

Oakland judge orders new trial for inmate who seeks heart transplant

"A woman sentenced to life in prison on conspiracy charges stemming from a Troy drug case — and subject of a subsequent heart transplant controversy — will receive a new trial.

Mindy R. Brass, now 39, will get a new trial on Nov. 2, Judge Rudy J. Nichols ruled Thursday after hearing arguments that her defense attorney did not have access to documents that called into question the credibility of William Leflet, the main witness against her.

Leflet, Brass and Emil Mardenli, all of California, were

arrested in December, 1991, after Leflet and Mardenli allegedly attempted to sell a kilo of cocaine to undercover police at a Troy motel. Brass was in California at the time.

Brass and Mardenli were subsequently sentenced under Michigan's controversial "drug-lifer" law that mandates life in prison with no chance of parole for anyone convicted of trafficking in 650 or more grams of heroin or cocaine. Leflet was sentenced under a different law — with a lighter penalty — and freed within three years.

The drug-lifer law has been

the subject of numerous hearings from people who insist it is unjust and should be changed. A number of legislators are currently lobbying to change the law — allowing parole in some cases — possibly this year.

Brass was the center of another controversy last year when the transplant team at the Henry Ford Medical Center in Detroit declined to rule she should be placed on the list of possible heart transplant recipients. Brass had suffered a heart attack in 1993, while incarcerated at the Scott Correctional Facility in Plymouth.

Brass contended she was rejected because of her status as a prison inmate. But the hospital transplant team — headed by Dr. Robert Higgins, a Birmingham resident — said she was rejected because her history of drug use made the probability of a successful heart transplant unlikely.

While Brass was rejected for a new heart from Ford Hospital, a group of mainly Oakland County residents, calling themselves the "Justice for Mindy" Committee, petitioned the University of Michigan, where her request is still under review.

Brochure details township roads

A new brochure explaining the ins and outs of roads in Oakland County townships is now available for free from the Road Commission for Oakland County.

The brochure, entitled "Roads in Oakland County Townships: Important Questions and Answers," covers a number of issues related to roads in townships, including jurisdiction, maintenance and funding issues, as well as providing general information about the road commission.

The brochure answers questions about road widening and

paving, among other issues.

"These are the questions we frequently hear from residents and officials in Oakland County's townships," RCOOC managing director Brent Bair said. Anyone interested in copies of the brochure should call RCOOC's Department of Citizen Services at (248) 858-4804 or stop by RCOOC's Waterford Township offices, 2420 Pontiac Lake Road, at the corner of County Center Drive West, near the Oakland County government campus. The brochure is also available at the offices of many township offices.

Playoff action heats up; see sports, Section C

Divali CANDLELIGHTS CO.

CANDLES IN JUNE?

Yes! They're perfect for decorating, entertaining and gift-giving:

- Weddings & anniversaries
- Special candles for bridal showers, honeymoons, marriage wishes
- Graduations, birthdays & gift baskets

LOVE CANDLES? GIVE GIFTS TO PEOPLE WHO DO?

You'll want our catalog of unique, hard-to-find candles & candleholders!

FREE SHIPPING

For orders placed by June 30
Mention code #6601
when you order

CALL 248-848-3907

for your free catalog today

THE GAELIC LEAGUE/IRISH AMERICAN CLUB PRESENTS

SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH
THE 3RD ANNUAL
IRISH MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA!
12:30 P.M. - 1:30 A.M.

MUSIC ALL DAY AND ALL NIGHT ON TWO STAGES • NO COVER!!
Featuring: Orla Taylor, Michael O'Brien, Larry Larson, Jim Perkins & More
MUSIC, FOOD, DANCE, SHOPPING

SUNDAY, JUNE 14TH
Live Radio Broadcast Tin Can Raffle
WIN \$500.00
THE FOLK PARTY - 12:00 - 2:00
THE IRISH HOUR - 2:00 - 3:00
Live Music by Brian Bonner 4:00-6:00
Heinzman Step Dancers

2068 MICHIGAN AVE., DETROIT, MI
313-964-8700

FLY FISHING SCHOOLS

Make Fly Fishing Easy!
For over 10 years, the professionals at the Riverbend Sport Shop have taught over 2000 students the enjoyable sport of fly fishing. Our reputation has been built on our instructor's knowledge, patience, teaching techniques and pride. Join for a fun filled day and see what the lure of fly fishing is about!

Course Dates
June 7, 14, 20, 28
July 17, 19, 26
August 2, 16

THE RIVERBEND SPORT SHOP, INC.
Your Fly Fishing and Bird Hunting Specialists
2929 Northfield Ave., Suite 101, MI
(248) 350-8484

JUNE ONLY

2 FREE CUSTOM SHIRTS
with standard order
25 years in business Birmingham

Executive Custom Shirtmakers & Tailors, Inc.
223 S. Old Woodward Ave.
Birmingham, AL 35209
South of the Birmingham Theatre
(205) 442-0448

Relax in a setting of warmth and friendship...

INDEPENDENCE VILLAGE
Managed by PM ONE

Our residents enjoy the independence of private apartments, with the convenience of our many features & services, including:

INDEPENDENCE LIVING*

- Dinner Served Daily
- Bi-weekly housekeeping
- Weekly flat linen service
- Planned social activities
- Scheduled van transportation
- Heat, electric and water
- Apartment maintenance
- No buy-in fees

INDEPENDENCE PLUS*

- Three Meals Served Daily
- Medication reminders
- Daily house keeping
- Assistance with bathing
- 24 hour staffing
- Planned social activities
- Heat, electric and water
- No buy-in fees

For more information, or a tour of our beautiful retirement community, please call **1-810-229-9190**.

Walter's HOME APPLIANCES
We've Got It!

48th ANNIVERSARY SALE
ONE DAY ONLY SATURDAY JUNE 13TH! 10 AM TO 8:30 PM

GE 25" Color TV
Remote Control, On Screen Display
Was \$299 #25A111 Limit 1
Saturday Only \$227

VHS VCR
With Remote Control
Was \$149 #VR0129 Limit 1
Saturday Only \$89

Kenwood Portable CD Player
Was \$79 #DPC181 Limit 1
Saturday Only \$39

Kenwood 5-Disc Rotary CD Player
Was \$169 #103CD Limit 1
Saturday Only \$109

Whirlpool 20 cu ft Side by Side Refrigerator
Glass Shelves, Deluxe Unit
Was \$1009 #ED20T Limit 1
Saturday Only \$599

Emerson All Air Conditioners and Dehumidifiers on Sale

Over The Range Microwave Oven
850 Watts, Built In Vent and Light
Was \$439 #FMT118 Limit 1
Saturday Only \$288

Frigidaire Built In Dishwasher
Was \$269 #MDB120 Limit 1
Saturday Only \$177

FREE CAKE
with every major purchase

BONUS
Free KitchenAid Hand Mixer With Purchase of Select KitchenAid Dishwashers

ALL KITCHENAID DISHWASHERS ON SALE

ALL MAYTAG WASHERS AND DRYERS ON SALE

CLOSEOUT SPECIAL QUANTITIES LIMITED

Walter's HOME APPLIANCES
What you're Looking For In An Appliance Store

BRIGHTON:
8100 W. Grand River
1/4 Mile N. of I-75
(810) 229-0000

CANTON:
39915 Michigan Ave.
1/4 Mile E. of I-75
(313) 728-0000

DEARBORN:
34224 Plymouth
1/2 Mile W. of Farmington Rd.
(313) 563-1000

LIVONIA:
21747 Michigan Ave.
1/2 Mile W. of Farmington Rd.
(734) 427-7510

WLT 2073-08

ALL STORES OPEN DAILY 10AM - 8:30PM • BRIGHTON & LIVONIA STORES OPEN SUNDAY 12PM - 5PM

SmartBusiness. \$

Checking

It's All in the Name

FREE!

Consider this:
If you operate a small business, smart money management is a top priority. Like checking. Where we offer a huge advantage. No monthly fee when you maintain a minimum average monthly balance of only \$2,500, and the first 100 transactions are free.* Plus, you can enjoy merchant services, payroll services and the convenience of paying your business bills by telephone or by PC. And more!
Now, that's really SmartBusiness! Ask for details at any branch.

SmartBusiness Check System
FREE
When you open a SmartBusiness account by August 31, 1998

Features: Handsome ring-binder, 300 checks, 200 deposit slips and a personalized endorsement stamp... Free... a \$100 value.

FIRST FEDERAL OF MICHIGAN
Ask Us. We Can Do It.™

Branch offices throughout metropolitan Detroit, Chicago, Kalamazoo, Okemos, Durand, Channing and Okemos. Extended hours weekdays and full service Saturdays at most branches.

FDC Insured
www.fcom.com

*Transaction is defined as each deposited or cashed item, such as checks, cash deposits, withdrawals or transfer one bank ATM transactions. The \$12 monthly service fee is waived when you maintain the minimum average monthly balance. A fee transaction fee of \$2.50 is charged for each transaction above \$100. All payments by telephone or PC are available as an additional service for a monthly service fee of \$3.95 for the first 10 payments and \$2.95 per payment thereafter.