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County news briefs

REGION-WIDE: 11 arrested in drug case

On Tuesday, police arrested 11 of 22 metro residents facing a federal indictment on marijuana manufacturing or other charges, and are searching for the others.

All were indicted by a federal grand jury in Detroit in November. The charges include mortgage fraud and money laundering.

The indictment alleges that 16 of the residents grew and distributed a hybrid strain of marijuana since 2002 in homes purchased with false mortgage application documents.

Six people were indicted on mortgage fraud charges and one person was charged with identity theft for allegedly using another person's identification to qualify for mortgage loans.

The investigation began four years ago, after a deputy sheriff in Oakland County seized some marijuana during a vehicle stop.

The case was investigated by agencies including the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Oakland County Sheriff's Office, the Wayne County Sheriff's Office, Michigan State Police, and the police departments in Roseville, Ferndale, Dearborn, Novi, Sterling Heights, West Bloomfield, Troy, Farmington Hills, Warren and St. Clair Shores.

Fugitives are nabbed

Police arrested 175 fugitives and parole absconders last week as part of the latest Project S.A.F.E., the Michigan State Police announced Wednesday.

The Dec. 2-4 sweep included arrests for homicide, armed robbery, criminal sexual assault, home invasion, aggravated assault and various drug crimes.

Eighty-two of the people arrested were in Wayne, Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw, Monroe and St. Clair counties, State Police said.

The project is a collaboration between State Police and other agencies.
