

Issue 55 Price: FREE Friday 9th November 2007

Cavan ECHO

FREE

Ace
advanced cleaning experts

CHIMNEY CLEANING

Specialists in Residential / Commercial / Industrial

Carpet & Upholstery – Power Washing
Fascias & Gutters – Windows
Pre/Post Tenancy – Initial Builders Cleaning
Wooden Floors – Kitchen Degreasing
Floor Stripping & Resealing – Roof Cleaning
Fully Trained Staff – Fully Insured

BELTURBET, CO. CAVAN
Tel: 049 9522063
Mob: 087 8537157
C2 Registered

LEDDY
Security Systems Automatic Gates
New or existing gates Automated

Carrickaboy, Co. Cavan
Tel: 049-433-6033 Mob: 086-2591953
Email: leddysecurity@eircom.net



Cavan's Irish-Owned Newspaper 43 College Street, Cavan – Tel: 049 4326622 – www.cavanecho.com

Manslaughter plea bid rejected in Swellan trial

BY NICOLA BOYES

A Cavan man has pleaded not guilty to the murder of a 21-year-old woman but guilty to her manslaughter by way of diminished responsibility.

Brendan McGahern, 28, with an address at Colismore in Co Cavan is charged with murdering Amy Farrell on January 20, 2006, at an address in Glenlara, Swellan, Co Cavan.

A post mortem revealed the 20-year-old, originally from County Kildare, died as a result of knife wounds.

Amy, a mother of a two-year-old boy, was discovered lying in the front garden of the house she rented at around 7.30pm and was pronounced dead a short time later.

The prosecution has rejected McGahern's plea to manslaughter.

A jury of eight men and four women are hearing the case before Mr Justice Paul Carney in the Central Criminal Court at Dublin.

Opening the case to the court, Mr Alex Owens SC said one of the issues the jury would have to decide was McGahern's mental state at the time of the murder.

They would have to decide if McGahern was suffering from a mental disorder at the time of the killing and, if so, did the disorder substantially diminishes his responsibility for the killing, he said.

Garda witnesses have produced five exhibits for the jury this morning, including photos of the house at 54 Glenlara where Miss Farrell's body was found on the lawn, as well as aerial photographs and maps of Cavan.

Belturbet biz is Ireland's number 1



National Enterprise Award winners Michelle and Carol Lynch, of Belturbet based company Crannagh and Co, proudly display their award at Dublin Castle on Tuesday night. The company, which provides international trade and business services to multi-nationals, was presented with the top award by Mr Michael Ahern TD, Minister for Innovation Policy at the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. For full story, see page 3. Pic: Mark Stedman/Photocall Ireland.

Cavan bus commuters hit by luggage theft 'scam'

BY MARIA SMITH

It has emerged this week that Cavan passengers on the Cavan-Dublin Bus Éireann service have been targeted by a nationwide luggage theft scam.

The story broke on Tuesday when a distressed caller to the RTÉ Liveline Radio Show told how costly items of luggage, including a laptop computer and a case with valuable contents, had been stolen from passengers traveling on the Dublin-Cavan service.

Patricia Knight, a native of Clones, Co. Monaghan, says that "similar stories of luggage theft flooded in" following her chat with LiveLine presenter Joe Duffy during the week. Patricia told the Echo that she made the call to the RTÉ radio show after her daughter's suitcase went missing on a Bus Éireann 5pm service last Saturday, while en-route from Cavan to Dublin. "After the ordeal my daughter went through last weekend, I just wanted to warn other commuters to be vigilant," said Patricia.

"My daughter Aishling was heading back to Dublin last Saturday to catch a flight back to Wales, where she works as a teacher. I dropped her off at the bus station in Cavan and helped her to load her case into the luggage compartment at the side of the bus as she purchased her ticket. I can assure you that there was no sign notifying passengers that 'luggage is carried at the owner's risk' anywhere on the bus in question.

"Upon reaching Dublin City centre, the bus stopped outside the Gresham Hotel on

CONTINUED PAGE 2

19,525:

That's the number of reasons to advertise with Cavan's most popular newspaper, Cavan Echo. A big thank you to all our readers and contributors, who have made Cavan Echo the county's biggest weekly.



SEAN BARRY & COMPANY

1 Cockhill View, Church Street, Cavan 049 4372556 – www.seanbarry.ie

YOUR LOCAL MORTGAGE EXPERTS
WE HAVE 17 LENDERS

We will take the hassle out of arranging your mortgage
We will get you the best deal available to you at the best interest rate
Let us do all the work for you!

Call Sean Barry ACA or Nicola Fox on 49 4372556 • s.barry@seanbarry.ie • n.fox@seanbarry.ie

- **SAVE** Thousands for Christmas
- **NOW** Is A Good Time To Remortgage
- **GET** The Best Deal Available To You On The Market