



Condom sense: Lesley Kutinsky, owner of Farmington Hills-based The Lesley Company, shows off the "Safe Sextet" T-shirt her company silk screens.

Condom fashions

Artist silk-screens safe sex sayings

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

For years, they were hidden in wallets. Now they're silk-screened on T-shirts.

Call it condom wear for the common person.

A Farmington Hills-based company has introduced a new line of T-shirts with cartoons depicting prophylactics in a witty way. They carry a safe sex message.

"It gives a humorous approach to something that is uncomfortable to talk about," said Lesley Kutinsky, who owns The Lesley Company (TLC), which prints the shirts.

There's six designs. All are simple, drawings in black ink on white T's.

One is of a basketball rim with a condom called "Safe Slam Dunk."

Another has six prophylactics with musical instruments entitled "Safe Sextet."

The latter inspired Birmingham artist Richard Kozlow, who rendered the drawings. The well-known painter is not known for his cartoons. He usually does animation for friends between projects.

Kozlow said he got the idea for the condom cartoons while listening to a classical sextet.

"It's just something I came up with out of the blue on the drawing board," Kozlow said.

Kozlow showed the cartoons to Kutinsky, who immediately wanted to print them at her silk-screen printing business. She sees unlimited potential, especially with Valentine's Day coming up.

The message applies to high school kids up through older

adults, she believes. Her daughter, Ilana Kutinsky, is a medical student and teaches AIDS education to inner-city kids.

Kutinsky said one idea might be a parent sending one to a child at college.

"I think sending a shirt might say, 'I'm not sure what you're doing . . . but at least protect yourself.'"

The T-shirts retail at \$14; nightshirts are \$20. They're available at Trends and Cover Up in West Bloomfield and Marmel Gifts & Toys in Farmington Hills.

The condom wear is part of a burgeoning business for Kutinsky. The former science teacher at Dunckel Middle School started silk-screening six years ago to support her hobby of horseback riding.

Bosnian visitor adjusts to peace

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

His trip to America was like going from "hell to paradise".

That's how Marko Bejic, a Bosnian of Croatian descent, described his first 24 hours in the United States, more specifically in Bloomfield Hills and Farmington Hills.

Bejic, 30, came to the area to be fitted with a prosthesis at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills. His trip was arranged by the U.S. government and Lutheran Social Services.

About 10 patients will be flown to the United States from Zagreb, Croatia every other week. The program will continue as long as hospitals can be found to donate needed medical treatment.

Bejic, a soldier, lost his right arm Aug. 4 after an artillery shell exploded near him on the front line in Tesanj.

During his six-month American visa, he will be housed by several volunteer families in different cities, including Rochester and Farmington Hills. The first host family is Dr. Jure Grahovac and wife Lidija Dorkin Grahovac of Bloomfield Hills, who emigrated from Croatia 19 years ago. Lidija serves as his translator. Bejic can only say "hello" and "thank you" in English.

Bejic's wife and two sons are still in Bosnia. Grahovac made sure that Bejic called them as soon as he came to her house.

It's emotionally hard for him to recall his feelings when he lost his arm.

One feeling was rage at the amputation.

"His kids asked him, 'Where is your arm?' His younger son tried to comfort him by saying,

'Don't worry, Daddy; it will grow back,'" Lidija Dorkin Grahovac said.

Sue Haasch, an occupational therapist at Botsford Hospital, will work with Bejic for the next two to three weeks.

His prosthesis is "very simple," she said. "It's a basic hook that is easy to repair. This is a pretty easy case."

Bejic's acceptance of the device will be up to him. So far, he's very determined. Haasch added that sometimes patients give up and just do things with one hand or just do it with a stump.

He seems to be motivated to try it, Haasch said. "He's pretty open to trying things."

Bejic will also be fitted with a cosmetic hand and will soon be trying out a kitchen rehabilitation setup. Unfortunately he will never be able to hold a baby or tie his shoelaces, Haasch said. An older child might be able to put his arms around Bejic who could then hold the child around his waist.

With his tool and die making job, Bejic will have to adapt to fine motor types of things, Haasch said. Bejic also operates a small mechanics shop.

"This requires the use of two hands," Haasch said.

The prosthesis will be used mainly as a gross assist to hold two things, she said.

Bejic comes from a country town where there are few amenities, like sliced bread.

While Bejic is becoming acclimated to peaceful America, Grahovac has been observing him. She noticed, for example

that when Bejic entered her dining room, where every chair was unoccupied, he chose the seat facing the door.

Career Day '93 planned

Farmington Adult Education will present "Career Day '93," from 9:55-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11. The event will be held at

The Farmington Community School, 30415 Shiwasssee, Farmington Hills.

Representatives from Oakland Community College will feature information about admissions and courses, plus how to apply for financial aid, loans and scholarships.

For information call 489-3333.



Drawing board: Lesley Kutinsky of The Lesley Company shows the designs for her new line of T-shirts. The cartoons were done by Birmingham artist Richard Kozlow.

Church's charity wins out

BY BILL COUTANT
and SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITERS

A Farmington Hills church won a court battle with the city over its practice of sheltering the homeless.

The Jesus Center in the Eight Mile/Inkster area of Farmington Hills won its battle with the city in Oakland County Circuit Court when Judge Denise Langford-Morris ruled Wednesday that the city's zoning restrictions were in violation of the First Amendment right to freedom of religion.

Margaret Costello, an attorney with Dykema Gossett who represented the church pro bono, said the ruling is the first of its kind in Michigan.

"The ruling says that it's part of the church's mission to help

those in need," Costello said. "We cited similar cases in New York and New Jersey. I think that helped our case."

The church had been taking the overflow of homeless people from the Neighborhood Reentry Organization in Detroit. The church filed an application with the zoning board of appeals, which turned around and filed an injunction against the church in May of last year.

"We're disappointed with the conclusion," city attorney John Donohue said. "There's no case law that specifically addresses this issue. We believe the cases cited (by Costello) are factually different."

Donohue said he will recom-

mend to the city council that an appeal be filed.

As of Friday, the final order that confirms the court's opinion had not been filed, Donohue said. When it is, the city has 21 days to appeal, Donohue said.

Costello maintained that the two cases she cited were almost exactly identical. "Every church has the right to help the homeless," Costello said.

The homeless are housed only temporarily at the Jesus Center. "The judge's order was very complete," Costello said. "It (the Farmington Hills case) doesn't have any precedential value until it gets to the appeals court."

She said that the judge was very complete in her decision.

There was a need this winter for housing, Costello said.

WE'RE OPENING OUR NEWLY EXPANDED TALBOTS PETITES



Join us Friday, February 12, for the Grand Opening of our newly expanded Talbots Petites at our Talbots store at Somerset Collection in Troy.

You'll discover an even greater selection of classic all-occasion clothing exclusively for women 5'4" and under, sizes 2-14.

Talbots

PETITES
CLASSIC CLOTHING FOR WOMEN 5'4" AND UNDER

OPENING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, at Talbots at Somerset Collection, Big Beaver Road at Coolidge Highway, Troy.
Open Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursday-Friday 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sunday 12 noon-5 p.m.
Also visit our Talbots stores in Ann Arbor, Novi, Grosse Pointe and Livonia.