

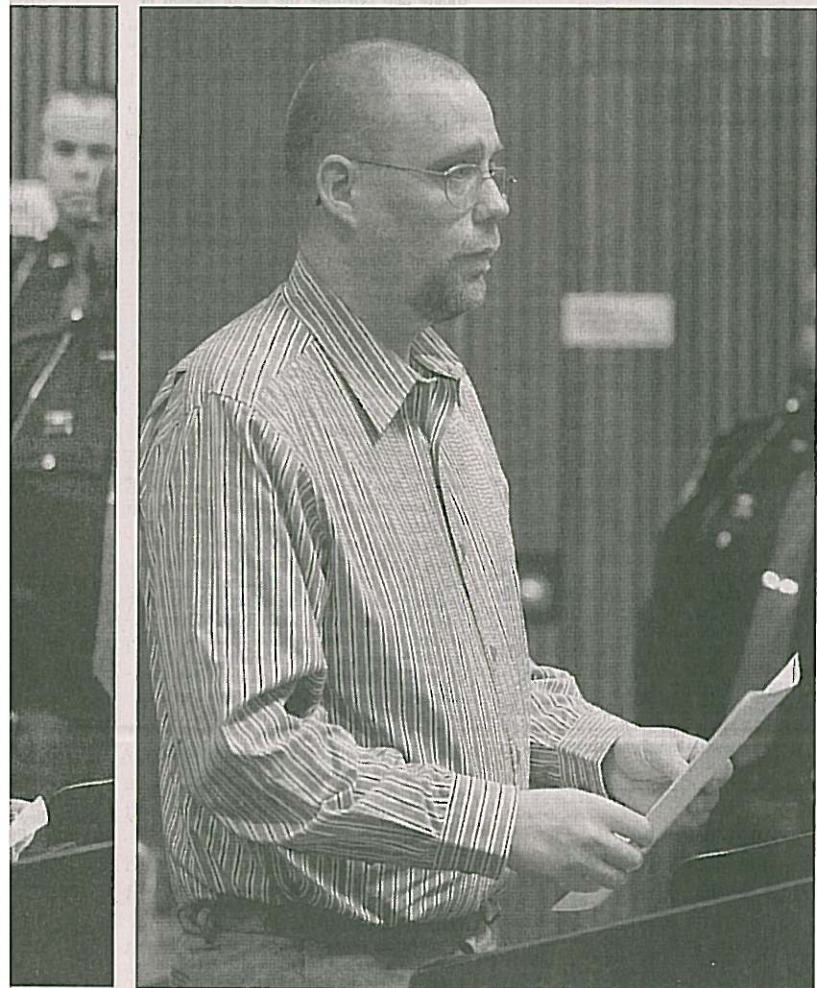
... judge of favoring convicted killer

...declined to comment. Ryan Miday, Mason's spokesman, likewise declined to comment because Synenberg has issued a gag order prohibiting the prosecutor and defense attorneys from discussing the case. The brouhaha stems from a case that had appeared to have been settled 20 years ago. Joe D'Ambrosio was convicted and sentenced to death in 1989 for the aggravated murder of Tony Klann. He was rescued from death row after a federal judge ruled in

2006 that Cuyahoga County prosecutors had failed to disclose key evidence that might have exonerated D'Ambrosio. The federal judge ordered in September that D'Ambrosio receive a new trial, commencing in 180 days. That March 10 deadline came and went. The trial, before Synenberg, has yet to start. D'Ambrosio was released from Cuyahoga County Jail on March 4 and remains free while awaiting his trial. The brief filed by Mason's of-

...office says Synenberg failed to disclose that she defended Keenan, who, like D'Ambrosio, was convicted of aggravated murder in Klann's death. Keenan was sentenced to death in 1994. During hearings, Synenberg has given defense attorneys more time than prosecutors to argue the case, the brief states. When a prosecutor asked the judge to recuse herself, Synenberg "proceeded to berate" him, then "threatened to hold him in contempt" for questioning whether she could try the case

impartially, according to the brief. Prosecutors also slam Synenberg in the brief for providing information to The Plain Dealer that prosecutors say resulted in "an inaccurate and inflammatory story." Columnist Regina Brett took Mason's office to task in her column Feb. 27 accusing Mason's office of "hiding" evidence that could exonerate D'Ambrosio. To reach this Plain Dealer reporter: gbaird@plaind.com, 216-999-5833



PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHUCK CROW | THE PLAIN DEALER

...were arraigned Wednesday in the courtroom of Judge Nancy Russo on felonious assault in the death of their son, William Robinson Jr. The couple ...'s Lymphoma, but did take their dog to the vet.

... in cancer death

...assault. cer, Prosecutor Bill Mason said when the indictment was re- She said caseworkers have closely monitored the family and

COMMUNITIES

CLEVELAND

School district recruits students

The Cleveland schools will hold a student recruiting and retention fair from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at South High School, 7415 Broadway. Information will be available on all district elementary and high schools. Free breakfast and lunch will be served. To reserve a place at the meals, call 216-858-0117 or 216-574-2184.

Clinics offer free legal advice

Legal Aid's Volunteer Lawyers Program is offering free legal-advice clinics in several locations. Upcoming clinics include: Saturday, 9:45 a.m. at East End Neighborhood House, 2749 Woodhill Road, Cleveland; Wednesday, April 22, 5 p.m. at Legal Aid's Ashtabula Office, 121 East Walnut St., Jefferson; Saturday, April 25, 9:45 a.m. at Neighborhood Housing Services, 5700 Broadway, Cleveland; Saturday and Sunday, May 2-3, at the RAM Ohio Free Health Care Event, Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, 164 Eastland Road, Berea; and Wednesday, May 20, 5 p.m. at the AIDS Task Force of Greater Cleveland, 3120 Euclid Ave., Cleveland. Legal Aid handles only civil problems, like divorce; employment issues; disputes with landlords, predatory lenders and rental centers; appeals of special-education services at public schools; qualification for public benefits and the earned income tax credit; contracts; and bankruptcy. For more information, visit www.lasclev.org or call 216-687-1900.

Parent ejected from meeting

A parent was detained by security officers during a Cleveland school board meeting Tuesday night after she refused to leave the podium when her allotted time to speak ran out. Donna Walker Brown, a frequent critic of the school district and Eugene Sanders, the district's chief executive officer, was removed by security inside the John Hay campus auditorium after she went past a three-minute period to publicly address the board. Brown questioned the board about several issues, including the distribution of a religious flier on the school's campus. She also asked about what she said was the lack of a board policy on evaluating administrators. When officers approached Brown, she sat down in an aisle and was removed in handcuffs by district security chief Lester Fultz and several others. She was escorted out of the building. The board then called a short recess and eliminated any further comment from the public, even though citizens were waiting to speak.

COLUMBUS

Casino backers submit petition