

Pastor from page 1A

To the specific charges against Cossin, Hughes said: "He finds couples living together. He never intended for them to be married in the eyes of the law."

If convicted, Cossin faces maximum sentences of one year in jail and \$500 fine on the first count, 90 days in jail and \$100 fine on the second count, and 90 days in jail and \$100 fine on the third count.

Hughes maintains the charges against Cossin stem from the Jesus Center's troubles over building and fire code violations, as well as the center's appeal of the Farmington Hills Zoning Board of Appeals de-

cision in April of the center's request to house the homeless.

"I have a sneaking suspicion this is linked to a campaign to make them look like jerks," Hughes continued. "Why did they wait until the Jesus Center was involved with the controversy with the city?"

Farmington Hills Sgt. Det. Charles Nebus said one has nothing to do with the other. "This is totally unrelated. As a supervisor of the detectives, I can say we have not had any contact with this case and the zoning department."

Nebus first received an anonymous call about the alleged illegal marriage. He later received a call

from the Oakland County Prosecutor's office who instructed that the complaint must be investigated.

Any delay in the investigation and subsequent charges stems from the fact that the charges are misdemeanors. "Felonies have to take the priority," Nebus added.

Hughes also complained he was not made privy to the arrest warrant and was instructed to obtain a copy from an assistant Oakland County prosecutor. "They're playing games with me."

Not true, Nebus said. "It's a rare occurrence when a defense attorney asks the police for a copy of a warrant. They have to get it from the

prosecutor's office."

The city sued the center in February to force the center to stop housing homeless people and to correct 27 documented building and fire code violations. Oakland County Circuit Judge Alice Gilbert gave the center 10 days in which to correct the violations, beginning Thursday, April 30.

The city and the center expect to meet again in Oakland County Circuit Court on the center's appeal of the ZBA decision prohibiting the church from taking in homeless people.

Candidates from page 1A

host a candidates' night and endorse this year.

Ranney was a school board candidate in 1989 and 1991 who, last year, chose not to run and put his support behind DeVries. He said he personally supports DeVries but that it would have no bearing on a candidate's night.

Although Ranney took over and has served as CQS president since DeVries' 1991 school campaign, DeVries' home address on Chesapeake Court still appears on the bottom of the CQS correspondence with the "Paid for by Citizens for Quality Schools" disclaimer. — something DeVries dismissed as a legal technicality. DeVries said that the group has not used money for endorsement purposes since the millage election.

after which he stepped down and turned the presidency and other activities over to Ranney.

He said he played no part in the planning of tomorrow's forum, nor was it his idea.

"I was not directly, or indirectly, involved in setting up this candidates' night," DeVries said. "It's not there to highlight me. I don't feel I've got a conflict of interest here."

In her letter Prutow also accused the CQS group of having no "broadly solicited" membership. In a responding press release, Ranney said his group has 108 families and individuals on its membership list. When asked for a membership roster to confirm the number, Ranney refused.

Ranney said he proposed the candidates' night

because he did not see any other groups scheduling open forums. "I've always taken great pains to try to be fair," he added.

CQS said because of Prutow's decision, they would be willing to yield their time slot to the Farmington Area Republican Club for a different candidate forum, include an additional third party to screen questions tomorrow night, or consider suggestions which might change the candidates' minds.

Ranney said if two of the three candidates do not appear, the forum will still be held. DeVries said he plans to attend, and he feels the other candidates are missing an opportunity.

Judgeship from page 1A

Shirley Saltzman, a general attorney in Birmingham, 35 years experience is a trial attorney and has also worked as a magistrate.

Gerald Surawicz, 55, has held the post of special attorney general since 1972 and has 25 years trial experience. He is a mediator in the

47th District and Wayne County Circuit courts and is considered an appellate specialist.

At the state level, two-term Republican state Rep. Jan Dolan, 65, of Farmington Hills will have no opponent in the August primary. In November, she'll square off with newcomer Democrat Robert

Jurek of Farmington Hills.

In Oakland County, the Farmington area now has two new county commission districts, instead of the former three.

In the 19th District, Republican incumbent Don Wolf of Farmington Hills needs to beat Democrat Ken Murray of Farmington in No-

vember to gain his third term. The district includes Farmington and the southern half of the Hills.

In the 18th, which takes in the northern half of the Hills, incumbent David Moffitt, a Republican, will face Democrat Al Zolton.

Candidates have until Friday afternoon to withdraw from any race.

5 in running for 11th U.S. House seat

BY GREG KOVALSKI
STAFF WRITER

It will be a first-way race for the 11th U.S. Congressional District seat — as state Sen. David Honigman, former Oakland County Circuit Judge Alice Gilbert, Troy insurance agent Joseph Knollenberg, Novi teacher Michael Meyer and Birmingham accountant Walter O. Briggs IV have filed to run in the Aug. 4 primary.

Gilbert resigned from the bench to run, announcing her candidacy in her courtroom Tuesday afternoon.

"I was the first woman elected to Oakland County Circuit Court and I intend to be the first woman elected to the 11th Congressional District," Gilbert said.

As to her chances in the new district, Gilbert said, "Oakland County is unique in that it supports women candidates."

Gilbert, 55, has 21 years of judicial experience and has been a circuit court judge since 1975.

Honigman, who is generally conceded to be the front-runner in the race, kicked off his campaign at a rally May 5.

"It will be a campaign of issues," Honigman said. "People want change. We need to send people to Congress, eliminate the petty, unspirited bickering and posturing that gridlocks Congress and work toward bringing federal spending under control."

Honigman, 36, said balancing the federal budget will be one of his prime concerns. He has endorsed a plan to limit growth of federal expenditures to no more than 4 percent.

Knollenberg, 58, has been in the insurance business for 30 years. He also is running on a campaign against the actions of Congress.

"We have a Congress that can't function. There is a gridlock," Knollenberg said. "Washington just doesn't seem to limit spending."

Knollenberg of Bloomfield Township has been active in politics for many years and has served as Oakland County GOP chairman, among other

positions. He is also vice chairman of the Troy Chamber of Commerce.

Honigman, Gilbert and Knollenberg are Republicans. On the Democratic side are Meyer and Briggs.

Briggs of Birmingham is making his second bid to enter Congress. In 1990 he faced incumbent Republican William Broomfield and lost by a wide margin.

At the time, Briggs, 36, said he planned to make the office more accessible and be more responsive to people.

Meyer is a teacher at Oakland Community College and has been a member of the Novi School board for nine years. He also serves as a layman in a church in association with several area churches.

He plans to run a low budget campaign, concentrating on newspaper advertising.

Although acknowledging that the election has a tough field of opponents, he said, "I wouldn't do this if I didn't think I could win."

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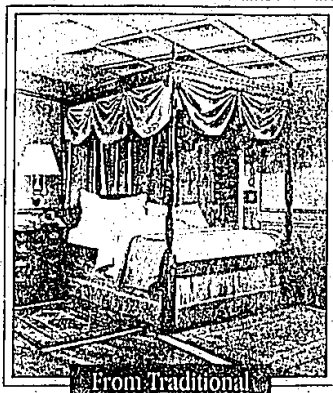
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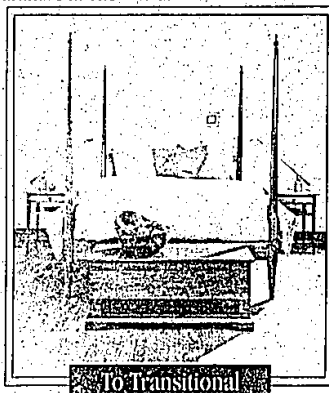
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