

## Hooray, Hooray for the First of May?

Conservative Columnist William F. Buckley, Jr. Writes of His Sister's Cancer Chemotherapy and Her Need for Medical Marijuana

In his syndicate column distributed on December 16, William F. Buckley, Jr., the conservative author and talk show host, writes about his younger sister's cancer and her need for medical access to marijuana "because she is undergoing an agonizing jolt of chemotherapy."

To the question, "How does she know cannabis would help her?", Buckley responds -- "Dumb question. A) She knows, or knows of, people who have had relief from the wretchedness she suffers from, from a puff or two of marijuana; and B) so what if it did not work? . . . What are we afraid of, that while recovering from cancer and taking a marijuana cigarette, she will become a crack addict?"

One of the persons she knows who has written about his use of cannabis for chemotherapy is Richard Brookhiser, a senior editor of Buckley's National Review magazine. As Buckley notes, Brookhiser found that it takes only one or two puffs on a marijuana cigarette to stop -immediately -- the nausea of chemotherapy. It usually works, but if it does not, there are no side effects. In contrast, the very expensive anti-nausea pharmaceutical Zofran causes headaches in as many as 40% of those who use it and can cause liver damage, etc. Yet the narcocracy cites Zofran as the reason that there is no need for medical marijuana.

Buckley also writes of his frustration in not knowing where to buy marijuana himself in New York City . . . where it is almost ubiquitous. This reflects one of the sad ironies of people in his situation: The older a person is, the harder it is to find marijuana. The prohibition that is justified on the grounds that it protects children actually makes it most difficult for adults, and especially for the ill, to find marijuana when they need it most.

In any other context it might be amusing to think of someone as recognizable as Buckley lurking around Washington Square trying to "score" a few dollars' worth of pot. He makes light of his problem but it really is not feasible for someone in his position to do what he

otherwise would do. One assumes that the Buckleys will eventually get marijuana, but what of the hundreds of thousands of others? He laments that "thinking on the subject is so far gone in putrefaction that the simplest questions go unanswered." Actually, most of the putrefaction starts here in Washington. Surveys show that the overwhelming majority of the American people are in favor of medical access to marijuana. Newt,

please note. Buckley concludes his column by reporting

that researchers in San Francisco have been ready for two years to do a study of the use of marijuana "in treating the wasting syndrome associated with AIDS, but they cannot obtain the necessary marijuana from the government." Buckley asks, "If somebody discovered marijuana would \*cure\* AIDS, would the narcs still prowl the streets for vendors?"

Yes. Absolutely. NORML's experience suggests that the narcs would redouble their efforts. They know that the survival of the narcocracy depends on the suppression of medical marijuana. This is no petty crime that the narcs are covering up. . . as anyone who has endured chemotherapy, or AIDS, or so much other suffering, would tell us, if they did not have to live -- and often die -- in fear.

Over 9 million marijuana arrests since 1965. . . Another every 2 minutes.



We had hoped to get permission to reprint in full William F. Buckley, Jr.'s column "Loony Drug Laws" in this issue, but regretfully the reprint fee from Universal Press Syndicate was an unachievable \$50. So, in its place we are reprinting a review of the column sent to us for free by NORML (National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws), 1001 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 1010 Washington, D.C. 20036 Tel(202)483-5500 \*Fax (202)483-0057 \*E-Mail NATLNORML@AOL.COM



## "TRANSPARENCIES"

This is the title of Cannon Beach artist Leslie Wood's current work using varied mediums, on exhibit this month at the Cannon Beach Gallery. Polaroid, xerox, papers, and fabric become effective sculptures of self portraiture. Leslie's strength is communicating ideas about the individual in a personal way. She inventively uses different materials to convey her message, personal and universal idealogy in relation to the anatomy. Leslie, who came to Cannon Beach from Michigan via the U of O, directly comments on her own associations with societal pressure and personal concepts about physical self image. Full scale human figures are layered onto acetate to form transparent statues. "Physical image, beauty, physical self; we are inundated in the media", says Wood. "Those issues will always be with us as women." Also, six wooden constructions hold layers of transparencies that are xeroxed, painted, and altered to become threedimensional pieces. Each piece deals with the different parts of the anatomy as a metaphor as well as a physical reflection. She recalls the transparencies once seen in medical journals and encyclopedias where several pages create one whole body. "We associate physical parts of ourselves with physical things, like 'wearing your heart on your sleeve', or 'I need that like I need a hole in the

The exhibit, which accompanies a group show of juried artist submissions, opens Friday, May 5th and runs through May 30th at the Cannon Beach Gallery. A reception begins at 6:00PM Friday. The Cannon Beach Gallery is located at 1064 S. Hemlock; for more information, call 436-0744.



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The Upper Left Edge is a monthly broadsheet (approximately 12"X21") publication with a current distribution of 5,000. It is circulated throughout the Oregon and Washington coastal communities and larger metropolitan areas which serve them. As stated in the upper left corner of the Edge flag. it is FREE to the vast majority of its readership; though there is a rapidly increasing number of subscribers worldwide. Now in its third year of continual growth, The Upper Left Edge relies on advertising funds to keep it in print.

Advertising rates are as follows: Business Card Size Ad \$25. 1/16th approx. 3x5 \$35.

\$50. 1/8th approx. 4x7 1/4th approx. 61/2x9 \$100. \$150. 1/2 page \$300. Full page \$350.

... per month. Payment is due the 15th of the month prior to the issue in which ad is to appear. Camera ready art is requested. We are usually on the streets by the first weekend of the month.

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