

Press Release:

I-522 GMO Grassroots Groups Organize September Speaking Tour For Grandmother Pamm Larry and Farmer Howard Vlieger

SEATTLE, WA (August 19, 2013) Washington grassroots volunteers for I-522 have asked Pamm Larry, the initial instigator of the genetically engineered labeling act in California, and Iowa Farmer Howard Vlieger (R) to participate in a statewide speaking tour in September to educate voters on GMO Food Labeling issues and help organize the grassroots troops. Annmarie Gianni Skin Care and Good Earth Natural Foods are funding the fall tour.

“Having Pamm Larry come to Washington to help with I-522 is a no-brainer. She started the GE Labeling initiative movement, and I-522 wouldn't be on our Washington state ballot this November if it weren't for Pamm's efforts in California last year,” explains Sarah Stolar, a coordinator of Volunteer's for I-522. “She has been through ALL of this already, so both grassroots groups and the Yes on 522 campaign have a lot to learn from her. We do not need or want to waste energy reinventing the wheel; we need to take the valuable lessons learned from California's experience and use them to improve our own work. Learning from California's Prop 37 and not repeating the same mistakes is the only way we can successfully pass I-522. Who better to help guide the way than Pamm Larry?”

“Washington will finish what Prop 37 started but was waylaid by Chemical and Junk Food Companies in their campaign of misinformation and distractions from the issue which is labeling of our foods,” explains Pamm Larry, Grandmother of three and Label GMO Food movement initial instigator. “We have a right to know what we are buying and feeding our children and ourselves. I-522 is the next step and is everyone's ballot initiative. When we all unite no matter where we are from, we are a powerful force. California Grassroots stand with the people of Washington in continuing the fight for the right to know what's in our food. We will do all we can to assure victory there. I am delighted and honored to have the opportunity to join hands with the people of Washington to let them know about our oppositions dirty tactics in California during Prop 37. We are uniting across state lines because this isn't just about Washington- it's about all of us. No matter what city, state, or country we live in, every step we take anywhere for food sovereignty is a step for all of us.”

“I have been involved with research and testing of GMOs since 1994. I have seen the damage caused by GMOs at ground level,” says Howard Vlieger, “What is happening to the soil, the crops, the livestock and sadly now the children and people. Can we really

believe what we are being told by the companies that say GMOs are the way of future for food production or is there more to the story? Are you willing to bet the future of your farm and the health of your family on the word of GMO companies without exploring the rest of the story for yourself?"

"Every action and decision that we make as individuals and as a company will have an impact on the environment," states Rachel Pachivas, Annmarie Gianni Skin Care. "We strive to make this as little of an impact as possible. We search out for the best and most sustainable sourcing in everything we do. From the paper that our letterhead is on, to the oil that makes its way onto your skin, there is careful and conscious thought that goes into every decision made. We actively support LabelGMOs and the movement around these issues. A few of us here in the company had volunteered during Prop 37 in California and know how inspiring Pamm Larry is, so of course... we are happy to help her get up to Washington and support I-522. A victory in Washington will be monumental for the food movement... it's time we stand up to Ag-Biotech industry and demand we know what they are putting in our food!"

About Pamm Larry

Pamm Larry, farmer, midwife, businesswoman and a gutsy grandmother of three was so distraught about our modern day food system that she quit her day job and spent her time educating herself on GMOs and how to apply for a ballot initiative. Next, she searched out her team and went straight to the state capital to painstakingly navigate through the bureaucratic muddle of tedious paperwork necessary to put an initiative on the California ballot.

Grandma Larry and her galvanized cadre of concerned citizens represent the sane, spirited voice of a growing number of skeptical Americans who don't necessarily trust better living through chemistry.

Article: The Spark Behind the California Right to Know Genetically Engineered Food Act of 2012 http://www.huffingtonpost.com/annie-spiegelman/genetically-engineered-food_b_1245023.html

Video: "Just Label It" http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_Lm21C1Yeg

Photo: <http://www.planetarianperspectives.net/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Larry-3.jpg>

About Howard Vlieger

Howard Vlieger is a third generation family farmer who has been a “student of the soil,” studying why and how the soil works as it does, since 1989. Howard lives on the family farm where he was born and raised in northwest Iowa. Since 1992 Howard has been a crop nutrition advisor and has founded two companies to help family farmers reduce their dependency on chemical-based farming and transition to biological and/or organic production. Howard also works with scientists and researchers around the world to develop effective solutions, based on the latest science, for the real-life problems farmers are experiencing because of GMO crops and glyphosate. Howard is a co-author and the primary coordinator of a first of its kind scientific study: the feeding of GMO grain and non-GMO grain to hogs for their lifetime as a meat animal. Howard is an internationally recognized speaker on the topic of GMOs.

Annamarie Gianni Skin Care

Annamarie Gianni Skin Care is an organic skin care line using 100% natural, certified organic, and wild-crafted ingredients. The team strives to bring their ideals into the eyes of the community. They believe knowledge is power and they love providing information to others on organics and wild-crafting, truth in labeling and transparency, and giving back to the community.

About Yes on 522

Yes on 522 provides Washington shoppers with more information about what’s in the food they buy so that they can make the best decisions for their families. More than 350,000 signatures were collected to get I-522 on the November 2013 ballot—second highest number of signatures gathered for an Initiative to the Legislature in state history. www.yeson522.com

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<http://volunteersfori522.org/>