

Natural Grocers by Vitamin Cottage, Inc.  
 Form 4  
 March 03, 2017

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 Cerkovnik Edward

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 Natural Grocers by Vitamin Cottage, Inc. [NGVC]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 03/01/2017

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

C/O NATURAL GROCERS BY VITAMIN COTTAGE, 12612 W. ALAMEDA PARKWAY

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

LAKEWOOD, CO 80228

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock                    | 03/02/2017                           |  | M                              | (A)<br>2,941<br>(1)   | A \$ 0 14,625   | D  |                                   |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |       |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|-------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title                      |       |
| Restricted Stock Units                     | (2)  | 03/01/2017                           |  | A                              | 4,954   | (3) (3)  |   | Common Stock               | 4,954 |
| Restricted Stock Units                     | (2)  | 03/02/2017                           |  | M                              | 2,941   | 03/02/2017 03/02/2017                                    |   | Common Stock               | 2,941 |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |         |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Cerkovnik Edward<br>C/O NATURAL GROCERS BY VITAMIN COTTAGE<br>12612 W. ALAMEDA PARKWAY<br>LAKEWOOD, CO 80228 | X             |           |         |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Kemper Isely, by Power of Attorney 03/03/2017

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Represents shares of NGVC common stock issued to the reporting person upon the vesting of 2,941 restricted stock units on March 2, 2017, where each restricted stock unit represented the economic equivalent of one share of NGVC common stock.
- (2) Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of NGVC common stock.
- (3) The restricted stock units vest on March 1, 2018 and will be settled in shares of NGVC common stock upon vesting.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.