

Dispensaries have copies of the labs for all products they carry on site. Check what lab was used; see if you trust the results.”

Sherman at OG Analytical says that a number of local dispensaries have contacted the lab looking for guidance on the abamectin issue. Also, she adds, several growers in the community have spoken with her about the potential of a class-action lawsuit.

According to a recent press release, ODA is currently working with OHA and the Oregon Liquor Control Commission to determine potential health concerns associated with consuming cannabis treated with Guardian. ODA also is advising growers, “in an abundance of caution,” to cease using Guardian until further notice. — Rick Levin

KESEY SQUARE: FOREVER DEDICATED TO THE PUBLIC?

Kesey Square was originally intended to be a dedicated public space when a building was removed from the site in 1970. According to a Feb. 13 article in the *Register-Guard*, the deed to the square has surfaced and it says the area, also known as Broadway Plaza, is supposed to stay public permanently.

The *R-G* reports that it found a copy of the 1971 deed, committing the city-owned land parcel at Broadway and Willamette to be “forever dedicated to the use of the public.”

The deed was also mentioned in the *R-G* in a Feb. 12, 1971, article titled “3-day Salute to Mall starts Saturday.” Reporter Ed Kenyon writes: “This will come when Wallace Swanson, vice chairman of the Eugene Renewal Agency, presents to Mayor Les Anderson a deed to part of the Central Plaza that used to be the intersection of Broadway and Willamette Streets.” The story states that the dedication ceremony would take place at Central Plaza, where Kesey Square now sits.

This counters the claims of many city officials. City Councilor Chris Pryor has called it an “empty lot.” Councilor Claire Syrett told *EW* in November that Kesey Square is “truly just a piece a property.” City Manager Jon Ruiz said it’s a “remnant piece of property.”

Councilors George Brown and Betty Taylor have never waived from their position that the square belongs to the public, not developers.

And for an “empty lot,” Kesey Square has long been central to city cultural functions and public art.

In 1996, according to city documents, the city commissioned the \$49,000 “Four Seasons” sculpture installation by artist Betsy Wolfston for the newly opened

intersection of Willamette and Broadway as well as inlaid tiles on the square’s walls for \$3,000.

Local artist Scott Wylie, the original designer for the Central Plaza in 1982, returned to work on a public art paving design at the square in 1997; the city paid Wylie \$5,000 for the project. The city brought Wylie back into the fold in 2007 when the city decided to redo the intersection to match the square’s brickwork — a project costing \$140,000 according to city documents.

By the early 2000s, the city had removed the pedestrian mall completely, opening the roads but keeping the plaza. In 2003, the second anniversary of Ken Kesey’s death, Pete Helzer’s statue of Ken Kesey reading to children was unveiled at the square. Helzer tells *EW* he worked closely with Wylie to design the bench for “The Storyteller” so it would complement the brickwork.

The bronze sculpture came to fruition after widespread fundraising efforts spearheaded by late Pulitzer-winning photographer Brian Lanker, as well as donations from admirers like *Rolling Stone* magazine, Tom Wolfe and Dave Frohnmayer. Together, they raised \$125,000 for the statue.

“There was probably 1,000 people there for the dedication,” Helzer remembers. Author Barry Lopez, Eugene mayor Jim Torrey, Lanker and Faye Kesey spoke at the dedication.

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