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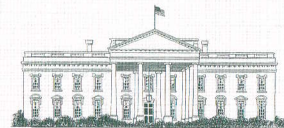
Folder Title: Printed Materials - [Program for the visit of] Enda Kenny, Prime Minister of Ireland, 03/17/2011 [3 copies]

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The President and Mrs. Obama
welcome you to
The White House
for a
Celebration of Ireland
honoring
His Excellency
The Prime Minister of Ireland
and Mrs. Kenny



Thursday, March 17, 2011

GLEN HANSARD

Glen Hansard, vocalist and guitarist for The Swell Season and The Frames, is an Academy Award-winning singer-songwriter born in Dublin, Ireland. He began busking in Dublin at age thirteen; during this time Glen met the musicians who became life-long friends, collaborators, and helped influence his character in the film *Once*. Glen will be busy in 2011 with solo performances as well as festival appearances with both The Frames and The Swell Season.

MARTIN HAYES AND DENNIS CAHILL

Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill are two of the world's leading artists in traditional Irish music. The Irish fiddler and Irish-American guitarist are known for their intense and adventurous interpretations of traditional tunes. *The New York Times* calls their music "a Celtic complement to Steve Reich's Quartets or Miles Davis' *Sketches of Spain*." The duo's latest album, *Welcome Here Again*, was called "outstanding" by *The Wall Street Journal*. Raised in County Clare and recognized as one of the world's greatest Irish fiddlers, Martin Hayes was also named Ireland's 2008 Musician of the Year, a prestigious award given by TG4 Irish language television station.

THE NATIONAL CHAMBER CHOIR OF IRELAND

The National Chamber Choir of Ireland (NCC) is the country's preeminent professional vocal ensemble, celebrated both at home and abroad for its unique sound, world-class performances and innovative programming. The ensemble is made up of 16 of Ireland's leading vocalists, who perform together under the direction of some of the world's leading conductors. Its repertoire spans from early music to cutting edge contemporary work. In October 2011, the NCC will embark on its inaugural tour of the U.S., led by its Artistic Director Paul Hillier. Major support will be provided by *Imagine Ireland, a Year of Irish Arts in America 2011*, an initiative of Culture Ireland.

Performance by
Glen Hansard

Remarks by
The Vice President

The President

The Prime Minister
of Ireland

Presentation of Shamrock



U.S. AIR FORCE RESERVE PIPE BAND

Originally formed in September 1961, the U.S. Air Force Reserve Pipe Band has traveled worldwide representing the United States Armed Forces as one of two active duty bagpipe bands. In May 1992 the Pipe Band became the first foreign military unit to march through Red Square in Moscow, Russia, and the only foreign unit at the Victory in Europe Day Fiftieth Anniversary parade in Saint Petersburg, Russia. The Pipe Band has performed traditional bagpipe music at the Capitol steps for the President of the United States, the Prime Minister of Ireland, Speaker of the House and other congressional members since 1993.

BRIAN MCBRIDE

Brian McBride is the executive chef at The Blue Duck Tavern in Washington, DC, and continues his tenure as Park Hyatt Washington's executive chef, creating award-winning cuisine. McBride earned a culinary degree from Johnson & Wales University in Rhode Island, and was named "2003 Hotel Executive Chef of the Year" by the American Culinary Institute. His efforts have gained him "Hot List," "Best New Restaurant," and "50 Hottest Restaurants" recognition in many prestigious publications including *Washingtonian*, *Condé Nast Traveler* and *Food & Wine*.

Menu

Cold

FARM HOUSE BLUE CHEESE TERRINE
Nut Honey
BROWN BREAD

SMOKED RIVER TROUT RILLETTES
ON COUNTRY TOAST

POTTED CRAB IN EGG

Hot

ROASTED BELLY OF PORK
Apple Sauce

PHEASANT RAVIOLI
with PHEASANT and BUTTER SAUCE

SMOKED DUCK BREAST WITH CURRANTS
CONFIT OF RED CABBAGE

DESSERT

Apple-Lemon Crumble
Chocolate Whiskey Cake



Brian McBride
Guest Chef

SHAMROCK CEREMONY

St. Patrick's Day is a time of joy and pride for Irish men and women everywhere. The presentation of the shamrock symbolizes the bond between Ireland and the United States and celebrates the contributions of centuries of Irish-Americans. The Shamrock is presented on St. Patrick's Day, a day when Irish-America is bound together by a green thread woven through the cities and into the heartland of the country.

The tradition of presenting a bowl of shamrock to the White House began with John Joseph Hearne, the Ambassador of Ireland to the United States (April 17, 1950 – August 4, 1960), and has continued through successive administrations. The first presentation of a bowl of shamrock to a U.S. President took place in 1953 when President Eisenhower accepted the gift from Ambassador Hearne. The previous year, Ambassador Hearne reportedly dropped off the gift at the White House while President Truman was away.

The shamrock has traditionally been presented in an Irish cut-glass bowl symbolizing the ongoing tradition of Irish craftsmanship, skill and attention to detail. The shamrock has also been presented in a silver bowl. The first Taoiseach to present shamrock to a president was John A. Costello in 1956. The next Taoiseach was Jack Lynch in 1971, and subsequently has been presented by the Taoiseach-in-office to the President of the United States.

