

Legislation would halt library video rentals

Continued from Page 1

"Occasionally, some people mention they've taken one (a tape) out at the library," he said, but most times, the library has only one copy of a popular movie and it's rented out.

Frank Kemmer, co-owner of Videoland on Farmington Road, is in support of the legislation and what it means to his business and the video industry.

"They're taking those fees and increasing the size of their libraries," he said. "We've been competing with the libraries since we opened up."

Kemmer does not believe he should have to compete with what he

calls a "state-supported business."

"We don't really get a lot of flak with the libraries," he said, "but we'd like to nip that in the bud in our community."

STATE SEN. Jack Faxon, D-Farmington Hills, voted against the measure, but was not available to comment.

State Rep. Wilbur (Sandy) Brotherton, R-Farmington, who has yet to hear arguments on the issue, said, "My initial impression is that it's a lot of do about nothing."

"Even though I was surprised to find the library offering them (tapes) a couple of years ago, I didn't

view it as something improper."

BOTH BRANCHES of the Farmington Community Library have offered video tapes since 1982, director Beverly Pappal said.

The library's self-supporting and "relatively small" tape library has 600 titles, including some popular movies, plus other "non-fiction" or "classic" films, she said.

Pappal cited as examples a 13-part series on World War II and National Geographic travel features that are offered on video.

"Ours is a browsing collection," she said. "We do not reserve titles."

The \$2 fee charged at Farmington

allows the resident to have the tape for 48 hours, Pappal said. The rental fees are used to make additions to the video library.

THE VIDEO tapes and equipment replaced some of the 8mm and 16mm movies when technology was updated.

"Libraries have always had A/V materials," Pappal said. "It's (video) just another medium, a format, of information."

If state legislation passes forcing libraries to stop charging rentals, Pappal said the Farmington Community Library "would have to reevaluate our purchasing of tapes." The library's current budget does not include money for buying video tapes.

LIBRARY USE of video equipment and tapes is receiving national attention as well.

Last January, the Andrew Carnegie Foundation awarded a \$500,000, 18-month grant to the American Library Association to review the use of videocassette materials in public libraries across the country.

The ALA's Sally Mason, project director for the Carnegie grant, said the money will allow the ALA to award matching video equipment grants to local libraries, with recommendations that the libraries enhance their own video collections.

The grant shows "support for video as part of a library system," she said.

In addition, the ALA will use the grant money to:

- publish a resource book for libraries that will show them how to get a video collection,
- publish a quarterly newsletter about the use of videos in libraries,

and • act as a clearinghouse for libraries who want to set up video services to the community.

Novelist talks about career

Continued from Page 1

ant enough to encourage cable pay channel Home Box Office to buy the movie rights. Involving a drinking and driving death, Mazer calls the book's storyline a "modern day Romeo and Juliet." A rarely in today's movie and television industry, she also worked on the script. The movie has already aired several times.

Mazer had written for 10 years before making the dream come alive in 1971, when she entered the market to sell novels.

"You have to know that I had been writing for 10 years — short stories with many rejections," she explained. Her first novel was submitted the first time she submitted it.

"Writers tend to have thin skins," she added. "You have to do something for yourself to keep yourself going." Mazer's self-critical nature shows as she admits, "I can read my books about three years later (after publication) and feel comfortable."

A MIDDLE child from a family of three sisters, Mazer said she had wanted to write since the age of 13. No one writer inspired her, but a consistent love of reading kept her studying various styles.

After starting a family, Mazer and her husband began spending

one hour per day writing, selling some of their work. They would arise at 3:30 a.m. and write during the early morning hours, she said.

"The whole process of becoming a writer is to write, write, write, write, write — and then to get published," she added. "What I've learned is not feeling that every word I put down is precious — I can rewrite."

And rewrite she does.

The longest part and best part of writing is rewriting," she added. Mazer might rewrite up to five times before being satisfied.

Mazer told students about the business of writing from first drafts, and writing agents and editors, to the mechanics of publishing, including copy editing, galley proofs and book covers.

By the time galley proofs arrive for her review, she is already writing about another set of characters in another setting.

"That book is four-five months behind me," she said. "My mind is filled with another book. I can't make it come to life for me. I'm in such a critical mood."

Despite any writing blocks, Mazer continues creating. She is working on an adult novel, but her writings aimed at young adults will continue to be her mainstay. "I really remember how it felt being a teenager," she said.

Continued from Page 1

federal court, will meet to determine whether the city should appeal.

Bibeau was unavailable for comment. Police Chief William Dwyer, who wasn't with Farmington Hills at the time of the incident, declined comment.

YALDOO'S SUIT was delayed because the city's insurance carrier at the time of the incident went bankrupt. How the city will pay the jury award — should officials decide against appealing — is uncertain in light of the original insurance carrier's bankruptcy, Costick said.

Whether the city's current carrier, Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority, will be involved with the jury award is undetermined, Costick said.

Yaldoo filed a second suit April 2 in Oakland County Circuit Court against Farmington Hills and the police officers involved in the incident, Zacks said.

The Circuit Court suit will address claims of assault and battery, false imprisonment, false arrest, negligence and the city's alleged failure to "properly train and supervise officers," Zacks said.

Craig confirmed the filing of the second suit and added that "our response is essentially the same (as in the federal case)."

YALDOO, 18 at the time of the incident, said he was stopped by plainclothes officers in an unmarked car as he was leaving the Gateway Apartments on 12 Mile, between Middlebelt and Orchard Lake Road, Zacks said.

A frightened Yaldoo, driving a new Corvette, was unaware the plainclothes officers were police and tried to back up and get away, Zacks said. One of the officers got out of the car, announced he was a police officer, showed identification and pulled a gun, Zacks said.

Yaldoo said he only saw the gun and began to drive away when one of the officers shot at his car, hitting the driver's side mirror and shattering the driver's window, Zacks said.

Police officers, however, said Yaldoo attempted to run them down

with his car. The plainclothes officer pulled his gun and fired because "he was in fear of his life when the car was screaming past him," defense attorney Craig said.

The officers named in the suit — Gilbert Kohls, William Maffessoli and Robert Burkart — are still with the Farmington Hills Police Department.

Yaldoo continued to drive along 12 Mile, with the unmarked car chasing, when he saw a marked Farmington Hills patrol car. Yaldoo said he stopped for help and told the uniformed officers, in radio contact with the plainclothes officers, that two men with guns were chasing him.

When the plainclothes officers arrived, they grabbed Yaldoo, directed racial slurs at him and "proceeded to push his head into the car four or five times," Zacks said in detailing his client's allegations against the police department.

"Our position was that (beating) never happened," Craig said, adding

that Yaldoo was photographed when he was taken to the police station.

"There wasn't a mark on him."

Though they discovered that Yaldoo did not have an arrest record and that he owned the Corvette, the police arrested the 18-year-old and kept him in custody for 17 hours, Zacks said.

Farmington Hills police tried three times to have Yaldoo charged with felonious assault, but Oakland County prosecutors refused, Zacks said.

In his suit, Yaldoo claimed that as a result of the incident, he is suffering from "post-traumatic stress syndrome," which Zacks said is similar to that suffered by Vietnam veterans.

"His (Yaldoo's) life has just been radically changed," Zacks said.

"He used to be outgoing, fun-loving and very sociable. Now, he's an introvert, withdrawn; he has lost interest in all but work and has difficulty sleeping. And he doesn't like driving by himself."

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