

# **Grand Island man avoids jail in pot-growing case**

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LOCKPORT – A man who grew 120 marijuana plants last year at a house in the Town of Niagara was able to avoid prison Thursday in Niagara County Court.

Bradley M. Keel, 24, of Parkview Drive, Grand Island, was placed on five years' probation by County Judge Sara Sheldon Farkas, who ordered him to perform 80 hours of community service in the first year.

Keel pleaded guilty to a reduced charge of attempted second-degree criminal possession of marijuana in the wake of a July 3 police raid on a home on Divide Road in the Town of Niagara, where Keel and Brandon S. Smith, 21, were growing marijuana. Keel admitted having 2.49 pounds of the drug and forfeited \$251 in cash that police found on him. Smith was charged with a misdemeanor.