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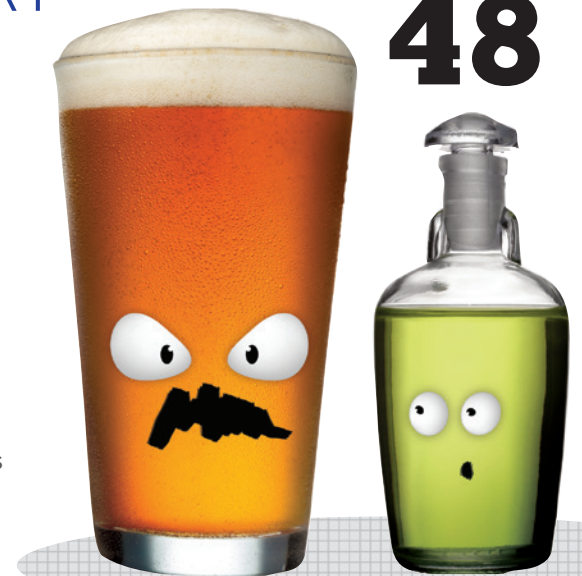
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EXECUTIVE

Ron Kolb CEO, SENSI MEDIA GROUP
RON.KOLB@SENSIMAG.COM

Tae Darnell PRESIDENT, SENSI MEDIA GROUP
TAE.DARNELL@SENSIMAG.COM

Alex Martinez GENERAL MANAGER
ALEX.MARTINEZ@SENSIMAG.COM

EDITORIAL

Stephanie Wilson EDITOR IN CHIEF
STEPHANIE.WILSON@SENSIMAG.COM

Leland Rucker SENIOR EDITOR
LELAND.RUCKER@SENSIMAG.COM

John Lehndorff FOOD EDITOR
EDIBLE.CRITIC@SENSIMAG.COM

Randy Robinson
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR/PHOTOGRAPHER
RANDY.ROBINSON@SENSIMAG.COM

ART & DESIGN

Jennifer Tyson DESIGN DIRECTOR
JENNIFER.TYSON@SENSIMAG.COM

Stacey Jacobs DESIGNER
STACEY.JACOBS@SENSIMAG.COM

John "Ljfresh" Gray HEAD OF PRODUCTION
JOHN.GRAY@SENSIMAG.COM

Danielle Webster CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE

Tyler Tarr PUBLISHER
TYLER@SENSIMAG.COM

Mark Basser ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER
MARK@SENSIMAG.COM

Amber Orvik CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR
AMBER.ORVIK@SENSIMAG.COM

Hector Irizarry DISTRIBUTION
HECTOR@SENSIMAG.COM

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I just returned home from Sensi Night at City Hall, and I'm feeling the love of the cannabis community. While out walking my dog, I bumped into a neighbor while still wearing my Sensi Staff badge, and he asked what I do for a living. I explained our pro-cannabis lifestyle magazine concept. I found myself trying to also explain that while our July "Home Grown" issue was about to go to print, I had just killed my first-ever pot plant, a clone I bought two months ago and named Pearl. He had all sorts of questions for me, about what kind of lights I was using, what soil nutrients, what schedule I was keeping. I cocked my head a bit, and said that I knew what corner I was supposed to place Pearl, according to feng shui practices. Because here at Sensi, we do things a little bit differently.

By design, of course. If you want to know how best to grow your own *Cannabis sativa* plant, there are SO MANY resources, some of which can be found in the advertisements in this issue. Or give it a Google, head to the library, or pick up one of the other cannabis industry-related magazines out there. They are great resources for info like that.

Here at Sensi, we're more focused on how to incorporate cannabis into your daily lifestyle, no matter what that lifestyle may be. I like to think of this issue as our *Better Homes and Gardens*-inspired edition. We have articles on how to make the most of the summer's farmers markets, on how to incorporate plants into your home decor. We dive into the Slow Food Nations festival happening this month, and we explore some of the hand-made local goods you can find at Denver Flea—or even make yourself. We tour dinosaur graveyards around Colorado, and we even deep-dive into the word-nerd lexicon originating in Shakespeare's plays. We look for topics that inspire us, and we write about them in hopes of inspiring you to explore more of your community.

This is an issue I am particularly proud of, and one my father will certainly love to share with his friends. You see, my sister works in the wine industry, and my dad's favorite early-bird-happy-hour boast is that he has one daughter in wine, one daughter in weed. As we learn from this month's special feature, the two industries aren't competing so much as we are complementing each other. There's so many opportunities for the wine, beer, and spirit worlds to commingle and support the cannabis world, the sky is barely even the limit. I can't wait to see, taste, and feel what's in store as cannabis Prohibition ends across the country and around the world.

This is the **NEW NORMAL.**
WELCOME to the ride.



Stephanie Wilson

Stephanie Wilson
EDITOR IN CHIEF
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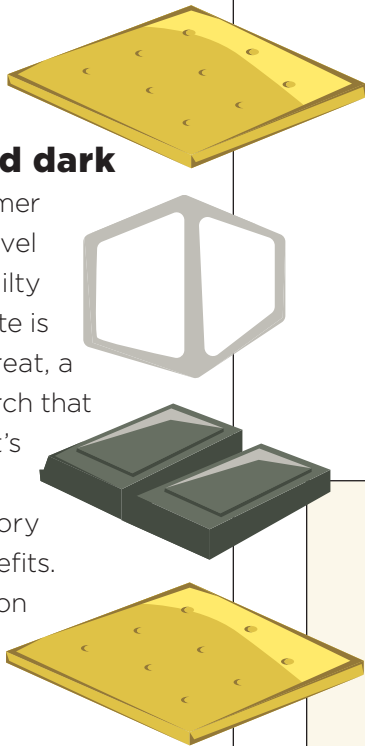
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give me s'more

SUMMER PRO TIP

Swap out the plain ole Hershey's for a serving of **THC-infused dark chocolate** to take your summer campfire treat to a whole new level of awesome—and don't feel guilty about it in the slightest. Chocolate is a mood-enhancer, a soothing treat, a comfort food. And there's research that good chocolate—the stuff that's more than 70% cocoa—is good for the heart, brain, and circulatory system, among other health benefits. Most dispensaries carry a selection of cannabis-infused chocolate edibles you can use to kick your campfire session up a notch.

—STEPHANIE WILSON



KICK UP YOUR CREATIVITY

Feeling inspired? Put your mind to work and make something great.

BEGINNING INK: Paper

WHERE: Ink Lounge in the Baker Neighborhood

WHAT: Screenprinting, a technique that uses mesh to transfer ink onto a surface like paper or fabric, can seem like an intimidating craft to take up, but with a little instruction, a steady hand, and some practice, you can make some wall-worthy stuff. Ink Lounge holds small, one-day workshops that cover the basics of screenprinting on paper: art, film prep, screens, mesh, and all the stuff you need to know to turn you into a maker.

WHEN: July 29

say what? COLORADO LEXICON

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ERMA BOMBECK
HUMORIST, JOURNALIST, COLUMNIST

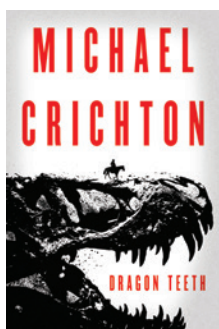
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TASTE OF COLORADO

Handcrafted at 5,280 feet in Denver, Colorado, and delicious as all get-out, **ELEVATION KETCHUP** can take your backyard barbecue up a notch this summer. The basic ketchup is the bomb, but for some added kick, try the Vindaloo style. It gives the hot dog topper a mild Indian curry infusion that doesn't overpower the stellar original flavor. Using his grandmother's recipe, the founder uses simple, organic, non-GMO ingredients—and doesn't use high-fructose corn syrup. Top restaurants such as Linger and Root Down use it, and you can order it online. Or look for it at craft markets around town like the Denver Flea. **-SW**



reading ROOM

Settle down this summer with one of these titles.

DRAGON TEETH // MICHAEL CRICHTON // HARPER

The late Crichton is most famous for his *Jurassic Park* series, and *Dragon Teeth* returns to his paleontological roots. This story, however, takes place during the Wild West—and though there are no genetically resurrected dinosaurs. There is, however, plenty of intrigue, action, and sabotage among a period of insanely competitive dino digging known as the Bone Wars. Like all Crichton novels, this one's smart, fast-paced, and guaranteed to teach you a thing or two.

ELEANOR OLIPHANT IS COMPLETELY FINE // GAIL HONEYMAN // PAMELA DORMAN BOOKS

These days, social awkwardness seems to be the rule of public life rather than the exception, a cultural shift Honeyman captures in her quirky novel. It tells a story of three unlikely friends who struggle through the day-to-day rigmarole of the working world. As they grow close, they begin to discover the solution to the isolated feelings that plague them in a rat-racing digital world: trust. **Insider Tip:** Reese Witherspoon is working on turning the charming tale into a major motion picture. Read it now so you can say with authority that the book was better than the movie.

-RANDY ROBINSON



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NEW USER PROFILES

A study on American attitudes toward cannabis sheds light on what the New Normal is starting to look like.

As American attitudes toward cannabis use continue to evolve, one enduring question remains unanswered: who are the people buying and consuming it? Are they young partiers looking for kicks? Middle-aged moms and dads reliving glory days? Old hippies coming in from the black market? All of the above? None of the above? A combined total of eight billion dollars will be spent on cannabis this year, but we know very little about who's doing the spending.

Despite its dubious legality and legitimacy, millions of Americans have been using cannabis for years, of course. But since black-market dealers don't conduct demographic studies of their customers, there was no way to collect that kind of info. In Colorado, where adult-use has been legal for about three-and-a-half years, legal sales have generated over \$200 million in tax revenue. The state collects the money without knowing much about who the typical cannabis user is or why they use it.

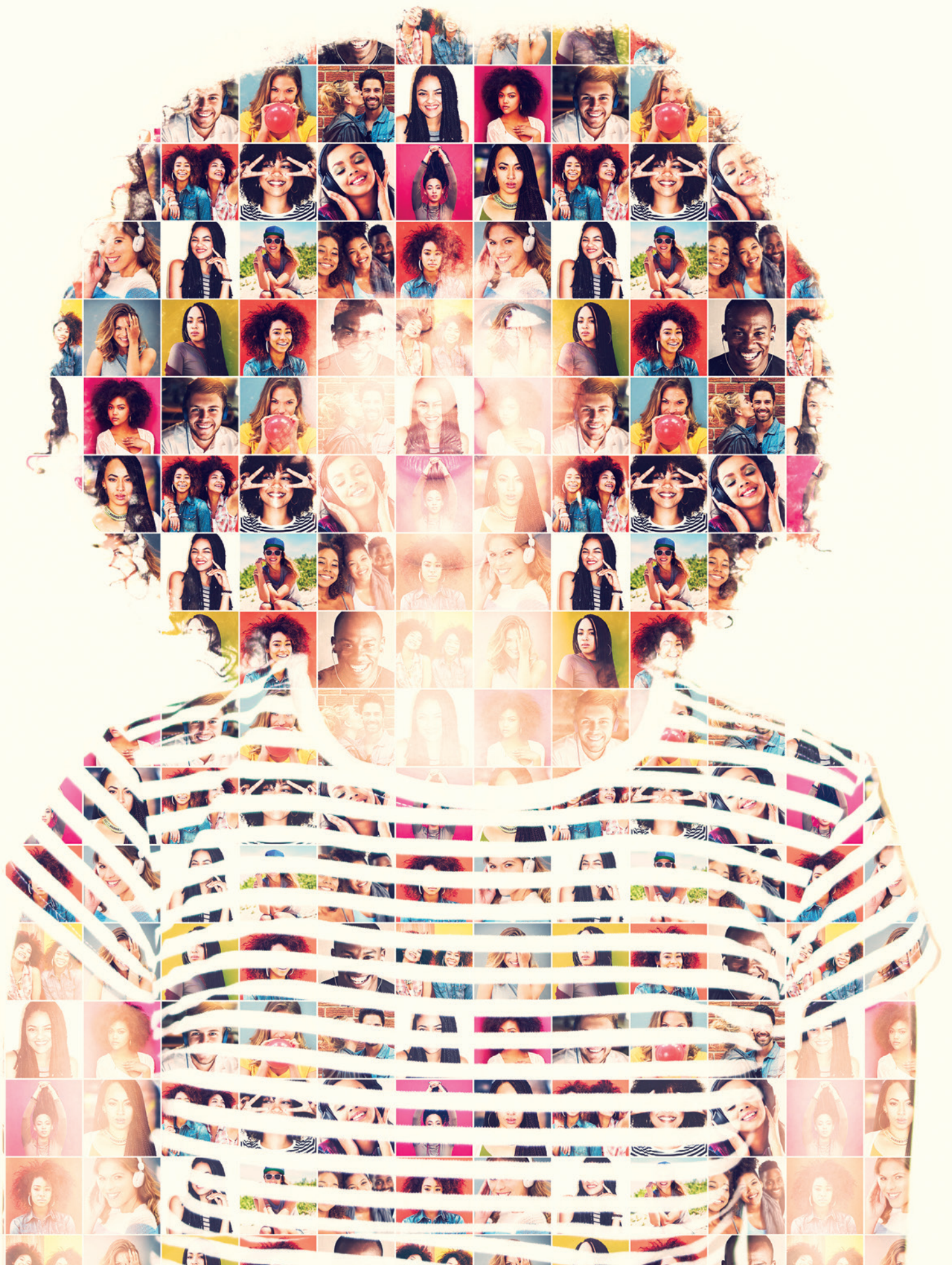
We are beginning to get glimpses, though. BDS Analytics, a Boulder-based firm focused on cannabis market data and consumer insights, is in the midst of a survey of American attitudes toward marijuana in all 50 states, designed to help cannabis companies better understand their customers. Two states have

just been completed: California and Colorado. BDS spoke to a thousand people in each who fell into one of three categories: "Users" who have consumed cannabis in the past six months; "Acceptors" who don't consume themselves but are open to its use; and "Rejectors" who don't use cannabis under any circumstances. Of the 1,000 surveyed, 600 were Users or Acceptors; 400 were Rejectors. The self-identified cannabis Users were asked lots of questions—how much they use, when they use, what they use it for, and where they buy it—along with the typical demographic inquiries about age, income, family, lifestyle, and other such things.

While I'm naturally skeptical of studies, this particular one has no particular bias. Rather, BDS has a credible interest in gathering reliable information that can help cannabis companies find out who their customers are and what they want.

"When I look at all this data, one thing that comes out at me as a branding person is that there is no cannabis consumer," says BDS's Linda Gilbert, who coordinated the study. "There are very many people doing it for very different reasons for very different benefits—and using many ways to consume it."

That was a big takeaway for me, too. In general, the





survey found that Users in both states are slightly more male than female, and though ages skew to the younger side, more than half are over 35 and many are college grads with higher-end incomes. Users also seem generally happier than both Acceptors and Rejecters. Most are comfortable with their lives and don't mind that their friends, colleagues, and doctors know about their use. They don't

"When I look at the data, one thing that jumps out at me as a branding person is that there is no cannabis consumer. There are **very many people doing it for **very different reasons** for **very different benefits**—and using **very many ways to consume it.**"**

LINDA GILBERT // BDS ANALYTICS

necessarily want their bosses to know though, which is understandable given that many companies still drug test for pot. Most feel that marijuana is less impairing than alcohol, and one in three Users and Acceptors say they have had negative experiences with cannabis.

Anyone who has hiked a mountain trail or ridden a bike while elevated knows that marijuana can be part of an active lifestyle. One out of every four Users in California said it's part of their fitness routines, whether yoga, Pilates, or gym workouts. In Colorado, almost half use it while doing outdoor recreation or exercise, and more than 30 percent said they use it for yoga or Pilates. Perhaps that helps explain the current rise of elevated yoga classes and consumption-friendly gyms, and it might help further dispel the notion that pot turns people into couch potatoes.

Along with barbells and treadmills, Users incorporate cannabis into entertaining activities such as watching television, going to the movies, or fine dining. They like pairing it with chocolate and carbonated drinks, as well as beer, wine, and spirits. Thirty-five percent of Californians say they use it with craft beer, while a quarter say they use it when they go to clubs and bars.

The tired concept of "getting high," popularized during the Richard Nixon/Cheech and Chong era and still a popular meme, continues to lose its caché (and I say good riddance). The biggest reasons given for cannabis use are for pain, stress relief, and relaxation. More Californians say they use it for medical purposes, which makes sense since the state hasn't opened recreational stores yet. There are disagreements among Users and Rejecters about whether cannabis has medical properties, but about half of all respondents said they consider it medicine.

What this suggests is that there is a blurring of the concept of medical and recreational marijuana, perhaps due to nomenclature. Even people who buy from recreational stores are using it for medical reasons: to manage pain, as a sleeping aid, or to relax after a long day at work.

One statistic that stuck out is that the most frequent consumers are parents



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and Gen-Xers, the post-baby-boom generation aged 33–52. I wasn't particularly surprised that, in both states, more than 60 percent of Users were parents, and it brings up an interesting scenario in the new normal: Mom and dad get home from work. Mom heads out to the garage for a few minutes while dad watches the kids. Mom comes back in smiling, and it's dad's turn. Dinner and the evening rituals commence.

And, as it turns out, parents who use cannabis worry about the same things that parents who don't worry about: underage access to the products, how to determine whether a driver is impaired, and more safety and diligence in packaging and dosage of edibles.

Though the most common way to imbibe is still flower marijuana rolled into joints or smoked from bongs and water pipes, even that is changing. Many people now get their cannabis through edibles, vaporizers, creams, salves, lotions, patches, and even suppositories for various conditions.

Perhaps the most interesting thing about the findings is the acceptance of cannabis use by other people—even Rejectors. Part of this is likely because cannabis has been legal in both states longer than most. In California, 93 percent of all those surveyed, including Rejectors, agree there should be some form of legal marijuana. Three-fourths believe it has medical benefits, especially for relieving pain, and even more than half of Rejectors would want a family member who's ill to be able to use it if it eased suffering. Those acceptance numbers are even higher in Colorado, where even 80 percent of Rejectors feel it should be legal, and half believe it has some medical value.

Perhaps this is the real takeaway: The new normal doesn't look much different from the old one. As more people notice the sky isn't falling in states where cannabis is legal, the madness over marijuana's perceived dangers continues to fade. It's been a long road. Cannabis has been demonized since at least 1937. Given all the years of fake news, I'm encouraged that even Rejectors are embracing the idea that adults should have the right to choose to use a plant that seems to offer so much to so many.

BEASTIE BLOOMZ



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{crossroads}

by RICARDO BACA

Bridge with bicycle
and water channel
in Amsterdam



GROWN IN THE NETHERLANDS

Introducing the premiere *Sensi* column by
The Cannabist founding editor, Ricardo Baca.

I'm navigating my wife and I into the city center on our rented bicycles, crisscrossing scenic canals and dodging fresh-meat tourists, when I see a familiar business name ahead of me.

I stop in front of Grey Area Coffeeshop and look back at Melana, who is already carefully eyeing the hoards of tourists trying to jam themselves into the consumption cafe's premise. A few days earlier a new Dutch friend had told us that Americans seem to flock toward Grey Area, though Melana and I aren't exactly your typical Americans.

"We have a couple hours before we need to be back," I tell her. "This looks miserably packed, so maybe we'll see what the next coffeeshop looks like?"

Melana agrees, and we're immediately backed-up. A few minutes later, we happen upon an unremarkable brown awning reading 420 Coffeeshop. It looks like your average crowded-but-not-packed cafe from the outside, a brick building on the corner across from a bakery, and so we lock our bikes up by the canal and head in.

Coming from Free America (aka Colorado), where the government still hasn't figured out a way to reasonably permit consumption-friendly spaces even though we've lived with recreationally legal cannabis since 2012, I'm excited to show my wife Amsterdam's famous coffeeshops. The public consumption of marijuana in social spaces here is nothing new. I re-

member awkwardly trying hash on my first visit to Holland in 1999, and now, nearly 20 years later, I'm eyeing a laminated menu broken into Grass, Hash, Pre-Rolls, and Space Cakes.

After ordering a coffee, Coke, space cake, and pre-roll, we grab a window seat looking over a small alley and prepare ourselves—with me curiously poking at the dry, bread-like "cake" in front of me and Melana lifting the joint to her nose with an unsure, raised eyebrow.

Admittedly, we're spoiled by regulated cannabis. But when in Amsterdam ...

While most 420 tourists here still relish the ability to semi-legally buy cannabis in storefronts, the quality of the marijuana sold in many of the coffeeshops has tanked so abruptly that many customers can be heard lamenting their stashes of home-grown back in Australia, Thailand, or Spain.

"Ah, it's total shit," a new Austrian friend tells me a few hours later as he passes a coffeeshop-purchased joint to his left-hand side, verbally wishing he could have flown here with his Austrian-grown bud.

Some of our Dutch friends had kindly offered to take us around the canals in their boat for an idyllic evening of wine, weed, sushi, and sightseeing, and the multinational group they'd assembled for the outing seems to agree on one thing:

So much of the weed you'll buy in Amsterdam these days is total shit.



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And there's a reason for that. In brief, pot isn't legal here, rather the sale and use of cannabis is tolerated by the government. But because the cultivation of marijuana remains a serious crime in the Netherlands, you can imagine how that complicates the paradoxical supply chain—and makes it difficult for a coffeeshop to secure a consistent line on quality product.

As I ask various Dutch friends if they buy their weed in coffeeshops, I'm universally greeted with chortles, as-ifs, and invitations to see their home

HOME-GROWN MARIJUANA HAS BECOME KING IN THE HISTORIC CANNABIS CAPITAL.



Ricardo Baca speaking inside the Cannabis University tent at Cannabis Liberation Day.

garden. Given that I'm here to speak at Cannabis Liberation Day, the largest marijuana event in the Netherlands, I'm meeting weed aficionados from all over the globe, and sure enough, Amsterdam cannabis is everyone's favorite punching bag.

"It's barely even recognizable as marijuana," a guy from Spain tells a group of us.

It's increasingly clear that as coffeeshops' products have declined, home-grown marijuana has become king in this historic cannabis capital.

And that's something that surprises many visitors here—especially those from certain parts of the world where regulated (or semi-regulated) markets are selling quality flower and pot products at medical dispensaries or retail storefronts.

In a way, it seems like Amsterdam cannabis is finding itself again. For decades Amsterdam has been defined by the coffeeshops that seem to cater more to tourists than to locals. But now locals and tourists alike know that the coffeeshops are the last place to find quality green.

When a Dutch friend offered us some of her home-grown after a quick breakfast on Liberation Day itself, we were honored—and relieved that it meant we didn't have to stop by another coffeeshop. When we shared that

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A space cake in Amsterdam

joint with friends later, they were of course thankful, but you should have seen their eyes light up when we told them it was home-grown and not from a coffeeshop.

“Drug policy in the Netherlands is moving backwards,” one Dutch friend lamented. “And so is the quality of the cannabis in these coffeeshops.”

Meanwhile back at the 420 Coffeeshop, our joint is lit and our (alleged) space cake is unpackaged. My wife’s allergies are preventing her from giving too discerning a review on the flower’s quality, but I can smell from the smoke that something’s at least a little off. My cake definitely has weed in it, as I would learn about 45 minutes later, but the lack-luster quality of the baked good makes it difficult to enjoy.

I notice a man in his 50s approach the counter and order a coffee. He takes a table near us and, as he waits for his order, unrolls a worn leather satchel revealing some bright-green leaf matter and a package of rolling papers. Before his coffee even lands at his table, he’s rolled a joint with expert efficiency, and it’s clear that he, like the rest of us, is here to have a smoke—though he’s not smoking the shop’s marijuana.

And there it is right in front of us: The world’s best-known capital of cannabis is struggling, but the ever-resilient Dutch are still getting by—and they’re still smoking and vaporizing quality (read: home-grown) cannabis while they’re at it.

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{ediblecritic}

by JOHN LEHDORFF



CHEF SPOTTING

Look behind the arugula to spy chefs nabbing stellar veggies at the farmers market.

See that frumpy guy in shorts, sunglasses, and a floppy hat poking around the garlic scapes at the farmers market? He might be the same person who will greet you tonight and feed you butter-poached salmon over sautéed greens paired with a pleasant chardonnay.

In fact, you might be virtually surrounded by chefs and never know it if you shop at the Boulder County Farmers Market locations in Boulder, Longmont, Lafayette, and at Union Station in Denver.

I arrived one recent Saturday morning and lurked near the escarole at the Cure Organic Farm stand and waited. The incognito chefs tend to come early looking to score the freshest, rarest crops. They stick out a little because they often pull an overloaded wagon or are weighed down with huge bags of lettuce, herbs, and veggies. They are always in a hurry because Saturday is the busiest dining night of the week.

The Boulder Cork has become known as the place for great steaks in a less-than-carnivorous town, but the restaurant's chef for 35 years, Jim Smailer, is focused on everything else on the plate. He has been a regular at the Boulder market from the start and also maintains a kitchen garden outside his North Boulder eatery.

"I just did a quick walk through today. I picked up some nice lettuces, some rhubarb that will go in a cobbler, Kiowa Valley asparagus for polenta, and epazote (Mexican herb)," he said. Smailer also picked up turnips he planned to slice very thinly and sauté in olive oil and butter until slightly browned.

Many farms deliver directly to the restaurants, but many chefs prefer the visceral feeling of being at the market, interacting with the farmers and literally walking the talk when it comes to supporting sustainable, local, organic produce.

There are other farmers markets much closer to home, but chef Teri Rippeto has walked the Boulder market in rain, shine, or snow virtually every Saturday since opening Denver's Potager restaurant 20 years ago when she unpaved a parking lot and planted a kitchen garden.

Rippeto is warmly greeted when she arrives at the Cure Farm stand pulling a wagon laden with tiny ripe strawberries and various lettuces. "I've come up from Denver every week because, until last year when the Union Station Farmers Market opened, this was the only farmers market just for growers, all local," she says.

All "farmers markets" do not follow the same rules.

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Some allow vendors to sell oranges, pineapples and other items imported from outside the state.

"It's all about supporting the farmers in what they do. I never ask about price. I pay whatever they are charging and it's worth it," Ripetto says. She left with some escarole, dandelion greens, and Vermont cranberry beans for the evening specials at Potager.

Some chefs are always at the market because they operate stands for produce or prepared victuals in the food court.

If you stop at the shaded Black Cat Farm counter, you'll usually find Eric Skokan behind the counter. His thriving 130-acre Longmont family farm

“I love to watch the flow of ingredients through the seasons here. If you can make a habit of coming to the market every week, you will learn so much, even if you don't buy anything. Talk to the farmers and ask a lot of questions.” DAKOTA SOIFER // CAFE AION // BOULDER

helps supply his two downtown Boulder eateries, Black Cat Bistro and Bramble and Hare, as well as other restaurants. The farm produces everything from organic purple artichokes and cracked wheat to heirloom pork. Skokan's recent book, *Farm Fork Food: A Year of Spectacular Recipes Inspired by Black Cat Farm*, includes recipes ranging from cardoon and kale to basil ice cream with summer berries.

Dakota Soifer, the chef-owner of Cafe Aion near the University of Colorado campus, presides over two huge paella pans in the Boulder market's mobbed food court. The rice variations usually include breakfast paella with market veggies and eggs. (Tip: Always ask for some *socarrat*, the crispy, toasty rice from the bottom of the paella.)

Soifer uses a salad greens mix grown for Cafe Aion at Oxford Farms. "I walk around the market and pick up things for paella. I love to watch the flow of ingredients through the seasons here," he says.

"If you can make a habit of coming to the market every week, you will learn so much, even if you don't buy anything. Talk to the farmers and ask a lot of questions," he says.

Trust and a relationship means you might try a new vegetable like kohlrabi with cooking instructions from an expert. If you ask the farmers how to prepare certain items of produce, they tend to advise keeping things simple to allow the taste of the crop to shine. They might also suggest alternative tweaks like

MARKET RECIPES

“You can get the ingredients for this gazpacho at the market, the tomatoes, onions, cukes, peppers and bread from Udi’s — everything is here,” says chef Dakota Soifer of Boulder’s Cafe Aion.

Cafe Aion Gazpacho

- » 1 QUART ROUGHLY CHOPPED RIPE RED TOMATOES
- » 2 CUPS PEELED, CHOPPED CUCUMBER
- » 1 MEDIUM YELLOW ONION, ROUGHLY CHOPPED
- » 5 GARLIC CLOVES, CRUSHED
- » 1 SMALL HOT CHILE (OPTIONAL)
- » 2 CUPS TORN DAY-OLD ARTISAN BREAD
- » ½ CUP EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL
- » 2 TABLESPOONS RED WINE VINEGAR
- » 2 TEASPOONS SALT

Mix it all up and let it sit out for one hour. Purée in a blender and adjust seasonings. Chill soup and serve cold with a splash of nice olive oil.

In the summer, chef Jim Smailer of the Boulder Cork serves a highly popular and “super easy” grilled watermelon salad.

“I grill wedges of watermelon with a little olive oil salt and pepper. I place a round of Cana de Cabra (tangy, creamy goat’s milk cheese) on one half and top with another wedge of melon and serve on a salad of arugula of mixed baby lettuces. I drizzle a little super high quality balsamic vinegar on top.”

Boulder Cork Grilled Watermelon Salad



BUZZ ON THE STREET

Dear Sir or Madam,

Let me begin by telling you a little bit about myself before I disclose my personal sexual details. I am 38 years old. For the past five months, my lover and I have had the worst sex of our lives. Honestly, we don’t know what happened. We consistently execute our routine to prepare for a spontaneous night of passion, which I will list for you now:

1. I trim all the candlewicks to the exact same height because I cannot get horny if even one candle flame is off.
2. I replace my regular bedsheets with my family’s antique ones because you can’t go wrong with 250-year-old lovemaking bedsheets.
3. I wear my lucky headband which keeps my bangs out of my eyes.

After completing these pre-sex steps, we then proceed to one of our three time-honored, quality-tested sex routines. Unfortunately, none of our usual go-to’s were working. While researching possible solutions, I stumbled upon High Love chocolate in a recent *Penthouse* Magazine which impressed me. I purchased a dozen. On Friday the 18th of April at 0700 hours, my lover and I indulged in a **High Love** and in a matter of minutes the candles were out, the sheets were wet and my headband was flying off. It is now safe to say that we have a new go-to routine.

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Resources: The Colorado Department of Agriculture's 2017 Colorado Farm Fresh Directory includes hundreds of farms, ranches, roadside stands, u-picks, CSAs, farmers markets, tours, restaurants using local ingredients, wineries, county fairs and food festivals. Available in print, online at COLORADOAGRICULTURE.COM/FARMFRESH, and as an app.



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cold smoking eggplant or quick pickling fruits like peaches and melons. They also know the answer to the big question: "How much basil does it really take to get a 'packed cup' for pesto?"

All of this flavor and freshness comes with a price tag. Produce is almost always more expensive at a farmers market. "It's worth it because it is fundamentally better for you—higher quality, fresher stuff, and you know where it comes from and how it is grown. I'm glad that Safeway has organic kale available to everyone, but, sometimes, smaller is better," Dakota Soifer says. One tip: Ask farmers if they have any marked-down No. 2 small or bruised produce you can use in cooking.

Matt Collier of Seeds Library Cafe is a chef on a small mission. The cafe, set scenically on the bridge-way over Boulder Creek at the main Boulder Public Library, and the Seeds food stand are a partnership between Boulder County Farmers Markets and the City of Boulder to promote local food.

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At the market, Collier said he is like any other culinary tourist. "I just visit the stands and see what looks good to me," he said. That day, he picked up some baby beets, turnips, Siberian kale and garlic scape—that's the tasty green that emerges from a garlic bulb.

Collier's shopping tips start with a call to be brave. "My advice is to go outside your comfort zone by trying new vegetables and greens in season," he says.

The sustainably oriented chefs and farmers have developed a nice symbiotic relationship that is great for us shoppers and diners. Some of the heirloom and organic greens, beans and veggies we find at the market are only available because restaurants and natural food stores created a demand.

Farmers markets are also an essential way to create community among like-minded foodies ... and even among chefs, according to Dakota Soifer. "It's a time-honored tradition to get together at the market all over the world. This is one of the few places chefs ever see each other because we're always at our restaurants," he says. .



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by **LELAND RUCKER**



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In Colorado, our favorite off-the-interstate location is easily Dinosaur National Monument, which straddles the border of Utah in the northwest corner of the state. It is one of the most remote and spectacular destinations in the monument system. (Monuments are a step below national parks and generally include fewer amenities, less information, and little signage.)

Dinosaur National Monument was created in 1915, not long after a paleontologist with the Carnegie Museum discovered prehistoric fossils in a rock formation north of Jensen, Utah, in 1909. That rock formation soon became a quarry, and the surrounding 80 acres were given the monument designation to preserve the outstanding fossil resources. Today, Dinosaur National Monument encompasses over 200,000 acres, most of which are in Colorado. It has few roads, easy access to petroglyphs and pictographs, and mind-boggling scenery as well as being a major repository of dinosaur fossils.

You can't just drive in, spend a couple of hours, and drive out and say you've been there. To get there, it's a good six-hour drive from Denver, and about two hours north of I-70, two hours south of I-80 in Nebraska, and four hours east of Salt Lake City. You need at least two days, which means you really have to want to go, but it's so worth it. The more time you spend, the more remote you can get.

We start our visit at the quarry Visitor's Center just a few miles north of Jensen. The road hugs the Green River, which meanders through the monument before heading south for its rendezvous with the Colorado River in Canyonlands National Park near Moab. A giant, black-and-white wooden Stegosaurus greets visitors, and there are lots of exhibits and fossils with historical information about the area.

Near the visitor's center is the quarry wall itself. The huge ledge, one of hundreds found so far in the area, contains fossilized remains of dozens of different creatures pretty much as archeologists found them. The building was literally constructed around it (and recently remodeled), so visitors can see the kinds of historical artifacts and individual fossils the scientists unearthed. The ledge is fifty feet high and three times that length, with close-up viewing on two levels. You won't find something like it anywhere else.

After a couple of hours at the wall, we head north for Split Mountain. Long story short, it's the place where, over millions of years, the Green River changed

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its original course and took some of the topography with it. Even if you don't understand the geology, it's easy to see what looks like an oversized, sandstone ship that just slid into the river, exposing millions of years of geologic history in the process. Best time for photography is at sunset, with the dimming light glowing on these primeval rocks.

Further on, we stop and walk on short trails to petroglyph and pictographs made by the Fremont, Ute, and Shoshone tribes who once lived here, leaving their art for the rest of us to ponder. Nearby, wooden farm fences still stand in almost perpetual quiet at the Josie Morris cabin, where a pioneer woman lived for more than 50 years without any modern conveniences.

The second day, we drive the Harpers Corner Road out of the visitor's center at Dinosaur, Colorado. (Stop by the Bedrock Café on Highway 40, aka Brontosaurus Boulevard, for the best homemade, locally sourced malts and shakes in the area.)

And though there are some remarkable overlooks on the way out, nothing can really prepare you for the epic drive into the depths of Echo Canyon. Standing at the overlook at the top, we think twice before heading down the dizzying series of switchbacks that begin the 12-mile journey to the enormous Steamboat Rock at the bottom. About two-thirds of the way down, we pass Rial Chew Ranch Historic District, the well-preserved remains of a working ranch from the early 20th century.

At the base of the canyon, where the Green and Yampa Rivers converge, we find ourselves in magnificent isolation a couple thousand feet below ground level. We're surrounded by towering cliffs reaching toward the sky. Across the river, Steamboat Rock rises like a massive sentry.

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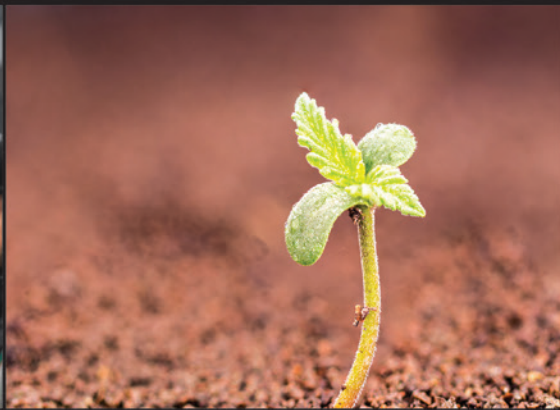
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advance, and check with the rangers before heading down into Echo Park, especially when roads are wet.

The drive back up is just as spectacular as the one down. On the way out, we stop by the overlook again. From this vantage point, it looks like Echo Park is in miniature: Steamboat Rock is little more than a pebble, the river just a sliver of brown against the hard-scrabble landscape. Looking down, I am reminded of the time when, in the 1950s, as part of a Colorado River Storage Project, a dam proposed here unleashed a torrent of opposition led by the Sierra Club and Wilderness Society that ultimately helped kickstart the environmental movement that led to the Wilderness Act and the National Scenic Rivers Act.

There are some lodging options just outside the Colorado and Utah centers of the monument, but most who visit stay in Vernal, Utah, 15 miles west of the park. It's an oil town of 10,000 people with all amenities, and it revels in its dinosaur proximity. At the eastern entrance, a 30-foot pink dino right out of *The Flintstones* coyly flicks her eyelids at visitors.

The major attraction is the Field House of Natural

An advertisement for the Kushmoji app. The background is light blue with a pattern of cannabis leaves. At the top, the text reads 'kushmoji THE OFFICIAL CANNABIS EMOJI LIBRARY'. Below this are three emojis: a brown poop emoji with a face, a yellow sun emoji with a face and a cannabis leaf on its forehead, and a hand holding a lit cigarette. At the bottom, there is an 'App Store' download button and a smartphone displaying the app's interface with various cannabis-related emojis.

Dinosaur National Monument:
The Uinta Mountains in Utah



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History downtown. A fossil-lover's dreamscape, it includes a complete diplodocus skeleton stalking the mezzanine, as well as rooms of exhibits and dioramas that trace the area's history and creatures. The dinosaur garden outside is stocked with colorful, life-sized reproductions of various plant- and meat-eating dinos.

One exception is a woolly mammoth, the large, extinct elephant ancestor. This particular replica's guard coat is, inexplicably, made from hemp. The local avian population admires the hair as much as visitors do, plucking chunks of it for their own nests—yet another unlikely use for hemp. The hair has to be replaced every decade or so, a procedure that maintenance specialist Craig Gerber estimates at several hundred man-hours each time. Or, as he puts it, "A nightmare from hell."

LAND BEFORE TIME & CLOSE TO HOME

Dinosaur Ridge, just west of Denver at 16831 W. Alameda Parkway in Morrison, is an inexpensive way to spend an afternoon. Perfect for families, this National Natural Landmark is a huge shelf that features more than 300 footprints encased in sandstone. You will also find life-sized dinosaur models, guided shuttle-bus tours of the ridge, self-guided walking tours, and various other geologic activities. It's open seven days a week, and it's free. Complete information and hours at DINORIDGE.ORG.



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If you don't have the time or inclination to get far off-grid, you could try a day trip up to "the oldest building in the world." Get on Highway 287 out of Ft. Collins, Colorado, and head up into Wyoming, a drive that is pretty spectacular in its own right, cresting at the Wyoming border. About an hour north of Laramie is the Fossil Cabin. It was constructed in 1933 by Thomas Boylan, who made it of bone fragments from the nearby site, hence the designation "oldest building in the world."

It's not a tourist attraction anymore, and you can't get inside (in fact, the property is for sale). But there's still a lot of dinosaur history in this area. The Como Bluffs ridge visible to the north is the site of major dino discoveries and international intrigue that dates back to the 19th century. The ridge is also home to thousands of diamondback rattlesnakes that like to nestle amid the bones and keep the foot traffic to a minimum.

Some of the finest dinosaur specimens came from this graveyard. They were transported around the world on the first transcontinental railroad, which rumbled by here on the way from Laramie to Rawlins, and on the first transcontinental highway, which passed Como Bluffs.

Make it an overnight getaway with a stay at the Virginian Hotel in Medicine Bow just a few miles north, where the trans continental trains still rumble by all day and night. Or you could find a spot in Laramie, home of the University of Wyoming. If you opt to head back instead, make a stop at Mishawaka up Poudre Canyon Road off 287 north of Ft. Collins. The incredible views, riverfront amphitheater, and relaxed dining are worth the detour. **(S)**

Young cliff swallows
in their nest



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the marijuana MENACE

Is **CANNABIS** really a **THREAT**
to the **ALCOHOL INDUSTRY**?
NOT EVERYBODY thinks it's a
ONE OR THE OTHER proposition.

by **LELAND RUCKER**

The headlines have been as intriguing as they have been ominous: "Weed will soon clobber beer sales, Wall Street Says," CNBC. "Beer Industry Could Lose \$2 Billion from Legal Marijuana," *Forbes*. "Big Alcohol Is Working to Undermine Marijuana Legalization, Wikileaks," SFGate. "Why Is Booze Business Against Legal Pot?," *Boston Globe*.

The stories, many in business sections or magazines, indicate that companies in the alcohol industry should be increasingly wary of the possibility that cannabis might eat into future market share. A new study conducted by Monocle Research for OutCo, a cannabis company in California, suggests that 50 percent of millennials in California will choose cannabis over alcohol when it becomes legal for recreational use on January 1, 2018. A study by financial analysts Cowen & Co. suggests that beer volume sales in Colorado, Oregon, and Washington—three states where cannabis is legal for adult use—are down 2.5 percentage points. It's not too surprising that the alcohol industry went on the offensive.

A WikiLeaks dump during last year's election cycle exposed a paid segment by the national Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America encouraging politicians to be wary of marijuana legalization. In Massachusetts, the Beer Distributors Association's political action committee gave \$25,000 to the Campaign for a Safe and Healthy Massachusetts to fight that state's adult-use initiative last year, and the Wine & Spirit Wholesalers of Massachusetts kicked in another \$50,000. Arizona's 2016 ballot measure to legalize adult use was defeated at least in part by \$10,000 donated to the opposition by the Arizona Wine and Spirits Wholesale Association. In Canada, the alcohol industry is lobbying to ensure cannabis faces the same kinds of advertising restrictions as spirited products when adult-use cannabis sales begin in the country next year.

Sounds ominous for alcohol. But it raises some big questions: Is the cannabis industry, currently valued at \$8 billion and projected to be \$20 billion in five years, a threat to the \$220 billion alcohol industry?





Are millennials ready to switch their allegiance from beer and wine to cannabis? Or are we reading too much into this?

At least part of it is our current meme mentality: a tendency to oversimplify complex subjects in a sentence or pithy comment. Just because beer sales are down a couple of percentage points in states with legal cannabis doesn't necessarily mean that cannabis is the cause. People might be drinking less beer because they're mixing more cocktails, or they might be using cannabis to wean themselves from pharmaceutical drugs instead of trading it for beer. Correlation does not imply causation; just because two things are happening doesn't mean that one caused the other to happen. Proving causality can be a bitch. So why the alarm?

The director of the Brewers Association, an agency dedicated to promoting and protecting the interests of small and independent breweries in the US, says the Colorado brands he represents aren't feeling particularly threatened. He notes that the state still has a vibrant tourist economy, and he questions whether beer sales are actually flat or dropping in Colorado.

State tax figures for sales in brewery taprooms are notably unreliable, and state revenue data indicate that beer sales are actually slightly up in cannabis states. "Some cannabis users tend to be a little younger and trend toward craft beer over lagers," he says. "If there is damage, it could probably be to large industrial lagers. It could benefit craft brewers."

The jury is still out on whether people are switching allegiance from brew to bud, says Taylor West, executive director of the National Cannabis Industry Association. Consumers say they are drinking less, she says, but it's still too early to tell if people are switching from one to the other. "We're seeing no panic in the alcohol industry. People are still doing both, and I think that's likely to continue."

Hezekiah Jones heads the National Growers Association, a trade organization for agricultural cannabis operations in California that focuses mostly on state policy, licensing, and legislation there. He notes that there will be those who will only consume cannabis, or only consume beer, or consume both, and that probably isn't going to change. "If they prefer cannabis to beer, they'll do that. I don't think it's going to be

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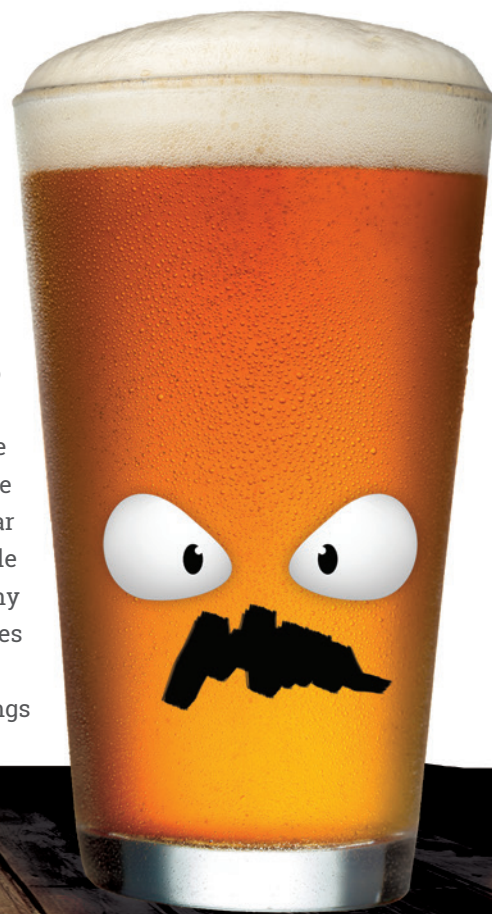
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that revolutionary a change.”

In California, there seems to be more consideration of synergy between the industries rather than fear of competition. Alicia Rose is CEO of the HerbaBuena Cannabis Company in Marin County, California. A consultant for many years in the high-end wine industry, with a specialty in family-owned wineries, she founded HerbaBuena, a licensed medical marijuana collective, two years ago, with the goal of applying the same standards of purity, quality, authenticity, and sophistication to cannabis that she championed in the wine world.

She says that the current uncertainty reminds her of the days when the wine industry fretted as craft beer grew in popularity. “We had the same conversations when Two Buck Chuck came out,” Rose says of the popular Trader Joe’s cheap wine offering. What they realized then is that people weren’t necessarily trading one for the other. But, she notes, as with any other product, as consumers’ palates become more discerning, their tastes are always changing.

Rose developed the HerbaBuena Social Club for wine/cannabis pairings



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and tasting experiences that started out as a way to introduce cannabis to curious people who didn't know where to start. "That has evolved with Proposition 64," she says, "and now we're able to offer more lifestyle experiences."

Rose and the NCIA's Aaron Smith are both speaking at the Weed & Wine Symposium August 3 in Santa Rose, California. George Christie, who organized the event, has a long history in the state's wine industry. One of the many hats he wears is hosting winery trade shows. In the last week of a December 2016 show, a one-hour session was added to examine adult-use cannabis and its possible impacts on their products. "It was the busiest session we have ever had," Christie says. "Multi-generational wine-industry people who I didn't expect showed up," he says. "One speaker asked, 'Only an hour, George?'"

That pushed him to dedicate an entire day for Weed & Wine, a deep dive into what legalization means and what opportunities might be available. The response, he says, has been unbelievable. Even before he came up with speakers and topics, hundreds of people began asking about sponsorships and offering suggestions. "It became apparent when you have a situation with more questions than answers, this is what needs to happen," he says.

Christie says among the topics they'll be discussing will be legitimate concerns over



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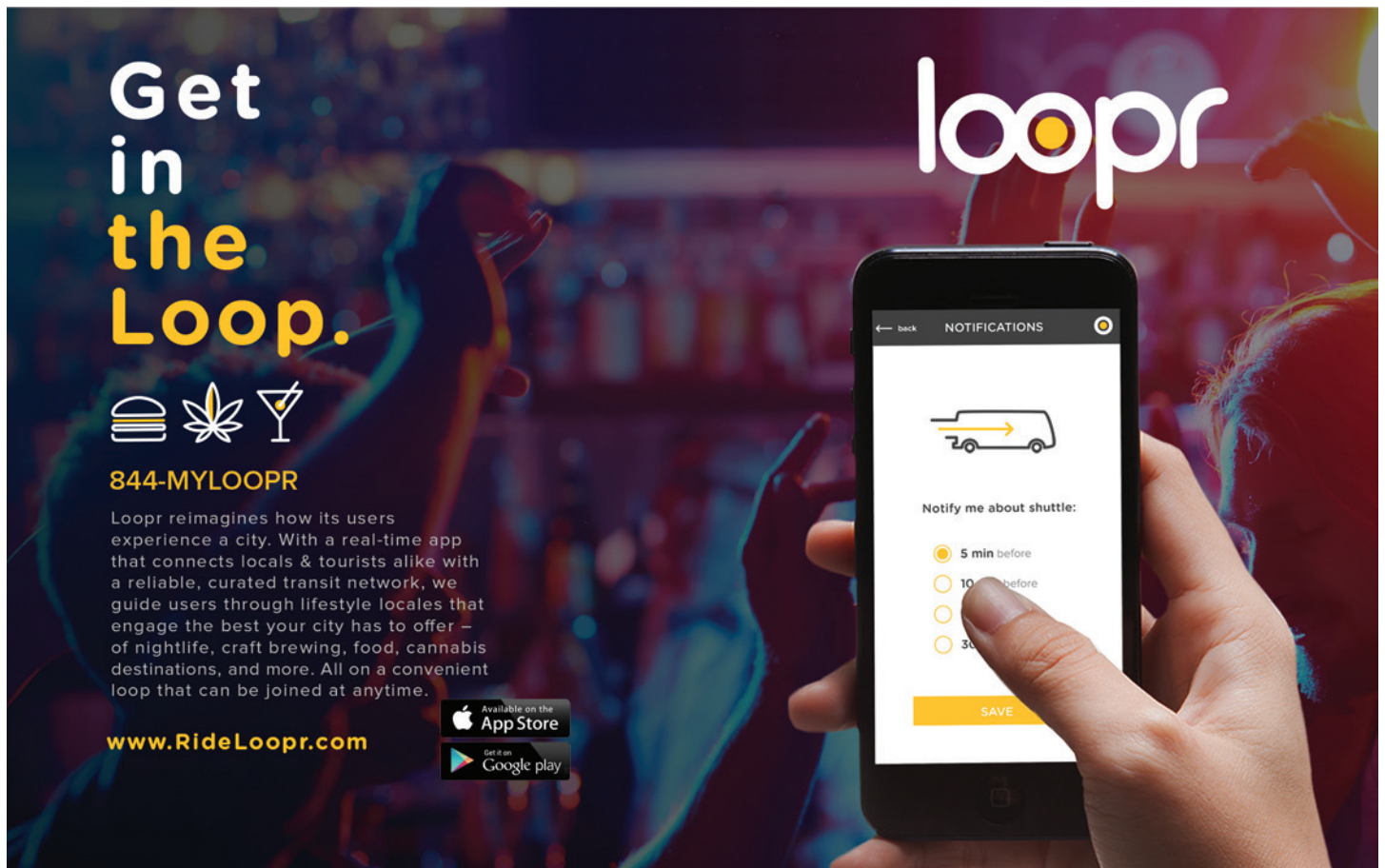
A RECENT BDS
ANALYTICS SURVEY OF
cannabis users
INDICATES THAT **many**
like to pair wine,
beer, and spirits
WITH THEIR FAVORITE
STRAINS.

real estate, water, and labor issues that could arise between the industries, but they won't be particularly focusing on threats to their bottom line. "Our mission for one day is to help educate the wine industry on what's happening."


Christie says he's learning as he goes, and that things are always changing rapidly. The other day, he got a call from someone developing a cannabis strain that tastes like chardonnay. "I don't think that cannabis people would dispute that they could be looking at the wine industry to enhance the experience. I certainly see the logic to talk about food and wine and cannabis together."

And those kinds of opportunities and synergies are what might actually be the future of cannabis and wine and craft beer. A recent BDS Analytics survey of cannabis users indicates that many like to pair wine, beer, and spirits with their favorite strains. That's not as likely to change as quickly as analysts are predicting.

Christie says that most wine operators understand they will be sharing the neighborhood with cannabis. "At the end of the day, a lot of experts are talking, but nobody knows how it will unfold," Christie admits. "Personally, I think when it all nets out, the opportunities for collaboration are going to outweigh the competitive aspects. It makes good business sense to know what's happening with your neighbors." 




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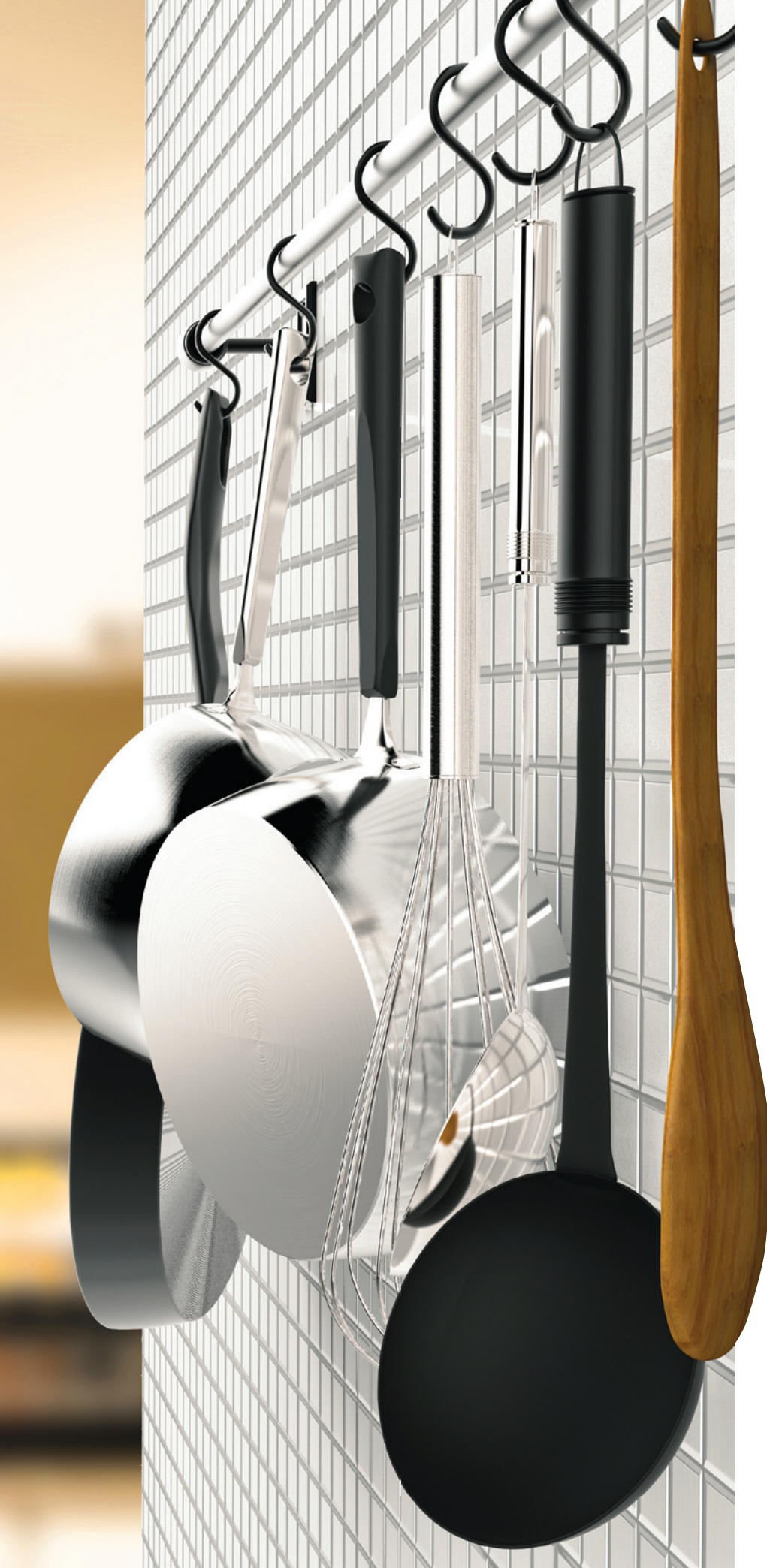
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CANNABIS *in the* HOUSE

by ROBYN GRIGGS LAWRENCE

I INGESTED **cannabis** FOR YEARS BEFORE I CAME FACE TO FACE WITH A REAL, LIVE PLANT. IT WAS A MOMENT. WOWED BY HER MUSCULAR, FIERCE FEMININITY AND OVERWHELMING AROMA, I COOED AT AND PETTED HER WHILE MY FRIEND WHO GREW HER PROUDLY ROLLED HIS EYES. MY RELATIONSHIP WITH CANNABIS WAS FOREVER CHANGED, AND I BEGAN GROWING MY OWN MEDICINE. I LIVE IN COLORADO, SO I CAN—WITH RESTRICTIONS.





“Should we expect **PLANT NURSERIES** where we access our trees, ornamentals and bedding plants to begin **CULTIVATING CANNABIS** in those regions of the country **WHERE IT IS LEGAL TO DO SO?** Yes, that process is underway as you read this.”

— *Turf magazine*, AUGUST 2016

I can't grow my six plants (three in flower, three in vegetation) just anywhere. They must be in an “enclosed, locked area that can't be viewed openly,” which means, according to the state's website, “plants can't be outside.” That's not entirely true. Amendment 64 to the Colorado Constitution makes growing outdoors “not unlawful” if it “takes place in an enclosed, locked space” and “not conducted openly or publicly.”

That's confusing, and a lot of other states have followed Colorado's lead. Oregonians can grow four plants anywhere on their property, but citizens in California, Massachusetts, and Alaska must keep their plants hidden and secured, and gardeners in Maine must also tag them. Keeping up with state and local laws, which can change on a dime, isn't easy. Still, law reform is opening up a world of possibility for gardeners across the country who—like me—embrace cannabis as an exotic new plant.

Susan Sheldon, a landscape architect and master gardener in Amherst, Massachusetts, is one of them. Despite years of rigorous training, Sheldon had no idea

Susan Sheldon's Guide to Cannabis *in the Garden*

OBEY LAWS. Make sure your space complies with all local laws and regulations.

BE DISCREET. Hide plants with other plants or structures. Cannabis is still federally illegal and could invite thieves.

PLANT A DIVERSE ECOSYSTEM. If possible, plant cannabis among beneficial companion plants (a list is at PROJECTCBD.ORG/TAGS/COMPANION-PLANTING-CANNABIS) with good light penetration and air flow.

GIVE PLANTS SPACE. Cannabis plants need at least 2-1/2 to 3 square feet. The more space you give the roots, the larger your plant will grow.

FEED THEM. Go online or visit a grow store to find the best nutrients for your plants. Don't be stingy, but don't overfeed them.

WATER AS NEEDED. Let plants dry out between watering, then thoroughly saturate them. If plants are in pots, place the pot in a tub of water and let the plant drink from the bottom up. If pots are in trays, don't let them sit in water.

PRACTICE GARDEN SANITATION. Remove diseased plants or plant pieces immediately. Clean pruning shears with rubbing alcohol between plants.

BEWARE OF MOLD. Plants in damp climates are most susceptible, but mold can happen anywhere. Check plants daily if not twice daily. In late season before harvest, shake off dew and fan them.

KILL POWDERY MILDEW. PM Remover, a spray made from potassium bicarbonate, lactose, and garlic powder, works.



The Feng Shui of Cannabis

Interior designer and feng shui master Jami Lin, who uses CBD oil in her Hempres Youth Duo skincare line, can't grow hemp plants at her home in Florida. If she could, she would place them in her home's southeastern and eastern corners, where according to feng shui's "five elements theory," the wood element resides. Plants are wood elements, so they feel comfortable and thrive there.

Lin says you can also place cannabis plants, with intention, in the southeastern or eastern part of individual rooms. In the bedroom, they would grow opportunities for deepening relationships; in the office, professional and financial opportunities; in the meditation room, subliminal and unconscious head spaces.

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how to grow cannabis. (It's not discussed at the Garden Club of Amherst.) She learned online and now has cannabis sprinkled among the hyssop, borage, basil, chamomile, and mountain mint in her herb garden full of native pollinators. "The flower is amazing to watch develop," she says. "There's no other plant like that."

Growing cannabis takes knowledge, time and attention, Sheldon adds, but anyone with good intentions can do it. "You've gotta have the attitude that you'll win some, you'll lose some, and it's a learning experience," she says. (Sheldon's tips for growing cannabis in the garden are on page 58.)

Happy Houseplants

People who don't have the luxury of enclosed, secured outdoor space or who want to live more intimately with cannabis are turning to another alternative: keeping it as a houseplant.

Ganjasana yoga founder Rachael Carlevale, who lives with her husband on a hemp farm in Berthoud, Colorado, keeps plants in her living room and on a kitchen window sill alongside aloe (which she says is a great cloning agent). Carlevale trims off leaves to make organic juice that she drinks for health reasons. "Cannabis is a plant, like any other plant, that happens to have medicinal properties," she says. "It's also a very beautiful plant."

Jeanine Moss, founder of Los Angeles-based AnnaBis, which makes luxury "aroma-bloc" handbags and accessories, keeps four plants that were given to her by a friend in her home, and they make her smile every time she walks into the room. "They make me feel like I'm getting good air all the time, and I get a huge amount of pleasure out of having beautiful green trees in my house," she says.

Johnny Stash, president of QUALITYSTARTS.COM keeps cannabis houseplants because the fresh branch tips are one of his favorite foods. He pinches them off using his pointer finger and thumb and adds them to salads, smoothies and sandwiches. "Flavors vary from spicy mustard green to butter lettuce," he says.

"It's not a Ficus Tree"

Pointing out that cannabis is referred to, after all, as a weed, both Moss and Carlevale take a relatively hands-off approach to their plants. Less is more, both women say, and branches dripping with fat nugs is not the goal. When Carlevale's houseplants flower, she and her husband call it "free weed."

"I'm never going to go and fawn over my plants and

Johnny Stash's Guide to Cannabis as a Houseplant

Cannabis is an ideal houseplant because when it's kept in its vegetative state, it provides more oxygen than any other leafy plant and an ongoing source of nutritious, delicious leaves, says **QUALITYSTARTS.COM** president Johnny Stash. Unlike the complicated process of cultivating plants for high yields and potent flowers, growing cannabis as a perennial is fairly simple. Every cultivar is different, but all cannabis plants have the following general needs.

LIGHT AND AIR. Photo-responsive cannabis gets big and leafy when it has 16 hours of light and flowers when it's in the dark for 12 or more hours. As a general rule, plants will remain in veg and live as perennials in any room where it's light enough to read a newspaper for 16 hours and you can see dust particles moving in the air.

A 3-GALLON OR LARGER POT. Cannabis plants have fast metabolisms and need a lot of water, but with large enough root systems, they don't have to be watered every day. A 5-gallon pot is ideal.

ORGANIC SOIL. Support companies that support your ideals. Go local if possible.

WATER. Don't overwater! Water only when the soil is dry and the leaves begin to droop. Once you've developed a relationship with the plant and understand its cycles, try to water the day before the leaves droop.

FOOD. Sprinkle organic granule fertilizer on top of the soil and scratch in with your fingers.

ROOT LOVE. To prevent fast-growing cannabis from getting rootbound, paint the inside of its pot with Micro-Kote, which has copper that prevents roots from circling. If you skip this step, you'll need to prune annually. Pull out the plant and cut off about 3 inches of roots and 3 inches around the edges and bottom of the soil, then fill in with fresh soil.

PEST CONTROL. Water predatory nematodes, which clean up bad bugs and become bioavailable plant food, into the soil when you plant. To kill fungus and mites, spray the top and bottom of your plants' leaves with a mix of 5 milliliters of Bonide, a micronized sulphur, and a gallon of water.

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trim their little leaves and spritz them. I can barely get away from my desk for a couple of seconds, and if I do, it's not to do that," says Moss, who did transplant her plants into larger containers and does water them on a two-day on/one-day off schedule.

Even under Moss's minimalist care, her plants are producing small flowers. "If they have some THC, I'll be happy," she says. "If they don't, I'll still be happy. I'm enjoying them as plants and a little bit of décor."

That makes sense to Carol Venolia, a Santa Rosa, California-based architect and author of *Get Back to Nature Without Leaving Home*, who is amazed at how similar the benefits of simply looking at greenery—reduced blood pressure, muscle tension, stress, and pain perception and speedier recovery from surgery—are to those of ingesting cannabis.

"With cannabis as an outdoor or indoor plant, you get all those benefits plus the fun of your association with cannabis's many pleasant effects and the fun of sitting in a chair and just popping a leaf in your mouth," she says. "It makes a statement. It's not a ficus tree. It's saying you're cool, or crazy, or normal." **S**

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SOLTECH SOLUTIONS (SOLTECHSOLUTIONSLLC.COM) recently released Aspect, the first LED grow light designed to blend beautifully with home decor. CEO Paul Hodges designed the shaded lights as an alternative to currently available grow lights and envisions Aspect lights hanging over bonsaied cannabis plants in lofts from Denver to Portland and beyond. "You could get cannabis from the plants, but not all the cannabis you could ever ask for," he says—and that's not the point. "It's about reflecting your lifestyle. People want their living room decor to be a reflection of themselves, and growing cannabis is a great way to bring that connection even closer."



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Colorado SHAKES

by RANDY ROBINSON

The Mary Rippon Outdoor Theatre during the Supermoon

As **GOOD LUCK** would have it, the **COLORADO SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL** returns to its roots for its **60TH ANNIVERSARY** season.

LITERARY SCHOLAR HOWARD BLOOM CALLED **Shakespeare** "THE INVENTOR OF THE HUMAN." AMERICAN PHILOSOPHER RALPH WALDO EMERSON WROTE THAT SHAKESPEARE "BREATHED UPON DEAD BODIES AND BROUGHT THEM TO LIFE." THE BARD OF AVON'S PROSE IS NOW PART OF A COLORFUL MODERN LEXICON LADEN WITH WORDS AND PHRASES HE INVENTED OUT OF THIN AIR AND USED TO CREATE THE TYPE OF SHARABLE QUOTES THAT DOMINATE YOUR INSTAGRAM FEED. "TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE." "THERE IS NOTHING EITHER GOOD OR BAD, BUT THINKING MAKES IT SO." "LOVE ALL, TRUST FEW, DO WRONG TO NONE." "THE WHEEL IS COME FULL CIRCLE: I AM HERE." THIS SUMMER, TO HONOR ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY, THE COLORADO SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL ALSO COMES FULL CIRCLE: YOU'LL WANT TO BE THERE.



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The “there” in question is in Boulder on the University of Colorado Boulder campus. Specifically at the Mary Rippon Outdoor Theatre, an idyllic open-air setting where Shakespeare is performed under a canopy of stars. It’s quite fitting, then, that Shakespeare’s tale of two star-crossed lovers was the first play to be performed on the stage. The 1944 production of *Romeo and Juliet* was a precursor to the creation of the Colorado Shakespeare Festival, a professional theater company in association with the University of Colorado Boulder established in 1958. That first year, a cast of unpaid students directed by CU theater faculty performed the company’s first summer program on the grass. All the world is a stage, you know. Perhaps *As You Like It*, the play where that saying originated, was too obvious a choice for that inaugural season. Instead, the lineup featured three of Shakespeare’s most celebrated works: *Hamlet*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *Julius Caesar*.

What’s past is prologue still. Those three celebrated works are the centerpieces of CSF’s 60th season, and shows run through August 2017. The company is now

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Carolyn Holding and Christopher Onken play the leading roles in 2016’s performance of *Troilus and Cressida*.

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comprised of an independent troupe of professional actors, set designers, directors, and stage hands. Many of their interns come from CU, but they've taken on students from around the world, too. This summer, alongside *Hamlet*, they will also present *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead*, a comedic modern retelling of *Hamlet* from the perspectives of the tragedy's two

they have just 20 hours to rehearse.

When the show opens on August 6, CSF will become only the second Shakespeare festival in the country to complete Shakespeare's entire 37-play canon for the second time—a milestone moment during a banner diamond anniversary run.

And while Shakespeare's works are centuries old,



Benjamin Bonenfant as Hamlet in David Davalos's *Wittenberg*, a play where a Shakespearean favorite gets tangled up with Dr. Faustus and Martin Luther.

© JENNIFER KOSKINEN

least consequential characters. It was written by Tom Stoppard, the Oscar-winning screenwriter of *Shakespeare in Love*. The cast of *Hamlet* also stars in *Rosencrantz*, in effect telling the same story twice, once as a traditional tragedy and again as a (relatively bloody) comedy.

Henry VI, Part 3—the last play in Shakespeare's War of the Roses chronicle—rounds out the 2017 season with two Original Practices performances. The limited-run OP shows aim to “do Shakespeare the way Shakespeare did Shakespeare.” To thy own self be true, after all. To recreate the 15th-century theater experience, OP sets are as basic as can be, with no lights or sound systems. The costumes are just whatever's on hand. Actors don't even get a full script; they are given a rolled-up scroll with their handwritten lines and cues, and

they still hold relevancy today. Timelessness was one of the playwright's many gifts; an ability to weave creative, complex tales in rhyming iambic pentameter was another—and that talent was a game changer. In part because he sometimes literally changed the game and coined a new word if the one he needed for a certain line of prose didn't exist. Of the 17,000 words he employed over his entire catalog of works, nearly one out of every ten words was one he invented—and this says nothing of the turn of phrases he introduced to the lexicon in “one fell swoop” (that's one) by “playing fast and loose” (there's another) with the English language. He really was “the be-all and the end-all.” (I'm done, I promise.)

Now imagine it's 400 years ago, and the educated



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Vanessa Morosco
and Geoffrey Kent
in *Othello*.



English royalty are watching his plays while the uneducated peasantry stands below the decks. Both groups are scratching their heads at the first utterances of terms like “obscene,” “elbow,” and “bedazzled.” Shakespeare can be intimidating but shouldn’t be avoided.

“I would say give it a try,” says Timothy Orr, the festival’s producing artistic director. Theater is his life—he joined the festival as an actor in 2007—and he’s seen Shakespeare performed across every demographic imaginable. “These plays were not meant to be read. They were meant to be seen and heard, performed by professional actors. We’ve performed them for third graders, and they get it. They understand plot points I didn’t get when I was younger. Shakespeare is quite accessible when done right.”

Colorado Shakespeare Festival is one group that does it right. If you go to one of the many performances, you’ll want to arrive early to enjoy the complete midsummer night’s dream-like experience. Settle onto the grass for a picnic, or enjoy a glass of wine in the gardens. Select performances include pre-show entertainment; almost all include an informal talk held by the producing artistic director or other expert who shares info on the characters and plot and offers insight into the contextual background of the play that’s about to start; afterwards, cast members answer questions during a “talkback” session. Best to get there three hours too soon than a minute too late. **\$**

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Not much of a smoker? Edibles are one of the tastiest ways to consume cannabis, with generally stronger effects than smoking. Start low (10 milligrams is the accepted beginner level) and go slow is the general maxim with edibles, which include candy, cookies, gummies, brownies, chocolate, and beverages. Or choose from our large selection of wax, shatter, oil, and other concentrates, along with the perfect dab rig for anybody.

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Since then, SteepFuze has been on a mission to bring the perfect coffee bean/hemp oil-based CBD combination to every cup. Its unique process rotates single-origin beans from the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Tanzania. "For people on the fringe of cannabis use, this is a non-intimidating way to keep your coffee ritual," says Jamroz, who started SteepFuze in 2013.

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"We've managed to retain the coffee taste while tastefully adding full-spectrum hemp oil," Jamroz ex-



plains. The company gives back to the cannabis community by donating its products to advocacy groups and organizations like American Medical Refugees, the Industrial Hemp Research Foundation, and the Hemp Industry Association.

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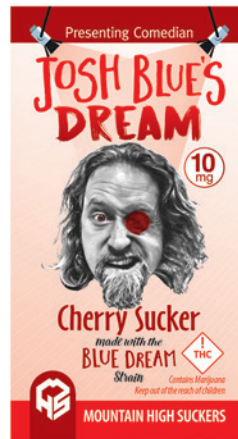
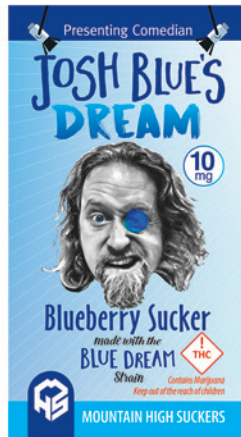
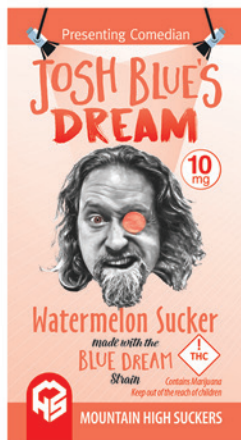
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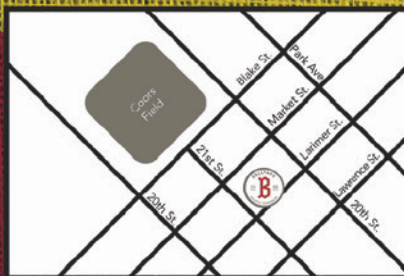
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For a full list of our Advisory Board Members, turn to the masthead on page 9.

A Daddy's Advice

by Joshua Furlong // President, Cheeky Monkey

MY DAUGHTER STARTED COLLEGE LAST YEAR. IT'S A BIG TIME IN THE FAMILY'S LIFE. SHE'S LEGALLY AN ADULT, AND IF YOU ASK HER MOM, SHE'S MORE OF AN ADULT THAN I AM, AND I'M OKAY WITH THIS. (LONG LIVE SPIDER MAN AND THE AVENGERS.) I'VE BEEN VERY OPEN AND CANDID WITH MY DAUGHTER ABOUT MY LIFE AND LESSONS I'VE LEARNED. IN MY LATE TEENS AND EARLY TWENTIES, I WAS A HEAVY CANNABIS USER AND DRINKER. I PARTIED HARD, AND, OF ALL THE THINGS I REGRET DOING, NONE OF THEM WERE WHILE I WAS HIGH ON POT. SO WHEN MY ONLY CHILD AND LITTLE GIRL BEGAN HER COLLEGE ADVENTURE, I SAID SOMETHING TO HER THAT CAUGHT HER BY SURPRISE. I TOLD HER I WOULD RATHER SHE SMOKED POT THAN DRANK.

I can just hear the mindless anti-cannabis robots now. "What a horrible father!" "You should be ashamed!" Well, I'm not. You see, I love my daughter more than my own life. And while I would hope she would wait till she was 21 and legal before making a decision for herself about cannabis and alcohol use, I'm not so naive to believe that she is going to. I didn't; most college and even high school kids don't wait. I would have been remiss in my duties as a father not to talk to my daughter about using cannabis and alcohol and compare the dangers of the two.

She could get high and still retain her faculties enough to avoid being a victim of assault. She can get up the next day and still do her school work and go to work. She's far less likely to do things that she would later regret while smoking pot than while drinking alcohol. And, most importantly, she can avoid death from alcohol poisoning or from becoming an alcoholic. No one has ever died from a cannabis overdose, but thousands of kids die every year in the United States from alcohol abuse and many of them go on to become alcoholics later in life.

So this Daddy's advice is this: if you're not going to wait till your 21, smoke a joint and skip the keg.

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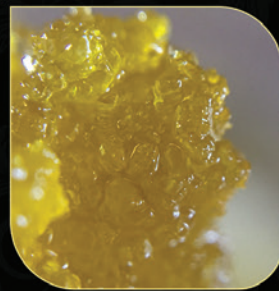
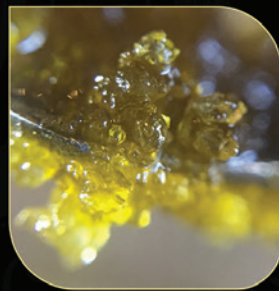
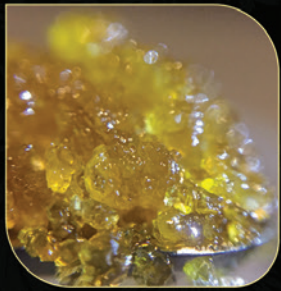


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Tyler Tarr, Samantha Taylor,
Jake Browne and Dustin Mahon



To kick off the summer season, **SENSI PUBLISHER TYLER TARR** created a fantastical evening celebrating the New Normal. *Sensi* partners gathered in RiNo for the red-carpet affair, which included complimentary dinner and drinks in a sophisticated setting. The evening was a chance to say thank you to the cannabis community during the company's first-ever consumption-friendly event.

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When **Slow Food USA** comes to town this month, it brings interactive workshops, tastings, local tours, educational talks, and plenty of meals and parties with it. This grassroots organization is focused on preserving local food cultures and traditions in some 150 communities in the world. Around here, that means a Colorado-Made Block Party, Natural Cheese-making classes, farm tours, heritage breed pig butchering demos, and more. There's even a class on the Art of Day Drinking. It's a mix of free experiences and ticketed events, and you'll want to be there. Your tastebuds—and your community—will thank you.

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by STEPHANIE WILSON

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