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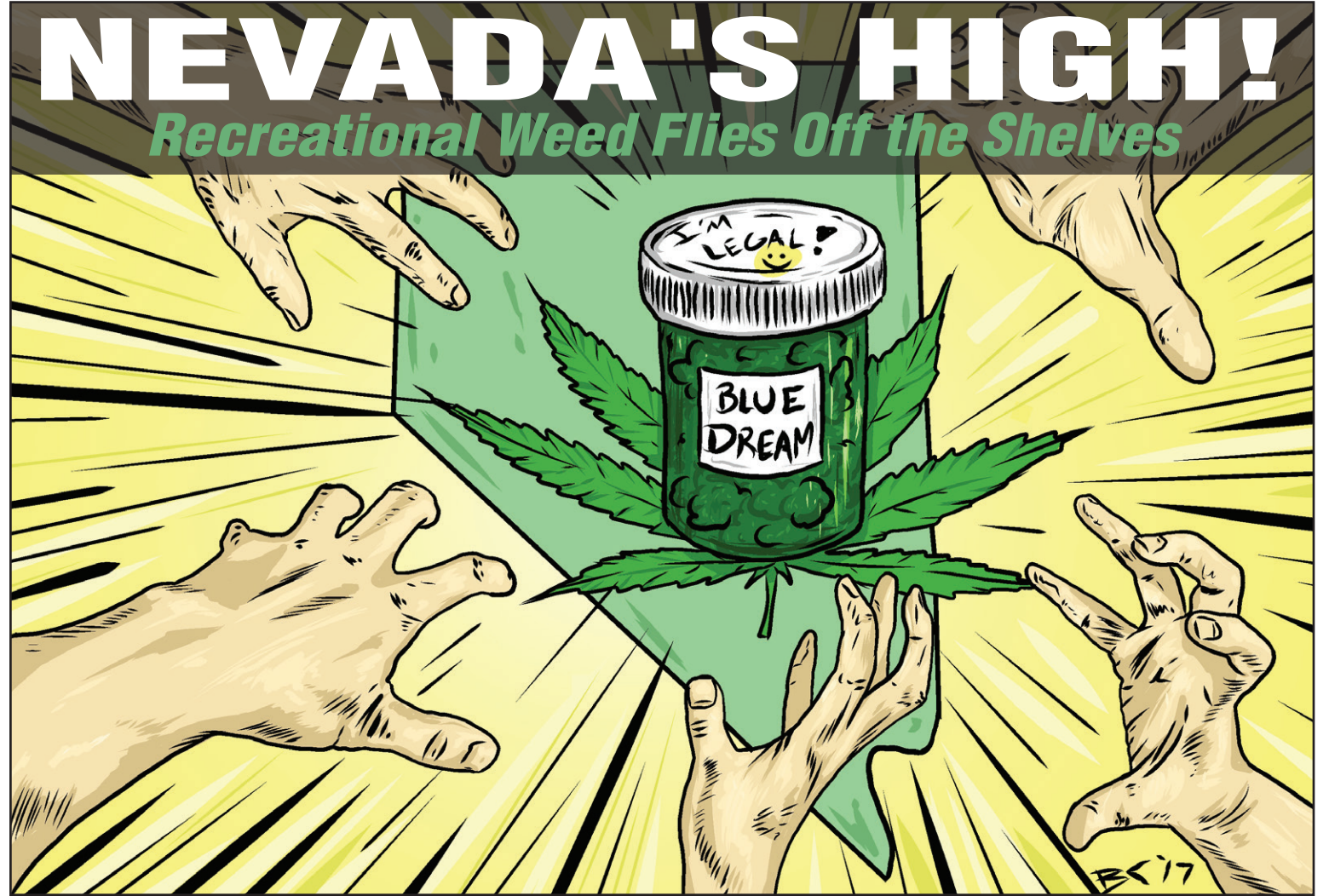
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By Kathleen McLean

FB: @kathleenmclean

Nevada was covering headlines for the opening for sales for recreational cannabis, but the state ran out of weed as early as July 1st. In the first four days of being legal, Nevada generated \$3 million in sales and about \$500,000 in tax revenue. In under two weeks, the Governor Brian Sandoval has endorsed the Department of Taxation's Statement of Emergency, which would allow Nevada to

adopt temporary regulations regarding the licensing of marijuana distributors. This leaves many people questioning why running out of weed would be considered a state of emergency. According to Mari St. Martin, communications director for Sandoval, the governor has endorsed statements of emergency in the past. She was quoted as saying "The adoption of an emergency regulation is not uncommon and is used in narrow circumstances that allow for a prompt response to a temporary situation."

Currently, the only entities selling cannabis in Nevada are liquor wholesalers, if there are enough votes on a temporary regulation, dispensaries could become eligible for distribution licenses. If this happens, it appears the weed shortage will be rectified.

This is not the first instance of a state opening the doors to legal recreational marijuana running out of product. In 2014, when Colorado opened its doors to the recreational user, they also had a shortage. There was a point when the suppli-

ers were also quickly running out of recreation pot. Slowly but surely the hype tapered off and thank goodness there was enough weed for everyone to enjoy.

California growers need to get ready for the influx of upcoming sales. We are a larger state than both Nevada and Colorado. We recreational users will be holding our suppliers to a higher standard. We expect only the best and plenty of it.

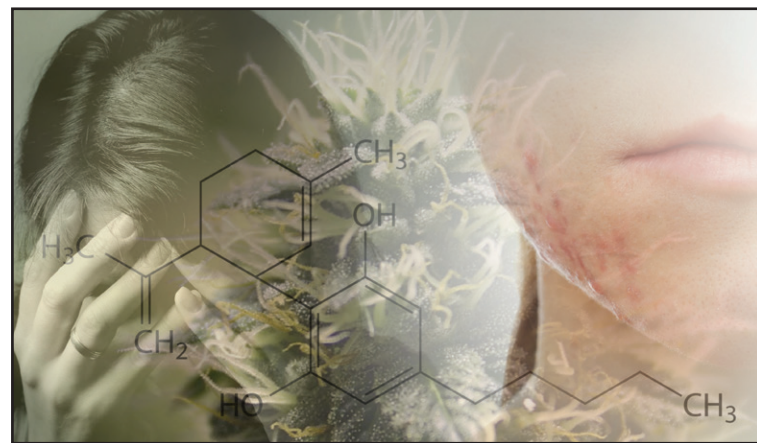


Image provided by Benjie Cooper.

Pimplin' Ain't Easy

By Benjie Cooper

IG: @nuglifeneews

Acne affects an estimated 633 million people worldwide and ranks as the 8th most common disease among humans. Caused by a variety of factors including genetics, hormones, stress, and environmental elements, it's a condition

that is most prevalent during adolescence, but it does affect children and adults as well. While acne is not a life-threatening condition, physical scars, depression, and self-esteem issues are common effects of the skin disease.

People around the world routinely apply medicated creams, take oral antibiotics and hormone drugs, and moderate their diets in hopes of quelling the often numerous red bumps that continue

see page 4 for more...



Reverend Shane Harris Taking Action

Making dispensaries permits available is complex, being that we have not lived in a post-war on drugs society as of yet and ending it is not even on the table, there's a lot of work to be done. This interview with the Rev. Shane Harris, President of the National Action

Network San Diego and a national voice for civil rights as well as an Ordained Baptist Minister gives us a bird's eye view of the advocacy that is needed to give voice and movement to this issue.

CC: Why did you decide to get involved?

SH: I decided to get involved after seeing some disparities regarding people of color not getting San

see page 9 for more...



Image provided by Benjie Cooper.

Medicinal Marijuana Legalized In Greece

By Charles Hartwell

On July 30th, Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras of the Syriza party officially announced the legalization of medicinal marijuana in Greece. Tsipras specified that professionals will be legally allowed to prescribe marijuana to patients who are in need of the plant's health benefits.

"From today, the country turns a page, as Greece is now included in the countries where the granting of medical cannabis for patients in need is legitimate," Tsipras stated in front of the Greek Ministry of Health.

It was also included that marijuana is removed from the Type A drug category in Greece. Type A is the equivalency to the Schedule I category in the United States. This means that the drug has no known medicinal properties

of any kind. Although legal for medical purposes in some states, marijuana is still categorized as a Schedule I drug in America.

The announcement comes about a year after Greek Health Minister Panagiotis Kouroumbilis met with 36 members of the leftist Syriza party. Syriza collected information and statistics from other European Union nations that already legalized medicinal marijuana, to present to the Health Minister Kouroumbilis. It was decided that a team of doctors and researchers would discuss the possibility of medical marijuana uses in the country. Greece is now the sixth country within the European Union to legalize medicinal marijuana, after the Netherlands, Czech Republic, Spain, Finland, and Portugal.

Most will speculate that the country is scrambling to find methods that will help clean up its economy. It is common for suffering countries to mimic successful ones that surround them. Also, Greece has been dealing with harsh financial issues, primarily stemming from the financial crisis of 2007-08. In 2010, it was discovered that affairs with Goldman Sachs left Greece

misreporting financial statistics and hiding debts. Later, in 2015, Greece became the first developed country to be incapable of repaying a loan from the International Monetary Fund. Most recently, in February, the Greek finance ministry reported that the government debt load increased by 2.65 billion euros the previous quarter, now totaling an agonizing debt load of nearly 230 billion euros!

Considering these incidents and hefty bailouts along the way, Greece's debt relief options are becoming severely limited. Without further leniency from Eurozone, the IMF, or even neighboring countries, Greece's resources are only thinning and shriveling dry.

Whether the decision comes from desperation or following by example isn't relevant, however. The value in the legalization of weed in Greece will be determined by a strengthened economy and healthier citizens.



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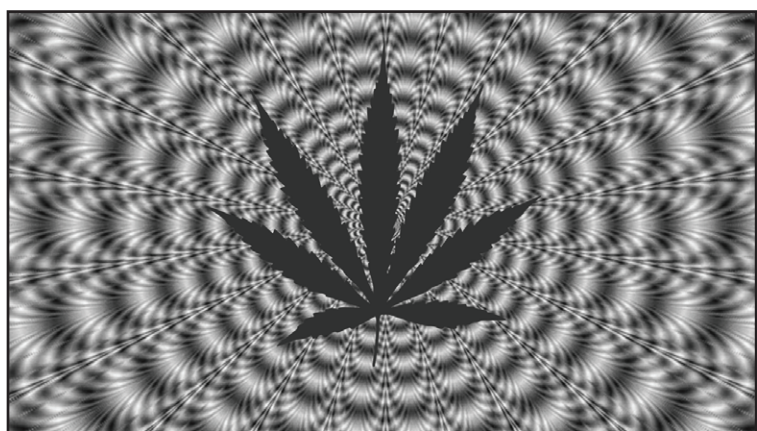


Image provided by Benjie Cooper.

Hallucinations with Cannabis

By Brittany Morgan Williams

I had never thought that I would hallucinate from smoking marijuana. I thought that was strictly for more intense drugs like mushrooms and other psychedelics. But I started my weed experience in the land of green: Humboldt County. Herb there has much higher levels of THC and often CBD; in short, making it very potent.

I had gone over to my friend Sarah's house to smoke out of her new bong and make some munchies.

We had a wonderful time going through several bowls and making naan bread with cheese in the middle. Delish!

Well, when it got to be around midnight, I decide to walk home, just a few blocks away. As I'm walking and looking at the glorious foliage, the trees transform into the trees along the street where I grew up in Redding. I shake my head, and the location and trees morph back into the ones of Arcata. This happened two more times on my walk home, each time I 100% believed that I was in Redding as well as Arcata. I've never tried that strain since, mostly because I would like to keep my sanity.

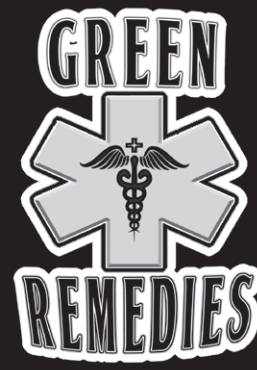
Later I learned that the batch that I had smoked from had interacted with the blood thinners and painkillers that I was still on from a car crash I had been in the year before. I even considered that Sarah's weed was laced with something, but we knew the grower, and she always bought from him.

Several studies (unfortunately primarily done on men) have indicated a slightly lower sense of perception when smoking marijuana. Although, the difference is so slight that this could be just natural variations.

So, be safe with your cannabis folks! There's always a chance that you could have a bad reaction to that specific strain or it's laced with something which, (thank goodness), is not such a worrisome thing now that so many states are legalizing and testing their marijuana before selling it.



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Is the Talk of Banking Marijuana Money Becoming Legal True or False?

By Warren Pulley,
VP Project 7 Security Group

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Recently my clients have begun to ask me to research and inquire about the possibility of the “Cannabis Banking Working Group,” establishing a legal way for MJJ retailers in California to sell marijuana and CBD associated products, then take those proceeds and deposit them directly into the normal FDIC insured banking system.

Now while having access to the wider banking systems for legiti-

mate, legally licensed establishments of all kinds is most certainly the best outcome, the MJJ industry unlike most is actually the market best suited for the type of regulator scrutiny the banking industry could provide. In addition to providing the marijuana industry with the legal means to conduct all types of business transactions, wider access to banking processes would also ensure that this booming business can establish trace and track methods. Trace and track methods are needed in this industry to ensure efficiency not only from a seed to sale standpoint but also from a public safety perspective by taking the enormous risk of an all cash operating businesses become a persistent target of criminal elements.

At the end of the day, public safety is better served by having a well-regulated MJJ business environment. If the State of California wants to cash in on soon to be very large tax windfall, then it should look to engage the Federal Government at the State level on legal ways to have proceeds of these establishments provided with some legal mechanism to de-

posit these monies sooner rather than later. The “Mildew Money” sitting off of the books doesn’t help anyone’s bottom line.

So in taking a look at the “Cannabis Banking Working Group,” I was impressed. It is a panel of very distinguished members of the State of California Legislature, Financial Executives, Risk Compliance Managers, and various Marijuana Business Regulatory individuals. They are in the very real business of finding a way to solve the problem of MJJ businesses remaining outside the full regulatory system and seeking common sense solutions to address the State and Federal conflict over the use and possession of Marijuana which still remains a Federal Crime.

People such as Dana Rohrabacher, U.S. Representative, and State of California Treasurer John Chiang are leading the effort to assist California and its marijuana industry. The aim is for businesses to become fully legal and compliant. However, it should be noted that Trump Administration, led by his Department of Justice are signaling their intent to have

marijuana remain a Schedule I drug under the Controlled Substance Act. Keeping marijuana as a Schedule I drug voids any real efforts to bring State of California’s regulated marijuana business into the wider legal, regulatory environment.

Let’s dispel some rumors:

1. The Cole Memo only states that the “Federal Government wasn’t going to come after” States that allowed some form of legal cannabis use. It does not in any way endorse the growing, selling, possession or use of marijuana by any person within the United States. It is not a tacit license to grow, sell, or distribute marijuana by the Federal Government in any form. Businesses should not seek the Cole Memo as a benchmark for how the Federal Government will proceed in the future with drug enforcement efforts. The Obama administration was lax on enforcement, don’t expect the Trump administration to continue this reasoning.

2. There is no legal way for marijuana retailers to use the FDIC insured banking system to bank proceeds from the sale of marijuana. Although you will still pay your taxes to the State of California, the Federal Government will and has shown it will pursue Lawyers, Electronic Bank Transfers System operators and off markets money

changers involved in the movement of cash proceeds through ad-hoc banking systems.

It is still my belief that for the foreseeable future, the best way to deal with the current regulatory environment is to build or contract out with cash vault operators, who have the ability to keep your cash under armed guard 24/7, in environmentally controlled and security monitored locations. It is also in the best interest of your bottom line to align your company with security firms that understand the regulatory environment and that are in State of California compliance to conduct security operations within the State of California.

Project 7 Security Group recommends that cannabis entrepreneurs select professional security services to protect dispensaries, grow operations, cash storage, currency transport, and fixed site operations. If you would like information on how Project 7 Security Group protects your cannabis business and profits, call us at (800) 560-3103, visit www.project7security.com or email me directly at wp@project7security-group.com.



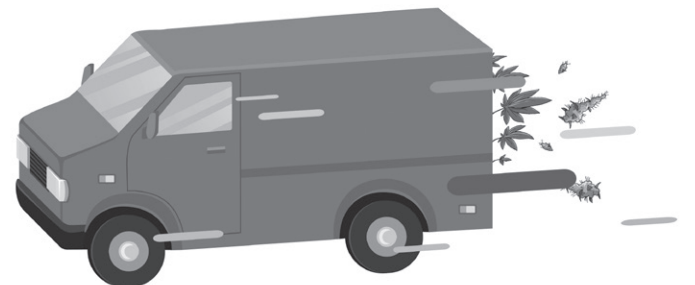
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...continued from page 1

to manifest across their skin. There is some definite success that some who experience positive outcomes can claim with the use of modern acne treatments, but results can vary, and current remedies can come with side effects like dry and peeling skin, inflammation of the whites of the eyes, dizziness, and joint and back pain. The vitamin A-derived drug Accutane has even been linked to congenital disabilities.

On July 3, Australian clinical stage medical dermatology company, Botanix Pharmaceuticals announced the successful completion of its open-label Phase 1 study of its lead acne program; BTX 1503. The objective of the trial was to “determine the safety, tolerability, and pharmacokinetics (PK) of a single dose and 14 days of treatment with BTX 1503 in healthy volunteers.” In short, they wanted to find out what quantity of the product people could safely take.

Botanix initially announced the trial's commencement on May 8. In a press release, Executive Director Matt Callahan stated that “This first study is designed to provide safety, dosing and pharmacokinetic data for BTX 1503... This study will also form the basis for our planned dermatitis program, which we expect to accelerate into the clinic later this year...”

BTX 1503 is a synthetic cannabidiol (CBD) product that Botanix is developing to reduce oil (sebum) production in the skin and reduce inflammation and bacterial infection. The solution is administered via Botanix's recently-licensed skin delivery technology called Permetrex which is designed to deliver the compound into the proper layer of skin where it stays.

Botanix Executive Director, Matt Callahan says that “Our use of synthetic cannabidiol substantially increases the likelihood that Botanic products can satisfy the stringent FDA requirements for purity and consistency and avoids the risks associated with natural, extract-based products...just like the earliest forms of Aspirin were extracted from the bark of the willow tree, today we wouldn't think of using a natural extract when we can chemically synthesize pure aspirin at industrial scale for pain relief. The use of cannabidiol for pharmaceutical treatments needs to go the same way, and Botanix is leading that development with our skin disease products.”

At each session during the trial, the study's twenty volunteers were monitored for signs of dryness, burning/stinging, irritant/allergic

contact dermatitis, scaling, dryness, and erythema (redness). After all of the volunteers completed the single, multiple, and rising dose stages of the trial, Botanix announced that there were a few incidents of mild side effects, of which, the most common was a slight dryness of the skin which the company says is consistent with how BTW 1503 works. The company is currently preparing to submit an ethics application to conduct a new pilot CBD study which will include the Phase 1 data.

But even as Botanix is pursuing a new acne remedy using a synthesized cannabinoid, the idea of using natural CBD to combat the skin condition is not a new one. In 2009, Professor and Chair of the Department of Immunology at the University of Debrecen in Hungary, Dr. Tamás Bíró conducted research using cannabidiol due to its legality and availability in the country. Because CBD is non-psychoactive, it is not banned under Hungarian law.

Sebaceous glands in the skin secrete an oily lipid called sebum which serves to help waterproof the skin, but when the glands produce too much, acne is the result.

Sebaceous glands (sebocytes), surface keratinocytes (outer skin cell type), and hair follicles all have endocannabinoid receptors, but Bíró discovered that CBD works through ion channels on sebocytes. Bíró applied CBD in a methanol-ethanol solution to cells that had been treated with the endocannabinoid, anandamide (the human body's version of THC) and found that it inhibited lipid production, even though he and his associates thought that it would do the opposite and increase it.

Vitamin A derivatives like Accutane inhibit the production of sebum by killing the sebaceous glands which in turn creates dry skin and causes itching. Bíró and his colleagues demonstrated that with the application of cannabidiol, it suppressed lipid production without destroying the integrity of the cells or their ability to operate normally.

Cannabidiol is showing promise as a treatment for acne in both synthetic and natural forms. Given that many people routinely use CBD as an aid for anxiety and depression, it appears the cannabinoid can not only help treat physical scars caused by acne but the mental ones as well.



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Image provided by Benjie Cooper.

Laughter Is The Best With Medicine

By Benjie Cooper

IG: @nuglifenews

Together with the event's host, Medicinal Mike, Las Vegas promoter, Jack Slammy kicked off the latest in a series of comedy and cannabis entertainment shows on July 7 called the Comedy Sesh. Medi Mike and Slammy have worked together before on local wrestling shows and the ongoing LAFFter Hours comedy series but thanks to the recent legalization of recreational cannabis in the state of Nevada, the creation of a show designed to bring two things that make people laugh, jokes and getting high, was only bound to happen.

The third installment of the location-shifting comedy series began as the sun set on a Friday where temperatures in the area reached 115 degrees and only showed signs of cooling slightly as the night wore on. Attendees of the show might have been spared some of the heat that evening had the event been inside the comfortable confines of an air-conditioned club, but that was not where the Comedy Sesh took place this time. The show took place in the backyard of a private, residence-based venue, complete with horses, bar, outdoor lounges, curtained stage, and a swimming pool.

DJ Outlandish One entertained the crowd from the stage as the in-

timate crowd shuffled in through the early evening, ordered up drinks from the backyard bar, and socialized. Wing King Infuzed and other vendors were on hand for the event, serving up cannabis syrups, Patience CBD drinks, and other edible products.

Some people cooled off in the pool while others settled in at the tables with their drinks, dabs, joints, and other cannabis products. Host Medi Mike started the evening off with a series of interactive segments including cannabis trivia and the 420 Dating Game where contestants competed for free cannabis and the hearts of fellow marijuana enthusiasts.

When Medi Mike finished up with the audience participation games and after the joints distributed to the crowd, the first comedian of the night, John Gilligan took to the stage. Gilligan explained that the clipboard of jokes that he brought with him, which was a running joke throughout his set, was due to a real-life heart attack that he suffered after taking the drug Chantix to stop smoking. The cardiac arrest that he suffered resulted in brain damage and Parkinson's Disease-like symptoms. Gilligan keeps the clipboard with him onstage to help guide him through his set and integrates it into his brand of humor. After a golfing joke had fallen flat with the crowd, John crossed it off his list, laughing “...no don't use that one, that's ****ing stupid!”

David Burger, Bruce Jingles, Boss, Alex Anza, and the soft-spoken Tronald Trump each took their turns at the microphone before the evening's headliner, Brandt Tobler came to the stage to de-

liver his set. The Vegas club favorite gained notoriety in the scene years ago after hosting a series of comedy shows in his own backyard that featured well-known comedians in the industry. At one point during Brandt's routine, much to the comic's surprised and baffled amusement, the venue's owner came up to announce that he had \$2 cheeseburgers for anyone who was hungry after the show. After getting the microphone back, Tobler scratched his head and laughed “Well, in that case, I'll probably wrap it up. I would rather have a two dollar cheeseburger than listen to me.”

After the evening's roster of comics concluded their performances, and as the Comedy Sesh began to wind down, the owner came back up to the stage to announce that the cheeseburgers would be free to anyone who wanted them. Munchies are an inevitability after a night of cannabis consumption, and the hungry patrons were only happy to accept the host's generous offer of free burgers as well as the pizza that Jack Slammy bought for everyone earlier.

Comedy and cannabis are great on their own, but they're fantastic as a combination. And thanks to the collective voices of the Nevada residents, both can be enjoyed together by responsible adults. With three Comedy Seshes having taken place this year already, we can likely expect to see the next one happen sometime soon.



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Image provided by Maggie McCutcheon.

Legalization in Canada

By Maggie McCutcheon

IG: @magininka

Toronto, Canada

For a while now, the busier streets of Canada's major cities have played host to a constantly changing cast of cannabis dispensaries. Despite their proclivity for opening and closing suddenly, one might believe medical — or even recreational — use of marijuana and its various by-products is legal in pot-loving Canada. Think again. Since Justin Trudeau's election in 2015, interested parties have been waiting with bated breath to see if this young politician will follow through on his most popular campaign promise. But we're all thinking it: will legalization come like the support for our indigenous communities — slowly and riddled with caveats?

The latest from Trudeau is a promise of legalization by July 1, 2018. Under this new law, Canadian individuals can possess up to 30 grams of dried marijuana and can cultivate up to four plants per residence. The punishments currently familiar to Canadians are to be replaced with harsh legislation aimed at protecting youths: providing marijuana to a minor is going to be punishable by up to 14 years in jail. However, provinces are struggling to agree on policy, pleading for Ottawa to extend this deadline and to foot the transition's start-up bills. Although Federal Finance Minister Bill Morneau insists Ottawa is firm on this deadline, the proof will be in the eagerly-devoured pudding.

In 2003, Canadian citizens basked in the glory of a week-long decriminalization, but it was quickly removed and criticized globally for defying efforts to fight drug-related crime. Since then, it seems Canadians everywhere stopped caring about its illegality and continued on their merry, red-eyed way. If many can attest to the fact that violation of the current possession laws is rarely punished harshly (if at all), what is preventing the laws from catching up with public opinion?

Though provinces are working to prepare for this new shift in legislation — agreeing on regulation concerns like a legal age, enforcement techniques, public education, advertisement policy, and other inspired reams of paperwork — they remain querulous. Ottawa is pushing for lower taxes

to encourage legal consumption, but Ministers worry if it will generate enough revenue to cover the transition-related administration expenses, despite the elevated cost of the current prohibition model. This July 1 promise isn't a guarantee either. There remain issues in the orbit of legalization that could delay the passing of this proposed bill indefinitely.

Obviously, driving while impaired is and will continue to remain illegal into the foreseeable future. But the market still lacks an adequate way of measuring and enforcing THC exposure. Unlike alcohol, which is easily measured by a Breathalyzer test, THC remains in the system for possibly weeks. Without a standard method to definitively prove someone is impaired on the side of the road, it becomes difficult to enforce. The public's favourite case-study, Colorado, responded to this concern in the spring by rolling out an oral-swab program. The machines test for the presence of seven drugs but cannot determine the level of intoxication.

The problems following Colorado's move to legalize can be educational for other countries looking to do the same. For instance, since their decision to legalize, health care providers have noted higher numbers of babies being born with marijuana in their system. This could be due to a growing trend of women using THC-vacant marijuana strains as a last resort treatment for rare cases of extreme morning sickness (known as hyperemesis gravidarum). But a good education program would help to evade more malignant instances of prenatal consumption. Many widely accessible and legal products and substances are not suitable for use during pregnancy and come with appropriate warnings.

While the federal, provincial, and municipal governments set out to navigate the seas of legal weed, the chances of a privately owned dispensary staying operational under a public system are low. These dispensaries are operating in the pain-to-enforce gap created by the looming promise of pot legalization. Enforcement and raids are conducted at the municipal level where governments just haven't had the chance to develop by-laws, especially as they anticipate possible legalization.

Masquerading as clinics and compassion centres, these businesses have opened up in droves and with record highs in 2016. This boom was followed by an increase in police raids, but many of the

businesses stubbornly kept their doors open. The sign-up procedure differs: sometimes they request a doctor's note, sometimes the customer is put on camera with a vaguely licensed professional, and sometimes you just have to provide identification. Legally speaking, however, it makes little to no difference. Not one of these companies, or the farms their products come from, is an official Authorized Licensed Producer. Raids do happen and can yield real consequences despite how comfortable everyone seems to feel in dispensaries.

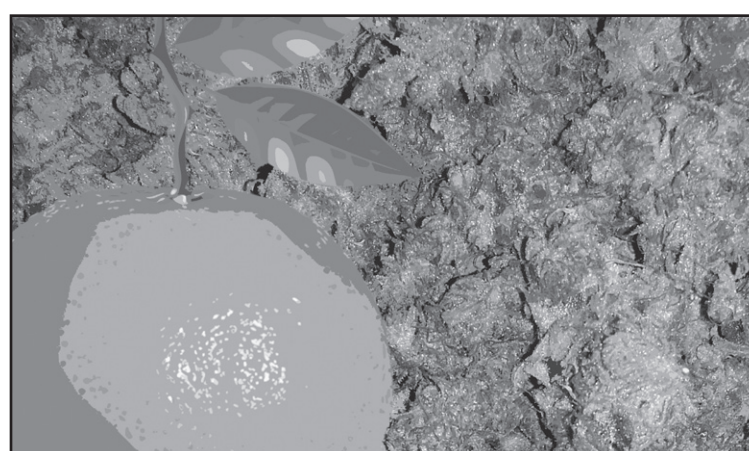
A Schedule II drug, cannabis and all its by-products (including CBD, seeds, and synthetic compounds as well) are illegal to possess, to seek to obtain, or to seek authorization to obtain, in Canada. If you're caught in possession of up to 30 grams of marijuana, you can be subject to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars and imprisonment not exceeding six months for a first offense and double this for subsequent trespasses.

While Canadians patiently wait to see if Trudeau will actually follow through on this promise, it is important for consumers to remember the current laws are still in place and are enforceable — even if you don't agree with them. Consumers, staff, and business owners alike are all at risk of being subject to the law and its enforcers by showing up to a dispensary.

Know your rights and understand the law.



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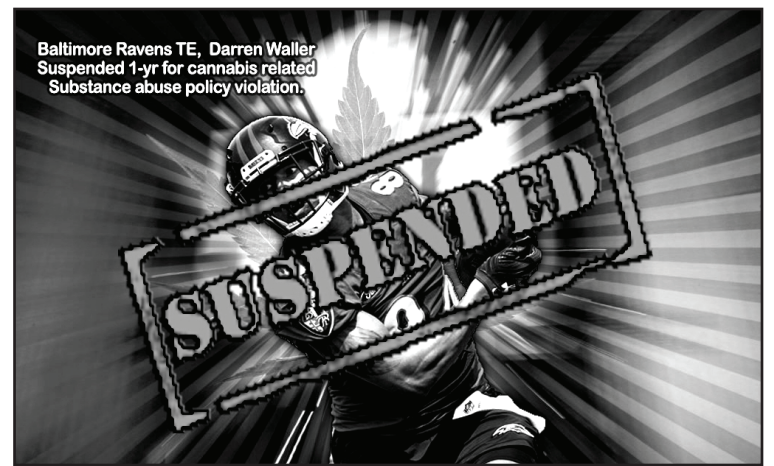


Tangie Review

By Penny Hayes

This month's review is an especially tasty treat that fell into my lap by virtue of contacting my dealer at precisely the right time. My dealer is johnny-on-the-spot, a knowledgeable go-getter with an expanding business; he's polite, charming, and drives a big, black truck. What more could you ask for in a dealer?

I texted him, and within minutes I learned that it was my lucky day. Sometimes timing is everything. He had one more ounce of this kill-



Baltimore Ravens TE, Darren Waller
Suspended 1-yr for cannabis related
Substance abuse policy violation.

Image provided by Benjie Garcia-Reyes.

NFL Suspends Darren Waller for 2017 Season

By Benjie Garcia-Reyes

IG: @themedimexican

The count now stands at four, for NFL players suspended this off-season for violations of NFL's substance abuse policy, all believed to be cannabis related. Baltimore Raven's tight end Darren Waller, who was suspended last season for four games, is the latest player to be suspended for the entire 2017 Season.

The suspension could not come at a worse time for the talented 24-year-old Waller, a 6-foot-8, 255-pounder from Georgia Tech, a former sixth-round pick, who was expected to play a major role in an already depleted tight ends position. Waller can be part training camp and workouts, but will not be allowed to work with the team or at team facilities during his one-year, unpaid suspension.

After his 2016, 4-game cannabis

related suspension, he caught ten passes for 85 yards and two touchdowns. He might not have the same luck or opportunity again after being out of the game for one year. Not to mention limited game experience as a tight end, since in college he was a wide receiver. He converted to a tight end when drafted because of his size and receiving combination. His limited tight end game time is one thing he could have capitalized on since his main competition is coming back from torn ACL, hip, and knee surgeries.

Three other players with similar substance abuse policy violations were Dallas Cowboys Defensive End Randy Gregory (suspended for one year), free agent safety T.J. McDonald (suspended for the first eight games), and free agent cornerback Justin Gilbert (suspended for the first four games), all for alleged cannabis use. While there are another six who are suspended for PEDs (performance enhancements drugs), some, if not all, face similar fines and suspensions.



For more information on the article and author, view it on our website by scanning the QR Code.

me two Ziplocs, one with the name Wifi OG neatly sharpied on it, the other was Tangie. I stuck my face in the Tangie bag, closed my eyes and inhaled deeply, as he explained how he came about having Tangie. He had made a connection in Amsterdam and was working out a trade for services. If I told you more, I'd have to kill you. The aroma of Tangie nearly made my eyes cross; the mini candy bar sized buds were super red, crystallized and sticky. As always, I pestered my guy with questions about the industry. I grew up in Arcata, and feel like it's hard to stay current, times are changing quickly. More on that later.

After doing business and a few more pleasantries, I took the leap of death from the GBT, vainly trying to give the appearance of grace. I failed. It didn't matter. I was on my way to Tangieland.

I showed up at home, and my roommate was more than ready. We headed out to the smoking room, to indulge in the latest offering. I ground up a small amount of flower, the waft of Juicyfruit and fresh citrus was heady. We

Image provided by @nuglifeneews.

er strain whose genetics hailed from Amsterdam. He didn't often have this particular strain at such high quality. The price was steep, but he could give me a deal on the other ounce I had requested, to make up the difference. Have I mentioned how much I love my dealer?

We met in the grocery store parking lot that had come to be our "regular spot." That regular spot has since backfired horribly on me; it will never be our spot again. But that's another story.

I climbed into the giant, black truck (GBT) and turned to greet the man I have come to depend on for quality meds. He handed

see page 7 for more...



Photo provided by Matthew Lopez.

Papa & Barkley

By Matthew Lopez

Cannabis infused topical products have become valuable options for patients seeking therapeutic relief from a variety of ailments and afflictions. From minor burns and sprains to major aches and pains, indeed, the cannabis industry has given birth to many great companies providing an extensive variety of effective products to choose from.

This time around, we had the opportunity of speaking with the people at Papa & Barkley, a California-based company that has been producing cannabis infused topicals since July 2016. What began as an effort to provide basic relief has quickly evolved into a sophisticated line of available products, each one carrying unique properties to enhance therapeutic experience and effectiveness.

Beginning with their original Releaf™ Balm which is available in either a 3:1 or 1:3 THC: CBD ratio. Each formula is offered in two sizes (15 and 50 mL) and ranges in total cannabinoid content from 135 mg to over 600 mg per jar. If a nice hot soak/bath is in order, one can find relaxation in the form of P&B's Releaf™ Soak which is made with mineral salts from Israel's Dead Sea and infused with 200mg of cannabinoids in the fa-

miliar 3:1 THC: CBD ratio. P&B's Releaf™ Body Oil is a great option for massage therapy and also contains a 3:1 THC: CBD ratio totaling over 400mg total cannabinoids per 60ml bottle).

For those seeking a little extra benefit from P&B's products, two more options are available to work with. P&B's Transdermal Releaf™ Patch is available in a variety of different ratios (formulations include: 3:1, 1:1, 1:3 and CBD only). All options offer 30mg total cannabinoid content and provide 12 hours of relief by way of a slow release formula. P&B also produces an artisanal tincture mixture for those in need of a consumable product. Available in either 3:1 or 1:30 THC: CBD ratios, both contain over 900mg of cannabinoid content per 30ml bottle.

We spoke with the people at Papa and Barkley to get a better understanding of their company and products.

What first inspired the creation of P&B products?

"It began with our pain balm which our founder produced as a treatment for his father who'd dealt with painful spinal curvature (scoliosis) up into his 90's. Conventional methods were not providing enough relief, and this eventually led him to be placed on hospice. Like many who are drawn to the industry, the use of cannabis was an effort to help a dear family member, and with

research and experimentation, a useable product was produced and improved upon, eventually leading to his father's rehabilitation and the eventual creation of the Papa & Barkley brand."

What would you say separates P&B products from other common cannabis topical products?

"First, we use a proprietary coconut oil soaking method to extract the full range of cannabinoids from the starting material without the need for additional chemical solvents. Second, P&B products contain an extremely rich concentration of cannabinoids compared to many of our competitors. Since cannabis topicals are applied to the skin and not consumed internally, we feel they require these richer quantities to provide the most effective and satisfactory experience."

Is there anything you'd like to say to our readers?

"Our mission is to help unlock the full potential of cannabis to improve people's lives. We have a serious commitment to excellence, and we'd like to encourage continuing education as the industry evolves. We'd also like to thank all our friends and patients who've continued to support us."

We'd like to thank the people at Papa & Barkley for taking the time to chat with us about their products. For more information, you can check out their website at papaandbarkley.com.



For more information on the article and author, view it on our website by scanning the QR Code.

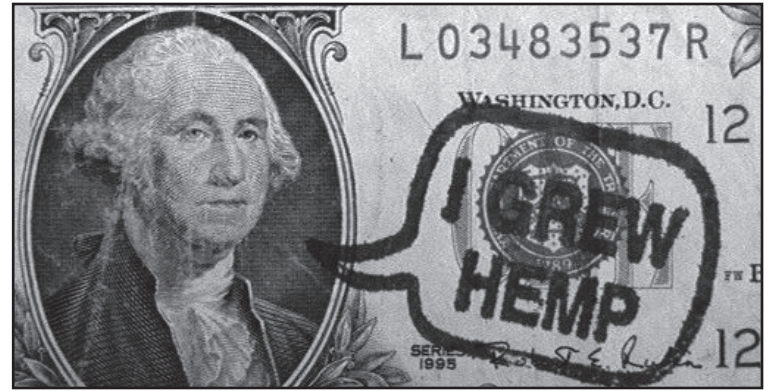


Image provided by Darlene Mea, George Washington grew hemp!

Epic Hemp

By Darlene Mea

CEO & Founder of HempingtonPost.com

IG: [@hempingtonpost](https://www.instagram.com/hempingtonpost)

Welcome to the world of HEMP, America's next epic revolution. Yep, Hemp is coming back by popular demand as 'we the people' realize the power generation of this multi-billion dollar industry. It's time to get some facts straight, so we can innovate, educate and cultivate each other with this re-emerging cannabis hemp world, and welcome it back into our reality and our society! **Let's explore why...**

There are 12,000+ years of recorded history beginning in China documenting cannabis as the strongest fiber available with multi-versatile uses and most important, was the medicinal herb of choice

The disappearance of the cannabis plant happened in America in the early '30's specifically in 1937 with the Refer Madness Propaganda Campaign. This propaganda eventually led to the classification of all cannabis, hemp, and marijuana as a Schedule I Narcotic (like Heroin). The entire propaganda was to ensure NO competition from hemp industry for the paper, plastic, petrochemical, and pharmaceuticals industries. 1937 was the year the first Hemp Decorticator was built to process hemp more effectively. This was when Science America named hemp the next Multi-Billion Dollar Industry. (For more info, read Doug Fines' "Hemp Bound.")

BODY MAJOR! Our bodies have an Endocannabinoid system with receptors for cannabis, go figure, this is huge, who knew, we've been living with their lies! This information has been kept from us since 1937. The Endocannabinoid system is what regulates the balance of our endocrine system – could be why so many hospitals continue to be built!

Hemp is an excellent SUPER FOOD. Hemp is very high in protein with all the essential amino acids needed by our human body. Hemp's Super Food is filled with vitamins, minerals, lecithin, chlorophyll, and good fats. Hemp has at least nine essential amino acids (EAAs) our body cannot produce. Hemp can rebuild our depleted immune system. Hemp is nature's highest botanical source of essential fatty acids with the

perfect 3:1 ratio of Omega-6 Linoleic Acid and Omega 3 Linoleic Acid for cardiovascular health and strengthening of our immune system. Hemp is a superior vegan source of protein as well as a super rich source of phytonutrients.

Hemp products are now available in most health conscious stores across the US, with hemp milk, food, hearts, ski, and hair care. If you want to see more hemp in your supermarkets, ask them for it. If you want to see more American Made Hemp, you can find 'Made in America Trusted HEMP Products at www.HempingtonPost.com.

Hemp is legal in all 50 states for consumption and interstate commerce. Hemp CBDs are the best source of daily food we can give our body. CBDs also promote healing on many levels. For greater healing, our cannabinoid receptors may need to be relaxed wherein the THC in marijuana is very helpful. Take hemp CBD food daily for increased health results; it is best taken before bedtime.

America currently imports over ½ billion dollars a year in hemp products. It is still not legal on a federal level to grow hemp commercially in America. However, there are up to seven states who now study the industrial and commercial framing and use of hemp. Most think it's insane to study a plant that is non-toxic, non-narcotic, used around the world for centuries, however, this is the US Federal way of controlling the dollars until they can carve out their piece of the pie.

Hemp creates non-toxic plastics; cleaner biofuel, safer non-lead paints, tree-free paper. Also, hemp can produce a wide variety of textiles as well as fire retardant Hemp-Crete for new sustainable housing. Supercapacitors can even be created with hemp. And we've only just begun to uncover all the possibilities Hemp can create.

We have a very thirsty American economy. Hemp is a trillion+ dollar industry. Hemp crops can grow in most soils in as little as 12 weeks. Hemp creates a lower carbon footprint. Hemp has something for everybody. Hemp is America's game changer.



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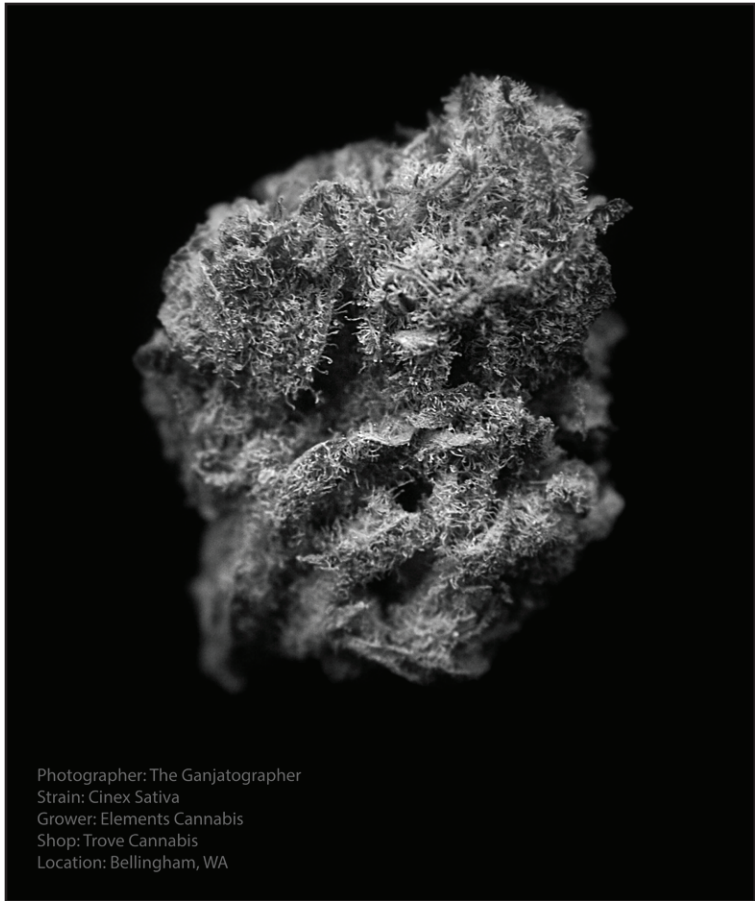
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Photographer: The Ganjatographer
Strain: Cinex Sativa
Grower: Elements Cannabis
Shop: Trove Cannabis
Location: Bellingham, WA

Photo by @ganjatographer.

Cannabis and ADD/ADHD

By Frank G. Shineman

In our interest to provide the most accurate and up-to-date information on this subject, it seemed sensible to give our readers some background on the maladies of ADD/ADHD. Yes, we can readily admit that the aforementioned acronyms and what they represent are fairly well known in the U.S.A. But for clarity's sake, we will provide basic information on what the medical industries define them as. According to The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, ADHD is

typically diagnosed in one of the following three presentations:

- **Combined (Inattentive/Hyperactive/Impulsive)**

- **Inattentive Only (formerly known as attention deficit disorder[ADD])**

- **Hyperactive/Impulsive**

Dr. David Bearman, is a well-known figure in the specialized field of cannabis health research. Dr. Bearman has extensively studied the relationship between the cannabinoid system of the brain and ADHD. One of his most dynamic discoveries was

that cannabis can provide a significant potential for therapeutic value in treating ADHD. His incredible research revealed that cannabinoids (CBD's) have the ability to interact with the brain's dopamine management system. "In fact" Dr. Bearman went on to state, "Cannabis appears to be able to treat ADD/ADHD simply by increasing the availability of dopamine in the sufferer's brain!" This ground-breaking discovery eliminates the necessity of ingesting pharmaceuticals such as Ritalin and Adderall. Experts widely agree that the danger in the use of such pharmaceuticals is that they act by binding to the naturally occurring dopamine. Plus, perhaps even more dangerous for the patient is that those drugs interfere with the metabolic breakdown of the dopamine.

Expressed in the simplest terms, it is now believed more and more that the end is in sight for those suffering the horrors of ADD/ADHD. Of course, we must include, the well documented side effects of commonly prescribed pharmaceuticals. It is believed that this medical marvel can occur because cannabis can correct the dopamine deficiency in the brains of the sufferers. It is in this way that boring tasks become more manageable and mood swings will level out.

There seems to be a growing consensus among doctors and researchers worldwide. That is that about 70 percent of the brain's function is to regulate input to the other 30 percent.

Dr. Bearman expressed it this way: "Basically the brain is over-

whelmed with too much information coming in too fast." In 2015 there was a German scientist, named Dr. Eva Milz who co-authored a very significant study. One of her major conclusions was that standard medications were too demanding on patients. But she went on to say that cannabis brought them control that helped them in life, love, and work without the feeling of intoxication. One student even attributed his cannabis ingestion to being his main source of help in earning his Ph.D. because it improved his concentration so greatly.

Brief facts about a couple of the five cannabis strains most recommended for ADD/ADHD sufferers:

Northern Lights is a famous indica strain that originated in the Pacific Northwest. This inbred Afghani strain has a light and citrusy flavor, while the smoke leaves a delicious pine aftertaste. Northern Lights delivers a euphoric yet relaxed feeling, especially for those who suffer from depression and anxiety as a co-occurring disorder.

Sour Diesel is a popular sativa-dominant strain hybrid whose pungent flowers make for a lemony, skunky and piney smoke. Just a few puffs of Sour Diesel are all you need to get rid of irritability, hyperactivity, and short attention spans.



For more information on the article and author, view it on our website by scanning the QR Code.

Continued from page 5...

have separate bongs, mainly because we both enjoy clutching our bongs as some might do with a cold beer, and to be honest, we both take way too long to take a hit. I inhaled slowly, enjoying the fruity flavor and tangerine end-notes of the lively hit.

"Wow, that tastes amazing," I said as I waited for the first wave to hit me. It never did.

Tangie is not a punch in the face; it's not a heat wave washing over your brain, it's a fog that rolls gently in. It crowds out the anxiety and stress of the day like the Humboldt fog crowding out the sun at the edge of the beach. Only better, much better. It's important to note that it may take up to ten minutes to feel Tangie's full effects. It got me up and energized, with a calm, positive attitude and no lazy inclinations. I did eat a bag of cherries, but I'm not blaming the weed. Cherries are my summer obsession. And now, so is Tangie.

Medicinally recommended for stress and depression, Tangie is tasty, motivating, euphoric and powerful, certainly worth the extra effort to find it, and when you do, you will be happy.



For more information on the article and author, view it on our website by scanning the QR Code.



The Crack Shack highlight: fries!

Not Hooked On The Crack Shack

By Kathleen McLean

FB: @kathleenmclean

Sunday funday, the day I had been looking forward to all week was finally here. I had been seeing the Crack Shack posts for months

on Instagram and my friends, and I decided to celebrate a birthday there.

At first glance, I had thought the long line in front was for take out. Upon entering the establishment, I had realized they had a unique system. The customers immediately get in line to order food off the wall menu, from there you receive a number.

As I got in line with everyone else, I started to panic. What if I

ordered the five piece fried chicken and didn't have a place to sit? Or worse what if there were only seats for two of the four people we were with? This whole situation freaked me out. I decided on the Coop Deville sandwich; I figured if my worst case scenario came true and I was without a seat I could stand and eat a sandwich, which I loathe having to stand up while I eat. My anxiety was warranted, and I would find it hard to believe other people didn't feel the same way. I just wasn't expecting what I got. In my mind, I would be met at the door by a hostess whom would lead my friends and I to a table then we would order our meal. I don't feel this anxiety when I go to a fast food place because I know what to expect. This environment hit me sideways.

Finally, I had reached a threshold of nervousness I hadn't reached since having to walk across a stage to receive my diploma. I couldn't take it anymore. I handed my friend a \$20 told them what I wanted to set out to snag a table for four. It only took a few minutes before I was able to stake my claim. Once seated I started to feel a sense of calm. I decided at that point I needed a drink. But, I couldn't just hop up and go to the bar, what if someone stole my table? Once my friends sat down, I

ordered a Bloody Mary. They had a great picture online, and it was my first drink of the day. It wasn't amazing. It was actually below average. My Bloody Mary looked nothing like the picture online. I've made better at my house.

The staff was super friendly, and once our waiter, if that's what he was, brought our food I was thrilled with the way my sandwich and fries looked. I took my first bite, and it was decent. Meh, ok. Nothing to rave about. Crispy Fried Chicken on El Cajon Blvd has better fried chicken. I'm not saying it was bad, but, it didn't immediately strike me as a place I just HAD to get back to order this sandwich. The french fries, on the other hand, were FANTASTIC! The best fries hands down.

This was not the place I thought it was going to be. I can't say it was horrible or anything because the service was great. However, I don't feel the need ever to go back. I went, I ate, and I'll go somewhere else next Sunday.



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Image provided by @snowleppy.

A Skeptic Sold on the Powers of CBD

By Jayna Anderson

IG: @snowleppy

Jayna interviewed a 50-something woman (who would like to remain anonymous) about her evolving perceptions of cannabis.

Jayna: When was the first time you used cannabis, and in what form?

Anonymous Skeptic: The first time I tried smoking weed was when I was 14. I was feeling peer pressure to smoke, so I tried it. By 15, I was smoking on my own, and at age 16, I was smoking every day. However, I quit smoking completely when I started dating someone who didn't smoke.

JA: As you grew older, did you continue to use cannabis in the way you did at a younger age?

AS: I didn't start to smoke again until I was in my 30's, and then it was just on the weekends to relax a little and have some fun with my friends. I had young kids when I was in my 20's, so I didn't feel like I could smoke until they were a little bit older.

JA: How did smoking marijuana make you feel? Did you like getting high?

AS: If I could relax and giggle, I loved smoking pot. But sometimes it would make me paranoid or anxious. I hate feeling that way, so I didn't smoke unless I was already feeling pretty relaxed. Seems that I didn't smoke that often.

JA: You have three children, all who experimented with marijuana. Did you have negative feelings towards their experiments and usage?

AS: I would get so annoyed when they were teenagers and came home stoned. All three of my children were very smart, and I worried that their new found interest in getting high would affect their desire to participate in academics. I didn't want them to become typical stoners who were more concerned about how they could get some pot and less about studying.

JA: All of your children are adults now, do you still have the same feelings towards marijuana?

AS: As adults, I don't worry so much about their marijuana usage. I like to relax with an edible from time to time, and think everyone should be able to have fun and relax. I don't like the idea of young developing minds using marijuana to get high, but as adults, do what you want.

JA: Do you use any cannabis products?

AS: Yes, I use CBD orally for my arthritis in my hand. I have also used CBD salve and occasionally enjoy an edible.

JA: When did you first notice signs of your arthritis?

AS: About a year and a half ago. I worked in a print shop, and the daily repetitive motion of stuffing envelopes or cutting paper made my arthritis flare up.

JA: How does arthritis affect your day to day?

AS: It was really painful, and could stop me from working as I had to massage the pain out. I would take Ibuprofen, but it's not good to take that every day. And that would dull the constant throbbing pain for just a few shorts hours, making it hard to rely on that for pain management.

JA: Did you think CBD could help your pain?

AS: Honestly, no. I didn't understand how marijuana could reduce my pain without any of psychoactive effects. Now I understand the difference of CBD & THC, and how they affect you differently. But to be honest, I thought I would try it, and it might make me relax, but no way would it reduce my pain.

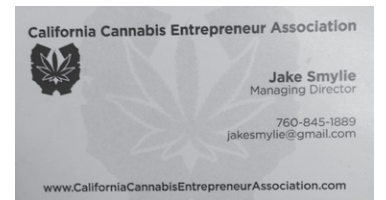
JA: Would you say that CBD oil has positively impacted your life? If so, how?

AS: The first time I tried CBD was in salve form. I rubbed it on my hand, and the pain in my hand was gone. I mean GONE! It was amazing. I decided to try CBD oil under the tongue, and same

thing, no pain! This was the first time I had been completely pain-free in a year. It was amazing. All of the simple tasks I was finding hard to manage with my pain, were simple again. There are no adverse side effects, and it's the best pain management treatment I have tried.



For more information on the article and author, view it on our website by scanning the QR Code.



CBD and bananas, a great combination for feeling great.

CBD and Appetite Loss

By Cara Anderson

IG: @carajojo

CBD has been proven to aid appetite loss. No surprise that the list of ailments found treatable by CBD continues to grow. CBD is found in all cannabis products but for people looking to avoid getting high, you can purchase hemp-derived CBD.

Cannabidiol works to relieve the digestive tract, which in turn increases appetite. This can be beneficial for people undergoing chemotherapy and radiation. People suffering from ailments that cause

loss of appetite like addiction, withdrawal, anxiety, depression, and eating disorders may also benefit from CBD.

Loss of appetite can lead to weight loss, confusion, fatigue, dizziness, and cause you to pass out. If you are suffering from a loss of appetite, try CBD. CBD can be bought online even in non-legalized states because there are companies like Hemp Indica CBD that sell hemp-derived CBD capsules which contain no THC. Otherwise, dispensaries will absolutely have CBD products.



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Photo by @culinaryanarchy.

Ario Vape Review

By Seth MacKenzie

IG: @culinaryanarchy

I wasn't even using the disposable Vape cartridges when I met some of the fine folks from Ario Vape while covering Cannacon. It just so happened that my photographer, X, was a fan. However, he had been complaining about the fact that the battery would often break where the cartridge connects, and that the batteries are unreliable after a week or so.

The Contour 2 by Ario Vape solves both problems while also

being one of the classiest smoking accessories I've ever owned. After a week of using it, it will be part of my daily kit for a while.

I know, it's too good to be true, right? Something reliable yet discreet that does the job and fits perfectly in your hand? Well, so far so good.

When Ario Vape sent my unit, it was a lot smaller and lighter than I remembered. This is a good thing if you plan on keeping it in your pocket all day, as I do. It's not bulky, fits the curve of your hand, and feels natural to use from the first puff.

One of the cool features (that is also a slight drawback) is the magnetic tips that are provided. The tips screw on the bottom of the cartridge, and when you're ready to use, you just slide it in the unit. The magnetic tips are a great feature, but at the same time, it's easy to lose the tips. It's not the end of the world, you get three to start with, plus you can reorder them online directly from Ario Vape.

Yes, it's just a battery, but it's a well-built battery that pays for itself after one use since you don't have to worry about a cartridge

breaking in your pocket. The unit retails for a mere \$25. A new cartridge to replace the one you shattered when you sat down is \$35, plus another new, shitty battery. You do the math.

One of the other great features with this is that the power is adjustable for different oils as well as a preheat function as well. While not critical, this does make it a lot easier to hit on a cold day and shows that the manufacturer put a lot of thought into the needs of the consumers. Regarding battery life, you have to work to drain it, and since it charges on the same micro USB cord that you have sitting next to you, battery life won't be an issue unless you're going on a three-day camping trip, and smoke constantly.

Honestly, it takes all the work out of getting stoned. You don't have to grind or pack or roll anything. There's no mess or fumbling with a lighter or dealing with the wind. The smell is next to nothing and the cartridges pack a pretty heavy punch, even for a daily smoker such as yours truly.

While I will always be a flower smoker at heart, this device saves me a lot of hassle and worry. I take a puff or two, no one

notices or gets offended, and I don't walk into work smelling like weed. But I'm still high as a kite, and it's awesome.

I bet you think it's just a gimmick, or that it will just break after a few weeks. That is not the case. My photographer was so impressed that he bought one at Cannacon 4 months ago and gives it two thumbs up. I used to buy weed from him years ago. If it can last four months with him, it's a well-built machine. The only issue he had was the screw tips, but these are still more of a pro than a con.

If you're looking for a way to get stoned discreetly and reliably, the Contour 2 is a solid investment. I was impressed when I met them and haven't been disappointed in the performance of this or the other products that I've used by them. In closing, I'm giving this a 9.5 out of 10 since it's one of the best-designed products I've had the chance to use and I'm looking forward to seeing what other innovations they have in store for us next.



For more information on the article and author, view it on our website by scanning the QR Code.

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...continued from page 1

Diego city permits. I know that functioning legally is very important in the equity conversation of the industry. I personally feel this isn't a moral issue from the core of beliefs, but I feel that this is an equity issue from the core of rights. So I am involved as a civil rights leader because Blacks and Latinos have been hurt the most by the war on drugs and therefore should be involved in the now equity opportunity and growing industry. At one time there was a gold rush and now here is the green rush. Permits are important because in order to legally function with selling, distributing or farming cannabis you need that permit, and therefore people of color must not be left out. Our communities must educate each other on the opportunity at hand, and I want to make sure we don't get left behind.

CC: Why do you think the Cannabis issue needs a civil activist component?

SH: I think the cannabis issue needs a civil rights component to ensure that the social and political process of the industry in society is transparent and to get ahead of the curve on things like permits that will be at the forefront of who gets in and who isn't in at all. We also must remember that economics is key and our communities have a history of falling behind growing industries and opportunities. We know to shine a light in dark places that aren't getting the coverage or focus, and that is what we intend to do here. Roaches always run when you turn the lights on. There are disparities everywhere and espe-

cially in this growing industry. You can't make money off of us and not involve us in the money making opportunity.

CC: Explain leveling the playing field of the economics of this issue?

SH: Well if permits are not awarded to a diversified platform of business owners in the industry then you cannot even begin to compete. That is why I think it is important that out of the 36 permits for example available currently in the City of San Diego that more people of color get their hands on those permits which allows them to function in the industry more smoothly in regards to cannabis products whether selling, farming or delivering. We also must remember that cannabis includes more than a joint. There are lotion products, hair products, skin cream, relaxers that are made from the plant so there you go. Leveling the playing field starts with educating then taking action and initiative. If people can understand all the opportunities even beside a joint in the industry then maybe they would put their biases aside.

CC: We know Rev. Sharpton has laid the foundation of your organization's position on the Cannabis issue, how does your geographical location being Cannabis being California's largest cash crop; differ from his?

SH: It doesn't differ, but I think the climate in California is different. That's all. It is California's biggest cash crop very true, but again the diversity issue is there. I think if our people of color are

educated on the opportunity, and the industry will focus on diversity then we can do something powerful.

CC: What type of alliance do you think African Americans need to form to get access?

SH: I think African Americans should form some type of PAC. A political action committee would allow those who are involved in the industry that is African American to be able to build a political plan around the industry to ensure equity is transparent in the politics.

CC: Give us a scenario, if you could impress upon the powers that be, what would be your first move and explain why?

SH: I think the powers that be should put together a city plan for diversity. If you only have a certain amount of permits per city, then cities should command a diversified platform with ensuring that everyone has a seat at the table. I think cities could do a little better at having at least an analysis of who is getting the permits on a racial basis at least so that those of us who are on the ground make sure that we get people engaged enough and astute enough to get a permit. I also think the political realm our council members could educate folks a little better on the permit process and try to get people engaged in their district. They could take action and hold for example a "How to get a permit to function legally in the cannabis industry" this kind of education would give people the information they need to get engaged.

CC: Explain Operation 15/36?

SH: Operation 15/36 has begun out of the fact that San Diego has currently 36 permits to awarded to people to sell, distribute or farm. Out of those thirty-six permits, fifteen have been awarded, and out of that fifteen, there is a lack of Blacks and Latinos that continues to occur. The organization I lead National Action Network San Diego began to put together a campaign with cannabis leaders in the industry of San Diego. To call for diversity and transparency downtown in the permit process so that our communities can be educated about the growing industry. Private sector business owners in the industry should hear our concerns around diversity. We are calling for them to play a role in that call. And finally to come out with a PAC minded strategy for African Americans who are in the industry to have some political and social power for our communities to have a fair shot at the business and to hold our elected officials accountable in making the permit process transparent.

CC: How has the cannabis community embraced you and have you found them to be cooperative?

SH: So far I have had a good experience working with leaders I've been exposed to in the industry like Darryl Cotton, Cheryl Morrow, and Chris Williams. I am totally open to meeting other leaders who want to engage in this conversation. Please contact me Reverend Shane Harris at nationalactionnetworksd@gmail.com , Call NAN at 619- 463-0725 ext.

241 and finally visit our website at www.nansd.net to get engaged with all we are getting ready to do around this campaign. Your support and vision is imperative for this to be a success. I also hope that we could get our clergy engaged as well in this conversation to understand the industry side.

CC: Hopefully, we're headed to a post-war on drugs era, how can millennials and Gen Y help bring this forward?

SH: Well I think millennials need to be heard and to have a seat at the table. This industry is growing, and everyone has got to have a slice of pie, but particularly I think the industry and business is the key. The way we reverse the horrible war on drugs history is by making sure we open up the doors and opportunities for those who were criminalized to be at the sparking forefront of the green rush. As I stated before and I'll say it again "I don't smoke weed, but I support equity in the industry. You handed us the felonies now hand over the permits."

Interview is exclusively given to Candid Chronicle 7/12/2017



"a friend in need"
By Sarah Jane

IG: @planetspacequeen
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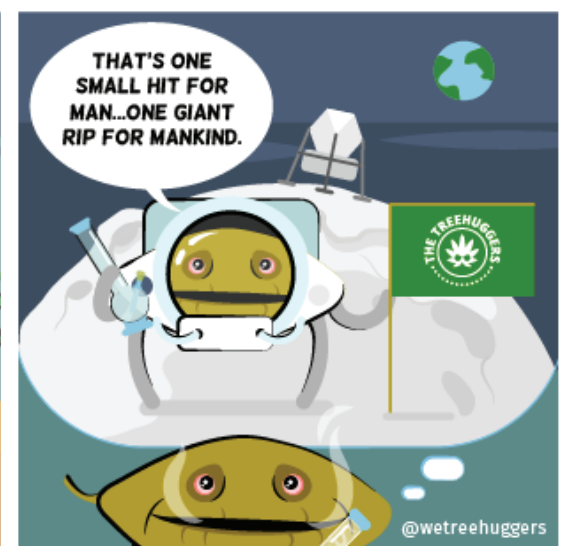
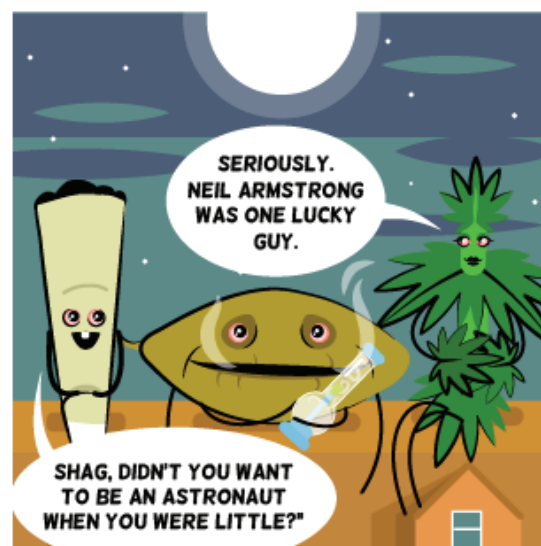
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PATIENCE BY BENJIE COOPER

CREATED BY MIKE BORIS





Coral with her guitar.

Doing Time

By Coral Ceiley

Coral Ceiley is a California resident who was generous enough to share her story with us about living at a grow op, being arrested, and experiencing homelessness. The previous installments of her story can be found on our website.

The woman cop is holding my handcuffed hands as we walk to the patrol car. She says, with a New Zealand accent, "Ms. Ceiley I just want you to know that it's nine in the morning and already you smell like a brewery."

"Huh, I haven't been drinking," I answer, "Maybe it's from last night," I add, trying to be polite.

"Well, I didn't really notice that," the good-looking officer responds

"Oh, apparently my partner likes it," she says. Oh, my God, are these two married? I wonder.

While I sit uncomfortably in the car, the two laugh it up outside and carefully inspect my purse for contraband. Ha, I'm clean, well kind of, I could have used a shower.

We get to the receiving area, basically still in the underground parking area where the cops pull in. At this time my handcuffs are hooked to a metal bar behind the bench, so I can't escape. The good-looking officer is trying to ascertain what my warrants are for. One is for not completing the requirements for my DUI conviction he explains, but he doesn't understand the other one and needs to make a phone call. I'm a little nervous. He tells me to relax; I'll probably be out in a few hours. I hope so, but it's a Friday.

He gets off the phone and doesn't have good news. The second charge is for failing to complete the mandatory forty-eight-hour incarceration, stemming from the same case. He says he's never seen them make this a second charge and admits I'll probably be stay-

ing until Monday when I can see a judge. So, it looks like I'm facing a minimum of three nights in jail.

In the meantime, another cop comes in. He leaves his perp in the parking area because he's got vomit and urine all over him. This officer is so pissed off. He says this is the second time he's picked this guy up drunk. But today he was passed out on the steps of an elementary school; he had pissed himself and was covered in puke. The cop is totally disgusted. At one point Officer Pissed says, "Okay this guy's born in '72 that makes him forty-four, right?"

Officer Good-Looking mumbles, "I don't know. I was never very good at math."

While I'm wondering how many officers it takes to calculate the age of a perp, I'm led away by a woman to be searched and booked. I say goodbye to Officer Good-Looking, who's been a swell guy although he keeps my passport and my bus pass.

I'm placed in a cell with a couple of women. There are no clean sleeping mats or blankets, so I don't hesitate to use the ones that have been abandoned on the floor although this is extremely unsanitary and gross. The jail is always cold, and the only place to sit is on the floor. It is not as clean as the last time I was there with Grace. A young girl named Emily explains that a woman last night was throwing her food everywhere. That explains it.

Emily has been there all night. She is scheduled to see the judge today and is very grouchy. She's only nineteen and has a heroin addiction. Another woman who rants and raves on the phone a lot. Reaches into her bra and says to me, "These people are idiots! Look!" She pulls out individual bags of crack from one side of her bra and a debit card from the other. "They are so fucking stupid!" she adds.

I am impressed. I say, "Damn, girl, that takes balls!" She likes me and isn't going to fuck with me. She turns out to be the only person I've ever seen who can sleep sitting up, not leaning against a wall or anything – just sitting up in the middle of the floor with her eyes half open. I think maybe she's done a lot of time. She gets bailed out, and that leaves just Emily and me. Lunch comes, and it's delicious. I curl up in a corner with my dirty blanket and go to sleep.

I wake up to a correctional officer at the door telling me it's time to do my booking and fingerprint-

ing. So I follow her and listen to her directions. At the time, there's a dude in a cell who keeps repeating over and over to the jail staff: "You're all going down! You're murderers! You're gonna get yours!" in the vilest sounding voice I have ever heard.

I say to the woman, "Is that really a person doing that?" because it sounds so much like a voice out of a Saw III.

She replies, "That's really a person," and smiles, telling the insane man, "Here I am. Better come get me." But he never misses a beat, just keeps repeating the same phrases. I would have lost my mind if I worked there. Now I see why people get beaten half to death in jail cells.

After booking, the woman C.O. places me in a tiny interview closet across from the cell where I had been sleeping. It is about three foot square with an opening for signing papers on the wall facing the office of the jail staff. I can watch them working but am quickly bored. There is no place to sit or lay down. After about an hour, a nice man, the head C.O., asks me if I have a chair, to which I reply, "No."

He turns his head and yells, "Would someone please get her a chair?" Nobody does. There is a narrow metal shelf for signing papers under the window opening. I test it; it holds me. So I sit up there on that metal shelf and try to relax. Since I can reach right into the jail office from there, I help them with some training they are doing on Identikit, a fingerprinting program. So the C.O. accesses the program on his computer, there's a little glass pane that I place my fingertip on, and Bingo I am identified.

We play this game for a couple of hours, and I mention how much I enjoyed lunch, and the head C.O. thinks I'm funny. Then he decides, "We're gonna cut you loose." So he begins to process the paperwork to release me on my own recognition; meanwhile, I go back in the cell with Emily.

Emily is really jonesing for a cigarette now. She is pacing and talking to herself. She is on her way to rehab somewhere near the coast. She explains how she lost her apartment and everything...



To read the rest of "Doing Time," view it on our website by scanning the QR Code.



Image provided by Benjie Cooper.

Chalice In Weederland

By Benjie Cooper

IG: @nuglifewews

The 4th annual mega sesh known as the Chalice Festival blazed into Victorville, California to occupy the San Bernadino County Fairgrounds on a hot July 7-9 weekend. Thousands of cannabis, music, glass, and art enthusiasts flocked to the massive yearly event, also known as the Coachella of Concentrates, for a veritable playground of free dabs, endless rows of marijuana vendors, attractions, glassblowing, and big name music.

To call Chalice a takeover of the fairgrounds would be a pretty accurate statement as everything on the property was renamed for the event. On the official festival map, event buildings, tents, and the walkways in between all bore sponsor names like Dr. Dabber Way, Nectar Stick Crossing, and SC Labs Lane.

In the non-medicating areas of the fairgrounds, festival guests enjoyed food from a wide variety of vendors, including turkey legs and Ben & Jerry's ice cream. In addition to the educational seminars and music stages that were available to those without medicating area wristbands, the Chalice event added attractions for everyone to this year's event. A giant Ferris wheel and a two-drop log ride were in operation throughout the day and night. With the triple-digit summer heat that was bearing down on the event, the Big Splash log ride saw a relatively steady stream of customers looking to cool off.

Glass blowing is an integral part of Chalice and artists come from near and far to showcase their creations and provide live demos. Rows of colorfully intricate and sparkling custom-made pipes, bongs, dab rigs, decorative art pieces and various types of jewelry from a large number of blowers were all on display in the Hitman Glass Village. Tables equipped with torches adorned one end of the village, where a row of skilled glass artists used the searing flames to showcase their abilities.

The medicating areas were primarily confined to the various event halls around the property, although some of the tents were

set up outside on Puffco Passage and Rocca Road. The medicating areas were wonderlands of THC as booth after booth of offered up free dab samples and special festival deals for the eager cannabis patients and marijuana enthusiasts.

Aside from cannabis being one of the major draws behind the festival, Chalice is also known for bringing well-known music acts to its main stage. Wu-Tang Clan, Obie Trice, E-40, Talib Kweli, and The Pharcyde have all performed at the festival in previous years. The 2017 music lineup was just as big and included performances by Cypress Hill, Ice Cube, Berner, and Warren G.

In light of the recent controversy regarding the Del Mar Fairgrounds over the possibility of holding an educational cannabis event (The Goodlife Festival) on the premises, it begs the question; how can a large THC-focused event such as Chalice happen annually at a county fairground without interference from the federal government? It's the quandary that the Del Mar Fairgrounds Board of Directors was facing back in May when they held an open meeting to figure out how to proceed without getting into trouble with Uncle Sam. At the end of the day, they decided to cancel the event until they found a way to hold it without allowing medicating at the fairgrounds. Seeing as this is the third year that Chalice has taken place at the fairgrounds in Victorville, the people running the facilities there seem to know something that they don't in Del Mar. The same could apply to the Sonoma County Fairgrounds which has hosted large cannabis events like Hempcon and the Emerald Cup.

Megaseshes are on the rise and Chalice is firmly establishing itself as a crown jewel in the world of cannabis events. In four years, the festival has quickly grown to be one of the biggest shows in the industry and is definitely the popular spot to be when it comes around. With the California recreational marijuana system gearing up to make its debut in 2018, next year's Chalice Festival has the potential to be the biggest cannabis event the state has ever seen.



For more information on the article and author, view it on our website by scanning the QR Code.

M MODERN
MARTINI



Image provided by Benjie Cooper.

It's Chronic Con Like Donkey Kong

By Benjie Cooper

IG @nuglifeneews

Not all cannabis users read comic books and not all comic book readers use cannabis, but there is a definite crossover between the two groups in pop culture. Kevin Smith characters Bluntman and Chronic are an example of the melding of the two societal segments in popular entertainment. But while there are a lot of comic conventions in the world, and there are a lot of people who like to smoke marijuana, the two don't usually mix in public. At least they didn't use to anyway.

The notion of creating a cannabis-themed comic book convention came about a few years ago when Jaymen Johnson and his friends were attending comic book conventions in Colorado and Arizona and would constantly have to be looking for spots to smoke a bowl. This practice became a tiresome routine after a while, and so the idea of the Chronic Con was born.

The first three Chronic Con events were held in Colorado and in addition to the comic books, cosplay, and celebrity appearances, there were also games featured like Tron-style elimination Frisbee and light saber whiffle ball. The fourth and most recent

installment of the cannabis-and-comics convention series took place on July 8 at the Alexis Park Resort and Event Center in Las Vegas, Nevada.

At the entrance to the resort, music from the Hot 97.5 KVEG tent welcomed Con guests, and a real-life Shaggy manned the Mystery Machine with a stuffed Scooby Doo sitting in the driver's seat. A sinister-looking Umbrella Corporation vehicle from the Resident Evil series was parked next to the cartoon van, but there weren't any zombies in sight, so it appeared that Scooby and the gang had done their job for the day.

A variety of booths were set up inside the first hall, selling a broad range of comic book and cannabis-related merchandise. Stoner Comix, Ganjah Bread Man, Patience, Tales From the Danksyde, and Horde Media's Scrimshaw were among some of the cannabis-themed comics being sold and represented for the event. Weed World Candy, Las Vegas NORML, Crazy Fresh Apparel, and Crazy 420 also had booths with marijuana, and comic book items and clothing on display. 3-D artist, Kid Ever had a table near the entrance of the Con where he was promoting his watercolor artwork of Batman, Spider-Man, and other comic book personalities that jumped to life when the viewer donned a pair of prism glasses.

Celebrity autograph tables lined the outer walls of the main hall where Con guests could purchase photos and other memorabilia

from a variety of film and television personalities. Voice talent Mark Dodson (Return of the Jedi, Gremlins) and actor Felix Villa (Addams Family, Buck Rogers) were present for the day's events. Keith Coogan, (The Fox and the Hound, Adventures in Babysitting) grandson of Hollywood's first child actor, Jackie Coogan, was selling photos from various movies he'd starred in over the years like other celebrities in the hall. But the actor was also selling signed dishtowels and plates with the phrase "DISHES ARE DONE, MAN!" The slogan being a reference to his famous line from Don't Tell Mom the Babysitter's Dead where he skeet shoots some dirty plates from the roof instead of washing them.

The Con held a bevy of raffles throughout the day, and a variety of cannabis and comic book related merchandise made its way into the hands of eager attendees, both costumed and not. As the cosplay contest got underway, guests dressed as Cheech and Chong, Canna-Ivy Bliss (Poison Ivy parody), Red Sonya, and a Dab Dragon, were among the costumed contestants who made their way to the stage to model. The Poison-Ivy-dressed host asked them a variety of questions and ended with an inquiry as to their preference on indica, hybrid, or sativa. The contest took an unexpected twist when one of the contestants, a young man with dark ear-length hair who came to the stage dressed in boots, black jeans, and a sleeveless vest, and proceeded to demonstrate his ability to swallow a sword which he produced

from a cane. Blade inserted, he got down on the stage floor and did a few push-ups before rising to his knees and removing the sword; a dangerous feat which netted him the costume contest's grand prize package.

Later in the evening, a series of comedians came to the stage to entertain the crowd including Bruce Jingles, Kid Ever, and transgender actress Erika Ervin. Actor and voiceover talent Carlos Alazraqui (Reno 911, The Fairly Oddparents, Family Guy) headlined the comedy session. The comic told jokes about family life as well as entertain the fans with some lines as some of his various recognizable voice over characters including Rocko (Rocko's Modern Life) and the Taco Bell Chihuahua.

The night heated up a bit after the comedians left the stage, but it wasn't because of the temperatures outside. The burlesque portion of the evening was beginning, and a series of provocative comic-themed dances were performed onstage for the audience's enjoyment. The ladies began their performances to the song of their choice, but they all concluded to the sound of vigorous applause and cheers from the crowd. Following the racier portion of the night's entertainment, local punk band, Bong took to the stage for a set.

Even though the cannabis and comic book crowds aren't always at the same scene, they do like to get together once in awhile and have a good time. Marijuana consumption was allowed at the event in designated areas, and that alone was a real sign of the times. In a state that used to have some very harsh cannabis laws on the books, the fact that a marijuana and comics event could even happen at a public resort in Las Vegas is a true testament to the power of the vote. With the growing trend of cannabis legalization, expect to see more events like Chronic Con to start popping up in legal states across the country. For information on upcoming Chronic Con events in Nevada and Colorado, visit the official website at sites.google.com/site/chroniccon.



Make a Difference

Kate Adamson, the wife of Seedless Clothing's creator, is suffering from stage 4 stomach cancer. She is a mother of two who has a long road to recovery.

Seedless has played a positive role in the San Diego cannabis scene for years; we believe it's only right to give back to this amazing family.

Kate's family has set up a go fund me to cover the costs of her medical expenses. Anything helps. You can donate to K8 by going to LOVEK8.com or going directly to go fund me and entering "LoveK8" in the search.



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Photo by Lauren Amira.

KARLO

By Nate Whitsell

IG: @SDLovesHipHop

KARLO is purposeful with his. In his world, hip hop is not a luxury. It is a necessity. Hip hop is a tool for survival, in both the inner and outer worlds in which he dwells. Whether KARLO is sorting out his thoughts and emotions or employing methods to cope with those musings and feelings, KARLO is utilizing his craft as a means to an end. While that “end” is yet to be fully defined, the means are: take all that life, as an Afghan, Mexican, American (in a city/country where 2/3 of you is not fully accepted), throws at you. Unravel it through pen strokes on a page, share it as recorded music and live edutainment; and, as a result, grow. Repeat. I was blessed to touch base with KARLO just after his return from performing in New York, and in the middle of the process described above. Take a minute from the hustle and bustle of life, and enjoy a glimpse into KARLO’s past, present and process.

Nate Whitsell: Who is KARLOakakarlo?

KARLO: Karlo is an ethnically mixed individual who is living out his passions in the United States of America using what his Afghan dad and Mexican mom taught him. Spending lots of time at the mosque and just as much time in Tijuana B.C. Mexico. I try to be vocal about the oppressed and try to improve myself daily by learning from the people around me.

NW: Can you tell us a story about how hip hop has changed your life?

KARLO: During high school, after 9/11, I felt a lot of pressure from society and felt I was walking on egg shells. Instead of reacting to the world, I turned to a pen/paper and hip hop. I remember Immortal Technique making me feel sane and grounded with his political perspectives that helped me make sense of these crazy times post 9/11. I also remember writing out all my anger and confusion on to NAS beats. Hip hop was my outlet and the place where my anger towards the unjust world was accepted.

NW: Thank you for that. Can you tell us another story? The story of the moment when you decided that you had to rap.

KARLO: I tell everyone the

same story about being in my bro KILLcREY’s studio with him, and us partaking in some adult activities. We were listening to beats he was going to use for his next album. He stepped out of the room for a minute I began freestyling my thoughts over the beat. I guess I was a bit louder than I thought because he asked me if I normally freestyle like that. I told him normally in the shower or when I am really drunk (yes, I am one of those rappers). We began talking about music, and I explained how rapping has always been something I do, but in private. Chris convinced me to try writing something to a beat – he had to see what I would come up with. After that day, I started putting together my first EP, Sayed Padsha.

NW: So you made the decision to start rapping, and I am sure that you encountered numerous setbacks, as everyone pursuing a passion does. Can you tell us the story of one of those trying moments when you were on the brink of giving up?

KARLO: One thing I have a hard time doing, is leaving home for more than a day. I worry a lot about leaving my wife and my pets. I get severely homesick. I normally retreat and Facetime them constantly when I am in another city. I left on tour for four days once which was very difficult. I am having a hard time thinking about my tour coming up that will be two weeks and hit seven cities. I also have an opportunity to do a tour in Mexico that will be like 2-3 weeks. I seriously go back and forth with my career as more opportunities present themselves with longer times away from home. I value my time with my wife and pets and feel guilty being away from them to fulfill a passion. My wife encourages me to continue my music because, despite missing home, I always come back happy, knowing I am fulfilling a passion I have had since I was a kid.

NW: While struggling to find a balance between home life and art, I am sure there have been some pretty amazing moments that keep you in that beautiful tension. Can you tell us about a high point in your journey?

KARLO: One of my high points was my performance in San Francisco. I was worried I wouldn’t be able to pull my weight as an artist. When I showed up, I saw about 25 people I knew who went to see me. The venue was packed. That was the first time I performed

outside of my city, and it felt like home. I remember being on stage and focusing on them throughout my performance, feeling inspired to make it a great show. That moment was inspiring.

NW: As you traverse the inherent highs and lows in creating art, what keeps you motivated? What is your “why”?

KARLO: My music is an internal process of reflection and digestion of the world around me. My motivations come from life around me, so my motivation changes depending on the season of life I am living. My music is highly political, considering just being me in America is political enough. Since music is how I process my life, I feel like the motivation changes, but at its core, it’s a multicultural perspective on the USA.

NW: Alright, now let’s dip into the music. Reader X has never heard of KARLO; what track should he/she listen to first to get a good grasp on the type of artist you are?

KARLO: I think my track and video for “I’m an Amerikan” is a great song to start with – shows off the mixed points of view and blends them together in a stiff cocktail of a video.

NW: I was introduced to you by a mutual friend, Kahlee. He put me up on the release of your video for “Practice Smiling.” Can you share a bit about the track, the visuals, and a bit about what inspired that song?

KARLO: “Practice Smiling” was a track produced by Digital Martyrs and the video was shot by Mighty Muds. I wrote that song as a personal reminder that being happy is something that we work on daily. With my background in counseling/psychology, I also put a bit of neuroscience into the song by talking about how the act of smiling releases neurotransmitters: dopamine, endorphins, and serotonin. These neurotransmitters make you happy, which is a really easy way to improve your mood. Being a person who suffers from PTSD and depression this simple task of smiling can be the difference between a sh**ty day and a productive one. “Practice Smiling” is me being transparent about struggling with staying happy, providing a solution, and practicing it.

NW: Now, I was introduced to you via a very positive song, which also has a heavier backdrop now that you gave us some insight. When I got to see you perform a set opening up for Pigeon John, I got to see another side of you, an angrier side. Where does the anger come from?

KARLO: My anger comes from being a non-white person, living in a conservative city in the United States of America. My anger comes from my dad’s bloodline that has been at war for generations. My anger comes from the prejudice my Mexican mom experienced right in front of me

while I was a kid. My anger comes from the injustices I read about on a daily basis. My music helps me organize my anger and execute it in a productive manner.

NW: In all of that, one form of therapy (on top of helping you to organize and execute), I imagine, is creating music. You are currently working on an album, correct? Can you tell us a bit about what we can expect to hear on Flor?

KARLO: On my album Flor, you will hear different parts of my personality. You will see some of my political views, my party side, my love side, and I even experiment with some new themes that I will leave as a surprise. I have the first single/video out which you mentioned already “Practice Smiling,” which I did with a homie you also mentioned, Kahlee. I have another single named “Anyone Listening” dropping next month as well. This album is set to drop September 2017.

NW: Coming at your music from a different angle, a question that I find myself drawn to more and more, is, what is success? For you, what is a point, or the point, when you will feel like you have reached the level of success you had hoped to reach?

KARLO: To me, success is being able to create the art I feel best expresses my current sentiment. If we put it in financial terms, I am building my value as an artist and feel I am moving in the right direction. Overall, I am all about experiences, so one thing I want to experience is opening for an artist like Immortal Technique.

NW: That leads us nicely into the next question. Who in your life, or in the public eye, is sort of at that place you’d like to be at? In other words, who can you look to for some measure of guidance as you pursue your success?

KARLO: I would like to be at Immortal Technique’s level of success someday. I want to be able to tour and come out the other side with some money in my pocket. As for advice, I normally hit up my amigo Kahlee for help. He is a wealth of knowledge that is helping me move forward as an artist.

(If you would like to tap into Kahlee’s knowledge, a good place to start is his STATUS ESCALATE Podcast.)

NW: How important is it to you to make sure that you are giving guidance to those coming up after you?

KARLO: I feel too young in the scene to be giving out advice, but once I get to a place where I can help others, I feel it’s important to always give back.

NW: With everything going on in American society in 2016, how/why is hip hop culture important? Does hip hop have the ability to make a meaningful difference? Earlier I asked you to share about

how the art and culture have changed your life; now, I’m going to ask something much more difficult of you – can you share an instance where you have seen your music make an impact on another’s life?

KARLO: One thing that moves me is how many military veterans I have been able to reach with my music. Being Middle Eastern and Mexican makes it hard to believe I could reach military veterans, let alone using hip hop as a way to do it. I have a couple of highly political songs which connect with a lot of veterans who see the injustices our government has produced. I have had several of them even buy me a drink and explain how they “don’t normally listen to hip hop, but they connected to my lyrics.” I have many of them also talk to me about their time in the Middle East and how it changed them. This has had a great impact on me because I feel this proves that the majority of us have very similar views.

Thank you for that. I know that sharing things like that is difficult because it almost feels like self-worship, but I believe in the power of this culture, and want readers, near and far, to feel what I already feel.

NW: What’s something you’d like to share with San Diego’s hip hop scene?

KARLO: I would like to share a mixed and complex point of view of San Diego, and of the United States. I want to create music that shares the struggle of my parents and of the countries they come from. This what I would like to share with the San Diego hip hop scene.

NW: One emphasis of these interviews is to see a heightened level of unity in the San Diego Hip Hop community. Can you point to some other artists who you see as comrades and who you also see as helping to progress the scene?

KARLO: The FRESHstate is one group that has seen me grow in the scene, and I rely on them for guidance and support when making artistic decisions. I see them as family. I also respect and work with my homie PlainSight, who helped me with my first album. Overall, I feel lucky that the majority of San Diego artists I have met have been welcoming, supportive, and positive towards me.

NW: Finally, where should readers go to connect with you?

KARLO: Best place to find all my social media links is to visit my website karloakakarlo.com if not you can use my handle @karloakakarlo for any social media site.



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The author's view from the Guadalupe Mountains.

Guadalupe Mountains

By Evan Breder

IG: @lankybull

We were making our way across Texas from Breckenridge to Odessa when we decided to look for a campsite. With little to no preparation, we extended our already four-hour drive another three hours to push towards the Guadalupe Mountains; a national park we knew nothing about.

As we drove further into the sunset, the gas tank began getting low. Usually, this is never worrisome, but for the last hour, every exit we passed was just another seemingly endless stretch of empty road that lead to nothing but dried dirt, cactus, and dead trees. I eventually decided we had pushed our luck a bit too far one too many times, so to play it safe we tried our phones which were fighting for enough signal to find the nearest filling station.

When it finally worked, it was telling us to backtrack thirty-four miles into the dark abyss from

which we came. As soon as I turned the car around the beep of the gas light turning on was enough to hush our conversation and spike our anxiety. When we were twenty-five miles away, I switched the display on the dashboard to show how many miles worth of gas we had left in our reserves. When I saw the number my heart sank, and I quickly switched the display back before my co-worker, Tom, could see it. We didn't both have to share that fear.

I continued along the way with nothing more than the sound of small rocks from the road bombarding the underbelly of our car, and my good faith that the universe had better plans for me than dying somewhere in the middle of a Texan desert at the ripe age of twenty-three. I started contemplating what the game plan would be if the accelerator stopped giving me power. How far would I have to pull off? Would we be able to get cell service to call for help, or would I have to hitchhike all the way there to grab a can of gas? My panic was quiet and calm, but a panic nonetheless.

By some strange type of twisted miracle, we made it to the obscure gas station that our GPS lead us

to. It was a peculiar automated system I had never seen before. I made it through the majority of the operation, but the last bit of the process was to enter my company information, and I worried that if I entered incorrectly, we might end up stranded in this true American wasteland. As I stood there frozen with indecision, I noticed there was a truck filling up on the far side of the lot.

Instead of risking a guess I decided to walk over, and see if the driver could give me advice. As I came a few feet from his truck, he stepped out into view. The way he held himself, I knew he was sizing me up, and ready for confrontation. I made sure to keep a little distance assuming I may have startled him. At the same moment, I waved and began saying "Hello," I noticed he had an open switchblade in his right hand. He seemed a bit surprised at my appearance and put the knife back into his jacket pocket. Trying to keep my focus off of the weapon I explained my situation to him, but quickly learned he spoke only bits of broken English.

He wasn't able to fully answer my questions, but he kept pointing at a different pump before jumping

back into his truck and driving off into the unforgiving darkness. I moved our car to the pump he pointed at, but again ran into the same screen that was asking for the "company information." Surrounded by the cold desert air and the yellow flickering light I took the gamble. I typed in my full name and pressed enter. The solid block of six seconds it took the machine to spit out an answer was filled with fear, hopelessness, and regret. Then the magic word "approved" forced its way through the dirt on the screen.

As I began pumping the gas and my heart rate started to slow, I couldn't help but think that this didn't quite feel like a victory. Perhaps my emotions didn't matter at that moment. In almost any number of other scenarios where one is set on a course for disaster, and just narrowly avoids catastrophe it would be cause for celebration, but when the pump handle clicked to show the tank was full, I still felt no fireworks.



For more information on the article and author, view it on our website by scanning the QR Code.

Dad Facts

By Maddie Allard

IG: @bad_elyn

There have been many moments in my adult life that I've disappointed my dad. Starting with when I registered to vote, and I came out as a Democrat.

"I can't believe you're a Dummycrat. Just wait until you actually start earning money, then you'll be a Republican."

Or the time I revealed I was a vegetarian, "You're a vegetarian? What do you eat? You know with your depression you really should be getting as many nutrients as possible. I don't want you having another breakdown because you don't eat meat."

When he learned I had not one but two tattoos he was rendered speechless, but when he learned I had five?

"You know people don't like to hire people with tattoos. They're unprofessional. You're going to end up earning less money than you could be earning. And take out that nose ring too."

But nothing floored him like the day he found out I smoked weed. Since then, he tells me "facts" about marijuana. I love my dad, I really do, but when he tells me these facts, he sounds like Donald Trump eagerly regurgitating stuff from Breitbart.

In his defense, he is the king of alternative facts. Did you know

there was a MIT (or is it Yale?) study proving women only earn less because they're bad negotiators? Or that NOAA has scientific evidence that global warming isn't real? And apparently, it's always Nancy Pelosi's fault when something negative happens in California (my favorite one).

In this series, I will be quoting a fact from my darling dad, and fact checking for him. My therapist has told me it's a healthier option than getting in a fight with him every time it's brought up.

Fact 1:

Colorado's Crime Rate Has Skyrocketed Since Marijuana Legalization

Holy shit is Colorado a MESS. Since legalization, stoners have gone as crazy as a Florida Man on bath salts. Shootings, stealing, and screaming in the street. People driving like zombies, swerving into traffic and killing innocent children. Bongs causing explosions that make meth labs look like campfires.

Now, don't get too worried for the residents of Colorado. There is a light at the end of the tunnel. Apparently, this 2012 amendment was only a test run. Legislators are working right now on revoking the law and criminalizing weed once again. Soon mothers will be able to leave their houses with their children without worrying about riff raff high on dope forcing them to smoke a doobie.

My question is: why is this only happening in Colorado? What about other states where it's legalized? Is it the altitude? Or is it be-



Image provided by the author, Maddie Allard.

cause I once expressed interest in moving to Colorado?

The Reality of Things

If my dad did a quick Google search to support his claims, I'm sure Jeff Session's comments really resonated with him. I'm not even joking when I say that the third article that pops up is "Sessions: Legal pot drives violent crime, statistics be damned".

One of those damned statistics? Violent crime rates decreased by 6 percent from 2009 to 2014 according to the Colorado Department of Public Safety. Never mind the fact that arrests related to marijuana have decreased by 46 percent between 2012 and 2014. As for incidents regarding DUI, statistics show alcohol causing around double the damage that THC does. According to the Drug

Policy Alliance, legalization actually reduces harm and promotes consumer safety.

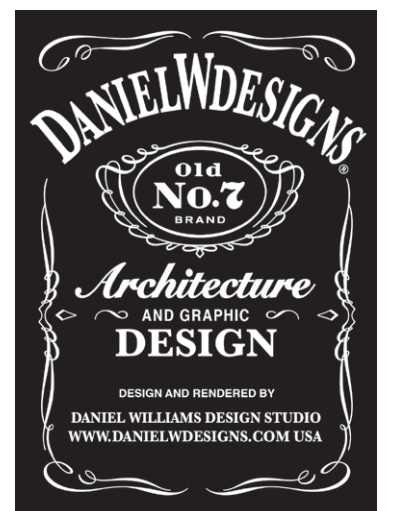
So, is marijuana causing the downfall of morality in the lovely state of Colorado? Or is my dad trying to kill two birds with one stone by making up negative statistics about Colorado, thus changing my recreational habits and making me change my mind about uprooting my life and moving cross country?

Studies* show it's the latter.

*My own google search.



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By Medicinal Michael

IG: @medicinal_mike

Aries

The people love to hold the joint and talk to you instead of passing it. That's because you're such a good listener. Just remember not to let those tears soak joints that they're passing. You ruin your buzz.

Taurus

Do I go to the dispensary this week or not? That is the big question. You're spending a lot of time worrying about money when it's the worrying that makes you sick to get your favorite cannabis medicine? You're caught in a loop.

Gemini

You loaned out your favorite bong for what seems like forever now. And you're too polite to ask where it went. But the anxiety is eating you up inside, so chase down your favorite glass piece or be riddled with worry.

Cancer

You have been working your butt off in the garden, and nobody has even offered to lend a hand, but you can be sure they will be there for the harvest. Try and be the bigger person and educate before cutting off anybody important.

Leo

It has been a rough season in the kitchen. You have been trying to make the perfect brownie to impress that special somebody, but they just don't seem to see it. The missing ingredient is love.

Virgo

You have just been offered your dream opportunity, but all your smoking buddies are telling you it's a bad idea and feeding your insecurity. That's because they won't have as much time to spend with you and they'll miss you, so pursue the opportunity. It doesn't come around every day your friends do.

Libra

You paid for the weed, but your buddy went to get it. Does that make that half his? In your eyes, it does, and that's what makes you a great friend. Your sense of fairness.

Scorpio

You have given until it hurts and now that you're out who is giving back. Remember, even on an airplane; you have to put your air mask on first before you can save anybody else or you run out of pot.

Sagittarius

Somebody loves you this week because you are being showered with gifts of green. What you don't know is what you did that was so right, but why look a gift horse in the mouth.

Capricorn

When life hands you lemons, you grow lemon kush. This week is going to be a little rough for your garden, but you have more than enough skill to take on the challenge. Save some of those lemons for lemonade so you can sit back and enjoy your success.

Aquarius

You just completed the 21 gram dab challenge, which is an awesome conquest. Except for there are so many around you that have a zero DAP and I think that medicine could have been used better. Work smart, not hard. The lights shine brighter when you help others.

Pisces

There is a strange critter in your garden that is eating up your plants but pretending to be your friend, make sure that you spray them. That kind of friend destroys your garden.



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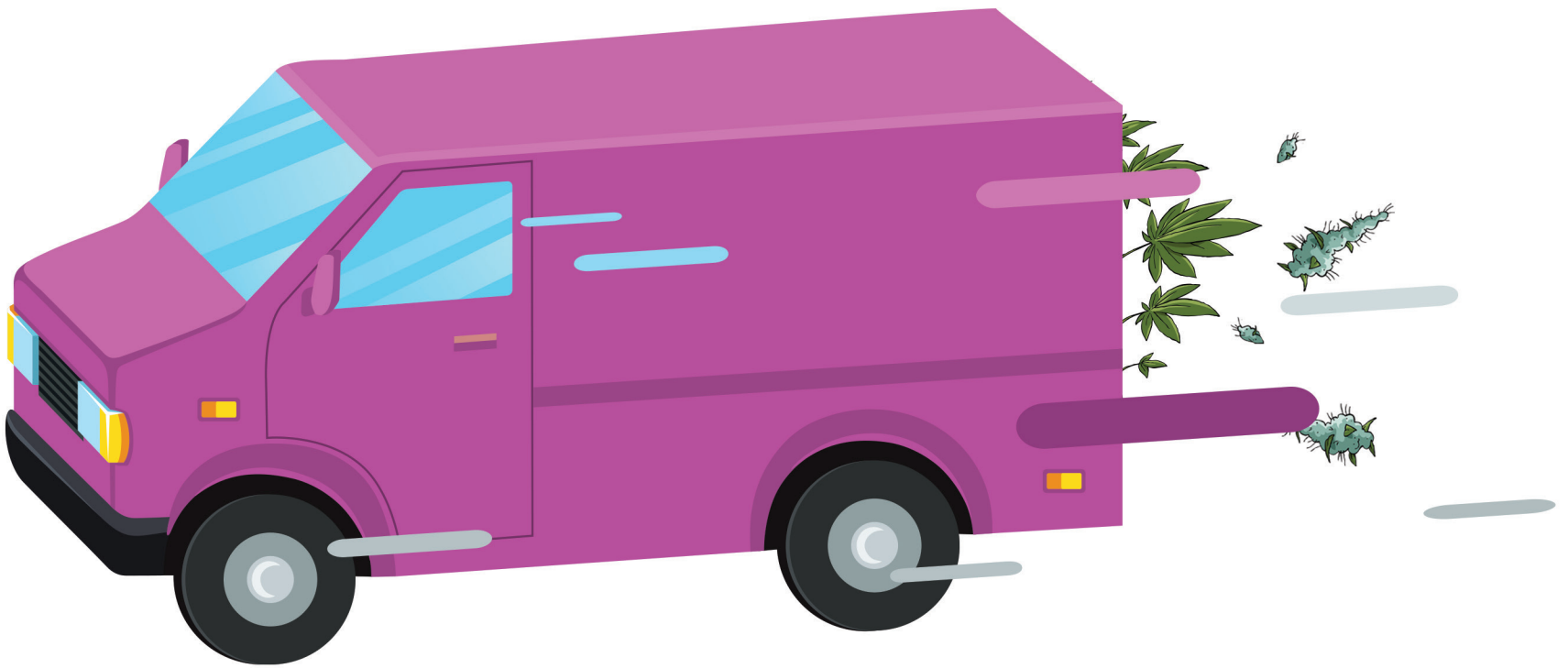


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