

Community Corner

This week's question:

What are your New Year's resolutions?

We asked this question in the A&W restaurant in the Farmington Crossroads shopping center.



"To start a health and fitness program for myself and I'm also preparing a contract for the Ford Motor Co."
— Bob White
Farmington Hills



"No, I didn't make any. I guess I'm too old."
— William Young
Southfield



"I didn't make any. We never kept them when we did make them."
— Mike Minch
Farmington



"To better myself physically and mentally. I'm leaving MSU for the U of M."
— Valeria Ward
Farmington



"To keep business the way it is now. Business is good right now."
— Frank Tata
Livonia



"To cheer Michigan State on to another Big 10 basketball championship."
— Geoff Childress
Farmington Hills

police/fire calls

Listed below are some of the Farmington area police incidents, fire calls and court cases reported during the past week:

• **BREAKING AND ENTERING**
About \$2,600 in household items were stolen from a house on Shiloh in Farmington Hills late Dec. 27. After thieves kicked in the front door, they stole a \$2,000 women's diamond ring, a \$200 waist-length men's coat, and \$400 in women's silver and gold chains.

• **TRAVELING TREE**
A 7- to 8-foot blue spruce tree was stolen from a back yard on Robinson Street in Farmington Hills Dec. 27. Thieves cut the rope that kept the backyard gate closed and entered the fenced yard. Footprints showed that they dragged the tree through the yard to the rear of the property, where it was then whisked away on a snowmobile.

Many concerned over hike in sin tax

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much of an impact from the tax. "Someone who buys... an expensive scotch is not going to change because of a price increase," he said. "People will talk about it for the first month or two, then it will level off."

DON BOSCO, owner of Bosco's at Orchard Lake and 12 Mile, agrees that although the tax may raise a lot

of money nationally, its per-bottle or per-drink impact is "not substantial."

"For most people, it's not going to be a big deal," he said. "They'll still buy, but they might downgrade a bit. They're still going to drink."

Bosco said few customers commented on the new tax, and "only a handful" bought more liquor before Jan. 1 because of it. "The problem is, that this tax is on top of the gas increase, cigarette tax and others," he added. "Where is it going to end?"

In addition to the alcohol tax, consumers also faced a 10-percent luxury tax on furs, jewelry and expensive cars as of Jan. 1. Gasoline and cigarette taxes were added on Dec. 1.

As it is locally, reaction to the alcohol tax has been a mixed bag across the state, according to Michael Lashbrook of the Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association in Lansing. He said some retailers expected large waves of customers over the last two weeks of the year, while others did not.

Whether the additional tax will alter consumer habits remains a question for Gary Thompson, director of operations for Powers Distributing in Pontiac. "If I had a crystal ball, I would know what to do," he said. "There are different interpretations about consumption. Some who drink distilled spirits may switch to wine or wine drinkers may buy beer. Who knows?"

Staff writer Helen Niemiec contributed to this story.

Judge to decide if woman should have guardian

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Also listed on the petition were Tyler's other daughters, Beverly

Wayne County resident. McMillen also said that Grant appointed Tyler's sister, Cathleen Swayze, of Farmington Hills, and son Robert Tyler of Detroit temporary co-conservators until the hearing.

Swayze could not be reached for comment. A Botsford Hospital spokesman said that the hospitalized Tyler was in stable condition Monday.

On Dec. 27, Farmington Hills building and zoning inspectors along with a doctor from the Oakland County Health Department did a 40-minute inspection of the house.

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