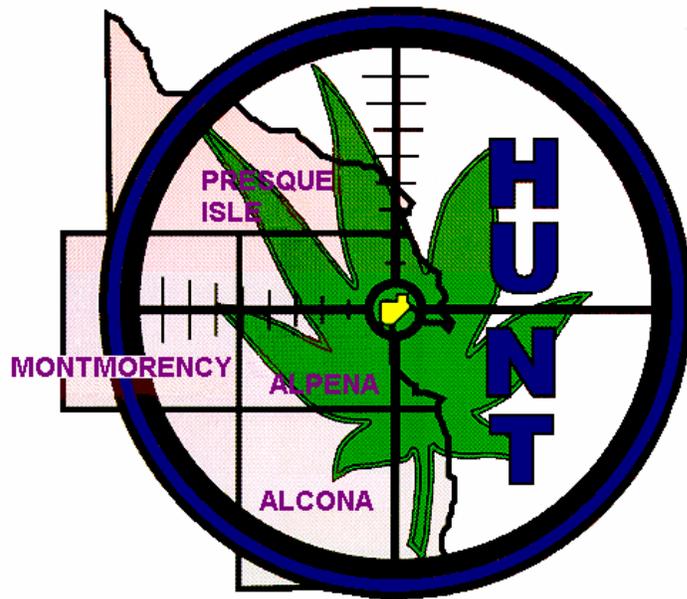

HURON UNDERCOVER NARCOTICS TEAM

1999 Annual Report



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Unit Commander

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Huron Undercover Narcotics Team

1999 Annual Report

Huron Undercover Narcotics Team

Executive Board

Thomas Weichel-----Chairman
F/Lt. Jeffery Anthony-----Vice Chairman
Sheriff Douglas Ellinger-----Secretary/Treasurer
Prosecutor Donald McLennan-----Legal Advisor

Personnel Committee

F/Lt. Jeffery Anthony
Prosecutor Ben Bolser
Sheriff James Marquardt

Board of Directors

F/Lt. Jeffery Anthony	Post Commander	MSP-Alpena Post
Captain Robert Bertee	Division Commander	MSP-CID
Ben Bolser	Prosecuting Attorney	Montmorency County
Douglas Ellinger	Sheriff	Alcona County
Terry Flewelling	Sheriff	Presque Isle County
James Gibson	Chief	Onaway City P. D.
Dennis Grenkowicz	Prosecuting Attorney	Alpena County
Ron Karr	Sheriff	Montmorency County
James Marquardt	Sheriff	Alpena County
Donald McLennan	Prosecuting Attorney	Presque Isle County
Matt Quaine	Chief	Rogers City P. D.
Thad Taylor	Director	Alpena Public Safety
Thomas Weichel	Prosecuting Attorney	Alcona County

Introduction

The Huron Undercover Narcotics Team is a multi-jurisdictional drug task force formed in October of 1990. HUNT is made up of officers from the Michigan State Police, the Alpena County Sheriff Department, the Montmorency County Sheriff Department, and the Alpena City Police Department. HUNT was formed to investigate and enforce narcotics violations in the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle.

HUNT had another successful year in 1999. The number of criminal investigations and arrests are down compared to other years, however felony drug arrests are at the highest level since 1993. HUNT officers have worked hard to further drug investigations by identifying and arresting large scale narcotics traffickers. These investigations are sometimes time consuming, and manpower intensive. A number of these investigations are ongoing, and results will be observed in the upcoming year.

Forfeiture proceeds were at an all time high during the past year. HUNT officers work hard to seize and forfeit illegally obtained money and/or property from narcotics traffickers. Forfeiture proceeds are very important, as they are used to provide drug enforcement to our communities in Northeast Michigan.

Marijuana continues to be the most popular drug in Northeast Michigan, although during the past year HUNT observed some disturbing trends. HUNT noticed increased seizures of heroin, LSD, psilocybin mushrooms, crack cocaine, and prescription medications. HUNT officers seized ecstasy, a hallucinogenic drug, for the first time. Ecstasy, LSD and psilocybin are popular with young people. A number of suspects were found to be selling legally obtained prescription medication. This medication, in many cases, can be addictive and dangerous if not used properly. Methamphetamine is a serious problem sweeping across the west and midwest. The problem continues to grow, and seizures are increasing in Michigan. HUNT has not seized methamphetamine since 1993, but during the past year, executed a search warrant in which evidence of the manufacturing of methamphetamine was seized. HUNT works hard to recognize narcotics trends that are occurring in the United States and in Michigan, in an effort to be prepared to address them when and if they do come into Northeast Michigan.

HUNT continues to receive a great deal of support from the communities in Northeast Michigan. This support comes in the form of contributions, to help run the operation, as well as tips and information which lead to arrests of narcotics traffickers. HUNT also receives a great deal of cooperation and assistance from local, state, and federal law enforcement officials. Local and state law enforcement officers in Northeast Michigan have been our biggest supporters, providing assistance in executing arrest warrants and search warrants. They also provide HUNT with a great deal of narcotics information and tips. HUNT does not work with federal law enforcement officials on a daily basis, as with local agencies, but have worked with them a number of times during the past year.

HUNT officers have assisted our local law enforcement agencies by providing surveillance expertise, specialized equipment, and undercover officer operations for various investigations. HUNT has worked with local school officials in assistance with narcotics associated problems and trends in the schools and on school grounds. HUNT has also contacted treatment centers, sharing information on narcotics trends in Northeast Michigan.

This annual report indicates that drugs continue to be a problem in Northeast Michigan. HUNT has worked alongside law enforcement agencies, school officials, treatment centers, and citizens, to make a cooperative effort to combat this problem.

Performance

Criminal Investigations ----- 122

Arrests ----- 86

Arrest Counts ----- 117

Intelligence Reports ----- 109

Searches ----- 55

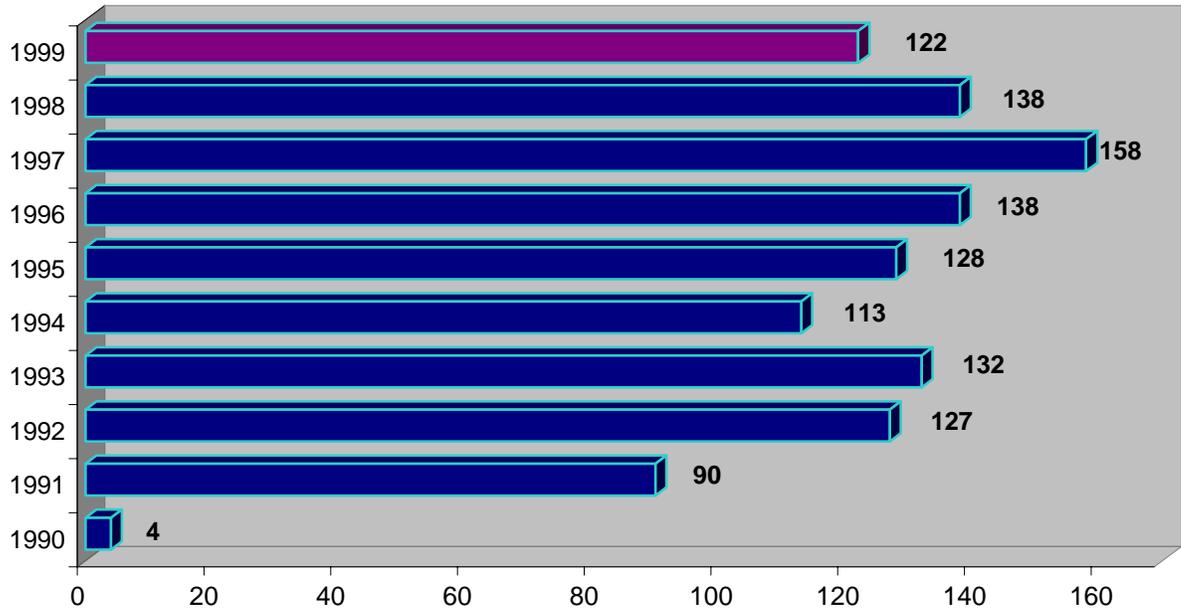
 Search Warrants ----- 31

 Knock and Talks ----- 24

Weapons Encountered ----- 33

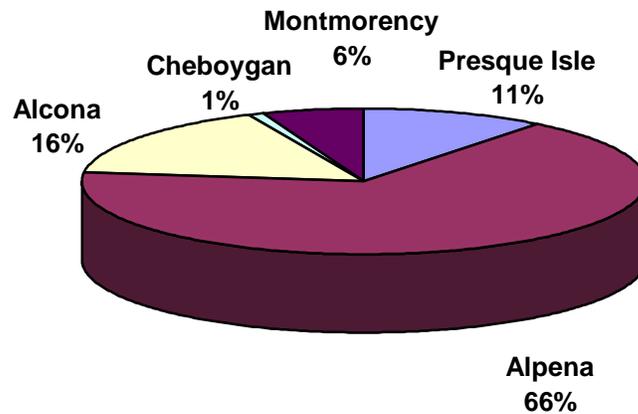
Street Value of Drugs Seized ----- \$198,079

Investigations



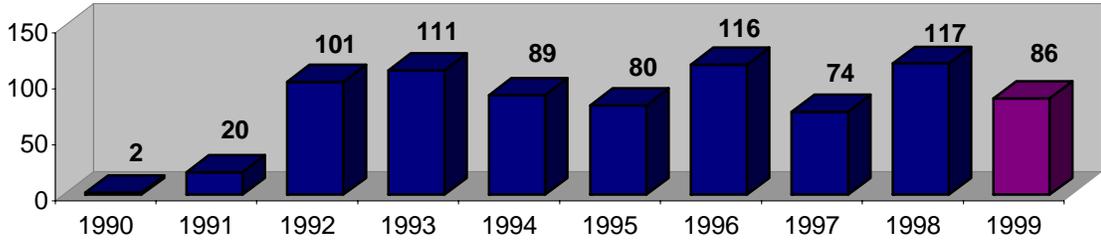
Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Investigations	4	90	127	132	113	128	138	158	138	122

Investigations by County



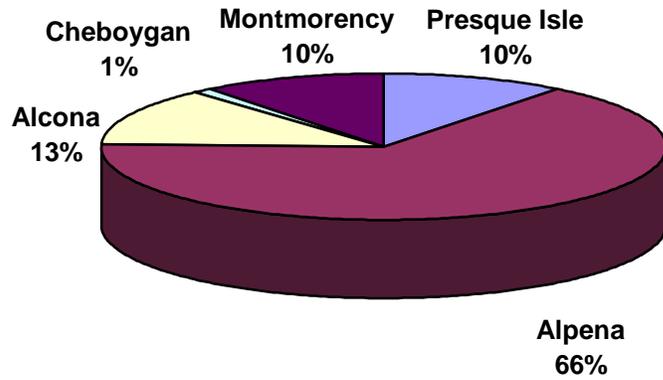
County	Investigations
Alcona	20
Alpena	81
Cheboygan	1
Montmorency	7
Presque Isle	13

Persons Arrested



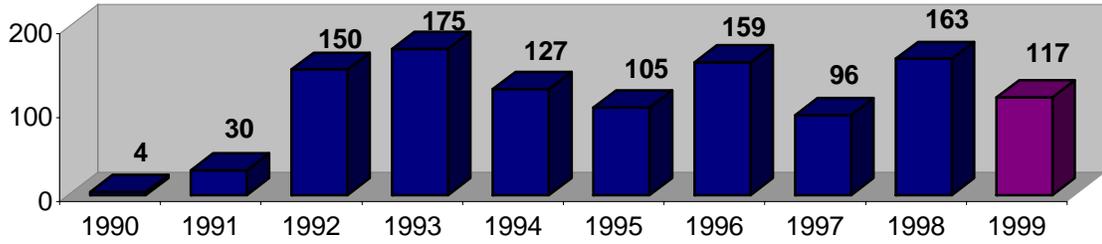
Year	Persons Arrested
1990	2
1991	20
1992	101
1993	111
1994	89
1995	80
1996	116
1997	74
1998	117
1999	86

Persons Arrested by County



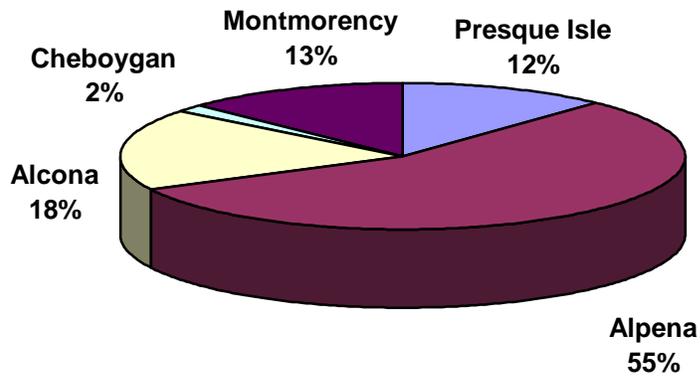
County	Arrested Persons
Alcona	11
Alpena	56
Cheboygan	1
Montmorency	9
Presque Isle	9

Arrest Counts



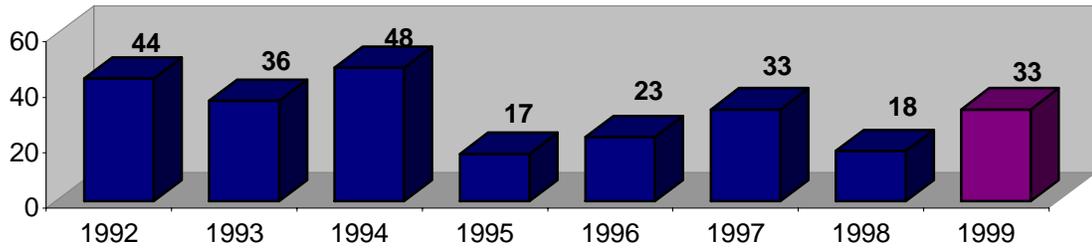
Year	Arrest Counts
1990	4
1991	30
1992	150
1993	175
1994	127
1995	105
1996	159
1997	96
1998	163
1999	117

Arrest Counts by County



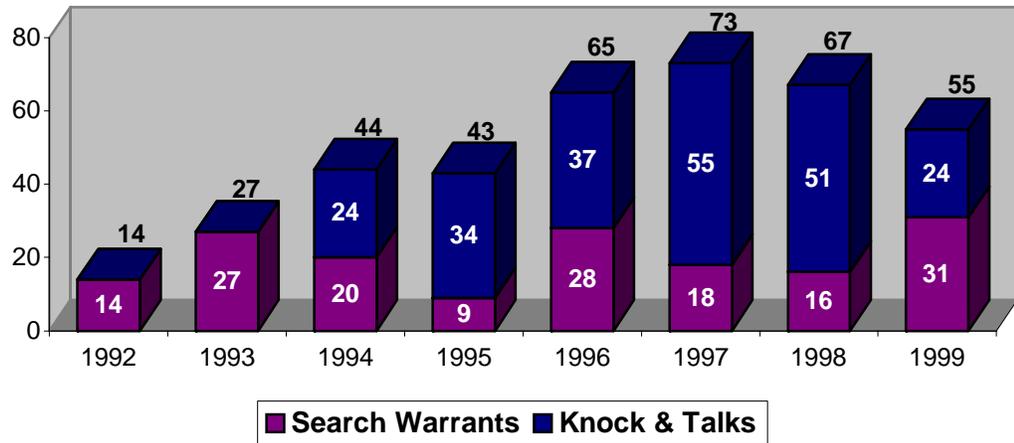
County	Arrest Counts
Alcona	21
Alpena	65
Cheboygan	2
Montmorency	15
Presque Isle	14

Weapons Encountered



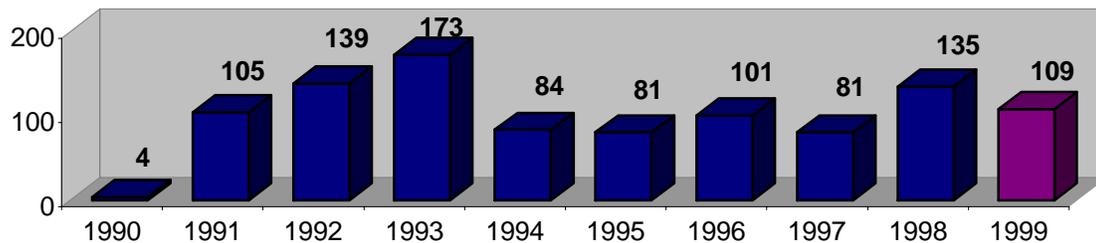
Year	Weapons Encountered
1992	44
1993	36
1994	48
1995	17
1996	23
1997	33
1998	18
1999	33

Searches



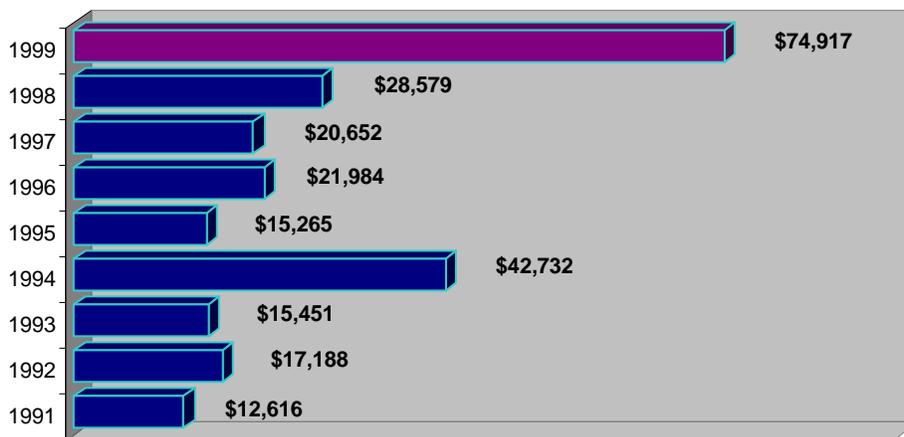
Year	Search Warrants	Knock & Talks
1992	14	
1993	27	
1994	20	24
1995	9	34
1996	28	37
1997	18	55
1998	16	51
1999	31	24

Intelligence Reports



Year	Intelligence Reports
1990	4
1991	105
1992	139
1993	173
1994	84
1995	81
1996	101
1997	81
1998	135
1999	109

Forfeiture Proceeds



Year	Forfeiture Proceeds
1991	\$12,616
1992	\$17,188
1993	\$15,451
1994	\$42,732
1995	\$15,265
1996	\$21,984
1997	\$20,652
1998	\$28,579
1999	\$74,917

Funding Sources (98/99 Fiscal Year)

Michigan State Police -----	\$182,734
Federal Grant -----	\$130,460
Alpena County -----	\$ 49,440
City of Alpena -----	\$ 30,000
Alcona County -----	\$ 19,000
Montmorency County -----	\$ 19,000
Presque Isle County -----	\$ 19,000
City of Rogers City -----	\$ 4,000
City of Onaway -----	\$ 1,000
HUNT Forfeiture, Interest, etc. -----	\$ 57,065
Total -----	\$511,699

Conclusion

Every arrest HUNT makes has an impact on crime in our mostly rural setting of Northeast Michigan. Below is a listing of some of our significant cases in 1999.

- In late 1998 and early 1999, HUNT officers received tips regarding a cocaine trafficker in the city of Alpena. A check through HUNT arrest records showed that the suspect had been arrested by HUNT in 1992 for selling cocaine. A short time later, HUNT received a break in the investigation. A citizen had found a planner containing narcotics on a street in Alpena. The planner was turned in to the Michigan State Police Post in Alpena. The Michigan State Police passed on the information and planner to HUNT. HUNT was able to execute a search warrant at the suspect's residence located in the city of Alpena. HUNT officers seized approximately one ounce of powder cocaine, approximately one ounce of marijuana, and one ounce of psilocybin mushrooms. HUNT officers also seized one thousand, five hundred, fifty-nine dollars, triple beam scales, and other drug paraphernalia. Approximately one and a half months later, HUNT received further information regarding the suspect's narcotics trafficking. A second search warrant was executed, and HUNT officers seized further drug paraphernalia, drug records, and one thousand, four hundred, seventy-six dollars. During this investigation HUNT also seized eight firearms. Two suspects were arrested in this investigation.
- In February of 1999, HUNT officers began an investigation with purchases of marijuana from an Alcona County resident. Through the investigation, HUNT was able to identify the suspect's source, and eventually make marijuana purchases from the source. A search warrant was executed at the source's residence, also located in Alcona County. HUNT officers seized approximately ½ pound of marijuana, one thousand one hundred fifty-five dollars, two pickup trucks, and two rifles. HUNT officers were able to identify the source city of the marijuana as Saginaw.
- In April of 1999, HUNT officers were requested to assist troopers from the Michigan State Police Post in Alpena on a narcotics investigation. A HUNT officer contacted the troopers at the Alpena County home and obtained a search warrant for the residence. HUNT officers seized over four pounds of marijuana, various chemicals, drug paraphernalia including scales, and a computer. The suspect admitted that he was trying to make hash, and evidence seized at the scene supported the idea that the suspect was also making, or going to make methamphetamine. HUNT officers found information saved from the internet on the computer. These articles contained information regarding the synthesis of GHB, a date rape drug popular in Southeast Michigan and also the cultivation and effects of psilocybin (mushrooms). Some articles also included the effects and use of methamphetamine. The Drug Enforcement Administration in Saginaw was contacted to assist HUNT in the disposal of the chemicals. The DEA put HUNT in contact with an environmental clean up company who picked up the chemicals the same day. The clean up of these chemicals can be very costly, and the DEA paid for the environmental clean up company to take care of the chemicals.

Conclusion (continued)

- Through 1998 and 1999 HUNT officers received a number of tips regarding a suspect selling cocaine and marijuana in Alpena County. In June of 1999, HUNT officers were able to make a purchase of marijuana from the suspect, who was living in Alpena Township. Two search warrants were subsequently executed in Alpena Township. One of the search warrants was executed at the suspect's residence, and a second search warrant was executed at a residence in which the suspect was storing his marijuana. HUNT officers seized a small amount of marijuana, three thousand, seven hundred, twelve dollars, three mountain bikes, one car, and a motorcycle from the suspect's residence. HUNT officers later seized another two thousand, five hundred, forty-five dollars from the suspect's bank account in Alpena. HUNT officers seized over an ounce of marijuana, along with electronic scales, and packaging material at the second residence. The suspect was selling five to ten pounds of marijuana a week, as well as ounce quantities of cocaine in the Alpena area. Three suspects have been arrested in this investigation.

- In June of 1999, HUNT officers began an investigation into the distribution of morphine and cocaine in Presque Isle County. This investigation began with purchases of morphine being made from two suspects, and a purchase of cocaine from a third suspect. These purchases led to two search warrants at the homes of two Presque Isle County residences. In the first search warrant, HUNT seized a small amount of processed marijuana, one marijuana plant, sixty GelTabs (LSD), one hundred forty-one dollars, twelve long guns, and a pick up. The investigation led to the arrest of a subject who, through his own admissions, had been selling narcotics for thirty years. The second search warrant uncovered an indoor grow operation, with the seizure of three marijuana plants, marijuana, scales, three hundred fifty-five dollars, and nine long guns. This investigation led to the arrest of three Presque Isle County residents, on a number of narcotics violations. The suspects selling cocaine were living in Emmet County. HUNT officers, with the assistance of the Straits Area Narcotics Enforcement Team, seized a large quantity of cocaine during their arrests.

- A number of suspects grow marijuana in the rural areas of Northeast Michigan. In one investigation in Montmorency County, HUNT was able to identify one of these suspects. The investigation began when citizens hunting in Montmorency County ran across marijuana plants. The citizens contacted the Montmorency County Sheriff Department, who in turn contacted HUNT. Through surveillance techniques, HUNT was able to identify the suspect and his residence. HUNT executed a search warrant at the suspect's residence and seized one thousand, two hundred, sixty grams of marijuana, one thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars, a 1999 Chevrolet pickup, a 1996 Polaris 6 wheel ATV, and six rifles. The suspect had been arrested in the late 1970's for possession of marijuana, and again in the late 1980's for delivery of marijuana. During the past year HUNT officers arrested the suspect for possession with intent to deliver marijuana and for manufacturing of marijuana.

Conclusion (continued)

- In HUNT investigations, officers attempt to work up the ladder of narcotics traffickers, and arrest the largest dealer possible, having the biggest impact. In October of 1999, HUNT officers received a tip from an Alpena City officer regarding the suspected distribution of narcotics from a home in the city of Alpena. HUNT officers began surveillance on the home, and were able to identify a number of people known to be involved in narcotics. The investigation took off when an Alpena City officer contacted a suspect leaving the home and found him to be in possession of marijuana. HUNT then executed a search warrant at the home. HUNT officers seized over a quarter pound of marijuana, scales, and nine hundred sixty-four dollars. The investigation revealed that the suspects were selling approximately one pound of marijuana a week from the home, and that the suspect's source was also living in the city of Alpena. HUNT officers purchased a half pound of marijuana from the source the same day. A search warrant was then executed at the source's home, and HUNT officers seized approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ pound of marijuana, five bindles of heroin, morphine, one thousand five hundred ninety dollars, and a .22 caliber rifle. HUNT officers were able to identify Lansing as the source city of the narcotics. The investigation led to the arrest of four suspects living in the city of Alpena, for narcotics trafficking.
- HUNT primarily works narcotics investigations, but is also open to assisting local police agencies in other crimes. In one investigation handled during 1999, HUNT officers assisted local officers in solving a breaking and entering investigation. HUNT officers received a tip from the Alpena County Sheriff Department that a group of suspects were planning to break into a veterinary clinic. HUNT officers knew a common reason for breaking into veterinarian clinics is to steal Ketamine, a hallucinogen which has similar effects as those of LSD and PCP. HUNT found that there had been a recent break in at a local veterinary clinic. HUNT officers identified and located the suspects and suspect vehicle in the city of Alpena. While officers were following up on this investigation, they heard on the police radio that several subjects had stolen ice from a local business in Alpena Township. HUNT officers noticed that the suspects' vehicle fit the description of the vehicle involved in the stolen ice. HUNT officers summoned uniform officers for assistance. Prior to the uniform officers' arrival at the scene, the suspect vehicle left the area. HUNT officers followed the suspect vehicle until the uniform officers were in position to make a traffic stop. The Alpena City Police and the Michigan State Police made a traffic stop on the suspect vehicle. One of the suspects exited the vehicle and ran. HUNT officers caught the suspect, and he was arrested for a probation violation. A trooper from the Alpena Post, along with a HUNT officer, obtained consent to search the suspect's vehicle and camper. Property stolen from the veterinary clinic was recovered, and four suspects were arrested for breaking and entering.

The investigations discussed in the previous paragraphs are just a small number of the HUNT investigations for the year of 1999. These are examples of ways that HUNT impacts narcotics activity, as well as other crime in Northeast Michigan.

The Huron Undercover Narcotics Team would like to thank the citizens that we serve for their support and commitment to improving the quality of life in the communities we live. The success enjoyed by HUNT is in big part due to the cooperation and support received by those citizens. The Huron Undercover Narcotics Team will continue to have a positive impact on crime in the communities of Northeast Michigan.