



CELTIC CENTER OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST OPENS

(May 21, 2015 Mount Vernon, WA) A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at 5:30 PM, June 16, 2015 at the Littlefield Celtic Center, in Mount Vernon, Washington. The Center is the only one of its kind in the Pacific Northwest and is named after its benefactors, Laura and Edmund Wattis Littlefield, Jr. It will accommodate seated meals, concerts and lectures for up to 150 people, and will include the necessary amenities to become a hub of activity that will make a vibrant contribution, not only to the Celtic Arts Foundation and its stakeholders, but to the broader community as well. Here is a recent image (5/19/2015) of the Center under construction:



The journey towards this amazing accomplishment began in 2012, when the Foundation created a capital campaign to secure a permanent home. Thanks to the generosity of well over 150 individuals from seven US states and two Canadian provinces, over \$240,000 was initially raised. A house and large property at the corner of Cleveland and Section Streets was purchased, razed and rebuilt as a permanent office for the CAF.

Then, in 2013, the CAF received a pledge for a \$500,000 donation, initiating the second phase of this project, the addition of a 3790 square foot *Littlefield Celtic Center*. The Mount Vernon based architectural firm, HKP, was selected to design and oversee the completion of the cultural center.

In 2014, an additional \$1.1 million donation was made by the Littlefields, allowing the CAF to commence with the construction of the second phase. The local company Fisher & Sons have done a magnificent job of constructing the Center. Several pending grant applications will allow for further upgrades.

The Celtic Arts Foundation, founded in 1997, is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. It sponsors, encourages, and promotes Celtic culture through community festivals, events, and education programs, annually producing a dozen events in four Washington State counties. Since 1995, it has hosted renowned musicians and artists from the international, national, and regional Celtic arts communities to provide world-class performances, concerts, and instruction. It also provides opportunities for local musicians and artists to perform, and for community members to enjoy and experience traditional Celtic art forms and to connect to their ancestry. The Foundation has received recognition and awards from both State and international organizations for various programs and has hosted multiple Regional and National Championship events. ##

For additional information, please contact:
Skye K. Richendrfer, Executive Director
Skye@Celticarts.org 360-416-4934
Celtic Arts Foundation
PO Box 1342, Mount Vernon, WA 98274
www.Celticarts.org