



Fw: Please vote Yes : Nipomo Ethnobotanica
Debbie Arnold to: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder
Sent by: **Jennifer Caffee**

07/31/2015 02:56 PM

Debbie Arnold

Supervisor, 5th District
San Luis Obispo County
(805) 781-4339

----- Forwarded by Jennifer Caffee/BOS/COSLO on 07/31/2015 02:55 PM -----

From: Pete Seerden <peteseerden@gmail.com>
To: "lcompton@co.slo.ca.us" <lcompton@co.slo.ca.us>, "fmecham@co.slo.ca.us" <fmecham@co.slo.ca.us>, "darnold@co.slo.ca.us" <darnold@co.slo.ca.us>
Date: 07/31/2015 05:48 AM
Subject: Please vote Yes: Nipomo Ethnobotanica

Hello and Greetings;

I would like to present two strong reasons why I hope the three of you will vote yes in October to allow Ethnobotanica's cannabis store in Nipomo to open.

First, my landlord and I share the same property and I won't allow strangers to deliver cannabis to me at my home out of respect to his wife and family, which requires me to drive two 1/2 hours north to Santa Cruz each month in order to buy the stuff. I use it fairly to relieve arthritic pain.

Second, and most notably, is that Ethnobotanica offers discounts to patients who carry MediCal and Medicare cards, which I honestly feel is the Only manner cannabis shops should be allowed to operate.

I am thankful for cannabis stores for relieving me from having to purchase the stuff on the streets. Please give these particular people a try. I'm in full support of your shutting the place down if it becomes a problem.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Pete Seerden



Fw: Please vote YES for the Nipomo Dispensary on November 3rd

Vicki Shelby to: Fmecham, Ahill, DArnold, lcompton, bgibson,
cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder

10/26/2015 11:23 AM

Vicki M. (Shelby) Fogleman
Legislative Assistant for
First District Supervisor Frank R. Mecham
1055 Monterey St., D430
San Luis Obispo CA 93408
(805) 781-4491/FAX (805) 781-1350

email: vshelby@co.slo.ca.us

"Thinking a smile all the time will keep your face youthful" - Frank G. Burgess
"Wrinkles should merely indicate where smiles have been" - Mark Twain

----- Forwarded by Vicki Shelby/BOS/COSLO on 10/26/2015 11:23 AM -----

From: Joaquin Torres <jtorres2700@yahoo.com>
To: "vshelby@co.slo.ca.us" <vshelby@co.slo.ca.us>
Date: 10/23/2015 11:08 AM
Subject: Please vote YES for the Nipomo Dispensary on November 3rd

As a registered voter and long time resident of SLO county, I strongly urge Supervisor Mecham to vote YES for the Nipomo dispensary that is coming up for discussion at the November 3rd Meeting. The location and plans of the proposed dispensary appear to fit the county ordinance guidelines perfectly and the operators have every intention of following all laws and ordinances in the operation of the dispensary so I see no reason not to vote yes for this.

Again, please vote YES for the Nipomo Dispensary.

Thank you,
Joaquin Torres

Paso Robles, CA 93446



Fw: Marijuana Legalization in Colorado --A Report

Adam Hill, Bruce Gibson, Debbie Arnold,
Jocelyn Brennan to: Frank Mecham, Hannah Miller, Jennifer
Caffee, Vicki Shelby, Cherie McKee, Airlin
Cc: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder

10/26/2015 11:53 AM

Sincerely,
Jocelyn Brennan
Legislative Assistant to Supervisor Lynn Compton
San Luis Obispo County, District 4
805 781-4337

----- Forwarded by Jocelyn Brennan/BOS/COSLO on 10/26/2015 11:52 AM -----

From: zwrights229@aol.com
To: lcompton@co.slo.ca.us
Cc: jbreannan@co.slo.ca.us
Date: 10/24/2015 10:03 PM
Subject: Marijuana Legalization in Colorado--A Report

Supervisor Compton -

Below are links to three volumes of a public report produced by the federally funded intelligence organization, the Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA). They address Colorado's experience with both medical marijuana and recreational legalization with sections on Impaired driving, Use by Juveniles, Use by adults, Emergency room admissions, Related exposure cases, Diversion of marijuana from Colorado to other states and the trend of extracting THC in concentrated form (up to 90%) for a more "euphoric high". The process of vaporizing THC concentrate has also resulted in a number of lab explosions and injuries.

The reports provide some insight into what California can expect if legalization becomes a reality in our state. I thought you might find it of interest.

Take care,
Dick Wright

-----Original Message-----

From: LEIU <LEIU@doj.ca.gov>
To: LEIU <LEIU@doj.ca.gov>
Sent: Thu, Jun 11, 2015 1:05 pm
Subject: Marijuana Legalization in Colorado--A Report

Dear LEIU Member,

Although some of you may already be aware of these reports—I thought I would share them for those who do not have access. In 2014, the Rocky Mountain HIDTA produced a report on the [impact of the legalization of marijuana in Colorado](#). The reports are in three volumes. I have copied the links for each report and have provided that below. The Colorado report provided some very insightful information on the effects of marijuana legalization in Colorado.

Agenda Item No: 16 • Meeting Date: November 3, 2015
Presented By: Dick Wright
Rec'd prior to the meeting & posted on: October 29, 2015

<http://www.rmhidta.org/html/FINAL%20Legalization%20of%20MJ%20in%20Colorado%20The%20Impact.pdf>

<http://www.rmhidta.org/html/August%202014%20Legalization%20of%20MJ%20in%20Colorado%20the%20Impact.pdf>

<http://www.rmhidta.org/html/2015%20PREVIEW%20Legalization%20of%20MJ%20in%20Colorado%20the%20Impact.pdf>

Sincerely,

Bob Morehouse, Executive Director
Association of Law Enforcement Intelligence Units (LEIU)

Bob.morehouse@doj.ca.gov



Association of
Law Enforcement Intelligence Units
www.leiu.org

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Fw: Medical Marijuana Dispensary in Nipomo
Jocelyn Brennan to: Airlin Singewald
Cc: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder

10/26/2015 02:10 PM

Sincerely,
Jocelyn Brennan
Legislative Assistant to Supervisor Lynn Compton
San Luis Obispo County, District 4
805 781-4337

----- Forwarded by Jocelyn Brennan/BOS/COSLO on 10/26/2015 02:10 PM -----

From: "Rebecca Larsen" <rebecca@flagshipimagery.com>
To: <lynn@lynncompton.com>
Cc: <fmecham@co.slo.ca.us>, <bgibson@co.slo.ca.us>, <ahill@co.slo.ca.us>, <darnold@co.slo.ca.us>, <jtrompeter@ksby.com>, <vshelby@co.slo.ca.us>, <cmckee@co.slo.ca.us>, <hmiller@co.slo.ca.us>, <jbrennan@co.slo.ca.us>, <jcaffee@co.slo.ca.us>
Date: 10/26/2015 02:06 PM
Subject: Medical Marijuana Dispensary in Nipomo

Dear Supervisor Compton;

I neglected to copy all of the members of the Board of Supervisors with my first email to you. I am doing so now and taking the opportunity to expand on my previous email.

I would like to address a point that keeps coming up in print and in my conversations with neighbors, community members throughout San Luis Obispo County, and even residents of Santa Maria. I have heard many times that the Appeal was brought on by "the President of the HOA" for Costa Pacifica Estates. I know that you, Supervisor Compton, have met with Jim Bigelow privately on different issues and may feel some connection to him. I ask that you simply put things in perspective and understand that he does not speak for the community. His position on our Board is temporary and he is not authorized to represent the homeowners in anything *other than HOA business* . I resent that this meaningless title keeps being added to Jim Bigelow's name as though it lends any validation or more legitimacy to his opinion than that of the farmworker, housewife, doctor, or attorney that lives up the street. He does not, much to his chagrin, represent the HOA, builder or homeowners regarding this matter or any other matter *outside of HOA business* . He is one citizen with one opinion and one vote – he is *not* the voice of his street, the community, the town, or the County.

I read in the Tribune that there is a chance that the dispensary would cause a 1% chance of crime increase. Let's focus on the keyword: *chance* . There is also a chance that the added security and activity would decrease crime in the area. There is no evidence to either possibility. A review is required two years after sales begin. As with all businesses, the actual effect or impact on a community should be reviewed after a responsible amount of time and judgment should be made after the facts are in and not based on speculation. There have been

Agenda Item No: 16 • Meeting Date: November 3, 2015
Presented By: Rebecca Larsen
Rec'd prior to the meeting & posted on: October 29, 2015

quotes from a letter from the mayor of Santa Maria about violent crime increasing in our community is simply more speculation. I find it hard to validate an opinion from a mayor whose city is consistently in the top 10 most violent crime communities in California. Perhaps when Santa Maria finds a solution to gang-related drug activities and violent crimes I would be more receptive to listening to the mayor's opinion. Frankly, I rarely shop in Santa Maria because of the crime.

During a townhall meeting with Sheriff Ian Parkinson, neighbors expressed concerned with an increase in gun fire on property bordering our community. This is a legal activity in San Luis Obispo County, but the concern for safety of residence is a factor to people living here and yet nothing is being done to ensure that this activity is indeed being done with the safety of residents in mind. There is a lack of action taken by the CHP and Sheriff departments with regards to illegal parking and other activity on Vista Del Rio during Speedway events. Law enforcement typically responds with something along the lines of "that has been going on there for years". I was actually told by the commanding CHP officer on duty one evening that Deputies have the "discretion" on what action they take, if any. Not a very comforting thought when I hear rounds of ammunition being shot close to my home several times a week.

My neighbors have expressed a concern with traffic problems on Hutton Road. This traffic problem already exists and has for several years. In my opinion the speed limit is too high 40 residents needing access to Hutton as the only means to enter or exit the community. No matter what business goes into the Hutton location or surrounding area, it will have an effect on traffic. Money from sales tax and traffic impact fees should be used toward alleviating the problem. All of the existing businesses in this area have already paid fees to the County and nothing has been done to remedy the traffic situation. This matter should be addressed without putting the blame on the dispensary that hasn't even opened its doors for business. Where have the funds collected from past and existing businesses gone? How have those collected taxes and fees improved the traffic and road conditions to-date? What assurance does the community have that any additional funds collected will improve these conditions?

I hope that you will read my previous email and look at the pictures that introduce you to friends and family members that are the typical medical marijuana users. It expresses my concerns and demonstrate my personal involvement with the success of medical marijuana use. These life experiences and years of research have been vital in how I formed my personal opinion.

With all of this being said, approximately 8 years ago San Luis Obispo County *approved* an ordinance allowing medical marijuana dispensaries "under specific conditions". Those conditions being: It cannot be in a downtown business area or within 1,000 feet of any school, library, playground, park or youth recreation area. The proposed location in Nipomo is an ideal location that falls within all of these conditions. It is located in one of the most sparsely populated areas in South County that is properly zoned with an existing structure conducive to providing a secure environment.

Why not work with an experienced business that is legitimate? They will be paying County, State and Federal taxes (as will all of their employees), they are offering a 5% sales tax to the County which will help pay to resolve a current traffic problem for the neighboring commuters, they will be providing on-site security along with a high-tech security system that will be hard wired and monitored 24/7, they will be paying traffic impact fees of approximately \$30,000, and most importantly – PROVIDING A SERVICE TO PEOPLE IN NEED.

I am not sure where the opposition, fear and prejudice comes from that is being aimed at the dispensary. I think it may be the target of ongoing frustrations with problems that exists and the fear of the unknown. Ethnobotanica is a legally operated business with a stellar track record and has been a resource for officials tracking illegal operations. They deserve a chance.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Larsen

From: Rebecca Larsen [mailto:rebecca@flagshipimagery.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2015 4:25 PM
To: 'lynn@lynncompton.com'
Subject: Medical Marijuana Dispensary in Nipomo

Dear Supervisor Compton;

I am a Realtor and I live in Costa Pacifica Estates near the proposed dispensary. I have been selling real estate in Nipomo and surrounding communities for over 10 years. I sold the first 25 homes that were renovated at Costa Pacifica Estates to my neighbors and bought the model home for myself. Unlike many of my neighbors, I am a strong supporter of the use of medical marijuana and I have seen its positive effects on the lives of family members and friends.

I feel that people that are in opposition have the wrong “face” of the medical marijuana user. Please read on and meet people in my life that show the true Faces of Medical Marijuana Users.

My mother was under my care at home with me for over 5 years. She was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s soon after moving in. Alzheimer’s sufferers struggle with what is commonly known as sun-downing – waking up at night confused and lost and sometimes wandering. My mother’s psychiatrist prescribed Ambien. The very first night she took it she fell and split her head open. She was unaware of what had happened and she crawled to lay beside her bed with blood flowing from the wound. When I didn’t hear anything from the baby monitor, I looked in on her and found her shivering in a pool of blood scared to death and completely unable to understand what had happened to her. She was taken to ER by paramedics and I was a mess from the guilt I felt for allowing her to take a sleep medication. This was in the *early* stage of Alzheimer’s. Of course I stopped the Ambien immediately and consulted another doctor. Her physician suggested medical marijuana edibles to help her retain an appetite and regain some strength, and hopefully have some peace at night. It worked and she had another 3 years of love and happiness. Attached is a picture of my mom. She is the true Face of Medical Marijuana Users.

After living on high alert 24/7 to provide her with care for such an extended period of time, I too tried medically prescribed Ambien and also had horrible side effects and memory loss. I stopped it after the first attempt to get a full night’s rest because I woke up in the morning with no memory of my actions

during the night. I had an overwhelming feeling of anxiety and helplessness because I was responsible for a loved one's life and didn't remember my many trips during the night to the kitchen to get a dish of ice cream. I had eaten an entire gallon of ice cream one bowl at a time.

Even when Mom passed, I was unable to return to a normal sleep pattern and became very depressed immediately. Fortunately, my physician also suggested that I give medical marijuana a try. I smoked pot at night to calm down and found it to be the perfect solution to help with getting my sleep pattern back to normal. I did not become hooked, I was not involved with any criminal activity and I am proud to also be the Face of the typical Medical Marijuana User. I am attaching my picture to add to the Faces.

My dear friend, Barbara Murphy, heard about the rally to stop the dispensary and wrote an open letter to share her experience. The letter is attached as is a poster for a fund raiser that I put on for my goddaughter, Carrie Murphy. Please take a look at Carrie and add her to the Faces. For the first time in her life, I can sit and play games with her.

I lost my big brother Gary to cancer in 1989 – he smoked pot to relieve the nausea and pain of the cancer treatments. Attached is a picture of him in full mountain man regatta overlooking the Snake River during a brief time of remission. This photo is symbolic to me and I treasure it because he was at peace. He was a wonderful son, brother, father and husband and he is a Face that never had the benefits of medical marijuana. He was a criminal because his use of pot was illegal at the time. How unfortunate.

I was blessed with having a best friend that was also a Becky/Rebecca. Becky had an older brother named Gary, too. We lost Gary Gallon to cancer on July 3, 2003. Please read a little bit about him at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gary_Gallon and at <http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/news/features/gary-gallon/>. Yes, he is a Face as well, and we were blessed to have him feeling somewhat stronger near the end because of the use of marijuana and its allowing him to eat more and feel less pain.

I lost my best friend, Becky to breast cancer on September 27, 2008. Yes, she was a Face and a strong supporter of medical marijuana. I have added a photo of her with her brother Gary and one with me from 2005.

I would like to note that I have been with each person listed above during their passing – the most rewarding, spiritual events in my life and also the hardest to bear. They are beloved people in my life, and my sweet Carrie has the hope of having a more fulfilling life because of so many that took a chance to bring the benefits of medical marijuana to the general public. Carrie will never mature mentally beyond about six years old because of the side effects of the mainstream drugs that caused so much damage to her physically and mentally *and never stopped the seizures*. Thanks to finally being diagnosed with Dravet's Syndrome, her life with medical marijuana has some normalcy.

It is my understanding that the mayor of Santa Maria feels strongly against a dispensary in Nipomo. It is very hard for me to give much strength to her comments since; 1) medical marijuana deliveries are allowed in Santa Maria, 2) gang related crimes are abundant in Santa Maria, and 3) Santa Maria has consistently been named in the top 10 violent crime communities in California for many years. Should she resolve her issues in Santa Maria, I would be more likely to consider her opinion as valid. At this point in time, I think she should "tend to her own knitting".

Traffic is another topic that I hear being discussed as a major concern. There is no dispensary rush hour that I have been able to uncover in my research about traffic and dispensaries. There is a current traffic problem that has nothing to do with medical marijuana on Hutton Road at Cuyama that can be at least resolved to a large extent with a traffic sign.

As for the Sheriff's claim that it is a difficult area to patrol, I am baffled. There is a driveway and plenty of room to turn around to get in and out of the parking lot to patrol. Ian Parkinson also had a concern that there wasn't enough resources for an officer to patrol the area. Having lived in the community for about 2 years, I can confirm that we are seriously lacking in attention from the Sheriff and CHP departments already. Perhaps the thousands of dollars from the dispensary in Traffic Fees and taxes paid to the County could be used to cover the cost for better services being provided.

Yes, taxes. Ethno Botanica pays taxes – as do their employees. I may be wrong, but it seems to me that typical drug dealers don't pay taxes. Are you aware that Ethno Botanica has provided information to government official to help stop criminal activity and find people profiting from the illegal sale of marijuana others that are not paying taxes?

Let's face it. Marijuana will continue to be used by those in need and recreationally. Wouldn't it best serve the community if a legal, monitored source were in place? Isn't there a chance that crime would be reduced if citizens had a legal source?

With officials and citizens monitoring activities in our community, I feel that the dispensary will be an asset and not create a bedlam of criminal activity. I don't feel the dispensary will in anyway devalue my property and am more concerned about trains carrying oil along the coastline of California having such a negative effect.

It is with utmost sincerity that I submit the above,



Rebecca Larsen mom with leaves.jpg Rebecca 200 dpi.jpg Carrie's Event.jpg



mountain_man_Gary_SnakeRiver.jpg Becky with Gary Gallon.jpg Beck and Beck at Moon Picnic 2005.jpg



Carrie's Story.docx



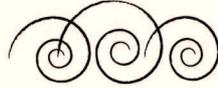


27978264 11-57



CARRIE'S BIG ADVENTURE - OH LIFE!

WINE, MUSIC, FOOD, AND FUN!
SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2014



COSTA DE ORO
WINERY

**Featuring the fine wines of Costa de Oro
with music by Tim Jackson!**

Prizes will be raffled off!

This is a fundraiser to help send Carri Murphy to the Dravet Syndrome Foundation Family and Professional Conference in Chicago.

Carrie had her first seizure at 6 months; it was febrile and unwitnessed. Ten days later she had an hour long seizure and required so much medication to break it that she went into cardiac arrest - the first of many times she has almost died from her seizure disorder. She has been treated at UCLA, UCI, USC, UC San Diego, CHOC, Hoag, and Medical City Dallas. At age 11, she had exploratory brain surgery that only showed her condition to be far worse than anyone thought. As her doctor put it, "Carrie does not ever have one second of normal brain function. We know of no other child with so many seizures types and of such severity that is not in a wheelchair, drooling." She baffled every doctor, not only because of the severity of her seizures, but because inspite of this she was so bright otherwise. She was an anamoly among anamolies, medically and behaviorally.

Carrie is now 24 and has finally been diagnosed with Dravet Syndrome. The Conference will bring families together with leading clinicians and researchers to discuss new developments in Dravet Syndrome research and associated intractable childhood epilepsies. Attending the conference will give Carrie a chance to finally meet with doctors that understand Dravet Syndrome and her mom, Barbara will be able to share her story of raising a child with no medical support, emphasizing the importance of educating families as well as medical professionals about this terrible disease. With early detection and proper treatment, other children and their families can live healthier, more productive lives.

**COME JOIN THE FUN AND
SUPPORT A GREAT CAUSE!**

MINIMUM DONATION OF \$20

Thank you for your support,

Rebecca Larsen - Carrie's proud Godmother

For more information, or to make donations if you can't attend, please call

Rebecca Larsen



Agenda Item No: 16 Meeting Date: November 3, 2015
Presented By: Rebecca Larsen
Rec'd prior to the meeting & posted on: October 29, 2015



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Carrie's Story

My daughter, Carrie Anne, is Rebecca's goddaughter. She feels passionately about medical marijuana for the same reason I do - it has practically eradicated Carrie's Gran Mal seizures completely. If you've never seen a baby or small child have a full blown seizure, you can't even imagine the fear and helplessness it evokes - it's seriously like watching something you can't see beat the hell out of your child and you can't do a thing to stop it.

Carrie is 26 and for 25 of those years she experienced this up to 24 times a month, never less than 20. It wreaked havoc on her health, her cognition; and every seizure required use of a huge rescue dose of valium that put her in danger of respiratory failure, even death. A year ago she got an mmj licence and her life changed MIRACULOUSLY. The only time she EVER has those monstrous seizures now is if she's sick. I've gone from using 10-12 boxes of rescue meds, 2 admins each, to 1 box AT MOST if she happens to have a different seizure type that goes into status - nonstop - mode. She eats mmj candy that contains a high dose of cannabidiol, CBD, and a lower dose of THC, the psychoactive component of marijuana. The THC helps her as well; it calms her.

I know many people think marijuana users are all "stoners" and deadbeats, so they don't want a dispensary anywhere near them. I understand that perspective, might even have agreed with it at one time. I've never been a pot smoker myself and had to educate myself to learn how to use it with my daughter. I was FLOORED! There are hundreds of components in marijuana and every single one of them has a medicinal use. And when I visited a dispensary for the first time, it changed my view of "users". It wasn't just the perfectly average people who were there, it was the incredible number of forms marijuana is available in -candy, cookies, brownies, butter, popcorn; I could go on and on. The point is that dispensaries have to make marijuana as palatable as possible so people can use it medicinally - they're not going there to "score some weed to smoke and get high."

I beg you to put any preconceived notions aside - believe me, I had to! People like me, like my daughter, like my 21 year old cousin with cancer, like SO many others, need to have dispensaries so we have reasonable access to what is TRULY a vital medical resource.

Thank you,
Barbara Murphy