Jesus Center dispute keeps lawyers talking

"They were trying to help out. They felt they must follow biblical commands to help the homeless and the hungry," he added. The homeless stayed only overnight and were given breakfast the next morning before they were on their way, liughest of the homeless and the correct the 27 building and to correct the 27 building and fettle of the homeless and to correct the 27 building and fettle of the homeless the homeless the homeless the homeless the homeless which time the city would close and lock the building. "We did not pa-lock the building on April 1)." Donehue said. The central stopped fousing the homeless Feb. 29.

Since people are not living at the

ter stopped nousing the momenta-feb. 29. Since people are not living at the center "our mmediate concerns with the building and tire code viola-tions are not so serious to merit pad-locking," Denotue said. The city at-terney said he also preferred to have a court order before padiocking the building.

a court order sector y-building.

In her motion, Costello said more than half of the violations have been corrected. Others are still being worked on. In some cases, center of-ficials are still waiting for permits

COSTELLO ARGUES that the

March 12 order should be put aslde because the Jesus Center had no legal representation in court when officials believed they had an agreement with the eity over correcting the violations. The order should be set aslde "Lecause It misrepresents that the parties agreed to this order, because the Jesus Center did not receive a copy of the proposed order prior to its entry (in court records).

It is an unfair and unduly burdensome order because it is virually impossible to comply completely with the order in the time frame allowed," Costello conditued. Some of the code violations periant to the second story, which Costello said is not used by churchgoers or would be used to house the bomeless if the center were used as awarming center.

Jesus Center officials also main, they did not receive the notice of the March 12 order, or notices of LBA hearings on their variance request. Their request was first denied in February because no one from the center showed up for a schedule hearing. They LBA officials sem a notice to a PO Box, not to the center term?

plaints, as they did the night the ZBA denied the variance request April 7.
"A once quiet neighborbood has now become a nightmare for the residents of the area," wrote Ida Ranesbottom, screetary of the Olde Town-Meadowbrook Heights Homeowners Association.

Meadowbrook Heights Homeowners
Association.

"Having intoxicated persons panhandling infront of the Jesus Center
"Having introxication of the Jesus Center
building, urinating upon their property and private residential abutting
property, strange men waiking
around and gawking from the property and upstairs windows, delegated the (neighborhood) residents to
the front of their homes and many
fear for the safety of their familles,
"Ranesbottom wrote to the ZBA in
April.

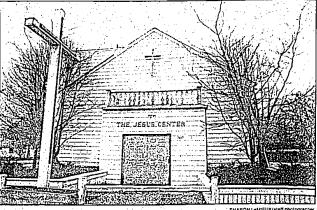
fear for me seeing the April.

Ranesbottom wrote to the ZBA in April.

But Hughes denied the accusations. "I know people have reported panhandlers. They are not from the Jesus Center."

Another resident who lives near the center and called the Observer about concerns in the area could not be reached for further comment.

The building that houses the Jesus Center has long been part of Olde Town-Meadowbrook Helghs. It was built in the late 1920s-early 1930s and in 1931, the Goodfellowship Club of Clarenceville took it over. Over the years the halt, was rented for banquets, meetings and weddings. In 1922 the bub rented the building to



The city of Farmington Hills is suing The Josus . code violations. Center officials have been told . Center on inkeler Road for building and fire . not to house the homoloss.

Farmington

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Drug investigation ends; Hills businessman indicted

Christunas, also charged with operating a continuing criminal enterprise and with money laundering, and several other defendants were arraigned Wednesday in U.S. District Court and then released on bond, said Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Caires.

If convicted, Christunas faces from 20 years to life in prison, a fine of up to 31 million or both, Markman said. Among other defendants in the case are five brothers—David Christunas, of Garden City, Joseph Christunas, of Westland, Ernest Christunas, of New Housen, Thomas Christunas, of Marquette; and James Christunas, of Gwinn.

Gwinn.
According to authorities, Kenneth Christunas spear-headed an operation that, between 1983 and 1991, brought more than 15 tons of marijuana into the United States and grossed at least \$15 million.

States and grossed at least \$15 million.

CAIRES, THE prosecutor assigned to the case, Fridays aid the next court appearance for Kenneth Christianas had not been scheduled; ife declined to comment further about the case.

Meanwhile; Granados said the eventual serier of homes and businesses owned by or involving members of the smuggling ring is likely.

Authorities have the right to seize properties "connected with profits generated through sales of illicit drugs," he said, illsting five homes (including Christianas' Bloomfield Giens residence) and nine businesses in which Christianas had "a formal interest" as among possible targets.

Some of the businesses linked to Christianas include eight suburban strip malls, including locations in Novi and Waterford. Cronin said one of the malls is not in

West Bloomfield, as was earlier reported.

However, none of Christunas' business holdings were named in the indictment, Caires said. Meanwhile, prosecutors Wednesday received an order that freezes the defendant's shopping mall investments.

CRONIN EMPHASIZED that the West Bloomfield Police Department merely cooperated with the DEA in this investigation that culminated with the indetement. According to Granados, the marijuana typically would be brought from South America into the United States, usually through Plorida or Texas. From there, it would be transported in a van or large car to Michigan, sometimes in quantities of 400-500 pounds. Much of it would be transported with the Detroit area and regions of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, authorities said.

said.
Also named in the indictment were: Robert Johnson, of Ortonville: Herbert Micou, of Belleville; Robert Riley, of Negaunee; Joseph Richer, of Marquette; Ramon Gontalez, of Houston; and Arthur Brayman; of Lincoln Parts.

Park.
Defendants other than Kenneth Christunas could receive up to 20 years in prison and possible fines of \$1 million cach (I convicted, Markman said.

MEANWHILE, CRONIN SAID he wan't surprised that people alleged to be major drug suppliers often live in West Bloomfield and surrounding communities. In March, Steven Cahels Horowitz, a suspected cocalne dealer, was arrested at his Orchard Lake Village home. "Let's face it," Cronin said. "West Bloomfield, Bloomfield fills, Birmingham". this' is where they, reap what they sow in illicit drug activities, They drive the most expensive cars and live in the most expensive homes."

obituaries

ORENE HABERMEHL Miss Habermehl, 93, a lifelong-resident of Farmington, died April 17 in Franklin Manor.

The Parallia Manor. Miss Inbernella in Jarmington are opinion and a land a la

ROBERT L. YOUNG ... Mr. Young, 76, of Farmington, formerly of Arizona, died April 19 in Botsford Hospital, Farmington

in Botsford Hospital, Farmington Hills.

Born In Newark, Ohlo, Mr. Young was a contractor in the construction industry.

Survivors include his sons, John, Bill and Bob, daughters, Kathy Maczko and Marianne Nedroseik two sisters and one brother; seven grandchildren.

Servives were private with the Rev. Gerald MeEhalli of St. Gerald Catholic Church, Farmington, officiating, Bural was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield, Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice:

Arrangements were made by the

Thayer Rock Funeral Home Farmington.

Farmington.

JOAN MARY FLEMING
Mrs. Fleming, 95. of Tarpon
Sprins, Telepirm-try of Farmington, died April 19 in Tarpon
Sprins, Convalescent Cent.
Born in Orkney Isles. Scotland,
Mrs. Fleming was a homemaker.
Survivors include her sons, Alexander, Frank and James, stepdaughter, Mary Plazza.
Services were April 25 at the
Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home,
Farmington, with the Rev. Arthur
H. Hunt of Ward Presbyterian.
Output Officiating, Burlal was in
Glen Eden Cemietery, Livonia.
FFEEDERICK Mr. CROSS FREDERICK M. CROSS

FREDERICK II. CROSS
Mr. Cross, 74, of Farmington
Hills died April 22 in Huron Valley
Hospital, Commerce Township.
Born in Detroit, Mr. Cross was a
42-year employee of Chrysler

Hospital, Commerce Lowanny.
Born in Detroit, Mr. Cross was a
42-year employee of Chrysler.
Corp. retaining in 1977 as a pension
executive.
Survivors include his wife, Marle; sons, Fred Jr., Richard, David
and Jaimes, a daughter, Marilyn
Faust, two sisters and five grandchildren.
Moss was celebrated at Gesu
Catholic Church in Detroit. Burlal
was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery,
Southfield. Arrangements 'were
nade by the A.J. Desmond and
Sons Funeral Home, Royal Oak.

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PAPER CRANES AND MORE: The Art of Origans
Saluday, May 9, 11 a.in.
SIGN LANIGUAGE SATURIDAY, Snyling Your Name
Saluday, May 20, 11 a.in.
HARRY BIRTHDAY, SAMANTIAI Pells Fours, Pink Lemonide and
Lincey Fors for the American Girl.
Saluday, May 30, 11 a.in.
Saluday, May 30, 11 a.in.

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mmediately.

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