

price from  
000 - well down  
Tiger years.  
cial said they  
n the region of  
ss the city this  
more likely to

"If the houses are well-kept,  
and if we got nice, good tenants  
in I would have no objection.  
It's sometimes better to have  
residents in than an empty  
house. No other residents in  
the area have approached me

sensitive to the area. If it's  
mainly elderly people living  
in the area, we try to get an  
elderly person in and match it  
up. For every 10 that we look at,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

and street furniture along the lines of  
completed works across the river at  
O'Callaghan and Clancy Strands.

"We have been working with the  
Council on developing a plan that would  
see something similar to what happened

Dr Vincent Cunnane, chief executive,  
Shannon Development

at O'Callaghan Strand on the other side  
of the river," Dr Cunnane said at the  
Strand Hotel as Shannon Development

the way up to the castle."

Funds will be drawn from the same  
scheme that saw €4.7 million granted  
by Failte Ireland for the redevelopment

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## JP honoured with 77th medal on chain

Nick Rabbitts

LIMERICK philanthropist  
JP McManus has admitted  
he feels "embarrassed" he is  
commemorated on the city's  
Mayoral chain, because of the  
great work of others.

Mr McManus joined wife  
Noreen and children John  
and Kieran, and wives Emma  
and Anne-Marie at City Hall  
on Wednesday for a special  
ceremony where a medallion  
was added to the centuries-old  
Mayoral chain of office.

He was selected for inclusion  
by previous Mayor Kevin Kiely  
in honour of his generous  
contribution to the city, and as  
the first Limerick owner of a  
horse to win the Aintree Grand  
National.

Limerick Football Club  
chairman Pat O'Sullivan, - who  
sponsored the medallion - and  
his children Pamela, her husband  
Kieran, and grandchildren Lara  
and Valerie, were also at the



JP McManus at City Hall for the adding of a medallion in his  
honour to the Mayoral chain with Mayor Jim Long and Deputy  
Mayor, Cllr Kevin Kiely.

intimate ceremony, held in city  
manager Tom Mackey's suite.

Mr O'Sullivan sponsored the  
addition of the solid gold chain  
- crafted by jeweller JJ Keneally  
- to say thanks to Mr McManus,  
whose foundation bankrolled  
a move for Limerick FC to its  
spiritual home in the Market's  
Field.

Addressing the audience, Mr  
McManus said: "We are here

because of the work of so many  
people. It is difficult to recognise  
everybody, but we are fortunate  
in Limerick that we have so many  
people who have a will and a wish  
and have put a lot of hard work  
into making it so much a better  
place."

The businessman - whose  
Pro Am raised millions of euro  
for local charities last summer  
- added: "I am embarrassed in a

way to be recognised in this way,  
because there are so many other  
people there before me who make  
it their lives day in day out. I am  
only here the odd day."

Holding back tears, Mr  
O'Sullivan paid a heartfelt thanks  
to JP McManus, and his family.

"You have helped make so many  
people's lives so much better by  
sharing your wealth. This is the  
nicest way I can say thank you for  
giving us the Market's Field. I just  
hope we now have the strength  
and resources to make it how I  
want it to be for all of the kids in  
the areas. I cannot say thank you  
in a nicer way or a more heartfelt  
way. The beautiful thing is that  
JP and Noreen are not selfish:  
they are generous," he told the  
audience, which also included  
Deputy Mayor Kiely, and senior  
Limerick City Council staff.

Mayor Jim Long used the  
occasion to give a history of  
the chain of office - which

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Parkway medical centre construction set for 2012

Nick Rabbitts

THE boss of the Parkway  
Shopping Centre has said  
construction of a medical centre,  
which could create up to 160 jobs,  
is to get under way next year.

Speaking to the Limerick

Under plans approved by  
An Bord Pleanála, a number of  
empty retail units at the 25-year-  
old shopping centre, and the now-  
closed Park Bar will make way  
for the three-storey day hospital.

This will contain a diagnostic

As well as providing a massive  
employment boost, Mr Beck  
said the medical centre would  
represent "an iconic building for  
the entrance to Limerick".

"The main Dublin Road has not  
got a really attractive building  
at its entrance at the moment



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PAIN?  
PAIN?

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THE BEST FOOTWEAR AND ARCH  
FOR YOUR FEET. WE CARRY

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Foot Solution,

Patrick F  
STAR  
HYPNOTHERAPY  
Celebrating 21 years  
business in Ireland

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- LOSE WEIGHT (ga)
- CORRECT PERSONALITY

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ANY PHYSICAL CRAVING



"I smoked for 20 years  
attended Patrick F.  
since 2004, I have lost  
thousand sin  
Malachy Tuma

Would you like to ha  
Be more confident in every

1890 300

"I have lost 5 st with Patrick and  
ideal size. I have never worn a b  
Beach before, I am full of confid  
and feel great" Mary Costello,

WAR ON FAT - STOP THE S

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37 for men and less than 32 for w  
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motivated for your particular nee  
chocolate, bread, drinks, sleep be  
more exercise etc. Just imagine a  
money making business with the



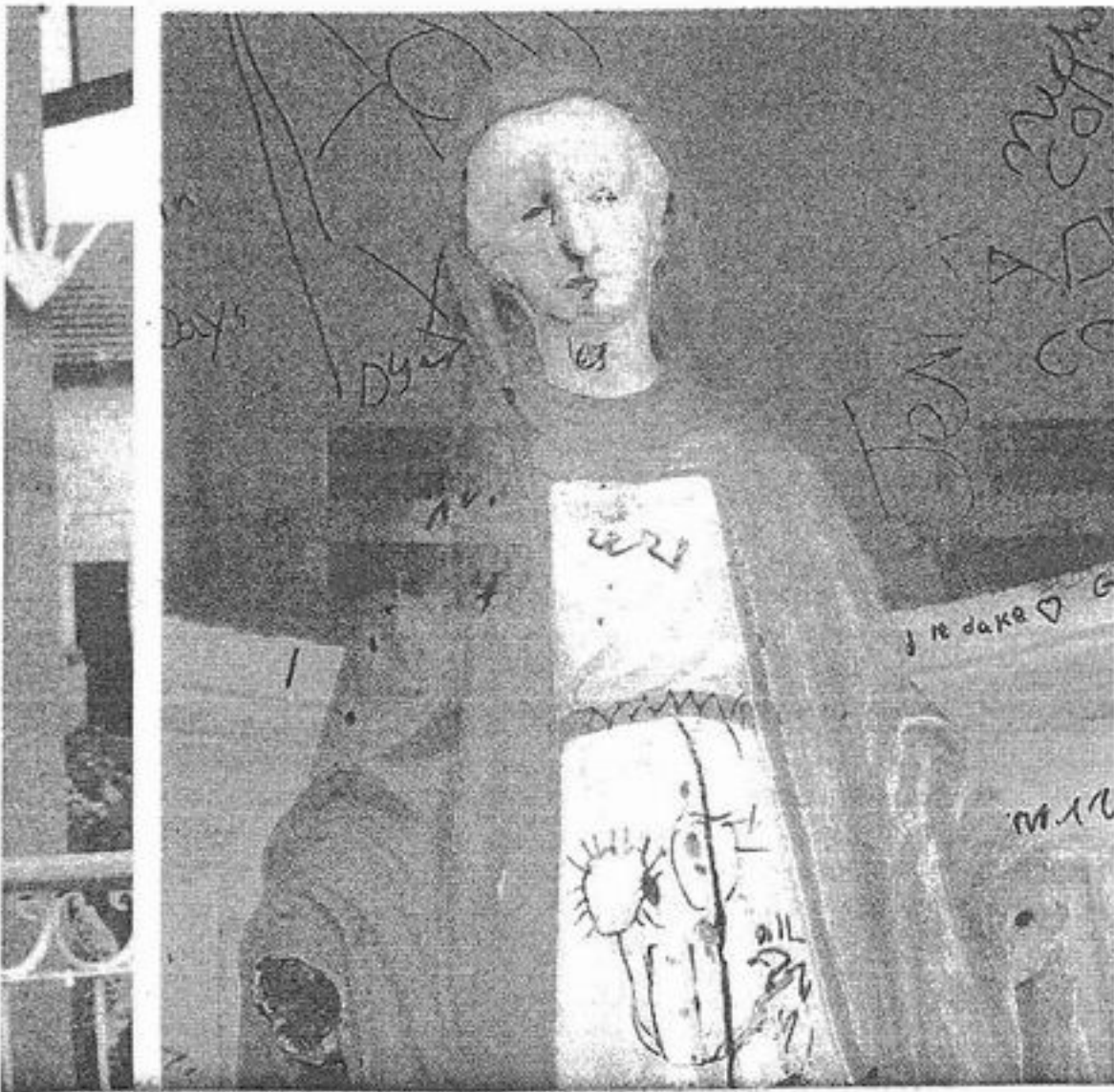
# Extra reveal filed shrine

as statue in Weston as 'a holy disgrace'



celebrations and prayer in Ballinacurra Weston in the 1950s. Locals fear the desecration of the statue.

CURTIN AUTHOR OF A STROLL DOWN MEMORY LANE SERIES OF BOOKS



## houses in NCR, SCR as prices plummet

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

➔ we might buy two to three houses," he explained.

The council has a budget in the region of €200,000 to spend per house, and expects to purchase a total of 80 houses this year, most of which will come from the capital Regeneration budget.

Mayor of Limerick, Fine Gael councillor Jim Long, explained that the council's policy is to only buy three to four properties in any one area and then impose a 'buying moratorium' on that area, and move on to another part of the city. The mayor said the council is "very selective and careful" in which houses and areas they buy, and not all are for people being relocated under the Regeneration programme.

He said one of the serious aspects of relocating council tenants is the "fear" existing residents feel when someone new is moved into their area.

But he said the council is often wrongly blamed for unruly residents to move into private residential areas.

Since 2005 a policy was adopted by the then

minister that 20 per cent of housing stock should come from private areas to promote social inclusion.

The property website daft.ie lists 42 properties for sale on the South Circular Road, which vary in price from €148,000 to €685,000.

Last year City Hall purchased 192 housing units, under a capital budget of €40m, according to its 2010 draft plan.

Up to 50 per cent of these units were private houses in council estates in Moyross, St Mary's Park and Southill, which were bought for demolition – not acquisitions for re-lettings.

The council's regeneration project team, established three years ago, also saw that 141 houses were boarded up last year, 190 houses were demolished and 104 tenants were relocated.

The Limerick Regeneration project began to take shape last week when the first phase of construction began in Cliona Park in Moyross.

Over 70 construction jobs have been created with the construction of 33 homes, at a cost of €4.7m.

## McManus honoured at mayoral ceremony

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

➔ originated in 1820 when four gold medallions were purchased. He pointed out that other medallions added include Michael O'Callaghan, the former Mayor who was murdered in 1921. Another medal honours notable achievements in the city of sport.

These include the opening of Athlunkard Boat House, Bohemians RFC winning the first Munster Cup and the GAA buying the Gaelic Grounds.

"It is very appropriate

that the public spiritedness which has characterised JP McManus should be acknowledged and recorded for posterity. There is no finer way that this can be commemorated than by the inclusion of the new medallion into this Mayoral chain, the finest in Ireland," the Mayor added.

It is not the first time JP McManus was honoured by City Hall: he was previously awarded the freedom of his native city. And in 2010, following the Grand National victory, he was honoured by Mayor Kiely with a civic reception.

## Minister approves

EX: LIMERICK LEADER  
13TH August 2011