

by Cllr David Moloney (Labour), to begin the legislative process on the bill before the summer recess as subcontractors are not being paid for their work and have no legal means of securing money owed to them.

Cllr Damien Riedy FG., said the motion could be "life changing" for subcontractors and their families. A tradesman himself, he said he knew "a few who passed away due to financial pressures".

periods whereby the subcontractor completes work and is not paid," Cllr Moloney told the Limerick Post.

"In a worse case scenario the subcontractor remains entirely unpaid for work done.

"No mechanism exists for subcontractors to claim back what they are owed".

He explained that the bill aims to address this by providing statutory arrangements for subcontractors,

in the five year school building plan, the construction of many of these listed projects is set to take place in 2012.

"The school summer break provides an opportunity for these construction works to take place".

Cllr Eddie Ryan agreed that it was "unbelievable" that contractors can ride off into the sunset and so are left high and dry.

"I urge the minister to proceed with this".

Leigh can do it...



Leigh Gath pictured alongside her husband, Eugene, with her book cover inset top left.

by Bernie English

"Don't Tell Me I Can't," is an appropriate title for a book by an extraordinary woman who has proved that no matter what the odds, she can do it.

Leigh Gath is a Thalidomide survivor who was brought up in Newry at the height of the troubles and went on to cope with having an alcoholic husband and rearing two children alone in the USA.

A tireless campaigner for the rights and dignity of people living with disability, Lee has followed her dreams despite being born without arms or legs because of the effects of the drug.

Now back in Pallaskenry, and happily married for the second time, Leigh has written a book about her extraordinary life and will be launching it this Friday in the Crescent Shopping Centre.

The book is being launched to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the banning of the drug.

The plucky wheelchair user said that she didn't get the idea to write the book until she was being treated for thyroid cancer.

"One of the nurses advised me to start writing things down - that it would help. It took me two years to write and two more to find a publisher. I had no idea you needed an agent or anything like that," Leigh told the Limerick Post.

Things did not run smoothly even after Leigh found a publisher. She eventually decided to come out of her contract with

them and self-publish.

On this Friday, she will be signing copies of the book from 5pm in the Crescent Shopping Centre.

She explained where the title came from:

"We were in California and I wanted to

hire a car the same as the one I drove here. When the two ladies arrived to deliver the car, they looked at me hopping into the driver's seat. They asked if I was sure I could reach the pedals and I said 'I can reach the brake - sure, that's all that matters'. And the title came from there".

Sex offender rehoused from HSE unit

By Andrew Carey

A TEENAGE sex offender reported as staying at a Limerick based HSE care home for vulnerable teenagers, has been moved to an all male facility in the midlands.

In an exclusive story in the Limerick Post last month, it was revealed that the convicted offender had been accommodated at an address in the city where vulnerable teenage girls were temporarily living.

In the days following the nationwide fallout coverage, it is understood from reliable sources that the individual at the centre of the story was sent to another unit in the midlands as part of his continued care plan.

An area spokesperson for the HSE said: "The HSE do not comment on individual cases and are at all times mindful of the impact media and other adverse publicity can have on the care and protection offered to vulnerable young people in care. All residential care centres in the area are compliant with HIQA standards and offer a high standard of care".

Hospitals in Limerick now smoke-free

'STUBB it out,' is the message that patients, visitors and staff at the Midwestern Regional Hospital Group are getting as the hospitals go smoke free.

From Thursday May 31, there will be no smoking allowed in any part of the hospitals or grounds at the Midwestern Regional, St. John's, the Regional Maternity and Croom Orthopaedic Hospital.

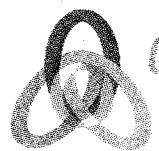
The smoke free campus policy is being introduced to coincide with World No Tobacco Day.

It is no longer possible to smoke in any of the hospital grounds, entrances, doorways, walkways, internal roads, bus shelters, car parks, cars or bicycle shelters.

Pig n' Porter time

MORE than 3,000 competitors are expected to participate in Limerick's famous Pig n' Porter Festival, one of the largest rugby events in the world - on Saturday July 14, at the O'Connell Crescent grounds.

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