

# beer&weed.

A MAGAZINE OF REFINED TASTE / MAINE

SEP  
OCT  
24

## WOMEN IN FRONT

THE GROWING MOVEMENT TO  
MAKE CANNABIS WOMEN-FRIENDLY

### +PITCH A TENT

MAINE'S WEED-FRIENDLY  
CAMPGROUND

### +LUBEC, EH?

GREAT BEERS, AND  
CLOSE TO CANADA

PLUS: SPOSE  
HELPS YOU NAVIGATE  
OUR RETURN!

SPOSE PRESENTS  
**PDANK CHRISTMAS TEN**



SATURDAY DECEMBER 14    AURA    PORTLAND, MAINE    ALL AGES

**TICKETS AT [AURAMAINE.COM](http://AURAMAINE.COM)**

## CONTRIBUTORS

### EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & PARTNER / CODY DELONG

MARKETING & PARTNER / SYLVIA CUNHA

PARTNER / SCOTT LEE

ART DIRECTOR & PARTNER / SCHAE KOTELES

### CONTRIBUTORS

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS / BECCA ABRAMSON,

DANIEL PADELL, CYNDLE PLAISTED RIALS,

SAM SCHIPANI, KATHRYN SHAY, SPOSE

ADDITIONAL EDITING / SAM PFEIFLE

### COVER

COVER PHOTO: CODY DELONG

COVER MODELS: HALLIE MITCHELL,

HALEY KNAUB, & HEATHER DADIEGO

### ONLINE

WWW.BEERANDWEED.COM



SUBSCRIBE



ADVERTISE



LISTINGS



NEWSLETTER

COPYRIGHT 2024

SCHAE STUDIO

info@schae.studio

www.schae.studio

## FEATURES



### PITCH A TENT ROAD TRIP | PG. 15

Is it true that Maine's got a weed-friendly campground now? Absolutely! Daniel Padell chats with the proprietors about your next home away from home.



### WOMEN IN FRONT COVER STORY | PG. 12

It's been nearly four years since the founding of Maine Women's Connection. Becca Abramson sits down with the founders to see how things have changed.



### FIREWALK, WITH ME INVESTIGATIONS | PG. 20

Do people seriously walk across burning hot coals to get in touch with their inner spirits? Cyndle Plaisted Rials did, and she's here to talk about it.

## DIY

Pg. 31 | Dirt Diva has advice for harvest season

## PLUS

Pg. 4 | Note from the Editor

Pg. 6 | News you can use in "This Just In"

Pg. 8 | Beer Babe travels to Lubec and loves it

Pg. 18 | The Women of Boston Calling in Photos

Pg. 25 | Listings of Fall Festivities in Maine & Beyond!

Pg. 29 | Spose gives you the downlow on our return to glory

# THE RELAUNCH!



I REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME I PICKED UP AN ISSUE OF BEER & WEED, I WAS AT GRASS MONKEY IN SOUTH PORTLAND, PICKING UP SOME PRE ROLLS, WHEN I STUMBLED UPON A FEW ISSUES. MY LONGTIME CLIENT SPOSE HAD JUST TALKED ABOUT A COLUMN HE WAS WRITING EACH MONTH; THE MAGAZINE NAME AND CONTENT INTRIGUED ME. IT WAS MY FIRST ISSUE, BUT IT MOST CERTAINLY WASN'T MY LAST. AS THE MONTHS WENT ON, I MADE SURE TO PICK A NEW ISSUE UP EVERY TIME I SAW ONE AND WAS INSTANTLY HOOKED BY THE ARTICLES, RANGING FROM CANNABIS STORIES TO ADJACENT STORIES ABOUT THINGS LIKE BARBERS AND DISC GOLF, AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN.

In February of this year (2024), I noticed the magazine was for sale on Instagram, and I did what inquiring minds do: I reached out to see what the deal was. After a month of back and forth with my business partner Sylvia and the team, we came to an agreement and purchased the magazine. We hit the ground running and have been busy in the background creating an online presence filled with all the news from the issues, plus exclusive content, and community event listings for your favorite events happening around the state of Maine and beyond. We are looking forward to continuing the great work that was done while expanding on it.

I've been active in the music community for more than 15 years, co-founding a local VIP company, Sound Rink. We have worked to create communities for artists via fan clubs as well as giving fans direct access to the band while creating value with exclusive merchandise to go along with those packages. I aim to take what we have learned with that community and apply it to what Beer & Weed is to this community. Since being in Portland, I've been a huge beer and cider nerd, often showing up to Bissell Bros and Allagash in the early days on Industrial Way for limited brewery-only releases of Substance and Coolship (2012 bottles still in my basement). I'm also an active cannabis connoisseur, using it for pain relief and managing my ADHD rather than relying on pharmaceutical drugs that did more harm than good for myself.

The relaunch of Beer and Weed Magazine marks a thrilling chapter for fans of both worlds. After taking some time to reimagine our vision, we're back with renewed energy and passion. This magazine is more than just pages filled with content; it's a celebration of two cultures that have grown hand in hand. From feature articles on the latest breweries to deep dives into cannabis varieties, we aim to offer something unique with each issue. Our commitment is to deliver relevant stories that resonate with your interests.

We feel exciting times are here for enthusiasts of craft beer and cannabis culture. Beer & Weed Magazine is back out and still free, ready to serve up fresh insights, tasty brews, and the latest in cannabis trends. Whether you're a connoisseur or just curious, we're bringing an array of content designed specifically for you. With our relaunch, we aim to explore everything from brewing techniques to strain reviews and community stories. Get ready to dive into a world where hops meet high vibes — let's raise a glass (and maybe roll one) as we embark on this journey together!

”

Beer & Weed Magazine is back out  
and still free, ready to serve up  
fresh insights, tasty brews,  
and the latest in cannabis trends.

We value your input, too. Feedback shapes what we create next. By listening closely to our community's desires, we ensure that the magazine evolves alongside its audience.

Expect engaging stories filled with expert insights and relatable anecdotes. Our goal is simple: provide valuable content that keeps readers coming back for more excitement in every issue!

Say Hello! [cody@beerandweed.com](mailto:cody@beerandweed.com)



WORDS / CODY DELONG  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

# MWC Awards 2024

NOMINATE YOUR FAVORITE  
WOMEN / WOMEN OWNED  
OF THE INDUSTRY

Nominate  
Your Fav  
Girlboss!

Edibles Chef • Delivery Driver  
Sales Manager • Lab Technician  
Budtender • Dispensary Manager  
Cultivator / Grower • Artist  
Philathrapist • Content Creator  
Cannasoir • Best Representative  
Cannabis Scholar • CBD Artisan  
Best Food Truck • Rec Dispensary  
Medical Dispensary



SCAN  
ME!   
*to nominate!*

@mainewomensconnection  
mainewomensconnection.com

# NOTCH

## NOW AVAILABLE IN MAINE!

### BREWING BEERS LEFT OF THE DIAL SINCE 2010.



---

THIS JUST IN

## UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND ADDS ONLINE CANNABIS EDUCATION PROGRAM

The University of New England has announced an online certificate program focused on Maine's cannabis industry, partnering with Green Flower, a cannabis education platform that works with more than 50 schools across the country. All current students, workers in the cannabis industry, and Mainers who are interested in cannabis careers can enroll in these online programs, with classes starting in September. You will not earn college credit for these courses, but you will receive a certificate upon completion.

Edmund Cervone, UNE director of partnerships and external relations, said in a press release that the four programs will cover topics such as business, law, and industry policy, as well as agriculture and health care. Cervone says UNE's mission is to address workforce issues across Maine industries, and this is one way to train adult learners about the cannabis industry. The university is the first college or university to collaborate with Green Flower, according to a school press release.

---



## LAND RACE CANNABIS OPENS IN CASCO

Landrace Cannabis Co. just opened their latest recreational storefront at 325 Roosevelt Trail in Casco, ME. The business had an old house completely renovated into what is a beautiful storefront. This is the company's fifth storefront to open in the last few years, as they have expanded over time. You can find a multitude of vendors at the new store including Hazy Hill Farm, Calendar Islands, and Zero Gravity, to name a few.

---

THIS JUST IN / WORDS / SAM PFEIFLE



## BISSELL BROTHERS COLLAB W/ CATALYST FOR A CHANGE WEAR

Catalyst for Change Wear and Bissell Brothers have teamed up to brew a new beer: "Just a Beer from Maine," a reference to the apparel company's slogan: "Just a Kid from Maine." The beer's base is a true Maine pilsner malt by Maine Malt House in Mapleton. They then added some malted corn, and a hop combo of German Callista and American Noble Mosaic, which creates a fruity 4.5% ABV American Lager.

## HOLY DONUT TO SHIP NATIONWIDE

Have you visited Maine and miss those delicious potato donuts? In the next three months, the Holy Donut plans to ship its Maine potato donuts nationwide. The brand has been receiving requests for the last 12 years. They now have the ability to focus and make it a reality.

Although the goal is to begin shipping within the continental U.S. by Nov. 1, the test shipments have gone so well, they may be able to start sooner. After opening its first store in Portland a dozen years ago, Holy Donut now has five retail locations, including two in the state's largest city and one in Scarborough, Arundel, and Brunswick.

As of now, Holy Donut is testing shipping to all regions of the country, with plans to ship to all lower 48 states in the near future. The prices of the shipped items will be comparable to those in the stores.

## MAINE CANNABIS HOSPITALITY TASKFORCE TAKES SHAPE

A Cannabis Hospitality task force has been put together to consider cannabis lounges and other on-site options as the industry seeks new growth opportunities. The state task force is currently discussing whether to permit the consumption of cannabis through smoking or eating in various settings such as lounges, campgrounds, and restaurants.

There are many ideas on the table, but none have been endorsed in the first two meetings of the Cannabis Hospitality Task Force, said John Hudak, director of the state Office of Cannabis Policy. The task is to examine potential hospitality-related business opportunities in the state's adult use program. Of the many advocates, Rep. David Boyer (R-Poland) said he wants to build spaces similar to brew pubs during a legislative committee hearing in January.

The lounges would be particularly useful for tourists or renters who aren't allowed to consume or smoke cannabis in their hotels.

A task force consisting of a private chef, city officials, public health experts, and adult-use cannabis companies such as Highbrow and Curaleaf will address those issues and more. The task force has until February to produce a report.



# AN (EARLY) EVENING AT THE EASTERNMOST BREWERY



**I HAVE MADE IT ONE OF MY LIFE'S MANY MISSIONS TO SEEK OUT QUIRKY BREWERIES IN FAR-FLUNG LOCALES. GIVE ME A TAPROOM IN A NATIONAL PARK THAT USES THERMAL SPRING WATER FOR THEIR BREWS (SUPERIOR BATHHOUSE BREWERY IN HOT SPRINGS, ARKANSAS, IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A ROAD TRIP), A TAPROOM ON A FORMER NAVAL FIRING RANGE (SEE FLIGHT DECK BREWING IN BRUNSWICK), OR A FAMILY-RUN FARMHOUSE-TURNED-BREWHOUSE (THE TURNING PAGE FARM BREWERY IN MONSON HAS GOATS, AND FLUVIAL BREWING IN HARRISON HAS A YURT), AND I'M SO THERE.**

For that reason, I have long been drawn to Lubec Brewing Company's siren call (their logo is a mermaid, get it? I'll see myself out). The brewery, which boasts brews made of 100% organic Maine grains and hops, is situated in the easternmost town in Maine (and the United States, for that matter), a sleepy coastal hamlet of about 1,200. I had visited Lubec before to kayak and enjoy the scenery Downeast, but I had never actually made it to the taproom. Their hours are unusual: Last I checked, Thursday and Friday they're open from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., save for the occasional special event that goes until 7 p.m.

It makes sense, perhaps, in a town where the primary demographic and touristic clientele is, let's say, of the ilk that would take advantage of an early bird diner special, but it does make it a bit more challenging to arrange a visit.

Still, I was determined to make it out there — if not just for the spirit of adventure, then for the Quoddy Head Red. I had sampled the brewery's flagship beer randomly at bars around the state and fell in love. I am a huge fan of red ales in general, but the Quoddy Head Red is exceptional even among them: malty with notes of coffee and caramel, a beautiful mahogany color, and a kick of tangy rye.

So, with curiosity in my heart and the indelibly delicious memory of the Quoddy Head Red on the tip of my tongue, my husband and I loaded up the Subaru on a sunny

Saturday and made the 2-hour drive east from Bangor to Lubec.

We arrived at Lubec Brewing around 3 p.m. The brewery is set up with a bar in the back of a living-room-style sitting space, complete with a stage (and, on this particular day, a very talented local folk performer). Attached is also a sunroom-like space with an art gallery and a patio festooned with park benches for outdoor sipping.

The vibe is genuinely and charmingly homespun, with mismatched furniture and plenty of local art. The day's available beer is listed individually on sheets of printer paper with accompanying clip art and tacked up on the wall behind the bar. The brewery is run by local husband-and-wife duo Gale White and McGinley Jones, and feels like a family affair in that warm and fuzzy way. It is "local flavor" in its truest form.



The brewery doesn't offer flights, but will give customers nearly unlimited samples out of their Dixie cups. Much to my devastation, though, they had just kicked the Quoddy Head Red keg when we arrived. I pushed past my heartbreak and figured I might as well try everything else on the printer-paper wall menu.

I was not disappointed. The Johnson Bay IPA is a classic

## FIRST PERSON : BEER BABE

American IPA with a touch of herbaceousness. Blueberry-flavored beers are not usually my thing, but the award-winning Mike's Blueberry Porter uses fresh blueberries, so the fruity flavor is subtle and pairs perfectly with the dark chocolate undertones. The Tell Me Rye IPA — of course, made with rye — was tangy and bitter, in all the best ways. Day's First Light extra pale ale was smooth and sweet, and made for lovely (and easy) drinking on the taproom's sunny patio. Tail Gunner Annie, a Dunkelweizen made with wheat, rye, and three different types of barley, was at once malty and fruity (this type of beer is, apparently, well known for its banana undertones). The Dorothy Blanch, a Belgian golden ale named after a famous Lubec-ian, was delightfully hazy and citrusy. The ultra-zesty Kawatokup is made with spruce tips and maple syrup and tastes like a dewy forest morning hike.

And, sorry, Quoddy Head Red — Bailey's Mistake might be my new favorite Lubec brew. The black ale (which, I learned, is a cross between a rich porter and a sparky IPA that was started by American brewers somewhere around the 2000s, combining pale malts, dark malts, and hops) is smoky and sweet, effervescent and rich.

There are other beers that are in Lubec Brewing Company's regular rotation that I didn't get to try that day. For

example, they didn't have the Car 548 IPA, described as a "hop bomb" by the list tacked on the brewery's window; the Water Street Ale, a German Altbier that is supposed to be brewmaster Gale's favorite; or the Squaison, a saison made with delicata squash.

**I guess I'll just have to go back.**



WORDS & IMAGES / **SAM SCHIPANI**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

## # LETS BE SOCIAL

[WWW.BEERANDWEED.COM](http://WWW.BEERANDWEED.COM)



@BEERANDWEEDMAGAZINE



/BEERANDWEEDMAGAZINE



SUBSCRIBE



ADVERTISE



LISTINGS



NEWSLETTER

**IT'S OK.  
WE'RE THE KIND OF NEEDY THAT LIKES IF YOU FOLLOW US EVERYWHERE.**



# ZENIA

CANNABIS CO.

## Maine Craft Edibles

Clean Ingredients | Precision Dosed | Lab Tested

### Quality

We believe in quality and it's behind every decision we make.  
From choosing organic farming methods, to selecting only the finest  
ingredients, to the care we put into our customer service,  
we love what we do and it shows.

 @zeniacannabisco  
 /zeniawellness

WWW.ZENIACANNABISCO.COM

207-200-4557  
info@zeniacannabisco.com

**SCREEN PRINTING**  
**EMBROIDERY**  
**CUSTOM PRODUCTS**  
**PROMOTIONAL ITEMS**  
**WORKWEAR & UNIFORMS**



**CONTACT US**  
[HELLO@DOWNRIGHTMERCH.COM](mailto:HELLO@DOWNRIGHTMERCH.COM)  
[WWW.DOWNRIGHTMERCH.COM](http://WWW.DOWNRIGHTMERCH.COM)

**FULFILLMENT**  
**WAREHOUSING**  
**E-COMMERCE SOLUTIONS**  
**GRAPHIC DESIGN**  
**WEB DEVELOPMENT**

# BIGGER AND BETTER

WORDS / BECCA ABRAMSON  
IMAGES / CODY DELONG

ACCORDING TO MJBIZDAILY'S 2023 REPORT "DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION IN THE CANNABIS INDUSTRY," 39% OF CANNABIS EXECUTIVES ARE WOMEN, UP FROM 22% IN 2022. IT'S GETTING BETTER, BUT IT'S STILL A MALE-DOMINATED INDUSTRY. NOT THAT YOU'D HAVE TO TELL HALEY KNAUB, HALLIE MITCHELL, AND HEATHER DADIEGO THAT. THE THREE WOMEN WORK IN CANNABIS THEMSELVES AND KNEW THERE WAS AN UNMET NEED FOR WOMEN SUPPORTING EACH OTHER IN THE CANNABIS SPACE, ALONG WITH A LACK OF COMMUNITY-BUILDING EVENTS AND THE CELEBRATION OF CANNABIS-RELATED BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE STATE, IN GENERAL. SO, TOGETHER, THEY FOUNDED THE MAINE WOMEN'S CONNECTION (MWC) IN 2020 WITH THE SHARED GOAL TO EMPOWER MINORITIES, UPLIFT FEMALE ENTREPRENEURS, AND BUILD A STRONGER NETWORK IN MAINE.

The rise in female leadership in the cannabis space demands an increased need for support, collaboration, and community. "Our main idea in founding the group was to uplift women and help give each other a leg up, because it's not often you see women given the same opportunities as men," Knaub says.

It was a series of serendipitous encounters that brought Hallie, Haley, and Heather together. Ten years ago, the first chance meeting occurred when Hallie and Haley crossed paths at a bar. "I always laugh when someone asks us how we met, because the story isn't fitting — neither of us are drinkers anymore," Mitchell says. At the time, both women

had been working in the cannabis industry: Hallie on logos and branding as the founder of Vivid Design Studios, Haley as the former creative director at Zero Gravity Cannabis (currently, she's the owner of Earth Air Cannabis as well as Elevate, a functional mushroom company). "Haley asked if I wanted to smoke and make jewelry, so we left the bar and that's exactly what we did," Mitchell says.

The second significant event, when Hallie met Heather, was a result of the COVID-induced delivery service boom. Heather, who works in the cannabis space as the owner of Mind Body and Soul, a three-pronged company offering cannabis delivery (Mind Body and Soul Support), topicals and tinctures (Mind Body and Soul Remedies), and a gluten- and seed oil-free meal prep and catering service in Casco (Mind Body Soul Food), encountered a huge uptick in business during the pandemic and reached out to Hallie for help designing new packaging.

Two's company, but three's a crowd — and in this case, the more, the merrier.

”

We try to collaborate with them and showcase their business and the amazing things they're doing

The founders are eager to connect women seeking advice with others who can support them. "Before we started

# ER

FOUR YEARS IN,  
THE MAINE WOMEN'S  
CONNECTION HAS  
NON-PROFIT STATUS AND  
PLENTY OF NEW PLANS



FEATURE : COVER STORY



MWC, we were meeting tons of people through social media, but it was difficult to actually link up in person. We always thought it would be great to set up a hub where women could meet and talk business in person as opposed to exclusively online," Mitchell says.

Empowerment is one of MWC's key values, and the founders understand that success requires risk taking and failing forward. A note from the trio on MWC's website says it best: "We encourage women to take risks with us and make mistakes. We will learn and grow. We will get smart and stronger—together." A social media campaign called the Queen of the Week is just one example of the organization's efforts to partner with and support women in cannabis. Anyone can visit MWC's website and nominate a female cannabis entrepreneur for the campaign; from the submissions, the trio of founders select a woman in the industry (aptly named a "Cannabis Queen") to highlight. "We try to collaborate with them and showcase their business and the amazing things they're doing," Dadiego says. The ongoing campaign celebrates local achievements and acknowledges the hard work of Maine's women in cannabis.

Despite the group's name, it's not exclusively about women, as MWC events are open to all genders. "As an organization, we align ourselves with reputable men in the industry who are supportive of our events and our mission," Dadiego notes. The biggest event, as you may have guessed, is a 4/20 celebration that offers an opportunity for Maine's cannabis community to gather. This year's bash



### ◀ FROM PAGE 13

included a gnome hunt, a silent auction, cookie decorating, a community mural, and more (a pre-event brunch featured a buffet from Mind Body Soul Food alongside a juice bar and a dab bar).

MWC's other flagship event is the Maine Cannabis Festival, an industry-focused (but not exclusive) team-building event akin to a high school field day. "It's kind of like Spirit Week in one day," Knaub laughs. "We're all visionaries, and we want to do outrageous things, so we often have to reign it in when we're coming up with new ideas for events." Though creating a smash room didn't pan out as the founders intended, the most recent festival included activities like musical chairs, tug of war, and a balloon toss followed by a reggae show.

No matter the specifics, all MWC events center around one thing: like-minded people hanging out. "We don't want it to feel like a trade show," Mitchell says. "Our events provide space for both people who consume and those that are in the cannabis industry. Patients can meet the people who work at the companies and connect in a more personal way, whether it's smoking together and contributing to the mural at our 4/20 party or taking part in a watermelon eating competition and playing field day games." The founders emphasize that bringing customers and business owners together is imperative to sustaining a solid cannabis community in Maine, and they continue to brainstorm new events that strengthen this relationship.

Another connection forged through the MWC and its events is the link between medical and recreational cannabis companies in the area. "There's always been this divide between med and rec, and we try to bridge that gap," Mitchell says. "People don't always understand that recreational companies do support medical businesses — that's how both programs stick around. Competition is going to be the death of everybody if we don't start collaborating and working together, so it's always great to see everyone bonding at our events."

The big news since the last time Beer & Weed caught up with WMC in the December 2021 issue? After four years of events, community-building, and uplifting women in the local cannabis industry, MWC officially gained nonprofit status this year — and the founders have plenty in store for the organization's future. For starters, they're launching the Women In Business grant, which provides financial assistance and additional resources to female cannabis entrepreneurs. The group allocates 7% of all event proceeds to the grant, ensuring that aspiring business women have the support they need to achieve their goals.

A second initiative the founders look forward to is the

organization's Community Awards program. "We wanted to start a program that highlights women in the industry, in particular," says Knaub. The Community Awards celebrate the outstanding contributions of women in the cannabis business and inspire others to reach new heights, and 3% of MWC event proceeds are allocated toward the annual awards. The founders' passion for philanthropy comes straight from the heart: "We're all very giving people. Not only do I enjoy it, but I truly believe in karma and that doing good for other people will have a positive effect on everything around you," Knaub says. "We're not paying ourselves for any of this — we're just genuinely trying to uplift women in the industry."

It's because of their own experiences as female leaders in cannabis that Hallie, Haley, and Heather are so dedicated to MWC's mission. "I've been doing graphic design and marketing for 10 years, and I still run into people who don't take me seriously," Mitchell says. Haley has had similar experiences: "I have a pretty good relationship with the men in the industry, but the biggest difference I've noticed as a woman is that I have to work a little harder to earn their respect," she says. According to Heather, women joining together to share their experiences is one way to "weed out the bad eggs" in the industry. "People like to take advantage of other people, no matter their gender. It takes some intuition to find your way, and having a group of women stick by your side and support what you do is so important," she adds.

When all is said and done, MWC's founders have no hard feelings towards men in cannabis. "There's something special about the industry in Maine," says Knaub. "When I talk to people in other regions, they can't believe that

we all get along so well." Reflecting on her own experiences (remember how she and Haley met?), Hallie reiterates that "a lot of people in this community aren't big drinkers, so for them to have events and shared spaces where they can meet like-minded people is special. Everyone's coming together over this plant that we all have respect for — it's easy to create conversations with that in common."



WORDS / BECCA ABRAMSON  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

# WELCOME TO WEED CAMP

## A LOOK INSIDE MAINE'S FIRST CANNABIS CAMPING DESTINATION

WORDS / DANIEL PADELL | IMAGES / CODY DELONG

THE CONFIRMATION EMAIL WARNS, "PUT THE NAME INTO YOUR GPS, NOT THE ADDRESS." DESPITE MAYBE BEING A BIT HARD TO FIND, THOUGH, A LAKES REGION CAMPGROUND IS MAKING A NAME FOR ITSELF BY OFFERING SOMETHING NOBODY ELSE CAN BOAST: YOUR STASH IS WELCOME TO COME ALONG. THE CONCEPT IS PRETTY SIMPLE — MAYBE IT'S ONE WE'VE ALL THOUGHT OF AT SOME POINT IN THE BUDDING DAYS OF OUR CANNABIS APPRECIATION — AND NOW ONE WOMAN HAS TURNED HER VISION OF A SUMMER CAMP FOR ADULTS INTO MAINE'S PREMIERE 420-FRIENDLY CAMPING EXPERIENCE.

"Most people just dream it," says Trinity Madison, owner and operator of Camp Laughing Grass, setting down a well-appointed tray of edibles and concentrates provided by one of many local dispensaries. It's 4:20, and it's time for the campground's daily celebration of all things cannabis.

Guests wander up to the main pavilion, to picnic tables painted and decorated by those who have chosen to leave their mark at weed camp. They've come to share stories and a session with the woman who worked and fought hard to



create an oasis for stoners to come and enjoy their stash in the great Maine outdoors, without having to worry about where their clouds might be drifting.

You'll find Camp Laughing Grass hidden in the woods of Harrison, about 10 minutes north of 302, down a winding, sandy driveway only a stone's throw from the Crooked River. And it's new, only having officially opened in 2020 amid upheaval and new demands. "It's constantly evolving," Madison explains, "because in cannabis tourism, there's no blueprint."

Check-in is at a picnic table under the pavilion's corrugated rooftop, among a dozen bongos, rolling trays, and other smoking implements. "Most of my camping experience

◀ FROM PAGE 15



has been in state parks, so most of our rules resemble those of the state parks I frequent,” she says. Quiet hours, mind your coolers, pack-in-pack-out ... the usual slate of common-sense behavior, but with the glaring and welcome exception that your trip won’t be cut short if the wrong person detects your dank.

So, what’s the secret to running a weed camp, anyway? “Create an environment that encourages people to meet,” she says.

At one of the nearby tables, a pair of newlyweds on their honeymoon are setting up the board for “Ganjaland,” pulled from the games stacked in a nearby cubby. At another, groups of just-arrived campers get to know one another over canvases and paint sets. Skunky clouds waft with the breeze, yet nobody has to look over their shoulder for nosy neighbors or busybody caretakers.

“There’s a lot of love here,” Madison muses, “it’s so beautiful watching friendships form, prosper and continue after camp.”

Camp Laughing Grass sits on around 17 acres beside a bend in the river, with 15 reservable accommodations in all. A cluster of five small, rustic cabins share a communal fire pit up at the main pavilion. “It’s where we host our 4:20, it’s where we have our breakfast. If you want to be right in party central, you want to stay in the cabins,” Madison says.

The camping area is down the hill overlooking the riverside, offering a quieter and more private setting among the trees. The tent and glamping sites reflect that state-park

upbringing, with their own picnic tables, firepits, and charcoal grills. “The atmosphere is very friendly, similar to a small festival without the music,” Madison says.

That laid-back experience seems to be sorely missed when campers return to those less-lenient state campgrounds, and it keeps them coming back to weed camp.

---

” It’s so beautiful watching friendships form, prosper and continue after camp.

---

“So many have turned into repeat customers, quite a few come multiple times a year,” she says, “people have even coordinated when they come back, to be able to hang out again.”

The story hasn’t always been so copacetic, though, and Madison has faced more than a few obstacles in her quest to carve out a space for herself in a shifting legal framework that isn’t always welcoming, and in an industry where men are still largely overrepresented.

“I’ve been in this industry for more than 20 years and it has for the most part been a boys club,” she observes. “Ten years ago, it was hard to get recognized.” But that’s begun to change, with more women joining the growing marketplace than ever before.

Nowadays,” she says, “the cannabis industry feels like it’s one of the few industries where women have a fighting

## FEATURE : ROAD TRIP

shot at success. There are a lot of women in this industry and we're killing it."

The first concept of camp took the form of a "cannabis-themed summer camp for adults" that Madison describes as, "just like you'd remember going to summer camp as a kid, but with weed." After purchasing the perfect mountain-top location, however, a partner backed out and the dream couldn't go forward. "I was pretty devastated," she says, "I was so ready."

Her ambitions wouldn't be snuffed out so easily, and before long, a new vision for a "bud-and-breakfast" began to take shape: The Laughing Grass Inn. "At the time I had an edible company, and I really wanted to serve people fresh edibles," she says. "I partnered up with a local inn and I put together a bud and breakfast event."

But she hadn't expected the municipal backlash it quickly attracted: "The town lost its mind."

An emergency town meeting was called in Cornish. "They passed a moratorium and made my type of business illegal in the historical downtown," Madison says. After investing all of her resources into trying to bring her new concept to an eager public, there was no feasible way to pivot toward appeasing local boards rife with outdated attitudes. "There was no money left to fight."

Things were looking bleak for Trinity's dream. "That hurt," she recalls, "and I ran away for a while."

Discouraged but not defeated, she went back to the drawing board and started looking for a new and welcoming place to plant her weed camp. "A year later," she says, "a friend shows me this property and is like, 'This is perfect for camp, you should do this!'"

Trinity was ready to try again. "I jumped on it," she says, "I went into the town office and asked a bunch of very vague questions to get a feel if they were cannabis friendly." She'd learned hard lessons, and wouldn't be taking any chances this time. "I was satisfied with what I heard. This time the town was on my side." Camp Laughing Grass had finally found its forever home.

And word seems to have gotten out. The hard work, the sweat and the tears has finally paid off, and it's hard to argue with the results. By the first day of summer this year, reservations had mostly sold out through the season's end.

"We've had guests from all over," Madison says, and some timely social media exposure has only increased demand. "We went viral on TikTok last year and that brought in

people from all over the country, from Canada, even as far as Brazil."

Things are looking bright for the future of 420-friendly camping; the proof lies in the sawdust collecting below the new A-frame cabin that's going up.

"I don't want to give too much away, I want there to be surprises," Trinity says while riffing on her plans and ideas for Camp Laughing Grass. "Next year, we already have our building permit," she continues, "we're going to build a treehouse. I can't do anything but the most epic treehouse anyone's ever seen."

Maybe we've all thought about it — a sandy spot beside a river, making friends over a picnic table and recapturing that old-school summer camp vibe, a place to light up in peace and sleep under the stars.

"Camp found something that worked," says Trinity, gathering up empty jars and pouches leftover from the day's 4:20 gathering. **"It's really good here."**

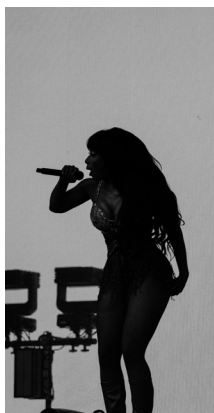


WORDS / DANIEL PADELL  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



## PHOTOS

WORDS & IMAGES / CODY DELONG



Check out images from the very woman forward lineup of the Happy Valley sponsored Boston Calling Music Festival that took place this past Memorial Day weekend. Stand out performers included Chapelle Roan, Megan Thee Stallion, and Renee Rapp.



# WOMEN OF BOSTON CALLING



# BURN IT DOWN

## THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF WALKING ON FIRE

WORDS / CYNDLE PLAISTED RIALS | IMAGES / LAUREN MOREY

IMAGINE: THE SKY ABOVE THE TREES IS DARK, ENDLESS, WINKING WITH DISTANT STARS. THE COOL NIGHT AIR KISSES YOUR SKIN. YOU STAND BEFORE A STRETCH OF HOT COALS, ECSTATIC WITH ALL YOU'VE SPOKEN AND RECEIVED IN THE HOURS BEFORE AND THE DESIRE FOR TRANSFORMATION.

Drums pound around you like a heartbeat as others dance and whoop and cheer for you, ancient sounds of community and deep humanity. You gather your strength. You muster your courage.

And then you step forward onto a path of glowing embers, hoping to reach something new on the other side.

Maybe you've heard of firewalking before, thinking it's something people did "in the old days," like a crazy initiation into an obscure religion — that's what my dad thought when I told him I was going to do it. He's wrong. It's a thing.

I've been on a spiritual journey over the last couple years, deconstructing my evangelical Christian upbringing and finding a place that feels right between that and other practices that call to me, including tarot, a deeper connection to Mother Earth, rituals, and more. On this journey, I've met amazing, like-minded people.

One of those people is Mistee Boyd, an energy healer and massage therapist, and so much more. She operates a business called Whole Heart Therapies, and in that capacity she has created many spiritual healing experiences for those that feel called to them. We met in November 2021 at a belly dancing class and through my connection to her I've delved into some new spiritual practices. But also some slightly scary ones.

Like firewalking.

It was something I'd been intrigued by for a while, but there was always some reason not to go. The morning of



## FEATURE : NEW EXPERIENCES

her June firewalk, though, Mistee posted that there were a couple spots left, and I said, “Fuck it,” and told her I was going, before I thought too much about it and lost my nerve.

### How's it work, exactly?

Every firewalk is different, and every facilitator puts their own stamp on the basic framework from the tradition they're taught. Mistee was trained in the Sundoor tradition in June of 2022, and through the firewalks she's facilitated, she has honed the experience she wants to give participants.

“Music is super important to me — it's part of bringing in that air and feminine space feeling fully supported,” she says, her water-blue eyes shining. “The elements all want to be together and balanced: Earth — the land and wood. Air — the music. Every fire throughout history in my mind had song, had dance, had storytelling. Those are the traditions of our ancestors. Every culture, every religion has some sort of chanting or music when they're holding reverence and space.”

My firewalk was the climax of a five-hour experience, and I can only describe it to you in a way that can't possibly contain all that the experience was. It started with a group of 11 people, all of them strangers to me, but some known to one another, along with three facilitators, including Mistee, and a didgeridoo player.

Upon arrival, we were cleansed with sage, and then joined in a circle inside, sharing a bit about ourselves and why we were there, placing our offerings on the altar. Mistee told us about the three piles of wood that would be built for the fire: First, the Serpent pile, representing everything we want to leave behind. Second, the Condor pile, where we call in all the things we want to draw into ourselves. And finally, the Puma pile, the things we want to manifest on the other side. We went around the circle, adding words to each pile one at the time, the words and phrases we added growing more and more personal the longer we went on. Typically we'd be building the fire manually, speaking each word to a piece of wood as it's added onto the stack, but as it was raining, our fire tender built the stacks alone.

Mercifully, the rain halted just as we finished, and we went



## FEATURE : NEW EXPERIENCES

### ◀ FROM PAGE 21

outside with our lists of words for each pile. Mistee called out in a powerful voice the strings of words for each stack of wood. For the Serpent pile, we heard words like “fear,” “guilt,” “regret,” “mother shit,” “father shit,” “anger.” For the Condor pile, her voice echoed across the field with many more words, including “grace,” “patience,” “love, love, love!” And for the Puma pile, things like, “strength,” “forgiveness,” “fulfillment,” and “joy.”

We danced around the wood to the didgeridoo and drums with swaths of brown paper that we’d add to the pile, then we set the wood piles ablaze. Our large group was split into smaller groups, to share more deeply the things holding us back, the things we wanted the fire to burn away. We collaborated on developing affirmations for each person that spoke to the things each person wanted to work on changing or believing.

With the affirmations created, we started the next piece of the ritual. When it was my turn, I sat in a chair before the fire, an arrow across my lap, feeling like an ancient priestess on a throne — ageless and timeless. The others gathered around me, each with a hand placed on me. They repeated my affirmations in different inflections, shouts and whispers, singing. I shook with energy as their words, my words, permeated my body and mind. I opened my eyes to see my own face, strange and foreign to me, reflected in the mirror Mistee held, and I repeated my affirmations.

By the time everyone had a turn in the chair, the sky had darkened, and it was time for the “arrow break.” It’s a little hard to describe, but you tuck the blunted point into the notch of your collarbone, place the fletched end in a hole in a board Mistee holds, and then thrust your body toward the board, with the idea being that the arrow bends and snaps from the sudden speed and force. Instead of puncturing you.

“Arrow breaks are part of the tradition,” Mistee says. “I’m the only one I know who offers them on their own too — it’s a powerful experience all by itself. That part of the ritual in our firewalks came from Fiji. It’s that final piece that cracks whatever ... we’re humans, that’s where we communicate from. As soon as you do that, ‘Raaaaahh!’ — she thrusts her chest forward, arms out, eyes closed — “your feet are ready to hit the coals. That is the passion, the kinetic energy you need to step across those coals and receive.”

I can attest — the thought of the arrow break was scarier than the thought of walking across hot coals. As I danced around the fire waiting to feel ready for the arrow break, emotion clutched at my throat, choking me up. The next time I circled toward Mistee, I was ready to break. I don’t remember what she said to me as I stood before her, but



I roared in answer. The souls around me chanted “Pu-ma! Pu-ma!” and I sunk my weight into my bent knees. I tensed every muscle in my body and lunged forward. The arrow snapped. Now it was time to listen for the call of the fire.

“The fire is the teacher, the fire is the guru, the fire is the messenger — someone is just facilitating your connection to it,” Mistee explains, leaning forward and throwing her gray-blond dreadlocks over her shoulder. “You give your honor, blessings, word, and hopefully a new way to listen. She calls to you when she’s ready for you.”

The structure of the ember-filled path participants walk is an important consideration for the safety of all, which the team put a lot of prep work into. First the ground needs to be prepared, both spiritually and physically. “You have to ask the land if it’s ready to be burned and give itself up,” Mistee says. “That land is scorched for layers and layers down. I had two places that I was supposed to host firewalks but the land told me it wasn’t ready.”

The earth under the path needs to be cleared of rocks, because rocks hold heat differently than wood. After it’s cleared, it has to be packed down, a solid surface for the coals. When it comes to the day itself, the fire tender has

## FEATURE : NEW EXPERIENCES

a specific role at the walk — they need to know the wood, its burntime, and how to build stable stacks. It all takes practice. Mistee's husband, Tony Raitt, is currently learning the skills of a fire tender so he can work in tandem with her.

"There's a technique [for the coals]; you pull everything to one side, wrist flick, there's a certain way to step into the fire to move everything. I thought I burned off my eyebrows more than once," she laughs. "You can't have big chunks, so after the flick, you get the red in the middle of the bed and bang it down with a flat shovel. That's where the facilitator and tender work together, and we ask the fire if it's ready for humans to start walking."

There's a strange feeling in liminal experiences like this — when you connect to the spiritual world, you're slightly outside of time. As a facilitator, Mistee knows this experience well. "In real time it's so hard. You lose time in the ether, connecting to other people's guides. You can be a firewalk facilitator, take an online training, know the ropes. But it's much different to hold the space of being connected in the spiritual realm. I can only speak to the second, because that's who I am," Mistee says. "In that energetic space, most other guides get really quiet. It's only the fire who speaks. It wants its own attention. When people are just walking around in a circle, no one is going to walk over the coals that day. It's an equal energy exchange — showing up with all our shit, asking it for what we need, and feeding it our energy."

I danced and whirled around the coals, a breathy, humming song rising in my throat, something that came from deep inside me, from somewhere old and instinctual. I was rounding the corner to the beginning of the path and my feet pulled me inside the circle, a space only the one who walks can occupy. I danced before the coals, my head bowed, hands in prayer, thumbs touching my third eye. Suddenly the night blew open and all was stillness. I stepped forward over the embers that pulsed with heat and reached the other side in a handful of steps, elation washing over me as someone embraced me.

The biggest question everyone has when my firewalk experience comes up in conversation is: "Did it hurt? Were your feet all burned?" And the answer, at least in my case, is no. Walking across the coals felt like walking across any other surface, and my feet were unscathed, a testament to the careful preparation and care of Mistee and her team. The ways my walk across the fire affected me were not visible.

"I hope people leave with a newfound sense of self, of what they're capable of, realizing most limitations are ones we place on ourselves," Mistee says with passionate reverence.



"I feel like the fire brings people whatever they need. For some people that's community, ceremony, connecting to traditions of the ancients, connecting to their inner selves. And for each person, what they need out of it is so unique and individual. And the fire is the teacher."

"Every time you light a candle, a match, sit fireside with friends, to have that reverence to know you are fully capable of summoning that spirit, that element; its soft warm glow or its ferocious burning of anything in its path. When you're ready to change, shift, shine the light in the dark corners, the fire illuminates that."

As for who should try a firewalk, well, there are many good reasons to do it. "Anyone that feels called should participate," says Mistee. **"If you see that word and wonder what it means to you ... The fire calls you. There's this inner knowing: 'This medicine is something I should try.' Even people who just want to say 'I did this cool thing ...' How much you want to honor and revere the sacred part of the ceremony is up to you."**

### WHOLE HEART THERAPIES

*Run by Mistee Boyd*  
[www.WholeHeartTherapies.com](http://www.WholeHeartTherapies.com)



WORDS / CYNDLE PLAISTED RIALS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

# beer&weed.

## RELAUNCH KICKOFF PARTY

DATE AND DETAILS TBA SOON.

SIGN UP FOR THE NEWSLETTER AND STAY TUNED  
TO BE AMONG THE FIRST ON THE GUEST LIST

You won't want to miss this – word is, there's a pretty chill location  
*a-brewin'* in Maine...if that *sparks* your interest ;)



NEWSLETTER

[WWW.BEERANDWEED.COM](http://WWW.BEERANDWEED.COM)



---

### New England Homebrewers Jamboree

**When:** Friday, September 6-8 2024

**Where:** Tamworth Camping Area in Tamworth, NH

Come celebrate the 27th Annual New England Homebrewers Jamboree and this huge milestone. Homebrew, Music, Food and Fun! We are looking forward to getting together with homebrewers from all over New England and beyond! All types of brewers converge into one space and sample the best they have to offer. NEW THIS YEAR. V.I.P. Party! Food will be catered by our fine group of vendors. Offerings will be out soon and you will be notified by email to choose your dinner options. Music Line Up and Homebrew Clubs will be updated as we go, Stay tuned for updates as they happen!

[www.homebrewersjamboree.com](http://www.homebrewersjamboree.com)

---

### Pints on The Pier

**When:** Saturday, Sep 14, 2024 @ 4:00PM

**Where:** Percy & Small Shipyard in Bath, ME

Pints on the Pier is back! Bring a blanket or lawn chair and join us in the historic Percy & Small Shipyard to sample some of Maine's best beers, ciders, and more! Grab some grub from the on-site food trucks and take in the late summer sunset along the Kennebec River. Plus, live music from Joe K. Walsh & Friends, cornhole, other lawn games, and more! Ticket fee includes all beer samples and a commemorative glass. Sponsored by Highbrow Maine and Kennebec Company.

[www.mainemaritimemuseum.org/event/pints-2024/](http://www.mainemaritimemuseum.org/event/pints-2024/)

## FEATURE : LISTINGS

### ◀ FROM PAGE 27

#### Maine Brew Fest

**When:** Saturday-Sunday, September 21-22 @ 4:00PM  
**Where:** Sunday River Ski Resort in Newry, ME

On Saturday, enjoy a performance by SKOSH, and on Sunday, experience the Maine Beer Box with over 75 taps and live music from The Northside Ramblers. Rain or shine, our events are happening, and we're still celebrating Maine Brew Fest! Join us in the lodge or under our large slopeside tent. We've got you covered!

[www.sundayriver.com/maine-brew-fest](http://www.sundayriver.com/maine-brew-fest)

#### Maine Lakes Brewfest

**When:** Saturday, Sep 28, 2024@ 12:00PM  
**Where:** HAM Complex in Bridgton, ME

Over 20 Breweries come together at the 20th Maine Lakes Brewfest in Bridgton, Maine. Including music by Carbon-14 and Last Kid Picked. Tickets available at the gate.

[www.gblrcc.org/brewfest](http://www.gblrcc.org/brewfest)

#### The "M.C." Fair

**When:** Saturday, Sep 28, 2024@ 10:00AM  
**Where:** Stonehedge Events & Camping in Gray, ME

The Maine Cannabis Fair is where you can experience True Craft Cannabis directly from the farmer. Watch glass being made in front of your eyes by talented artists. Come see first hand the newest exciting innovations in the industry. Learn about Cannabis + more at our seminars. Enjoy interactive activities + fun games throughout each day. Take part in Community Sesh's + Raffles and giveaways throughout the event. Grab some delicious food from the food trucks and then head over to our Treat Booth with non medicated options. Or have your desert first, we won't judge. Enjoy a live comedy set by Zach Gobeil (@new\_england\_dad), followed by live music. Our first inaugural fair will be held September 28th, 2024. Tickets can be found at the gate and on Eventbrite. For more information head to our website. See you there!

[www.ilovemeweeds.com](http://www.ilovemeweeds.com)

#### NH Brewfest Craft Beer Festival

**When:** Saturday, Oct 12, 2024@ 12:00PM  
**Where:** Cisco Brewers in Portsmouth, NH

A partnership between Prescott Park Arts Festival, the New England District of the Master Brewers Association of Americas (MBAA), Cisco Brewers Portsmouth and WHEB. New Hampshire's premiere event for craft brewers from throughout New England and beyond. Proceeds from this event support both an MBAA scholarship fund and Prescott Park Arts Festival.

[nhbrewfest.com](http://nhbrewfest.com)



#### 2nd New England Cannabis Research and Education Conference

**When:** Saturday, Oct 19, 2024@ 8:00AM  
**Where:** Dr. David G. Carter Science Building in Willimantic, CT

The New England Cannabis Research and Education conference at Eastern Connecticut State University aims to create a learning space where students, educators and members of the cannabis industry in New England can gather to share information in the emerging field of Cannabis Studies.

[easternct.showare.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=81](http://easternct.showare.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=81)

## FEATURE : LISTINGS

### Franklin County Cider Days

**When:** November 1st-3rd 2024

**Where:** Franklin County, Massachusetts

CiderDays is an annual community celebration of all things apple in beautiful Franklin County, Massachusetts. 2024 marks our 30th anniversary year! Come to the beautiful 413 to enjoy tours of the region's premier cideries and orchards with cider making demos and tastings, workshops, exhibitions, and educational events at a county-wide selection of venues. Find attractions from the valley towns of Greenfield, Deerfield, and Turners Falls to the beautiful hills of Buckland, Shelburne Falls, Colrain, Heath and all the towns in between. Whether you are a cider aficionado (hard or sweet), make your own cider, are an orchardist, like hanging out in bucolic orchards, or just enjoy soaking up all the goodness of autumn in New England, CiderDays is your event!

[www.ciderdays.org](http://www.ciderdays.org)

### L/A Backyard Beerfest

**When:** Saturday, Nov 2, 2024@ 12:00PM

**Where:** Lost Valley in Auburn, ME

Fest! Join Baxter Outdoors on Saturday, November 2nd as we celebrate our local Maine brewers and cider makers right in our L/A backyard at Lost Valley. Entry will grant attendee to 3-hour or 4-hour session of unlimited 4-ounce pours from the array of breweries. Delicious food will be available for purchase, and we'll have an array of live music and lawn games for a variety of entertainment as well!

[www.baxterbrewing.com/event/l-a-backyard-beer-fest](http://www.baxterbrewing.com/event/l-a-backyard-beer-fest)

### PDank Christmas Ten

**When:** Saturday, Dec 14, 2024@ 7:00PM

**Where:** Aura in Portland, ME

PDank Christmas Ten featuring Spose and TBD special guests. Check back in our next issue for more info as this annual concert starts to take shape.

[www.auramaine.com](http://www.auramaine.com)

LISTINGS / WORDS / CODY DELONG

### The Happening

**When:** June 19-22, 2025

**Where:** Harry Brown's Farm in Starks, ME

We know we're putting it up early, but mark your calendars! Tickets on sale November 28, 2024

[www.facebook.com/harrybrownsfarm](http://www.facebook.com/harrybrownsfarm)

### Beer & Weed Magazine – Relaunch Kickoff Party!

**When:** TBA

**Where:** Somewhere awesome in Maine of course

Stay tuned to our website – or better yet, be sure to subscribe and keep an eye on our newsletter to be among the first on the invite list!



SUBSCRIBE

[WWW.BEERANDWEED.COM](http://WWW.BEERANDWEED.COM)



20 WORCESTER, MA 24

# NEW ENGLAND METAL & HARDCORE FESTIVAL

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>

## KILLSWITCH ENGAGE

25TH ANNIVERSARY

CONVERGE MACHINE HEAD NAILS  
OVER KILL AFTER THE BURIAL BETTER LOVERS FULFILL  
INCENDIARY THE RECHORD EMERALD BLEEDING THROUGH  
OVERCAST ~~WINTER~~ INTEGRITY ~~SEANY~~

200 STAB WOUNDS • ALLUVIAL • BALMORA • END • GLACIAL TOMB  
MAMMOTH GRINDER • MISSING LINK • NO CURE • ON BROKEN WINGS  
PSYCHO-FRAME • SINCE THE FLOOD • SIMULAKRA • TRIBAL GAZE

**TIN BRIDGE**  
BREWING COMPANY



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup>

## SLAYER TO PROCESSION

SUICIDAL TENDENCIES AS I LAY DYING BANE  
SUICIDE SILENCE TERROR SHROUD OF INTENT  
Throwdown ~~INDUSTRIAL~~ FLESH GOD APOCALYPSE Pain of Mercy

BRAT • CORPSE PILE • DEATH BEFORE DISHONOR • DISEMBODIED TYRANT • ENDS OF SANITY •  
ESCUELA GRIND • INGESTED • FOREIGN HANDS • JARHEAD FERTILIZER • LIFE CYCLES  
MOUTH FOR WAR • PEELING FLESH • SNUFFED ON SIGHT • TRAIL OF LIES  
TWO PIECE • UPON STONE • WITH HONOR • THE ZENITH PASSAGE

LIMITED EDITION  
NEW ENGLAND IPA

## THE PALLADIUM OUTDOORS WORCESTER, MA.

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT SEETICKETS.US & VIP PACKAGES AVAILABLE AT SOUNDRIK.COM

MNRK  
HEAVY

NUCLEAR  
BLAST  
RECORDS

CENTURY  
RECORDS

1126  
REVOLVER

1126  
REVOLVER

1126  
REVOLVER

1126  
REVOLVER

1126  
REVOLVER

1126  
REVOLVER

1126  
REVOLVER

1126  
REVOLVER

1126  
REVOLVER

1126  
REVOLVER

1126  
REVOLVER

1126  
REVOLVER

1126  
REVOLVER

1126  
REVOLVER

1126  
REVOLVER

# GUESS WHO'S BACK



YOU MIGHT NEED TO BE HIGH FOR THIS.

IMAGINE YOU'RE A MAGAZINE ABOUT WEED AND BEER THAT AWAKENS FROM A COMA. AS YOU COME TO, YOU GRAB FOR YOUR PHONE WITH YOUR PAPERY LITTLE MAGAZINE HANDS. THE LOWERCASE LETTER ES IN "BEER &

WEED" BLINK THEMSELVES INTO FOUR EYEBALLS. THE EYES BULGE AT THE DATE, OVERTAKING THE NEARBY LETTERS ON YOUR FACE: IT'S THE FALL OF 2024. YOU'VE BEEN OUT FOR OVER A YEAR!

You fold your pages inward and collapse to the hospital bed.

The letters inside you tornado into a montage of questions: A whole year? The world isn't over? What happened? Is Trump in jail? Did the Jets win the Super Bowl? Did Porzinigis stay healthy? How am I still here?

Exasperated and overwhelmed, you flop to your back page.

The Maine rapper Spose appears, like a scrawnier, whiter Jake from State Farm, summoned by a magic phrase. He is halfway through what appears to be a pink can of some raspberry IPA from Bissell Brothers Brewing. There is a stabbed man on the label.

"What is that beer?," you whisper like a rustle of leaves.

"It's...," says Spose, sipping. "It's something from 2023. You missed it."

Your pages flip in a whoosh of confusion.

"What happened to me?"

"Well, you're a print magazine in the 2020s," says Spose, finishing the beer. "Also you had almost no online component, so you inevitably got into financial trouble and fell into this coma."

"That," you crinkle out, "makes sense. And now I'm back?"

"Yeah." Spose extracts a few nuggets from out a strange container labeled Preposterously. "You have new owners. You're back."

The face on your cover sniffs in a flutter of pages. Ink softens and blurs on your pages and reforms brighter and clearer than ever.

"What is that?"

"I'll tell you about it soon," says Spose, disassembling the flower. "You missed a lot. I gotta catch you up."

You mockingly flip to your Table of Contents.

"Right so," says Spose. "Trump got shot."

You flip to your cover and bulge all four eyes.

"No, he lived. I'm not even sure he got shot or it was shrapnel but yeah it was crazy. Lots of crazy memes about it. What else?" Spose rips open a fresh package of Backwoods. "Umm, let's see ... the Chiefs won the Superbowl again. Israel has been genociding Gaza with American weapons. The prices of everything are still going up."

You fold yourself from the top down in a nod.

"Sounds about right," you croak. "So ... not much has changed."

"Oh!" says Spose, looking up. "Kendrick dissed Drake."

You rustle your pages quizzically.

---

” You missed a lot. I gotta catch you up

---

"This shit was crazy," says Spose. "Kendrick basically baited Drake into getting destroyed, ended up calling him and all his boys pedophiles, and dropping the most fun diss song of all time. It went number 1 like ... multiple times."

Your flip open and your text morphs into a picture of Millie Bobby Brown from Stranger Things.

"Exactly," Spose laughs. "Oh! The best thing happened. I should've led with this. The Celtics won the championship."

## ◀ FROM PAGE 29

Your pages flip wildly.

"I know dude," says Spose. "It was amazing. I cried."

You bend your top left corner to look at Spose as if he's a little bitch for crying about men playing sports.

"Oh!" Spose remembers something else: "Biden dropped out of the race."

You flip to halfway through your pages then back to your cover as if to say, "Wait, what?!"

"Yeah, he was looking real old, they forced him out," says Spose, licking a Backwoods leaf. "So now the overlords have chosen that our two choices are Kamala Harris or Donald Trump in the latest battle of who's gonna represent the weapons companies and investment firms."

You nod your cover again. Sounds about right. Spose holds up Backwoods he rolled perfectly without using scissors, a hint that this story may be fantasy.

"So basically, same old shit," says Spose. "But now you're back. And your articles will be online. Here's to being back from the dead!"

**Spose lights the woods and hands it to you, the resuscitated, rejuvenated magazine.**



WORDS / SPOSE  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



## LEARNING CORNER

# MANY DIFFERENT STRAINS OF CANNABIS

STRAIN IS USED TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN CANNABIS SATIVA AND INDICA. IT REFERS TO THE SPECIFIC BREED OF EACH INDIVIDUAL PLANT. OVER THE YEARS, FAMILIAL STRAINS HAVE DIVIDED INTO SPECIFIC SUBSECTIONS. THOUGH STRAINS MAY LINAGE, THE DIFFERENCES ARE NUMEROUS



## SATIVA STRAINS

Sativa strains have an uplifting effect and offer a cerebral high that includes:

- **Laughing uncontrollably**
- **Engaging in in-depth conversations**
- **Thinking creativity**

Sativa strains grow tall and thin - the plant can grow up to 20 feet in an outside garden. Popular strains include:

### AMNESIA HAZE

Beloved by morning users, it offers an uplifting boost.

### CHERRY AK

With a sweet, fruity smell and taste, this strain can help elevate a bad mood.

### GREEN CRACK

Users are rewarded with a blast of exhilarated energy.

### SOUR DIESEL

Despite a diesel smell, this strain offers the highest happiness quotient.



## INDICA STRAINS

Indica strains have a relaxing, sedative effect, often used to:

- **Reduce stress**
- **Relieve pain**
- **Limit anxiety**

Indica strains are a bushy plant that can grow between 3 and 6 feet tall and are suitable for growing indoors. Popular strains include:

### BUBBA KUSH

With a coffee and chocolate taste, this strain has a heavy tranquilizing effect.

### NORTHERN LIGHTS

This pure indica is known to have come from the "mother plant."

### HEROJUANA

To battle insomnia, this strain induces a heavy, relaxing sleep.

### SKYWALKER OG

This strain is known for its healing properties for those with PTSD.



## HYBRID STRAINS

Hybrid strains offer a mix of effects, combining the traits they inherited from their parent strains. Hybrids are known to:

- **offer a relaxing body effect**
- **Create balance of mind and body**
- **Limit anxiety**

Of the roughly 779 strains, over half of them are hybrids. Popular strains include:

### BLUE DREAM

Offers a total relaxation while energizing the mind.

### HEADBAND

Great for pain relief and a feeling of elation.

### GIRL SCOUT COOKIES

This strain is more extreme version of Blue Dream, so go easy!

### PINEAPPLE EXPRESS

This sweet, tropical strain leaves one feeling happy and euphoric.



# HARVEST APPROACHES!

## TIPS FOR WHEN TO CUT AND HOW TO CURE

WORDS & IMAGES / DIRT DIVA

**HEY B&W ENTHUSIASTS! IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK AFTER THE HIATUS FOR THE NEXT TURN AROUND THE SUN, MOON, AND STARS. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO CONTINUING WITH HELPFUL TIPS ON GROWING CANNABIS ALONGSIDE YOUR HERBS AND VEGETABLES, WHILE WE HEIGHTEN OUR EXPERIENCES OF THE GRAND FINALE TOGETHER, SMELLING AND EYEING THE OUTRAGEOUS CANNABIS FLOWERS THIS AUTUMN IN OUR BACKYARD GARDENS.**

D.I.Y. growing and using cannabis will still be the focus of this column. If you've been a loyal reader, you'll notice some repetition from previous years, but please indulge me with my practice: I learn something new and try something different each season, and I'm always bringing new components into play. Everything is in flux. I am looking forward to upping our game in growing outrageous weed outdoors by creative exploration.

As September and October progresses, an increasing number of signs indicate that outrageous weed harvest time is happening or about to happen in our environments. Crickets chirping overwhelm the songs of birds. Blackberries have mostly been eaten and their leaves are turning red to indicate to the Aldo Leopolds (look him up) where to hunt for grouse. Mushroom foraging season ramps up as temperatures begin to drop. Rain is all in good time and the dwindling hours of daylight are upon us.

The Harvest moon on September 18 is appropriately in the sign of Aries, the ruler of Mars, with a partially eclipsed moon, not quite covering the solar disk — this is the time to get our Mars on and begin the delicate and demanding tasks of identifying pistil/trichome synchronicity, avoiding

powdery mildew, flushing out any fertilizer or neem oil, and preparing to harvest the abundance of trichomed flowers between now and Sahmain, aka Halloween.

September's weather brings the backyard growing season to a gradual close. The sun is waning, the photosynthesis process slows down, and the cooler air makes it harder to dry wet flowers during harvest time.

So, yes, it's a confusing change of expectations, as last September we experienced very warm weather and needed to keep our plants watered like we would during the zenith of summer! The finality of flower development reminds growers to perfect the work of preventing that big buzz kill of powdery mildew, or gray mold, aka botrytis, aka bud rot.

Begin keen inspection for traces of powdery mildew or gray mold on the leaves and buds. Hopefully there won't be the first signs of dry, brown leaves and/or tiny, hard-to-spot white dots (powdery mildew) on the green leaf. Fungus will increase quickly and cover the leaf if you don't watch out for it and get rid of it immediately.

If there are any signs of mold, clip off affected leaves or buds with disinfected clippers (wipe clippers with vinegar or isopropyl alcohol between each cut). A foliar spray of sun tea made from water and organic compost (without fertilizer) may help stop the start of mold by applying the microorganisms from the compost tea.

Be sure air flow is substantial. Aerate the soil around the base of your plant and keep surrounding vegetation clear of your branches.

## DIY : DIRT DIVA

### ◀ FROM PAGE 31

Indica strains will be very close to maturity by the end of the month. Sativas generally have a longer flowering period. When the Sativa plants begin to flower, it can take 70-90 days until they are ready to harvest, most likely towards the middle/end of October, with some plants lingering into the beginning of November.

Hybrid strains of Indica/Sativa, depending on the ratio, can fluctuate in maturity, anywhere from 42 to 70 days. Keeping close attention is the key to successful timing for determining exactly when to harvest in order to acquire your desired high.

Pistils are the hairs that grow on the stigma, the “flower” you’ll eventually smoke. They indicate to the grower the level of maturity. They’re longer and larger than trichomes, which are the “crystals” on your bud. These white hairs stick straight out when they first appear, then change color and structure as they mature. One of the indicators of a harvest-ready bud is when the pistil has curled inward with a soft orange hue.







**Cannabis from Maine's Top Cultivators!**  
**From Edibles to Pre-Rolls, Beverages to Flower**  
**and everything in between come see the Brothers difference**  
**& Welcome to the Family!**



**BANGOR - 469 STILLWATER AVENUE | BANGOR - 657 BROADWAY**  
**BREWER - 484 WILSON STREET | NEWPORT - 19 MOOSEHEAD TRAIL**

## DIY : DIRT DIVA

Trichomes spring into view upon the buds and leaves during the late flowering phase. They first appear as clear glass mushroom-like structures that shift in color from transparent to a milky white and then amber. Take a picture and zoom in to get a closer look.

Balancing the pistil's white/yellow/orange/amber hues and that of the trichomes' move from clear to milky-white, with a whisper of amber, is key. This is an exchange of perfected synchronicity. Over-ripened flowers tend to bring a sense of deep relaxation to one's character and possibly a harsher taste. A lot of the effects come down to the strain, but synchronized timing is a key factor.



Indica plants are probably going to be ready to harvest before next month's curing and storing suggestions, so let's prepare for the cutting and drying process that will consume close to two weeks of time.

Cutting a few days before rain and close to high noon is best, as the xylem will be pulling the energy/THC upward and high noon will give the sun time to dry any dew moisture from your buds. Definitely cut the plant down instead of pulling it up from the earth. Cutting keeps soil from getting on your buds.

Trimming and saving the fan leaves from the branches before you bring the branches inside onto a tarp will keep things less messy. These dry quickly in paper bags or on screens in a dark and dry environment.

Once your fresh flowers are cut, move your prime branches of buds out of the sunlight to dry. UV sunlight rays rapidly reduce your buds' potency and the heat ruins the taste of the terpenes. Bringing the flower branches into a dark, dry, and well-ventilated environment, prevents the essential oils and terpenes from diminishing, while drying out the high

moisture content from your flowers and stems. Moisture causes bacteria, mold, and yeast. Be cautious: Avoid mold!

Air circulation is necessary. Hanging the long-stemmed branches tied upside down from a rack or a clothesline without touching each other in a large closet (with a little fan), attic, or barn is ideal. Slow drying actually triggers the cannabinoids and will keep terpenes delicious.

It should take a good week or two until your weed is dry enough to start trimming, depending on factors of air circulation, humidity, temperature, and the size and density of your flowers. Delicately squeeze your flowers to decide the condition of the drying process; look for a crunchy, sticky, supple feel (save these trichome covered leaves when trimming for edibles, medicinal salves, and tinctures).

There is a lot of bustling needed to get your crop to dry, trimmed, and cured for safekeeping. Time is consequential when harvesting a superabundance of backyard grow.

Be gentle handling and trimming your flowers. Try to hold from the petiole, the base of the flower from the stem. This will help avoid damaging the trichomes. Try to get some latex gloves because the resin is ridiculously hard to get off your fingers, or you can just scrape the resin off into hashish balls and smoke it up.

Collect many airtight quart-sized, wide-mouthed jars; tinted jars are ideal, as they prevent UV sunlight from degrading your cannabis.

Put those sweet whole flowers loosely packed into your jars without crushing them.

Seal the jars and store them in a dark, dry, and cool environment. After the first week, open the jars for 5-10 minutes a few times a day. This allows the lingering moisture leaving the flowers to escape and bring in oxygen. After the first week of curing, open the jars every few days to let the flowers breathe for a few minutes.

Continue the curing process for at least 2-3 weeks. Storing your stash in a cool, dark, and dry environment will keep it at its best. Also some say Boveda packets ensure moisture control.

Labeling the date of the dry, cure, and strain of your weed is good info for the forgetful. Enjoy your organic, clean outrageous backyard weed with all the folks you love to be high with. I hope your garden is thriving and life is good.



WORDS / KATHRYN SHAY  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

beer&weed.

YOUR AD HERE

WELL...NOT **HERE** HERE - THIS ISSUE ALREADY  
WENT TO PRINT, SILLY GOOSE.

**We love working with amazing brands,  
companies, organizations, and people –  
because we strive to be all those things.**  
We offer a variety of opportunities and  
can tailor a package to your unique needs.

Holidays are just around the corner...  
there really is no better time to reach out!

Get in touch! [sylvia@beerandweed.com](mailto:sylvia@beerandweed.com)



ADVERTISE

This relaunch issue is dedicated to Frank Lobao, and all those whose love for Beer & Weed is surpassed only by their love for Family & Friends. We pour one out, we light one up – this is for you ♥

# TOP NOTCH BUDS

GRASSROOTS™

AS NATURE INTENDED.



AUTHENTIC  
AROMA



TRUE  
TASTE

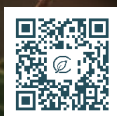


ENHANCED  
EFFICACY



CAREFULLY  
CULTIVATED

AVAILABLE AT CURALEAF



Curaleaf Auburn  
730 Center Street Ste 1C  
Auburn, ME 04210

Curaleaf Bangor  
829 Hogan Road  
Bangor, ME 04401

Curaleaf Ellsworth  
3 Myrick Street  
Ellsworth, ME 04605

Curaleaf Wells  
913 Post Road  
Wells, ME 04090

# Highbrow

A CLASSY JOINT

THE APPLE OF  
YOUR HIGH

