



MASS GRASS



VOLUME 24, ISSUE 4

"We shall by and by want a world more of hemp for our own consumption." John Adams, 1763

CANNABEM LIBEREMUS

August-September 2013

A Publication of the Massachusetts Cannabis Reform Coalition, state affiliate of NORML



FREEDOM RALLY 2013
PHOTO COURTESY OF ROGER LEISNER

TWO DAYS OF FUN AND MUSIC
AT THE 24TH ANNUAL BOSTON
**FREEDOM
RALLY**
NO ADMISSION CHARGE - FREE!

**HELP US LIBERATE BOSTON COMMON
SATURDAY, SEPT. 14 & SUNDAY SEPT. 15**

Cannabis as Determinant in Custody Cases

by Sara Arnold, aka Sahra Kant, Cannabis and the Family

One of the most common types of cases heard in family court -- and one of the most bitterly fought -- is child custody. Spend a single day in one court room at any courthouse in Massachusetts or elsewhere in the country and you'll hear a whole host of allegations made by parents or their legal representatives about each other. These accusations have to do with cannabis for medicinal or recreational use. **This happens every day.** When one parent (or their attorney) brings up the other's marijuana use, the individual judge assigned to their case has substantial discretion in how to respond. A judge can disregard it as a non-factor; some do. But cannabis use of any kind has

continued on page 6

Cannabis is Neuroprotective

by Kathryn Rifkin, Cannabis and Health

When I first ran across the word 'neuroprotective' describing one of cannabis' medicinal properties, I was astounded -- have we all not been bombarded with loud news articles telling us the exact opposite, that we would be instantly rendered retarded and insane with our very first toke? Indeed, here is a very recent shoutie saying this very thing; <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-2377581/Teenagers-smoke-cannabis-damage-brains-LIFE-like-ly-develop-schizophrenia.html> So, are we being deceived? Yes. Yes, we are. Surgeons have learned that cannabis protects the Central Nervous System (CNS), the spinal cord and brain, not only after, but also before traumatic brain injury. Before injury, you say? Yes, brain surgeons can anticipate brain injury from lack of blood flow during open heart surgery and they advise their patients to start consuming cannabis starting a week prior. Dr. Rafael Mechoulam and his team published in PubMed.gov, the website of the

continued on page 9

BOSTON - MASS CANN/NORML years Boston Police spent over will hold its 24th Annual Boston \$50,000 every year (according to a Freedom Rally on Boston Common Freedom of Information Act disclosure on both Saturday, September 14 and Sunday, September 15. Though the Freedom Rally is 24 years old, this will be the first year when it will be a two day event.

A thrilling band line-up combined with fascinating speakers, food, glass and clothing vendors and lots of friendly people to hang with should attract the large crowds seen at the Freedom Rally every year again this year.

Though the first three Freedom Rallies were held elsewhere - for 21 years it has been held on Boston Common. In 2009 the Freedom Rally expanded to include a second stage - the Parkman Bandstand. Many rally goers smoke cannabis at the Freedom Rally and for many

Now that marijuana possession has been decriminalized, since 2008, the most the police can do is give you a citation (ticket). Back in 1997 over 150 Freedom Rally demonstrators were arrested for possession. Money from the Hemp Table was used to pay for bail and cab rides for those who could not do so themselves.

Arrests for possession were not the only problem the City of Boston brought down on the Freedom Rally. For many years MASS CANN/NORML fought in court against the city for its denial of permits and the City's illegal restrictions added to the

continued on page 7

Marijuana Reform: Where Are We?

by Richard Evans, Esquire, Cannabis and the Law

It's 2013, seventy-six years since Harry Anslinger's reefer madness campaign convinced Congress to enact, and FDR to sign, the federal law that morphed into prohibition. That year, 1937, is widely pointed to as the birth of marijuana prohibition in the U.S., but in fact 26 years earlier, in 1911, the Massachusetts legislature passed, and Governor Eugene Foss signed, the first state law imposing criminal penalties for the possession of cannabis, a significant

continued on page 9



THE HEMPEST

BURN TO CHILL

36 JFK Street, Cambridge
207 Newbury Street Boston
617-421-9944 www.hempest.com

LEARN TO GROW

Your Own Medicine

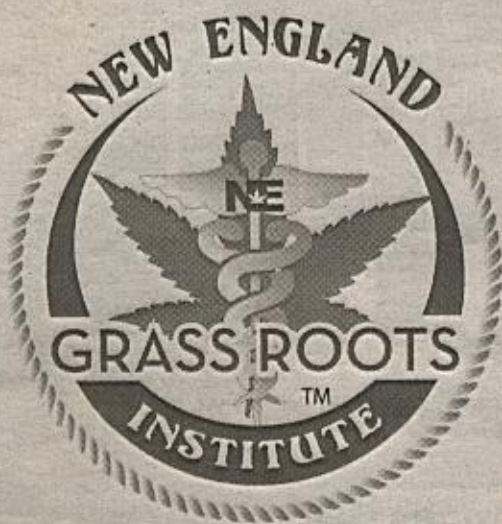
Go to bostongardener.net for more details

THE BOSTON GARDENER

Boston's Indoor + Outdoor Gardening Center

2131 Washington Street, Boston MA

617-606-7065 www.bostongardener.net



*Are you curious about the new
MMJ Law?*

*Looking for a fresh start in a
new industry?*

*Would you like to understand
medical marijuana better?*

Located on the

QUINCY MBTA REDLINE

- *Basic 8 Week Semester*
8 week course of cannabis education
- *One Day Cooking with Cannabis class*
~ Learn to infuse your favorite foods
with medicinal cannabis
- *One Day Basic Grow Class*
- *One Day Build A Grow Room Class*
- *Advanced level cultivation classes*
- *Check out our syllabus & class*
schedule & events online at
www.grassroot420.com!

NEW ENGLAND GRASS ROOTS INSTITUTE
Medicinal Cannabis & Holistic Learning Center
1458 HANCOCK STREET ~ SUITE 243

QUINCY, MA 02169

Phone: 617-471-4200

Email: INFO@GRASSROOT420.COM

Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/NewEnglandGrassRootsInstitute>

Check us out on Instagram:

<http://instagram.com/newenglandgrassroots>

MASSACHUSETTS CANNABIS KNOWLEDGE FORUM

cannabisknowledgeforum.com

THREE INFORMATIONAL EVENTS AT THREE LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE STATE

SATURDAY, SEPT. 28TH

IN **BOSTON**

SEAPORT WORLD
TRADE CENTER

SUNDAY, SEPT. 29TH

IN **LOWELL**

UMASS LOWELL INN

MONDAY, SEPT. 30TH

IN **DARTMOUTH**

RACHEL'S LAKESIDE

WITH

AUTHOR AND CULTIVATION EXPERT

ED ROSENTHAL

SOCIOLOGIST AND BOSTON POT REPORT HOST

KEITH SAUNDERS

AUTHOR AND REGULATORY EXPERT

MICKEY MARTIN

FOUNDER AND COO OF STEEP HILL LABS

ADDISON DEMOURA

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

ACTIVIST PANEL

hempest



Buy your tickets at
The Hempest on Newbury St.
(in Boston, The Hempest Harvard
Square (in Cambridge) or the
Boston Gardener or at
retailers around the state listed on
cannabisknowledgeforum.com

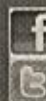


**3 Free Books
& Course Binder
with Ticket!**

DISCOUNTS!

For Veterans, Students,
Seniors, and Members of
Labor Union!

FIND
US ON:



**GET
CERTIFIED!**

**LIMITED SPACE
AVAILABLE!**

First to purchase tickets
get access to VIP Party!

REGULATIONS · APPLICATIONS · EMPLOYMENT · QUALITY CONTROL · CULTIVATION · PRODUCTION · COMMUNITY

Eventbrite

NORTHEASTERN
INSTITUTE OF CANNABIS

SEAPORT
HOTEL & WORLD TRADE CENTER

UMASS
LOWELL

RACHEL'S
LAKESIDE
- FINE FUNCTIONS -

FOR INFO CALL
508.289.1779

THE 24TH ANNUAL MASSCANN/NORML

BOSTON FREEDOM RALLY



NORMLIZE MASSACHUSETTS
THE WORK STARTS NOW

FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER THIS IS AN ALL WEEKEND LONG EVENT!

BOSTON COMMON * **SEPTEMBER 14 & 15, 2013** * **HIGH NOON**

FUN • FRIENDS • ACTIVISM • MUSIC • SPEAKERS • VENDORS • FOOD!



SPONSOR & VENDOR INQUIRIES WELCOME

(781) 944-2266 * WWW.MASSCANN.ORG

NORML

© 2013 Massachusetts Cannabis Reform Coalition

"We shall by and by want a world more of hemp
for our own consumption." John Adams, 1763

A Publication of the Massachusetts Cannabis
Reform Coalition, state affiliate of NORML

Mass Cann e-mail Lists

masscann-activist and masscann-announce.

masscann-activist is for the discussion of issues arising in connection with the struggle to bring common sense to marijuana regulation in Massachusetts. To subscribe go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/masscann-activist/>

Masscann-announce is a low-traffic vehicle for news, notices of meetings, protests and other events. It is not a discussion list. To subscribe send the text 'subscribe masscann-announce' to masscann@billdowning.com

MASS GRASS

IS PUBLISHED BY THE MASSACHUSETTS CANNABIS REFORM COALITION,
STATE AFFILIATE OF THE

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE REFORM OF MARIJUANA LAWS
EDITOR - BILL DOWNING PRESS SECRETARY - ANDY GAUS

The official newsletter of the Massachusetts Cannabis Reform Coalition, Inc. the state affiliate of NORML (MASS CANN/NORML) is published four times a year. Subscriptions are \$15 and membership is \$25. Additional donations are gratefully accepted.

MASS CANN/NORML is a charitable, non-profit organization formed in 1990 to educate the public about the historic and potential uses of Cannabis. Dues and donations are not tax deductible.

MASS CANN/NORML does not advocate violating current law while seeking legalization of the plant for all its uses. The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of MASS CANN/NORML.

MASS GRASS readers are encouraged to contribute articles, letters, cartoons, drawings and photographs. Submissions for publication should be no more than 1,000 words in length. Submissions will be printed with the names signed unless otherwise requested, and may be edited for space, clarity and libel. Please send all submissions, membership and business correspondence to our address below.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
AND ALL CORRESPONDENCE
CAN BE MAILED TO:
MASS GRASS
POB 211
READING, MA 01867-0311

GO TO YAHOO GROUPS
AND JOIN
MASSCANN-ACTIVIST

WRITE YOUR LEGISLATORS!

CANNABEM LIBEREMUS

Cannabis as Determinant of Custody

continued from page 1

resulted in forced cessation of medicine, random and regular drug testing, coerced drug rehabilitation programs, limited or discontinued visitation time for the non-custodial parent or only supervised visitation, the non-using parent granted sole custody, and reported to Child Protective Services (CPS) by family court. Even if a parent's cannabis use never comes up in court, raising the topic in pre-hearing meetings between the parties' lawyers can be a successful threat to push a parent's capitulation on sole or shared custody, child support, true allegations of domestic violence, or other factors of these cases.

Those are the cases where both parents are battling over custody of their children. Sometimes there is only one parent, grandparents, or other family members who are fighting to be the custodial parent or guardian against the state, when the children are already languishing in foster care. Anyone seeking legal custody of a minor is assessed for suitability and appropriate environment by a team from CPS. If the social workers or their supervisors feel that there are issues which counter a child's best interest, they can deny custody or require changes to be made prior to placement. These decisions can be appealed to family court.

Unfortunately, as you know from my previous columns, medicinal or recreational cannabis use is considered a huge problem by *both* CPS and in family court for biological parents. It also applies to guardians, foster parents, adoptive parents, and anyone seeking temporary or permanent custody of children. This is an issue in states with medical and/or decriminalization laws -- such as Massachusetts, where Chapter 94C clearly states that possession up to an ounce of marijuana on one's person, in one's home or in the body cannot be penalized by any instrument of the Commonwealth, and gives the explicit example of that being applied to foster or adoptive

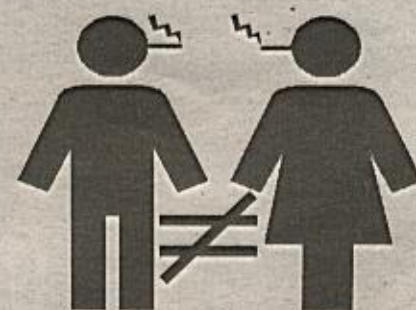
parents. This even includes states where cannabis is now legal.

Billy Fisher is a father who recently moved from Idaho to Washington state with his girlfriend and her 10-year-old son to fight for custody of his baby daughter Lilly. He is a legal medical marijuana patient for medically-documented intractable back pain with bulging discs in his lower spine and hips from a fall several years ago. His girlfriend is Serra Frank, the founder of Moms for Marijuana International as well as co-founder of Compassionate Idaho, Idaho NORML & the Idaho HOPE Fest.

It's understandable that Billy believed CPS and family court was there to help and protect his daughter. He knew his daughter was in an unsafe and unstable environment and his first priority was Lilly's safety. In desperation, he sought help from them in the form of an emergency removal of baby Lilly from her mother's home. He thought his daughter would soon be home with her family. At the time of writing, Lilly has been in foster care just shy of four months.

Billy willingly agreed to and passed all CPS assessments. He agreed to accept services like counseling and classes, if he must do them to be able to be with his daughter. The only thing CPS and family court have a problem with is his medical marijuana use, about which he has been upfront and honest, in a state where it is legal and known that use is not abuse. He's been

continued on page 7



Cannabis as Determinant of Custody THE 24TH ANNUAL BOSTON FREEDOM RALLY

continued from page 6

drug tested several times and CPS demanded that he submit to a 30-day inpatient substance abuse treatment program to be considered for custody of Lilly. In addition to the unacceptability of this requirement on a medical marijuana patient in a fully legalized state, it would cause the loss of his job, risk his family's housing, and financial catastrophe for his and Serra's family. Billy bravely said no.

The court in Spokane won't allow use of any studies on cannabis because they are "hearsay", even DEA Judge Francis Young's 1988 ruling on lack of toxicity. Only expert testimony given specifically for this case will be accepted. Billy has also been told the judge will make him stop using his medicine regardless of being a patient with a Washington state medical marijuana card. But Washington's medical marijuana statute, part RCW 69.51A.120 does cover this, and clearly requires that "parental rights and residential time not be restricted." Child Protective Services and family court do not seem to care about the law.

For most of his case, Billy had a state-assigned public defender who failed miserably to advocate for his client or even assist his client in navigating the complicated family court system. Due to his girlfriend's activism, he has access to something most parents in his position do not -- a cannabis community who helped him get a private, pro bono legal team and advisors. This is another strong step towards final success in the fight for Lilly. It's a key difference between his case and the cases of so many others who don't or can't have any publicity.

There is a similar case in Maine of a grandmother who legally uses medicinal cannabis for her back pain. After her grandchildren were removed from the home of their mother, this grandmother fulfilled all of the mandatory foster care training and home visits asked of her by CPS. She provided reports from multiple doctors who said she was capable of

taking care of the kids. She had and continues to have visits at her home with the kids every other weekend, but CPS won't place the children in her custody because she uses medical marijuana. Grandma has no legal help in Maine (and no right to a public defender like in Washington state) to handle CPS bureaucracy and contest the denial of custody in family court. The children have been in state custody for almost a year, which means that a permanency hearing may soon occur to adopt out the children without the judge ever hearing about this devoted grandmother and her unyielding attempts at gaining custody of her grandchildren.

Right now there is a medical marijuana patient in Cambridge District Court fighting their former spouse for shared custody. They are being forced by the judge to provide drug tests, have their parenting time in a supervised visitation center instead of at home or being able to take their child anywhere of their choosing, and are barely allowed to see their child having had their amount of visitation time reduced after testing positive for marijuana. There is another medical marijuana patient in the same court who has stopped using their medicine as recommended by their doctor to be on equal footing in their custody battle, and who now also has to fight against the returning symptoms of their conditions.

Child custody injustice over cannabis use happens every single day. It has happened to people you know. It could happen to you. Marijuana reform must include family court, including guaranteeing legal protections by enforcing those that we have already won as well as future successes.

The End



SARA ARNOLD

CANNABIS AND THE FAMILY
MASS GRASS COLUMNIST

Sara Arnold aka Sahra Kant is a hard-working drug policy advocate and activist committed to ending the persecution of pregnant women and parents (of both genders) for cannabis use.

continued from page 1

permit once the court forced the City to issue them. The City was sued for injunctions, which were granted. The injunctions were all granted allowing the Freedom Rally to take place. During the court proceedings the City of Boston was required to re-issue Freedom Rally permits that did not include "unconstitutional" requirements.

MASS CANN/NORML won an injunction forcing the City of Boston to issue a permit for their 1997 rally. After many years of abuse from petty parks officials regarding the permitting process; the city's unconstitutional demands for cash and limits imposed on MASS CANN/NORML to the exclusion of all others (such as a limit of 10,000 attendees and 8 food vendors) forced MASS CANN/NORML into court. In granting the injunction Judge Belvin Perry described MASS CANN/NORML's attempts to get permits as a, "... tortured history." Also in 1997, in an act of obvious spite, the City sued MASS CANN/NORML and its president for \$17,000 in damages to the Common and fines. MASS CANN/NORML had already paid the amount the city had asked for, almost \$2,000, to clean the Common. The city decided to sue MASS CANN/NORML rather than bother to even ask them for the money. MASS CANN/NORML countersued pointing out that the City's suit was prima-facie evidence of the City's continued interference despite the injunction. Both suits were summarily dismissed.

The 1998 rally permit process was similarly litigious. Massachusetts

Superior Court hearings before Judge Carol Ball began in July, purposefully early to forefend a last minute rush. At the first hearing the City was ordered to produce a list of requirements MASS CANN/NORML would have to meet in order to receive a permit. At the second hearing the judge told the City their requirements didn't meet constitutional muster, ordered them to issue a permit, but mentioned that restrictions that were not unconstitutional were permissible.

The City issued a permit with many restrictions MASS CANN/NORML could or would not meet. The judge heard arguments and ordered all the restrictions MASS CANN/NORML could or would not acquiesce to be dropped. MASS CANN/NORML moved for summary judgment and the 1997 and 1998 suits were consolidated. On March 7, 2002 Justice Allan van Gestel found in MASS CANN/NORML's favor and awarded a judgment of over \$31,000.

In 2008, the city of Boston issued a permit for the nineteenth Freedom Rally that sought to illegally cut-off funding for the event by directing donations from food vendors at the rally away from MASS CANN/NORML and to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston instead. Again, on September 18, 2008, ACLU pro-bono attorney John Swomley testified in support of an injunction at a hearing before Massachusetts Superior Court Judge Carol Ball (who had granted the 1997 injunction). The city attorney presented no evidence and no written testimony. Judge Ball was very unhappy with the city's permitting restrictions and while granting the injunction told the city attorney, "You people must be crazy."

The End



"We shall by and by want a world more of hemp
for our own consumption." John Adams, 1763

CANNABEM LIBEREMUS

August-September 2013

A Publication of the Massachusetts Cannabis
Reform Coalition, state affiliate of NORML



Canna Consultants
Health & Law

BOSTON-524 DORCHESTER AVE/207 NEWBURY ST.
WORCESTER-51 UNION/ SEEKONK 495 CENTRAL
two doctors on staff STOUGHTON-966 PARK
No medical records required (it is suggested that if
you have records to bring them)
call now for an appointment

CANNA CARE DOCS

781.382.8053

cannacaredocs@gmail.com

866-624-1191

945 Concord Street

Framingham, MA 01701

www.cannamed.com

CANNA MED
Medical Marijuana Doctor



LOCATED:

NEAR
INTERSECTION
OF
COCHRANE ST
&
CONCORD ST.
IN THE
REGUS
BUILDING

☒ MA LICENSED M.D.

☒ 100% CONFIDENTIAL

☒ MEDICAL CORPORATION

**Project
CBD**

www.ProjectCBD.org

The go-to source for educational and scientific
information on Cannabidiol (CBD):

The non-psychoactive cannabinoid medicine
used in the treatment of chronic pain, epilepsy,
psychosis, cancer, anxiety, and more...

Where to find it - How to use it

DR. LESTER
GRINSPOON
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EMERITUS
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
THE MOST
WIDELY PUBLISHED
AUTHORITY ON
MEDICAL
MARIJUANA
ADDRESSSES
FREEDOM RALLY
2012



Congressman Barney Frank speaking at Freedom Rally 2012

**UR UNREGULAR
RADIO**

"We shall by and by want a world more of hemp for our own consumption." John Adams, 1763

A Publication of the Massachusetts Cannabis Reform Coalition, state affiliate of NORML

Cannabis Is Neuroprotective

continued from page 1

US National Library of Medicine National Institutes of Health; in 2011, that eCBs (endo-Cannabinoids) also repair neurons after traumatic brain injury. "Endocannabinoids and traumatic brain injury. Shohami E, Cohen-Yeshurun A, Magid L, Algalil M, Mechoulam R., The Institute for Drug Research, Faculty of Medicine, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. Traumatic brain injury (TBI) represents the leading cause of death in young individuals. It triggers the accumulation of harmful mediators, leading to secondary damage, yet protective mechanisms are also set in motion. The endocannabinoid (eCB) system consists of ligands,

such as anandamide and 2-arachidonoyl-glycerol (2-AG), receptors (e.g. CB1, CB2), transporters and enzymes, which are responsible for the 'on-demand' synthesis and degradation of these lipid mediators. There is a large body of evidence showing that eCB are markedly increased in response to pathogenic events. This fact, as well as numerous studies on experimental models of brain toxicity, neuroinflammation and trauma supports the notion that the eCB are part of the brain's compensatory or repair mechanisms." [http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21418185] Also published in PubMed.gov, in 2003; this article mentions other maladies of the brain where cannabinoids help

continued on page 10



Protect Yourself During a Police Encounter

What you say to the police is always important. What you say can be used against you, and it can give the police an excuse to arrest you, especially if you bad-mouth a police officer.

You don't have to answer a police officer's questions, but you must show your driver's license and registration when stopped in a car. In other situations, you can't legally be arrested for refusing to identify yourself to a police officer.

You don't have to consent to any search of yourself, your car or your house. If you DO consent to a search, it can affect your rights later in court. If the police say they have a search warrant, ASK TO SEE IT.

Do not interfere with, or obstruct the police --you can be arrested for it.

Marijuana Reform: Where Are We?

continued from page 1

fact of history that went unnoticed by scholars until revealed several years ago by MassCann member Steve Epstein.

So, where are we, to borrow the words of Martin Luther King, Jr., on that long arc of history that began with prohibition and will end with its repeal? Let's quickly trace its path so far.

The arc originates in racism. Criminalizing marijuana was an effective way to oppress the people who used it, very few of whom, as it happens, were white, until the cultural revolution of the 60s, when President Nixon discovered a very useful weapon against the new counterculture that fiercely opposed his war in Vietnam: arrest them for pot. Nixon gave us the federal Controlled Substances Act, the current federal prohibition law, before he left office in disgrace. Keith Stroup and NORML came along in the early 70s, often recalled as "the golden age of prohibition," and masterfully engineered decriminalization legislation in a dozen states. Although still illegal, pot was starting to seem mostly just naughty, as it swept from anti-establishment and countercultural gatherings to back yards, having been introduced, as it turned out, by returning Viet Nam veterans. Every social gathering had a conspicuous cannabis contingent, and a modicum of caution would protect you from the police. Campuses were permeated with weed in the 70s, which didn't cause a lot of alarm until holidays, when suddenly little brothers and sisters gained a surreptitious introduction to this amazing new stuff. When the middle school kids started sneaking into the trees and retuning with funny grins, a few moms in Atlanta

went ballistic, and thus emerged the "parents movement." Keep in mind that these moms all came of age before the cultural revolution. They had grown up in the Fifties, before the discovery of sex, drugs and rock and roll, and were aghast to learn what their kids were doing behind the tree. "Parents" quickly became an important political constituency, embraced by Nancy Reagan who needed to deflect adverse publicity she was getting about her monarchical style. To these parents, and millions of others and the mainstream press, protecting children from marijuana meant passing any law, proclaiming any lie, and spending limitless taxpayer dollars to demonize marijuana. The notion that young people could learn to use marijuana responsibly and with moderation, as young people learn with wine in France, was anathema. The parents movement put a stop to legal reforms like decriminalization, and fueled the frenzy of the drug war metastasizing throughout the land as Reagan, then Bush, then Clinton, piled on more and more police, prisons and punishment, castigating substances as proxies for the people who used them, creating the new underclass described so graphically in Michelle Alexander's *The New Jim Crow*.

The arc hiccupped in 1996 when California voters passed Proposition 19, the medical marijuana initiative. Our Question 3 last November became the 18th hiccup. A few weeks ago our neighbor New Hampshire joined the ranks of medical marijuana states, and today (8/1/13), the governor of Illinois signed a medical marijuana bill.

continued on page 10

FIND YOUR LEGISLATORS ONLINE BY VISITING:
<http://salsa3.salsalabs.com/o/51046/getLocal.jsp>

**AND CONTACT THEM TODAY. TELL THEM YOU ARE
A CONSTITUENT AND YOU WANT THE
MARIJUANA LAWS REPEALED NOW!**

Marijuana Reform: Where Are We?

continued from page 9

by Atty. Richard Evans

More than hiccups, however, were the victories in Colorado and Washington in 2012 to repeal prohibition altogether and replace it with a system of regulation and taxation, an approach that seems unremarkable to us, but radical to folks who don't think about this issue as much as we do. In another significant but little-noticed development, a few states have legalized the growing of industrial hemp, but of course federal prohibition stands in the way of implementation. There the arc stops, yet to its end, leaving us in an odd interval between prohibition and legalization. In Massachusetts, we await implementation of the new medical marijuana law. After last year's election, the Department of Public Health, having been given the duty of implementing the new law, responded promptly. After conspicuously inviting input from patients, doctors, prospective dispensary operators and others, and studying the rules in other states, they developed and adopted a thorough set of regulations. In recent days, the process of licensing dispensaries and issuing credentials to patients, caregivers and physicians seems to have slowed. We expect an announcement from the DPH any day now concerning the availability of applications and deadlines. We note that the tone of courtesy and civility which has characterized the process up to now may be breached by frustrated patients and caregivers, and that is not necessarily a bad thing. The DPH may well need to hear some noise on this issue. The legislature remains silent. In recent months I have chatted with several legislators who have made it clear that they would welcome a legalization initiative in 2016, but would not consider getting out in front. Unfortunately, that's what passes for leadership on Beacon Hill these days.

On the federal level, there are a few members of Congress not afraid of saying in public what many say in private about the inefficacy of prohibition, notably Reps. Jared Polis of Colorado, Earl Blumenauer of Oregon and Steve Cohen of Tennessee, plus a prominent conservative, Rep. Dana Rohrabacher of California, but Congress will do nothing on this issue until voters force them to, and too few feel any, or hear any "noise" on this issue.

The singularly most remarkable feature of the arc today is the extraordinary silence of the Obama administration, especially the U.S. Justice Department, in response to the Colorado and Washington legalization initiatives last November. Will they bust the new pot shops, or the state functionaries who issue the licenses? Whenever Attorney General Holder is asked what his department will do, his answer is a vague brush-off, like "we're working on that." It's clear to me that Obama is simply kicking the can down the road, avoiding doing anything, and leaving the dirty work to his successor.

The arc is nearing its end. If the voters of three or four states, including Massachusetts, enact full legalization laws in 2016, look for Congress to wake up in January of 2017, and, with luck, the new president to sign a repeal measure. Revenue-hungry states will rush to tax and regulate this new industry, and the age of marijuana prohibition, in its demise, will earn a capital P.

####



RICHARD EVANS, ATTORNEY
NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Cannabis Is Neuroprotective

Cannabis and Health

continued from page 9 effective than existing therapies."

[<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/12617697>]

repair the brain.

"Therapeutic potential of cannabinoids in CNS disease. Croxford JL., Department of Microbiology-Immunology, Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, Illinois 60610, USA. The major psychoactive constituent of Cannabis sativa, delta(9)-tetrahydrocannabinol (delta(9)-THC), and endogenous cannabinoid ligands, such as anandamide, signal through G-protein-coupled cannabinoid receptors localised to regions of the brain associated with important neurological processes. Signalling is mostly inhibitory and suggests a role for cannabinoids as therapeutic agents in CNS disease where inhibition of neurotransmitter release would be beneficial. Anecdotal evidence suggests that patients with disorders such as multiple sclerosis smoke cannabis to relieve disease-related symptoms. Cannabinoids can alleviate tremor and spasticity in animal models of multiple sclerosis, and clinical trials of the use of these compounds for these symptoms are in progress. The [KR; synthetic] cannabinoid nabilone is currently licensed for use as an antiemetic agent in chemotherapy-induced emesis. Evidence suggests that cannabinoids may prove useful in Parkinson's disease by inhibiting the excitotoxic neurotransmitter glutamate and counteracting oxidative damage to dopaminergic neurons. The inhibitory effect of cannabinoids on reactive oxygen species, glutamate and tumour necrosis factor suggests that they may be **potent neuroprotective agents**. [KR; my bold] Dexamabinol (HU-211), a synthetic cannabinoid, is currently being assessed in clinical trials for traumatic brain injury and stroke. Animal models of mechanical, thermal and noxious pain suggest that cannabinoids may be effective analgesics. Indeed, in clinical trials of postoperative and cancer pain and pain associated with spinal cord injury, cannabinoids have proven more effective than placebo but may be less

Note the usual disclaimer that cannabinoids MAY be less effective than existing therapies. We will see other researchers (at the end of this article) saying that existing opioid therapies for pain have failed. One of the really tragic ramifications of years of prohibition on cannabis is the ban on researching cannabis as a medicine. Instead, in this scientific vacuum, we have ignorant scare tactics frightening people who could benefit, leaving them in pain and injury unnecessarily. After years of cannabis prohibition and Reefer Madness, the news that cannabis is actually medicinal, and an amazingly efficacious one at that, can be startling to some and horrifying to others and they project their worst nightmares onto public perception, medical practice, and law enforcement.



But, a medical researcher, Rafael Mechoulam in Israel, was curious and scientifically researched the question, "Why do hippies get high?" Dr. Mechoulam followed good western practice and first isolated and synthesized THC, the active agent in cannabis, and it is now marketed as Marinol, a treatment for AIDS and chemo-related vomiting. But, recently, Dr. Mechoulam went back to researching how THC works and found the Endocannabinoid Regulatory System, how the bodies of vertebrates produce cannabinoids in order to regulate themselves and come back to homeostasis. Humans produce two cannabinoids, or 'endogenous cannabinoids,' shortened to 'endocannabinoids,' or real short to eCB, substances our bodies use to maintain an optimally healthy state. But the ignorant scary stories remained here, getting absorbed into the conventional wisdom of everyday life, and every aspect of how

"We shall by and by want a world more of hemp for our own consumption." John Adams, 1763

CANNABEM LIBEREMUS

A Publication of the Massachusetts Cannabis Reform Coalition, state affiliate of NORML

Cannabis Is Neuroprotective

Cannabis and Health

we treat pregnant women, sick children, and the aging. I was very conscious and responsible about health when I got pregnant, to the point of giving up the weed. I was told by excellent authorities in the health field that one does not pollute one's body if one wants a healthy baby, and this warning went out to both parents – marijuana causes mental retardation. We have been misinformed. It turns out, cannabinoids are essential to the body's happy and healthy functioning, not least of which is the development of healthy neurons. And if your endocannabinoid system is running a quart low, phytocannabinoids are the perfect supplement. Humankind has known this since forever, and have spent generations over the millennia selecting for the best strains. Yet all this effort can be undone by ignorance. **"Many of the modern physicians of the 30s, 40s and 50s did not believe that plants which grew naturally and were used by primitives could be as effective as manufactured pharmaceuticals produced by chemists and pharmacologists."** [KR; my bold]

Research done in the Department of Behavioural Sciences, Ariel University, Ariel, Israel, in 2008, entitled "Multiple roles for the endocannabinoid system during the earliest stages of life: pre- and postnatal development" is pretty definite. "The endocannabinoid system, including its receptors (CB(1) and CB(2)), endogenous ligands ('endocannabinoids'), synthesising and degrading enzymes, as well as transporter molecules, has been detected from the earliest stages of embryonic development and throughout pre- and postnatal development. In addition, the endocannabinoids, notably 2-arachidonyl glycerol, are also present in maternal milk.

During three stages (embryonic implantation, prenatal brain development and postnatal suckling), the endocannabinoid system appears to play an essential role for development and survival."

Researchers figured this out by blocking cannabinoid receptors during these times, and observing the resulting infertility, mental retardation, and failure-to-thrive; evidence that these three developmental processes failed. Like ushers escorting you to your proper seat, cannabinoids help the brain develop: "During foetal life, the cannabinoid CB(1) receptor plays a major role in brain development, regulating neural progenitor differentiation into neurones and glia and guiding axonal migration and synaptogenesis."

[<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18426504>]

Women have used cannabis for millennia to quell morning sickness, to prevent miscarriage, to relax muscles during birth, and to reduce post-partum bleeding, but today, families can be torn apart if law-enforcement hears of women using this herb, with devastating consequences. Many women still won't tell researchers even years after birth whether they consumed cannabis or not. So, in 1994, Dr. Melanie Dreher went to Jamaica to study the effect of cannabis on new-born children, in a community where ganja is socially acceptable. The women used cannabis to varying degrees, but used alcohol and tobacco minimally. Dr. Dreher found no difference between the user and non-user babies – no difference in birth weight, number of fingers and toes, no unnatural cravings, nothing. But a wonderful attribute showed up at the 30 day check-up – ganja babies were mellow. "The results of the comparison of neonates of the

heavy-marijuana-using mothers and those of the nonusing mothers were even more striking. The heavily exposed neonates were more socially responsive and were more autonomically stable at 30 days than their matched counterparts. The quality of their alertness was higher; their motor and autonomic systems were more robust; they were less irritable; they were less likely to demonstrate any imbalance of tone; they needed less examiner facilitation to become organized; they had better self-regulation and were judged to be more rewarding for caregivers than the neonates of nonusing mothers at 1 month of age."

[<http://druglibrary.org/schaffer/hemp/medical/can-babies.htm>]

Since humankind has been using cannabis since forever, one suspects someone already noticed this, and this knowledge had been passed down from mother to daughter; that cannabis is, not only a community's herb, but also a woman's herb. Autism is something that has shown up, coincidentally I'm sure, since cannabis prohibition and whether this is correlation or causation remains to be proven. However, just as we see cannabinoids helping the brain develop prenatally, we see phyto-cannabinoids augmenting and helping the brain in autistic children. "Thomas Sudhof, a cellular physiologist at Stanford University, tested mutations associated with autism in mice. Two mutations associated with autism in a synapse-adhesion protein led to deficits in prolonged endocannabinoid signaling in mice. This suggests that autism could be caused by a disruption of the brain's ability to send clear signals."

All these articles end with a similar paragraph; "The researchers involved in these studies do not advocate giving medical marijuana to children with autism, but they do concede that these findings may lead to medications and treatments that can increase the natural endocannabinoids already

found in the human brain. These treatments may also be useful for many other debilitating illnesses, including anxiety, pain, depression, and obesity." That is to say, they found something that works, a medicinal herb, but they aren't going to recommend it. Instead, they want funding to develop a synthetic and patent it. And charge a bundle.

[<http://www.autismdailynewscast.com/studies-finds-link-between-autism-and-cannabinoids/921/laurel-joss/>]



Also, unfortunately, our pharmaceutical-besotted society considers obesity a malady, and developed a drug that blocked cannabinoid receptors, supposedly to suppress the munchies. Unfortunately, there was so much depression and so many suicides, that the drugs, Rimobant, and Acomplia from Senofi in France, had to be removed from the market. And, for more pharmaceuticals that should be removed, please check out [<http://www.realfarmacy.com/over-the-counter-brain-damage/>]

There are some studies behind a pay-wall, but one has been liberated here; [<http://www.thetotalhealthcare.com/would-some-cannabinoids-ameliorate-symptoms-of-autism/>] where animal models have displayed autistic symptoms when cannabinoid receptors are blocked. The late Dr. Bernard Rimland of Autism Research Institute, recommended marijuana as a safer choice to help children than the usually prescribed Risperdal.

continued on page 12



Cannabis is Neuroprotective

Kathryn Rifkin continued from page 11

There are other possible causes for autism; immune dysfunction, and — any proof is mired in controversy — vaccines and thimerosal, the mercury-based preservative found in various things, including contact lens wetting solutions and vaccines. Some studies say the MMR antibodies are to blame and other studies blame mercury poisoning, although mercury damage to the brain doesn't resemble autism. Turns out, the mechanism of cleaning up and expelling infections and toxins is the endocannabinoid regulatory system, maintaining homeostasis. Adapting the advice of brain surgeons to anticipate damage and prepare by imbibing cannabinoids beforehand, it may be good practice to load your child up with phytocannabinoids before getting vaccinations.

The blood-brain barrier has stymied doctor's efforts in treating maladies of the brain, as medicine in the blood stream doesn't pass into the brain's blood stream, but to our delight, THC does pass that barrier. Migraine has been treated by cannabis since antiquity. "Sir William Osler, M.D., considered the founder of modern medicine, wrote the first textbook of internal medicine in the late 1890s. In his textbook, Osler wrote that cannabis was the most effective treatment for migraine headaches. That opinion was held for many years by numerous prominent physicians. As late as 1942, Dr. Morris Fishbein, long-time editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association, wrote an article stating that cannabis was the most effective treatment available for migraine headaches. And as cannabis is reemerging as a therapeutic agent, physicians are once again recommending cannabis to relieve the symptoms of migraines."

[<http://www.davidbearmanmd.com/docs/abstract2.pdf>]

It's the off switch,
the enough signal,
the permission to
rest and recover.

"How does cannabis exert its medicinal effects? The medicinal effects of cannabis are mediated by the endocannabinoid system. An increase in cannabinoids either endogenous or exogenous, increases the amount of the neurotransmitter dopamine in the brain. We know that dopamine acts in a different way to any other neurotransmitter. Instead of stimulating the next neuron on the pathway up the CNS, dopamine actually doubles back on itself and de-polarizes the neuron that just released it by reversing the concentration of sodium and potassium inside and outside the cell. The effect of this is that it slows down neurotransmission. So, if a person is having migraines caused by an overload of the electrical circuits in a certain part of the brain, slowing down the speed of neurotransmission leads to fewer neural impulses, which in turn decreases the likelihood or severity of a migraine."

"The same thing is true of people that have panic attacks; if you have negative thoughts that are moving at warp speed to the midbrain, you are overwhelming the emotional control center of the brain, the limbic system. Cannabis slows down the speed of neurotransmission exposing the cerebral cortex to fewer slower moving neural stimuli. This allows the higher centers of the brain to have time to more rationally assess the relative danger or the negativity and put a more rationale point of view on that sensory input.

One suggestion is that cannabis and cannabinoids increase the amount of free dopamine in the brain by freeing dopamine from binding to another neurochemical, dopamine transporter. The dopamine transporter and dopamine bond form an electrochemical bond. This ties up the dopamine so the dopamine is not free to act as one of the brain's 'off switches'. We were all taught in medical school that 70% of the brain is there to turn off the other 30% — dopamine is one of the 'off switches' that helps modulate sensory input. Therefore, if there is not enough dopamine present in the brain, certain parts of it become overloaded, and the illness you have depends upon the part or parts of the mid-brain that is being overloaded.

Cannabinoids compete with dopamine for the binding sites on the dopamine transporter, and in sufficient quantity it wins, thus freeing up more dopamine to help slow down the speed of neurotransmissions. This, in my opinion and many others, is responsible for much of the therapeutic value of cannabis."

[<http://www.davidbearmanmd.com/docs/abstract2.pdf>]

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is a huge concern among our veterans, especially since suicides outnumber deaths in the battlefield. They are being pumped full of pharmaceuticals for anxiety and depression and report that they cannot function. They also report that cannabis is the only treatment that allows them to carry on. Cannabis helps by allowing the patient to stop remembering stressor events and to rest and recover. Vets are pleading with the Veterans Administration to allow cannabis consumption instead of refusing treatment if cannabis use is discovered. Even though a new ruling allows Vets to use cannabis in states where Medical is now law, many Vets report the hassle just isn't worth it.

Cannabis has been successfully used for Epilepsy for millennia, first mentioned in the Materia Medica of ancient China and used everywhere since. Just now, research is confirming in scientific studies that thousands of years of anecdotal evidence is accurate — that CBD can reduce seizures by 99%.

[<http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2013-07-19/medical-pot-a-drug-maker-bets-on-marijuana-to-treat-diabetes-epilepsy-and-more>] (KR: In the comments is Granny Storm Crow's recipe for homemade whole-plant Satevix)

In England, Multiple Sclerosis patients were being arrested in embarrassing numbers; "GW's research effort was in response to the 1997 report of the House of Lord's Science and Technology Committee and a growing need to address the medical needs of British Multiple Sclerosis (MS) patients who were being arrested for possession of marijuana in embarrassing numbers. The MS patients were using marijuana because it was providing relief from muscle spasms and pain with few side effects."

[<http://www.davidbearmanmd.com/docs/abstract2.pdf>]

continued to page 13



KATHRYN RIFKIN
CANNABIS AND HEALTH

"We shall by and by want a world more of hemp for our own consumption." John Adams, 1763

A Publication of the Massachusetts Cannabis Reform Coalition, state affiliate of NORML

Cannabis Is Neuroprotective

Cannabis and Health

Kathryn Rifkin

continued from page 12

Published in 2013 in Science Direct; Cannabidiol provides 'long-lasting protection against the deleterious effects of inflammation in a viral model of multiple sclerosis: A role for A2A receptors.' Open Access Article. M. Mecha, A. Feliú, P.M. Iñigo, L. Mestre, F.J. Carrillo-Salinas, C. Guaza, Department of Functional and Systems Neurobiology, Neuroimmunology Group, Cajal Institute, CSIC, Madrid, Spain

"Inflammation in the central nervous system (CNS) is a complex process that involves a multitude of molecules and effectors, and it requires the transmigration of blood leukocytes across the blood-brain barrier (BBB) and the activation of resident immune cells. Cannabidiol (CBD), a non-psychotropic cannabinoid constituent of Cannabis sativa, has potent anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressive properties. Yet, how this compound modifies the deleterious effects of inflammation in TMEV-induced demyelinating disease (TMEV-IDD) remains unknown."

[<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0969996113001939>]

In research papers for many age-related maladies, just about all of them advised early intervention to prevent loss of receptors or damage to neurons in order to keep the malady from showing up or becoming worse. These maladies include Huntingtons, where 50% of cannabinoid receptors are lost before symptoms are noticeable. Published in the Journal of Neuroscience in 2012, "Cannabinoid receptor 2 signaling in peripheral immune cells modulates disease onset and severity in mouse models of Huntington's disease. Bouchard J, Truong J, Bouchard K, Dunkelberger D, Desrayaud S, Moussaoui S, Tabrizi SJ, Stella N, Muchowski PJ. Neuroscience Program, University of California San Francisco, California 94158, USA.

"Peripheral immune cells and brain microglia exhibit an activated phenotype in premanifest Huntington's disease (HD) patients that persists chronically and correlates with clinical measures of neurodegeneration. However, whether activation of the immune system contributes to neurodegeneration in HD, or is a consequence thereof, remains unclear. Signaling through cannabinoid receptor 2 (CB2) dampens immune activation. Here, we show that the genetic deletion of CB2 receptors in a slowly progressing HD mouse model accelerates the onset of motor deficits and increases their severity. Treatment of mice with a CB2 receptor agonist extends life span and suppresses motor deficits, synapse loss, and CNS inflammation, while a peripherally restricted CB2 receptor antagonist blocks these effects. CB2 receptors regulate blood interleukin-6 (IL-6) levels, and IL-6 neutralizing antibodies partially rescue motor deficits and weight loss in HD mice. These findings support a causal link between CB2 receptor signaling in peripheral immune cells and the onset and severity of neurodegeneration in HD, and they provide a novel therapeutic approach to treat HD."

[<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23238740>]

Alzheimers Disease (AD) is characterized by plaque clogging up the brain, causing inflammation. Cannabis is shown to carry away the plaque (A beta) across the Blood-Brain Barrier; "The current studies demonstrate, for the first time, a role for the cannabinoid system in the transit of Aβ across the BBB. These findings provide insight into the mechanism by which cannabinoid treatment reduces Aβ burden in the AD brain and offer additional evidence on the utility of this pathway as a treatment for AD."

[<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S104474311300064X>]

One lasting benefit of cannabis therapy is that the benefits are continuously effective and non-addictive, unlike the only temporary efficacy of opioids.



Here is the science behind that statement; "The increases in cannabinoid receptor expression result in increased potency or efficacy of the exogenously applied cannabinoids, depending on whether the ligand is a full (e.g., WIN 55,212-2)[KR; a synthetic] or a partial agonist (e.g., Δ9-THC)[KR; from the natural whole plant]" (Pertwee 2008).

By the way, 'exogenous' is 'from outside the body' as opposed to 'endogenous' as 'produced by the body'. So, the body makes endocannabinoids, and we raise from seed and grow plants that contain phytocannabinoids and consume them as supplements to augment our system.

"It is also likely that increased cannabinoid receptor expression contributes to the effectiveness of cannabinoids in providing relief from painful neuropathy symptoms after repeated administration. By contrast, several studies demonstrated that morphine has only limited effectiveness in alleviating peripheral neuropathy symptoms, possibly due to the decreased expression of peripheral opioid receptors (Mao et al. 1995; Ossipov et al. 1995; Rashid et al. 2004).). In addition, chronic opioid treatment leads to considerable analgesic tolerance and development of hyperalgesic effects, which together with the well-known respiratory depressant effects have led to the **failure of opioid therapy** to successfully treat chronic pain populations (see Horvath et al., this volume).

By contrast, recent clinical studies have reaffirmed that long-term treatment with cannabinoids for symptomatic relief of peripheral neuropathy symptoms does not result in any appreciable decrement in clinical effectiveness after long-term administration" (Nurmikko et al. 2007). [KR; bolding is mine.]

This same evaluation shows that cannabis is better than opioids; "Furthermore, cannabinoids are effective in alleviating chronic pain symptoms after prolonged repeated treatment, unlike opioids, which have only limited effectiveness.

While the specific alterations appear to depend on the type of injury/pathology, an overall emerging view is that the up-regulation of the endocannabinoid system is the organism's compensatory mechanism designed to alleviate the negative consequences of tissue injury and facilitate repair." (Di Marzo and Petrocellis 2006; Mechoulam and Shohami 2007; Pertwee 2005b).

[<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK57261/>]

In fact, this function of cleaning up and maintaining homeostasis is the long-term strategy for good health. The Olympics banned marijuana as a performance enhancer, in that it helped with muscle relaxation, recovery after strenuous exercise, reduces anxiety, and improves sleep. That just sounds like good health strategy and that cannabis should be considered a health supplement.

FOR FURTHER REFERENCE:

The Royal Society Publishing B put out a special issue of 15 articles, all devoted to eCBs;

<http://rstb.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/367/1607.toc>

NORML library has a good webpage;

<http://norml.org/library/item/introduction-to-the-endocannabinoid-system>

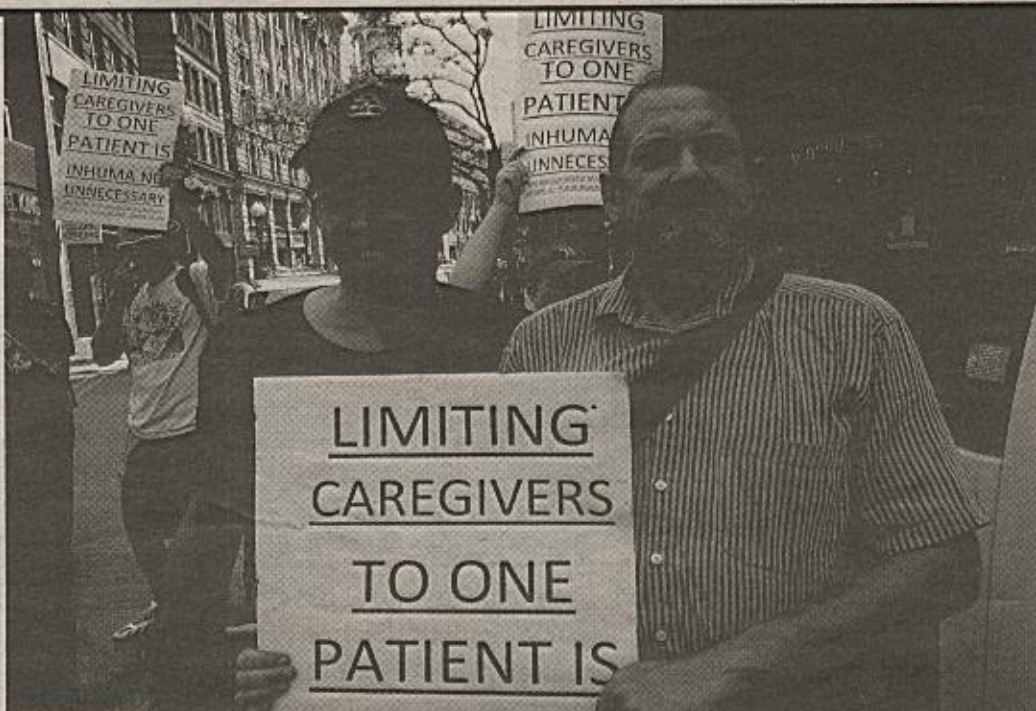
<http://norml.org/component/zoo/category/cannabis-and-the-brain-a-user-s-guide>

"We shall by and by want a world more of hemp
for our own consumption." John Adams, 1763

A Publication of the Massachusetts Cannabis
Reform Coalition, state affiliate of NORML

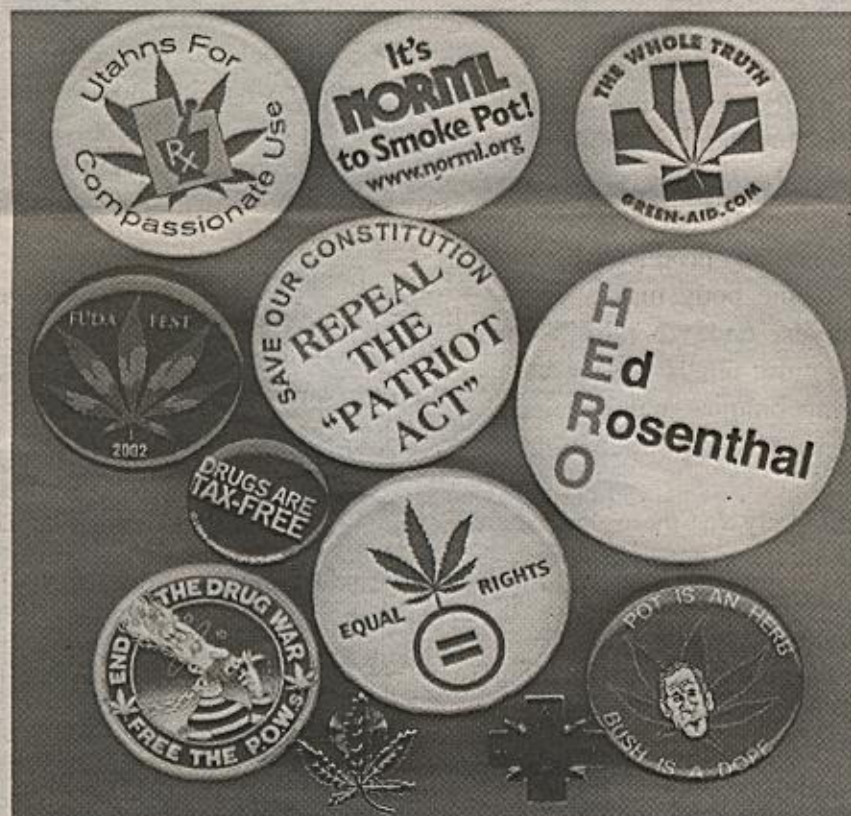


FREEDOM RALLY 1999 FROM STAGE



MIKE CANN AND BILL D OUTSIDE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HEADQUARTERS
PROTESTING AGAINST THEIR LIMITATION OF EACH CARE GIVER TO ONE PATIENT

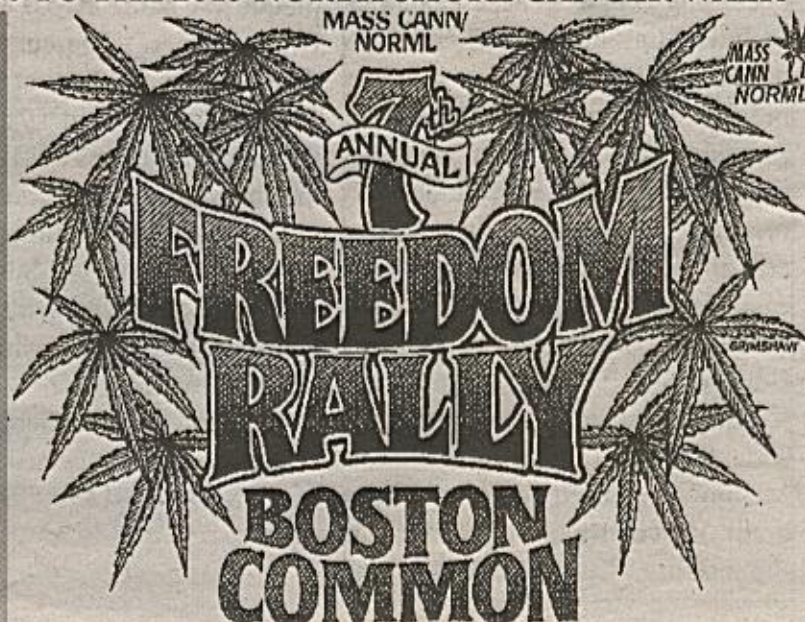
PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHRYN RIEKIN



PHIL D, BILLY BONES, SUE FROM NO. SHORE MEDICAL CENTER, BILL D & HARRISON

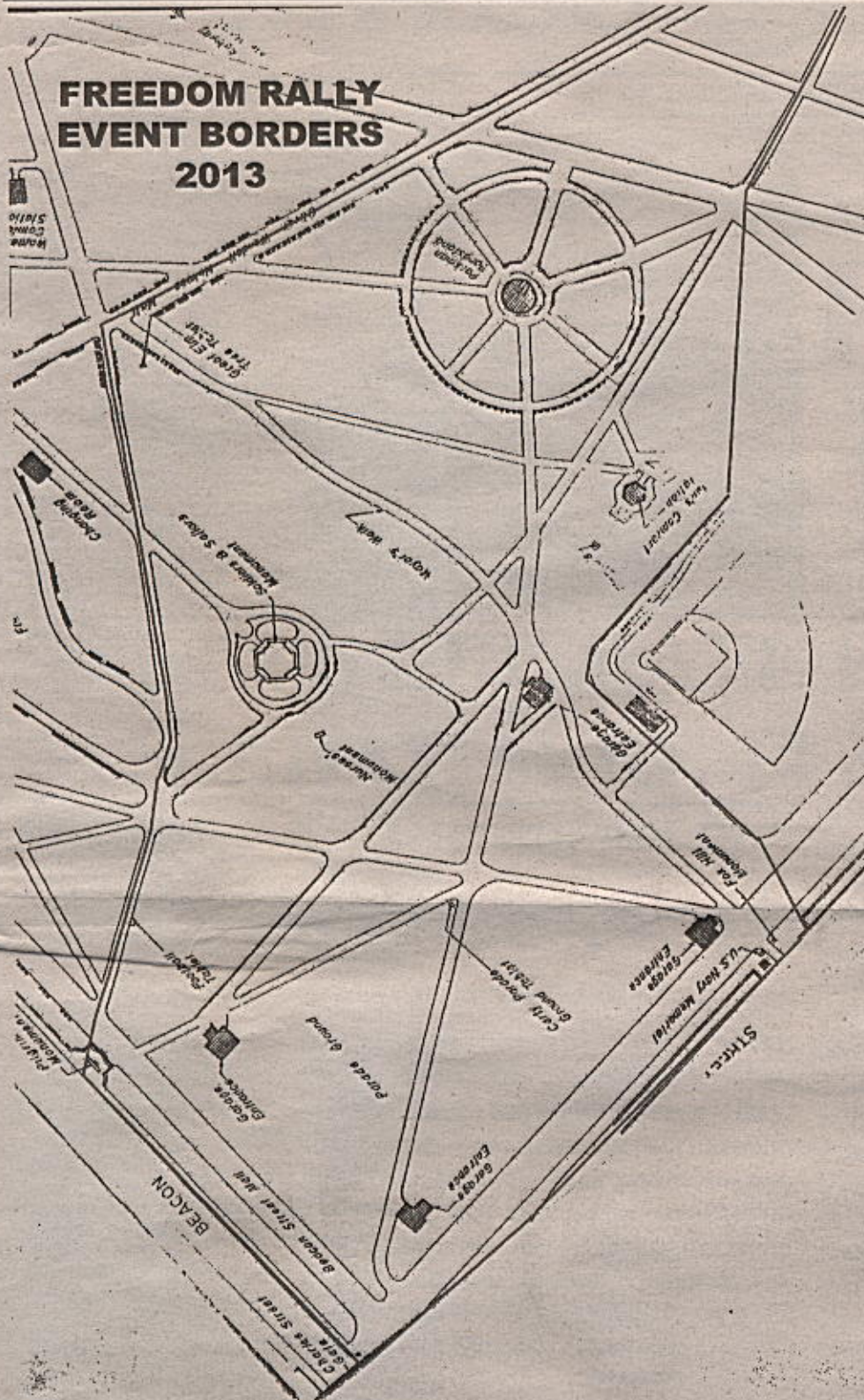
MASS CANN/NORML's ANTI-EMETICS

DONATE \$500 TO THE 2013 NORTH SHORE CANCER WALK



"We shall by and by want a world more of hemp
for our own consumption." John Adams, 1763

A Publication of the Massachusetts Cannabis
Reform Coalition, state affiliate of NORML



HELP END MARIJUANA PROHIBITION SUPPORT MASS CANN/NORML MONEY = POLITICAL POWER

When you contribute at least \$15 to MASS CANN/NORML, you receive our newsletter MASS GRASS, the chance to help educate fellow citizens, notice of Members' Meetings, the right to be heard at MASS CANN/NORML meetings and a renewed sense of hope for a sane and peaceful world. When you contribute at least \$25 you receive the above and the right to vote at Members' Meetings.

Also see www.MassCann.org

☐ SIGN ME UP! I'm tired of repugnant laws that criminalize millions of people and prohibit cannabis/hemp for any purpose!

☐ Here's \$40 for my annual dues and a hemp blend members' tee shirt size (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL) _____
PLEASE INDICATE SIZE

☐ Here's \$25 for annual dues with voting rights

☐ Here's \$15 for annual dues without voting rights

☐ Here's an additional contribution of _____ to help the cause

Contributions and gifts to MASS CANN/NORML are not tax-deductible.

Please send newsletters and other information to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Our mailing list is confidential.

Mail this form with check or money order payable to MASS CANN/NORML to:

**MASSCANN/NORML
PO BOX 211
READING, MA 01867-0311**

FREEDOM RALLY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14 & 15

CALENDAR

AUGUST - BAND BATTLE FOR THE RALLY PRELIM #5

AUGUST - STARVING ARTIST MASS CANN/NORML HIP HOP BATTLE

AUGUST 28 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 6:30PM UNOS, 276 WASHINGTON ST., NEWTON, PUBLIC WELCOME

SEPTEMBER 5 - HIP HOP BATTLE FINALS AT THE MIDDLE EAST, CENTRAL SQ., CAMBRIDGE

SEPTEMBER 14 - FREEDOM RALLY #24, BOSTON COMMON, NOON UNTIL 8:00PM

SEPTEMBER 14 - MID-FREEDOM RALLY VIP PARTY

SEPTEMBER 15 - FREEDOM RALLY #24 DAY TWO, BOSTON COMMON, NOON UNTIL 6:00PM

SEPTEMBER 25 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 6:30PM UNOS, 276 WASHINGTON ST., NEWTON, PUBLIC WELCOME