

Leland Man Faces Life In Prison For Marijuana Busts

A 39-year-old Leland man could receive a maximum sentence of life in prison after being indicted Monday as a habitual felon for allegedly possessing a quarter ounce of marijuana after three previous drug convictions.

The first of three indictments against Ronald Ray Self of Lanvale Road accuses him of possession with intent to sell and deliver a small amount of marijuana on Nov. 18.

In a second indictment, Self is charged as a habitual felon who was convicted of marijuana possession twice in 1991 and once in 1985. Those offenses occurred in New Hanover and Pender counties.

Under the habitual felon statute, a defendant can be found guilty if he is more than 18 years old at the time of the offenses and commits each new crime after the previous felony conviction.

If convicted as a habitual felon, Self could be sentenced to life in prison. The presumptive sentence for such "class C" felonies is 15 years.

A third indictment charges Self with "feloniously" possessing drug paraphernalia, including "smoking pipes, scales and rolling papers."

In other indictments handed down by a Brunswick County grand jury in Bolivia Monday:

■ Arthur Louis Immen, 66, of Arthur Street, Supply, is accused of two counts of taking indecent liberties with a child. The offenses are alleged to have occurred on or about July 15 and July 30.

■ Frank Lewis Wilson Jr., 37, of Bridgeville, Pa., is charged with taking indecent liberties with a child. He was recently convicted in district court on a charge of "secret peeping" into a home in Sunset Beach.

■ Amanda Kay Edmisten, 28, of Rebel Road, Shallotte, is charged with two counts each of breaking or entering and larceny. She is accused of breaking into a home on Spruce Street, Shallotte, Nov. 14 and stealing jewelry, clothing, knives and bullets valued at \$1,040. One week earlier, Edmisten is accused of breaking into the same house and stealing a videocassette recorder and a knife estimated to be worth a total of \$315.

■ Billy Joe Smith, 26, of Route 9, Shallotte, is charged with felony larceny in the Oct. 1 theft of a .22 caliber magnum revolver from another man.

■ Robert Ernest Cribb, 32, of Long Beach Road, Southport, is accused of felony larceny for allegedly stealing a leather purse containing \$7,300 cash and several credit cards last June 11 in Boiling Spring Lakes.

■ Victor Lamar Simmons, 21, of Route 1, Winnabow, is charged with one count each of breaking or entering and larceny. He is accused of breaking into a home on Cactus Road, Boiling Spring Lakes and

Thieves Dig Church's Shrubs

Is nothing sacred?

Calabash Presbyterian Church had more than 30 dwarf nandina bushes valued at about \$500 stolen from the church grounds in separate incidents over the past few days.

Sometime during the evening of Nov. 22 or the morning of Nov. 23, thieves removed 25 of the shrubs from a circle in front of the church at 8830 Old Georgetown Road. On Monday morning, eight more plants were discovered missing, said church member Al Granzow.

"It's not just vandalism, it's a professional job," Granzow said. "They were carefully dug up and removed."

The incident is under investigation by the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department.

Granzow said anyone who has information about the incident or who has been approached to buy that type of shrub "at a good price" should call the sheriff's department at 253-4321.

stealing \$3,155 worth of property June 12.

■ Howard Anthony Adams, 43, of Bayside Lane, Southport, is charged with one count each of breaking or entering, larceny and forging an endorsement. He is accused of illegally entering a construction company office on River Road in Southport and stealing 11 blank checks, a telephone answering machine and assorted coins worth a total of \$225. He is also accused of forging a signature on a check. Both incidents allegedly occurred Oct. 21.

■ Rodney Keith McCoy, 23, of Route 2, Bolivia is charged with first degree burglary for allegedly breaking into a dwelling at Hankins Mobile Home Park in Bolivia on the night of Sept. 30.

■ Bryan Michael Cross, 17, of Wilmington is accused of stealing a dog Oct. 22.

■ Terri Sharon Bailey, 29, of Navassa Road, Leland, is charged with one count each of forgery and uttering and one count of forged endorsement. She is accused of placing a false signature on a check and

cashing it at a Leland grocery store last July 11.

■ David Leroy Moore, 22, of Lord Street, Southport, faces charges of possession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine and obtaining property under false pretenses. He is accused of taking \$40 from another man for the purchase of a rock of crack cocaine and then not returning the money or the drug. He is also charged with having .1 gram of the drug in his possession.

■ William Alfred Davis Jr., 23, of Leonard Street, Southport, is charged with one count each of possession with intent to sell and deliver .2 gram of cocaine and selling the drug.

■ Walter Junior Washington, 36, of Caswell Street, Southport, is accused of one count each of possession with intent to sell and deliver .2 gram of cocaine and with selling the drug on March 24.

■ David Leon Floyd, 27, of West 11th Street, Southport, is charged with one count each of possession with intent to sell and deliver .3 gram of cocaine and with selling the

drug to another man March 19.

■ George Steven Rhodes, 47, of Route 1, Bolivia is accused of cocaine possession.

■ Carolyn Sarvis Medlin, 47, of N.C. 211, Southport, is charged with maintaining a place for keeping and selling marijuana.

■ Barbara Venessa Bryant, 35, of Mount Misery Road, Leland is charged with food stamp fraud for allegedly obtaining \$5,151 worth of food stamps she was not entitled to receive by failing to disclose that her boyfriend had moved into her home and was employed at a local construction company.

■ Bobby Gene Bowman, 33, of Navassa is charged with one count each of forgery and uttering. He is accused of signing another person's name to a check and cashing it Sept. 9.

New Sheriff To Be Sworn In Monday

Brunswick County Sheriff-elect Ronald E. Hewett will be sworn in at 9 a.m. Monday, Dec. 5, in the public assembly building of the county government complex in Bolivia.

Chief Resident Superior Court Judge William C. Gore Jr. will administer the oath of office in a ceremony to include a color guard of local police officers. District Attorney Rex Gore will preside over the ceremony and introduce the participants.

The public is invited.

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