

Hills man in deadly Internet romance gets probation for marijuana possession

A former Farmington Hills man who became intertwined in an Internet romance with a French woman has been sentenced to six months probation for marijuana possession.

Authorities found 3 grams of marijuana in his Fairmont Park Apartment residence during an investigation into the death of Julie Yasa, 28, whose body was found in a wooded area off Nine Mile.

During a sentence hearing

Monday, 47th District Court Judge Fred Harris also ordered Matthew A. Wade to pay \$476 in fines and court costs.

Yasa's death drew international attention as she flew from France and was smuggled over the U.S.-Canadian border in late February to meet Wade, with whom she developed a six-month online relationship.

After spending a night together, he rejected her and took her to a hotel, Hills police said. She

later returned to his apartment distraught, threatening suicide.

Police said Wade drove Yasa to the end of the driveway. After taking over-the-counter sleeping pills, she walked into nearby woods where she died.

Wade phoned police the next morning after seeing her body, which had been wrapped in a bedsheet. He was not charged for failing to render aid.

Wade has since moved from Farmington Hills.

These are some of the fire and police incidents reported in Farmington and Farmington Hills during the past week.

BREAK INS

In Farmington Hills:

Thieves cut open a convertible top and stole a radio from a Mazda parked at Bill Cook Buick on Grand River Aug. 18, causing \$470 damage.

Someone stole a brief case, checkbook, wedding ring and camera case after breaking the rear driver's side window on a Ford Escort parked at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena on Eight Mile Aug. 18.

Three vending machines were

broken into at Ponderosa Steak House on 10 Mile between Aug. 20-21.

A purse with \$250 cash and cell phone was stolen after someone pushed down the window a 1997 Pontiac Sunfire parked at Founders Sports Park on Eight Mile Road between 2-4:30 p.m. Aug. 22.

THEFT

In Farmington Hills:

Someone stole a cellular phone and radar detector from a 1999 Jeep Cherokee Aug. 19.

Someone stole a circular saw and three nail guns from a house under construction behind Colfax Street between Aug. 19-20.

A stereo and speakers were stolen from a Muirwood Apartments residence Aug. 19.

Two Harrison High varsity jackets were stolen - one from the training room and the other from a car - at the school Aug. 20. A man who identified himself as a new teacher had asked about where to buy varsity jackets before they turned up missing.

EMBEZZLEMENT

In Farmington Hills:

A former employee is believed to have not registered \$2,500 worth of merchandise, pocketing the cash instead, at Mobil on 12 Mile and Orchard Lake July 18-Aug. 9.

COUNTERFEIT BILLS

In Farmington Hills:

A woman at the Bread Basket Deli on Grand River phoned police after a customer tried to pay a bill with a counterfeit \$20 Aug. 20. He also asked the woman to change another bogus \$20 for him. Police arrested a Farmington Hills man, 28, who said he received the two \$20s at another eatery as part of a loan from an employee there. Police notified U.S. Secret Service agents, who planned to investigate the incident.

SHOPLIFTING

In Farmington Hills:

Police arrested a Detroit man, 49, after he and another woman tried to steal \$136 in baby formula at Kroger on Middlebelt Aug. 20. When confronted by store security, the man swung at them and was pepper sprayed. The woman escaped.

A clerk at Total Gas Station on 12 Mile said a man came into to use the restroom around 4:20 a.m. Aug. 22 and complained that there was no toilet paper. When the clerk went to change the roll, the man ran off with 70 packs of Marlboro cigarettes. He left in a gray vehicle, police reports said.

AUTO THEFT

In Farmington Hills:

A red \$18,000 1998 Ford Mustang was stolen from St. Paul's Lutheran Church on 12 Mile Road Aug. 21.

A 1994 Ford Taurus was stolen from the 22000 block of Green Hill the night Aug. 22-23 but was later found in a ditch on Metroview Street. The car's ignition and door lock had been punched, police reports said.

DRUNKEN DRIVING

In Farmington Hills:

Police arrested a Lincoln Park man, 27, for drunken driving on Nine Mile and Grand River around 9:15 p.m. Aug. 21. Authorities stopped the Ford F-150 for squealing its tires. The driver had a blood alcohol level of .17 percent. The legal limit is .10 percent.

Police arrested a Livonia man, 22, for driving while intoxicated on Eight Mile around 1:10 a.m. Aug. 22. The driver had a blood alcohol level of .11 percent.

A Farmington Hills woman, 46, was arrested after she was involved in an accident on Middlebelt and Northwestern Highway around 8:50 p.m. Aug. 23. The woman's 1998 Honda Civic rear-ended another vehicle parked at a light. When police talked to her, an officer could smell alcohol. She had a blood alcohol level of .16 percent.

BURGLARY

In Farmington Hills:

Police are investigating a burglary where \$5,000 was stolen from Steamer's restaurant on 12 Mile and Orchard Lake early morning Aug. 22. Burglars cut open a hole in the ceiling and kicked open an office door, police reports said. A safe was pried open. A video monitor in the office was smashed and the tape removed.

TRAFFIC ALTERATION

In Farmington Hills:

A woman said a man on a motorcycle rode up along side her 1993 Dodge Shadow and began kicking the side door panel on Middlebelt near 11 Mile around 10:40 p.m. Aug. 22. The woman managed to get the license plate number of the bike, which is registered to a Farmington Hills man. There were minor dents on rear driver's side quarter panel, police reports said.

CHECK FRAUD

In Farmington Hills:

Comerica bank manager phoned police after a woman tried to cash a fraudulent \$4,000 check at the branch on 12 Mile Road Aug. 23. The woman told police she received the check in the mail but couldn't tell officers from whom. She was taken into custody.

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