

increased the U.S. population with 10 million to 2 million housing units being to the count.

county planner Sheila Baumgarten, who

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Adult Bookstore (Hawaii) Theatre

Cinema Soquel Closes Doors After Long Fight

By PAUL BEATTY
Sentinel Staff Writer

Cinema Soquel, the county's only theater to show X-rated films, has closed its doors after a long fight to keep them open.

Among other things, the closed doors will keep its movie show operator Wallace Von Medlin out of jail.

He had been ordered at a July 2 court hearing to serve time until the movie closed after he was found in contempt of an earlier court order to close the theater on June 5.

Von Medlin has managed to keep the projector running most days since the

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Cinema Soquel Closes

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court order by getting a two-week stay from the state Supreme Court and then avoiding sheriff's deputies who have had an arrest warrant for him since Aug. 20.

Deputy County Counsel Dwight Herr announced Tuesday afternoon that Von Medlin and his attorney will keep the movie closed while they attempt to get a local court order to open it as a private club.

On their word the theater would close, Herr and Superior Court Judge Donald May withdrew the warrant for Von Medlin's arrest.

As for the movie getting the court to agree that it is a private club and should be allowed to show movies to its members, Herr doesn't think there's much chance of that.

He said county ordinances prohibit the formation of clubs as covers for services that in reality are businesses and must

come under the county's laws on commercial enterprises.

Von Medlin attempted to run the theater as a private club, charging \$1 for a lifetime membership, during the past few days, but Herr continued the arrest warrant which finally forced the closing of the theater's doors.

Herr said he doesn't think that a \$1 membership fee will fool a judge that the theater is a private club, noting that "anyway, the provisions for a private club are meant for such organizations as the Elks, other men's clubs and clubs for youths and other public services."

He said he was told by Von Medlin's attorney, Joseph Rhine, that the attorney would file for a court hearing here in September.

Before losing in the face of the county's spacing ordinance, Rhine appealed the case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. It was only in the last few days that the nation's high court refused to issue a stay on the county's order to arrest Von Medlin.

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