



# Hemp for Health and Sustainability

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## BridgePort BrewPub to Host Portland Celebration of 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual *Hemp History Week*

***Event Entitled 'Hemp for Oregon - A Sustainable Crop for a Healthy Future'  
Will Highlight Economic Opportunities for the State***

**PORTLAND, OR** – On Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:30pm, The BridgePort BrewPub will host 'Hemp for Oregon – A Sustainable Crop for a Healthy Future' in celebration of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual **Hemp History Week**. The event will feature guest speakers on the benefits that hemp farming would bring to the Oregon economy.

The event will also feature hemp product sampling; product displays from local businesses such as Living Harvest Foods, Merry Hempsters, Queen Bee Creations, and Wilderness Poets; tasty hemp hors d'oeuvres; music by local band The Djangophiles; as well as petition signing to encourage the President and Attorney General to change federal policy to support industrial hemp farming. The event is free and open to all ages. Hosted in the Heritage Room of the BridgePort BrewPub, a former hemp rope factory, free tours of the brewery will also be offered at the event.

"During a time of economic distress, we need to be encouraging American enterprise and American job creation. It simply doesn't make sense to restrict a viable industry because of unfounded fears. There are many success stories in my district about companies who use or sell hemp products, and I don't believe we should be limiting their potential. The **Hemp History Week** campaign is a great opportunity to educate other elected officials and the American public about the tremendous benefits that the ability to grow hemp in America will bring," explains Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-Oregon).

**Hemp History Week** is a national grassroots education campaign that seeks to renew strong support for hemp farming in the U.S. Between May 2-8, 2011, events will be taking place in all fifty states to celebrate the country's rich history with industrial hemp farming while promoting the many benefits of hemp for improving health, the environment and the economy. In addition to grassroots events like the BridgePort celebration and retail promotions of hemp products in nearly five hundred stores, organizers expect to collect thousands of petition signatures in support of hemp farming in the U.S.



DR. BRONNER'S  
MAGIC  
"ALL-ONE!"





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“To date, seventeen states have passed pro-hemp legislation, and Oregon is one of nine states that have removed barriers to the production or research of hemp,” explains Christina Volgyesi, organizer of the Portland event and Project Coordinator of **Hemp History Week**. “At our event, we will be hearing from guest speakers such as Canadian hemp farming expert Kevin Friesen who will share lessons for Oregon farmers from his decade of experience growing and processing hemp in Canada; Dalton Hobbs, Assistant Director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture and future Oregon hemp farmers who will speak to the benefits of making a new rotational crop available to local farmers that is in demand, has a high yield and is low impact on the environment.”

Natural product retailers across the country will be featuring promotions throughout the month of May on best-selling hemp products from Dr. Bronner’s Magic Soaps; Manitoba Harvest; Nature’s Path; and Nutiva. Participating stores in the Portland area include New Seasons Market, Food Front, People’s Co-op, Alberta Street Co-op, and Whole Foods Market.

“We’re proud to provide high quality consumer products made with sustainably and organically grown hemp,” says Lisa Sedlar, President and CEO of New Seasons Market. “The demand for nutrient-rich whole foods made with hemp seed and hemp oil continues to rise, and we’re excited to offer a wide variety of options for our shoppers.”

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**Hemp History Week – May 2-8, 2011** is an industry-wide project organized by The Hemp Industries Association and Vote Hemp, and includes hundreds of hemp manufacturers and retailers. The **Hemp Industries Association (HIA)** is a non-profit trade group representing hemp companies, researchers, farmers and supporters. **Vote Hemp** is a national, single-issue, non-profit advocacy group founded in 2000 by members of the hemp industry to remove barriers to industrial hemp farming in the U.S. through education, legislation and advocacy.

For more information, go to: [www.HempHistoryWeek.com](http://www.HempHistoryWeek.com)

