



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Melanie Downy has just become the proud owner and creator of a new puppet.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Children's librarian Denise Albrecht brings puppets to life for children at the Farmington Hills Branch Library.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Kathleen Benson — a puppet inventor deep in thought.

Puppet theater finds new home in library

Youngsters are checking out puppets from Farmington Hills Branch Library now, the same as they would check out books. And the 12 little puppets have been checked out almost constantly ever since they and their puppet theater found a new home in the children's department.

Children's librarian Denise Albrecht had to put a hold on the characters for a few days so she would have enough of them on hand to head up a promised puppet workshop for the young set this month.

The library's newest and most special collection was a gift from Women of North Farmington. All of the puppets are hand-washable and durable enough to be able to travel through the two communities for a long time.

Two puppets can be checked out at one time for a seven-day period and

"are offered for very careful use," Ms. Albrecht said. They are carried to the youngsters' home in their own special canvas bag stenciled FCL, Farmington Community Library.

Youngsters also are invited to use the puppets and their stage while they are visiting the library "when and if they are available. We haven't seen too much of them since they arrived," Ms. Albrecht said.

The collection includes a white Persian cat, spotted hound dog, furry rabbit, a super hero, a witch with broom, a monster, a dinosaur, robin red breast, a boy, a girl, and a sad-glad mouse who is equipped with two faces.

The puppets were purchased from Nancy Renfro Studios.

Ms. Albrecht said the library definitely planned to purchase more puppets in the future.

Parking plot puts kabosh on fight for porno films

By Judith Berne
staff writer

The lack of parking space, and not picketers, apparently brought down the Keego Cinema and Love Boutique as an adult film house.

Last week, Citizens Opposed to Pornography (COP) barricaded half the Keego Theater's available parking area, reducing the number of available car spaces to 15.

On Wednesday, theater manager Michael Kapusniak announced that the theater would return to showing family movies rather than X-rated films. The Keego Harbor theater, located at 3040 Orchard Lake Road, began showing X-rated films last August. COP immediately began picketing. Business owners began cooperating with COP by barricading their parking lots after business hours.

COP members had assumed a parking lot between the theater and a corner discount store, at Cass Lake and Orchard Lake roads, was untouchable.

Half of it is owned by the owner of the theater, attorney Lawrence Schlusel. The other half is for parking for an adjacent store, currently empty. Reports circulated that the store, now unrented, would become an adult bookstore.

LAST WEEK, COP gained permission from the vacant store's owner to barricade the parking lot.

"Picketers don't make any difference to porno-goers," said COP spokesperson Tina Pasfield. "The parking is what did it."

"They (the theater managers) have lost their rear end on porno — they're going family," she stated flatly.

"We just had too many things going for us," Pasfield said, including the backing of the Keego business community, city officials and police, and churches and residents from neighboring Orchard Lake, West Bloomfield and Sylvan Lake.

Picketing continued through the cold weather, partly because picketers were able to warm themselves in a storefront across the street. "We did the

job regardless of how many picketers we had. That never really mattered," she said.

COP won't disband now that family movies apparently will be restored at the theater.

Rose Sortor, COP leader, said the organization would encourage people to attend the family movie showings. "We'll be bringing people into the show for him, and they'll be available as a resource to other communities seeking to oust adult theaters," she said.

AFTER MORE than six months of confrontation, Sortor and theater manager Michael Kapusniak will join forces to try and make the Keego a going concern.

"If it takes two hours of my time every day, I'll do it," she promised.

"They're making a fortune at the Academy (a Waterford theater recently purchased by Schlusel which includes a video game arcade)," Pasfield said.

The COP alliance with Kapusniak is not as unlikely as it sounds.

"He always had fairly good rapport with the picketers," explained Pasfield. "We watched his weight, and when he trimmed his beard..."

Kapusniak reportedly has split with owner Schlusel on the decision to revive family movies. Kapusniak is the listed head of the Keego Theater Corp., incorporated in Delaware. He was unavailable for comment last week.

Schlusel, a West Bloomfield resident, has maintained he merely owns the building and leases it to the corporation which showed the X-rated movies.

In fact, Kapusniak and his wife have worked for another theater in the Schlusel family — the Mel, an adult theater in Melvindale.

"KEEGO HARBOR and COP have won their victory. We now have a family theater for our community regardless of who owns it," Pasfield said.

"We had the time and a lot of people who care," Sortor added.

Iland hopping or legging it around the deck? You'll stay right in stride with all the activities in our dandy deckmates. A tab-waist, pleat-front skirt in polyester/cotton twill from JAZZIE. In white, khaki or loden, sizes 6-14, \$26. And a nautical striped T from JENNIFER REED. Red/white/blue cotton knit. S-M-L. \$25. Admirable choices in Hudson's New Reflections Sportswear, at all stores.

HUDSON'S

Mercy fair axed by city

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Although paving the field behind the school would make it an adequate site, it would create problems for both the sports teams and the budget, said Assistant Principal William Gervais.

"Looking at it from our viewpoint, it's just one weekend out of the year that creates some nuisance for neighbors," he said.

"I think Chief Nichols' concerns had a large impact on the council. The fair is of great financial importance to our institution."

"For years we've tried to remove profits from the fair out of our budget, but the bottom line is we find it essential every year."

In a report to the council, Nichols said 27 arrests

were made, mainly for alcohol violations during the 1981 fair. An estimated 50 cases of beer were poured out, and a large number of juveniles were warned and released for such activities as removing parking signs and rowdy behavior.

The afternoon shift of patrol officers was held over because "according to intelligence information from another police agency" a gang fight involving students from Catholic Central, Brother Rice, University of Detroit, North Farmington, Harrison and Farmington high schools would occur at the close of the fair.

"That was grossly exaggerated," said Mercy's principal. "Two schools that are football rivals were supposed to meet, but that never got off the ground. Nothing at all happened because our personnel were out there immediately after the fair."