GENESEE COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 4: ISSUE 2 JULY 2011

K2- The New Marijuana

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Kevin Forsyth



Recently a new drug has emerged on the streets of America. Synthetic marijuana, more commonly known as K2 or

"Spice," was first encountered by U.S. Customs and Border Protection in November of 2008. Prior to arriving in the United States, K2 was found in several European countries. Other common names for K2 include Spice, Bliss, Black Mamba, Bombay Blue, Fake Weed, Genie,

Zohai and Funky Monkey just to name a few.

K2 is a mixture of herbs and spices typically sprayed with a synthetic compound chemically similar to THC, the psychoactive ingredient found in marijuana. K2 is

a "designer drug" manufactured and distributed to circumvent the Controlled Substances Act.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) temporarily placed five compounds typically found in K2 as Schedule I substances under the Controlled Substances Act due to an "imminent hazard to the public safety." Drugs placed under Schedule I have a high potential for abuse with no current medical use or accepted safety for use. After the DEA took the action to temporarily schedule the five compounds, retailers began manufacturing new versions of K2 that did not contain the banned substances, but instead, new versions of the JWH compounds. There may be in excess of 100 types of synthetic marijuana yet to be introduced into the marketplace.

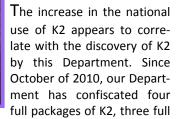
K2 is generally marketed as incense and is commonly purchased at head



shops, tobacco shops and over the internet. A simple internet search for "K2 Incense" revealed 2,090,000 results.

Several dangerous side effects have been associated with the use of K2. They include convulsions, anxiety attacks, dangerously elevated heart rates, increased blood pres-

sure, vomiting, and disorientation.



containers of Funky Monkey, three rolled blunts of Zen Scents, one container of Black Mamba and thirteen empty containers of Funky Monkey along with several smoking devices. The age range of the individuals in which these items were confiscated ranges from 17 to 55.

Living in a small community often leads to the idea of "that can't happen here." However this new drug is on the streets of Genesee County. K2 is becoming increasingly more popular due to the notion of it being a "legal" alternative to marijuana and its availability to the public. Even though 5 compounds found in synthetic marijuana are currently banned by the DEA, several wait to take their place. Unless something is done to regulate the sale and production of these substances K2 may become the marijuana of the 21st century.

Contact Information:

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Mission Statement

The Mission of the Genesee County Probation Department is to enhance the safety of victims and communities through the fair and effective supervision of community-based offenders,

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Ref: Dept of Justice; "The Dangers of Synthetic Cannabinoids and Stimulants"; 4/6/11

<u>Favorite Probationer</u> <u>Quotes</u>



While conducting a home visit to a person who didn't show up for Intermittent Jail sentence:

PO: "You know this is the third weekend in a row that you missed"

Defendant's intoxicated response: "Um yeah, I was kind of hoping you would show up this weekend, I needed a ride"

PO Jeremy Barber



Letter from Probationer:

" [PO] has a tendency of showing up at people's houses at any time she damn well pleases and doesn't care what time it is or what function that family has."



PO Anonymous:)



Defendant to Arresting Officer:

"Officer, I wasn't going too fast, I was going too drunk."

PO Steve Babcock

PROBATION SEARCHES NET ILLEGAL WEAPONS & CONTRABAND



EDWARD ENGLE

For the past several months members of the Genesee County Probation Department have been proactive in conducting residence searches of probationers on their caseloads suspected of possessing illegal firearms, weapons, and drugs. In total, three assault rifles and one shotgun have been removed from the probationer's homes and are no longer on the streets of Genesee County.

Further, these seizures have produced a total of three Felony charges, ten Misdemeanor charges, and five counts of Unlawful Possession of Marijuana. The Genesee County Probation Department has been assisted by the Genesee County Sheriff's Office, Batavia City Police Department, and the New York State Troopers in effecting the aforementioned arrests.

The Officers participating in these searches include Probation Officer Edward Engle, Probation Officer Stephen Babcock, Probation Officer Kevin Forsyth, Probation Officer Samantha Fisher, Probation Officer Traci Russo, and Probation Officer Sarah Welker. The Genesee County Probation Department will continue to con-

duct similar operations in future months as we continue to hold probationers accountable for their actions and more importantly ensure the safety of the residents of Genesee County.





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Team "BreastFriends" Race for the Cure

Susan G. Komen was a strong figure in breast cancer history. She fought this horrible disease called breast cancer with dignity. While she ultimately lost the battle, she provided strength and hope for others. In her memory, her sister, Nancy G. Brinker, created the Susan G. Komen For the Cure Foundation in 1982 so that others could be educated and strengthened. The Western New York Affiliate sponsors a local "Race for the Cure" which took place on June 11, 2011.

Members of the Genesee County Probation Depart-

ment along with friends and family participated in the Susan G. Komen "Race for the Cure" in Buffalo. The team consisted of Jeremy Barber, Nicole Desmond, Kevin Forsyth, Kristina Mack, Rachel Mathers, Tina Mileham, Bryan Pike, Angela Rogers, Julia Rogers, Jaylene Smith-Kilner, Jen Sutherland, Michele Tucci, Gregory Walker, Sarah Welker, and Trena White. Our team also consisted of two breast cancer survivors Michelle Bordinaro and Becky Viehdeffer.

Our goal this first year was to raise \$1,000.00. Thanks in part to donations from friends, family, co-workers, individuals, and agencies within our community we exceeded that goal and in

total, Team "BreastFriends" raised \$1,958.00. We are honored by your support —

Sarah Welker

We had a blast and are already planning for 2012, setting our goals higher to raise more in donations and awareness.

Thanks again to all those who gave to our team and this cause. Know that your donations have made it possible for continued research, ongoing compassion, and educated empowerment.





Thank You!!!

without you this would not have been possible.

CHANGE. www.appa-net.org

Probation, Parole

and Community

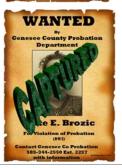
Supervision Week

July 17-23, 2011

A Force for Positive



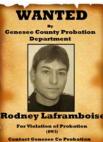


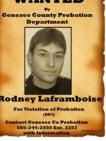


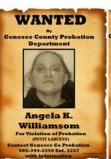
GENESEE COUNTY PROBATION'S MOST WANTED



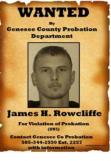






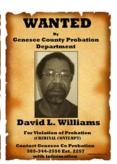












WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.CO.GENESEE.NY.US/DPT/ PROBATION

PROTECTING GENESEE COUNTY

Probation Trivia:

Q. What Hall of Fame baseball player served as a Probation
Officer after he retired from the game?

A. Lou Gehrig, NY Yankees

GENESEE COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT IN THE NEWS

NEWS IN THE NEWS

Batavia Daily News Online 6/3/11:

The Neighborhood Enforcement Team (NET) recently conducted a detail that resulted in multiple arrests, according to Batavia City Police Chief Randy Baker.

Members of the Batavia Police Department, Genesee County Drug Task Force, Genesee County Sheriff's Department, Genesee County Probation Department and New York State Parole participated in the May 19 detail....

... 42 Probation contacts were conducted by probation officers and members of the Batavia Police Department. Four persons were found in violation of curfew restrictions.

Two searches resulted in subjects found in possession of knives, ammunition, marijuana and K2 synthetic marijuana, in violation of probation restrictions.

As part of the city of Batavia strategic planning goals developed, the police department plans to conduct more details this year as a coordinated task force to address neighborhood issues

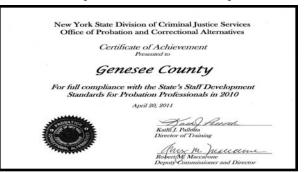
EMPLOYEE NEWS

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Probation Director Julie Smith has been named to United Memorial Medical Center Foundation Board of Directors

Genesee County Probation Receives Award for Full Compliance with Staff Development



And a Big Thank You to Sarah Welker for organizing the "BreastFriends" Team in the Race for the Cure!



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

JULIE A. SMITH, PROBATION DIRECTOR



National Probation & Parole Week. Each year this week honors community corrections professionals who are responsible for the supervision of adults and juveniles across the United States. According to the statistics 1 in every 33 persons are under some form of community supervision in this country. Probation and Pa-Officers spend countless hours monitoring offender compliance and accountability

July 17-23, 2011, is

Genesee County Probation Officers work flexible hours each day of the

services and peace of

providing

along with

mind to victims.

week to further the supervision of offenders. Unannounced home, work and school visits, drug and alcohol tests and random searches all aid in the rehabilitation of the offender. Take time this week and recognize the important job these community corrections professionals do.

In other news, it has been nearly one year since the implementation of New York State's Leandra's Law

Statewide approximately 4000 offender's ignition interlock devices have been installed on 8800 convicted offenders. Defendants continue to sell or transfer ownership of their vehicles to avoid

the necessity of an ignition interlock installation. Unfortunately, many of these offenders will continue to drive despite the consequences associated with doing so.

In Genesee County the percentage of units installed versus the number of convicted offenders mirrors the trend statewide. Of those offenders who do have ignition interlock devices, compliance has been marginal. Morning after high BACs, Aggravated Unlicensed Operation, Driving While Intoxicated as a Felony are some recent violations of probation that have occurred.

Leandra's Law was due to sunset in September 2011 however; it has been extended until September 2014 with no modifications to the law at this time.