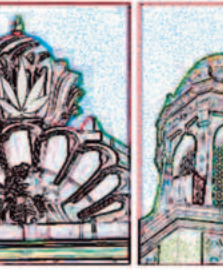


# OAKSTERDAM NEWS



www.OaksterdamNews.com

Vol. 2 # 4

Winter 2006

510-836-NEWS (6397)

## CANNABIS REFORM INITIATIVES SWEEP CA BALLOTS IN 4 CITIES

*Voters come through again*

By Mikki Norris

Voters of the three "Santa" cities of Santa Cruz, Santa Monica, and Santa Barbara, gave cannabis reform an early holiday gift Nov. 7 by passing local measures on election day making marijuana offenses law enforcement's lowest priority. City of Albany voters also passed Amendment D, to allow the establishment of a medical marijuana dispensary, for an electoral sweep at the California ballot box.

Susan Stephenson of the Next Generation political consulting group, jump-started and oversaw the *California Cities Campaign* with the assistance of long-time activist Mikki Norris. Bolstered by the passage of Oakland's 2004 Measure Z, Stephenson, who managed the campaign for the Oakland Civil Liberties Alliance, had submitted a proposal to take the measure to other California cities and the Marijuana Policy Project (MPP) agreed to provide basic funding and support for it.

This women-led effort's call to stop the arrest, prosecution, and incarceration of adults for marijuana and enable police resources and tax dollars to focus on violent and serious crime apparently resonates well with Californians.

The cities were strategically identified as favorable to reform and geographically situated to represent constituents in northern as well as southern California. Activists in the local communities formed campaign committees, helped tailor the initiative language to fit the political realities of their cities, and made an outreach to officials, endorsers, and voters.

*Please turn to page 5*

### Rosenthal may face retrial after federal conviction overturned

By Martin Williams

Ed Rosenthal, the grow-book guru and leading cannabis advocate who was convicted in federal court, saw his trial jury publicly denounce its own verdict, then successfully appealed his conviction earlier this year, was indicted in October on new criminal charges that include tax evasion and money laundering.

Judge Charles Breyer on Oct. 25 dismissed three counts involving cannabis cultivation against Richard Watts, ruling that the US Attorney's Office had violated the Speedy Trial Act. Judge Breyer did not sound impressed with the new case at Rosenthal's arraignment. In the first trial, prosecutors successfully kept the jury from hearing evidence of medical use, changes in state law, and the fact that Rosenthal had been deputized by the City of Oakland to

*Continued on page 4*



**VICTORY PARTY** — Santa Cruz activists celebrate their Nov. 7 ballot victory with Measure K, one of three "low-priority" initiatives that won. Oaksterdam News photo by Mikki Norris.

### SF jury acquits medi cannabis provider in hand-to-hand sale to undercover cop

After juror hung first trial, Nurse Tom admitted error in trusting drug agent

By Chris Conrad

In the closely watched retrial of Tom "the Nurse" Juzbasic, a San Francisco jury handed a full acquittal to the local cannabis provider after seeing financial records and hearing testimony of a hand-to-hand sale of a quarter ounce of processed bud to an undercover drug agent.

The "not guilty" verdict was a major turnaround from the first trial, where an unapologetic Juzbasic defended his actions. When that case went to the jury, there was a strong impulse among jurors to convict on both counts, cannabis sales and possession with intent to distribute.

One juror, identified as Larry Duncan, hung that jury when he refused to convict or to deliberate the issues, then declined to comment further on the case. A juror cannot be punished for refusing to convict a defendant, a process referred to as "jury nullification." This tactic historically has been used to block the application of unfair laws, such as alcohol prohibition, runaway slaves and draft resisters. It was most recently reaffirmed in the Ed Rosenthal case (see related article).

At his first trial, the cannabis provider, a licensed vocational nurse who acknowledged having a medical marijuana delivery service to patients but argued that he was acting in a standard that is common among providers — trusting clients implicitly. Juzbasic said that the right to doctor/patient confidentiality had prevented him from pursuing a full verification.

*A juror cannot be punished for refusing to convict a defendant, known as 'jury nullification.'*

The Juzbasic defense took a different tact in the second proceeding. This time around, the contrite nurse admitted that he had made a mistake by presuming that the plainclothes drug agent was a qualified patient, and that he should have insisted upon proper identification. The jury considered it understandable that a cannabis

provider may occasionally make an honest mistake without intending to break the law. Jurors returned with the unanimous "not guilty" verdict in less than two hours.

Deputy Public Defender Mel Santos represented Juzbasic in both trials. "After a three and a half long years of justice delayed," said Clark Sullivan of Hemp Evolution.org, "Tom's acquittal by a jury of his peers sends the clear message that law enforcement shenanigans will not be tolerated by San Francisco juries."

### The nation shifts

By Bill Piper, Drug Policy Alliance

Strong results for state and local ballot initiatives, including an apparent all-time record vote in Nevada to completely end cannabis prohibition, demonstrate greater voter willingness to reconsider cannabis laws, said Rob Kampa of the Marijuana Policy Project (MPP).

Statewide measures to legalize small amounts of cannabis failed in Colorado (41 to 59 percent) and Nevada (44 to 56 percent). South Dakota voters narrowly defeated a medical marijuana initiative (48 to 52 percent). That defeat is especially disappointing because this is the first time medical marijuana has lost at the ballot box. (Voters in eight other states have approved medical marijuana.) Polling all year long showed lower support for the initiatives than had been seen for successful reform measures in previous years.

In California, voters in three cities made cannabis the lowest law enforcement priority (see related story). Voters in Missoula, MT and Eureka Springs, AR approved similar measures. In MA, voters in two districts approved non-binding resolutions to support making possession of an ounce of cannabis a civil violation subject to a \$100 fine. Voters in two other districts approved non-binding resolutions to support legalizing medical marijuana.

The Democratic takeover of the US House and gains in the Senate provide

*Please turn to page 10*



**OAKLAND LANDMARK** — The Bulldog Coffeeshop, far right, was the second cannabis outlet to open in the city in the early days of Oaksterdam. Its name is similar to one of the first cannabis coffeeshops to open in Amsterdam in the 1970s. The OCBC relocated to what is now the Co-op Stop. Oaksterdam News photo by Jaime Galindo.

### Ten years later, Oaksterdam is still on the cutting edge of cannabis culture

By rev hemp

*Part 2: In our last issue we covered the years from the opening of the OCBC in 1996 to the turn of the century.*

After five years of struggle Oaksterdam had become the epicenter of cannabis politics by 2001. The OCBC (Oakland Cannabis Buyers' Collective) continued to issue medical marijuana ID cards and operate a hemp store while the civil injunction against Oakland's first dispensary was appealed to the US Supreme Court.

A year earlier the *Bulldog Coffeeshop*

had opened to serve the growing demand for cannabis products while *The Zoo* dispensary relocated to 1901 Telegraph and became CARE. *The Hemp Bank* and *Crystal Diamond* clubs operated briefly during this time.

Despite the Supreme Court ruling against the OCBC in 2001, Oaksterdam continued to grow. Larry Kristich opened the first *Compassionate Caregivers* at 1740 Telegraph, which would eventually expand to seven locations across the state before collapsing. Mark Belote tastefully

*Continued on page 22*

**Oaksterdam News**  
Next issue: Reviews powered by  
**WEEDTRACKER**  
CALIFORNIA CANNABIS CO-OPS NEWS, REVIEWS, AND PHOTO MENUS



**SPIRIT OF COMPASSION —** Sympathy for “Brownie Mary” Rathbon’s arrest for giving cannabis to AIDS patients gave impetus to the move for a statewide medical marijuana. File photo.



**THREE AT TEN —** Prop 215 co-authors (left to right) Dennis Peron, Dr. Tod Mikuriya and Dale Gieringer celebrated the tenth anniversary of medical freedom at a San Francisco Party.

## CA celebrates ten years since Prop 215 passage legalized medi cannabis in state

By Justin Baker

The political structure was rattled by the results of that historic vote a decade ago, on Nov. 5, 1996. Ten years later, its effect continues to reverberate across the state and the nation, indeed the world.

There was a festive party in San Francisco to mark the occasion, and the Sonoma Alliance for Medical Marijuana held its Harvest Dance in Sebastopol to coincide with the anniversary of Proposition 215, the law that legalized the growing and use of therapeutic cannabis.

*Voters issued their mandate at the ballot box to allow medical marijuana.*

Medical marijuana is even more accepted and popular as a political issue today than when Prop 215 passed. Since federal and state jurisdictions are separate institutions, two cases heard by the US Supreme Court left Prop 215 intact. Both state legislation and court rulings have strengthened patient and caregivers’ rights. A challenge posed by the County of San Diego was brushed out of federal court and is not given much chance in state court, which gives initiative legislation significant protections.

The historic 56 percent “Yes” vote marked the culmination of 22 years of state

efforts to win cannabis reform at the ballot, and the first such effort to make the state ballot since the 1972 Prop 19 campaign lost with 35.5 percent of the vote, taking nearly twice as many votes as polls had predicted. This led to the passage of the Moscone Act, that decriminalized up to an ounce of cannabis. In between, about 20 petition drives had been organized and were gathering steam in the early 1990s with a series of comprehensive *California Hemp Initiative* petition drives spearheaded by Jack Herer and Chris Conrad.

In 1991, San Francisco voters passed City Proposition P, to protect medical marijuana patients. Building on that victory, state legislators John Vasconcellos and Henry Mello moved bills through the capitol to the governor’s desk, which were vetoed by a short-sighted and mean-spirited governor, George Deukmejian.

With polls showing majority voter support for the reform at a statewide level, Dennis Peron and a group of Bay Area activists including Dale Gieringer, Bill Panzer, Scott Imler, Dr. Tod Mikuriya, Leo Paoli, Valerie Corral, John Entwistle and others drafted a ballot measure to submit to voters. At the last moment, Peron substituted broader language, not the version the group had approved, leading to a break in the board and near collapse in the effort.

Activists set out to gather signatures, based out of Peron’s San Francisco Cannabis Buyers Club, but the pace made

dimmed any hope of getting onto the ballot. Ed Rosenthal and Cannabis Action Network stepped into the void. With little time and less money, the effort was fueled primarily by volunteer energy and hope.

Fortunately, at that point Ethan Nadelmann of the Lindesmith Center (now Drug Policy Alliance) convinced two major funders that the campaign had merit. George Soros and Peter Lewis agreed to support the measure, contingent on finding a major donor from California.

Philanthropist George Zimmer stepped forward as the missing piece of the puzzle and the funding was secured to hire a professional campaign company headed by Bill Zimmerman, whose firm had a reputation for working on progressive causes.

Conrad and his wife, Mikki Norris, were brought in as campaign volunteer coordinators during the frantic final weeks of the drive. In just eight weeks, paid petitioners gathered some 600,000 signatures, while volunteers collected 180,000: Prop 215 had made the ballot.

Its opponents resorted to outrageous lies and grandstanding attacks, such as Senator Dianne Feinstein calling Prop 215 the complete legalization of cannabis, and a press conference where former US Presidents publicly denounced the measure.

Polls showed, however, that nobody expected politicians to tell them the truth about cannabis. Moreover, nearly one in three voters personally knew somebody who used cannabis medicinally and a large majority agreed that if anyone needed it as medicine — including themselves — they should be able to use it.

Prop 215’s co-proponent, Nurse Anna Boyce, made a TV ad telling of her husband’s use of cannabis before his death. Dr. Richard Cohen made another talking about how cannabis benefitted some of his patients. Several nurse and physician groups endorsed it. San Francisco District Attorney Terence Hallinan signed the ballot argument in support of the law.

Voters issued their mandate at the ballot box to allow medical marijuana both in California and in neighboring Arizona that year. The AZ measure made a critical mistake by requiring a “prescription,” which comes under the umbrage of the US Drug Enforcement Administration and was subsequently quashed. Prop 215, on the other hand, merely required a physician’s written or oral approval or recommendation,

*Please turn to page 22*

## Report details effect of Prop 215 on California

By Bruce Mirken\*

The Marijuana Policy Project released the first comprehensive examination of the impact of California’s landmark medical marijuana law, *Proposition 215 Ten Years Later: Medical Marijuana Goes Mainstream*. The report, which can be downloaded at MarijuanaPolicy.org, includes:

- An analysis of predictions made by opponents of medical marijuana, including Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) and Clinton administration Drug Czar Gen. Barry McCaffrey, and how they have played out in California and the 10 other medical marijuana states. Among other things, McCaffrey predicted “increased drug abuse in every category,” but, teen marijuana use dropped precipitously in California, and has declined across the board in states that have legalized medical marijuana laws.

*After the passage of Prop 215, teen marijuana use has steadily dropped in California.*

- New polling from all 11 medical marijuana states showing strong, growing public support for the laws.
- An examination of key legal decisions affecting state medical marijuana laws.
- The real-world experiences of patients now protected by state medical marijuana laws, as well as of patients living in states where they still lack legal protection.
- A summary of key research developments since the initiative’s passage, including new evidence of cannabis’ benefit in treating hepatitis C, HIV/AIDS, chronic pain, cancer, and neurological illnesses such as multiple sclerosis.

“In 1996, medical marijuana was often dismissed as a fringe issue, but that is no longer the case,” the report concludes. “In the decade since passage of Proposition 215, support has steadily grown, reaching a level of public consensus seen with relatively few issues. ... Politicians, particularly at the federal level, have been slow to adapt to the changing landscape.”

The MPP is the largest cannabis policy reform organization in the US.

\* Mirken is MPP director of communications

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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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405 15th St., Oakland CA 94612  
[www.OaksterdamNews.com](http://www.OaksterdamNews.com)

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**GANESH APPROVED** — A statue of the elephant-god Ganesh reminds patients of the role of Ganja in Hindu religion and Ayurvedic medicine. Photos by Larry Utley, Pepper Design Studio

# A friendly face, healing place brightens up edge of Odam

City approves Harborside Health Center cannabis outlet

By Jaime Galindo

Oakland's medical marijuana patient community welcomed its fourth dispensary with the opening of the new Harborside Health Center (HHC). The Center is nestled on the curving bank of the charming Embarcadero Cove — a part of Oakland many people have never seen or heard of!



designed as a medical cannabis dispensary and offers patients exceptional amenities.

The one-story brick building sits alongside the 880 freeway, providing easy off-ramp and on-ramp access.

*"This is the club Oakland has been waiting for! Classy, classy, classy."*  
— icmag.com Patient review

Its closest neighbor is a marina, and the immediate environs evoke the feeling of a resort, with abundant restaurants, parks, and waterside pathways. This incongruous neighborhood is just the beginning of what makes Harborside different from most dispensaries.

*"These people are on the up and up, and are clearly trying to provide safe access to medicine for patients while also providing services above and beyond the call of duty..."*  
— weedtracker.com patient review

"The City of Oakland was the first jurisdiction in California to implement Prop 215's call for municipalities to regulate safe and affordable access to medical cannabis. That courageous step allowed us to assemble the resources and staff needed for a facility that meets the standards of modern health care" said Harborside CEO Steve DeAngelo.

The Harborside facility was custom

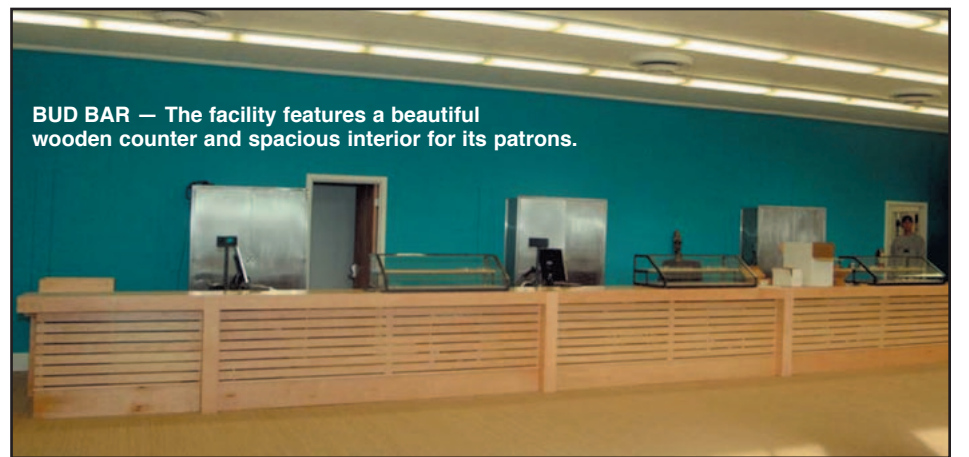
It is surrounded on three sides by free off-street parking, and is lined with well manicured flower beds. The entrance way features a wide deck with guardrails, and a lift to provide access for disabled patients.

A step inside reveals the same attention to detail. Natural sisal carpets sweep up to a 49-foot long maple counter. Museum quality display cases show off a couple dozen Petri dishes containing samples of juicy green bud, along with a parade of concentrates, and stacks of edibles. One wall glows green from shelves full of

**VERIFIED INTAKE:** Steve DeAngelo reviews a qualifying documents with a prospective patient during the intake interview procedure.



Below: Clones for a variety of medical cultivars can be obtained with the appropriate paperwork.



**BUD BAR** — The facility features a beautiful wooden counter and spacious interior for its patrons.

clones. A multi-faith altar, bedecked with flowers, faces a stunning portrait of Ganesh, the Hindu elephant god. And the entire place is bathed in natural sunlight pouring through several large windows.

*"The entire staff was very helpful, even the security guards were cool. the med selection was great..."*  
— weedtracker.com patient review

*"This place has literally become my favorite overnight, simply for how it is operated."*  
— weedtracker.com patient review

DeAngelo (aka Stevie D), and co-founder Dave Wedding Dress are both long-time activists and their progressive consciousness is reflected in extraordinarily friendly patient service.

First time patients are warmly greeted with a handshake and an introduction, and sit down for a brief orientation session, during which their medical cannabis identification is verified and entered into a database. This is followed by a guided tour of the facility, including the Holistic Healing room, where a variety of alternative healing therapies are offered free of charge. "We received over 300 resumes for

20 available positions, and hired only the most qualified candidates" said Stevie.

"When I first started visiting dispensaries as a patient, I was shocked by the bar-star attitude I found at many dispensaries. Way too often the service I received was grudging, indifferent, and ill-informed. We wanted to make sure that the people we hired genuinely cared about medical cannabis, genuinely liked people, and were emotionally prepared to provide gentle, caring service to all patients."

Harborside is a full service dispensary, and prides itself on providing a calm and unhurried environment for patients to choose from the extensive selection on hand, including clones and edibles.

*"The place really gives off a more medical vibe than most places and they had a kind of spiritual vibe that I dug in there..."*  
— weedtracker.com patient review

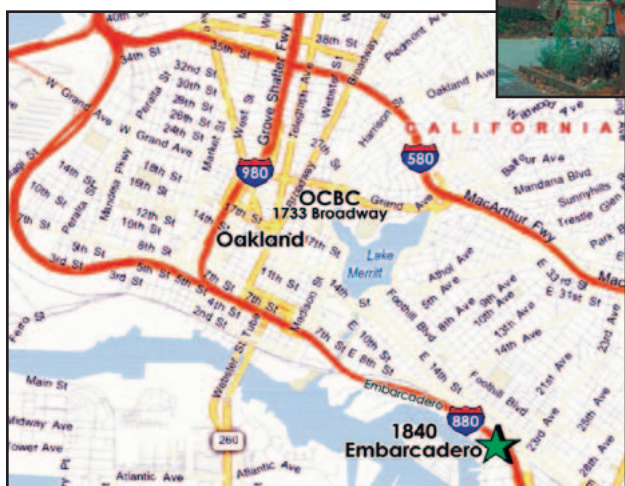
*"The staff here are excellent. They are friendly, helpful, knowledgeable, and clearly qualified for their respective positions."* — icmag.com patient review

Counterpersons are incredibly knowledgeable, patient, and friendly. Samples of all medicine can be examined with microscopes and lights provided by HHC; and questions about the medicine receive intelligent, accurate responses. Stevie D. promises to maintain the easy going atmosphere even as patient traffic increases.

"We're going to be like Albertson's—if there are more than three people in line, we'll open another counter station. We think its important for patients to be given the space they need to make thoughtful decisions about their medication."



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**From 880 South:** take 16th Ave exit. At top of ramp, turn left on Embarcadero. Go 1/4 mile to curve in road, HHC is one story brick bldg on left.

**From 880 North:** take 5th Ave/Embarcadero exit, at bottom of ramp go left under freeway. At first stop sign, turn left, continue 1/2 mile to HHC (on left side of road).

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*Confrontation in San Diego***Patients arrested at DEA Convention protesting flurry of federal, local raids**

By William Dolphin

A group of medical marijuana patients demanding to speak with the head of the federal Drug Enforcement Agency were arrested in San Diego Nov. 1 for refusing to leave the site of an agency convention.

The seven patients arrested and one cited were among 60 patients and activists protesting at the Marriott San Diego Mission Valley, where the DEA is holding a meeting to discuss medical marijuana.

Protesters dumped 1,500 empty pill bottles in front of the hotel, asking that DEA chief Karen Tandy tell them where they should get their medicine, now that the agency has shut down all medical cannabis dispensaries in the area. The patients refused to leave until Tandy spoke

with them. When she declined, San Diego police began the arrests.

"Doctors recommend cannabis and patients use it because it works," said Steph Sherer, executive director of Americans for Safe Access, the medical cannabis advocacy group that organized the protest. "The DEA is inflicting unnecessary suffering on tens of thousands of Americans by denying them a safe, effective medicine. It has to stop."

Earlier in the day, two other patients were cited for dropping a large banner near the hotel that read, simply, "The DEA is Not My Doctor."

The seven arrested are: Ira Altshuler, Wendy Christakes, Alex Franco, Chris Fusco, Kris Hermes, Dale Tripp, and



**DISMISSED — Rick Watts had three charges dismissed in his federal case.**  
Oaksterdam News photo by Clark Sullivan.

Kristen White. The one person cited was spinal-injury patient Craig McCain.

Patients in San Diego report that they are having difficulty getting safe access to the medical cannabis their doctors recommend since the DEA raided or threatened all the medical cannabis dispensaries in the area. Similar raids in the past month have shut dispensaries in Modesto, as well as in LA, Palm Springs and San Francisco.

**Rosenthal back in court***Continued from page 1*

provide patients there with safe access to medical marijuana.

One juror began to suspect that she was not getting the whole story, asked for outside advice and was told she would be "in trouble" if she did not convict.

An Appeals Court ruled in April that she should not have asked the question and that jurors cannot be threatened, intimidated or told they must convict. It threw out the conviction and granted a new trial.

Since Rosenthal had already been sentenced to one day, time served, a new trial could not have brought any added penalty.

Soon thereafter, the prosecutor convened a new grand jury and heaped on new charges to run around the "double jeopardy" safeguard by issuing a superceding indictment containing 14 additional charges including conspiracy, tax evasion, money laundering and cannabis gardening.

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# Cannabis electoral sweep

*Continued from page 1*

Santa Monica was the surprise top vote getter of these efforts. Political consultant Barbara Grover and campaign coordinator Nicki La Rosa navigated through a challenging political landscape to bring the winning message to the voters and turn out a 65 percent vote in support of Measure Y. This was done without getting any elected officials to go on record endorsing the measure.

Following the victory, former Santa Monica mayor and Santa Monicans for Sensible Marijuana Policy member Mike Feinstein said, "One of the great things about municipal government is that a community can filter an idea whose time has come from the bottom up, instead of waiting for it to come from the top down. That's what we did in Santa Monica, and hopefully this will lead to similar evolution of policy on higher levels — pardon the pun."

Measure Y proponent Corey Garnett added, "While this measure by no means signifies the end to the irrational prohibition on marijuana, it is a good first step. I'm very happy that the voters of Santa Monica agree and have helped us to advance this process while freeing city funds and resources to be focused on more pressing issues."

The Santa Monica Police Officers Association came out against Measure Y, fearing that this would impede their ability to go after criminals. But, the support of Law Enforcement Against Prohibition helped to offset this opposition, and former Seattle Police Chief Norm Stamper, a representative of that group, provided a face of law enforcement and a message to voters in mailers in all three cities, "Talk to them privately, most cops will tell you that enforcement of marijuana laws is a colossal waste of time. Making marijuana offenses the lowest law enforcement priority in Seattle has made a huge difference freeing up the police to concentrate on real crimes, like rape, robbery, auto theft, and domestic violence."

This election turned out to be a nice birthday present for Lara Cassell, campaign coordinator for Santa Barbara's Measure P, who worked on the signature component as well as the endorsement and get out the vote efforts. Sensible Santa Barbara committee members were fortunate that no opposition argument was submitted for the voter information pamphlet and none surfaced throughout the campaign, aside from one editorial against it signed by Police Chief Sanchez. Measure P gained the support of the local newspapers, Councilmember Das Williams, doctors, a former DA, and a host of other respected community leaders and organizations.



**WINNING SMILES** — The local campaign coordinators for the three city initiatives. From left: Nikki LaRosa, Lara Cassell, and Kate Horner. Oaksterdam News photo by Jaime Galindo.

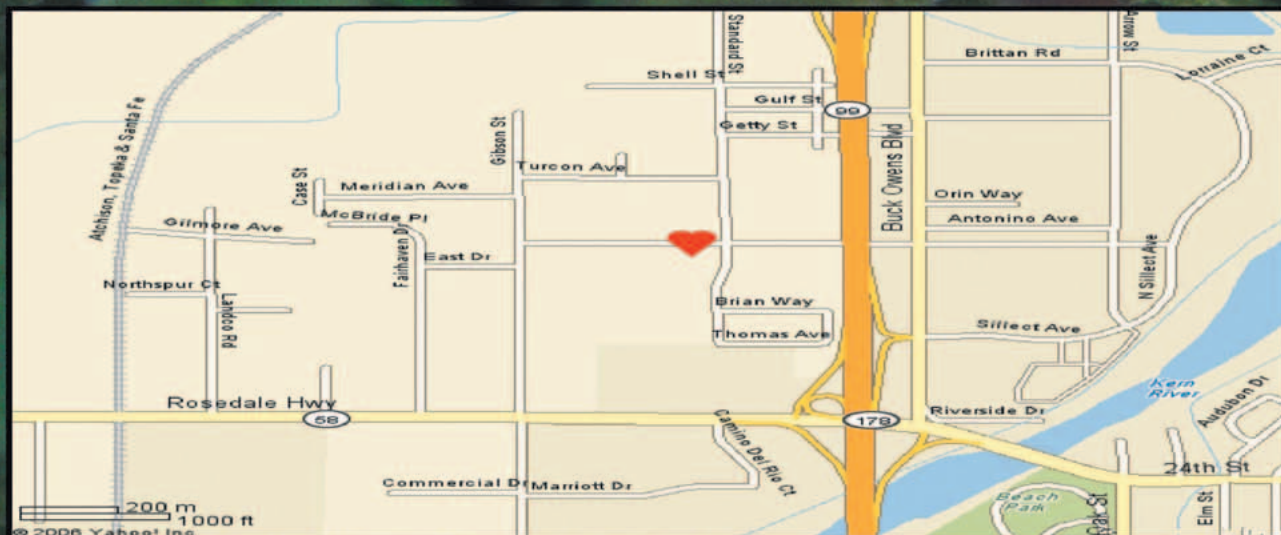
The fact that Santa Barbara has the perception as being a more "conservative" area, made this win even sweeter. People who live in the Santa Barbara area, however, are pleased with the libertarian bent of the population, and point to the fact that the city has been very supportive of *Please turn to page 22*

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SAFER Director Mason Tvert courted controversy with his ad campaign. Photo courtesy Safer.

## Colorado is almost a SAFER state

*Strong showing at ballot box shows shifting public attitude*

By Steve Fox

There was good news and bad news out of Colorado during this election season. The good news is that the Amendment 44 campaign, sponsored by the SAFER Voter Education Fund, pushed the cannabis issue — along with its ‘marijuana is safer than alcohol’ message — to the forefront of the political debate in the state. The bad news is that after 70 years of anti-cannabis pro-

hibition, the people of Colorado were not quite ready to embrace cannabis legalization.

The Alcohol-Marijuana Equalization Initiative, which would have made the possession of up to one ounce of cannabis legal under state law, failed by a margin of 41-59. Following passage of Initiative 100 in Denver last year, which made a similar change to city ordinances, SAFER had

hoped for a better showing statewide.

But with a very small budget, the campaign was not able to overcome the combined voices of the federal government, state elected officials and members of the law enforcement community at all levels. On the state level, the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the attorney general all campaigned against the initiative. In addition, the head of the local DEA office, Jeff Sweetin, and the head of the Rocky Mountain HIDTA office, Tom Gorman, were very active and vocal opponents during the campaign.

One thing is certain, anti-marijuana prohibitionists took the SAFER challenge seriously, despite the fact that SAFER spent less than \$50,000 on the campaign after the signature drive. At times it was like an anti-marijuana freak show in the state, with appearances by Drug Czar John Walters, Deputy Drug Czar Scott Burns, former Deputy Drug Czar Andrea Barthwell, DAMMAD’s Steve Steiner, and both Calvina Fay and David Krahl of Save our Society from Drugs.

The Amendment 44 campaign, however, should be appreciated as a battle, not a war. If it were possible to make cannabis legal in a state for \$50,000, it would have been done long ago. What the Amendment 44 campaign accomplished was getting in the heads of people across the state.

The campaign forced people to think about the fact that cannabis is less harmful than alcohol. In the end, even most editori-

als opposing the initiative acknowledged that fact, but sheepishly said it would be the “wrong message” for kids to make cannabis legal. (Presumably, these editorial boards were not influenced by all of the alcohol-related advertising dollars flowing to their publications.)

*The campaign forced people to think about the fact that cannabis is less harmful than alcohol.*

As they did in the Denver campaign, SAFER used creative stunts and advertising to generate extensive earned media coverage. Among this year’s tactics were a billboard quoting an ad from the Drug Czar’s office calling cannabis use “the safest thing in the world;” another billboard featuring a bikini clad woman and noting that cannabis has “no carbs;” and a television ad providing statistics about alcohol-related violence and asking whether we want our daughters growing up in a society in which the only legal recreational substance is alcohol.

With this massive public education effort under its belt, SAFER will now focus most of its energy for the foreseeable future on campus organizing.

The organization plans to work with students on at least 20-30 campuses this spring. Anyone interested in organizing a campus SAFER campaign should send an E-mail to mail@saferschoice.org.

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## Book charges that news reports usually get things wrong on cannabis coverage

By Tristin Coffman

The US mass media regularly misreport stories on cannabis and drug policy, according to a chapter in a new anthology published by Oxford University Press, *Pot Politics: Marijuana and the Costs of Prohibition*.

Bruce Mirken, director of communications for the Marijuana Policy Project in Washington DC, argues in his essay that media reports on cannabis issues too often omit essential context while failing to ask the questions needed to give the public an accurate picture. This isn’t necessarily a sign of bias, notes Mirken. He writes that the demand for “clear, involving story lines that can be summed up in just a few words ... almost invariably does violence to the subtleties and uncertainties of science.”

Mirken knows something about the reporters of whom he writes, having spent a dozen years as a reporter covering health and social issues for publications such as *Men’s Health*, *AIDS Treatment News* and the *San Francisco Examiner* before joining MPP in 2001

Journalists regularly report government reports and claims without bothering to include any critical voices, leaving readers and viewers with no hint that another point of view even exists. This can turn

journalists into dupes or unwitting accomplices of officials who seek to marginalize reformers and confuse the consequences of prohibition laws with the effects of cannabis itself.

*Journalists regularly report government reports and claims without bothering to include any critical voices,.*

Pot Politics also features chapters by experts on biology, sociology, religion/ethics, and even a Harvard economist. The book is edited by Mitch Earleywine, Ph.D. a prominent researcher in psychology and addictions and associate professor of psychology at The University at Albany, State University of New York. His previous book, *Understanding Marijuana* (Oxford University Press, 2002) is considered a landmark in the field.

With more than 20,000 members and 100,000 e-mail subscribers nationwide, the Marijuana Policy Project is the largest cannabis policy reform organization in the US. MPP believes that the best way to minimize the harm associated with marijuana is to regulate cannabis in a manner similar to alcohol. For more information,

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# Schwarzenegger praises, then vetoes hemp bill

By Adam Eidinger\*

Waiting until the last possible day to decide, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed the California Industrial Hemp Farming Act, AB 1147, late in the day on Sept. 30. This landmark, bipartisan legislation would have established clear guidelines for farming industrial hemp, which is used in a wide variety of everyday consumer products, including food, body care, clothing, paper and auto parts.

Demand for hemp products has been growing rapidly in recent years with the US hemp product market now exceeding \$270 million in estimated annual sales. The new law would have given farmers the ability to legally supply numerous California manufacturers that currently import hemp seed, oil and fiber.

AB 1147 would have established that the cultivation of industrial hemp is legal only if it contains no more than 0.3 percent tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). The legislation was jointly authored by Democratic Assemblyman Mark Leno and Republican Assemblyman Chuck Devore. The Act passed in the Senate on Aug. 16 by a vote of 26-13 and in the Assembly on Aug. 21 by a vote of 44-29.

"I appreciate and applaud the Legislature's interest in

actually expanding California's economy," wrote the governor in his veto statement. "... I would like to support the expansion of a new agricultural commodity in this State". He encouraged "the Legislature to work with state and federal law enforcement agencies to craft a measure."

"It's unfortunate that Governor Schwarzenegger vetoed AB 1147. We had looked forward to the hemp oil and seed in our products being grown and produced right here in California," says David Bronner, Chair of the Hemp Industries Association's Food and Oil Committee and President of Alpnack/Dr. Bronner's Magic Soaps. "Farmers in California, like farmers all across the United States, are always looking for profitable crops like hemp to add to their rotation. This veto clearly points out why HR 3037, the Industrial Hemp Farming Act of 2005, needs to be passed on the Federal level."

"Governor Schwarzenegger's veto is a let down for thousands of farmers, business people, and consumers that want to bring back industrial hemp to California to create jobs, new tax income and to benefit the environment," says Eric Steenstra, President of Vote Hemp, the nation's leading industrial hemp farming advocacy group.

"His veto message shows he knew industrial hemp is

THE DREAM — A field of low-THC Canadian hemp grows luxuriantly, while US farmers go without a cash crop. Oaksterdam News photo by Andrea Hermann.



an economic development and agriculture issue, but ... AB 1147 would have reigned in the over reach by federal authorities." He added with a shrug, "Industrial hemp will continue to be the only crop that is legal to import, sell and consume, but illegal to grow, in California."

Vote Hemp is a non-profit organization dedicated to the free market for industrial hemp and to changing the law to allow US farmers to grow low-THC industrial hemp. More information about hemp legislation and the crop's many uses can be found at [VoteHemp.com](http://VoteHemp.com). BETA SP and DVD Video News Release featuring footage of hemp farming in other countries is available upon request by calling 202-744-2671.



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**LEAP: a law enforcement perspective**  
**The ‘healthy-looking young man’ syndrome**

By James Anthony\*

“They’re mostly healthy young men,” “There are hardly any sick people going in there,” “Medical marijuana is a scam—they’re just trying to legalize it.”

This is the most serious public relations threat facing the medical cannabis movement now, and it is growing. Every time a dispensary is closed, or complaints are heard, some version of this comes up. It plays on a number of stereotypes and prejudices: that medical cannabis is “just” a cover for legalization; that “pot” is used by young male (mostly of color) criminals who are selling it and other drugs too. The medical cannabis movement has to meet these criticisms head on and reveal them for the lies they are.

First, the lie that medical cannabis is just a front for legalization. The exact opposite is true: cannabis was completely legal, and then the forces of federal prohibition first limited it to medical use only in 1937 (with the Marijuana Tax Act), and then prohibited it completely in 1970 (with the Controlled Substance Act).

While most people who favor legalization also support medical cannabis, the opposite is not always true. Indeed, just a few generations ago, it was the anti-cannabis forces who pushed for “medical-only” cannabis as a step to prohibition. As usual, medical cannabis is caught in the middle of the argument between legalization and prohibition.

*When a medicine is effective, the people who use it are naturally going to appear healthy.*

However, the medical value of cannabis, accepted for thousands of years, remains unchanging. Only the politics around it change. And meanwhile, patients who might otherwise find relief, are forced to suffer at the hands of ideologically-driven politics, and that is shameful.

Second, the lie that medical cannabis is being abused by young men (criminals, minorities) who want to use it recreationally or sell it for profit. Again, the opposite is true. It is the prohibition and criminalization of cannabis that makes patients (of whatever age or sex or color) “criminals”—and it is especially young male patients of



color who need the protection of law because our criminal laws are so disproportionately used against them.

The incarceration rate for black men in America is 5%! That is an outrageously higher rate than any country has ever incarcerated its minorities at—short of slavery. South Africa in the worst days of Apartheid did not even come close. Even without regard to color, America’s incarceration rate of almost 1% is higher than any country in history—including the Soviet Union, China, and Nazi Germany.

This issue—that they’re all healthy young men and medical marijuana is just a big scam—must be faced squarely. When a medicine is effective, the people who use it are naturally going to appear healthy.

We must firmly assert the doctor-patient relationship as confidential and sacred. Just as we don’t want our own private and personal medical histories discussed publicly (unless we choose to reveal them), we should not engage in speculation about who is and is not sick enough for medical cannabis.

That decision is for the doctor and the patient alone. Just as they decide if the patient will use Prozac, or Viagra, or Aspirin, or Chemotherapy, or Oxy-Contin, or any other medicine, they decide if the patient will use medical cannabis legally under California law. When they make that decision, they consider only valid medical concerns — they don’t consider the patient’s age or race or how it will look on TV, nor should they. And the doctor and the patient make that decision alone — any comment from the “peanut gallery” (the neighbors, the police, the TV news commentators) is completely improper.

Law enforcement officials who have been making public pronouncements on these matters (i.e., the Riverside and San Diego county DAs) should be ashamed of themselves—and should probably prosecute themselves for practicing medicine without a license just as they would prosecute a doctor who started handing out legal advice.

The medical cannabis movement—and by that I mean you, reading these words—must not fall into these traps. Remember that young patients of color need the protection of state law and especially the protection afforded by a County-issued state ID card more than white patients do—because they are at a risk of incarceration that is 500% higher. Naturally they will be more visible, and just as nat-



**EFFECTIVE RELIEF** — Some young people find medical marijuana can give them effective control over serious medical symptoms with fewer side effects. Nature’s Medicinals in Bakersfield has distinctive strains of cannabis to treat many specific conditions.

Oaksterdam News photo by Jaime Galindo.

urally the forces of prohibition will use them to play on the ancient prejudices of this country.

*It is young, male patients of color who especially need the protection of law because our criminal laws are so disproportionately used against them.*

Do not allow this movement to be split into worthy and unworthy patients (where curiously all the unworthy just happen to be young and of color). Stand up for the rights of all patients and for the sanctity of the doctor-patient relationship. Do not allow history to be re-written to normalize prohibition. Remember, for 99% of human history, cannabis has been legal—and it has always been medicine, as it is recognized today in California law for “any illness” for which it provides relief.

\* Anthony is a member and speaker for Law Enforcement Against Prohibition, [www.leap.cc](http://www.leap.cc), based on his years as a drug nuisance prosecutor for the City of Oakland. He is now in private practice, specializing in land use law for medical cannabis dispensaries. He can be reached at [jasanthony@comcast.net](mailto:jasanthony@comcast.net) or 510-207-6243.

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# Statewide ID cards advance

By Aaron Smith\*

Patients and advocates have been busy lobbying their county leaders to implement the statewide medical marijuana ID card program, as required by Senate Bill 420.

This past summer has been peppered with both victories and challenges for the medical cannabis community. Currently 23 counties are issuing the state ID cards and the remaining 35 lie somewhere between preparing to issue the cards and flat-out defiance of established state law.

## Highlights from around the Golden State

**San Luis Obispo** — After months of tirelessly lobbying the County's elected officials and administrators, San Luis Obispo County patients gained their Board of Supervisors approval to implement the ID card program through the Department of Public Health.

The 3-to-2 vote took place August 1 after a lengthy hearing attended by a little over a dozen local patients and supporters. According to county staff, the cards will be available to patients for a \$78 fee (\$39 for MediCal recipients) sometime in mid-December. Fortunately, the SLO Dept of Health has also agreed to adopt Safe Access Now's model protocol for the program which includes

provisions that provide maximum privacy to participants.

**Oakland** — The Alameda County Department of Public Health has entered into a public/private partnership with the Oakland Cannabis Buyers Club (dba Alameda County Patient Services), which is now responsible for accepting and processing applications for the cards. The program was opened to all qualified patients in Alameda County Aug. 1.

**Los Angeles** — Although the LA County Board of Supervisors approved plans to move forward with the program back in May, the ID cards are not yet available to patients. Bureaucratic obstacles and staffing problems have slowed progress on the program, but the cards should finally be available sometime this fall.

**Fairfield** — The Solano County Board of Supervisors Sept. 26 voted against directing their Department of Health to implement the program. The Vacaville Reporter recently editorialized in favor of the Department implementing the program anyway, as it is their ultimate responsibility to comply with the state's medical marijuana statutes. Unfortunately, this is an unlikely outcome, considering the fact that it took tremendous effort on the part of local organizers just to get the Director of Health to begin publicly discussing the program. Patients in Solano County are still weighing their options for the immediate

future, however the program will likely be placed on a back-burner until the San Diego v. State of California lawsuit is resolved.

**Riverside** — Inland Empire patients who have been working with Riverside County officials to develop guidelines for medical cannabis dispensaries were delivered a heartless blow from the County Board of Supervisors last month. The board surprisingly voted 4-to-1 to impose an outright ban on dispensaries in all unincorporated areas within the county and to join San Diego, San Bernardino and Merced counties in their lawsuit against the state. This decision was no doubt a result of Riverside County DA Grover Trask's "white paper" letter, released one week before the hearing, which opined that all medical marijuana dispensaries are in violation of both state and federal law. The letter did not address the ID card program and Deputy County Counsel, Katherine Lind, said the board's decision should not interfere with the card program.

**El Centro** — Patients in Imperial County were able to avoid political wrangling over the implementation of the card program because the county's bylaws allowed health officials to move forward without a Board of Supervisors vote. The Imperial County Department of Health began accepting applications for the ID cards on September 1.

*Continued on page 11*

# The Holistic Caregivers



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## National votes give boost to reformers

*Continued from page 1*

reformers with exciting opportunities next year. Democrats at the federal level are far more sympathetic to reform than Republicans. For instance, 144 House Democrats voted earlier this year to prohibit the US Justice Department from undermining state medical marijuana laws. Only 18 Republicans supported the measure. Since almost all the GOP who were defeated yesterday were bad on the issues, observers expect to see significantly more support next year. (Only one defeated Republican supported medical marijuana.)

Many members of Congress reformers work with were re-elected, including Rep. John Conyers (D-MI), Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA), Rep. Ron Paul (R-TX), and Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA). Senator Bob Menendez (D) was re-elected in New Jersey and Rep. Ben Cardin (D) was elected to the Senate for the first time in Maryland. Both voted for medical marijuana in the House, making them the first two US Senators to have ever voted for medical marijuana, creating an opportunity to advance this issue in the Senate.

The Democrats who will be leaders in the new Congress are better on drug policy than were those of the 1980s and 1990s. Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), the next likely Speaker of the House, is a strong supporter of medical marijuana and sentencing reform. John Conyers (D-MI) is a member of the Drug Policy Alliance's advisory board and will chair the House Judiciary Committee next year. Henry Waxman (D-CA) is a strong supporter of syringe exchange programs and other harm reduction measures who will chair the Government Reform Committee.

Charlie Rangel (D-NY), Maxine Waters (D-CA), and Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX) are strong supporters of drug sentencing reform. All three will likely control key Congressional committees next year.

## MAPS vs DEA Lawsuit:

# Federal marijuana monopoly

### Research supply in balance

By Jag Davies

Everyone at the MAPS office is on pins and needles as they await a critical legal decision that may alter the future course of cannabis research and policy reform for the coming years.

Lawyers representing Professor Lyle Craker, Ph.D., and the DEA submitted final legal briefs May 8 after a nine-month hearing, expecting a recommendation from DEA Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Mary Ellen Bittner in three to six months. As *Oaksterdam News* goes to press, it has been almost six months.

*NIDA has a monopoly on the supply of research-grade cannabis and uses this power to obstruct research that conflicts with its vested interests.*

The Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS) sponsored production facility and, more importantly, the ability of anyone to conduct FDA-approved clinical trials on cannabis' potential as a federally-approved prescription medicine, hang in the balance.

Prof. Craker and MAPS have been attempting for over five years to obtain a Schedule I license from the DEA, the only regulatory hurdle blocking them from ending the long-standing federal lock on the supply of research-grade cannabis.

Currently, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) has a monopoly on the supply of research-grade cannabis by a single Mississippi garden — but no other Schedule I drug — that can be used in FDA-approved research. NIDA uses this power to obstruct research that conflicts with its vested interests.

MAPS had two of its FDA-approved medical marijuana protocols rejected by NIDA, preventing the studies from taking place. MAPS has also been trying without success for almost four years to purchase 10 grams of cannabis from NIDA for research into the constituents of the vapor from cannabis vaporizers, a non-smoking drug delivery method that has already been used in one FDA-approved human study. If DEA's ALJ Bittner makes a favorable recommendation, it will be a unique window of opportunity to break NIDA's cannabis monopoly and take the first steps toward developing cannabis into a federally-approved medicine.

Unfortunately, though, a positive recommendation is not a guarantee that Prof. Craker will receive his license, because the DEA can still choose to accept or reject the ALJ's recommenda-



**NOT AUTHORIZED FOR FEDERAL RESEARCH** — California patients can grow cannabis under state law, but to get cannabis for a scientific study, you have to go to the NIDA garden in Mississippi due to the federal ban on growing cannabis for any use, industrial, medical or personal. MAPS hopes to change that policy. *Oaksterdam News* photo by Jaime Galindo.

tion. Administrative Law Judge appointed to oversee its decisions. After ALJ Francis Young ruled in 1988 that cannabis should be moved out of Schedule 1, the DEA got an Appeals Court ruling in 1991 that it was free to do so on its own sweet time, and has delayed following his order for 18 years, with no sign of having any intention to comply.

MAPS is preparing to pressure the DEA to accept Judge Bittner's recommendation if she does recommend the DEA issue Craker a Schedule I license. They already have support from 38 Congressional Representatives, Senators Kerry and Kennedy, and numerous key medical and public health organizations. MAPS has been working with David Ostrow, M.D., who is funded by the Marijuana Policy Project (MPP), to lobby the American Medical Association (AMA) to pass a two-fold resolution that would both encourage medical marijuana research, and the protection of patients in states that have approved the medical use of cannabis. They have been working with certain key state medical associations over the past several months with the aim of identifying one willing to formally propose the resolution.

If Prof. Craker does receive a positive recommendation from Judge Bittner, MAPS will need all supporters to contact their Congressional Representatives, so look for an update.

\* Jag Davies <jag@maps.org> is Director of Communications with MAPS. For online info and updates: [maps.org/mmj/DEALawsuit.html](http://maps.org/mmj/DEALawsuit.html)

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420CC — Holly and Heather at the counter. Right: Kubby samples a fragrant medicine.

## US Presidential candidate visits, heaps praise on LA cannabis dispensary

By Jaime Galindo

During my recent trip to Los Angeles, I paid a visit to one of the local medical cannabis dispensaries. At 420 Compassion Center I ran into a man running to be the next Libertarian candidate for US President.

Things you need to know about the 420CC are that it is located at 6116 W. Pico Blvd, Los Angeles, and you get there by going a block and a half east of La Cienega on Pico. There is plenty of metered street parking available plus some free neighborhood parking. The hours are Tuesday through Saturday 12-8pm. Prices are fair, nothing over \$60 per eighth, and it features a great assortment of products including hash, cannabis and edibles along with complimentary tea in the vaporizer lounge. Plus there are interesting people there.

"I wrote a book, *The Politics of Consciousness*, that explained my medical cannabis use and that book brought me into the center of the cyclone," Kubby said.

In 1968 he was diagnosed with malignant adrenal cancer and underwent tumor removal surgeries until the cancer had metastasized to his liver; a condition that has 100 percent mortality rate within five years. Since 1981 Kubby has controlled his



disease solely by smoking medical cannabis and maintaining a healthy diet.

*Their new style is fresh and invigorating*

I was pleasantly surprised by the new dispensaries in the Los Angeles area that had so quickly got up to speed with the old vets. Most notably was the 420 Compassion Center (420CC). Their new style is fresh and invigorating and as you look around the room, some how, inspirational.

What do George Washington, Alice B. Toklas and Dennis Peron have in common? Seemingly nothing, unless you enter the 420CC's "Green Room." This medical cannabis dispensary boasts an eclectic menagerie of pictures and artifacts to give it a hippie-chic library feel. Its unique Wall of History traces the relationship between cannabis and mankind as far back as 12,000b.c. The wall touches on how George Washington was a proponent of cannabis, how Alice B. Toklas' famous hashish brownies brought cannabis use back into the main stream and how Dennis Peron helped shape the California Medical Marijuana movement.

Past the Wall of History is the bud bar, embossed with cannabis leaves in the counter top, it looks like an image straight out of Amsterdam. The staff is not only informative, but friendly and eager to describe the aroma, flavor, and effects of the many varieties displayed on the bar. Their mission is to educate each patient to the nuances of the various cannabis strains through a series of "bud tastings" in which the bud tender will help teach the patients how to examine and evaluate each bud on a one to 10 rating scale. 420CC believes that this interactive approach will make it enjoyable for patients to learn the many properties of the plant for their specific medical needs.

With such a unique and amazing display, I had high expectations for the cannabis as well. Among my favorites was the amazing sativa strain, Champagne. The buds were incredibly frosty and the aroma sweet with a hint of tang as in a perfectly ripe white grape. When rolled in a joint, the ash burned as white as the paper it was rolled on (a sure sign that the finished smoke is clean from chemicals, where the blacker ash indicates that the cannabis was not properly flushed of chemicals before the harvesting process.) These buds were magnificently groomed and cured.

For more information, you can contact 420CC at 877-573-3990 or email to 420cc@ureach.com.

Kubby at the Wall of History with Rachel.

## Statewide ID cards making slow progress

Continued from page 9

**Modesto** — On the heels of the DEA/Modesto police raid on the California Healthcare Collective in Modesto, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors will be conducting a hearing on the implementation of the ID card program. County Supervisors are slated to discuss the program in late October, including whether or not to wait for the outcome of the San Diego lawsuit.

According to local medical cannabis patients and advocates, the recent raids only highlight the urgent need for a voluntary registry program in Stanislaus County.

**Fresno** — Fresno County has decided to outsource the administration of the ID card program to a private contractor.

The county will be accepting bids for administration of the program through the end of November. The stated goal of the County Department of Health is to have ID

cards available by the end of the year.

Clearly we are making progress toward SB420 implementation; however the legal battle underway between San Diego County and the state makes the political climate more challenging in those counties that have yet to move into compliance with California law.

Safe Access Now expects the San Diego Superior Court to make a ruling in favor of California's medical marijuana laws by the end of the year. Along with the continued dedication of local patients, a favorable ruling in this case will go a long way towards ensuring that every medical cannabis patient in California is granted the protections afforded to them by state law and the will of the voters.

*\* Smith heads up the Safe Access Now cannabis ID card project. For more information about the state ID card program in your county, contact Aaron Smith at 707-291-0076 or email safeaccessnow@gmail.com*

## Record cannabis harvest for California

By Martin Williams

Good weather and law enforcement's pre-occupation with large outdoor plantations made the 2006 growing season a bumper year for California.

The Campaign Against Marijuana Planting (CAMP) reported record seizures, jumping from 1,134,692 plants last year to 1,215,042 this year. They did not offer any statistics on canopy area, so it can't be determined what the actual yield would have been, and while the Attorney General's office estimated the value at \$4.9 billion, a more realistic value would be around \$500 million, according to cannabis expert witness Chris Conrad.

"In any case, the total economic losses due to CAMP seem large enough to qualify as a major economic disaster," noted California NORML Director Dale Gieringer. He estimates that "a legal mari-

juana market could yield the state some \$1 to \$2 billion per year in tax revenues and cost savings."

Many of the plants were eradicated from very large-scale gardens of more than 5,000 plants. Only 10 percent of this year's take came from the Emerald Triangle counties of Mendocino, Humboldt and Trinity.

The early frost led to more purple characteristics in the crop than usual. The season was mostly dry, so there was little damage to the early crop; but along the coast after the rain some bud rot set in.

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# The rise and fall of the Compassionate Caregivers

By Richard Lee

The October DEA raid and closing of New Remedies medical marijuana dispensary is the latest chapter in the rise and fall of Compassionate Caregivers that first began in 2001 when Larry Kristich rented 1740 Telegraph and founded Oaksterdam's third cannabis company. CC would go on to employ over 100 workers and bravely lead the battle to expand regulated cannabis outlets across California.

The director of New Remedies and former CC manager, Sparky Rose, was released after posting a one million dollar bond. He is being prosecuted for operating the San Francisco outlet, a cannabis production facility there, and an Oakland cannabis industry employment agency. Rose bought the assets of Mission Street

Caregivers, the last CC storefront, and changed the name early this year.

The latest DEA attacks can be traced back to 2005. By that time CC had expanded to seven locations across the state, including a West Hollywood storefront known as the Yellow House. That summer the LAPD raided the outlet, and when CC's 1.5 million dollar bank account was seized all but the San Francisco and Oakland locations closed.

In September 2005 the Oakland CC, which had moved to 2135 Broadway, closed due to building code violations. In March of 2006, the DEA closed Beyond Bomb, the cannabis food company that supplied CC and New Remedies. One of the production facilities raided was 1740 Telegraph, the original home of CC.



**CANNABIS: IT'S NOT JUST FOR SMOKING ANYMORE** — Tasty new products like this cannabis-active ice cream give patients an alternative to inhaling their medicine. Oaksterdam News photo by Jaime Galindo.

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*Report summarizes cannabis' role in moderating disease*

# Review of 120+ recent studies confirms that in the US, politics trumps science

By Jaime Galindo

Recently published clinical and preclinical research on the therapeutic use of cannabis indicates that cannabinoids may curb the progression of various life-threatening diseases — in particular, auto-immune disorders such as Multiple Sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis and inflammatory bowel disease, as well as neurological disorders such as Alzheimer's disease and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (a.k.a. Lou Gehrig's disease) — according to a comprehensive new report published today by the NORML Foundation.

*It's clear that the US government's stance against the therapeutic use of cannabis and cannabinoids is based on politics, not science.*

The NORML Foundation report summarizes over 120 recently published trials assessing the therapeutic utility of cannabinoids for the treatment of fifteen specific disease indications:

- Alzheimer's Disease
- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
- Diabetes Mellitus
- Dystonia
- Fibromyalgia
- Gastrointestinal Disorders
- Gliomas
- Hepatitis C
- Hypertension
- Incontinence
- Osteoporosis
- Pruritis
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Sleep Apnea
- Tourette's Syndrome

"Despite continued political debates regarding the recreational use of cannabis, clinical investigations of the therapeutic use of cannabinoids are

now more prevalent than at any time in history," states the report's author,

NORML Foundation Senior Policy Analyst Paul Armentano. "In some of these cases, modern science is now affirming longtime anecdotal reports of medicinal cannabis users. In other cases, this research is highlighting entirely new potential clinical utilities for cannabinoids."

Whereas initial clinical investigations into the therapeutic use of cannabis focused primarily on whether cannabinoids might provide symptomatic relief, investigators today are exploring the potential role of cannabinoids to inhibit the progression of several life-threatening diseases — including cancer, Armentano says.

"Arguably, this latter trend represents far broader and more significant applications for cannabinoid therapeutics than researchers could have imagined some thirty or even twenty years ago," he concludes.

"Unfortunately, because of the US government's strong public policy stance against any use of marijuana, the bulk of this modern research is taking place outside the United States and continues to go unrecognized in North America. Nevertheless, the emerging body of clinical and preclinical work published over the past six years makes it clear that the US government's stance against the therapeutic use of cannabis and cannabinoids is based on politics, not science."

Full text of the report, "Emerging Clinical Applications For Cannabis & Cannabinoids: A Review of the Recent Scientific Literature, 2000 – 2006," is available online in HTML and PDF formats at: [http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group\\_ID=7002](http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=7002).

For more information, please contact Paul Armentano, NORML Foundation Senior Policy Analyst, at (202) 483-5500 or via e-mail at: [paul@norml.org](mailto:paul@norml.org).



## Tommy Lee visits Oaksterdam

Tommy Lee and Supernova, the band from his TV reality show, visited Oaksterdam to get tattoos and sample the local flora and fauna. Besides getting inked at the world famous Temple Tattoo, the band visited local Measure Z clubs and gardens.

The band picked up souvenirs at the Oaksterdam Gift Shop, including Odam jerseys to wear on their upcoming tour. If you go to see the show, keep an eye out for the home team. Oaksterdam News photo by Larry Richards

*Thanks to Measure Z*

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# Marijuana



It's **Not** for Kids.

Join the Oaksterdam News in encouraging young people not to use cannabis until adulthood, and in reminding adults to consume it responsibly.





**LATE BLOOMERS** — Sativa plants like this Lamb's Bread grow very big and are ready for harvest about November. They must be grown in a long-season, mild climate for the best harvest. Photos courtesy of Jorge Cervantes

*Plant for a Patient:*

# Patients need patience in plant maturation process

By Jorge Cervantes\*

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

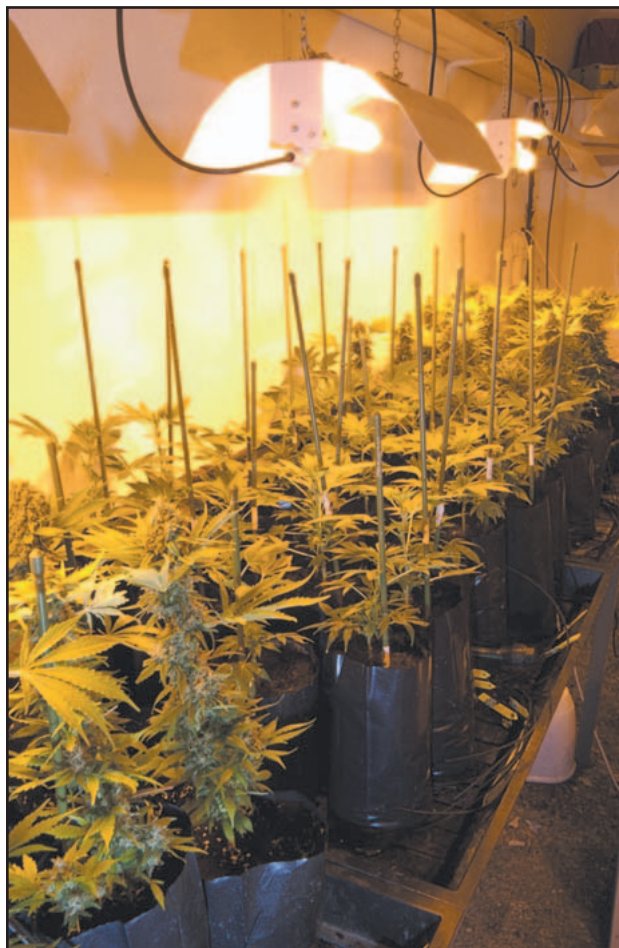
We continue our expanded goal, provide a publication where patients can show their gardens, tell their story in a few words and provide inspiration to other patients and caregivers. This month's column is packed with photos of a beautiful outdoor medical garden. This garden provides much needed medicine to help medicinal cannabis patients live a less painful life.

Whether growing indoors or outdoors, it is important that the plants not merely flower, but fully mature before being harvested. Growing outdoors, it is possible to cultivate varieties that use most of a year to mature. When trying to get a full year's dosage out of a relatively few plants, they are often started in late winter / early springtime in a greenhouse or indoors, to get a jump on the frost. The trichome-encrusted stigmas turn a warm amber color and ripen later than the smaller indica hybrids, and may not be ripe and ready to harvest until late fall.

With concerns over theft, wet weather that could bring bud rot, and drug police looking for that last bust of the grow season, there is a lot of pressure to harvest early, before the female flowers have fully matured. Unripe flowers lack the weight and resin content of those that are ready to be cut and cured. Of course, sometimes circumstances force an early harvest, but if you have a climate where the season is long between frosts, growing full-season plants can give you a decent yield without the risks of growing large numbers of smaller plants.

Many, many medical marijuana patients are too ill to grow their own garden. We are very interested in photos of gardens from medical providers that do not sell the medicine they provide. The added expense of medicine that is not supported by a government program is another hardship for medical patients.

Caregivers are urged to send in photos of their medical gardens. We cannot receive enough photos! Send a brief description of your garden and tell readers how the medicine you grow helps patients enjoy a better standard of life.



Lightweight grow bags are a convenient way to get an early start on a crop, and are easy to use, clean and store.



This heavy Morning Star bud has several weeks to go until harvested.



The white pistils on this Morning Star bud are just starting to turn dark, which means it is entering the last phase of growth before harvest.



Left: Buds that suffer cold temperatures often have few white pistils, leaf fringes can turn purple, more resin develops and plants take longer to mature.

\* Cervantes is author of *Marijuana Horticulture: the Indoor/Outdoor Medical Grower's Bible* (2006), *Jorge Cervantes' Ultimate Grow DVD* (2005) *Indoor Marijuana Horticulture: The Indoor Bible*, *Marijuana Indoors: Five Easy Gardens*, *Marijuana Outdoors: Guerrilla Growing*, *Jorge's Rx* and *Jorge's Ultimate Grow DVD*. He writes for 12 magazines in six languages. Jorge's books are published in Dutch, English, French, German and Spanish. See [www.marijuanagrowing.com](http://www.marijuanagrowing.com) for info.

# MARIJUANA HORTICULTURE

The Indoor/Outdoor **MEDICAL** Grower's Bible  
by Jorge Cervantes

All-time best selling book on the subject

## More than 500,000 books sold

MAGAZINE & EXPERT REVIEWS

"If you want to grow weed, this is the book you need!" David Bienenstock - Editor, ([www.hightimes.com](http://www.hightimes.com)).

"The new Bible is without a doubt the best grow book on the market," Phil Kilv, Editor in Chief, ([www.weedworld.co.uk](http://www.weedworld.co.uk)).

"Fun, informative, illustrative, hands-on and authoritative." Allen St. Pierre, Executive Director, NORML, Washington, DC, ([www.norml.org](http://www.norml.org)).

"... a true and valuable encyclopaedia for the modern cannabis cultivator. This is a must read." Rob Tuinstra, Chief Editor, ([www.highlife.nl](http://www.highlife.nl)).

"Putting aside any legal and moral judgements one may have about marijuana, this is one hell of a book." - Jeff Lowenfels, America's Longest Running garden columnist, Fellow and Hall of Fame member, GWA, America's dirtiest lawyer.

"well-researched, well-written and well-put together. It is high quality knowledge. A must-read!" Cliff Cremer, International Editor, ([www.softsecrets.nl](http://www.softsecrets.nl)).

"Jam-packed with tons information, a must-have for any ganja lover." Kaya Spring, Editor, ([www.headsmagazine.com](http://www.headsmagazine.com)).

"With this most recent edition of his Bible, Jorge proves once again he remains far ahead of the pack." Steven Hager, Cannabis Cup Founder, ([www.cannabiscup.com](http://www.cannabiscup.com)).

"This is the most complete and up-to-date manual for growers." Daniele Levi, Chief Editor, ([www.spannabis.com](http://www.spannabis.com)).

"Weighty, comprehensive, beautiful. The outright world leader. Nuff said." Lyndon, Editor in Chief, ([www.CCNEWZ.com](http://www.CCNEWZ.com)).

"In my book, it's an A+, read." Soma, Soma Seeds, ([www.somaseeds.nl](http://www.somaseeds.nl)).

"No stone is left unturned in this must have book." David Strange, Editor in Chief, Skunk, ([www.skunkmagazine.com](http://www.skunkmagazine.com)).

"This opulently illustrated book is overflowing with marijuana expert knowledge." G.B.I., German Cannabis Journalist, ([www.seednews.de](http://www.seednews.de)).

"Jorge Cervantes published the best growing book ever" KIMO, Hemp Journal, Germany ([www.hanfjournal.de/](http://www.hanfjournal.de/))

"It credits more than 300 contributors and reads like a who's who in the world of cannabis cultivation." Martin Palmer, ([www.avalonheadshop.co.uk](http://www.avalonheadshop.co.uk))

"The new Bible is a must read for all marijuana lovers, from novices to experts." Moseñor Jose María, Soft Secrets, Spain

"The new Bible is great!" Ryoichi Maeda, BURST HIGH magazine Japan ([www.coremagazine.co.jp/burst/high.html](http://www.coremagazine.co.jp/burst/high.html))

"The new Medical Grower's Bible is fantastic in everyway!" Lorna, Director Cannabis College, Amsterdam, Holland, ([www.cannabiscollege.com](http://www.cannabiscollege.com))

512 COLOR PAGES

1120 COLOR IMAGES

JORGE CERVANTES

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During the vegetative season, spring to mid-summer, the plant is staked up and spread out to extend the canopy area and allow for heavier branches to develop. This immature flowering plant uses bamboo supports. The patient used fence post and wire grids to position and support the immature plant's branches in the next photo. Oaksterdam News photo.



*Internal supports help support heavy branches outdoors*  
**A Red Bluff patient's red haired ladies**

I just got a copy of your newspaper and read about the garden competition, so here are some pics of medical cannabis; this is the natural remedy that I used to get off of this drug called oxycontin and 13 other legal drugs — and stay off!

Oxycontin is essentially the same as heroin. Some 75 million patients are on oxycontin, most cities have big troubles with this drug. Not so for cannabis; somebody should do a comparison of these drugs. There are many schools in the Bay

Area where it can be done.

Tell the world that cannabis works. The sad thing is my insurance company should be the one that buys it for me, but the law says it doesn't have to, so I have to grow my own meds — why? My oxycontin was paid for, why not my cannabis?

Thanks so much for the newspaper! We would love to get more of your papers up here; many people here have been looking for copies. Most people in the north state don't come to the city, so I have found five locations to put it out for people; they all have been wanting copies.

So if you want to make the north state informed please increase your circulation.

*I've been trying to change things in my county; and the Oaksterdam News is helping open voters minds.*

I've been trying to change things in my county; and your newspaper, *Oaksterdam News*, is helping to open voters' minds.

— J. in Red Bluff

**How you can enter the Odam News garden photo contest**

Every issue, *Oaksterdam News* 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 to help raise the awareness of medical marijuana growers and patients.

Here is what we are looking for:

1. High quality digital images, at least 5 megapixel in size.
2. Medical marijuana gardens only
3. Send digital images with a short descriptive paragraph and return e-mail to: [jaime@oaksterdamnews.com](mailto:jaime@oaksterdamnews.com).
4. Mail high-quality photo prints to Odam News, 405-15th St., Oakland CA, 94612, Attn: Plant for a Patient

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 camaraderie within the cannabis community.

**Cannabis harvest: Curing and storage of herb**

Now that the growing season is over, it's time to think about the next steps in the cannabis production cycle.

The drying and curing of mature cannabis plants is the climax of the growing experience; the final steps in the successful cultivation cannabis. Slow drying and curing delivers both the flavor and the potency. Cannabis should be well dried before storing to prevent mold.

Success in drying cannabis comes from a balance of light, humidity and heat. Experience recommends that harvested plants be hung upside-down in a cool, dark and well ventilated room. Keep a daily watch on them as they dry. Be patient, it takes time, and air dried cannabis always

has a small amount of ambient moisture. Over a few weeks to a month, the terpenes and flavonoids come to fruition and the rich flavors and aromas of cannabis take form and grow in intensity.

Curing and storage methods vary and are a source of a running debate amongst growers. Some growers recommend curing in cool, dark and dry containers and store their crop in mason jars or resealable cans. Some outside growers prefer vacuum sealing small quantities separately to avoid molding over the entire crop. There is universal agreement that research and practice are beneficial to any successful operation.

Given the value of good herb, it's worth investing time to get it right.

# JAMES ANTHONY

## COUNSELOR & ATTORNEY AT LAW

[MMDLANDUSELAW@COMCAST.NET](mailto:MMDLANDUSELAW@COMCAST.NET)

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**OAKLAND, CA 94612**

**TEL: (510) 207-6243**  
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**JUMBO SIZE CLONES** — You can get some well-established starts at SR-71 to either vegetate for larger plants or take directly to flower. Oaksterdam News photo by Jaime Galindo.

## Odam News East Bay Dispensary Reviews

Here are a few reviews of dispensaries in the East Bay area, across from San Francisco, the city that started medical marijuana sales. This should tide you over until we get rolling with Weedtracker in our next issue.

### Coffeeshop SR-71

377 17th Street • 510-251-0690  
9-8 weekdays, 10-8 Sa, 10-6 Sun  
Street parking, garages, near 17th St. BART, Oakland

I think of SR-71 as the old stand-by... they have good hours (7 days a week) and move the line (when there is one) quickly. The selection's not the greatest — only ever six - eight strains and only one - two of them are high grade; but they are consistently good. The price is always reasonable, however (\$50 at MOST) and they're cool folks.

This is the club I actually visit the most, just for the convenience, the consistency, the vibe and the chai. The staff here is friendly and courteous and the coffee, etc. out front is great (espresso, chai, smoothies, etc.). They have jumbo-size clones of Purple Kush, Hindu Kush x Skunk, and Odyssey for only \$8 each.

### BPG:

#### Berkeley Patients Group

2747 San Pablo Av. • 510-540-6013.  
11-7pm • berkeleypatientsgroup.com  
Private parking lot

One of the oldest clubs in the East Bay. Gotta love the volcanoes, drinks and snacks, which can be enjoyed in a spacious room with lots of tables. I liked the unhurried experience there and talking with

other patients.

This place is so popular that the best varieties get picked off early. Keep an eye out for their Jupiter and Blueberry. They have a variety of clones available, too.

The group is politically plugged in and big sponsors of Americans for Safe Access and they host political education events for patients.

### Harborside Health Center

1840 Embarcadero • 510-533-0147  
11am-8pm, daily  
Private parking lot

Oakland's newest cannabis outlet. The people are genuine and nice. I have nothing but praise for these guys' experience, and knowledge.

Large facility with extras such as holistic medicine and massage therapy. Cool ambiance with a Hindu theme. The place has a warm comfortable atmosphere, as well as freeway access.

They are committed to keeping the highest quality clones available. They also have a great selection of medicine and concentrates.

### Make Oaksterdam more pedestrian friendly

- Observe 25 mph speed limit
- Watch out for pedestrians crossing against lights and for jaywalkers
- Yield to peds when turning, check adjacent crosswalk before turning
- Check sidewalks when entering and exiting garages and parking lots
- Check your mirror before opening your car door when parked on street
- Pedestrians, watch for turning cars and keep out of drivers' blind spots.



Coming next issue:

## Oaksterdam News Reviews Powered by WeedTRACKER!

Do you want to be famous? Well now its a possibility! *Oaksterdam News* will team up with WeedTRACKER to provide patient co-op reviews of dispensaries in our new section *Oaksterdam News Reviews Powered by WeedTRACKER*

Almost all the reviews and pictures will come directly from your post in the forums and reviews sections (we will do some special features now and then and review some things on our own, but for the most part, its all you!). So if you post quality reviews, more than just a few words, there is a good possibility we will use your review! For details, go to *Oaksterdam News* oaksterdamnews.com.



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a medical marijuana collective



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on-site cannabis consumption OK  
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## 15<sup>th</sup> Seattle HempFest draws huge turnout

*No arrests as hundreds of thousands of consumers share two days of fun, music and cannabis*

By Tristin Coffman

The nation's largest annual cannabis policy reform event reached its 15-year mark as it brought its mixture of fun, education and politics to a mile of coastal park and five stages Aug. 19-20 for the Seattle Hempfest.

Seattle Hempfest has brought together the nation's leading experts, activists, and advocates for industrial

hemp and marijuana law reform since 1991, amid multiple stages of music and hundreds of food, crafts and information vendors. Hempfest is a work-party, where people learn while they celebrate.

Former Seattle Police Chief Norm Stamper will be speaking at Hempfest. Chief Stamper spoke about his groundbreaking new book *Breaking Rank*, and his involvement with Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP).

*Air America* radio's nationally syndicated talk show host Randi Rhodes appeared as a special guest emcee on the Main Stage on Saturday. Chart riding band *Rehab* performed this year at Hempfest, along with other great acts like *Wisdom*, *John Sinclair*, *PYRX*, *Clan Dyken*, *Los Marijuanos*, *Mos Generator*, *Randy Hansen* and many more. At 4:20, people lit up on stage; including one guitarist who even set his guitar on fire, in a Hendrix style close to his set.

Organized by local activists who coordinate thousands of volunteers to put it together, HempFest comprises two days of music and speakers and celebrate the green herb for both industrial hemp uses and its "kind bud" flower of health and social rapport. The event, which has run like clockwork for a decade and a half with few problems, not only gives the reform movement a national event and party, it has also played a major political role in making Seattle one of the most cannabis-friendly cities in the USA.

While it took a different approach to its 2003 campaign, Initiative 75, making cannabis offenses the city's lowest law enforcement priority, could well have pointed to the peaceful gathering as an example of how a large event based on cannabis use compares favorably to similar size events fueled by alcohol. The passage of I-75 certainly brought down police arrests of minor cannabis cases and eventually made converts of even its most skeptical opponents.

This event is one of the pilgrimages that make the life of a reformer so rewarding and enjoyable.

**SAY IT OUT LOUD —**  
Top: The iconic Main Stage, where not all users stay right.

Right: A Hendrix-style finale for a guitar.

Below: Police mingled with cannabis consumers in the park for two days with nary a ticket for smoking, and a great time was had by all.

Photos by Chuck McIntosh



LEAP was well-represented at this year's Hemp Fest.



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**ASA compensated for legal fees****New policy signed by governor, state attorney general, CHP**

By Kris Hermes\*

California's medical marijuana patients are now protected from arrest and seizure of their cannabis, thanks to a binding agreement between an advocacy group and state officials.

The new policy signed Oct. 19 by the attorney general, governor and CHP puts to rest a long-standing Americans for Safe Access (ASA) lawsuit with a binding "consent decree" plus \$75,000 in reimbursed legal fees.

The signed agreement settles a lawsuit filed last February against the California Highway Patrol by ASA on behalf of qualified medical cannabis patients who had lost their medicine in CHP traffic stops. CHP had a policy of seizing any cannabis found, regardless of whether the officer was shown patient documentation or not.

On August 22, 2005, as a result of the lawsuit, CHP adopted a new policy that respects the rights of qualified patients to possess and transport medical cannabis. The new settlement agreement – signed by CHP officials and



**Happy ASA staff members celebrate with an enlargement of the \$75,000 check the State paid to cover the legal expenses of fighting the case on behalf of patients.** Oaksterdam News photo by Jaime Galindo.

counsel for Attorney General Bill Lockyer and Governor Schwarzenegger – makes binding the policy adopted last year. Qualified patients, whether they have a state ID card or not, are allowed to have either the quantities specified by SB420 or the local county guideline amounts, whichever is greater.

"We're urging local officials around the state to adopt similar law enforcement policies," said Kris Hermes, ASA legal campaign director. "Medical cannabis patients have rights under the law that must be respected, and this consent decree acknowledges that."

As part of the settlement, ASA received reimbursement of \$75,000 in legal fees for prosecuting the case.

With more than 30,000 members, ASA is the largest national member-based organization of patients, medical professionals, scientists and concerned citizens promoting safe and legal access to cannabis for therapeutic uses and research.

"California's private attorney general statute encourages concerned citizens to fix flawed policy through litigation and allows for the award of attorney fees where appropriate," said Joe Elford, ASA Chief Counsel. "This case corrects an egregious policy that completely ignored the right of sick and dying Californians to possess marijuana for medical use."

The document is at [safeaccessnow.org/downloads/CHP\\_Settlement.pdf](http://safeaccessnow.org/downloads/CHP_Settlement.pdf). The CHP policy that went into effect in August 2005 is at [safeaccessnow.org/downloads/CHP\\_policy\\_update.pdf](http://safeaccessnow.org/downloads/CHP_policy_update.pdf).

\* Hermes is ASA Legal Campaign Director.

# Sign Up For Oaksterdam News Patients Services Directory

**In order to keep your current listing as seen in this issue you must activate it . Not doing so will deactivate your listing both in print and online. So make sure you activate it before 12/31/06**

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**Or Just Go To [OaksterdamNews.Com](http://OaksterdamNews.Com) Register, Add Your Listing, and Then Activate It. It's As Easy As 1 2 3.**

**Our Directory Is The Most Utilized, Up To Date Directory For All Cannabis Dispensaries. Make Sure Your Customers Always Have You At Their Finger Tips.**



## Legendary Mendo DA Norm Vroman passes on

Mendocino's cannabis friendly district attorney Norman Vroman, 69, passed away Sept. 21, 2006 just weeks before he stood for reelection as county DA.

His life was committed to liberty and the US Constitution, and his death leaves a major void in a county known for its cannabis economy.



Vroman in 2004 with activist Pebbles Trippet.

## FREEDOM CALENDAR ...

### ONGOING ACTIVITIES

**Get cannabis events listed here**  
Email to [info@oaksterdamnews.com](mailto:info@oaksterdamnews.com)

More organizations and meetings

[www.oaksterdamnews.com](http://www.oaksterdamnews.com)

#### OCLA Social Hour, Oakland

Third Thursday of every month at 4 pm, before attending the Measure Z meeting, come to the Bulldog Coffeeshop, 1739 Broadway, Odam. Join OCLA for coffee and drinks to discuss how to best work with our cannabis-friendly new mayor Ron Dellums, and other projects to promote taxing and regulating cannabis in Oakland.

#### Measure Z Committee, Oakland

Third Thursday of every month at 6 pm Oakland Regulation and Revenue Ordinance Oversight Committee meets at City Hall, Council chambers. Items on agenda are adult cannabis sales, cultivation, and possession, and zoning and protocols for Measure Z clubs.

#### Free Monthly Grow Class, Oakland

Third Saturdays, 2:30 - 4:30pm, Bulldog Coffee Shop, 1739 Broadway, Oakland

#### CAN Berkeley

Second Monday each month, 7:30 pm at 1605 Ashby Ave, Berkeley.

#### ASA: Local and regional meetings

**East Bay, Alameda, Contra Costa Counties:** 4th or last Wednesday (TBA) 7 pm, Oakland Cannabis Buyers' Coop, 1734 Telegraph (back entrance), nr 19th St BART. 510-251-1856 x 308, [Rebecca@SafeAccessNow.org](mailto:Rebecca@SafeAccessNow.org)

**Hollywood, LA:** 3rd Sat, 1-3p, 6208 Santa Monica Blvd (nr Vine), 323-464-7719. [rea@lamedicalmarijuana.com](mailto:rea@lamedicalmarijuana.com), [ana@safeaccessnow.org](mailto:ana@safeaccessnow.org)

**Orange County:** meets irregularly, 7 pm at 1520 Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton (by tattoo shop). Info, Adam, [adamgingras@gmail.com](mailto:adamgingras@gmail.com) 949-246-9395

**San Diego:** 2nd Tues / month, 7-8 pm, 619-518-0776. Twiggs Coffee House, Green Room, 4590 Park Bl. Info, Dion, [4cccp@cox.net](mailto:4cccp@cox.net), [sdasa.4mg.com](mailto:sdasa.4mg.com).

**San Francisco:** 2nd / 4th Tues, 7 pm, 415-794-1543 Woman's Building, 3543 18th St #8, Room B. Info, Alex, [alex@safeaccessnow.org](mailto:alex@safeaccessnow.org)  
**Sacramento:** 2nd / 4th Thursday 6pm, Capitol Wellness Collective, 2400 14th Street, Sacramento. 916-325-9000

### NOVEMBER

#### Student Drug Reform Conference, TBA

Nov. 17-19: Save the Date: Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP) International Conference / Training Workshop. 202-293-4414. Online info at [ssdp.org](http://ssdp.org).

#### High Times Cannabis Cup, Holland

Thanksgiving weekend, Amsterdam; great city, great bud. [www.hightimes.com](http://www.hightimes.com)

### DECEMBER

#### Oaksterdam Holiday Party

Dec. 3: 7 pm, tickets \$20. Holiday feast on Lake Merritt. Music by the Bobby Young Project. Tickets at Bulldog and SR 71.

#### 2006 Doesha Cup

Dec. 16: [doeshacup.com](http://doeshacup.com) 310-289-1420

#### Festivus Celebration, SF

Ed Rosenthal hosts this annual bash "for the rest of us." Details TBA

### JANUARY 2007

#### New Years Resolution

Jan. 1: Pledge to help end the Drug War.

#### Cal medical marijuana conference, LA

Jan. 13-14, ASA is hosting a statewide medical marijuana conference in the Los Angeles for activists across the state. After the San Diego decision expected by the end of 2006, we will share skills and strategies to implement our medical cannabis laws. Workshops include strategic planning, action planning, media trainings and more! Details: [safeaccessnow.org](http://safeaccessnow.org)

**Get cannabis events listed here**  
Email to [info@oaksterdamnews.com](mailto:info@oaksterdamnews.com)

## ... JOIN THE FIGHT

#### Americans for Safe Access

[www.safeaccessnow.org/](http://www.safeaccessnow.org/) A patient support network. 510-251-1856

#### California NORML

[www.canorml.org/](http://www.canorml.org/) California NORML 510-540-1066 [canorml@igc.org](mailto:canorml@igc.org)

#### Cannabis Consumers Campaign

[www.cannabisconsumers.org/](http://www.cannabisconsumers.org/) Come out of the closet to stand up for equal rights.

#### Cannabis Action Network

Cannabis Action Network holds regular meetings and has a busy schedule of tabling at Winter events. 510-486-8083. [www.cannabisactionnetwork.org](http://www.cannabisactionnetwork.org)

#### Change the Climate

[www.changetheclimate.org/](http://www.changetheclimate.org/) Mass media campaigns to open the dialogue.

#### DRC Net

[www.stopthedrugwar.org/](http://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.

#### DPA: Drug Policy Alliance

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

#### DPFCA: Drug Policy Forum of CA

Listserve for California cannabis and drug war issues. Email to [canorml@igc.org](mailto:canorml@igc.org) to subscribe.

#### Drug Sense

[www.drugsense.org/](http://www.drugsense.org/) A daily compilation of drug-related news excerpts.

#### Drug War Facts

[www.drugwarfacts.org/](http://www.drugwarfacts.org/) Just the facts.

#### Family Council on Drug Awareness

[www.fcda.org/](http://www.fcda.org/) Accurate information on the effects of various drugs and drug policies. Offers downloadable literature for local activists to print and hand out.

#### HRC: Harm Reduction Coalition

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

#### HIA: Hemp Industries Association

[www.hempindustries.org/](http://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/](http://www.hr95.org/) This project puts the drug war into the perspective of preserving and respecting human rights for all.

#### LEAP: Law Enforcement Against Prohibition

[www.leap.cc/](http://www.leap.cc/) Current and former members of law enforcement who support drug regulation rather than prohibition.

#### MAP: Media Awareness Project

[www.mapinc.org/](http://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.

#### MPP: Marijuana Policy Project

[www.mpp.org/](http://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. 877-Join MPP

#### MAPS

[www.maps.org/](http://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/](http://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/](http://www.november.org/) National support group for Drug War POWs. Publishers of *The Razor Wire*.

#### Oakland Civil Liberties Alliance

[www.taxandregulate.org/](http://www.taxandregulate.org/) Political action committee behind Measure Z in Oakland. 1714 Franklin Street, #100-118 Oakland, CA 94612

#### SAFER

[www.saferchoice.org/](http://www.saferchoice.org/) Safer Alternative For Enjoyable Recreation. PO Box 40332, Denver CO 80204, [mason@saferchoice.org](mailto:mason@saferchoice.org)

#### Students for a Sensible Drug Policy

[www.ssdp.org/](http://www.ssdp.org/) Students seeking to reduce the harms caused by drug abuse and drug policies.

#### VoteHemp

[www.votehemp.com/](http://www.votehemp.com/) Lobby for industrial and horticultural hemp.

#### Weedtracker.com

California coop info, reviews and photomenus.

## Measure Z Committee approves report

By Richard Lee

The Oakland Measure Z Oversight Committee approved a report at its Nov. 9 meeting that clarifies the meaning under the law of private cannabis sales, cultivation, and possession by adults.

The report calls for "a land use regulation scheme o allow for private membership clubs (with the option of onsite consumption if ventilation is adequate), not associated with any [medical marijuana dispensaries], outside of, and reasonably buffered from, residential neighborhoods and schools."

Measure Z, approved by 65% of voters in 2004, made private offenses the lowest police priority and instructed the city to tax and regulate cannabis as soon as possible.

The committee will meet December 21st to discuss guidelines and permit fees for private adult membership clubs

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Measure Z Measure CLUB

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# PATIENT SERVICES & SUPPORT

**HS11362.775:** "Qualified patients, persons with valid identification cards, and the designated primary caregivers of qualified patients and persons with identification cards, who associate within the State of California in order collectively or cooperatively to cultivate marijuana for medical purposes, shall not solely on the basis of that fact be subject to state criminal sanctions under Section 11357, 11358, 11359, 11360, 11366, 11366.5, or 11570."

Thanks to the *Oaksterdam News* cannabis dispensary research team for composing the most up to date directory in the world. *Oaksterdam News* makes no representation as to the service, quality, reliability or compassion of any of these groups. Updates at oaksterdamnews.com. For a discussion of the legalities of cannabis clubs, see CA NORML's *Tips for Would-be Cannabis Providers*, canorml.org.

## Be sure to mention Oaksterdam News.

### Oakland

The Co-op Store (I.D. Cards Only). 510-832-5346. 1733 Broadway. www.rxcbc.org.

• **SR-71, 377 - 17th St. Open M-F 9-8; Sa 10-8; Su 10-6**

• CARE. 701 Broadway

• **Harborside Health Center 1840 Embarcadero**

• Purple Heart Center 415 4th St.

### Berkeley / East Bay

• Alameda Co. Resource Center, 16250 B E.14th St., 11am-8pm Mon-Sat

• Berkeley Cannabis Coop. 3124 Shattuck Av. 510-488-1025 10-3pm

• Berkeley Patients' Group. 2747 San Pablo Av. 510-540-6013. berkeleypatientsgroup.com 11-7pm

• Berkeley Patients' Care Collective. 2590 Telegraph. 510-540-7878. medicalmarijuanainfo.com 12-7pm

### Contra Costa

• MED" Dispensary 3823 San Pablo Dam Rd. El Sobrante 510-758-3269 10-6pm daily - delivery/ call for appt.

• Maricare - 127 Aspen Dr. Pacheco (also deliveries) 925-459-2929. 10-8pm 420care@comcast.net

• Holistic Solutions/Dragonfly 2924 Hill Top Mall Rd. Richmond 510-243-7585 11-6pm

• Natural Remedies Health Center Coll., 3817 Macdonald Ave, Richmond 510-965-1735 M-Sa 11-7pm

### Alameda County, Hayward Area

• We Are Hemp 913 E Lewelling Blvd, San Lorenzo. 510-276-2628. M-Sa 11-8

• 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. .

• A Natural Source 510-276-7224. 16360 Foothill Blvd, San Leandro. M-F 11-7pm.

### San Francisco

City Dept of Public Health. (I.D. Cards Only) 1001 Potrero Av. SF Gen Hosp. 415-206-5555

• Good Fellows Smoke Shop 473 Haight St. 415-255-1323 10-10pm Daily

• 1944 Ocean Alternative Relief 1944 Ocean Av. 415-239-4766 12-7pm M-Sa

• Green Door, 843 Howard St. 11-8 daily 415-541-9590 www.GreenDoorInfo.com

• Grass Roots. 1077 Post St. 415-346-4338 10-8pm Daily

• Sanctuary. 669 O'Farrell. 415-885-4420 12-8pm Daily

• Ketama, 14 Valencia St. 11-8 M-Sa, 12-6 Su. 415-706-2679.

• Bernal Heights Co-Op 33 29th St. 415-642-4702 10-9pm Mn-Sa 12-7 Sn

• Purple Heart 1326 Grove St. 415-409-1002 11-9pm Daily

• 208 Dispensary 208 Valencia St. 415-621-0131 8-10pm Daily

• Mr. Nice Guy 174 Valencia St. 415-865-0990 11-9pm Sn-Th 11-11 Fr.Sa

• Emmalyn's 1597 Howard St. #A 415-861-1000 10-7pm Daily

• SF Medical Cannabis Clinic #1, 122 10th 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

• Patient Place 4811 Geary Blvd, 415-221-HEMP 11-7pm Mn-Fr 12-5pm Sa

• Love Shack. 502 14th St. x Guerrero. 415-552-5121. lssf.com 10-7pm daily

• SF Medical Cannabis Clinic #2, 194 Church St. 11-7 M-F, 11-5 Sa-Su. 415-626-4781

• Holistic Solutions, 722 Columbus St. 415-296-7614 11-6pm

• New Remedies Co-Op. 1760 Mission x Duboce. 415-864-0114 8-8pm

• Alternative Patient Caregivers, 953 Mission St. #180 415-618-0680. 12-6 M-F, 11-5 Sa. Clones.

• San Francisco ACT-UP. 1884 Market St. 415-864-6686 actupsf.com 12-7pm

Coming next issue: **WEEDTRACKER** CALIFORNIA CANNABIS CO-OPS NEWS, REVIEWS, AND PHOTO MENUS

• SF Patients' Cooperative. 350 Divisadero St. 415-552-8653. www.sfprc.org 11-5pm.

• Hopenet Coop, 223 9th St. 415-863-4399. M-F 12-7, Sa 12-5

• The Divinity Tree. 958 Geary St. 415-861-1000 10-8pm except Tu

• Mason St. Dispensary. 124 Mason St. (downstairs) 415-433-4420, 7-9 daily masondispensary.com

• Patients Helping Patients Home Bike Delivery. 415-240-7190

• Re-Leaf Herbal Center. 2980 - 21st St. 415-235-3307 12-8pm

• Happy Days 607 Divisadero St. 415-359-9927 10-10pm

### Peninsula

• Patients' Choice Resource Co-Op 70 N. El Camino Real #B San Mateo 11-7pm Mn-St 12-7 Sn 650-458-9505

### Marin, North Bay

• Marin Alliance for Medical Marijuana 415-256-9328. cbcmarin.com

### South Bay

• Kind Care Resource Center 5423 Central Av. 510-796-KIND 10-8 pm Daily

• Mobile Herbal Therapy (San Mateo, San Jose deliveries). 866-240-9121

• San Jose area deliveries: Growth Unlimited. 1-888-MED-CANN

• My Green Heaven Ministry. Millbrae. www.mygreenheaven.org

### Santa Cruz

• Santa Cruz Patients Collective 115 Limekiln St. 831-425-SCPC 11-6 Mn-Th 11-7 Fr.Sa

• Wo/Men's Alliance for Medical Mj, WAMM 831-425-0580. www.wamm.org

• Greenway Compassionate Relief 140 Dubois St #D. 831-420-1640. M-F 11-6, Sa 10-6

• Med Ex. Info: 831-425-3444

### North Coast

• D & M Compassion Center, Lake Co 15196 Lakeshore Dr. Clearlake Oaks. 10-8pm 707-994-1320

• MMPU, Medical Marijuana Patients Union POB 2059, Fort Bragg 95437. 707-964-YESS. info@mmpu.org

• Herban Legend, 18300 Old Coast Hwy #3, Fort Bragg. 707-961-0113; M-Sa 11am-6pm.

• Mendo Remedies. 42400 Hwy. 101, Laytonville: 707-984-7101; low-income patients welcome. Tu-Sa 10-6pm

• Caregivers Compassion Center 4349 Montgomery #D, Sta Rosa. M-F 1-6; Su 3-6. 707-537-7303

• Resource Green Caregivers & Patients Group Santa Rosa ( Deliveries Only ) 866-420-5020 11-9 daily

• North Bay Wellness Coop- 3386 Santa Rosa Ave, Santa Rosa. 10-6:45 M-F; 10-4:45 Sa.

northbaywellness@yahoo.com

• Sonoma Alliance for Medical Marijuana. SAMM. 707-522-0292. patient support group

• Marvin's Gardens. Guerneville. 707-869-1291

• 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. 707-995-9000. M-Sa 11-7.

• Lake Co Alt. Caregiver Clinic, Clearlake Oaks. 707-998-0358. lacc@mchsi.com

• Ukiah CBC Info. 707-462-0691

• Hemp Plus Ministries. 892 N. State St, Ukiah. 707-468-1478

### Central Valley to Redding

• The Hemp Shack ( I.D. Cards ) 220 E. Olive Av. Fresno 559-485-4367

• Healthy Choice Collective 4213 McHenry Av. #E Modesto 209-521-2557

• California Healthcare Collective 1009 McHenry Av. #D Modesto 209-577-4556

• 28/16 Collective Corp. 4459 Spyras Way #E Modesto 209-622-9404 10-7pm Daily

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

• 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). mercountypc@aol.com

• El Dorado Pain Reduction Center 645 Main St. #3 Placerville 530-642-1642

• MMJ Caregivers Association of El Dorado Co. Placerville. 530-642-8258

• Golden State Patient Care Collective. 233 Hwy 174, Colfax. 530-346-2514. M-Sa 10-5

• Dale's Delivery Service (Nevada City - Roseville) 530-277-1810. M-F 10-6, Sa 11-3

• Plumas Co., Feather River Coop. 530-283-4517 (info)

• Jim'z Deliveries. Roseville area, 10-6. 916-519-5328

• San Joaquin, Medi-Caregivers delivery. 209-456-0680

• Shasta Patient Alliance, info only. shapatall@hotmail.com

• Shasta Caregivers (530) 945-3571

• Siskiyou County Medical Cannabis Co-op Research & Registration Ctr. Weed. 530-938-1768. littloulou@snowcrest.net

• Stanislaus/Central Valley Co-op: Primary Caregivers & Consultants. 209-818-2932. CACaregivers@aol.com

• Tuolumne CC delivery 866-882-1129.

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 • Yuba County CBC 530-749-7497

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**Elk Grove/Sacto Areas Daily 10-7pm**
- Canna Care 320 Harris Ave #G M-F 9-6; Sa-Su 10-3. 916-925-1199.
- MedSac916 916-806-2314 www.med-sac916.com
- 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.
- Doctor's Orders 1704 Main Av. Sacramento 916-564-2112. M-Th 10am-6pm, Fri 10am-8pm, Sa 10am-6pm, Sn 10am-3pm
- Greenhouse 9555 Folsom Bl. #J Sacramento 916-366-0420, 916-868-9566 call for verification, directions; Daily 10-6.
- 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
- 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**

- Nature's Medicinal, 323 Roberts Ln, Bakersfield. 661-392-9353. Daily 11-9.
- Amer. Caregivers Collective 3615 Gillmore Av. Bakersfield 661-396-7800 10-7 Daily
- Sweet Relief Compassionate Care 1340 Roberts Lane #1 Bakersfield 661-399-4200
- Charity Caregivers of Tulare 219 North M St. Tulare 559-688-2001
- Today's Holistic Caregivers (delivery) Lancaster 661-946-6600
- Epicurean Delights, 201 W. Ridgecrest Bl., Ridgecrest. M-F 8-8

**Central Coast, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Malibu**

- Central Coast Compassionate Caregivers 780 Monterey Av. #B Morro Bay 805-772-4879 11-6pm Tu-Sn
- Hezekiah Inc, 92 - 2nd St. #H, Buellton (805) 264-1774 - open M-F 9-5.
- Compassion Center of Santa Barbara Co #1-SBC Collective, 2915 De La Vina St. San Barb. 805-682-8383 11-6pm
- Compassion Center of Santa Barbara Co.#2-SBC Collective 119 N. Milpas St.#C San Barb. 805-963-9797 12-5pm Sa 11-3pm
- 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 10:30-8:30 Daily.
- Santa Barbara Patient Doctor Coalition. 805-687-2380 PDCoalition@cox.net
- Pacific Greens Inc. 816 Milpas St. Sn.Barb. 805-963-0616 10-8pm Daily
- Nature's Path Care 414 E. Haley #B Sn.Barb. 805-331-4567 10-8pm Daily
- ACME 211 W. Victoria St. Sn.Barb. 805-679-1569
- Cal Alliance for Medical Mj Patients (Ventura Co) 805-890-1365. ID cards, medical referrals stoparrestingpts@aol.com
- PCH Collective 22333 Pacific Coast Hwy. #102A Malibu 310-456-0666 12-8pm Mn-Sa
- The Calm At The Beach 21355 Pacific Coast Hwy.#100 Malibu 310-317-6298

**West Hollywood**

- West Hollywood Caregivers. 7901 Santa Monica Bl #206. 323-656-2033. 10-7 daily.
- West Hwd Ctr for Compassionate Healing, 8921 Sunset Bl. 310-626-3333 11-8 daily
- Sunset Collective 7065 1/2 Sunset Bl. 323-464-0111 12-8pm M-Sa
- LA Patients- Caregivers Group, 7213 Santa Monica Bl. W Hollywood 323-882-6033
- AHHS (Alternative Herbal Health Services) 7828 Santa Monica Bl. x Fairfax. W. Hollywood 323-654-8792 call for hours.

- Medical Marijuana Pharmacy 7825 Santa Monica Bl. 323-848-7981 10-8 M-Sa 12-7 Sn
- CA Cannabis Pharmaceuticals 8464 Santa Monica Bl. 323-656-1600

**Los Angeles**

- MMLA ( I.D. Cards ) 9663 Santa Monica Bl. #999 Beverly Hills 310-023-2626
- **Downtown Patients Group, 928 East 12th St. 11-8pm 7 DAYS, 213-747-3386**
- **California Caregivers Alliance, 201 Herondo St #100, 310-374-1738**
- **Budz Bakery & More, 323-898-3553 11-3pm, 6pm-10pm 7 days, BudzBakery.Com**

**Southern Cal Patient, Assistance 5072 W. Pico Blvd, 10-6pm 7 Days, 323-930-9668**

**Apothecary 420, 330 N. Western Ave, 323-836-0420**

- The Holistic Caregivers 1321 E. Compton Blvd., Compton 310-889-4799 for deliveries 310-764-4740 9-7pm. M-Sa
- Earth Collective, 5115 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood (323) 668-7633 11-11pm Daily www.earthcollective.com
- Hezekiah Inc. 6051 Hollywood Bl. #202 323-467-6484 10-6pm Daily
- Natural Caregivers 609 S. Westmorland Av. 310-927-0911 11-7pm Daily
- KUSH 1111 S. La Brea Bl. LA 323-938-5874 11-11pm Daily
- United Medical Caregivers Clinic, 1248 S. Fairfax, LA 310-358-0212 10-7 M-F
- Purelife Alternative Wellness Center 1649 S. La Cienega Bl. 310-246-9345
- Shiva's Gardens Caregivers, 11-8pm Daily. 2002 S. Robertson Bl. LA 310-841-0550
- LA Compassionate Care Silverlake 2227 Sunset Bl. 213-484-1001
- California Caregivers Alliance 2815 Sunset Bl. #201 213-353-0100 11-7pm M-Sa 12-7 Sn
- Silverlake Caregivers Group 240 N. Virgil Av, #10 213-487-5442 10-8pm M-Sa
- Hollywood Patients' Collective, 10-10 Daily 6115 Selma Ave #103, Hollywood 323-464-6465 www.hpkush.com
- Western Caregivers Group 467 N. Western Av. LA 213-487-5442
- Hollywood Compassionate Collective (HCC) 1110 N. Western Ave #204, Hwd. M-F 11-7; Sa 12 -8 pm, hollywoodcollective.com 323-467-7292
- The Health Center 5161 Melrose Av. LA 323-463-4254
- Downtown Wellness Center 312 W. Olympic Bl. LA 213-746-3355 10-6pm Tu-Sa
- ADHC 620 E. 1st St. LA 213-687-9981
- Angel City Caregivers 441 1/2 E.16th St. LA 213-291-8180 10-8pm Daily
- Caregivers Christian Alliance Discount Dispensary - 122 S. Lincoln Ave #204, Venice 877-219-3809. Open M-Sa 12-8
- Supplemental Organic Solutions 328 Lincoln Bl. Venice 310-450-9141
- Marina Caregivers 3007 Washington Blvd. #225 Mar. Del Rey 310-574-4000 12-11pm M-F... till 10 Sa/ 8 Sn
- Ironworks Collective 4100 Venice Bl. Venice 310-305-8425 10-10pm M-Sa
- California Caregivers Assoc. of Santa Monica 12107 Santa Monica Bl. 310-826-3536 10-8pm Daily
- LAMC 5885 W. Manchester Av. LA 310-410-9954 10-7pm Daily
- Lawndale Collective 14829 Hawthorne Blvd #203 Lawndale 310-432-3262 11-7pm Daily
- Inglewood Wellness Center 318 Market 310-674-4444 11-7pm
- Comfort Care Group Westwood deliveries 310- 441-8315
- California Patients' Group 6208 Santa Monica Bl. 323-464-7052
- Westside Compassionate Caregivers 2355 Westwood Bl. West LA 310-474-8459
- United Caregivers Group 643 S. 2nd Av. #G Covina 626-967-2080
- CMCA 15838 Halliburton Rd. Hacienda

**PATIENT SERVICES & SUPPORT**

- Heights 626-336-2652 11-7 Daily
- CMCA-LA 3430 Whittier Bl. L.A. 323-261-2009 11-7pm Daily
- W. M. P. C. 11618 Washington Blvd #D, Whittier 562-692-3576 11 - 7 pm.
- Whittier Collective 12450#A E. Washington Bl. 562-696-9696 M-F 11-7; Sa 11-6 Su 10-3
- Premium Care Inc. 21609 Norwalk Bl. Hawaiian Gardens 562-402-6832
- North Hollywood, San Fernando Valley**
- HLC 3715 Cahuenga Bl. Universal City 818-980-4420
- Compassionate Care Of Studio City 11314 Ventura Bl. 818-506-7207 11-7 M-Th, 11-8 F, 12-8 Sa www.cccscity.com
- HIP 22831 Ventura Bl. Woodland Hills 818-225-2426 10-10pm M-F 11-10Sa 12-8Sn
- Conejo Wellness Center 29399 Agoura Rd, #112 Agoura Hills 818-706-1143 11-8pm M-F
- The Health Center of Studio City 11324 Ventura Bl. 818-509-0574 11-7 pm Daily
- NoHo Caregivers 4296 Vineland N. Hwd. 818-754-0834 11-8pm Daily
- Holistic Healthcare 5430 Vineland N, Hwd. 818-487-2555
- Caregivers Medi Resource 3322 Barham Bl. Universal City 323-876-7274 10-8pm M-Sa
- Mid-Valley Compassionate Caregivers. 5658 Sepulveda Bl. Van Nuys 818-785-7440 M-Th 11-7, F-Sa 11-8
- Holistic Caregivers Apothecary Inc, 10652 Magnolia Bl. N. Hwd. 818-760-0717
- Fairfax Caregivers Inc, 14303 Ventura Bl. Sherman Oaks 818-990-0401 M-Sa 11-8
- Trichome Healing Caregivers. 7100 Van Nuys Bl. #204, Van Nuys. 818-373-5000. 10-7 Daily except Wed. - disabled access
- Valley Healing Caregivers Ctr, 7232 Van Nuys Bl. VN, 818-781-8865 10-7pm M-Sa
- Kind Meds Collective Center 14649 Victory Bl. #24 Van Nuys 818-908-9580 11-7 M-Sa 11-5 Sn
- S. California Caregivers 15333 Sherman Way #Q Van Nuys 10-7pm Daily 818-998-0699
- Mother Nature's Remedy Caregivers, 17302 Saticoy St, Van Nuys 818-345-MEDs 2:15 - 10 pm Tu-Su.
- Therapeutic Medicinal Health Resources, 14836 Burbank Blvd, Sherman Oaks 818-988-9615 M-F 11-7; Sa-Su 12-6
- Valley Collective Co-op, 12500 Riverside Dr #201B, Studio City 818-508-8787 M-Sa 11-7pm Su 11-5pm
- Valley Independent Pharmacy 19459 Ventura Blvd, Tarzana. 818-345-5477. 10-7pm
- Natural Care Coll. 18341 Sherman Way #213 Reseda 818-344-7420 10-8pm M-Sa
- Cannamed of Northridge, 9349 Melvin Ave. #9 818-882-4849 10 am -8 pm Daily.
- Northridge Healing Center 8349 Reseda Bl. #D 818-701-6666
- Valley Coop 818-727-1419. 8363 Reseda Bl #203, Northridge. 11-7 M-Sa, 11-5 Su.
- W Valley Caregivers 818-222-9212. 23067 Ventura Bl. #102, Woodland Hills 10-10 daily
- 215 Club 22148 Ventura Bl. #A Woodland Hills 818-887-2106
- West Valley Co-Op 19709 Ventura Bl. #B Woodland Hills 818-713-0258
- North Hollywood Collective 10929 Van Owen St. #110 818-763-4008 12-7pm
- Patients Against Pain 6240 Laurel Cnyn. #B N. Hwd. 818-752-7274
- 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
- Collective Caregivers Pharmacy 8239 Canoga Av. Canoga Park 818-264-0790
- North Valley Discount 15600 Devonshire Granada Hills 818-920-3110
- Green Light Discount Pharmacy 13051 San

- Fernando Rd. #4 Sylmar 877-367-9190
- Beach Cities**
- Palos Verdes Collective 716 Yarmouth Rd. #215 310-541-0608 12-8pm Tu-Sa clsd Sn,M
- California Caregivers Alliance 201 Herondo St. #100 Redondo Beach 310-374-1738
- Nature's Way Compassion Group 1111 S. Pacific Av. San Pedro 310-514-9665
- Cancer Help Center Herbal Collective 3381 LB Blvd (x Wardlow) Long Beach 562-424-HERB M-F 11-8, Sa-Su 11-7
- Herbal Solutions Compassion Caregivers 5746 E. 2nd St. Long Beach 562-434-5075
- Green Cross of Torrance 22926 Hawthorne Bl. Torrance 310-378-4900 10-8pm Daily
- Peace Of Green 22828 Western Av. Torrance 310-530-4135
- Cali Caregivers Assoc. of Gardena 17901 S. Vermont Av. #D 310-352-1188 11:30-8
- Nature's Holistic Caregivers 310-327-3551 10-6 M-Sa, 14000 #A Crenshaw Bl. Gardena
- CCLB, Compassionate Caregivers LB (not affiliated with "Compassionate Caregivers") call 562-621-9777 for details
- Med-a-Cab delivery service, Long Beach / mid-cities 562-256-5066 daily 11-7.pm
- Freeway Pharmacy Beach cities delivery; El Segundo, Huntington Beach. 310-349-9135
- South Bay 420 Collective Delivery Service, Palos Verdes / beach cities. 310-561-3515; FAX 866-619-5942 harpincsb@netscape.net
- Lomita Collective, Palos Verdes deliveries 310-432-3262
- Diamond Delivery, Long Beach to North Orange Co. 562-331-5415
- Premium Care Inc, 16900 Lakewood Bl #202, Bellflower 562-215-4875
- LBVLC 1088 Redondo Ave., 562-434-6761 Mon-Fri 11-8pm, Sat-Sun 11-7pm
- Natures Holistic Caregivers, 14000 #A Crenshaw Blvd., Gardena, CA 90249, 310-327-3551
- Peace of Green, 22828 Western Ave., 310-530-4135, 12-8pm Mon-Fri 12-6pm Sat-Sun
- OC, San Bernardino, Riverside**
- C3 714-618-5221 9-9pm (OC/Riverside/SD/Beach Cities/LA) delivery
- 420 Primary Caregivers. 421 N.Brookhurst #130 Anaheim. 714-758-3500. M-Sa 11-7; delivery. 420primarycaregivers.com (215 Patient Bakery-edibles)
- Pharmakeia (LA/OC/Riverside) 323-462-1516. M-Sa 10am - 5 pm. pharmakeia.org, info@pharmakeia.org
- Inland Empire Herbal Caregivers Riverside Co. delivery 951-537-0235.
- Palm Springs Caregivers 2100 W. Palm Canyon Bl. #105 760-327-8810 11-8 M-Sa
- CAPS. Palm Springs. 760-325-1112
- CannaHelp, 73350 El Paseo #204, Palm Desert, 877-760-4367 Open 10-8
- Orange Co. MC Coop, 949-855-0310. 11-7
- 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
- KGB Meds delivery to San Bernardino, High Desert. 760-246-7047. kgbmeds@yahoo.com
- Northern Lights Church/Healing Exchange statewide support 949-222-4209 Laguna Beach northernlights-church.org / thehealingexchange.org
- San Diego**
- All storefront dispensing cooperatives in San Diego are temporarily closed.
- San Diego area deliveries www.medbud4u.com
- North County Medi Caregivers delivery daily 12-9 northcountymedical@yahoo.com. 760-277-4059
- San Diego Caregivers. (delivery serving SD / south Riverside Co.) 760-580-0745

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## Oaksterdam celebrates a cannabis-friendly decade

Continued from page 1

remodeled the original Zoo dispensary location to create *The Lemondrop Coffeeshop* in 2002.

In 2003 Richard Lee founded the Oakland Civil Liberties Alliance and launched *Coffeeshop SR 71*. More outlets opened such as *Oakland Compassionate Healing Center* on Grand Avenue, *The Green Door* at 1521 Webster, and *The 420 Cafe / Dragonfly*, which introduced purple cannabis to Oakland at 1733 Telegraph. The local economy increased by an estimated \$26 million at the height of Old Oaksterdam.

In 2004 Oakland became the first city to tax and regulate cannabis outlets, charging \$20,000 permit fees but limiting the number of dispensaries to four in a political compromise. Permits were awarded to *CARE, SR 71, Compassionate Caregivers*, and *OCHC*. The *Lemondrop* closed while *The Green Door* moved to San Francisco and *The Dragonfly* relocated to Richmond.

At the same time Oakland was licensing MMJ outlets, OCLA was gathering signatures to put the *Oakland Cannabis Regulation and Revenue Ordinance* on the bal-

lot. In Nov. 2004 with 65.2% of the vote, *Measure Z* became law making private sales, cultivation, and possession of cannabis the lowest police priority and mandating the taxing and regulating of cannabis for adults as soon as possible under state law.

2005 saw the opening of Measure Z clubs and the closing of *Compassionate Caregivers* and *OCHC* for building code violations.

The *Oaksterdam News* ([Oaksterdamnews.com](http://Oaksterdamnews.com)) began publishing from 376 15th and the *Oaksterdam Gift Shop* opened at 405 15th Street.

Last summer the OCBC became the official MMJ ID card issuer in Alameda County and two new MMJ clubs have opened recently (see story on page 3).

Oakland can be proud to have been a leader in the fight to end cannabis prohibition for the last ten years. Many courageous souls have fought bravely to win the freedom we Californians, and particularly those in the SF Bay Area, now enjoy.

Meanwhile the affectionate nickname *Oaksterdam* — or *Odum* for short — has taken on a life of its own and



**STREET FAIR — Amy Doktor helps spread the word: Oaksterdam.** Oaksterdam News photo by Jaime Galindo.

affords the area a well-deserved international celebrity as a cannabis friendly zone. Major news media including AP reports now use the term that has seeped out into the cannabis culture, along with *420* and *kind bud*.

Now, with a decade of community acceptance behind it and Measure Z implementation lying ahead, the Oaksterdam District finds itself again on the threshold of a new era.

## CA voters moving toward controlled access to cannabis

Continued from page 5

medical marijuana and tolerant of the growing number of dispensaries there, an aspect that ensured confidence in the initiative's success.

Ethan Krawitz, chair of Sensible Santa Barbara and a leader of UCSB NORML, was not surprised with the strong show of support, however. "I am very happy with the results. When we decided to start the campaign, I knew that it was something Santa Barbara citizens wanted. I think the 65 percent vote confirms that."

While Santa Barbara and Santa Monica made it the lowest priority for adult, personal use of marijuana, Santa Cruz took it

further to cover all adult marijuana offenses, and included a section that requires the city clerk to issue letters to all of state and federal representatives stating, "The citizens of the city of Santa Cruz have passed an initiative to deprioritize marijuana offenses and request that the federal and California state governments take immediate steps to tax and regulate marijuana use, cultivation, and distribution and to authorize state and local communities to do the same." This duty shall be carried out until state and federal laws are changed accordingly.

Santa Cruz Citizens for Sensible Marijuana Policy along with their cam-

paign coordinator, Kate Horner, generated tremendous, broad community support for their initiative, Measure K. Amongst the endorsers were two city council members, two county supervisors, former mayors, and a diverse group of organizations and community leaders. This translated into the 64 percent vote in support of the measure.

Instrumental to all three initiatives was the endorsement of the California Nurses Association, the local Democratic party clubs, and the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice, amongst others. The Santa Cruz committee teamed up with the Democratic Party of Santa Cruz County, which opened their headquarters to Measure K to phone bank as part of their GOTV effort.

The Santa Cruz and Santa Barbara measures create oversight committees within three months of their passage to make sure that the intent of the voters is carried out. They will oversee the development of a supplemental form for the police to fill out in the event of a marijuana arrest, the submission of semi-annual written reports to the city councils, receive grievances and make sure that the police are in compliance with the measures. In Santa Monica, the oversight will be conducted by the city council.

Measure K proponent Theodora Kerry, acknowledged that this effort is not over yet. "I'm grateful for the across-the-board support for this measure, but now our real work begins in finding oversight committee members who will carry out the will of the voters." Stephenson, wrapped it up with their main talking point, "The voters have sent a clear message to our state and federal representatives: the Drug War has failed — it's time for a new approach."

With a mandate from the voters up and down California, advocates for further reform will soon need to decide how far they can take it at the state level. Should they call for a reduction of penalties? Or how about full decriminalization, or taxing and regulating the sales to adults? Should more cities and counties pursue similar local initiatives, to add to the growing list of jurisdictions that are opting out of Bush's war on marijuana, or call for a commission to report on alternative approaches to drug policy.

California NORML is planning to host a forum to bring activists together to discuss possible next steps this winter. Details to come.

Meanwhile, as this issue goes to print, San Francisco is considering a county ordinance along the lines of the Santa Cruz initiative. Activists around the country are celebrating the victories and a renewed hope for the future and all its possibilities.

To see the list of endorsements garnered in these campaigns, to read the text of the measures that just passed, or to contact the committees to get involved in their implementation, check out the web sites: [sensiblesantamonica.org](http://sensiblesantamonica.org), [sensiblesantabarbara.org](http://sensiblesantabarbara.org), and [sensiblesantacruz.org](http://sensiblesantacruz.org).

## Prop 215 anniversary

Continued from page 1

which Federal courts ruled is a matter of free speech under the *Conant* decision.

The election victory led to a series of other state voter initiatives with similar but more restrictive language than Prop 215.

Meanwhile, state law enforcement made it a point to continue to arrest and prosecute patients and caregivers. One of the first battleground counties was Sonoma. In two high-profile cases there, patient Alan MacFarlane and caregivers Ken Hayes and Mike Foley were acquitted. Hallinan testified that Hayes and Foley were doing a public service by providing cannabis to a San Francisco dispensary.

This outcome led to the adoption of the Sonoma guidelines that served as the model for the Safe Access Now guidelines, later adopted by Santa Cruz and Humboldt county officials, that allow patients to possess half the federal dosage of cannabis, three pounds, and to cultivate 100 square feet of garden canopy.

By using flawed jury instructions based on their self-serving interpretation of the law, plus citing a conflict with the federal drug laws, DAs were able to win a few convictions. First came the Pebbles Trippet case, in which Humboldt prosecutors alleged that the patient had too much marijuana. The Appeals court held otherwise, that Prop 215 did not set a cap and therefore it was up to a judge or jury to determine what is a reasonable amount for any given patient to possess.

Shortly thereafter, Myron Mower, a nearly blind patient, was charged in Tuolumne County with growing more plants than the local government would approve. This case went all the way to the Supreme Court, which held that such arbitrary caps are not binding and could not be imposed on state patients.

A variety of other cases came up. In the Peron decision it was held that a caregiver must be consistent in providing medicine, that simply a casual marijuana sale was not adequate to establish such a relationship.

Seizing on that distinction, a number of cities and counties around the state began to allow the opening of dispensaries, with Oakland being the first City to regulate sales of marijuana via an ordinance.

With the 2003 passage of Senate Bill 420, by Senator John Vasconcellos and Assemblyman Mark Leno, three issues were resolved. First it created a voluntary state ID card program to protect patients. Second, it set a minimum statewide safe harbor from arrest for patients with up to eight ounces and six mature plants. Thirdly, it created limited immunity for patients from prosecution from cannabis sales, cultivation, and maintaining a place where cannabis is grown or sold.

Now the Urziceanu and Mentch Appellate rulings have strengthened that hand, and 23 cities and eight counties have licensed dispensaries. Each new generation of activists builds on the success of what has been before. This is the legacy of Proposition 215.

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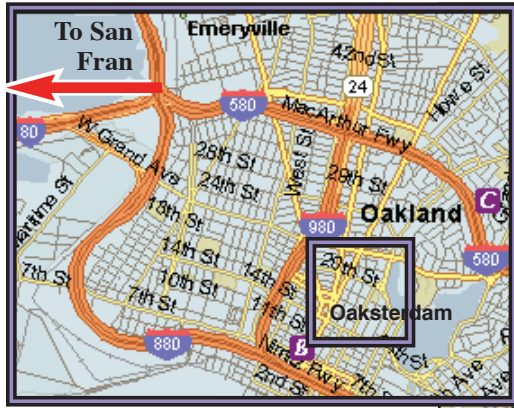
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Visitor's guide map  
**Oaksterdam**

Oakland, California USA

**A brief history of the 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 Coop 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 cannabis ID cards and operating a hemp store, moving to 1733 Broadway in 1999, 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, eight cannabis

dispensaries 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 dispensaries opened across California.

**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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