

Macedon/Arcadia drug dealers feel harsh sting from the Feds



Daniel K. Duvall



Jud A. Briggs

It all began when Newark Police received an anonymous report of a couple and their son who were running a marijuana operation out of their apartment at 315 Vienna Street, Apartment # 2 in late September of 2006. The tipster said the boy, a Newark High School student, had been selling marijuana at school.

That tip led to the arrest of **Gerald R. Casillo**, and **Ella M. Casillo**. Police recovered a quantity of marijuana, in small individual packages weighing a total of more than one pound. Police also recovered a quantity of marijuana in various stages of the drying and curing process. Police seized an undisclosed quantity of money and several guns from the residence. Gerald Casillo received probation for his conviction for Marijuana Possession and his wife Ella, had the charges dismissed.

During interviews with the Casillos it was learned that the marijuana was stolen from the property of **Daniel K. Duvall**, age 54, of 3216 Walworth Road in Macedon.

Within days, WayneNET, the multi-municipal drug task force comprised of Wayne County town and village police departments raided the Duvall property. Police discovered an indoor seedling growing operation in one bedroom and six full barrels of dried marijuana in the basement. More growing plants were found on the 36 acres of property that runs all the way between Walworth to Daansen Roads. Police also discovered more marijuana drying in the attic crawl space of the ranch house and more bags in a bathtub, under piles of pennies and numerous bags of silver coins. Police also discovered an RPG (Rocket Propelled Grenade) launcher in the basement and loads of various sizes of ammunition, including long .83 calibre bullets, a .50 calibre rifle and numerous unregistered handguns. There was an assortment of rifles, including an AK-47 and AR-15 assault rifle found in the house and a stun gun propped up above the kitchen door. Marijuana was found throughout the house and police were busy counting stacks of new money, in excess of \$12,000.

They also discovered a cache of coins, including boxes of gold coins. In the basement, police carted away a large gun safe that could not be opened. Eventually the safe was pried open using the Walworth Fire Department's jaws of life tool. Inside police found grenade launcher, another AK-47, more ammunition, pistols and another assault rifle.

WayneNET turned the case over to the DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) for federal prosecution, including money laundering and also seized numerous vehicles including an SUV, tractors, ATV (All Terrain Vehicles). Duvall was charged with Criminal Possession of Marijuana in the 1st Degree, a Class C Felony.

On Friday (11/9) Duvall was sentenced to two years in Federal prison, received a \$1000 fine and agreed to forfeit \$110,000 in cash and property. Under the plea deal, Duvall, who claimed he was an independent mason/contractor by trade, but police said they found no masonry tools on the property. At the time of the drug bust Macedon Police Sergeant, John Colella, said he had suspicions of money laundering by Duvall that went back to 1995, but it was the fluke Casillo arrests that brought the case to a head.

WayneNET's work a week earlier in September of 2006, led to the arrest of **Jud A. Briggs** and his wife, **Bridget L. Briggs** at 3412 Route 88 North in the Town of Arcadia.

Police seized marijuana plants, and various sophisticated equipment for indoor marijuana growing, along with handguns, assault rifles, and several long guns. Investigators stated that they recovered a virtual "treasure trove" of ledgers and financial documents during the first search warrant which show in detail the amount of marijuana produced and sold by the Briggs' since 1998. Besides drug charges, the Briggs were arrested on Money Laundering charges and that case too, was turned over to Federal authorities.

Two weeks ago Jud Briggs pled out the case and received 37 months in Federal prison, and the forfeiture of \$30,000 in cash along with the seizure of a motorcycle and truck. His wife, Bridget, pled to state charges and was put on probation.

According to Newark Police Chief Dick Bogan, WayneNET is in line to receive a substantial amount of money from both the Duvall and Briggs cases that will be used for reimbursements to the WayneNET municipalities for overtime and future drug investigations. In WayneNET's first year of operation, they logged over 3000 man-hours, with 84 investigations initiated, 103 felony arrests, 46 firearms and \$1,111,980 value in drugs seized.