

# Commissioner Sue Gunzburger

## *Broward County Commission, District 6*

### NINE FAMOUS IRISHMEN

In the Irish disorders of 1848, the following nine men were captured, tried and convicted of treason in Ireland for plotting against the British Crown. All were sentenced to death. Before passing sentence, the judge asked if there was anything that anyone wished to say. Thomas Meagher, speaking for all, said:

“My lord, this is our first offense but not our last. If you will be easy with us this once, we promise, on our word as gentlemen, to try to do better next time and next time, and we sure won’t be caught.”

Thereupon, the indignant judge ordered their execution. Passionate protest from the entire world forced Queen Victoria to commute the sentence to exile for life in far, wild Australia.

In 1874, word reached the astounded Queen Victoria that the Sir Charles Duffy, who had been elected Prime Minister of Australia, was the same Charles Duffy who had been transported to Australia 25 years before. On the Queen’s demand, the records of the rest of the transported men were revealed and this is what was uncovered:

- **THOMAS FRANCIS MEAGHER**, Governor of Montana
- **TERRENCE McMANUS**, Brigadier General, U.S. Army
- **PATRICK DONAHUE**, Brigadier General, U.S. Army
- **RICHARD O’GORMAN**, Governor General, Newfoundland
- **MORRIS LYENE**, Attorney General of Australia
- **MICHAEL IRELAND**, succeeded Lyene as Attorney General of Australia
- **THOMAS D’ARCY McGEE**, Member of Parliament; Montreal Minister of Agriculture; and, President of the Council Dominion of Canada.
- **JOHN MITCHELL**, prominent New York politician. Mitchell was the father of John Purrory Mitchell, Mayor of New York, at the outbreak of World War I.

**HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!**



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March 2007