

2004 Dignitaries

2004 Mr. Pat: Dan Flanagan



Dan is a lifelong resident of the St. Paul area. He attended the College of St. Thomas and has owned and operated several restaurants in St. Paul; Flanagan's at Holman Field, Flanagan's on 7th and currently Danny Boy's Cheeseburgers, and Mac's Fish and Chips. He has been active in many organizations including the Optimist Club, Kiwanis, Rotary and currently is a board member of Second Stork. In addition, Dan has baked and donated thousands of loaves of Irish soda bread for fundraisers and community events.

Dan is an active member of Nativity of Our Lord parish where he hosts an Irish Brunch on the Sunday before St. Patrick's Day each year. He and his wife Mary have three children, Danny, Tommy, 15, and Mary Claire.

2004 Miss Shamrock: Peggy Keenan



Peggy is proud of her Irish heritage, and is an active member of the St. Pat's association. Her favorite memories during her Miss Shamrock reign include meeting cute Irish wee ones!

2004 Distinguished Irish Woman: Carol Connolly



Carol, a lifelong resident of St. Paul, Minnesota, was born in 1934. Connolly's first career was raising seven children born to her and husband John S. Connolly. Throughout the years, Connolly has been known as a political candidate, activist, journalist, poet, and playwright.

In 1977 Connolly was appointed to the St. Paul Human Rights Commission. As the first woman ever appointed to the commission, she worked to bring women's causes to the forefront. In addition to her civic and political activities, Connolly gained attention and acclaim for her literary accomplishments. She began writing poetry in 1976, has been a playwright, a stand-up comic, has written a gossip column, and been a political and gossip commentator for a radio show.

2004 Grand Marshal: Vikings Coach Mike Tice



2004 Celebrity Grand Marshal: Ian Punnett- FM 107



Ian Punnett
Weekdays 5-9am

Ian Punnett is a radio show host and insists that good radio should be like a good life: "Relevant, Meaningful and Fun." Ian married his college sweetheart and enjoys being a father to his two boys. He has a BA in English and Rhetoric from the University of Illinois and in May of 2003, Ian received his Masters of Divinity degree from Columbia Theological Seminary in Atlanta. Even though ordination and continuing education as a chaplain are scheduled, Ian Punnett is staying behind the mike of his one-of-a-kind radio show. For Punnett, seminary was not so much about the cloistered life as it was about using a pastoral education to learn how to help build better communities and find clarity through conversation. Ian is also serving as a hospital chaplain during his afternoons.

2004 Honorary Irish Person: Mary Leonard



Mary (Ellen) Leonard is owner of a boutique chocolate shop and [website www.chocolatceleste.com](http://www.chocolatceleste.com) in St. Paul called Chocolate Celeste. She is known nationally for her chocolates. Her customers include the rich and famous; most notably they were served at last year's Oscar events. Mary is a member of the St. Paul and Midway Chamber's of Commerce, the St. Paul and Minneapolis Visitor's and Convention Bureaus and the National Organization of Women Business Owners.

A native of St. Paul's Highland Park, Mary grew up surrounded by her Irish heritage as she is three-fourths Irish. She took Irish dancing lessons in spite of her lack of talent. Her first trip to Ireland was at age 15 with her family, and she has kissed the Blarney Stone twice.