

Dispensary initiative seen as cure for medical marijuana issues

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people.”

In an attempt to resolve the access issues faced by patients, Voter Power is working on a statewide initiative that would establish a medical marijuana dispensary system. Sajo said that the group hopes to have it on the November 2010 ballot.

The dispensaries would be licensed and regulated by the government, along with the farmers growing the product for the facility, Sajo said. He added that the new system could raise millions of dollars in revenue for the state’s health department, which could go toward programs designed to combat tobacco and methamphetamine use.

Another provision of the initiative, Sajo said, would allow the state health office to research medical marijuana and its possible side-effects or

negative interactions with pharmaceutical drugs.

“Under the current law, the health department maintains that it has no statutory authority to survey patients or doctors,” Sajo said. “Just by surveying them, we could learn a great deal.”

He added said that Voter Power has developed projections on what would happen if the initiative becomes law. Under the projections, the dispensary program would have the potential to raise \$30 million for the state health department during its first year of implementation, and possibly more than \$1 billion during a 10-year period if the current growth in patients continues, Sajo said.

Other states are working on similar systems to implement medical marijuana dispensaries, Sajo said, including Rhode Island and New

Mexico. He said that Oregon also has the opportunity to learn from the mistakes of California’s existing system, where there is no uniform state law regulating facilities.

In order to put the dispensary initiative on the ballot, Voter Power will need some 82,000 valid signatures. Sajo said that the group has 27,000 already, and hopes to collect 150,000 signatures by July 2010.

“We’ve spent years working out the details, and

we think we’ve drafted a law that everyone is going to love once we pass it and implement it,” Sajo said.

“At the end of the day,” he opined, “I think law enforcement and the people that don’t want to see marijuana

out of control will understand that our initiative will regulate this whole process, and (that) it’s going to be better for everybody, including law enforcement.”

juveniles, and were lodged in the Josephine County Juvenile Justice Center on charges of first-degree burglary, second-degree theft and third-degree criminal mischief. Additional charges of possession and delivery of a controlled substance are being referred to the Josephine County District Attorney’s Office.

According to GPDPS, investigation is continuing, and additional arrests are anticipated.

Theft, peddling of medical pot investigated by GPDPS

Two cases involving suspects involved in stolen medical marijuana were handled last weekend by Grants Pass Dept. of Public Safety (GPDPS).

On Saturday, Feb. 14, officers received a call regarding a man possibly involved in selling narcotics near the Dutch Bros. coffee stand at Sixth and D streets. GPDPS officers contacted the suspect, who turned out to be a juvenile.

He apparently provided a false name and later ran from

officers before being caught. A consent search of his backpack revealed several containers of marijuana, GPDPS related.

Around the same time, another officer had responded to an address in southwest Grants Pass regarding a burglary. It was determined that medical marijuana had been stolen from a residence.

On Sunday, Feb. 15, officers were able to link the two cases based on how the marijuana was packaged. Officers contacted the bur-

glary victim, who positively identified the recovered items as his.

Officers continued their investigation. They determined that three suspects forcefully entered the victim’s home and stole numerous items, including 2 ounces of marijuana valued at \$400.

GPDPS determined that one suspect sold some of the marijuana for \$30 while another traded some for a .22 caliber pistol, which was recovered.

All three suspects are

Tales from the Police Blotter

(Editor’s Note: Factual information for ‘Blotter’ is provided by official law enforcement agencies. All persons listed are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Charges can be amended or dismissed.)

Wednesday, Feb. 4

*Michael McNelly, 57, was cited on charges of domestic menacing and harassment following a reported disturbance on Glendon Road.

*Entry to a vacant house on Chapman Creek Road via a window was reported.

*The person responsible for a vehicle illegally parked on W. River Street was advised to move it.

*Jacob Aaron Dolph, 21, was cited to appear in Cave Junction Municipal Court on charges of speeding (38 mph in a 25 mph zone) and driving with a suspended license (DWS). His vehicle was impounded.

*Pamela Anne Boone, 37, was cited on a charge of speeding (39 mph in a 25 mph zone) on S. Junction Avenue at 3:41 p.m.

*Arrested on Rockydale Road, Damien Michael Clark, 15, was cited on a charge of minor in possession (MIP) of tobacco and lodged at the Juvenile Justice Center in Grants Pass on a charge of violation of a release agreement.

Thursday, Feb. 5

*In the 5000 block of Rockydale Road, Laurel Denise Glenn, 49, was cited on a charge of speeding.

*Gary Lance Haberman, 49, was cited on a charge of

speeding (74 mph in a 55 mph zone) on Redwood Hwy. at Sauer’s Flat at 12:28 p.m.

*Jerrod Robert Bruner, 26, was cited on a charge of speeding (38 mph in a 25 mph zone) on E. River Street at 3:49 p.m.

*Linda Kay Stevenson, 51, was cited on a charge of failure to obey a traffic control device on W. River Street at 6:04 p.m.

*On E. River Street, a woman said that someone had parked in front of her residence and honked the horn for a few minutes.

Friday, Feb. 6

*At 5 a.m. a screaming man entered an E. River Street residence. The resident said this was in violation of a no-contact order.

*The following drivers were cited on charges of speeding on Redwood Hwy. between 8 and 9 a.m.: Mark Orville Camp, 48 (60 mph in a 45 mph zone); Jessica Dawn Rousseau, 19 (59 mph in a 45 mph zone); and Jacob Thomas Campbell, 17 (74 mph in a 55 mph zone).

*In the 29000 block of Redwood Hwy. Jackie Lee Cooper, 34, was cited on a Jackson County warrant charging possession of a controlled substance: methamphetamine, and lodged in Josephine County Jail in Grants Pass. Cooper also was cited on charges of DWS and speeding.

*Jeffery William Davis, 57, was cited on a charge of violation of the speed limit at milepost 35 on Redwood Hwy. at 12:04 p.m.

*A highly intoxicated man was told to get off the road when found walking on Redwood Hwy. near Rockydale Road at 2:46 p.m.

*Sharie Elaine Kanig, 53, was cited to appear in CJ Muni Court on a charge of speeding (47 mph in a 25 mph zone) on N. Redwood Hwy. at 3:13 p.m.

*Two people sitting in a bluish-green SUV were said to be smoking marijuana on a parking lot on N. Redwood Hwy. at 4:44 p.m. How the complainant knew this was not clarified.

*On White Schoolhouse Road a woman complained that her neighbor’s dogs killed her calf.

*Four people in a vehicle parked in front of a business on Hamilton Avenue at 10:53 p.m. stated that they were looking to see if the business was open Saturdays.

Saturday, Feb. 7

*Christa Henning Sign Ahluwalia, 63, was cited on a charge of violation of the basic rule (VBR)/speeding, (41 mph in a 25 mph zone) on E. River Street at 12:23 p.m.

*Boyd Eugene Elkins, 43, was cited on a charge of speeding (42 mph in a 25 mph zone) on E. River Street.

*A caller stated that someone on Lone Mountain Road stopped him while he was driving, threw a pair of gloves at him and threatened to kill him.

*A dog might have been responsible (somehow) for a 911 hang-up call from Burch Drive at 5:58 p.m.

*It was reported at 10:18 p.m. that party-goers on Deer Creek Road were driving in the creek bed. Another caller stated that there were minors in possession of alcohol.

*Three men in a black car were contacted after a citizen reported at 11:56 p.m. that a driver was running “Stop” signs throughout Cave Junction. Those contacted denied having done it.

Sunday, Feb. 8

*A loud explosion of some sort was heard by a Rockydale Road caller at 3:27 p.m.

*Following an exchange of words (exact language not listed) on W. River Street, a caller said that another man pulled a gun on him. It was determined to be a squirt gun, and the two were advised to stay away from one another.

*“Bums fighting” in front of I.V. Senior Thrift Shop in Downtown CJ was reported at 5:32 p.m. Those contacted insisted it was just a “confrontation.” They were warned regarding trespassing at various locations.

Monday, Feb. 9

*There was a report of vandalism and theft of gasoline from two buses parked at Cave Junction Head Start on E. River Street.

*In Selma a woman stated that she’d been feeding what she thought was a stray cat for about a year. When she trapped the feline to take it home, a woman appeared from a nearby residence and said that the animal belonged to her, and threatened to call police. Who ended up with the cat was not explained.

*Jade Yandell, 19, was cited on charges of second-degree criminal mischief, third-degree theft and minor in possession of alcohol (MIP) after a bottle of wine was reported stolen from Shop Smart Food Warehouse.

*A mother reported that her 15-year-old son was provided marijuana by an O’Brien resident. The boy then changed his story and said he got it at school.

Tuesday, Feb. 10

*A van being driven in circles on S. Kerby Avenue

seemed suspicious to a caller. Those contacted were a man with suspended driving status, who was teaching a woman with no operator’s permit how to drive.

Wednesday, Feb. 11

*Two apparent transients, a man and a woman, were reported loitering near Junction Inn at 12:08 a.m.

*Kyle Beairsto, date-of-birth not listed, was cited on Deer Creek Road at 9:46 a.m. on a charge of no insurance.

*A 27-year-old man was said to be “out of control” and violent toward his parents on Caves Hwy. at 10:22 a.m.

*A driver, whose name was given only as Rosenberg, was cited on Redwood Hwy. in Kerby on charges of DWS, driving uninsured and switched plates. The man’s passenger fled.

*A landlord/tenant dispute was reported on Draper Valley Road.

*Brent D. Brusio, 27, was cited on a warrant charging failure to appear on an original trespassing charge.

*Three people were trespassing from behind a business in the 200 block of S. Redwood Hwy.

*A boy’s socks and hat were stolen by a transient who pulled the youth into the woods as he walked on Redwood Hwy., stated the victim’s mother.

*Contacted at 9:27 p.m. near a business in the 200 block of N. Redwood Hwy., a man claimed that he was using the Internet there.

*Three youths were contacted near a business on S. Redwood Hwy. at 10:27 p.m. and advised of curfew.

*Michael Alexander Olmstead, 27, was cited on a charge of speeding (65 mph in a 55 mph zone) near milepost 20 on Redwood Hwy.

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Meals are served in the
CJ County Bldg.
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ROAST TURKEY
WITH GRAVY
Whipped potatoes, country trio
vegetables, onion bread,
pumpkin bar
MONDAY, FEB. 23
CHICKEN POT PIE
OVER BISCUIT
Mixed vegetables, snogold
salad, chocolate chip bar
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25
BEEF POTATO BAKE
Broccoli cuts, seasoned
carrots, multigrain bread,
birthday cake

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