

News

McCourt museum is to open in Leamy's school

Anne Sheridan

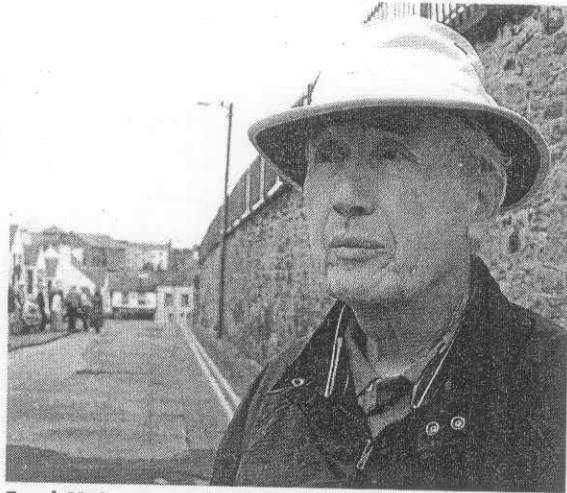
A MUSEUM in memory of the late Frank McCourt is to open in his former school in Limerick city within the next month.

Artist Una Heaton, a friend of the late author, runs an art gallery in Leamy's building on Hartstonge Street, but is now planning to open a section dedicated to Limerick's only Pulitzer Prize winner.

Ms Heaton has gathered memorabilia relating to the late author, including a bicycle used in the filming of Angela's Ashes, among other props.

"It's all coming together now lovely. It's great to remember him and this will help keep Frank's memory alive. There was a lot of controversy about the book, but you can't please everyone.

"The museum will tie in



Frank McCourt: a museum dedicated to his life and times is to be opened by Limeick artist Una Heaton at her gallery in the former Leamy's school building

perfectly with the walking tour (of Angela's Ashes). I think it's going to be very positive and a good thing for Limerick," said Ms Heaton.

She was introduced to Mr McCourt by the late Jim Kemmy, who was also a friend of the author, and later opened one of her art exhibitions.

She is now gathering mementos of his life, including old photographs of where he lived on Barrack Hill.

Ms Heaton renewed her appeal for anybody with information about a missing mural of Mr McCourt's life to come forward.

She was commissioned by South's bar on O'Connell Avenue to do the mural, which measures eight feet by five feet and hung in the back lounge of the pub. Frank McCourt also had a copy of the mural for his own home in New York.

However, the original version in South's bar has been missing since it was renovated nearly seven years ago.

A book of condolences remains open at Leamy's, which will be presented to the McCourt family when they visit Limerick later

this year.

It is intended that some of his ashes will also be buried at Leamy's, which is his wife, Ellen's, intentions, as well as being buried near their home in Roxbury, Connecticut.

This week, former classmates of Mr McCourt took part in a video dedicated to him, which will be posted on YouTube under the sub-section, ilovelimerick, which promotes the city.

The 10-minute video follows the route of the Angela's Ashes walking tour, and includes memories of Mr McCourt from old classmates, including Billy Campbell, Tommy and Patrick Sheehan, Eric Lynch and Josie Walsh.

Anyone who wishes to contribute items to Ms Heaton's museum can contact Ms Heaton at unahaton@eircom.net

Dundon to remain suspected passport

LIMERICK COURT

Anne Sheridan

A CONVICTED Limerick criminal will remain behind bars until another passport believed to be in his possession is handed over to gardai, Judge Tom O'Donnell has ruled.

Last month, John Dundon, 29, with an address at Hyde Road, Ballinacurra Weston, was jailed for six months and banned from driving for four years after pleading guilty to a string of road traffic offences.

However, his legal representation is now appealing the severity of the sentence to Limerick Circuit Court.

Limerick Court heard this week that Mr Dundon's uncle's ex-wife is prepared to lodge an independent surety of €2,500 in order to secure his release.

Under questioning from Judge Tom O'Donnell, Joan Dundon said she was in court of her own free will, could afford to pay



John Dundon: will remain in prison until passport believed to be held by him is handed over

this sum, and understood that if Mr Dundon breaches any conditions of his release this sum will not be returned.

Judge O'Donnell queried whether she was aware that he had previously breached the terms of his bail, and she confirmed that she was.

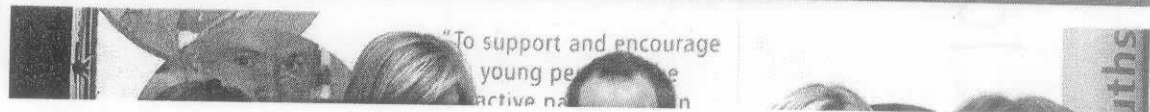
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