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**RAISE THE ROOF II: GIFTED AUTHORS READ AND GOOD PEOPLE ARE HONORED AT
BENEFIT FOR INTERIM HOUSE, MAY 29**

**AUTHORS MICHAEL PATRICK MacDONALD, GEORGE PELECANOS, JOE PERNICE, TOM
PERROTTA AND WARREN ZANES READ; REP. MARTY WALSH, HOWARD CUTLER AND
BEN WADE TO BE HONORED**

(Dorchester, MA – April 8, 2008) “Raise the Roof II,” a benefit for renovations to Interim House, will be held on Thursday, May 29, 2008 at Florian Hall in Dorchester, Mass. The event will also serve as a 75th birthday celebration, in memoriam, of house founder Yvonne Linehan, who served as its Executive Director until she died in 1999. Doors open at 6:30 pm, with dinner at 7 pm. An award ceremony will honor three men who have contributed greatly to the mission of Interim House, and later, attendees will enjoy readings by well-known authors. Tickets are \$50, and can be purchased at (www.ashmontrecords.com/raisetherooft) or by calling 617-265-8444.

Interim House was founded in 1972, and has been part of the Fields Corner neighborhood of Dorchester since 1974. It treats 18 men at a time in a six-month rigorous Alcoholics Anonymous-based program. It has served thousands over the years, and saved many lives and families. It is located in a beautiful, old Victorian house, and despite the best efforts of the staff and residents, it is expensive to maintain. The goal is to raise \$35,000 of the \$200,000 needed to renovate the facility and bring the house in line with the requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act.

The three honorees are dedicated to serving those who struggle with drug and alcohol addiction. All have been champions for Interim House for many years, and will be the first recipients of the Yvonne Linehan Award for Public Service in Substance Abuse Treatment. Rep. Martin J. Walsh has been a tireless advocate for issues around addiction, and serves on the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Howard Cutler is a CPA who has been serving as the House’s pro bono accountant and financial advisor since its founding. Ben Wade is an Interim House graduate who is now a dedicated staff counselor.

The evening will feature five renowned writers. South Boston native Michael Patrick MacDonald, author of the best-selling *All Souls*, will read from his most recent work, *Easter Rising*. George Pelecanos, who is from Washington DC, has written many novels, including *The Night Gardner* and *Right as Rain*. He was also a writer and producer for HBO’s *The Wire*. Joe Pernice, who grew up on Boston’s South Shore, and is best known as a recording artist, will be reading from

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his as-yet-untitled first fiction novel for Riverhead/Penguin, due out in early 2009. Also reading is Tom Perrotta, author of such great books as *Little Children* and *Election*; and Warren Zanes, former member of the Boston band the Del Fuegos and author of *Dusty in Memphis*, who will read from a new book he is working on.

(*Note: Florian Hall has two functions rooms. One will be used for dinner. This room will remain alcohol free all evening. The readings will be held in the other room which will have a cash bar available after 9:00 p.m.)

Tickets are \$50, and all proceeds go directly to Interim House. For more information, visit www.ashmontrecords.com/raisetherooft or call (617) 265-8444.

Florian Hall is located at 55 Hallet Street in Dorchester, near Neponset Circle, and is handicapped accessible.

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