

# Hazel to Appeal Loss of License; She Complains Business is Bad

An embittered Hazel Nickola was planning a last-ditch appeal this week to keep open the Sharp Park tavern that she has operated for 17 years.

State liquor officials last week ordered her liquor license revoked. The bar, Hazel's Tavern, on County Road, had been raided last February, accused by Sheriff Earl Whitmore of being "a hangout for sex deviates."

"But they haven't closed me yet," Hazel told The Tribune this week. "I've got two months to appeal. And I'll appeal all right."

But actually, Hazel said, she may as well be closed for all the business she's done since that Saturday night when the sheriff

leaped on a table, shouted "this is a raid," and hauled 87 adults off to pokey on ground that they were sex deviates.

"It's like a strike," she said, "Nobody comes near me any more. And after all I've done for this town. I paid plenty of taxes. I donated 49 lots so they could put a road through here. I helped plenty of P-TA people get their relatives out of the can."

"Now they won't come near you. They treat you like a leper. They condemn me, a woman of my age, for doing nothing, while there are plenty of people in their own homes who are doing the same things as the customers they claimed I catered to."

State liquor control officer

Russell S. Munro ordered Hazel's license revoked on charges of operating a disorderly premises and illegal sale of alcoholic beverages to a minor.

Hazel, who is 63, says the charges aren't true, that she never sold alcohol to a minor, and that the kind of people who frequented her place made the rounds of all taverns.

Hazel also said that she'd gotten lots of mysterious phone calls from people apparently out to torment her.

"If people investigated a few other things besides me, they'd find plenty," she said. "But these people here are ungrateful. So many of them owe me money. They can't pay you back, but they sure can knock you."