

THE Mayo News

Established 1892 • Volume 115

www.mayonews.ie • news@mayonews.ie

€1.80 | £1.45

Tuesday, July 31, 2007

TV's Neven on serious service



TOURISM IN MAYO PAGES 16 – 21

SIMPSONS

THE MOVIE REVIEWED



YELLOW FEVER PAGES 24 & 25

Will Hanley answer the Aussie call?



FOOTBALL SPORT PAGE 1



ON TOP OF THE WORLD

Patrick McDonnell, Belmullet, climbing Croagh Patrick on Sunday last. Up to 30,000 are thought to have made the climb on the traditional day of pilgrimage on the mountain, Reek Sunday. Pic: Keith Heneghan/Phocus

**NEWS PAGE 2
FEATURE PAGE 32**

Multicultural Mayo – but travellers ‘filtered’

ÁINE RYAN

WESTPORT Town Council has been accused of using ‘a filtering system’ involving Garda records to ensure the town’s traveller population doesn’t increase.

Traveller activist Bernard Sweeney has claimed that a

number of years ago when he enquired about applying for a council house in the town, he was asked if he had a criminal record and was told a background check would be necessary. He claimed such a procedure was not used in Ballina or other towns.

Speaking to *The Mayo News* yesterday (Monday), Mayo

County Council’s Acting Director of Services, Mr Paddy Mahon acknowledged there is a general system in place to detect possible social problems, but ‘absolutely rejected’ any ‘implicit or explicit’ bias being exercised by Westport Town Council.

“I don’t know if that question [about criminal records] is formally asked on our list of que-

ries. There is a general question about background which tries to identify the possibility of anti-social behaviour. I believe such questions are standard enough,” said Mr Mahon.

Mr Sweeney was commenting on last week’s publication of Census 2006 figures which

CONTINUED PAGE 2

€6m redevelopment will transform TF

MICHAEL DUFFY

CASTLEBAR will soon be home to the second largest live entertainment building in the country if hoteliers Pat and Mary Jennings get planning approval for major redevelopment plans for their TF Royal Theatre.

The seating capacity of the building will now rise to 2,000 (from 1,500) and standing capacity will go up to a massive 3,500 people (from 2,000). Mr Jennings said the aim of the rede-

velopment was to have ‘the premier venue for the promotion of the arts, music, theatre and social events in the west of Ireland here in Castlebar’.

It is anticipated that the work will cost in the region of €6 million and is set to commence early next Spring with a view to being ready for Summer 2008.

Included in these new plans is a West End Production stage with a new Fly Tower over the

CONTINUED PAGE 2

**LOOKING TO MOVE?
BANK HOLIDAY PROPERTY INSIDE**

The Mayo News is a member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations



BANK HOLIDAY
THE DEADLINE FOR ALL COPY THIS WEEK IS THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, AT 5PM