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Sweep nets drug suspects (with videos & photo gallery)

By Lisa Roose-Church
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Mary Anderson scanned the list of 43 people arrested in a multijurisdictional investigation that identified alleged drug dealers in four counties, including Livingston, hoping to find the man she believes is responsible for her daughter's death.

http://gannett.a.mms.mavenapps.net/mms/rt/1/site/gannett-livingston-1553-pub01-live/current/launch.html?maven_playerId=immersiveplayer&maven_referralPlaylistId=7e37867be195cc2c392eda75072b23d301feeb46&maven_referralObject=1294410728">click here for video interview with Mary Anderson

While that man's name was not listed, the Livingston County woman said Tuesday's announcement of the arrests, involving people believed to be trafficking heroin and other dangerous drugs, is a beginning to eradicating drugs in the county.

<http://www.livingstondaily.com/apps/pbcs.dll/gallery?Avis=C6&Dato=20091013&Kategori=NEWS&Lopenr=910130801&Ref=PH>">click here for press conference photos and mugs of those with Livingston County connections

"I know you can't get them all," said Mary Anderson, whose 25-year-old daughter, Ryann Anderson, was found dead of a heroin overdose Nov. 15, 2008, at a home in Hamburg Township.

"Parents need to get involved. Don't walk around in denial," Mary Anderson said.

Officers from 11 federal, state and local police agencies announced the arrest of 43 people — 16 of whom are from Livingston County — on a variety of drug charges ranging from possession to delivery of heroin, cocaine, marijuana, oxycodone and methamphetamines. Eight people, who have been identified as Mexican nationals living illegally in the United States, are also facing immigration charges.

Thirteen additional suspects are wanted on outstanding warrants.

Special Agent in Charge Robert Corso of the Drug Enforcement Administration's Detroit Field Division said this investigation has been tied to a larger ongoing federal investigation "that I'm not at liberty to discuss." So information — such as how the distribution network operated and who the kingpins were — was not released.

The 43 arrested thus far live in Livingston, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne counties.

Police seized at least 7 ounces of heroin, one-half kilogram of cocaine and an unspecified amount of marijuana as well as two SUVs and \$50,000 in cash. Police said "this is not a complete list of ... evidence." Additional details are expected as the investigation continues.

Michigan State Police Detective 1st Lt. Monica Yesh, who is supervisor of the Livingston and Washtenaw Narcotics Enforcement Team, said one undercover agent also purchased an unregistered handgun from a suspect and authorities seized "several guns."

The arrests are based on confidential informants, in some cases, and numerous undercover drug buys,

police said.

"(Drugs) are a community problem," she said. "Hopefully, we've made it harder to get heroin in the area."

The seven-month investigation began when Fowlerville Police Chief Tom Couling began noticing a trend in his area.

"We began to see a significant number of overdoses, not necessarily deaths, but overdoses," he said. "We also began to see major crimes, like larceny and embezzling, increasing."

Hamburg Township police also began to see an increase in overdoses as did other area departments. As a result, local officials called on LАWNET and the DEA, the later of whom authorized what it calls a "priority-target case" to identify the flow of heroin and other drugs into southeastern Michigan.

Corso said undercover agents have been able to identify Mexico as a source. An undercover office also identified Afghanistan as a source.

Corso said today's youth are getting hooked on their parents' Oxycontin — what he called the "hillbilly heroin" — and when they run out of that supply or it becomes too expensive to get on the street, they go to Detroit to get the cheap version, which is street heroin. Part of the problem, he said, is that the abuser does not know the purity of the drug and they are dying as a result.

"It is imperative on you, the people in the community, to monitor kids," he said.

Meanwhile, Mary Anderson said her family struggles as they try to move forward from Ryann Anderson's death. She said the family finds some comfort in caring for the younger woman's 2-year-old son, Emory.

"He keeps me going," she said about her grandson.

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Additional Facts

A LOOK AT THE COUNTY SUSPECTS

The following 16 Livingston County residents are part of the 43 arrested in the past week as a result of a seven-month multijurisdictional investigation targeting the trafficking of heroin and other dangerous drugs in southeast Michigan.

- Michael Andrew Place, 21, of Howell; charged with possession of cocaine.
- Luis Cabreara Terrones, 20, of Brighton; charged with distribution of cocaine and immigration violations.
- Taylor Nicholas Adams, 18, of Pinckney; charged with distribution of marijuana.
- Zachary William Handley, 20, of Brighton; charged with distribution of marijuana.
- Zachary Joseph Lavey, 19, of Pinckney; charged with distribution of marijuana.
- Nicholas James Williams, 19, of Gregory; charged with distribution of marijuana.
- Jaime Rodriguez-Parra, 33, of Howell; charged with immigration violations.

- Jacob Denver Webb, 18, of Pinckney; charged with distribution of methamphetamines and marijuana.

- Cabrea Louis Manuel, 28, of Brighton; charged with immigration violations.

- Brian Thomas Swain, 39, of Brighton; charged

with distribution of

marijuana and possession of methamphetamines.

- Loren James Redford, 27, of Fowlerville; charged with distribution of marijuana and possession of analogues.

- Jared William Grimes, 22, of Howell; distribution of marijuana and oxycodone.

- Richard J. Carter, 28, of Brighton; charged with distribution of cocaine and marijuana.

- Daniel Lee Goff, 18, of Brighton; charged with distribution of marijuana.

- Julio Parra-Hidalgo, 38, of Howell; charged with possession of cocaine and immigration violations.

- Jose Cruz, 39, of Brighton; charged with immigration violations.
