling Blvd, San Lorenzo. 510-276-2628. M-Sa 11-8

San Francisco

Patient ID Cards, City Dept of Health. 101 Grove St. #105. 415-206-5555

• SF Medical Cannabis Clinic #1, 122 Tenth St (at Mission) 415-626-4781 Open M-W 11-7; Th - Sa 10-7; Su 11-6.
• CannaMed Care Center, 1211 Sutter St (lower). M-Sa 1-9, Su 1-6. 415-885-8007. cannamedcare.com
• Alternative Herbal Health, 442 Haight St. 415-864-1300. (MD consultations by appt)
• The Vapor Room, 609A Haight St. (MD consultations avail.) M-Sa 11-9; Su 12-8
• The Hemp Center, 4811 Geary Blvd, 415-221-HEMP
• Love Shack. 502 14th St. x Guerrero. 415-552-5121. lssf.com
• SF Medical Cannabis Clinic #2, 194 Church St. 11-7 M-F, 11-5 Sa-Su. 415-626-4781
• Ketama, 14 Valencia St. 11-8 M-Sa, 12-6 Su. 415-706-2679.
• Holistic Solutions, 11-6 daily 722 Columbus St. 415-296-7614.
• Mission St. Caregivers. 1760 Mission x Duboce. 415-553-7780 (open 365 days)
• Green Door, 843 Howard St. 11-8 daily 415-541-9590 www.GreenDoorInfo.com
• Alternative Patient Caregivers, 953 Mission St. #40. 415-618-0680. 12-6 M-F, 11-5 Sa. Clones available.

• Alternative Relief Co-Op. 1944 Ocean Ave, noon-7, M-Sa. Natural herbs, tea. 415-239-4766. Deliver to SF hospital in-patients
• San Francisco ACT-UP. 1884 Market St. 415-864-6686 actupsf.com
• Sweetleaf Collective 415-273-4663, For low-income AIDS, cancer patients
• SF Patients' Cooperative. 350 Divisadero St. 415-552-8653. www.sfprc.org
• Golden Triangle Sanctuary, 1334 Haight St. 415-431-6764. M-Sa 10:30-9; Sun. 12-8.
• Hopenet Coop, 223 Ninth St. 415-863-4399. M-F 12-7, Sa 12-5
• The Green Cross. 3420 - 22nd St x Guerrero. 415-648-4420. Daily 10-8. thegreencross.org
• Bernal Heights Co-op Disp. 33 - 29th St. 415-642-4702. 10-9 M-Sa, 12-7 Su

• Sonoma Co. Compassionate Services Delivery. 707-972-7818
• Cheops Herbal Apothecary Delivery (Sonoma Co.) cheops-herbal@hotmail.com 707-974-9465
• Holistic Solutions, 14240 Lakeshore Dr, Clearlake. Lake co. 707-995-9000. M-Sa 11-7.
• D & M Compassion Center, 9990 E Hwy 20, Clearlake Oaks. Lake Co 707-998-9781
• Lake Co Alternative Caregiver Clinic, Clearlake Oaks. 707-998-0358. lace@mchsi.com
• Ukiah CBC Info. 707-462-0691
• Hemp Plus Ministeries. 892 N. State St, Ukiah. 707-468-1478. Open M-Sa 10-6.

Central Valley to Redding

• Amador Co. Sierra Foothills CC (delivery service) 209-274-6727.

HS11362.5: "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..."

• The Divinity Tree. 958 Geary St. 415-292-6052. Open 11-7 except Tu
• Mason St. Dispensary. 124 Mason St. (downstairs) 415-433-4420, 7-9 daily masondispensary.com
• Emmalyn's. 1597 Howard St. #A. Daily 10-9. 800-588-4218 / 415-345-8248
• Patients Helping Patients Home Bike Delivery. 415-240-7190
• Good Fellowes Smoke Shop. 473 Haight St 415-346-4338
• Grass Roots. 1077 Post St. 415-346-4338
• Sanctuary. 669 O'Farrell. 415-885-4420
• Re-Leaf Herbal Center. 2980 - 21st St. 415-235-3307
• Mr. Nice Guy, 174 Valencia St. 415-865-0990. Open 11-9 Su -Th; 11-11 F-Sa

Marin, North Bay

• Marin Alliance for Medical Mj: 415-256-9328. cbcmarin.com
• Here2Help-707, Solano Co. delivery to homebound patients only 707-208-9023. M-Th 9-7 here2help_707@hotmail.com

South Bay

• Cal Medical Mj Patients Association. Belmont (delivery to San Mateo, SF, East Bay. 650-492-1487, 24 hrs. 650-595-0113, 4-6. cammjpa@yahoo.com / cammjpa.50megs.com
• Mobile Herbal Therapy (San Mateo, San Jose deliveries). 866-240-9121
• Area 420. Santa Clara Co patients, political and info only. 408-246-0052. area420.com
• San Jose area deliveries: Growth Unlimited. 1-888-MED-CANN
• My Green Heaven Ministry. Millbrae. www.mygreenheaven.org
• West Coast Medical Sunnyvale Deliveries 9-9. 408-481-0331. Office Hours 10-5 M-SA;

North Coast

• MMPU, Medical Marijuana Patients Union POB 2059, Fort Bragg 95437. 707-964-YESS. info@mmpu.org
• Mendo Healing. Ft Bragg. 707-964-3677
• Herban Legend, 18300 Old Coast Hwy #3, Fort Bragg. 707-961-0113; M-Sa 11am-6pm.
• Redway Herbal Options, Evergreen Center #7, Redway. 707-923-9147. Open 9-5. redway420@yahoo.com
• Mendo Remedies. 44975 Hwy 101, Laytonville: 707-984-7101; low-income patients welcome.
• Caregiver Compassion Center. 4349 Montgomery #D, Sta Rosa. 707-537-7303 M-F 1-6; Su 3-6.
• Resource Green Caregivers & Patients Group. 532-D Sonoma Ave, Santa Rosa. (deliveries too) 866-420-5020. 11-9 daily
• North Bay Wellness Coop- 3386 Santa Rosa Ave, Santa Rosa northbaywellness@yahoo.com Open 10-6:45 M-F; 10-4:45 Sa.
• Sonoma Alliance for Medical Marijuana. SAMM. 707-522-0292. patient support group
• Marvin's Gardens. Guerneville. 707-869-1291

• NorCal Medical Cannabis Collective, Chico 530-354-1114 indicanna@gmail.com
• Calaveras CC. 866-401-2228. delivery 7 days, 8-8; low-income patients welcome.
• Merced Patients' Group (patient support) 209-726-5216 mercedpg@sbcglobal.net
• Merced County Patient Coalition (patient support). merccountycc@aol.com
• California Healthcare Collective 1009 McHenry Ave. Modesto
• MMJ Caregivers Association of El Dorado Co. Placerville. 530-642-8258
• Golden State Patient Care Collective. 233 Hwy 174, Colfax. 530-346-2514. M-Sat 10-6
• Dale's Delivery (Nevada City - Roseville) 530-277-1810. M-F 10-6pm, Sa 11-3pm
• Plumas Co., Feather River Coop. 530-283-4517 (info)
• Jim'z Deliveries. Roseville area 916-519-5328, 10-6.
• San Joaquin, Medi-Caregivers delivery. 209-456-0680
• Shasta Patient Alliance. shapatall@hotmail.com, info only
• Dixon Herbs, 925 Merchant St #5, Redding 800-730-0772 (raided 12/05; re-opening late Jan.)
• Shasta Caregivers (530) 945-3571
• Siskiyou County Medical Cannabis Co-op Research & Registration Ctr. Weed. 530-938-1768. littleloulou@snowcrest.net
• Stanislaus/Central Valley Co-op: Primary Caregivers & Consultants. 209-818-2932. CACaregivers@aol.com
• Tuolumne CC delivery 866-882-1129. 7 days, 8-8. low-income patients welcome.
• Yuba County CBC 530-749-7497

Sacramento

• River City Patients' Center (916) 649-0114
• Capitol Alternatives. 2020 - 16th St. Sacramento, 916-497-0277 / 916-728-1967. Open 9-7 M-Fri; 9-5 Sa.
• Advanced Medicinal Health Center: call for appt. 916-482-1971. M-Sa 11-6.
• Doctor's Orders, 4011 Winters St. #A, Sacto. 916-564-2112. M-Th 10am-6pm, Fri 10am-8pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-3pm
• Canna Care, 320 Harris Ave #G M-F 9-6; Sa-Su 10-3. 916-925-1199.
• Greenhouse 916-366-0420, 916-868-9566 call for verification, directions; Daily 10-6.
• MedSac916: 916-806-2314 www.medsac916.com
• End of the Rainbow deliveries: end-of-the-rainbow@hotmail.com 916-369-6000 or 916-698-6249.
• Growth Unlimited deliveries Sacto/Solano/Central Valley/San Jose. 1-888-MED-CANN
• Today's Holistic Caregivers. 661-946-6600 Sacto area deliv. caregivers420@yahoo.com
• Sam's deliveries 916-717-4848. Hours 10-6.
• Healing Hands of Nature delivery. Rancho Cordova/Sac/Citrus Hts area. 916-256-5277

Kern Co., Bakersfield

• American Caregivers Collective, 5640 District Blvd #111, Bakersfield 661-396-7800. 10 - 7 daily. Americancaregiverscollective.com
• Nature's Medicinal, 323 Roberts Ln, Bakersfield. 661-392-9353. Daily 11-9.
• Canna-meds, 1450 Crestmont Dr, Bakersfield 661-871-0420 Open 11-7 M-Sa

Continued on next page

Thanks to Measure Z



is a Cannabis-Friendly City!

✓ Improving Law Enforcement

✓ Saving Tax Dollars

✓ Reducing Marijuana Arrests

✓ Protecting Civil Liberties

www.TaxandRegulate.org

Patient Services & Support

Continued from previous page

Central Coast, Santa Barbara, Ventura

- Central Coast Compassionate Caregivers, 7425 El Camino Real #P, Atascadero 805-461-9180 Open 11-7 M-Sa
- Hezekiah Inc, 92 - 2nd St. #H, Buellton (805) 264-1774 - open M-F 9-5.
- Compassion Center of Santa Barbara County - SBC Collective, 119 N. Milpas St #C, Sta Barb, 805-963-9797 M-F 12-5, Sa 11-3
- Santa Barbara Patients' Group, 3114 State St. 805-687-8988. M-SA 11-5. Fax MD documentation to 805-456-0710.
- Helping Hands Wellness Center, 4141 State St. #F-4 Santa Barbara (805) 692-1419. Open 10:30-8:30 daily.
- Santa Barbara Patient Doctor Coalition. 805-687-2380 PDCoalition@cox.net
- Cal Alliance for Medical Mj Patients (Ventura Co) 805-890-1365. ID cards, medical referrals stoparrestingpts@aol.com

OC, San Bernardino, Riverside

- 215 Patient Bakery (edibles only) / 420 Primary Caregivers. 421 N. Brookhurst #130 Anaheim. 714-758-3500. M-Sa 11-7; delivery. 420primarycaregivers.com
- Legal Ease 1077 E. Main St., Tustin 714-508-3633, M-F 10-8, 11-7 Sa-Su
- Pharmakeia (LA/Orange/Riverside/ S.D./ S.Barbara) 323-462-1516. M-Sa 10am - 5 pm. pharmakeia.org. info@pharmakeia.org
- Inland Empire Herbal Caregivers, San Bernardino Co. delivery 951-537-0235.
- CAPS. Palm Springs. 760-325-1112
- CanaHelp, 73350 El Paseo #204, Palm Desert, 877-760-4367 Open 10-8
- OCMC Coop, Orange Co. 949-855-0310.
- Humble House deliveries to Orange and Riverside counties 949-395-9588
- Yorba Linda Alt. Herb Coop 714-692-0072, 714-276-4238. M-F 11-8, Sa-Su 11-7
- ARC Col.-Orange Co. deliv. 714-999-9696
- KGB Meds delivery to San Bernardino, High Desert. 760-246-7047. kgbmeds@yahoo.com
- Dank Meds, San Bernardino delivery, 760-247-3275 Daily 9 - 6 dankmeds@yahoo.com.
- Freeway Pharmacy, delivery to Beach cities, Huntington Bch - El Segundo. 310-349-9135
- Northern Lights Church, statewide support. 949-222-4209. Laguna Beach. northernlights-church.org / thehealingexchange.org
- The Holistic Caregivers, 1321 E. Compton Blvd, Compton (310) 889-4799; for deliveries phone (310) 764-4740. Open M-Sa 9am-7pm.
- Inglewood Wellness Center. 310-674-4444. InglewoodWC.org
- A-1 Compassionate Col., 301 N Prairie Ave #512, Inglewood 213-952-1857 M-Sa 11-7
- Cal Medical Caregivers Assoc., 15838 Halliburton Rd. Hacienda Heights 626-336-2652 daily 11-7

Tahoe Medical Collective, LA Area (323) 595-3841

- United Medical Caregivers Clinic, 1248 S. Fairfax, LA 310-358-0212 Open 10-7 M-F.
- Quality of Life Activities (QOLA) Silverlake - Los Angeles Call for info: 323-644-1209 Hours: 10-7 M-Sa.
- LA Compasionate Care Silverlake 13th -

2227 Sunset Blvd 213-272-9488; en español 213-272-9489

- California Patients' Group, 6208 Santa Monica Blvd (between Vine & 101) 323-464-7052 www.CaliforniaPatientsGroup.org Free valet service M-F after 4 pm
- Hollywood Patients' Group, 6115 Selma Ave #103 Hollywood (323) 464-6465. Open 10-10 daily
- Earth Collective, 5115 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood (323) 668-7633.
- Hollywood Compassionate Collective (HCC), 1110 N. Western Ave #204, Hollywood (323) 467-7292. M-F 11-7; Sa 12-8 pm www.hollywoodcollective.com.
- NoHo Caregivers, 4296 Vineland North Hollywood 818-754-0834 Daily 11-8
- Caregivers Christian Alliance Discount Dispensary - 122 S. Lincoln Ave #204, Venice 877-219-3809. Open M-Sa 12-8
- Marina Caregivers, 3007 Washington Blvd. #225, Mar. Del Rey 310-574-4000. 4- 11pm
- The Lomita Vapor Lounge, 14829 Hawthorne Blvd #203, Lawndale (310) 432-3262. Open 11-7 daily.
- Lomita Collective - Palos Verdes deliveries 310-432-3262
- Westside Compassionate Caregivers, 2355 Westwood Blvd, West LA (310) 474-8459 Open M-Sa 10-8, Su 10-6.
- Comfort Care Group, 1720 Westwood Blvd, Westwood (310) 441-8315 Open 7am-10pm.
- Crescent Alliance for Sickle-Cell Self-Help Group (Sister Somayah) LA
- W. M. P. C. 11618 Washington Blvd #D, Whittier (562) 692-3576 Open 11 am - 7 pm.
- Whittier Collective 12450#A East Washington Blvd. (562) 696-9696 Open M-F 11-7; Sa 11-6; Su 10-3.

San Fernando Valley

- Trichome Healing Caregivers. 7100 Van Nuys Blvd #204, Van Nuys. 818-373-5000. 10-7 daily except Wed. - disabled access
- Mother Nature's Remedy Caregivers, 17302 Saticoy St, Van Nuys (818) 345-MEDS www.mothernaturesremedy.org. Hours 2:15 - 10 pm Tu-Su.
- Therapeutic Medicinal Health Resources, 14836 Burbank Blvd, Sherman Oaks (818) 988-9615 Hours M-F 11-7; Sa-Su 12-6
- Valley Collective Co-op, 12500 Riverside Dr #201B, Studio City 818-508-8787 Open M-Sa 11-7, Su 11-5
- Valley Collective Co-op, 12500 Riverside Dr #201B, Studio City (818) 508-8787 Open M-Sa 11-7, Su 11-5
- Valley Independent Pharmacy, 10-7 daily. 19459 Ventura Blvd, Tarzana. 818-345-5477.
- Cannamed of Northridge, 9349 Melvin Ave. #9. 818-882-4849 - 10 am -8 pm daily.
- Valley Co-Op, 8363 Reseda Blvd #203, Northridge (818) 727-1419. Hours 11-7 M-Sa, 11-5 Su.
- Compassionate Care of Studio City (no relation to "Compassionate Caregivers"), 11314 Ventura Blvd 818-506-7207 (med. menu on website) www.ccscity.com Open 11-8 M-F, 12-8 SA
- North Valley Discount Caregivers, 15600 Devonshire #203, Granada Hills (818) 920-3110. Open 12 - 8 daily.
- West Valley Caregivers, 23067 Ventura Blvd #102, Woodland Hills (818) 222-9212 Open 10 - 10 daily

- HIM, 22831 Ventura Blvd, Woodland Hills (818) 225-2426. Open 12-8 everyday
- RNS Caregivers United, 10545 Burbank Blvd, N Hollywood 818-763-7479 M-SA 11-7
- Natural Relief Center, 7223 Owensmouth, Canoga Park 818-703-8599 Daily 11-7
- North Hollywood Collective, 10929 Vanowen St. #110 (818) 763-4008.

West Hollywood

- LA Patients and Caregivers Group, 7213 Santa Monica Blvd, W Hollywood x Formosa. 323-882-6033. lamedicalmarijuana.com
- AHHS (Alternative Herbal Health Services) 7828 Santa Monica x Fairfax. W. Hollywood. 323-654-8792 call for hours.
- Medical Marijuana Pharmacy 323-848-7981. 7825 Santa Monica Bl. Delivery. 10-9.
- West Hollywood Caregivers. 7901 Santa Monica Bl #206. 323-656-2033. 10-7 daily.
- CA Cannabis Pharmaceuticals, 8464 Santa Monica Blvd, W. Hollywood 323-656-1600
- West Hollywood Center for Compassionate Healing, 8921 Sunset Bl. 310-626-3333.
- The Health Center. 8961 W. Sunset Blvd W. Hollywood. 310-275-0446. call for appt
- West LA Collective Caregivers. West side delivery. 310-953-2475. daily 9:30-10. wlacc.net.

Beach Cities

- Cancer Help Center Herbal Collective. 3381 LB Blvd x Wardlow, Long Beach. 562-424-HERB. M-F 11-8, Sa-Su 11-7
- CCLB — Compassionate Caregivers LB (not affiliated with "Compassionate Caregivers") 562-621-9777 call for details.
- Med-a-Cab delivery service, Long Beach and mid-cities 562-256-5066 everyday 11-7.
- Freeway Pharmacy delivery Beach cities El Segundo - Huntington Beach 310-349-9135
- South Bay 420 Collective Delivery Service - Palos Verdes and South Bay beach cities only - 310-561-3515; FAX 866-619-5942 harpincsb@netscape.net
- Diamond Delivery - Long Beach to North Orange Co. (562) 331-5415

San Diego

- North County Medi Caregivers delivery 760-277-4059 daily 12-9 northcountymedical@yahoo.com.
- San Diego area deliveries: www.medbud4u.com
- San Diego Legal Ease, Inc. 3024 Meade Ave #D (North Park) 619-398-3467. Daily 10-7.
- San Diego Caregivers. (delivery serving SD / south Riverside Co.) 760-580-0745
- California Medical Center, 4010 Morena Blvd #103, SD 858-405-9496. Everyday 11-8.
- P.B.R., 1145 Garnet Ave, Pacific Beach (858) 270-6337. Open 11 -9.
- Ocean Beach Dispensary, 4230 Voltaire Ave. #2. 619-549-2014 obdispensary.com. 11-8.
- Co-Op Mira Mesa, 11271 Camino Ruiz, San Diego (858) 271-8020 firstchoicerecargivers@msn.com Hours 11-7 everyday.
- Native Sun Dispensary, 3806 Rosecrans, San Diego 619-299-2837. Open M-Sa 9-7.
- Co-Op SD, 7875 Convoy Ct #6, San Diego. 858-610-1674. Daily 11-7.
- Mother Earth Co-op, 4017 Brant St. San Diego. 619-955-5611 Daily 9:30 - 8
- American Caregivers Co-op, North SD County delivery 760-420-0478.
- San Diego Patients Health & Caregiving Co-Op, 1806 W. Washington St, San Diego 619-417-0006 info@sdphea.com Daily 12-7.
- The Healing Room, 4438 Vandever Ave, San Diego 619-501-1970 Open 12-7 except Sun.
- San Diego Compassionate & Safe Access, 3778 - 4th Ave. 619-795-9447 Daily 11-8.
- Morena Care Group, 1231 Morena Blvd. San Diego 619-276-1146 morenacaregroup@sbcglobal.net Daily: 12-8.
- Farm AC, 6070 Mt Alifan Dr #202 (by Coco's on Balboa) San Diego 858-278-5880 Daily 12-8
- Utopia Dispensary, 4843 Voltaire St. #A, San Diego 619-222-6900 10 -8 M-Sa, 12-6 Su. utopiadisensary.com

For updates, see
www.canorml.org



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Making the transition from counter culture to over-the-counter culture

With legal use of cannabis comes associated responsibilities. Cannabis outlets share their neighborhoods with homes and businesses. To be successful, they work hard to establish a positive relationship with their neighbors, the city, and the police department. The most likely cause for trouble is complaints by neighbors regarding operations or the activities of their clientele.

The *Oaksterdam News* suggests that everyone follow some common sense, good-neighbor principles.

- Please be respectful of the neighbors' rights, privacy and property. Never litter.
- Always be careful and courteous when driving, particularly when entering or exiting neighborhoods and parking areas.
- Be very careful not to block or park in driveways or in the neighbors' parking lots. You will probably be inside the establishment longer than you think.
- No loitering or nuisance behavior around cannabis outlets.
- Not everyone shares your opinions about cannabis or your taste in music. Keep the volume down.
- Do not divide-up or consume your cannabis inside your car or on the streets around your favorite outlet, or in the vicinity of a school.
- A physician's approval is not a trophy. Don't wave it around and act like it is.
- If you have an indoor home garden, keep the grow area under 100 square feet and be sure that any electrical or plumbing is safe and up to code.

These simple guidelines will help keep the state's cannabis collectives and outlets operating smoothly and with less legal interference.

JUST SAY NOT GUILTY!

Juries Cannot Be Punished For Their Verdicts.

Juries Do Not Have To Explain Their Verdicts.

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Visitor's guide map:
Oaksterdam

Oakland, California USA

Tenth Anniversary of Oaksterdam district

Some 220 years after the founding of the American Republic, California voters had qualified the first statewide medical marijuana initiative for the ballot and the San Francisco Cannabis Buyers Club was in its heyday.

Across the Bay, on July 4, 1996, Jeff Jones opened the Oakland Cannabis Buyers Club on the fifth floor of 1755 Broadway. When the OCBC was prevented from distributing cannabis by the Federal government in 1998, other clubs opened, starting with The Zoo at 1736 Telegraph Ave. Thus began the uptown district of Oaksterdam.

The OCBC stayed open issuing medical marijuana ID cards and operating a hemp store, moving in 1999 to 1733 Broadway, next door to



the Four Seasons hydroponics store that had just opened.

The Bulldog Coffeeshop opened in December 1999, followed by Compassionate Caregivers the next year at their original location, 1740 Telegraph. By 2004, 8 cannabis clubs

gave visitors a wide selection of products and created hundreds of jobs in Oakland.

Oakland can be proud to have helped thousands that came from all over the state before cannabis clubs opened where they lived.

The Oaksterdam Map Key

- A Bulldog Coffeeshop, 1739 Broadway
- B SR-71, 377 - 17th St.
- C Oaksterdam News 376 15th St.
- D Oaksterdam Gifts, 405 - 15th St.
- E Post office, 1446 Franklin St
- F Frank Ogawa Plaza
- G Medicann, 1814 Franklin # 901
- H Fox Theater, 1850 Telegraph
- I CARE, 701 Broadway
- J Paramount Theater, 2025 Bdwy
- K Kaiser rooftop garden
- L Lake Merritt Park boat rentals
- M Norcal MMJ, 1504 Franklin
- N Van Kleef Cafe 1621 Telegraph Ave.
- O Americans for Safe Access (ASA), 1322 Webster # 208
- P Paid parking

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