



Three PIN pads were stolen from Park Royal mall on Friday. Police are asking those who purchased from La Senza or Aldo to immediately change their PIN codes.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Alleged ring thief faces other charges

By KRISTEN THOMPSON
Metro Vancouver

The man accused of stealing three rings — priceless family heirlooms — from an elderly woman in hospital is in court today on four unrelated charges.

Tracy Lloyd Caza, 47, has been charged with possession of a narcotic, break and enter, break and enter with intention to commit an indictable offence and fraud against an elderly man on March 6.

Five days earlier, Caza allegedly stole three rings from Agnes Ulmer, 91, as she recovered in hospital from a leg amputation.

Vancouver police Const. Tim Fanning said it's unknown how many people Caza might have victimized, adding that Ulmer's rings are still missing.

"It involves a lot of leg-work," Fanning said of the search.

Police are checking pawnshops and trying to determine Caza's movements in the days following the disappearance of the rings.

» news

In Brief

HOUSING Housing starts in the Vancouver Census Metropolitan Area almost doubled in February, according to preliminary figures from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation released yesterday. The starts totalled 2,446 houses, with multiple family homes making up 90 per cent.

DEATH The body of a woman was found in the water off the Dundarave area of West Vancouver on Saturday. A sports fisherman discovered the body around 9 a.m. and called the police. The cause of death won't be known until the autopsy is completed.

HEALTH The province is providing \$25 million for a new Centre for Brain Health at the University of B.C., Premier Gordon Campbell said yesterday. The new facility will include short-stay beds for patients with brain diseases, biobanking, and clinical trials.

METRO VANCOUVER

Tibetan uprising Screaming for independence



RAFE ANNOTI/METRO VANCOUVER

More than 100 protesters screamed anti-Chinese government slogans during a rally outside the Chinese Consulate on Granville Street yesterday. Tibetans and their supporters staged a mock die-in to mark the 49th anniversary of the 1959 national uprising against China's occupation of Tibet and to bring attention to China's human-rights record.

City to get a mouthful

N.Y. creator of the \$100 burger heads new eatery

By KRISTEN THOMPSON
Metro Vancouver

The man who created arguably the world's most expensive hamburger, the \$100 Burger Royale, is bringing his innovative culinary visions to Vancouver.

Award-winning New York chef Daniel Boulud has been recruited as a business

partner and executive chef at Lumière restaurant, which Rob Feenie opened in 1995 and walked away from in the fall.

Boulud will also turn Feenie's into a DB Bistro Moderne, which is best known for the famous Burger Royale, a bourgeois dish with an upscale price tag.

Feenie's will be

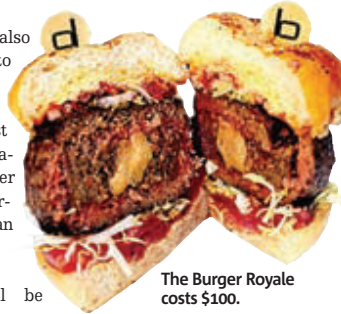
closed for renovations on March 10, and is slated to re-open as DB Bistro Moderne in July.

Lumière will close at the end of April and will reopen in June.

The French chef has five other restaurants south of the border and is opening another in Beijing this spring.

Boulud's restaurant, Daniel, was rated one of the 10 best restaurants in the world by the International Herald Tribune. It won top ratings for cuisine, service and décor in the Zagat Survey.

-kristen.thompson@metronews.ca



Lawyer calls probe into teen's death 'white-washed'

Police counsel says inquiry not meant to blame

By ASHLEY BHAN
for Metro Vancouver

Police officers "white-washed" an investigation involving a New Westminster police officer who shot and killed a Surrey teen,

«It's a fact-finding case. It's about what happened on Aug. 23, 2005 when Mr. Tait was shot by Const. Sweet.»

Reece Harding, lawyer for New Westminster Police

lawyer Cameron Ward said yesterday.

In August 2005, Const. Todd Sweet fired three shots into a stolen vehicle killing 16-year-old Kyle Andrew Tait who was a passenger in the front seat.

"Perhaps the principle cause of Tait's death was caused by the actions of an identified police officer unable to control his emotions while firing three bullets into a vehicle filled with five

young men," Ward told presiding coroner Liana Wright as lawyers argued over a media publication ban.

Reece Harding, lawyer for the New Westminster Police, said the inquest is not a fault-finding case.

"It's a fact-finding case. It's about what happened on Aug. 23, 2005 when Mr. Tait was shot by Const. Sweet," Harding said.

argument

Man dies after knockout punch

ASSAULT An argument between a Vancouver man and his stepson turned deadly after the older man was knocked out in a fistfight and died in hospital a few hours later.

Michael Ryan Bryce, 23, appeared in court yesterday on a charge of aggravated assault for allegedly punching his 47-year-old stepfather several times in the head on Friday.

The man, whose identity has not been released, was knocked unconscious and taken to hospital. He was taken off life support later that evening, Vancouver police Const. Tim Fanning said.

"What complicates this case, and the reason for the charge, is that the victim had some previous existing medical conditions," Fanning said, adding that the medical condition might have contributed to the man's death.

The charge of aggravated assault could be raised to manslaughter depending on the outcome of the autopsy.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

suspects

Three appear on stabbing charges

ARRESTS Three men have been arrested in connection with a double stabbing at Metrotown.

At about 8:15 p.m. on Saturday, two men, aged 31 and 24, entered Metrotown mall near McDonald's and were approached by a group of seven or eight seemingly intoxicated young males.

Words were exchanged and one of the young men produced a knife. The 31-year-old, who police say was from out-of-country, was severely slashed on the forearm and back. His friend, the 24-year-old, was punched several times.

The suspects — a 18-year-old from Maple Ridge, a 19-year-old from Surrey and a 23-year-old from Burnaby — appeared in Vancouver Provincial Court yesterday.

ANDREA WOO/METRO VANCOUVER