

# Owner must sell his 'Garden'

Thursday, February 26, 1981

1F9C

## A wake, of sorts, at Anderson's

By CRAIG PIECHURA

By CRAIG PIECHURA - When someone says "Southfield businessman," the image of a lawyer, accountant or comptroller probably comes to mind. What doesn't come to mind is the owner of a "hooker bar" in the Cass Corridor.



A resident of the Cass Corridor neighborhood, Alan Paineau, says he doubts if the closing of Anderson's Garden on public nuisance grounds will reduce prostitution in the area. (Staff photo by Craig Piechura)

But Harry Levenburg, 65, of Southfield, owns such an establishment — Anderson's Garden — a bar that, after 25 years of police investigations, has become synonymous with the prostitution trade in Detroit.

After a protracted, five-year legal struggle, Levenburg's bar was padlocked Monday morning by Wayne County Prosecutor William L. Cahalan and Detroit Police Chief William L. Hart under terms of a consent judgment entered by Wayne County Circuit Judge Patrick J. Duggan on Jan. 23. In exchange for the settlement, the prosecutor has dropped criminal charges against Levenburg.

The court order stipulates that the bar "constitutes a public nuisance" and forcing Levenburg from ever engaging in the liquor business again in Michigan.

The bar will be closed for a minimum of four months. After that it may reopen under new ownership and a new name.

While Levenburg is allowed to sell the bar and transfer his liquor license, any new owner must first be approved by the prosecutor, the Detroit police chief and the Michigan Liquor Control Commission. The buyer also must agree to exclude known prostitutes from the premises.

THE PERSON who buys Levenburg's liquor license must agree not to use the name "Anderson's Garden," or anything similar, at any location in the city under the agreement.

At the padlock ceremony Monday morning Prosecutor Cahalan called the closing of Anderson's Garden bar the final step "in closing the triangle" of businesses in the area that allegedly aided and abetted prostitutes.

Levenburg's attorney, Jack Schon,

was unavailable for comment on the court settlement or the padlock action. A woman answering the phone at the Levenburg home said she doubted if he would talk to the Observer & Eccentric because "your coverage of Anderson's Garden was very unfavorable."

Originally, the owners of three businesses in the area — Anderson's Garden, the Wilcrest Hotel and the Fourth-Willis Hotel — were indicted in February 1980 by a Wayne County citizen's grand jury investigating prostitution activity. Also indicted was Ronald Share, identified as the owner of the Last Chance Bar at the southeast corner of Eight Mile Road and Woodward.

Five Southfield residents indicted were Harry Levenburg and son Eugene Levenburg, 27, — named in the 1980 indictment as the owners of Anderson's Garden — Aram Jurjurian, 76, former owner of the Wilcrest Hotel, Louis Jones and son, Walter Jones, 32, named as partners in the Wilcrest Hotel.

Jurjurian sold the hotel after he was sentenced on a felony charge of "conspiracy to pand" and placed on two years' probation.

LOUIS and Walter Jones were given one year's probation. The senior Jones was convicted on a felony charge of "attempting to maintain and operate (a building) for the purpose of prostitution" while his son was found guilty on a misdemeanor charge of admitting a person into the hotel for the purpose of prostitution.

Earlier prosecutors closed the Willis Show Bar, next door to Anderson's Garden, as a public nuisance and are seeking similar action against the Last Chance Bar, according to Dominick Carnovale, chief assistant prosecuting attorney for Wayne County.

The last call at Anderson's Garden was 14 hours earlier, but that didn't stop a steady stream of would-be customers from pulling up in front of the padlocked bar Monday afternoon. They were looking for more than a drink and the "famous hot pastured sandwich" mentioned in one convention guide listing about the bar. The bar, owned by Harry Levenburg of Southfield, has acquired a reputation over the years as Detroit's most notorious hooker hangouts. It was closed as the result of a long and complicated court battle against the ownership. In the time it took for the Observer & Eccentric reporter to jot down the wording on the court order stapled to the bar's front door, two middle-aged men tried the locked door of the bar. They were told the bar had been padlocked as a public nuisance earlier that day by authorities. The first man had parked his late model Lincoln across the street from the bar, in front of the Glorious Freedom Mission, dressed in a three-piece suit, he appeared to be a prosperous suburban businessman. He asked where "the girls" went. Somebody suggested the Last Chance Bar on Eight Mile and Woodward. "Which way is Woodward?" asked the apparent out-of-towner before getting back into his car. ABOUT a minute later another man drove up to the bar in a beat-up red compact. He rolled down his car window and opened his mouth to reveal a few missing front teeth. He asked what was up. Told the

place had been padlocked, the man shook his head and spit out an obscenity.

"I figured it would be closed," said the man who, understandably, wouldn't give his name. "When they closed the Willis Show Bar I figured this one was next."

He said he'd been coming to the bar since the 1950s.

"It was a regular hangout," said the man. "It was a decent place. You see the sign — they had entertainment."

In these days, the man said, the "women you'd meet in the bar were beautiful." Nowadays, he said, "they're just whores."

He pronounced the word as if it rhymed with Coors.

Despite those nagging, he wanted to visit his old haunt on its last day in business, for old times sake, he said. He was 14 hours late for the wake.

NEIGHBORS living near the bar weren't so nostalgic about the place.

Mary Lou Brown, pastor of the Glorious Freedom Mission, applauded the padlock action saying that closing the bar, even if it is only for four months, will help the area.

"We've prayed for the area to be upgraded," said Pastor Brown. "This is the fifth bar in the area that has closed. And it should slow things down a bit if you close the headquarters."

Alan Paineau, 41, lives near the bar and drove over to see if news reports about its closing were true. He said he was glad to see the bar gone but doubted if the lockout would decrease prostitution in the area.

"It'll just circulate 'em around (to other bars)," Paineau said.

44th ANNUAL WINTER SALE IN PROGRESS

Since 1937

A Beautiful Store with Beautiful Furniture

MICHIGAN'S LARGEST PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE DEALER

America's most distinguished traditional furniture

Colonial House

20292 Middlebelt Rd. (South of Eight Mile)

Open Mon., Thurs. & Fri. 10-9 P.M. 474-6900

COUPON

Two great pizzas! One low price!

Buy any size pizzas with this coupon at one low price!

Expires 3-11-81

Good at all participating locations

(one coupon per customer at participating locations only)

Wedding Invitations  
Bridal Accessories  
Hallmark Cards

McDEVITT Hallmark

478-0727

EASTLAND MALL 12000 W. 130th St. NORTHWOOD CENTER 13000 W. 130th St.

UNIVERSAL MALL 12000 W. 130th St. FARMINGTON CENTER 13000 W. 130th St.

NOTICE!  
SPECIAL SALE  
3 DAYS ONLY

WE NEED FLOOR SPACE! NEW SPRING INVENTORY WILL BE ARRIVING SHORTLY MUST SELL OUR CURRENT STOCK OF SOFAS, CHAIRS & SLEEPERS AT SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED PRICES

ALL ITEMS SOLD IN "FLOOR SAMPLE" CONDITION  
ALL FAMOUS BRANDS INCLUDED

Schrader's  
Home Furnishings  
"Quality Furnishings since 1907"

Mon.-Tues.-Sat. 9 to 6; Thurs. & Fri. 9 to 9; Closed Wednesday  
111 N. Center (Sheldon) Northville 349-1838

HURRY!  
LAST THREE DAYS  
WINTER CLEARANCE SALE

SALE ENDS FEB. 29, 1981  
FANTASTIC SAVINGS ON DRESSES, BLOUSES, SWEATERS  
FASHION SLACKS & SLEEPWEAR

Dee's Carolina Outlet

28903 FIVE MILE - LIVONIA 5 PLAZA  
Between Middlebelt & Inkster  
New Windsor  
Mon.-Sat. 10-5 p.m.

H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O

NOTICE...BOTTLED WATER USERS

Now you can have even better quality water at your tap! It is completely purified.

Even to the ice maker!

NO MORE bottles to handle or return

REYNOLDS WATER CONDITIONING CO.  
...the Quality Water People serving this area for over 50 years.

Call anytime 1-800-572-9575

H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O H<sub>2</sub>O

MUST LIQUIDATE  
\$100,000 MENSWEAR  
TO BARE WALLS

GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT'S unsurpassed famous brand men's quality shirts, sportcoats, slacks, sport & dress shirts, outerwear and all accessories...now at up to

50% off & more

1 Week Only  
Open Sunday  
12-5

Name Brand Merchandise:  
Adolfo, Damon, Donald Brooks, Enro, Geoffrey Beene, Gienchy, Gleneagles, Hardie Amies, Jaymar, Lanvin, Oleg Cassini, Phoenix, Rubin and many more.

ALTERATIONS AT COST  
MASTER CHARGE • VISA  
CASH • CHECKS

NEW ORLEANS MALL  
10 MILE & GREENFIELD, SOUTHFIELD  
Mon.-Thurs. 10-6, Fri. 10-8, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5  
557-5370

BILL & ROD'S APPLIANCE

MAYTAG Savings Cash-in

\$25 Maytag Factory Refund on all Maytag Jetclean Dishwashers

CASH-IN with Instant Discounts on Maytag Heavy-Duty Washers

Number 1: in long life in fewer repairs in lower repair costs - in national preference (Based on a national survey asking consumers which brand of washer they'd like to own)

Also BIG SAVINGS on MAYTAG BIG LOAD DRYERS

Commercially proven in full service laundries

Genie, energy efficient drying for garments next press and all of today's fabrics

Electronic Auto-Dry and Time Controls

Rebuild Guaranteed Washer & Dryers for Sale

SAVE TRADE-IN ON WASHER & DRYER

We Service and Sell Parts for all Makes of Appliances.

MAYTAG Bill & Rod's APPLIANCE INC.

Shareholders of: BILLY'S APPLIANCE, BILLY'S APPLIANCE, BILLY'S APPLIANCE

Jeans Ville Fashion Centers

ATTENTION... BARGAIN HUNTERS!

THINK SPRING... GUYS' & GALS' LEVI'S DENIM FASHION JEANS

Reg. \$22 to \$30 \$3 OFF

Now thru March 5th

COUPON 10% OFF NEW SPRING MERCHANDISE WITH THIS COUPON Now thru March 5, 1981

Jeans Ville Fashion Centers

PINE LAKE MALL Orchard Lake Road at Lone Pine Road Mon-Fri 9-9 Sat 10-7 Sun 12-5

KINGSWOOD CENTER Woodward at Square Lake Road by Kingswood Theatre 10-9 Mon-Fri 10-9 Mon-Fri 10-7 Sat 12-5 Sun

MELCROY PLAZA Decouire at 14 1/2 Mile Road 10-9 Mon. thru Fri. 10-7 Sat. 12-5 Sun.

CHATHAM SQUARE SHOPPING CENTER Middlebelt and 11 Mile Road in Farmington Hills 10-9 Mon. thru Fri. 10-7 Sat. 12-5 Sun.