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Continue using troops, experts tell gathering

By Steve Barnaby
editor

Continued U.S. involvement in the Middle East both militarily and diplomatically is essential to obtaining peace for that region.

That was the consensus of three U.S. Middle East experts who addressed a crowd of more than 2,000 persons at the Adat Shalom Synagogue last Sunday in Farmington Hills.

Speakers for the standing-room-only event were U.S. Sen. Henry Jackson, D-Washington; former Ambassador Sol Linowitz; and former undersecretary of state Joseph Sisco. The meeting was sponsored by the Jewish Welfare Federation.

"The peace process in the Middle East has become irreversible," said Sisco, who acted as the chief U.S. negotiator during the Six-Day War.

"And the Americans are the only third party acceptable to both sides," he continued.

But to ensure that the diplomatic process continues, the U.S. Marines now stationed in Lebanon will be there for the "indefinite future."

Because of Lebanon's weak government, Sisco warned it could be a "job for decades" to bring peace.

"But I am confident there will be some kind of an agreement on withdrawal. It will take much of this year," he said.

Although Jackson conceded the U.S.

troops were a necessity, he was less than enthused over their presence.

"I originally opposed sending in the Marines. I guess I'm not as optimistic about getting the factions together," said Jackson, referring to the various Christian and Islamic groups which politically divide Lebanon.

But Jackson, too, agreed that the U.S. should continue its strong support for the state of Israel.

"We need a strong ally in the area, committed to democratic ideals. Israel is a democracy which is willing to take a look at itself," said Jackson, noting the internal Israeli government investigation.

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Discussing the situation in the Middle East during a reception at Adat Shalom were U.S. Sen. Henry Jackson, D-Washington, (left) and Michigan's U.S. Sen. Carl Levin.



Meditating over what he will say on the Middle East situation is former undersecretary of state Joseph Sisco.



Thousands gathered last Sunday at Adat Shalom to listen as three experts on the Middle East discussed the fate of that region.

Bar to obey or lose license, says Farmington council

By M.B. Dillon Ward
staff writer

The liquor license of Bootlegger's Bar, 3205 Grand River, Farmington, could be revoked if rowdiness isn't curtailed in accordance with a new city ordinance.

Farmington City Councilman William Mitchell proposed that city officials meet with Bootlegger's bar owner Joseph Ascione of Livonia to explain "that we're watching very carefully" to see whether the ordinance is adhered to and that his "liquor license will be revoked if action isn't taken."

The intent is to ensure Bootlegger's compliance with the statute, not to put the bar out of business, said Mitchell. Homeowners residing near Bootlegger's say bar promotions such as an all-you-can-drink-for-45 policy on Tuesday nights have precipitated fights, noise, reckless driving and accidents.

Ascione denies his parking lot is the scene of drug use, loud music and reckless driving, but admits some bar patrons may be disturbing neighbors as they drive away.

Parking near Bootlegger's has become such a problem that parking stickers are now given out to residents.

CITY OFFICIALS and Ascione have

met recently, but City Manager Robert Deadman said there "hasn't been much change in their method of operation."

Mitchell agreed, "there's been almost as many complaints (from the public) since our meeting as before it."

The ordinance stipulates that:

"Licenses shall be renewed annually by the city council upon continued compliance with the regulations of the ordinance;

"council shall consider whether continued operation of the licensed establishment...affects adversely investment in real property in the neighborhood of the establishment, (and determine) whether the impact on the neighborhood of entertainment, events or promotions is contrary to the peace, order and tranquility of the community;

"...upon any violation...the city council may, after notice and hearing, request the Michigan Liquor Control Commission to revoke such license."

The city council may recommend non-renewal of liquor licenses, if among other conditions, "any advertising, promotion or activity which by its nature causes, creates or contributes to disorder, disobedience of rules, ordinances or laws, or contributes to the disruption of normal activity of those

in the neighborhood of the licensed establishment."

FARMINGTON POLICE say that of all incidents responded to at liquor-licensed locations in 1982, nearly 53 percent, or 68 calls, involved Bootlegger's.

Almost all the calls reported crimes or regulation violations, said Deadman. Of the 34 incidents reported to police in which the suspect was either the licensee or an employee, 16 occurred at Bootlegger's.

Police received 33 noise complaints associated with a liquor-licensed operation in 1982 — one arising from Bel Air Lane, one from the Rustic Club,

and 31 from Bootlegger's.

"It is interesting to note that all three of these liquor establishments have parking lots that are contiguous to residential subdivisions. However, 94 percent of the complaints were received as a result of noise at the Bootlegger's bar," Deadman told the council.

Farmington Police Chief G. Robert Seifert cautioned that "incidents" can signify merely requests for assistance from citizens "which do not reflect in any way on the licensed location and...may be assumed as likely to occur in any area open to the public."

Total calls for service at Bootlegger's have increased by 3,400 percent since 1979 to 1982, and by 453 percent since 1980, the last full year of operation by the bar's former owner.

Since July, 1982, the Public Safety Department has spent 35 man-hours in "extra patrol" at Bootlegger's, said Seifert.

Not reflected are the innumerable unrecorded hours of staff and clerical time and those of office attempts to address the issue, he said.

IF THE CITY revokes Bootlegger's liquor license and is taken to court by the bar owners, Seifert doubts Farm-

ington would emerge the victor.

"It is my belief that there is a very low probability of being successful in any litigation which would surely arise from action taken on the part of the council at this time to recommend non-renewal or revocation of the license in light of the court cases we have reviewed," he told the council.

"Application of the city's newly enacted liquor ordinance...would result almost certainly in a judgment for Bootlegger's insofar as the retroactive application of ordinances has been clearly and consistently prohibited by the courts."

Crime totals show police shortage

Crime in Farmington dropped eight percent in the last quarter, with burglaries showing a significant decline. Year-end figures show Farmington breaking and entering down to 104 last year from 163 in 1981.

The drop is due partially to recent passage of Michigan's precious metals act, said Farmington Public Safety Director G. Robert Seifert.

Passed at the end of 1981, the statute requires persons selling silver, gold and other precious metals to furnish the buyer with identification. In addition, licensed dealers must report each

transaction to the nearest law enforcement agency.

"(The law) increases the risk taken by the person disposing of precious metals. I don't know what happened statewide during the past year, but I rather suspect that the reduction here is due to increased citizen awareness of the precious metals act. It's had some impact," said Seifert.

Other categories showing drops during 1982 included recovered stolen property and autos — to nine from 30; in traffic complaints to 635 from 868; larceny from vehicles to 130 from 186; assault and battery to 39 from 56;

fraud to 16 from 32; vandalism to 143 from 193; disorderly persons to 68 from 87; prowlers to three from 17; trespassing to four from 23; juvenile complaints to 91 from 155; and traffic offense arrests to 130 from 233.

Categories showing increases included public nuisances, up to 131 from 97 (includes reports of abandoned cars and other citizen complaints); assists to citizens, totalling 1,294 in 1982 and 1,077 in 1981; and drug violation arrests up to 27 from 11.

Drunk driving arrests leveled at 96 from 99 in 1981, as did motor vehicle thefts, at 34 from 38.

Many of the figures are the result of a law enforcement personnel and equipment shortage, Seifert said. It took the department about six months to find and train a replacement for Lt. John Santomaro. Santomaro left in December, 1981 to accept a job as chief of police in Pittsfield Township.

In addition, because of scheduling problems and other difficulties, the department for nine months was without an officer who normally targets traffic from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m., said Seifert.

The department now is preparing a detailed analysis of the crime report.

oral quarrel

How do you feel about surrogate mothers?

Increasingly couples unable to have their own children are turning to surrogate motherhood as an answer.

Recently, some of these cases, instead of ending in joy, have ended in the courtroom for various reasons. Lawyers and physicians are split on the wisdom of having another woman bear a child for a couple. Some see legal, moral and medical problems evolving from the practice.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT SURROGATE MOTHERHOOD? WOULD YOU PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A PRACTICE?

To answer this question call 477-5498 until 1 p.m. on Friday. You will have 30 seconds to answer the question. Look in Monday's Observer to see how your neighbors feel about this issue.

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Proposed library authority debated

Farmington area voters could be deciding in the next election whether their libraries should form a separate authority.

The Farmington Community Library and the Farmington Hills Community Library are run by a library board and regulated by the city councils of Farmington and Farmington Hills.

The board has proposed that the issue be placed on the ballot. But city officials are awaiting word from Attorney General Frank Kelley concerning the legality of such an authority, which would have the power to levy taxes, said Farmington City Manager Robert

Deadman at Monday's Farmington City Council meeting.

Deadman suggested that Farmington and Farmington Hills City Council members meet to discuss whether it is "in the best interest of the community to allow the library system to become a separate authority." The council should then decide whether to place the issue on the ballot, he added.

The board also is pushing for the establishment of an ordinance "which prohibits the theft of books or damage to library materials and failure to return overdue books."