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### THE SMOKE SIGNAL

The Smoke Signal is an independently-owned monthly magazine, focused on highlighting cannabis culture and local hotspots and happenings!

**Founder/Publisher** Dan Coyle

**Graphic Design** Krista Sand

**Photography** Alison Dunlap

**Print Shop** Pirolli Printing Co.

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# THE SMOKE SIGNAL

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SOUTH JERSEY FOREVER

Volume 2, Issue 2

February 2026

SHOWCASING CANNABIS-POSITIVE RESTAURANTS AND BUSINESSES IN YOUR AREA



## When Medicine Became Mission: The Founder Behind Abundant Leaf

IN THIS ISSUE:

Meet Brendan Donegan, a son of Audubon & local rising star in standup comedy!

Q&A with Dr Jody Veler, the first black female mayor of Salem!

The Perfect Date takes you on a stroll through Glassboro!

## WELCOME TO THE SMOKE SIGNAL

The Smoke Signal brings you the latest in the world of cannabis, arts, culture, and music across South Jersey every month.

TSS will always support and highlight small local businesses! In these strange times, it is more important than ever to vote with your dollar, so support the businesses you see in these pages, and tell them The Smoke Signal sent you!

Each of our advertisers has a listing on our new online small business directory, High Society!

High Society is your one-stop shop for discounts & deals from our advertisers! Engaging with these advertisers through the directory DIRECTLY helps The Smoke Signal to create more & more issues, and proves the value of this local, unique publication to many more advertisers! Check it out!



[TheSmokeSignal.green](https://www.thesmokesignal.green)



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### Public Service Announcement

The NJ Office of New Americans has important know-your-rights information in many languages.

The Camden Center for Law & Social Justice has offices in Camden, Bridgeton, and Atlantic City, and assists immigrants with all steps of the process. They are looking for volunteer attorneys, paralegals, linguists, computer specialists, fundraisers and other people of good will. If you can, donate to their work by calling:  
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## Q&A with the Mayor of Salem NJ:

Dr. Jody Veler



### How did you get into the work of being the mayor of Salem?

I came to this work through a deep sense of responsibility to the community and a calling to serve. I believe public service is one way I'm asked to serve God—by leading with integrity and caring for people in practical, meaningful ways. After years working behind the scenes in public service and community development, it became clear that stepping into leadership was necessary to help bring about real change in Salem.

### How do you carry the weight of being the first Black woman to be the mayor of Salem in its 350-year history, while remaining focused on the day-to-day duties of the job?

I'm very aware of the historic significance of this role and the unique challenges Black women leaders face, including heightened scrutiny and subtle microaggressions. I stay grounded by focusing on preparation, professionalism, and results, knowing that competence is the strongest response to bias. By remaining centered on purpose and performance, I'm able to honor the moment while continuing to move the city forward.

### What role do you see dispensaries, and possibly future consumption lounges, playing in the economic revitalization of Salem and Salem County?

Dispensaries represent a strategic economic opportunity when thoughtfully regulated. They create jobs, generate tax revenue, activate vacant properties, and attract new visitors to Salem. Looking ahead, the city is also open to discussions around zoning for cultivation and manufacturing to further support responsible economic growth.

Dr Jody Veler is in office as Mayor of Salem until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2027.  
Expanded edition of this interview is available on our website,  
[thesmokesignal.green](https://www.thesmokesignal.green)




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**-BARRY TAYLOR, ROAD MANAGER FOR AC/DC**

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**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**February 13th @ 7pm to 10pm - Love to Mingle (Sunnytien Lounge - Atlantic City)** - A celebration of love, in every way! Join Kira Russell & Katie Weightman in their 3<sup>rd</sup> Mingle's Mixer! R&B jams, infused mocktails, and love potions all around! Find love, find community, find yourself! \$15 ticket - includes MPX pre-roll & unlimited mocktails!

**February 26<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm to 9pm - Splitz Got Talent (Splitz Bar & Grill - Maple Shade)** - submit your talent to LaurelLanesNJ1@gmail.com for a chance to win \$100!

**Every Thursday in February @ 1pm to 4pm - Bridge Group! (Riverton Free Library - Riverton)** - Welcoming both beginners and experienced players! Come play some Bridge! Free, no registration required.

**Every Monday in February @ 6pm to 7:30pm - Exploring Literary Greats (Virtual event)** - Cape May Poet Laureate Sylvia Baer explores what it means to be human, through the lens of various works of classic literature like "Gilgamesh", Whitman's "Leaves of Grass", and Shakespeare's "Othello". 4-part interactive seminar for those at any level of knowledge or experience! \$15 each session, registration required.

**February 21<sup>st</sup> @ 10am to 3pm - Free Mending (Ventnor Cultural Arts Center - Ventnor)** - Repairing is Caring! Anyone who has one item of clothing in need of new buttons/zippers, small rips, or minor hemming, come on down and @knockoutbykris will get you all fixed up! FREE! limit one per person.

**SPACE AVAILABLE**

**SPOT THAT SPOT**

You think you're a South Jersey expert? Well, big brain, where is this? What is it? Send your guesses to [smokesignalnj@gmail.com](mailto:smokesignalnj@gmail.com)



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Get a coffee & a bagel at **Cream Cafe!**

Check out the art at **Rowan University's Art Gallery & Museum** (open to the public)!

Pick out your favorite dessert from **Cookie Munchers!**

Go to **Altius Dispensary & use code "Smoke41" for 41% off all 1<sup>st</sup> time orders!**



Photo by Alison Dunlap

**BRENDAN DONEGAN,  
SON OF AUDUBON, IS  
MAKING WAVES IN  
STANDUP COMEDY**

By Dan Coyle

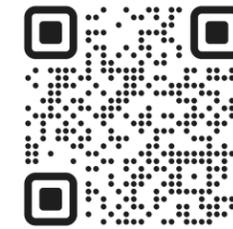
If you're going to a standup show in AC, Philly, or NYC in 2026, there's a good chance that Brendan Donegan will be performing. He's a young millennial dad and he's taken that experience to the stage to please standup audiences far and wide!

This writer is a bit biased, as Brendan was the funniest kid on my block when we were kids in Audubon, but it's always nice to see when someone takes their school yard comedy between friends to a professional level, as he has!

You can catch Brendan on stage anywhere in the tri-state area, on his instagram (@brendandonegancomedy), or on his South Jersey Bad Boys podcast with local comic Dan Callahan! He just announced that he will be headlining Dallas Comedy Club in Dallas, TX on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Make sure you support a hometown boy, and get to one of his shows soon! and tell 'em Smoke Signal sent ya! More info on all of Brendan's projects is available on his website:



**SPACE AVAILABLE**



**Cannabinoid Hyperemesis Syndrome (CHS)** is a medical condition that can develop in those who have a history of long-term cannabis use. Symptoms include severe abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, reduced appetite, and anxiety. It is estimated to affect millions of Americans every year!

The Smoke Signal is proud to partner with **Janiris Almonte**, a local cannabis educator & professional, who wrote a guide for those suffer from this condition to address their symptoms and find community with others who have experienced CHS!

**"In a democracy, the fundamental civic unit is neighbor"**  
-Nancy Rosenblum

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## HIGH THOUGHTS

**Time feels fake, but also, very committed to the bit.**

**If we were all made of atoms, are we just borrowing ourselves all the time?**

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## Founder's Desk

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No place in America needs unidentified, masked, armed, untrained, and aggressive men roaming around cities, and stopping people for their papers, based on accents and skin color.

ICE needs to be dismantled and abolished as soon as possible.

I don't care who you voted for, you should be able to exercise your first & second amendment rights while in proximity of a federal agent AND survive that encounter.

Remember, we outnumber those who seek to divide us. We will outlive these insane politicians, and we will build something new and just and better and more loving, on the other side of this mess.

**SOUTH JERSEY FOREVER!**

Opinions expressed here are solely the opinions of our Founder, and not of any entity or company involved in The Smoke Signal.

# SPACE AVAILABLE

As of January 12, 2026, NJ has approved Sickle Cell Anemia as a qualifying condition for the NJ Medical Marijuana Program. Reach out to Kimberlee and the team at **MediCalm (below)** to get your medical card!

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Starting with this issue, The Smoke Signal is now available in two new locations:

**Quality Cannabliss in Blackwood  
&  
Everest Dispensary in Atlantic City**

Visit these stores soon!  
Tell 'em Smoke Signal sent ya!

If we're not in your home store, let them know they should stock the magazine! It's FREE for them!

# Holly's Story: Abundant Leaf blooms in NJ

By Dan Coyle

Life turned upside down for Deptford native Holly DeLorenzo when she was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2017. With no idea what to do, and two little ones at home, she remembered a documentary she had seen about CBD and its benefits in fighting cancer cells, and she hatched a plan. Holly had seen a few brutal losses from opioid addiction in her community, so she wanted to do anything she could to avoid taking opioids in her treatment. She began taking CBD to manage pain and symptoms associated with her cancer, and by the time she had surgery 6 months later, her doctor was astounded as she "had begun healing at twice the normal rate". Holly attributed this progress to her new-found CBD plant medicine. As NJ legalization was on the horizon, Holly used her professional background in insurance to create the 1<sup>st</sup> crop insurance policy in the state of New Jersey, which allowed her to dive deep into the business and liability aspects of the cannabis world.

Now able to see the benefits of CBD and THC from a professional AND personal perspective, she began creating gummies and edibles for family and friends. When COVID began in 2020, Holly began iterating flavor profiles, experimenting with terpene additions, and creating specific formulas to address problems of the body. When a friend came to her with sleep issues, she began work on Night Night, one of the flavors that is now available in all of her retail partner stores! She also found that other flavors & recipes were helpful for pain associated with cancer and neuropathy. COVID obviously created anxiety in every adult in the country, and Holly did her best to use her new talent and process to address that in her community as well. As each need came to her, she found a way to help. Focusing on the problems she can address, and not just how high a person can get, has been the driving force behind Abundant Leaf, Holly's cannabis brand that launched in NJ in late 2025.

Abundant Leaf gummies and pre-rolls are available in dispensaries across South Jersey now! **For a full list of their retail partners (and exclusive discounts for Smoke Signal readers), scan this QR code:**



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## Coming in November!

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SEND US YOUR THOUGHTS AT SMOKE SIGNALNJ@GMAIL.COM OR FIND US ON IG UNDER THE SAME NAME!