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Introducing
the 2011
Inaugural Class
of the Irish American
Hall of Fame, pg 9

Chicago Stockyard Kilty Band, pg 8



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Old St. Patrick's Church

The best part of St. Patrick's Day is the Mass at Old St. Patrick's Church. The spirituality is palpable, almost ethereal, sitting in this magnificent shrine, God's House, built by Irish immigrants. You find yourself in the midst of Irish people—many who you know—and others who are kindred spirits. The distinct Irish face is everywhere around you.

Then the pageant begins, as Catherine O'Connell sings "Danny Boy," and in moments the Sheila Tully Irish dancers flow down the center aisle followed by this year's Grand Marshalls, Mayor Richard M. Daley, and his beloved wife Maggie. With the Mayor leaving office in May, all are wondering what will the city be like as the Irish presence at City Hall begins to fade? The VIP's followed the Daley family down the center aisle, Irish Counsel General Martin Rouine, and his wife, Mary, the parade chairman, James T. Sullivan, Martin J. Healy Jr., Brigadier General Frank A. Cippola, and the Parade Committee. Next, the priests moved down the center aisle. Bishop Timothy J. Lyne D.D., Monsignor Jack Wall; Pastor Emeritus of Old St. Patrick's Church, Monsignor John Pollard, Rev. Thomas Hurley, pastor of Old St. Patrick's Church, Rev. John C. Cusik, Rev. Jack Clair, Misericordia, Rev. Patrick McGrath, Rev. William Corcoran, Rev. Paul O'Connor, Rev. William O'Shea, Rev. Paul E. Novak, Rev. John Trout, and Deacon, Mr. Bob Ryan.

Irish traditional musicians provided the melodies: Kathleen Keane, Brendan McKinney, Jimmy Moore, and John Williams. Fr. Thomas J. Hurley welcomed the congregation, followed by Monsignor Jack Wall who delivered the most inspirational homily I've ever heard.

He reminded us that we are a part of the world community and that we should embrace those of other beliefs, he spoke about the parish of Old St. Patrick's Church during the years it was in decline. He then spoke about the new life that was breathed into it, the renaissance. He spoke of St.

Patrick's High School celebrating its 150th anniversary. The high school was the Guest of Honor for the Parade. The school was separated from the church when the Kennedy Expressway was built, and is now located at 5900 W. Belmont Ave., where Brother Conrad Diebold, President, leads the way for this all boy school. Fr. Jack Wall now shifted his focus to dwell on the beauty of our great city, and the man who lead the way for over 21 years, Mayor Richard M. Daley, and his life partner, Maggie, a very remarkable woman in her own sphere, as First Lady of Chicago. The photo of the Daley family that appears on the cover of the Parade book shows them in the midst of a beautiful flower garden. It was actually taken on the roof of City Hall. Chicago now has more rooftop gardens than any other city in the world.

After communion came the closing prayer and final blessing. Then came a shout from the back of the church, "The Shannon Rovers Pipes and Drums." The color guard and the drum major marched up the center aisle as the pipers and drummers marched up the side aisles to lead the clergy, the VIP's and dignitaries out of the church.

Irish Dancers

Somewhere over the years we have gone astray. The dresses with basic celtic designs have given way to excessively ornate sequined creations, all too often in fluorescent colors. People come to see the dancing, not the dresses. Let's tone it down, and for Heaven's sake, get rid of the bouncing wigs.

Toni Preckwinkle

I had the pleasure of meeting our Cook County Board President, Toni Preckwinkle, at the Irish Fellowship Club dinner where I offered my congratulations on her being elected, and on her no nonsense approach in dealing with the budgetary crisis the county faces. Quite by chance, we met again at a flea market a couple of days later, and now it looks as though she is ready to take on the pension plan for county employees.

State of Our State

Senate President John Cullerton is grasping at straws trying to levy new taxes on people already struggling to make ends meet. Tax Pensions? Don't go there unless you want all Democrats to lose the next election. Governor Quinn keeps on doing all the things he opposed while running for office. He has a new illness I call, "vacillationitis."

Todd Stroger

Todd recently applied for unemployment compensation and was denied! I would love to read his resume. I think he might get a job at Tire Town North, in Franklin Park. I know the owner. Failing that, he could go on the lecture circuit at universities and speak about good government.

Election Fallout

Illinois State Senator Ricky Hendon resigned, supposedly over Carol Mosley Braun's poor showing in the election (4th place). Could it be the irresponsible behavior of other politicians, and a continuum of nepotism? Darcel Beavers lost the aldermanic race to Sandy Jackson, which tells us again that people are fed up with the carry-on in politics.

Monsignor Indicted

Philadelphia Monsignor, William Lynn, is the first Roman Catholic Church official to be charged with child endangerment for transferring predator priests to

other parishes without warning. He is being represented by two criminal attorneys. The grand jury's report can be read in its entirety, all 124 pages, online.

Overview: "In September 2003, a grand jury of local citizens released a report detailing a sad history of sexual abuse by priests of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. That abuse was known, tolerated, and hidden by high church officials, up to and including the Cardinal himself. The previous grand jury was frustrated that it could not charge either the abusers or their protectors in the church, because the successful cover-up of the abuse resulted in the expiration of the statute of limitations. Now, measures taken in response to the previous report have led to new information about more recent abuse, which this grand jury was empaneled to investigate. The fact that we received that information, and from the church itself, is some sign of progress; and this time there will be charges."

"The present grand jury, however, is frustrated to report that much has not changed. The rapist priests we accuse were all known to the Secretary of Clergy, but he cloaked their conduct and put them in place to do it again. The procedures implemented by the Archdiocese to help victims are in fact designed to help the abusers, and the Archdiocese itself. Worst of all, apparent abusers—dozens of them, we believe—remain on duty in the Archdiocese today, with open access to new young prey."

I will not go into the details of the abuse, it is very graphic, and in great detail. I doubt if many people could read it in its entirety without being completely repulsed by the narrative. I will name the two priests, Fr. Charles Engelhardt, Fr. Edward Avery, and a teacher in the school, Bernard Shero, who all victimized the same boy, "Billy," a ten-year-old altar boy. And, Fr. James Brennan, who abused a boy, "Mark," according to the grand

jury report. The report goes on to say: "Avery and Brennan were hardly the only two priests whom Monsignor Lynn so favored. The prior grand jury report is full of similar accounts. We summarize several of them below, in the main body of this report. Those cases, however, were long before Billy's and Mark's, and the prior grand jury was unable to document any repeat assaults by those particular abusers that resulted from Lynn's institutional laxness. Not so this time. There is no doubt that Monsignor Lynn's refusal to curb Avery and Brennan let directly to the rape of Billy and Mark. We therefore charge William Lynn with the crime of endangering the welfare of a child."

"Most disheartening to the grand jury was what we learned about the current practice toward accused abusers in the Philadelphia Archdiocese. We would have assumed, by the year 2011, after all the revelations both here and around the world, that the church would not risk its youth by leaving them in the presence of priests subject to substantial evidence of abuse. That is not the case."

"In fact, we discovered that there have been at least 37 such priests who have been kept in assignments that expose them to children. Ten of these priests have been in place since before 2005—over six years ago. We understand that accusations are not proof; but we just cannot understand the Archdiocese's apparent absence of any sense of urgency."

"On the other hand, in cases where the Archdiocese's review board has made a determination, the results have often been even worse than no decision at all. The board takes upon itself the task of deciding whether it finds "credible" the abuse victims who dare come forward. It is the board, though, that strikes us as incredible."

I take no joy in having to relay this information, but most of you would be unaware if I did not.

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Irish Books and Plays in Review



Frank West



A Sense of Wonder

When do children begin to be imaginative? As the father of two children, I know it is at a very early age.

Sandra McCone uses the *Three Little Lasses Series* to encourage that sense of wonder and imagination.

This is the third book in that delightful series. The book is filled with hypnotically charming stories and characters. And, as a former teacher, I wholeheartedly agree with McCone’s “permitting” children to see the beauty and wonder of the world. The world is filled with mystery, and for our psychological well-being we are wise to realize that many things in life have no rational explanation.

Sandra McCone plans the series to accommodate a child’s increasing reading ability. “She targets the age group of 4 to 10, planning on the readers growing along with the series.”

In each book the reading level will increase along with the content as the lasses and laddies take on new magical adventures. And, Irish myths and stories are included.

From the same information sheet: “Sandra’s writing explains how important it is to spend time with family



learning about your heritage and stories about your family. The knowledge gained and retained is what will carry on your family legacy and stories to tell your children and grandchildren.”

The Nana is “an Irish American grandmother whose strong Celtic tie and story weaving magic teach the kids about the old celebrations and festivals and how they mould our ever day lives. She shows them that if their ears, eyes, and minds are open, they can catch the beautiful magic that is all around.”

Midsummer’s Magic by Sandra McCone. Tate Publishing, Oklahoma, 2010. 43 pages; \$7.99. www.threelittlelasses.com.

Steps in Time: The History of Irish Dance in Chicago

I had immediate fondness for this book because I have many happy memories of my two daughters studying Irish dance. They went to class each week for many years, beginning in the early 1980’s. I went with them and to competitions, or *feiseanna*. They are both successful teachers today, and I believe that part of their success is due to Irish dance. It gave them a great sense of physical presence.

The author, Kathleen Flanagan, has written a carefully thought out and well researched book. It features a treasure of outstanding photographs. The book is also intriguing because it is very much about our Irish cultural heritage.

The author is herself a registered teacher of Irish dance. She is also Associate Professor of Theatre at Minnesota’s Saint Mary’s University.

Flanagan also wrote this book because, “I felt the young Chicago dancers were not aware of, nor able to appreciate, all those who had gone before.”

The historically accurate text is illuminated by 85 photos and illustrations, a four page index, five pages of notes and two appendices.

I was astounded to see that one of those illustrations was of a place in the neighborhood where I grew up. (I live about a block from there today and see the building often). It is the imposing Viking Temple (condos today) at the corners of School and Sheffield Streets.

I’m amazed to see the 1935 announcement, decorated with shamrocks, and announcing a dancing display by Pat Roche and 70 of his students!

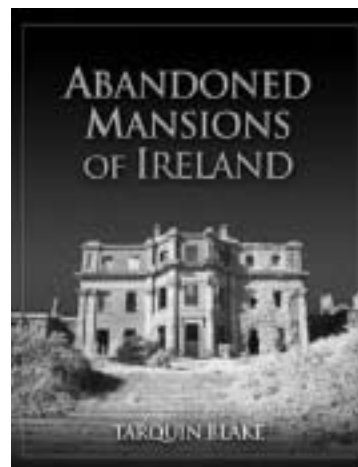
I enjoyed the book, and agree with Kathleen that, “the city of Chicago has a proud history of Irish dance that will certainly continue to thrive in the years to come.”

Steps in Time: The History of Irish Dance in Chicago, by Kathleen M. Flanagan. Macater Press, Madison, WI, 2009. 158 pages; \$24.95. www.macaterpress.com.

“Look on My Work, Ye Mighty, and Despair!”

This book contains strangely beautiful pictures of ruined mansions of the Anglo-Irish aristocrats, or ascendancy. Our ancestors would have called those mansions, “Big Houses.” Most of these extraordinary buildings were built in the 1700’s.

The author, Tarquin Blake, traveled to many places in Ireland to gather these hauntingly beautiful pictures.



They are accompanied by fascinating historical information.

Blake needed over three hundred pages to present them in this large ‘coffee table’ size book.

The ruins are often eerie and mysterious. Stairs that go nowhere, entrances, hall doors in broken walls locked as if the owner is coming back, etc.

Who were these now forgotten people who built these imposing homes?

They had names like Parsons, Strong, Hussey, Bellew, and Lindsey. Undoubtedly they were members of the political, social and religious establishment.

They were aristocrats with large estates, worked by peasants who lived subsistent lives. But these grandees had

come from humble origins. Most were descended from English officers and soldiers who were part of Cromwell’s army that invaded Ireland in 1649. They were paid with land confiscated from the Irish.

These ‘jumped up’ soldiers, now landed aristocrats, had life or death control of our ancestors. They made them quake with the terrible threat of eviction, because eviction meant death.

Our ancestors had to pay the ever higher rent to support the opulent lifestyles of these former soldiers.

Typical of these was the Hussey Mansion. The author says, “It had thirty two rooms, it was one of the finest mansions in Ireland and the whole house was furnished in the finest possible manner.”

These mansions fell into decay and ruin and these are some of the reasons.

Families died out or lost their money and became locked in debt, some moved back to where they had come from, these big buildings become too expensive to maintain, modern servants had to be paid better, and some of them were burned down by the IRA during the War of Independence.

The ruins of these mansions, and their once powerful inhabitants, reminds me of a poem by Percy Shelly.

“Ozymandias”

Shelly describes two huge legs that remain of an enormous statue in a desert. On the base of this once huge and imposing statue is carved:

“My name is Ozymandias, king of kings

Look on my works, ye mighty and despair!

Nothing beside remains, Round the decay

Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare

The low and level sands stretch far away.

Abandoned Mansions of Ireland by Tarquin Blake. Collins Press-DuFour Editions. Wilton, Cork, 2011. 338 pages; \$48.95. www.dufoureditions.com.

The Linen Queen

The Linen Queen is a story of love. The main character is Sheila McGee.

She grows up during the 1930’s in a dreary, sectarian mill town in Northern Ireland. And, she feels that she, like her relatives and neighbors, will grind out her life working in a mill.

The lack of any economic opportunity and the religious division in the North are unchanging. The emptiness, bitterness, and constant tension are powerfully shown by the author, Patricia Falvey.

She makes a clear picture of life in Northern Ireland. And, she did this also in

Continued on Page 27

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2011 Irish American Hall of Fame Inaugural Class of Inductees



Recognizing the Contributions of Outstanding Irish Americans

The mission of the Irish American Hall of Fame is to recognize and honor the outstanding contributions of Irish Americans to society in the areas of Arts & Humanities, Business & Industry, Public Service, Sports, Religion, Education and Science. The Irish American Hall of Fame will also pay tribute to exemplary Americans of Irish heritage who have truly shaped the Irish American identity in the United States.

The 2011 Inaugural Class will be inducted into the Irish American Hall of Fame at an Awards Gala on May 14, 2011 at the Irish American Heritage Center in Chicago, IL. For more information, call (773) 282-7035.

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- Mayor Richard J. Daley
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- Senator George Mitchell

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Dropkick Murphys at the Congress Theater in Chicago - Feb. 26, 2011. Photo by Stacy McReynolds.

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A House Full of Musicians

By Cliff Carlson

The Chicago Stockyard Kilty Band will be celebrating its 90th anniversary with the Tartan Ball, Saturday, April 9, 2011, from 4-8pm, at Bourbon Street, 3359 W. 115th St. in Merrionette Park. Besides the pipes—which everyone should flock to see—you can enjoy the Plough boys, and the Red Rebel County bands.

Like beer bottles in a frat house, musicians were strewn about every room in the Beverly house that is home to the McKee’s, a musical family spanning several generations in the Chicago Stockyard Kilty Band.

A Family Affair

The one thing about the Chicago Stockyard Kilty Band that might separate it from a lot of others is they have eight families in the band: The Poelstras, McKibbins, Conroys, Redas, McKees, Grimmons, Stanulas, and the Barretts.

Father, Dave McKee, is the patriarch having served almost 60 years in the band, and mother, Kitty, is the patron saint! Brothers Dave Jr., Dan, Luke and Matthew are all in the band, and Dave Jr.’s 13-year-old daughter, Grace, is a drummer. Three generations in the same band.

Dave Sr. started around 1952, and has been in the band longer than anybody in its history, and he has led the band for over 35 years, also longer than anybody else. The elder McKee took his pipes with him to Korea. In basic training he played for the guys in the unit, and for the guys going home.

Son, Dave Jr., started around 1982 with his three brothers following along shortly thereafter. “There was a time we were short a piper so my dad would actually dress me up and give me a set of pipes. So, I would be walking down the street trying to hold the pipes up, not really playing them and I would fill up the ranks. Then I got my calling as a drummer,” said Dave Jr. “We’ve marched in a lot of parades. We average about 15 parades a year. That’s almost 900 parades for Dad,” exclaimed Dave Jr.

“Dave was my brothers bagpipe teacher. That’s how we first met. We have had a few marriages in our group over the years. Danny’s wife was a piper for a while. They met in our dining room. David’s wife grew up across the street from us,” said Kitty.

Every Tuesday night since the ‘70s, the Beverly home of the McKee’s is alive with practice. Friday nights are pipe and snare drum practice. There are too many members in the band to practice as a whole in the house. They used to practice at the Stockyard Inn. Then they moved to the International Amphitheater, then the old press room

by the stockyards at 43rd and Halsted, a brief while at 47th and Union at the Knights of Columbus, and now the band practices in Evergreen Park at the American Legion Post.

Learning the bagpipes is very difficult and many underestimate what it takes to learn them. “Some will start not far from Saint Patrick’s Day, thinking that they are going to be playing on the day, you know? When they realize, wow, its actually work, then its like, well, I’ll come back to it another time. You gotta work up to it, especially on the pipes. Your lips get tired. It took me over a year to learn enough to participate,” he continued.

The band is all volunteer. They do get a sponsor for the parade, but that money goes into the band to help pay for uniforms and the like. Everyone has a day job. Luke and Matt are Chicago policemen. Dan works for a German company that builds machines to inspect beer cans and bottles. Dave works for the federal bank.

“There is a good core of band members in the Beverly area. A lot of guys we went to grade school at Christ the King, and high school at Marist with. We also have members that come to practice from the far North side of Chicago, and even Indiana. We have a priest who drives down from Milwaukee to practice as well,” explains Matt.

With up to 70 members in the band, there are enough side jobs that they can play every weekend if they wanted to. They get a lot of calls to work. Someone in the band is playing somewhere almost all the time, and its year round. They play weddings, funerals, parades, and private parties. Most of their gigs are in the Chicago area, but they also travel around the Midwest for different competitions, and parades in Milwaukee, Indiana and other states.

With 43 years in the same house, the band has drawn a crowd a time or two. “When the band is getting ready for competition, Matt (who runs the band now) will have some of the pipers bring their pipes and play with the drums in the backyard. You’ll definitely get people stopping and looking, wondering what the heck it is at first, but then they get into it,” explains Dave.

History

“We have to go back about 90 years to remember the founders of the band, the Sims brothers who were originally from Aberdeen, Scotland. Bob Sim was a piper in World War One, and he taught me how to play. The brothers were in

the band for a long time through their generations. They even taught some of the Shannon Rovers who formed their own band about five years after this one,” said the elder McKee.

The band has been to Scotland three times to do the world championships in their 75th, 80th, and 85th anniversary years. The family’s been to Ireland once. As a band, they are hoping to go to Ireland either this year or next year to perform in the European championships in Belfast. They take about 45 members of the band and family members, and try to make it affordable for all. “Yeah, it’s



Chicago Stockyard Kilty Band: Matt, Luke, Dan, Dave Jr., Dave Sr., and Grace McKee.

like herding cats,” laughed Dave Jr.

In 1996 about 50 members of the band stayed in a town of about 100 people called Dornie in Scotland. “The houses were all freshly painted for us. They threw a town party and we played for the whole village. They hung signs when we left that said ‘Come back, Chicago’ ‘We love you, Chicago.’ We filled up their hotels and bed and breakfasts for a couple days,” remembers Dave Sr.

South Side Irish Parade

“We miss the South Side Irish Parade. We led it off every year since its inception. So we were done before the tom foolery started,” said Dave Jr. “The core of the band are from the area so we knew where all the parties were. We’d finish the parade and we would stop by our friends on the way home. It was just a great time,” added Matt.

“It was a nice tradition to even be linked with the parade. In the beginning of the parade, when they went around the block before it was on Western, they called my dad for a couple pipers and so some guys from our band led them around the block. This was in the ‘70s when they restarted the inception. So that was the beginning of the tradition where every year we led it off, from the buggies around the block to going down Western Avenue,” added Dan.

“We only had real people here. We always had great neighbors. There have been nine families that have lived in

the house next to us. We always joke it’s because of the pipes, but this last family said they didn’t want to move. They loved their neighbors and this neighborhood and they put a half million dollar addition next to all this noise,” laughed Kitty.

Memories

Dave Sr. met John Kennedy at the Chicago Hilton Hotel when he was running for president. The band played for him, and as he was leaving he went over and said thanks for playing the bagpipes and he shook his hand. He also

came again and we were on *The Best of Real People*,” explained Kitty. The band has a starring role in the movie, *The Fugitive*, starring Harrison Ford.

Dan remembers, “One year, for the St. Pats parade on Dearborn, Budweiser sponsored us. We led the Clydesdales down the street. It was a nice day, so there was a huge crowd. We were this big pipe band followed by these big majestic horses and we could have been the Rolling Stones leading the Beatles down the street! It was crazy. We finished, but couldn’t stop playing because the crowds were so big. There was this big roar for six blocks after the parade. We couldn’t believe it! We liked doing the parade on Dearborn because it was like walking down a canyon, and the sound was brilliant.”

There is a lot of stuff to buy to outfit band members, and the band pays for it. Dave Sr. started that tradition. Not too many bands wear the full dress anymore. Most wear what is called a civilian outfit because a full dress outfit is expensive and a lot to maintain. It’s a nice tradition that the band still wears both.

Officers are up for election every four years. Matt’s in charge now, Luke is one of the officers, Danny is the business manager, and Dave is in charge of the drum section.

You would think that St. Patrick’s month would be the busiest time for the band, but July 4th is their busiest time. They usually ride a band bus to three or four parades that day, and the schedule is tight. They perform in Westchester, Brookfield, Lyons, and sometimes in Beecher.

“When I got in the band I was a small guy, and I learned off Mr. Sims original set of pipes. It was the first set I had and it’s a hundred year old set and I was an 11 year old kid playing these pipes. A guy came to our house who was one of the experts in the country and gave us a seminar. He was staying at the house. We showed him the pipes I was playing, and he said, ‘Do you know what you have there?’ We said, ‘Yeah, its a really old set of pipes,’ and he said ‘these are much nicer than that! These are a very rare set of bagpipes. The pipes were a 3/4 size set so when I grew out of them I gave them back to the Sim family. Now they have them as a family heirloom,’” commented Dan.

“The best part of being in the band is the camaraderie, the social aspect of it,” explains Dave Sr.

“You know it’s a nice thing. It’s kept the boys close, it’s kept the family close. All the kids live close,” added Kitty. Dave’s daughter, Grace, sums it up well. “I get to be around my family a lot. Friday nights are really fun!”

played for the president of Ireland.

Matt remembers playing in Scotland. “We played in Plockton and the whole town was out dancing in the street the first day we got there after this crazy day of traveling. Some of the locals joined us. The street is small so there is no blocking it off. If a car comes down the street it’s game off. Then everyone has to move over to the side while the car comes through then everybody goes back out.”

“Scotland has pipers and drummers in the Highlands and these small towns, but they don’t have a whole band. So when the band comes through it’s a big deal.”

“The television show, *Real People*, came here to film us teaching the band members. There was an article in *Tribune Magazine* and it was about Dave teaching in our house. And the people saw it out in California. Dave happened to be in California and they talked to him. Then we didn’t hear anything. Then all of a sudden they called up in May, 1980 saying they were coming to film here in three weeks time! I was teaching and the kids were real small. So my neighbors all came and helped. One room was only half wallpapered and they painted the rest of it, and we got a new sidewalk out front and even landscaping. With our friends help we pulled it off in three weeks! Three times they came here and spent all day. Well, they came twice all day, but it was only a five minute segment. And then they

Irish American Hall of Fame Selects Inaugural Class of Inductees

The Irish American Hall of Fame (IAHOF) was established in 2010 with the goal to preserve and promote the stories of the Irish in America and the ongoing links between Ireland and the United States. That objective is being fulfilled, with the announcement of the organization's inaugural class of inductees.

The Hall of Fame was founded by members of the Chicago-based Irish American Heritage Center (IAHC) and operates under the Center's auspices. The IAHOF is overseen by a separate governing committee and has a national focus.

Eleven outstanding Irish Americans in seven categories were selected as the 2011 IAHOF honorees. They were voted into the Hall of Fame by a national body of distinguished individuals representing academia, government and Irish-affiliated organizations from across a wide range of disciplines. "An effort was definitely made to include as many Irish American leaders as possible in the selection process," stated Robert McNamara, President of The Irish American Heritage Center. "The Hall of Fame is intended to be national in scope and to tell the story of all of Irish America. The responses we received have been overwhelmingly positive and we are very proud of the selection of our inaugural inductees."

Standouts in the Arts & Humanities

Maureen O'Hara (born Maureen Fitz-Simons on August 17, 1920) is an Irish film actress and singer. The famously red-headed O'Hara was born in an area of Dublin known as Ranelagh. After arriving in Hollywood in the early 1940s, in addition to her accomplishments in film, O'Hara became the first naturalized citizen to be recognized as Irish by the United States and granted dual Irish-U.S. citizenship, a testament to her force of character and personality in swaying the judge to identify her on her papers as Irish.

Widely considered to be America's greatest playwright, Eugene O'Neill authored 45 plays, among them *Long Day's Journey into Night*, *The Iceman Cometh*, *Strange Interlude*, *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, *The Emperor Jones*, *Ah, Wilderness!*, *Desire Under the Elms*, and *Mourning Becomes Electra*—classics all. He was recipient of both the Pulitzer (twice) and Nobel Prize. O'Neill's father was born in County Kilkenny and arrived in the United States during the Great Famine.

Born in Tralibane, near Bantry, County

Cork, Chief Francis O'Neill became a Chicago police officer and collector of



Ninety year-old Hollywood legend Maureen O'Hara, one-time Grand Marshal for the New York St. Patrick's Day Parade, leading the second ever parade in the tiny village of Keakill, near Bantry in West Cork, Ireland, 2011. She was driven by local retired welder, Pat Nunan. Photo by Ben Russell.

Irish traditional music. O'Neill showed an early appreciation for the music of local musicians, and later, in addition to serving as Chicago's chief of police from 1901 to 1905, he collected and eventually published tunes from major performers and a wide variety of primary sources. It is said that, had Chief O'Neill not taken on the monumental task of publishing traditional Irish music, it could well have been lost to future generations.

Business & Industry Scion

Henry Ford was born on a farm in Greenfield Twp., Michigan. His father, William, hailed from County Cork. Working in his spare time from his job at Edison Illuminating Company, Ford invented the Ford quadricycle, a self-propelled gas engine vehicle. After establishing the Ford Motor Company in 1903, he was instrumental in developing the assembly line technique of mass production as well as a system of lowering costs for quality goods.

Dedicated to Public Service

Richard J. Daley served for 21 years as the mayor and undisputed Democratic boss of Chicago and is considered by historians to be the "last of the big city bosses." Despite criticism of his well-organized Democratic Party political machine, Daley is remembered for his efforts in ensuring that Chicago avoided the declines that other Rust Belt cities, like Cleveland, Buffalo and Detroit, experienced during the same period. Daley lived his entire life in the working-class, heavily Irish American Bridgeport neighborhood on Chicago's South Side.

John F. Kennedy was born of Irish American parents Joseph P. Kennedy,

Sr., and Rose Fitzgerald in Brookline, Massachusetts. Having become the first Roman Catholic president of the United States, in 1963 Kennedy joined with Irish President Éamon de Valera to form the American Irish Foundation, whose mission was to foster connections between Americans of Irish descent and the country of their ancestry. Before his tragic death by an assassin's bullet in 1963, Kennedy initiated economic programs that launched the country on its longest sustained expansion since World War II, he took vigorous action in the cause of civil rights, and he brought American idealism to the aid of developing nations.

Born to an Irish father and a Lebanese mother, George Mitchell is one of the most diversely qualified and accomplished living Irish Americans. Following his tenure in the U.S. Senate from 1980 to 1995, including eight years as Senate majority leader, Mitchell was appointed the U.S. special envoy to Northern Ireland by President Bill Clinton in 1995 and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom and Liberty Medal for

that recorded the largest attendance ever for a sporting event outside motor racing and soccer. A rematch with Tunney took place in Chicago on September 22, 364 days after Dempsey lost his title to Tunney in their first bout, generating an amazing \$2 million gate. It is said that Al Capone offered to fix the rematch for Dempsey, but he would not hear of it. Dempsey's ancestry was reported by *Sports Illustrated* to be Irish on his father's side and Irish and Cherokee on his mother's.

Exemplary Religious Leader

Sr. Rosemary Connelly, RSM, has served as executive director of Misericordia Heart of Mercy Home for more than 40 years. When she began her appointment in 1969, Misericordia only cared for children under age six. Today, the home serves more than 600 children and adults with developmental disabilities. In that time, as well, she has helped to transform people's attitudes about disability and enabled thousands of children and adults to live with dignity, respect, challenge and beauty. Sister Rosemary is Irish and is a Sister of Mercy, an Irish order founded in Dublin by Mother McAuley. She received the International County Mayo People's Award in Castelbar, Ireland (1996), and was the first woman to serve as grand marshal of the City of Chicago's St. Patrick's Day Parade (1994). Both her parents

Irish American Hall of Fame Inductees for 2011

Arts & Humanities

Maureen O'Hara,
Eugene O'Neill,
Chief Francis O'Neill

Public Service

Mayor Richard J. Daley,
President John F. Kennedy,
Senator George Mitchell

Business & Industry

Henry Ford

Sports

Jack Dempsey

Religion

Sr. Rosemary Connelly, RSM

Education

Rev. Patrick Francis Healy, SJ

Science

Robert Fulton

his role in the negotiations that led to the Good Friday Peace Agreement in 1998. He continues to distinguish himself in the areas of law, politics, academics, business and philanthropy.

Legendary Sports Figure

An American boxer, William Harrison "Jack" Dempsey held the world heavy-weight title from 1919 to 1926. Dempsey's aggressive style and exceptional punching power made him one of the most popular boxers in history. In September 1926, Dempsey fought—and lost to—Irish American and former U.S. Marine Gene Tunney in Philadelphia, an event

hailed from County Mayo, Ireland.

Education Trailblazer

Rev. Patrick Francis Healy, SJ, was born to an Irish American plantation owner and a biracial slave in 1830. Because of the discriminatory laws in the South prohibiting the education of slaves, Healy was sent to live in the north, where he was educated by the Jesuits, eventually becoming the first African American to earn a PhD, the first to become a Jesuit priest, and the first to become president (Georgetown University, 1873–1881) of a major university in the United States.

An Immigrant’s Musings

Fr. Michael Leonard



A Different View

Tom Ridge, the nation’s first homeland security secretary, recently had some interesting points to make regarding immigration reform.

In remarks delivered in early March at Georgetown University to mark the eighth anniversary of

D.H.S., Mr. Ridge said that critics of immigration reform need to “get over it,” and suggested that Americans shouldn’t be so arrogant as to think that “everybody who comes across the border wants to be an American citizen.” Secretary Ridge went on to say that he hopes sometime in the future the U.S. government takes a serious look at immigration policy “in general,” even though “it’s the third rail of contemporary politics right now.”

“At some point in time you’ve got to say to yourself, ‘We’re not sending 11 million people home,’” the former Republican governor of Pennsylvania said. “Let’s get over it. ... We’re not going to send them home, so let’s just figure out a way to legitimize their status, create a new system, and I think that will add more to border security than any number of fences we can put across the border.”

Now, here is a man who makes sense. He is acknowledging the fact that the present administration, following the example of the Bush government, have not seriously attempted to deal with the millions of undocumented people living in the U.S.

Ridge offered two key steps for immigration reform, the first being, “Don’t think that everybody that comes across the border wants to be an American citizen.”

“I don’t think you should be that arrogant,” he said. “A lot of them just want to come up here to work

lawfully and go back home.” Ridge’s successor, Michael Chertoff, offered a similar assessment, saying, “most people who come across the border are not coming to do harm to the US, they’re coming across the border for jobs.” And let us not fool ourselves; these folks are ready and willing to do jobs that American-born people are not interested in doing. Let us also acknowledge the fact that the real reason why we have so many undocumented people here right now is largely because of the lack of legal quotas for low skilled workers.

Secondly, Ridge also suggested using biometrics to document workers inside the United States, building a database that employers can use to check the status of potential employees, and engaging in strong enforcement against employers who hire illegal immigrants.

This proposal is something that has been resisted by many employers. They do so because it lets them off the hook for ensuring that they only hire legal workers and also because they are getting away with paying undocumented workers lesser wages. In many cases, the conditions under which immigrants without papers find themselves having to work in are far from ideal. Undocumented people often accept abuse in the workplace, fearing that if they report the abuse they will end up being sent back to their country of origin.

Ridge indicated frustration with the fact that, while in Congress under President Reagan, he was criticized for supporting amnesty—using the term in a way that mocked his critics on the issue. He said at some point Congress has to accept responsibility for issues surrounding illegal immigration and border security. And so say all of us, indeed, we are now seeing a renewed effort by individual States to introduce a series of laws most of which do nothing positive to solving the real issues. It is difficult for the States are they are trying to deal with an issue, which is not their responsibility but rather the responsibility of the federal government.

The current Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano, who joined Ridge and Chertoff on the Georgetown panel, called illegal immigration and border security a key struggle and key issue for her department.

“The border with Mexico is something that we’ve focused on quite a bit,” she said. “It’s an area where we’re assisting President Calderon in his very valiant war against these large and very powerful drug cartels that exist over the bridge from El Paso, over the road from Laredo, across basically a huge gully in

Nogales.”

Chertoff urged the public to have “realistic” expectations when it comes to border security. “The idea that there’s a capability to pinpoint every single threat—even at the granular level—is not realistic,” he said. But, he said, layers of security, intelligence about who comes and goes, and the assets on the border give authorities a reasonable chance of intersecting and apprehending threats.

Chertoff went on, “And the truth is, it has worked, there has been, over the last several years, a drop in the number of people who come into the country illegally between the ports of entry. That’s something that is attributable to the economy, but frankly, some of it is attributable to enforcement, dating back to the Bush administration.”

“You can—depending on where you are on the border—use a series of tools in a way that minimizes the flow,” he said. “Is it going to be an absolute seal? No. But will it reduce the risk in conjunction with these other tools? Yes it will.”

The Mexican Fisherman

Author Unknown

The American investment banker was at the pier of a small coastal Mexican village when a small boat with just one fisherman docked.

Inside the small boat were several large yellow fin tuna. The American complimented the Mexican on the quality of his fish and asked how long it took to catch them.

The Mexican replied, “Only a little while.”

The American then asked, “Why didn’t you stay out longer and catch more fish?”

The Mexican said, “With this I have more than enough to support my family’s needs.”

The American then asked, “But what do you do with the rest of your time?”

The Mexican fisherman said, “I sleep late, fish a little, play with my children, take siesta with my wife, Maria, stroll into the village each evening where I sip wine and play guitar with my amigos, I have a full and busy life.”

The American scoffed, “I am a Harvard MBA and could help you. You should spend more time fishing; and with the proceeds, buy a bigger boat. With the proceeds from the bigger boat you could buy several boats. Eventually you would have a fleet of fishing boats. Instead of selling your catch to a middleman you would sell directly to the processor; eventually opening your own cannery. You would control the product, processing and distribution. You

would need to leave this small coastal fishing village and move to Mexico City, then Los Angeles and eventually New York where you will run your ever-expanding enterprise.”

The Mexican fisherman asked, “But, how long will this all take?”

To which the American replied, “15 to 20 years.”

“But what then?” asked the Mexican.

The American laughed and said that’s the best part. “When the time is right you would announce an IPO and sell your company stock to the public and become very rich, you would make millions.”

“Millions? Then what?”

The American said, “Then you would retire. Move to a small coastal fishing village where you would sleep late, fish a little, play with your kids, take siesta with your wife, stroll to the village in the evenings where you could sip wine and play your guitar with your amigos.”

Thanks

Sincere thanks to all who helped make our office move into the Irish American Heritage Centre smooth and relatively easy. We are very pleased to begin this new chapter in the history of our organization and to partner with the IAHC as we strive to better serve the needs of our clients.

Please feel free to drop by and pay us a visit next time you find yourself in the neighborhood.

Thanks also to all who came and supported our annual dinner dance fundraiser. We want you to know that we greatly appreciate all of the support we receive. We simply could not continue without your assistance.

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Midwest Fleadh Cheoil Tunes Up at IAHC

The IAHC is pleased to welcome the 2011 Midwest Fleadh Cheoil this spring. The Fleadh Cheoil, Irish for music festival, is a yearly competition for traditional musicians, singers and dancers of all ages. The regional Fleadhanna serves as the first round of competition for entry in the prestigious All-Ireland competition. The Midwest Fleadh Cheoil is one of only two Fleadhanna for all of North America. Eligible competitors come from as far away as Canada, Washington, California and Texas. Top winners from the Midwest Fleadh compete in the All-Ireland competition in August 2011 in Cavan, Ireland.

Hundreds of competitors and their families, along with supporters and members of the Irish community in Chicago will assemble to experience a unique cultural tradition. All are welcome to attend Fleadh competitions and performances, including the energetic Céili band competitions.



Templeglantine Ceili Band

The 2011 Midwest Fleadh Cheoil is sponsored by the Francis O'Neill Club of Chicago, a branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann.

For more information and a schedule of competitions and events, visit www.midwestfleadh.com.

Admission

\$20 per person to ceili competition, band competition or Friday concert with the Templeglantine Ceili Band

\$15 per person if person is a member of Irish American Heritage Center, Francis O'Neill Club or Comhaltas, and seniors

All Access All Weekend Pass: \$50 general public, \$40 members listed above

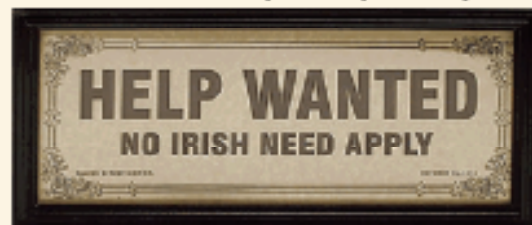
All access Saturday Only Pass: \$30 general public, \$20 members listed above

\$10 parents of competitors (per parent) Children under the age of 12, who are not competitors, are free.

For more information, call 773-282-7035.

Debate Takes On Myths and Realities of Discrimination

Join us for a lecture by Professor Richard Jensen and Professor Lawrence McCaffrey on the myth or reality of *No Irish Need Apply*.



Irish Need Apply. Was there any systematic job discrimination against the Catholic Irish in the US? Direct evidence is hard to come by.

No Irish Need Apply is a central theme of Irish American history—but was it true?

Were the Irish people discriminated against in America? Perhaps not.

Jensen is a historian who writes on American ethnic, political, social, military and economic history, as well as historiog-

raphy and quantitative and computer methods. He taught at the University of Illinois, Chicago for 27 years and directed numerous research and training programs at Chicago's Newberry Library, where he founded the Chicago Metro History Education Center in 1977.

He has taught at Harvard, Michigan, West Point and Moscow State University and is currently Research Professor of history at Montana State University in Billings, Montana.

Lawrence McCaffrey is Professor Emeritus of History at Loyola University of Chicago with a PhD from the University of Iowa.

McCaffrey has written and edited a number of books on Irish and Irish American history. In 1960 he co-founded the American Conference for Irish Studies. He was a consultant to, and appeared in the 1997 documentary, *The Irish in America: Long Journey Home* and technical advisor to the 2002 film, *The Road to Perdition*.

Singer Kathy Cowan will sing two music hall songs from the era about Irish immigrant job discrimination.

No Irish Need Apply is Sunday, April 3 at 2pm and admission is \$10.

Go Green at the Center

The Center will go green again when it hosts the annual Earth Day event, the Green Metropolis Fair.

This fun-filled event is open to the public and features films, a retail market with eco-conscious products for sale and hands-on activities for adults and children.

The Green Metropolis Fair is Saturday, April 16 from 10am-4pm and is free, with a suggested canned good donation that goes to Catholic Charities.



Barleyjuice in Concert

The Center is pleased to host East Coast favorites, Barleyjuice, for one night only this April in the Fifth Province.

With five studio albums and a double CD collection to date, these five killed yanks are currently one of the most beloved Celtic rock bands in the USA.

Barleyjuice was born out of Rock and Roll, reared on British Invasion, Country Western and Progressive Rock, and landed somewhere in the North Channel with a penchant for all things Celtic. Kyf Brewer, Keith "Swanny" Swanson, Shelley Weiss, Eric Worthington, and Gregor Schroeder make up this lively bunch of East Coast



Barleyjuice is Saturday, April 16 at 8pm. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the door.

musicians. When they take the stage, anything could, and does happen. Their music varies from classical to bluegrass, with the most authentic jigs and hompipes.



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President's Message Irish American Hall of Fame

As we continue to celebrate our 25/35 Anniversary (1985 marks 25 years in our building, 1976 was the year organization was formed), the next major initiative that has been born from the anniversary planning is the Irish American Hall of Fame (IAHOF). On St. Patrick's Day we announced the inaugural inductees for the IAHOF and on May 14 we will celebrate these individuals at a Gala event at the Center.

The Irish American Hall of Fame is an idea that has been around for awhile but really took shape as we began discussing ideas that would help shape our organization for the next 25 years. Intended to be national in scope, the mission of the Irish American Hall of Fame is to recognize and honor the outstanding contributions of Irish Americans to society in the areas of Arts & Humanities, Business & Industry, Public Service, Sports, Religion, Education and Science. The IAHOF will also pay tribute to exemplary Americans of Irish heritage who have truly shaped the Irish American identity. Telling their story preserves our story. The IAHOF will be a place where the shared story of the Irish in America will be available to all with an interest in the bond between Ireland and America.

We launched this initiative last summer and nominations came in



from all across the country to recognize outstanding Irish-Americans in the seven different categories. The list of nominees was unbelievable. More than 300 individuals were nominated and their stories told the tale of America from the colonial days to the present. Often new pages of history were uncovered for us as these nominations poured in. Nominations closed in November and a

rigorous screening process was held to determine the eligibility of each of the nominees based on the following criteria:

- Must have either parent of Irish heritage.
- Must be a U.S. citizen or have been a full-time resident of the United States for an extended period of time.
- Most associated as being an Irish American.
- Must have distinguished him/herself in one or more of the award categories.

Once the initial process was done, a Screening Committee comprised of leaders of the Irish community from across the country further vetted the candidates criteria to narrow the list of nominees. A slate

of 33 candidates was sent to a voting body of individuals across the country. More than 100 people voted representing 33 different states. Our inaugural class was announced on St. Patrick's Day. The cover of this magazine shows the inductees for the 2011 Class of the Irish American Hall of Fame. The list represents giants in the story of Irish America: Chief Francis O'Neill, John F. Kennedy, Maureen O'Hara, Robert Fulton, Sr. Rosemary Connelly, RSM, Rev. Patrick Francis Healy, SJ, Henry Ford, Mayor Richard J. Daley, Jack Dempsey, Sen. George Mitchell and Eugene O'Neill.

Recognizing these individuals is a historic moment in of itself for Irish America. The fact that this Hall of Fame will be housed in our own Irish American Heritage Center is a gigantic step for our organization and one that adds a level of national recognition and credibility to our Center. We take great pride in this initiative and look forward to growing the IAHOF over the years. After all, there are hundreds more stories to be told and people to recognize. If you feel a figure from history is not properly recognized yet, there will be a nomination process and induction on an annual basis. Before long, the Hall of Fame will truly represent all of Irish America.

Bob McNamara, President
Irish American Heritage Center



Shalom Ireland Gets Welcome Encore

Join us for an encore performance of *Shalom Ireland*, a documentary film about Ireland's remarkable, yet little known Jewish community.

Shalom Ireland chronicles the history of Irish Jews while celebrating the unique culture created by blending Irish and Jewish traditions. From gun running for the Irish Republican Army during Ireland's War of Independence, to smuggling fellow Jews escaping

from the Holocaust into Palestine, *Shalom Ireland* tells the untold story of how Irish Jews participated in the creation of both Ireland and Israel.

The evening features the film screening and live Klezmer and Celtic music by harpist, Annette Bjorling.

Shalom Ireland is Thursday, April 28 at 7:30pm. Admission: \$15 for the general public and \$10 for IAHC members.



IRISH AMERICAN HALL OF FAME

Recognizing the Contributions of Outstanding Irish Americans

Irish American Hall of Fame Announces Inaugural Class of Inductees

The Irish American Hall of Fame (IAHOF) is proud to announce its inaugural class of inductees!

Nominations were submitted from July through November 2010 from individuals across the country and the world. More than 300 nominations were submitted. A screening committee comprised of a specially-selected, diverse group of individuals from across a wide range of disciplines reviewed and vetted all nominations and specified a number of candidates to be put forth in an election. Voting by a 100+ member national body of distinguished individuals representing academia, government and Irish-affiliated organizations from more than 30 states took place in December and January.

And the winners are...

Arts & Humanities: Maureen O'Hara; Eugene O'Neill; Chief Francis O'Neill

Business & Industry: Henry Ford

Public Service: Mayor Richard J. Daley; President John F. Kennedy; Senator George Mitchell

Sports: Jack Dempsey

Religion: Sr. Rosemary Connelly, RSM

Education: Rev. Patrick Francis Healy, SJ

Science: Robert Fulton

See the cover story for details on the Hall of Fame Inductees.

Nominations for the 2012 class will be open in July. For more information, visit www.iahof.org

Day of Puppetry Offers Hands-On Fun

Moms and Dads, save the date for a *Day of Puppetry* at the IAHC.

The day features performances, a puppetry workshop and Puppet Market for those who'd like to take a bit of the day home with them!

Performances feature a lively *Rumpelstiltskin* followed by a performance of *Finn McCool* by local performers Joan Wittenberg and Susan Witek, sharing a traditional tale of the Gentle Giant.

The program is Saturday, April 16 at 10:30am with a suggested donation of \$5 at the door.

For more information, visit www.chicagopuppet.org, or call 773-715-8108.





THE HERITAGE LINE

IRISH AMERICAN heritage center

Chicago, Illinois



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Executive Director's Message

Two Shorten The Road

Several very successful partnership stories emerged from the St. Patrick's Season here at the Heritage Center—some new, some very familiar. Irish Dance Chicago was a hit again this year, organized by our own Kathy O'Neill and Rich Doebler from the O'Hare School of Irish Dance and showcasing six schools from Chicago.

We hosted the Chicago Rose of Tralee competition in partnership with Mary Kay Marmo and her team and also marched side-by-side with the gals up the avenue in the parade the next day. 2011's talented and fitting winner, Siobhan Carroll, is the daughter of a Waterford Rose and the bassman from the Big Eight (Irish showband), Frankie Carroll. Congratulations Siobhan on your well deserved honor.

The extremely enlightening panel discussion on the Irish economy was attended by close to 400 people (which is saying something, being that it was the day after the parade), thanks to support from the Consulate, the Ireland Network and the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. Combining with the American Ireland Fund, we hosted a very interesting presentation and Q&A session with Reverend Bill Shaw from the 174 Trust, a reconciliation program and facility in North Belfast—who will be adding a large cultural and arts center to their campus across the next few years.

We also partnered with Chicago Special Events Management and Special Olympics Chicago for the St. Paddy's 5k, which had more than 3,000 participants. The post-race celebration inside the Notebaert Museum, featured performances and exhibits from the McBride's GAA club, Irish American News, Na Gael Irish language school, Francis O'Neill Ceili Club, Seanachai Theatre, Trinity, O'Hare, Irish Music School of Chicago, Aisling Gaels Football Club, IAHC genealogy program, Pat and Karen Cannady, and others, and guest

bartender appearances by Kathy O'Neill, Kevin O'Kennedy, Alan Duggan, and yours truly! What a fun day down in Lincoln Park.

Upcoming partnered events include the Midwest Fleadh Cheoil, a competition and celebration of traditional Irish music at the Center on April 8th, 9th, and 10th—and the Green Metropolis Fair, a family event on April 16th celebrating healthy living. One of only two of its kind in the US, the Fleadh is being planned and managed through the Francis O'Neill Ceili Club in conjunction with the Irish Music School of Chicago and the IAHC and will feature an opening night Ceili Mór with the Templegantine Ceili Band, last year's All-Ireland Fleadh Cheoil Champion band from West Limerick, and an opportunity all weekend for people to become immersed in traditional Irish music and dance. The GMF is being organized by the Green Parents Network and Mindful Metropolis, with non-perishable food donations at the door going to Catholic Charities—and will feature more than 50 retail and food vendors, farm animals, gardening and composting stalls, films and more.

Great things happen for Irish Chicago when organizations come together. As they say, two shorten the road.

Sean Nós, Baby – Sean Nós

A pair of gorgeous dancers, Brian and Irene Cunningham, have recently arrived in Chicago from Connemara. For those of you who have not seen this brother and sister



tandem perform yet, you are in for a treat. They carry on the sean nós form of dancing, the oldest of Irish dancing traditions. In the spirit of the Center rallying around all those groups and individuals out there who are working hard to preserve the best of Irish traditions and making a difference for the heritage, the Cunninghams will be teaching sean nós dancing at the Center starting the last week in April. I was the first to sign up for their classes, after having watched them do a quick routine at the Wearing of the Green dinner dance. So rhythmic, casual, and fun—and made for average guys and gals to enjoy themselves moving to the music, house-party style. So, strap on your dance shoes (or running shoes!), and come join me for the craic!

I will be hoping to summon a few of the Irish moves in my genes to try to learn these beautiful steps. Not sure if my Uncle Donald reads this paper, but I did want to give him a shout out for being honored in March at an event in New York entitled "The McNulty Family: The First Family of Irish Music," produced by NYU's Glucksman Ireland House, the American Irish Historical Society, the Irish Arts Center, and the Irish Repertory Theatre. My uncle is one of the last living members of the McNulty family dance and music troupe—a legendary group out of NYC that combined traditional Irish music and dance with vaudeville and were very popular in the 40's and 50's. My Aunt Lil and Uncle Johnny also occasionally danced and played accordion with the group. Great stuff, Uncle Donald—I bet it brought back a lot of wonderful memories and proud moments for you and the family.

Onwards,
Tim McDonnell, Executive Director
Irish American Heritage Center

Great Architects Film

The Center presents a talk and film screening on Irish American architects, Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahony Griffin.

Walter Burley Griffin was an associate of architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Both Wright and Griffin were greatly influenced by Louis Sullivan, the son of an Irish dance master from County Cork. Griffin married another extremely talented architect who worked with Wright, Marion Mahony, whose father was a journalist from County Cork.

Both, along with Wright, were the most significant contributors to the Prai-



rie style of architecture. In the 28 years of their architectural partnership, the Griffins designed more than 350 buildings, landscape and urban-design projects. In 1912, they designed the Australian town of Canberra.

This program consists of an introduction by IAHC Cultural Committee member, Theresa Choske, followed by a screening of a short documentary film on Griffin and Mahony, *In His Own Right*.

Great Architects: The Life and Works of Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahony Griffin is Sunday, April 17 at 2pm and is free.

Make Your Vote Count!

Nominations for new members of the IAHC Board of Directors will be held at the Annual General Meeting on Friday, April 29 at 7:30pm.

We have four outgoing Board Members; Alan Duggan, Mary Johnson Gorski, Paul Lester, and Beth Rochford. We thank them for all their hard work, diligently looking out for the best interest of the Center and look forward to working with them in the future.

All Members are encouraged to attend this meeting and nominate a member they think would be an asset to the Center. Board Nominees must:

- Be a member, in good standing, for three consecutive years, preceding their nomination

- Be willing to serve a four-year term
 - Agree to abide by the Ethics Policy of the Center
 - Support the mission and purposes of the Center
- Nominations will not be accepted after the close of nominations at the meeting. Nominees should be present to accept this nomination.

Mark your calendars for Election Night, Friday, June 17 at 7:30pm. Check to make sure your dues are current so you don't miss the chance to vote. If you are unable to be present to vote, call the Center office for an absentee ballot. A reminder will be sent to you again with the biographies of all the candidates.

This is YOUR Irish American Heritage Center. Here is another opportunity to take an active part in how it is governed.

Documentary Pits Big Oil Against Small Community



Join us for a film in our film series, the award-winning documentary, *The Pipe*. *The Pipe* tells the story of the small

Rosport community, in County Mayo, which has taken on the might of Shell Oil and the Irish State. The discovery of gas off this remote coastal village has led to the most dramatic clash of cultures in modern Ireland.

The rights of farmers over their fields, and of fishermen to their fishing grounds, has come in direct conflict with one of the world's most powerful oil companies. When the citizens look to their State to protect their rights, they find that the government has put Shell's right to lay a pipeline over their own.

Following the personal experience of three main characters at the height of local tension, *The Pipe* is a story of a community tragically divided, and the prospect of a pipeline that can bring economic prosperity or destroy of a way of life shared for generations.

The Pipe will be screened on Friday, April 29 at 8:30pm. Admission is \$10 at the door.



THE HERITAGE LINE

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

Chicago, Illinois



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Dinner With Ciara

Join us in the Fifth Province on Friday nights for Dinner with Ciara!, The Music and Songs of Ireland. These performances in the Fifth Province will feature critically-acclaimed Irish singer, Ciara Walton.

Walton began her musical training at age 11 when she joined Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann. As a teen she began her formal studies in classical piano and singing. Her musical studies continued throughout her teenage years and she won first prize at the Kilkenny Music Festival piano competition in 2000. She performed in many of Ireland's most prestigious music venues including The National Concert Hall, Cork City Hall, the Guildhall Theatre in Derry and the Belfast Waterfront.

Walton's musical studies led her to the Cork School of Music from which she graduated in 2005 with a first class honors Bachelor of Music degree. Throughout her degree she nurtured and developed a keen interest in traditional Irish and folk song while continuing to



Ciara Walton

take classical singing lessons.

During the past few years, Walton has remained active on the Cork music scene as an exponent of Irish traditional, classical and stage musical singing while continuing to teach piano and voice full-time.

She recently moved to Chicago and now teaches music with the Irish Music School of Chicago.

Friday nights for Dinner with Ciara! are each Friday night from 6pm to 8pm in the Fifth Province and are free.



the fifth province

UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

All shows start after 9 pm.

APRIL 2011

- Fri, 4/1 Ceili Mor
- Sat, 4/2 Martin Doyle and Andy O'Driscoll
- Fri, 4/8 Midwest Fleadh Cheoil
- Sat, 4/9 Midwest Fleadh Cheoil
- Fri, 4/15 Larkin and Moran Brothers-8pm
- Sat, 4/16 Barleyjuice-8pm
- Fri, 4/22 Tommy Tuesday
- Sat, 4/23 Joe Cullen and Kathleen Bremer
- Fri, 4/29 Seamus O'Kane and Jimmy Moore
- Sat, 4/30 The Dooley Brothers



Friday nights from 6pm-8pm live music with Ciara Walton

Drop by for the very best in traditional and modern Irish music. Pub food is served from 6pm-10pm.

No Cover
Free Parking

Join us at SIGN UP NIGHT!

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April 15 at 7:00 PM
FIFTH PROVINCE PUB

Followed by the Larkin and Morans at 8:00!

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

The Irish American Heritage Center invites you on our first ever Group Vacation to Ireland!

What better way to celebrate our 25th anniversary than a trip back to the old sod! Come join us on this deluxe tour through Ireland and experience the sights and sounds of our heritage in the company of our members!

Seven Nights in Eire!

October 6-13, 2011

Featuring Musical Hosts:

The Larkin and Moran Brothers



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- Round trip airfare from Chicago on Aer Lingus
- Transport by luxury motorcoach
- Experienced driver/guide
- Nightly Hotel accommodations
- Breakfast and Dinner Daily
- All entry fees including:
 - Connemara Celtic Crystal Factory
 - Kylemore Abbey
 - Cliffs of Moher
 - Blarney Castle & Woolen Mills
 - St. Patrick's Cathedral
- Hotel portage, service charges and government taxes.
- Flight bags, ticket wallets and baggage tags
- And much, much more!

Space is limited—call today!



To learn more and reserve your space, join us for a pint in the Fifth Province Room on March 11 at 7:00 pm. Representatives from CIE and Tri-Seasons Travel will be on hand to answer questions and take deposits.

Questions? Call Cathy at 847-542-1539 or email: Triseasons@aol.com

This tour is subject to CIE Tours' booking guidelines and cancellation penalties. Refer to General Conditions on website (cietours.com) or back cover of current brochure.

Think You're So Smart?

Test your trivia knowledge with Quiz Night

The cost is \$30 per team, with a limit of six players per team. There are prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place and food and drinks are available from the Fifth Province Pub.

Remaining Quiz Nights are Friday, April 15 and May 20, 2011 at 8pm.

Lenten Fish Fry

The Center continues its Lenten Fish Fry this April.

The Fish Fry runs through Friday, April 24, from 6:30pm-9pm in the Fifth Province. The cost is \$12 for adults and \$8 for children and patrons pay at the door. Live music begins at 9pm. As a special treat, join us for live music from 6pm to 8pm each Friday night with Irish singer, Ciara Walton.

Save The Date For



The Irish American Heritage Festival

July 8, 9 and 10, 2011

Featuring 3 days of live music, dancing and family fun on 5 stages. Performers include Gaelic Storm, Scythian, the Makem & Spain Brothers, The Tossers, McPeake and more!

Tickets available April 1!

www.irishfestchicago.com

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Chicago, Illinois



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April 2011

April 1	Lenten Fish Fry Francis O'Neill Ceili Dance	Fifth Province Fifth Province	6:30pm 8pm
April 2	Seanachai Theatre's <i>That Was Then</i> Seanachai Theatre's <i>That Was Then</i>	3rd Floor Theatre 3rd Floor Theatre	7pm 7pm
April 3	Shamrock American Club Social Seanachai Theatre's <i>That Was Then</i>	Sham Amer Rm 3rd Floor Theatre	7:30pm 3pm
April 6	No Irish Need Apply Lecture	Sham Amer Rm	2pm
April 8	TIR NA NOG Seniors meeting Midwest Fleadh Cheoil	Fifth Province Audit/Fifth Province	11am 7pm
April 9	Lenten Fish Fry	Fifth Province	6:30pm
April 10	Midwest Fleadh Cheoil Midwest Fleadh Cheoil Midwest Fleadh Cheoil Mass	Whole Bldg Whole Bldg Whole Bldg	8am 8am 10am
April 14	Great Irish Books Club	Library	1pm
April 15	Irish Immigrant Support Meeting	Room 304	10am
April 16	Quiz Night	Room 109	8pm
April 17	Green Metropolis Fair National Day of Puppetry Barleyjuice in Concert	Whole Bldg Library and Audit Fifth Province	10am 10:30am 8pm
April 19	Palm Sunday Mass and Breakfast	Fifth Province	10:30am
April 22	Great Architects Lecture	Room 111	2pm
April 28	Genealogy Meeting	Library	1pm
April 29	Celtic Women Monthly Group Lenten Fish Fry	Fifth Province Fifth Province	7:30pm 6:30pm
	Shalom Ireland Film Screening	Auditorium	7:30pm
	Irish Immigrant Support Meeting	Room 304	10am
	IAHC Nominations Meeting	Room 109	7:30pm
	The Pipe Film Screening	Auditorium	8:30pm

Regularly Scheduled Events

Tues.-Sat.	Golden Diners Program	Kitchen	12:30pm-2pm
Tues.	Quilting and Needlework	Room 208	9:30am
	Traditional Celtic Art Class	Room 304	7-9pm
	Memoir Writing Class	Sham Am Rm	6:30-8:30pm
Wed.	Quilting and Needlework	Room 208	7:30pm
	Open Music Session	Room 302	7:30pm
	Sean-nós Dancing	Room 109	7pm
Thurs.	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsal	Room 304	7:30pm
	Book of Kells: Its History and Art	Room 304	7pm
	Irish Social Dancing	Room 111	7:30pm
Fri.	Francis O'Neill Ceili Prac. & Dance	Room 111	8pm
Sat.	Sean-nós Dancing	Room 111	4:15pm

The Center is Paving the Front Courtyard

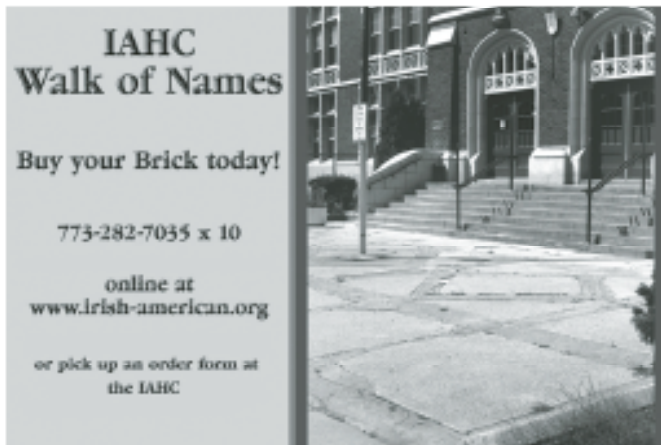
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no annual dues

\$500 - Bard

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\$1,000 - Chieftain

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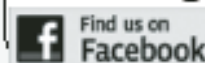


Question about Membership?

Change of address? Email us at membership@irishahc.org with your membership questions.

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For updates on upcoming events and ticket giveaways, follow the IAHC on



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Piping It In

Jack Baker



Ponticelli, guitar; John Williams, concertina; Jonathan Whitall, piano and fiddle and Erin Scott-Haines, Irish step dancing. His CD is called *L’Accroche-Pieds*. Very traditional,

Well, I did it again. One of the finest recordings of the last 10 years and I totally forgot to write the review and let you know about it. I am sorry, but I will now attempt to rectify this colossal goof and tip you to one of the best CDs in recent history. Jiggernaut is a band out of Houston Texas. The members of the band are Garren Bagley, on guitar, keyboard, djembe, vocals; Rodger Harrison on bass and vocals; Richard Kean, a fine, fine piper who also plays a mean whistle; Matthew Williams on drums, djembe, cajon and vocals; Mark Kenneth on accordion and Deanna Smith Scotland, guitar, percussion and vocals—oh baby, what vocals! Let me expound a bit on Deanna Smith Scotland’s vocals. Singing comes to Deanna like breathing does to the rest of us. Her voice enfolds my ears like a warm comfy blanket and lulls me off to where ever she wants to take me. Added to this supernatural singing ability is the ability to write songs that are destined to become classics. On Jiggernaut’s third CD, *The Well*, are two songs of Deanna’s composing that you will agree are sure to become classics in traditional Celtic music. The first is a wonderful ballad she wrote in memory of Tommy Makem called, “The Man Who Dug the Well,” and the second piece is a song for all of us who have lost someone near, called “Absent Friends.” I have trouble keeping a dry eye during both of these. In addition to these gems, they perform stunning versions of Richard Thompson’s “Galway to Graceland,” Brian McNeill’s “Two Minute Silence” and a bunch of other great songs. Richard Kean cooks on his pipes in a cut called “MacFurley’s Rant.” The boy can darn sure play. Jiggernaut is coming thru this way in May to play a short tour in Chicago and Milwaukee, if you can make it out to see them, you won’t be disappointed. In the meantime, get a copy of this CD and let the music take you away.

One of my personal guilty pleasures is listening to good hammer dulcimer and we’re lucky in the Chicago area to have one of the best hammer dulcimer players, Andy Young. Andy has just released a lovely CD featuring him burning up the dulcimer along with some of the finest talents in the Chicago music scene, Mike O’Regan, guitar; Alfonso

very captivating, this CD can never be simply background music. It takes your attention and demands that you listen and rewards you with some of the most intricate, fascinating melodies. A local independent production, this CD is top class all the way.



Back in February we worked the Midwinter music festival in Valley Forge, PA. I love that show because there’s always loads of good music and always a performance by the MacLeod Fiddlers. Ian MacLeod is a dairy farmer in Dalkeith, Ontario and teaches fiddle to local kids in his front room. His students perform together as the MacLeod Fiddlers and, in addition to being a cute bunch of kids, they’re darn good. This year the school released their second CD called *Glengarry Roots*. If you like good traditional Scots fiddle, this one’s for you. Loaded with fine renditions of traditional tunes, the CD also has one of the best versions of “MacPherson’s Lament” that I’ve ever heard. Sales of the CD benefit the school and help Ian MacLeod keep passing on the fiddle traditions. Here’s your chance to help keep traditional music alive and strong.

Speaking of Pennsylvania and traditional fiddle and good music provides an appropriate intro for my next CD, Burning Bridget Cleary’s third release *Totes for Goats*. With great glee I have followed the success of this novel group (named for the last woman burned as a witch in Ireland).

The first time I saw them perform I knew that they were destined for greatness, and they haven’t disappointed me. Each new CD is better than the last and their live performances sparkle with energy. Their new CD, with Moses the goat on the cover, has a fine mix of trad pieces, great vocals and risks well taken. An original tune, “Lament for Emil,” written by Rose Baldino, is beautifully sad and sweet, a fine lament and a fine example of Rose’s talent. The whole album is a joy to listen to. There’s one tune that Steeleye Span used to do and I like Burning Bridget Cleary’s version better. Here’s another Philadelphia based group that I’d love to see get booked into the Chicago area. I had a fellow in the shop recently who bemoaned the “fact” that “young people today just aren’t interested in traditional music.” I played him this CD and the previous one by the MacLeod Fiddlers. It shut him right up.

A few years ago, while working the Hawaiian Scottish Festival in Honolulu, we ran into the west coast group Molly’s Revenge and I’ve been a big fan of theirs ever since. They’ve just released a new CD to celebrate their 10th anniversary titled *Aged 10 Years*. Certainly not a “best of” but for sure a “best yet” collection, it features David Brewer on pipes, whistles, bodhran and vocals; John Weed, fiddle and vocals; Pete Haworth, bouzouki and vocals; Stuart Mason, guitar, mandola and vocals; Moira Smiley, vocals and accordion. Sound-wise they have always reminded me of early Battlefield Band, blending fiddle and pipes expertly with good solid vocals. Their music choices are solidly traditional but with novel arrangements that give them a distinctive sound. I wrote a bit in last month’s column about the piper, David Brewer and his solo recordings. Molly’s Revenge has an enjoyable sound as well as a great stage presence, fun to listen to and fun to watch. The cover art to this new CD was done by good friend and great Celtic artist, Hamish Burgess

of Maui Celtic in Hawaii. This is Hamish’s third CD cover. He also did last year’s Finn McCoul (another Hawaii group) and the latest new release from the Irish Rovers.

It wouldn’t be a column without taking note of Compass Records latest release. All the other recordings mentioned this month are independent productions but one label continues to release consistently great Celtic music and that’s Compass. I note now that Compass is advertising in the *Irish American News* and, for me that just highlights their commitment to the culture. This month they’ve got a real winner, *T With The Maggies*.

I hardly know where to begin talking about this one but I’ll start with the performers—Triona Ní Dhomhnaill, Maighread Ní Dhomhnaill, Mairé Ní Mhaonaigh and Moya Brennan. How’s that for a lineup? Manus Lunny also lent his considerable talent on guitar and bouzouki. Four queens and a king comes up aces in my book—that line was so corny I had to share it. Anyway, corn aside, this classic CD is one that people will be pulling out years from now to demonstrate what trad singing should sound like. Just listen to it and find the truest example of the most beautiful Irish singing you’ve ever heard. Can’t wait to hear what Bill Margeson has to say about this one. I do know I didn’t get any work done in the store on the day the promo came, but I certainly did enjoy myself listening to it, you will too. Way to go Compass for bringing us such fine music and having the courage to continue recording such wonderful stuff as *T With The Maggies*.

Thanks to all who have helped so much in the past few weeks, I can never express in words my gratitude. Happy Spring to all and don’t forget to stop by your local Irish/Scottish shop and help keep small business alive. Look forward to hearing from you at pipingitin@comcast.net or in the store, Rampant Lion Celtic Traders, 47 S. Villa Ave., Villa Park, IL. 630-834-8108. Slainté.

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Irish-speaking Teddybear BB Has New App

BB the Irish speaking teddybear is the world’s first Irish-speaking toy. The launch of the new BB app for the iPhone and iPad which has the same function of the actual teddybear was released last month.

This multi-award-winning cuddly and colourful teddy bear teaches toddlers and children 33 words in Irish. BB has bright buttons to press, and in response the teddy speaks the

friendly-sounding Irish words for basic numbers, colours and shapes. For those anxious to say hello to BB, you can get acquainted with the teddybear on the interactive website www.babogbaby.com, where toddlers, young children—and adults!—can meet BB.

BB the Irish-speaking teddy bear costs €29.99 plus postage and packaging and available to buy online now at www.babogbaby.com.

St. Pat’s Dinner Auction Raises \$100k

The Saint Patrick High School Institutional Advancement office announced that more than \$100,000 was raised during the 43rd Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner and 7th Green and Gold Auction held March 5. Proceeds will benefit the students and programs of Saint Patrick High School. Alumnus Thaddeus Lykowski ’60 won the Pot O’Gold Raffle Grand Prize trip to Ireland. Other Pot O’Gold winners

included Michael Platt, Renee Reech and Pat Proctor.

Nearly 200 parents and alumni volunteered time and services to make the event a success. St. Pat’s next major event will be the 150th Anniversary Gala Shamrock Spectacular on June 18 which will feature an entertainment collaboration between Redmoon Theatre and St. Pat’s students. For more info, visit www.stpatrick.org.

Hall of Fame Inductees

Continued from Page 9

Innovator in the Scientific Arena

An American engineer and inventor, Robert Fulton is widely credited with having developed the first commercially successful steamboat. The son of an Irish emigrant, as a boy he showed great interest in all things mechanical. Turning to art at age 17, he painted portraits and landscapes as well as houses and machinery. He moved to Paris and met the U.S. ambassador to France, Robert Livingston, and together they constructed a steamboat. Although that boat sank, Fulton and Livingston persevered, building the first commercial steamboat in the United States, which carried passengers between New York City and Albany, NY.

About the Hall of Fame and the Selection Process

The IAHOFF announced its call for nominations at the IAHC’s Irish Fest in July 2010. As of September, more than 75 candidates had been nominated, and by the end of the nomination period in November, an impressive list of more than 300 nominations had been submitted. “The whole nomination process was overwhelming,” McNamara pointed out. “Beyond just the sheer numbers of nominees, it was the stories that they told. They not only represented Irish America but also the tale of America itself from colonial days to present.”

The slate of candidates was narrowed down by a screening committee composed of a specially selected, diverse group of individuals representing an extensive array of disciplines, which reviewed and vetted each nomination. The winners were selected by a 100-member voting body of distinguished individuals representing academia, government, business and Irish-affiliated organizations from around the United States.

The IAHOFF’s initial emphasis will be to provide information electronically and online, and the inaugural inductees will be commemorated with a display at the IAHC. The vision is for a bricks-and-mortar museum to be founded as the IAHOFF grows.

Winners will be inducted into the Irish American Hall of Fame at an Awards Gala to be held on May 14, 2011 at the Irish American Heritage Center in Chicago. For information on tickets to the Awards Gala, please contact the Irish American Heritage Center at (773) 282-7035.

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Be Careful What You Wish For

A rare near-consensus was achieved in the February General Election. It was not about how to solve our economic problems. It was about punishing the outgoing Fianna Fail government; and it did just that. Fianna Fail got a severe kicking, losing three quarters of its seats and more than half its support (and colour the Greens gone). In terms of the stages of bereavement, a sizeable portion of the Irish public is still at the anger stage.

Whether the results overall represent a watershed, as some have trumpeted, remains to be seen. The Fianna Fail vote which went walkabout seems to have split along class lines with Fine Gael picking up the middle class element, Labour the working class portion and Sinn Fein the republican vote; independents picked up the rest. More people voted than ever before, some colourful independents secured election and Sinn Fein and left wing elements claimed major advances. Yet Sinn Fein only increased its share of the vote from 6.9% to 9.9%, while the United Left Alliance polled 2.6%; hardly ringing endorsements. More people actually voted for the large and heterogeneous number of independents than for both these combined. And almost three quarters of the electorate voted for the three mainstream parties.

The new government, a Fine Gael-Labour coalition, faces formidable economic challenges. What price the possibility that, in taking the hard measures necessary to rescue the economy, it will so alienate public opinion that it will in its turn become unelectable? When the dust has settled the grim reality of how to bridge the yawning budget deficit—still running at \$500 million per week—will remain. Indeed, between the dissolution of the last Dail and the convening of the new one, over \$2 billion had to be borrowed just to keep the country running. You would never have thought so to listen to the election chatter.

The election campaign was dominated, not by the critical issue of the budget deficit,

but by the important but secondary issues of the blame game, the deal with the IMF and the ramifications of the bank bailout. The major parties recognised how little room for manoeuvre the next government would have (“we’re snookered,” as one Fine Gael T.D. remarked to me). Their election manifestos fudged on the economic issues while focussing on proposals for political and constitutional reform—hardly national priorities at present. Some of the electorate seemed to think that the problems would be solved merely by electing a new government (with one bound our hero was free!).

The maximum to be hoped for in negotiating on the interest rate on the IMF loan would, while welcome, only run the country for two weeks, \$1 billion or so. Any early favourable outcome of the current negotiations in the EU aimed at restructuring the finances of the Euro, (i.e. some debt relief for Ireland), again, will not alter the underlying reality. Ireland’s expenditure exceeds her income; until that is put right we must continue to borrow and we can hardly expect to be loaned the money interest free. This is the stark fact.

The new government programme at least recognises there is no quick fix. However it is short on the specifics of how to tackle the deficit, and in particular seems to give hostages with regard to maintaining many current levels of welfare payments and ruling out tax hikes. The impression given is that, to secure agreement, most of the compromises were made by Fine Gael. How the programme will pan out remains to be seen. The toxic nettle of pumping more money into the banks—part of the agreement with the IMF but not acted upon by Fianna Fail—has to be grasped urgently. For this and other unpalatable the ultimate fall-back position may well be to rely on the EU/IMF to hold the government to the letter of the existing agreement.

The benign scenario in the short term is that there will be tangible early success in terms of results achieved in renegotiating the interest portion of the IMF deal, which, however slight, can be presented as a victory. This to be accompanied by some interim fig-

leaf formula concocted out of the negotiating work-in-progress in Europe, sufficient to give the government a breathing space. Again, plausible; our European partners have little to gain in pushing us to breaking point. Then, in the course of the “Hundred Days,” rapid enactment of some of the eminently sensible suggestions on the table such as reducing VAT, giving PRSI reductions for new employees, binning the travel tax and others. Such measures would have minimum impact on government revenue and could stimulate the economy and begin to restore confidence.

The recovery after 1987 is sometimes cited as an example, if not a blueprint. Yet it was based in part on agreement among the social partners on what needed to be done. The ruinous cycle of high taxes, high wage demands and high inflation was successfully reversed. The then government also struck it lucky, with Irish industry particularly well placed to take advantage of a global economic boom, and with success beyond expectation of the Financial Services Sector. Moreover, while public debt was proportionately higher than the current levels, private household debt was much lower and there was no banking or mortgage crisis.

The positive factors of 1987 are not present now. While more necessary than a generation ago, it will be much harder to generate any social partnership with nothing in the cupboard to offer, incomes pared back, a zero sum mentality, and inflation on the march. Interest hikes threaten in the Eurozone. Any growth in the world economy is likely to be modest, with clear and present threats of steep rises in energy costs against an uncertain political background in the Arab world. Ireland’s comparative advantages of a generation ago are no longer present and we face new and formidable competition for investment from rivals in the EU and elsewhere. Our competitiveness and cost base were seriously eroded during the tiger years and will not be easily restored.

The economic and fiscal straightjacket has left the government with little wiggle room. While much has been made of its large majority, this positive is very much double edged. What it needs above all is to be lucky, or at any rate to avoid bad luck. Any slight economic upturn will ease the pressure on the public finances; fifty jobs equate to €1 million, plus the multiplier ef-

fect; but this cuts both ways. There is fudge on how the fiscal gap is to be narrowed. There is an obvious hope that enough can be done to stimulate the economy to postpone the need for a showdown on raising taxes or cutting benefits.

The first hundred days should be manageable. The next less so. The cracks are likely to show in the one after that. The first budget will be a watershed. Will it see a Benjamin Franklin approach that we hang together lest we hang separately? Or will it be “sauve qui peut”? For Ireland’s sake let us hope the former.

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Careers



By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



your life there are numerous things you can do:

- Convince yourself that it is your life; as they say, you only go around once. That **decision** is absolutely critical. Once you decide that you are in control, your stress level will drop sharply.

How’s Your Stress Level?

I never cease to be amazed to hear doctors say that 75% of all doctor visits are stress related. A short list of stress related illnesses would include migraine headaches, heart attacks, insomnia, ulcers, weight gain and rheumatoid arthritis. Stressed people manifest their problems in many ways; they are easily agitated, they break out in hives, they gain or lose weight, and they are very impatient. They always feel like they are “under the gun.”

All of our senses are involved in gathering data about our environment 24 hours a day. One of the various ways the body responds to our environment is stress. It’s how our bodies react to the sights and sounds of our daily lives. If stress is allowed to go unchecked the results are accumulative. Its effects can kill cells within your body and leaves you open to infections and other stress related illnesses.

We frequently see statistics in the press about how much money it costs business to have smokers on their payroll, or internet surfers, etc, etc. Business organizations and individuals would be far better off being more sensitive to the stressfulness of their environments.

If you want to reduce your stress level and enhance

- Come to grips with the vital need to take good care of yourself: eat well, exercise religiously, maintain a sense of humor, and don’t take yourself too seriously. Work diligently at maintaining positive and warm relationships with those you love. Learn to relax, even if initially you have to force yourself. This is more easily said than done. The oft quoted, live well, laugh often, love much has survived because of its great wisdom. Can you recall the last time you enjoyed a sunset for more than a minute or two? When did you last take time to watch a beautiful snow fall?

- Develop your life, work and personal goals. How do you want to live your life? People will ask, why are you doing things a certain way? Hopefully, your answer is consistent with your goals. For example, maybe you continue to work because you lost your shirt with some bad investments. You can spend the rest of your life lamenting the choices you made but what a waste of time and energy. Many of us have seen people rework every bad decision they have ever made time and again; what’s the value in belaboring one’s own mistakes? Move on after you have examined the situation and have determined what lessons were learned.

I have spent a good part of my professional life counseling people on how to find their next job. I always try to convince job seekers to find a job that they are really enthused about, not just one that is available. As “Dirty Harry” says, a man’s got to know his limitations. I always want to succeed, but sometimes there are goals that are simply beyond me. They may be out of reach because of some mental, physical or psychological reasons. Even as a 6’ 4” young man, I knew I was never going to play Center on **any professional** basketball team. Frankly given my lack of coordination, I wasn’t going to play Center for **any good high school** team.

But I sure wanted to. So I had to find other venues for my interests. What are your interests? What do you want to do for the next 20-40 years? Knowing where you are going, will lessen the stressfulness of the journey enormously. Think about trying to find an unknown address, you can feel the stress rising if you are not sure if your destination is two blocks or two miles away.

If a person hasn’t taken charge of their life and decided where they are going, they are always going to be on the

edge. Many executives find themselves tethered to their jobs 24/7. They never get away from their cell phone, iPhone, PDA or electronic life line. Often people ask you to turn off all electronic devices as you sit in church or a theater? Isn’t there something bizarre about the fact that we have to be reminded of our surroundings?

You will be a more effective gardener, truck driver, doctor, lawyer or executive if you can diminish the amount of stress in your life. Recognize that stress is frequently self-induced. As some wise person once said, many of the events that I feared the most never occurred. One needs to guard against assuming the worst in any circumstances. I am very big on considering alternatives until the wished for event is a virtual certainty. I recommend thinking about alternatives not worrying about potential issues.

I **choose** to believe that today is going to be a great day. And if today is going to be an outstanding day, why should I worry about tomorrow? If you find yourself worrying all the time, consider a change in your attitude. Your anxiety is not going to stop anything. If you are running late for an appointment, cursing at traffic will not get you there a minute sooner. As Dr. Wayne Dyer says, Traffic is until traffic isn’t.

No sense worrying around things that you can’t control. President Lincoln said he never worried throughout the Civil War and commonly slept quite well. He said he focused all of his waking hours thinking about solving the nation’s problems, but he felt that allowing himself to be so stressed out that he couldn’t sleep at night dissipated his strength and energy.

Here’s a little STRESS test for you. Are you normally on edge? Can you concentrate on one major problem without being continuously distracted because some other “important” issue surfaces? Do you ever screen your phone calls or do you feel compelled to answer every call? Do you ever allow yourself to take some **personal** time to “watch” the world go by? If you give some help to others, you may find that your total focus is no longer on your own problems. If you are allowing yourself to be victimized by your circumstances, pack your bag for your next hospital visit NOW. On the other hand, reducing stress levels will allow you to be more effective, more approachable, and calmer and more in charge. So, is there some reason that you continue your **stressful** existence? Talk to individuals who seem to be able to handle stress to learn their secrets. *Carpe Diem.*

James F. Fitzgerald is president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., an Oak Brook, IL. Based senior executive coaching and career transition firm. Phone#: 630-684-2204. Email:jamesffitz37@hotmail.com. NEW web site: www.jamesffitzgerald.com.

Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan



Callahan" and middleweight champion "Al McCoy," had adopted Irish names.

And sportswriter Peter Levine tells the story of the great Jewish boxer, Benny Leonard, who "once fought an opponent called 'Irish' Eddie Finnegan in a Pennsylvania coal-mining town, where cries from the spectators urged Finnegan on with shouts of 'kill the kike' or 'murder the yid.' This so enraged Leonard, that he began pummeling Finnegan. Holding on for dear life, 'Irish' Eddie Finnegan grabbed Leonard in a clinch, and pleaded for mercy, gasping in Yiddish that his real name was Seymour Rosenbaum."

And my Jewish bona fides are all in order. While I was a young actor in New York, I worked as an usher for the Yiddish Theater production of *My Mama, der General*, starring Lillian Lux and Pesach Burstein. It was a small little theatre in the Edison Hotel, and my job was to get the almost 200 members of the audience into their seats before the curtain went up and many of them realized they were sitting behind a pole. I always left before intermission because I knew I'd be in the same boat as "Irish Eddie Finnegan" if some of those old ladies got their hands on me.

When my dad was in his mid-seventies he was about to introduce me to his new bride who was in her fifties. He pulled me aside and said, "She's Jewish, so don't make any cracks!"

They were a lovely couple until the pre-nup expired and she got kind of bossy, according to my old man. After

she took him to the cleaners in divorce court, I asked him, "What the hell did you marry her for?" He shrugged, "Mike, I was in love." Nuff said.

And if that isn't enough Mayor Rahm, I also spent some time studying ballet just like you did. As a classical actor, I knew that the best way to keep my instrument in tune was to keep my body fit with ballet class. I studied with Richard Arve and Ruth Paige right here in Chicago, and my grand jete was a thing to behold. Of course, that was before I gained another hundred pounds to my manly frame, the result no doubt of spending more time at the bar than the barre.

So Mayor Rahm keep an eye out for a resume from Menachim Goldfarb coming across your desk. I might not be technically Jewish, but I'm willing to learn and I'm already circumcised so the hard part is over.

I'm thinking about changing my name to "Menachim Goldfarb." I figure it could help me with our new Mayor.

And it certainly couldn't hurt me in show biz either.

Of course, I will have to endure all the stereotyping that comes with an ethnic name. But I'm used to that.

I was recently asked to speak to a class at Columbia College who were studying "ethnics in the media" and the students asked me if I was offended by the Irish stereotyping in the film *Boondock Saints*. I told these young idealists that I was familiar with the movie, "but I can't really remember if I found it offensive or not because I was drunk when I saw it."

New York Mayor Bloomberg recently got in a lot of hot water by making a joke about Irish inebriates while speaking at a pre-St. Patrick's Day event at the Irish Historical Society in Manhattan. But Chicago Mayor Rahm Emmanuel won't make those kind of mistakes if he has "Menachim Goldfarb" to advise him regarding any potential ethnic slurs.

There's certainly a precedent for taking on a name of the en vogue race. In the early years of the last century many Jewish boxers, like welterweight champion "Mushy

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Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



endured the pain of civil unrest; the artists provide a telling of a story which the media choose to overlook, memorializing in their work

All Kinds of Everything

In 1970, Dana won the Eurovision song contest singing “All Kinds of Everything.” For one brief moment during a period of political turbulence, Dana’s hometown, Derry, became known for something other than riots, shootings and bombings. Europeans were forced to re-think their pre-conceptions of a city that had become synonymous with the struggle for Civil Rights, and gerrymandering.

What seemed like a frivolous song competition, suddenly allowed the talent of battle-scarred city to be seen. Two years later, British paratroopers shot and killed thirteen Civil Rights protestors dead on Bloody Sunday. And while a pop song did not bring any lasting peace, it did, for a short while, remind the world that there was more to the North of Ireland than violence, and suffering.

Since moving to Chicago five years ago, I have met with many people who have visited Ireland, and invariably, they have traveled the well-worn path of Dublin and the southwest of Ireland. The Cliffs of Moher, the Dingle Peninsula, Ring of Kerry and the *Book of Kells* are ubiquitously identified with the best of what Ireland has to offer.

For most part, the ‘black north’ is still the unknown, politically unstable region only to be visited by the more adventurous traveler. This perception may not be consciously understood, it may be the result of successful marketing by Bord Failte, but it does leave someone like me wondering why the north has not blossomed more substantially after the cessation of violence with the IRA ceasefire in 2005. There is not enough done to promote the many pre-historic and historic sites, the rich cultural heritage of Protestant and Catholics, and the natural beauty of the north.

At iBAM Chicago this year, the Bogside Artists, from Derry, were the headliners. Using the personal and tragic stories from the troubles, they have created a positive contribution to a community on the frontline of political tensions between the police, British army and local people. In a neighbourhood where the residents have

important social and political events of the local community.

The artists have received critical acclaim all over the world. They have been invited to the Smithsonian in D.C and International muralist conferences in China and Europe, as they present a positive message of healing and reconciliation in their art. <http://www.bogsideartists.com/>

In a time of peace, the Catholic and Protestant traditions are exploring new ways to celebrate their unique histories. Belfast, once a sectarian stronghold, has become a vibrant city that has, in the last decade, developed as a haven for tourists. Old flashpoints of sectarianism have become attractions for visitors, some of which



Derry City Centre at Night

seem macabre, especially tours of places where some of the worst atrocities have taken place. It seems that there is a thin line between exploiting for commercial reasons the injuries of the past, and educating the interested onlooker. Whatever we think of this approach, it is still a sign of a community trying to regain the semblance of normality.

Visitors from the U.S that I have taken to Ireland are quite surprised and amazed at how much the north of Ireland has to offer. The urban experience of Belfast and Derry, with their historic antiquity, and modernization, is complimented with the rich countryside. The Glens of Antrim, Giant’s Causeway, and wildness of Donegal are spectacular. Since the troubles have come to a halt, there has been an increase in tourism in the north. Why? It is simply so beautiful. For instance, the

highest sea cliffs in Europe are in Slieve League, Donegal, plunging 2,000 feet into the Atlantic, and are described as ‘the thinking man’s alternative to the Cliffs of Moher.’

There are areas in the north where one can travel without encountering busloads of tourists. And while I love Dublin and the southwest, they have almost exhausted the tourist trade, leaving one what should be an authentic experience to feeling it has become more of an affectation. Some areas are over developed and over priced while others have kept and maintained their sense of wonder.

At a time when the Republic of Ireland is debating the ‘big debt,’ spending over five million dollars to sponsor events in the U.S as part of Imagine Ireland, the Ireland they seem to imagine misses the north, and it is largely this omission that causes me to want to redress the balance.

When Dana won the Eurovision song contest, she won it for Ireland. But for the people of Derry, and the north of Ireland, the prize brought attention to a part of the country that was being, and still is, stigmatized by a history of conflict. The news reports were now focusing on the positive talent of a young woman as opposed to the usual fare of political fragmentation. I remember how that event made us all feel. We were proud of where we came from.

In the past year once again Derry has earned the right to be acknowledged as a city of culture. In 2013, Derry will take centre stage. Does this title mean anything? Yes! When Glasgow, Scotland was designated at the European city of culture in 1990, it radically changed the city. Formerly, in the 1970’s, Glasgow had an infamous reputation for violence and drugs. Now with financial investment and development, the city has become a popular tourist spot.

Founded by St. Columba in the 6th Century, the city is poised to showcase in 2013 its rich culture and history, and, as a former citizen of the city, I am absolutely delighted. <http://www.cityofculture2013.com/Our-2013-Bid/Home.aspx>.

In 2013, Derry will emerge from its ‘no go’ past and take its place among important cities to visit. With investment, and development, Derry, like Glasgow, will attract visitors from all over the world. And, as Dana puts it in the song, the city has ‘all kinds of everything’ to offer.

**Terry, originally from Derry, now resides in Chicago and teaches Irish and British Literature at Loyola University, Chicago. terenceboyle@sbglobal.net*

Online Only This Month

Due to the large quantity of articles this month and the lack of extra space, a few columns will be online only.

- A Word With Monsignor Boland
- Mick
- April Horoscopes

They will all be back next month for your reading pleasure!

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For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



GERRY MCGEOUGH, Irish patriot and devout father of four young children has been convicted by a Diplock (juryless) court in Belfast and faced sentencing on March 18. Though Gerry’s supporters filled the courtroom nobody from the Adams/McGuinness faction attended. (For up-to-date news see www.freegerry.com.) McGeough is convicted of armed combat against a British Ulster Defense Regiment (UDR) soldier in 1981 in which both were wounded. The UDR was once the B-Specials whose crimes prompted such international disgust that Britain “abolished” it by changing its name to UDR. Soon thereafter, in 1992, the UDR’s stench forced the British gov’t to “abolish” it by making it part of “Royal Irish Regiment.” It is important to note here that under British rule in Occupied Ireland it is murder to kill a British soldier (an armed combatant) but law remains silent when British soldiers murder Irish noncombatants. Thus, British soldiers who perpe-

trated Bloody Sunday by shooting 30, mostly in the back, of which 14 died, are not charged. Nor are the named UDR/RUC/SAS car-bombers of Dublin/Monaghan in which 33 died and some 300 were maimed. Nor are the UVF bombers of McGurk’s Pub (15dead including two children outside). Ditto UVF members who murdered hundreds of Catholics, randomly. The family of Nora McCabe (R.I.P.) permanently blinded by a rubber bullet fired through her window by a British soldier has been informed by the government that has stone-walled until now, that it is too late to prosecute. The MI5/FBI arrangers of the Omagh atrocity (29 murdered, some 200 maimed) are similarly untouchable (by attributing it to the IRA whose bomb it had been). The government and news media attributed all British atrocities to the IRA until evidence proved otherwise.

EVEN SLOW LEARNERS must now concede the folly of the Good Friday Agreement (GFA). The folly

was made clear in the version mailed to Irish voters prior to the 1998 referendum. The constant drumbeat of “Vote Yes For Peace” overcame the actual text that consisted of some 65 pages of aspirational posturing, mutually-contradictory statements, and baffle-gab, with a half-page of clear, uncontradicted, thus enforceable, text – the part mandating the rescission of Ireland’s Constitution’s Articles 2 and 3 that had laid permanent claim to the entire island and its territorial waters. Ireland’s government did gut those Articles thus giving Ireland’s pro-British minority a veto over Ireland’s sovereignty.

BOSTON COLLEGE tape-recorded key figures from both sides about ten years ago. Some of those data are collected in “Voices from the Grave” by Edward Moloney. Half of the book is in the words of IRA-man Brendan “Darkie” Hughes; the other half by Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF) leader David Irvine, both now dead. Moloney intersperses his own comments, but fails to distinguish war deaths from war crimes, thus he wrongfully equates Hughes and Irvine, though he seems otherwise unbiased. The book should be sub-titled “Final Proof for Slow Learners” (that the GFA was a sell-out). It should be read by those who didn’t notice the one-sided text of the original GFA itself, or don’t know that republican prisoners are being subjected to re-criminalization and pre-hungerstrike-era torture, or hadn’t noticed that occupied Ireland has been officially re-designated from disputed territory to an undisputed province of Britain, or hadn’t noticed that Gerry McGeough has just been convicted in a Diplock (juryless) court and faces imprisonment for combat with a Brit-

ish soldier thirty years ago, in which both were wounded, while none of the named British mass murderers of civilians are being prosecuted. The book’s protagonists, Hughes and Irvine, draw the following overall conclusions: Hughes concludes that what the GFA has wrought is a giant step backwards that wasn’t worth a single life, neither those he took, nor of British soldiers, nor the hunger-strikers, nor of others who had risked all for Irish freedom. The facts support Hughes: other than in catastrophic military defeat no nation has ever before surrendered some 20% of its national territory as Ireland had done. To stop the killings? No; homicides had peaked as far back as 1972 (at 472) and dropped sharply to small numbers by 1983, fifteen years before the 1998 GFA. Hughes says that he “would have gladly taken a bullet for Gerry Adams,” but due to the sell-out he “should have put a bullet in him.”

IRVINE RECOUNTS how his UVF had targeted Catholics randomly (“Any Taig Will Do” graffiti was everywhere), and perpetrated many massacres, all to terrorize Catholics. Irvine, at least one RUC, and British spooks perpetrated the bloodiest day of all, the Dublin/Monaghan car-bombings that killed 34 and maimed some 300. Also the Miami Show Band bus massacre in which his men and a few SAS men stopped the bus on its way home after a Belfast gig. Dressed in uniforms, they held the musicians outside at gunpoint while surreptitiously placing a delayed-timer bomb aboard to kill Dublin innocents later while falsely implicating the band in terrorism. It exploded in the perpetrator’s hands and blew one musician across the

roadside fence out of sight. He was the only Irish survivor. The surviving SAS/UVF men machine-gunned the rest of the band. The dead terrorists were Irvine’s UVF men, Wesley Somerville and Harris Boyle.

SUCH WAS David Irvine’s work that achieved the GFA. When Britain’s MI5, through Fr. Alex Reid of Belfast’s Clonard Monastery, subverted Gerry Adams, Irvine rasped the situation and participated in it. He exulted in his role in “copperfastening Ulster to Britain.” For him all his random murders of Catholics had borne fruit, having made his part of Ireland officially British. However, he describes his first triumphant trip to Washington and his chagrin when a US official explained to him why the U.S. had taken Britain’s side. It wasn’t that U.S. officials shared Irvine’s hatred of Catholics. It was merely that Neo-Cons were planning wars against Islam and wanted to free up the British army for use in those wars.

MORE PROOF YET that Adams/McGuinness has sold out: First be aware that the U.S. government does not trust its citizens to meet and hear Irish republicans. For more than four decades our government has refused visitors’ visas to them. It still bars them; Republican Sinn Fein’s Rory O Bradaigh remains barred. Adams and McGuinness were allowed in only after they became British operatives. Their congressional backers were our enemies who had supported Britain since 1973.

YET MORE: By phone from Pat Haran: “DUP leader Peter Robinson recently stated his willingness to attend a Catholic funeral Mass of a friend.” Martin McGuinness interpreted it as “Peter has addressed the issue of Mass” and consequently he (McGuinness) discourages protests against the Queen’s visit to Ireland. Is Peter’s willingness to attend a Catholic mass such a concession as to require Irish acceptance of a visit to Ireland of the Commander of British Forces? Those same British Forces were rushed to Buckingham Palace for honors by the queen only weeks after shooting dead 14 innocent civilians in Derry. Note that neither Martin nor Peter addressed the paint bombing of St. Mathews Chapel in Belfast a few nights ago by thugs loyal to HM the queen.

WHO STARVED YOUR RELATIVES? See www.irishholocaust.org.

WHO ARE THE TERRORISTS? See www.terrorismireland.org.

FOR MORE GFA RESULTS, See www.michaelmckevitt.com; www.friendsofcolinduffy.com.

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The Irish Rover

By James McClure



A Leprechaun Among Giants

Driving west from U.S. 12 along Illinois Highway 173 you get the feeling that you are as far from civilization and extraordinary accomplishment as a ride in the country can take you. Here, among the rolling glacial pastures of the Illinois Wisconsin border, you suddenly find a historical marker that is as towering as the long-ago event it heralds.

For in the sleepy little town of Hebron, rising high above the simple unchanged two block long downtown on Illinois Route 47, a 155-foot water tower painted like a giant basketball proudly proclaims, **HEBRON HOME OF 1952 STATE CHAMPIONS.**

Hard to believe that here in the middle of nowhere was a small group of young farm boys led by a disciplined Irishman captured the attention of Illinois and the nation on their way to winning the state basketball championship. Coach Russ Ahearn wore a green tie and green socks to the championship game in Champaign, a nod to both his Irish heritage and the green silk uniforms of the Hebron Green Giants, who were more Davids than Goliaths when you consider just how small a pond they came from.

Cows outnumbered people in Hebron in 1952, and the tiny high school had just 98 students. The starting five players were more often than not also the closing five, with just four or five junior varsity players to back them up. A common taunt as the small squad walked onto the court was "Where's the rest of your team?"

A more suitable question might have concerned where the rest of the gym was. The home floor for Hebron in 1952 wasn't even a regulation size court. The playing area was on a three sided stage with barely enough room for the players and coaches to sit down. A player pursuing a ball off the western side of the court risked falling four feet down off the stage into the small pit where the audience sat.

Still, Hebron was a town that lived and breathed basketball, and it developed the state's best players for reasons one might best link to cows. Settlers found the rolling McHenry County farmland ill-suited

for plowing but an ideal setting for pastureland. As the cows thrived so did the boys growing up on the dairy farms. Some think there was a genetic disposition for tall children among the mostly Dutch, English and German settlers.

The tallest was discovered in 1948 by new coach Edmund Russell Ahearn, who also was the new principal of the newly consolidated Alden-Hebron

High School. Ahearn grew up in Central Illinois as the grandson of County Cork immigrants and the son of a mother newly arrived from Ireland.

As the 5-foot-6 Ahearn rounded a corner at the high school to greet new arrivals from Alden, he stopped in his tracks with his sparkling eyes level with the front pocket on the bib overalls of a 14-year old eighth grader named Bill Schulz. The boy towered over the tiny Irishman by nearly a foot.

Ahearn thought fast and planned long.

"Son, what's your name?" he asked as he head craned upward.

"Bill Schulz, Sir," he said politely.

"Have you ever played basketball?"

"No, Sir."

It could be the ultimate coaching challenge, yet with the starting point of a youngster who could easily grow into one of the tallest players in the history of the state.

"Why don't you take gym eighth period?" suggested Ahearn. "I'm the gym teacher."

Eventually Ahearn extended an invitation to join the team, contingent upon Mr. and Mrs. Schulz giving their blessing. Farmer Fred Schulz was willing to strike a deal. If Bill was willing to work hard at practice and stick with the team, his father would let him skip the evening

milking.

Years later with the tallest Green Giant at 6-foot-10 and a half and the quick shooting, quick running Hebron Five plowing through 11 straight wins in the state tournament, the trip back and forth between Champaign and Hebron on Illinois Highway 47 was a two way affair for the team family and fans—they would have to make two trips to not miss the morning or evening milkings.

When Hebron won the champi-

into overtime, and the first ever televised. Never had such a small school ever gone all the way, and with the switch to multiple class tourneys two decades later, the feat would never be reproduced.

Back in Hebron telephone operator Myra Vanderpal was one of the few people left back in town during the big game. As the buzzer sounded her switchboard lit up like a Christmas tree, and she took it upon herself to blow the town fire whistle. Small towns may roll up the sidewalks at sunset but as the hour approached midnight, the town fire truck went blaring through Hebron's half dozen streets as cars streamed in from Alden, Harvard, Woodstock, Richmond and from across the border in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, as people wanted to share in the biggest moment of Illinois' smallest town.

The next morning the team headed home in a northbound caravan with huge crowds awaiting them at every

town along the way.

Writing in the *Champaign News-Gazette*, sportswriter Jack Prowell had this to say about the Green Giants:

The 1952 state high school basketball championship belongs to Hebron as it never belonged to another team in history. When memories of other state championships have long been forgotten, the fans will remember Hebron, for Hebron and its David and Goliath story belong to every basketball fan everywhere.

About this time of year, when the winter isn't yet past and the promise of new spring has yet to surface, I like to take a short drive five miles west and sixty years into the past. I don't see the giant basketball water tower all that clearly, and the 1950's style baskets that line the main street with local ads are just a flash in the rear view mirror.

I pull down a side street into a tiny little high school that still exists today. Just inside the front door I can see up on a shelf and just out of reach an impossibly tall statue awarded to the biggest team in state basketball ever. Among the quiet halls and silent streets I heard the roar of championship fans in a packed gym long ago.

And I know that if a dream can be dreamt, that once, in a town of giants, a little coach in green made the tallest dream ever come true.

IrishRoverJim@aol.com



Hebron 1952 State Champion Team

onship in late March 1952, it was a number of firsts. The victory against much-larger Quincy was the first state championship game to ever go

home in a northbound caravan with

huge crowds awaiting them at every

town along the way.

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Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



First, thanks to all for your many, many comments on my recent column featuring the Best Artists of the Decade Awards. Great craic. Now, on to some important, trad albums which might be easy to miss, maybe not. Let’s take a moment to repeat that there are a few GREAT resources for real Irish albums. Rampant Lion in Villa Park, Paddy’s on the Square in Long Grove, Copperplate Distribution in London and Claddagh

Music in Dublin, Ireland. If you love the real deal, these resources are invaluable to you, as they feature the real, true Irish music, not this other crapola floundering in the market played by poseurs. Here are five of the real deals. REAL deals!

Is Rita Gallagher the best Irish singer in the world? We know a LOT of musicians and fans who answer yes to that question for this fabulous alto from Donegal. A hidden treasure,

she and her new double CD, *The May Morning Dew - Easter Snow*, were brought to our attention by one of the world’s best, Copperplate Distribution in London. Google Copperplate Distribution You just landed in heaven without having to die first. This album is a masterpiece from a master singer. Do you want to hear the REAL Ireland? You’re in luck. Rita Gallagher will sing it to you. A sean nós classic from a gift of a voice. This is no nasal soprano child singing some nonsense passing as Irish. This is a real Irish woman singing wonderful music in a voice from God. Impeccable.

The hottest new group in Irish music is Outside Track. We need a lot more space than we have here. They are young, from Canada, America, Ireland and Scotland. The album is *Curious Things Given Wings*. Ailie even won an Award a couple years ago from us for a GORGEOUS air she wrote and performed on her solo debut album. Ailie Robertson is one of the new breed of harpists on the scene and she is wonderful. But, radio partner, Maryann Keifer and I are in love with Norah Rendell’s vocals and flute playing. Wait, we said we don’t have space, and we don’t. This

is a new powerhouse on the scene. Over the years we have alerted you to many great new acts. None better than this. Find the album. Find them in concert at this year’s Irish Fest in Milwaukee. New. Trad. Fab. The whole wonderful waterfront in one terrific group. Stunning.



Rita Gallagher

Happy To Meet and Sad To Part is the new album from master whistle player, Peter McAlinden, from Ireland. The tin whistle can either be a lovely thing altogether, or a curse from God. Depends, like everything,

on the player. When Copperplate and Alan O’Leary tell us someone is great our ears perk up. Again, he is right. This guy is a lovely, lovely whistle player with great taste and phrasing. A big selection of some of the great trad tunes here. You might just sort past another whistle album in your Irish music hunt. That would be a mistake with this album. Wow, can this guy play! Peter McAlinden is going to get a LOT of fans with this one. Count us as one of them! Mary Bergin, watch out!!

A Moment of Madness. We all have them. You need this one. The real aficionado well knows the name of Brendan Begley, he of button box international acclaim. Add Caoimhin O’Raghallaigh on fiddle and you have magic. Pure and simple. Great tunes and perfect playing. Need anything more? We’ve been playing a lot of it on the show, and we love every cut. These guys are terrific, terrific, terrific, but we repeat ourselves ourselves. Wait. Madness! Yes! Deeply knowledgeable and soulful players at their peaks. Perfection, and an early and serious contender for Instrumental Album of the Year. Madness never sounded so good.

Greentrax in Scotland sent us a masterpiece. *Hector MacAndrew Legend of the Scots Fiddle*. Never heard Scottish music played better. He passed in 1980, but thanks to Greentrax, we have this. This is where a company like Greentrax moves from being just another business to being an important part of cultural history. Scotland’s leading label has given us so many gems of real cultural significance, like Shona McMillan’s epochal, *People and Songs of the Sea*. And, here is Hector MacAndrew. Whatever you think of Scottish music, this will change your mind. Yes. If you love it, you will love it more. There are so many, many musicians who worship at the MacAndrews shrine, such as Manus McGuire, fiddler extraordinaire of the best instrumental assemblage in the world, The Brock McGuire Group. Artists like Hector MacAndrew truly, honest-to-god DO live forever. Here he is. The master. Still with us, albeit in a transformed state. Enough philosophical nonsense. On to the music. On to the best. On to MacAndrew!

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95th Anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising

95 years ago in Dublin, on Easter Monday, April 24th 1916; a small band of brave volunteers took on the might of the British army to proclaim a Sovereign and Independent Ireland. Two years later, in the only all-Ireland election in Ireland's history, the majority of the Irish people voted overwhelmingly to remove the British presence from Ireland. Today, 95 years on, Ireland still remains divided and occupied by a foreign military force.

On Saturday April 23, 2011, the Irish Freedom Committee will remember the extraordinary events of Easter 1916 and continue the call for a United, Sovereign and All-Ireland Republic free of British rule. The commemoration will take place from 11:30am to 2pm at Ginger's Ale House, 3801 N. Ashland Avenue, in Chicago. Musical guest is renowned South-side Chicago balladeer Joe Monahan. Statements from the Irish republican movement in Ireland will be presented, and the Proclamation of Ireland—read aloud on the steps of the GPO on Easter Monday 1916 by Padraig Pearse—will be recited. Your donation of \$20 at the door

includes a full traditional Irish breakfast. A raffle with prizes including Irish republican prison-made crafts will be held with all proceeds going directly to the families of Irish republican political prisoners, whose numbers continue to swell under the so-called "Peace Process."

A petition to International human rights organizations will also be circulated at this event, calling for independent legal and medical observers to visit the jails and document conditions there. Irish republican merchandise including books, t-shirts and badges will be on sale; with all proceeds going directly to the prisoners' families.

The IFC Easter Commemoration will follow a wreath laying and commemoration by the Irish Republican Socialist Committee of North America at the James Connolly monument in Union Park, Ashland Avenue at Washington Street, which commences at 10am.

All are welcome to attend, for more information visit www.irish-freedomcommittee.net or www.ircsna.org.

150 Years at Saint Patrick High School

Saint Patrick High School recently announced availability of a new book commemorating the 150th Anniversary of Chicago's oldest, all-male Catholic high school. *A Tradition of Brotherhood: 150 Years at Saint Patrick High School* chronicles St. Pat's journey from its original location adjacent to Old St. Pat's Church to its current home on Belmont and Austin.

Discussed in the history are stories surrounding the school's survival of the 1871 Chicago Fire and the school's tremendous increase in popularity throughout the 20th century. The book highlights the changes the school has made across the board to maintain a competitive edge including major improvements to the school's campus and curriculum. (The school's curriculum now offers students the opportunity to earn 32 college credit hours before they graduate from high school.)

The book's author and St. Pat's alumnus Daniel P. Smith also wrote *On the Job: Behind the Stars of the Chicago Police Department*. For more info or to order a copy, contact Tom Meilinger at tmeilinger@stpatrik.org.

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Irish Books & Plays in Review - *The Linen Queen* *Continued from Page 4*

her previous book, *The Yellow House*.

Sheila is a beautiful, smart, charming girl. In 1941, she wins the Linen Queen contest in the mill where she works. She hopes that the money she wins will permit her to move away to a better life.

Her grasping mother tries to take her prize money. When this happens, Sheila thinks, "All the earlier pleasure of possibility had drained out of me. Ma always managed to do this. Why did I even listen to her?"

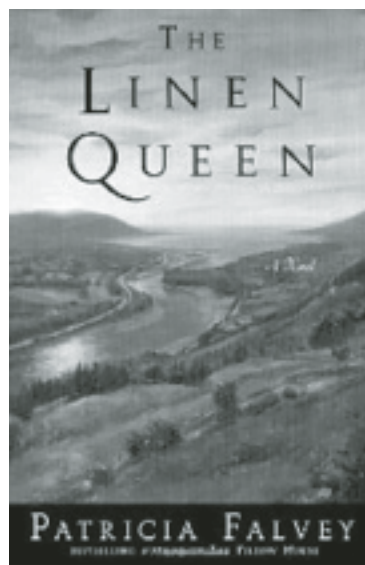
However, World War II intervenes. Northern Ireland is part of Britain and thus is on the front line. Belfast is bombed, and American and Canadian troops and ships are stationed there. She falls in love with an American soldier.

Sheila quickly learns that love has many aspects. It is a blend of desire, understanding, affection, and tenderness for the beloved and especially, love and respect for oneself.

Falvey is imaginative and skilled at creating characters that are memorable, colorful and vibrant. I feel they closely reflect real people she has observed.

One of these characters in Sheila's mother. Her description of their interaction is so realistic and accurate that I kept returning to it.

Her mother is totally self-centered and mean spirited. She constantly makes



bitter remarks to hurt Sheila's self esteem. Unfortunately, I had a close relative who was exactly like this. This person was always petty, manipulative and vicious.

Sadly, there are some of these bitter, hateful, jealous, begrudgers among the Irish people. I don't know why this is, because most Irish people are kind and considerate. And, our Irish cultural heritage is life affirming.

All I can say is that when we meet negative people like this, we must focus away from them, and focus on the golden characteristics of Irish people.

The Linen Queen by Patricia Falvey. Hachette Book Group, New York City, 2011. 320 pages; \$21.99. www.centerstreet.com.

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 **Daly Investor**
 By John P. Daly



Alternative Investments

What are they and should you own them?

Alternative Investments have gained considerable popularity with investors over the past decade; mainly because of easier access to the average investor. Alternative investments are nontraditional assets that offer different risk and return potential than your standard stock, bond, or cash investments. This area of investments was once dominated by the ultra wealthy. But now with the creation of new products, the average investor has access into this market. A question I often get from investors is "should I own alternative investments"? Let me first explain alternative assets in more detail then decide if they fit your investment strategy.

It's hard to give an exact definition as to what an alternative investment is. In the investment world, they are categorized as almost anything that is not a stock, bond, or cash, the basic components of a conventional portfolio. Some examples of alternative investments include hedge funds, private placements, real assets, and commodities. Part of the reason these assets classes have been absent from conventional portfolios is because of their lack of regulation. The regulation standards that exist for mutual funds and ETF's for example, does not apply to hedge funds or private placement investments. Since there is little to no regulation in place on many of these investments, the government only allows these assets to be

be accessed by almost all investors

The reason investors use alternative investments is simple; to generate enhanced returns and take on different risk characteristics than those produced by traditional assets (stocks, bonds, cash, etc). Basically it boils down to another level of diversification (if you've been following my article the past few months, you know I'm a big fan of diversification). These assets, whether it's a hedge fund or oil & gas limited partnership, tend to have a low correlation to the stock market. This is beneficial to investors because it gives them an investment that can go up when the stock market goes down – ultimately lowering the volatility of the portfolio and increasing overall returns.

Investing into alternative assets must be done with caution. As mentioned earlier, there is little regulation with many of these investments. For example, alternative assets do not have the liquidity or diversification requirements that mutual funds or ETF's have. This can cause problems to investors if they are not used properly. Also, alternative assets tend to strive for enhanced returns. Like most assets, increased returns also include increased risk. Depending upon your individual time horizon, risk tolerance, and tax status, alternative investments might make a good fit in your portfolio.

The Woman In Black

First Folio continues its Season of Suspense with the British thriller *The Woman in Black*, running through May 1.

Proud and solitary, Eel Marsh House surveys the windswept reaches of the salt marshes beyond Nine Lives Causeway. Arthur Kipps, a junior solicitor, is summoned to attend the funeral of Mrs. Alice Drablow, the house's sole inhabitant, unaware of the tragic secrets which lie hidden behind the shuttered windows. It is not until he glimpses a wasted young woman, dressed all in



black, at the funeral, that a creeping sense of unease begins to take hold, a feeling deepened by the reluctance of the locals to talk of the woman in black—and her terrible

purpose. Years later, he recounts his experiences to an actor in a desperate attempt to exorcise the ghosts of the past.

Performances take place in Mayslake Hall on the grounds of the Mayslake Peabody Estate. Located at 31st St. and Rt. 83 in Oak Brook. Tickets are available online at www.firstfolio.org or by calling the box office at 630-986-8067.

The Cunningham Family and Fuaim Chonamara

The Cunningham family and *Fuaim Chonamara* combine old style tradition with modern dance in memorable performances across America.

The multi-talented international rising stars of dance and entertainment, the Cunningham Family from Cashel, in Connemara, Galway, Ireland, have been mesmerizing audiences throughout, Ireland, Europe and the Far East with their energetic, sexy, heart stopping style of Sean Nos dancing. Chicagoan's are in for a treat as the Cunningham Family plan to launch their American tour with their own spectacularly choreographed successful Sean Nos Dancing Show throughout the area before embarking on a national tour of all the major cities across the United States.

The energetic performances from the Cunningham Family are unique, but still deeply rooted with Irish tradition synonymous with the Connemara culture. The Cunningham Family have been reviving one of Irelands oldest dance forms and transforming it into a wonderful display of dance style, skill and athleticism. Concentrating on the authentic and most traditional aspects of Irish Culture, the performances showcase the roots and origins of Irish Dance, celebrating elements of the dancing style.

The Cunningham siblings Brian and Irene hope to share this exciting transformation of culture with their audiences throughout the United States. The style of dance has a raw and sexy energetic vibe to it which the audience can feel part of. This is not a Riverdance style of dancing performance, but something far more advanced but with more traditional traits relating to Connemara. The transformation from traditional Sean Nós to modern dance had never previously been successfully combined until Irene & Brian Cunningham developed a new choreographed routine that is modern—fresh, skillful, sexy loose style dancing. Sean Nos dancing, inspired and influenced through their grandparents in the days of house to house dancing, started as a pastime for the Cunningham sibling's; now it's their passion.

Visit the family website www.fuaimchonamara.ie for more information about bookings, show locations or to view clips of the various segments of their shows. The Sean Nos show is full of warm hearted banter, wonderful music and pure traditional Sean Nos dancing in a friendly atmosphere. The Cunningham Family are certain to appeal to young and old who are guaranteed a mind blowing experience in every performance.

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Real Ireland



By Rachel Gaffney



Just before I started to write this article, I was at my sons rugby game and was chatting with two of the mothers. I asked them when

obvious bias and try this golden butter for yourself, I think you will agree. I am often asked why Kerry Gold Irish butter is in fact golden.



someone mentioned ‘Irish Food’ what sprung to mind. ‘Potatoes’ was the resounding reply from both. This is my all too familiar experience when I travel around the United States. Last week I taught at the Philadelphia International Flower Show and again people were surprised when I was cooking mussels.

Growing up in Ireland, Cork to be precise, seafood was a staple in our home. Every Friday my father would purchase fresh fish which I now dearly miss living in Texas!

The clean Atlantic waters are home to some of the finest molluscs in the world. Galway Bay is famous for it’s oysters and Connemara for it’s mussels. Mussels have been given a helping hand by man, and one that I for one am very grateful for. They are now cultivated by hanging ropes from long lines. We no longer have to endure the grit and sand at the bottom of our bowls allowing us to dip our fresh soda bread or crusty french bread into this delicious broth.

Along with the sea, the land too has been kind to the Irish. We have an abundance of fresh fruit, vegetables and, of course, it almost goes without saying that our grass fed cattle produce, in my opinion, the finest butter in the world. When you brush aside my

‘mara Mussel Festival’ is a must. The glorious Renvyle Peninsula in North Connemara is home to this wonderful mussel festival for the sixth year running. Of course, if you are in Ireland in September, then the ‘Galway International Oyster Festival’ should be a great choice for foodies or, indeed, the ‘Kinsale Food Festival’ in Cork in October. Just visit www.discoverireland.com and you can discover your very own food tour. As we say in Ireland, ‘Go where Ireland Takes You.’

Mussels in White Wine, Fresh Herbs and Garlic

Ingredients

- 6 pounds fresh mussels
- 6 chopped shallots
- 1 sweet onion
- 1 fennel bulb
- 3 leeks
- 3 cloves garlic
- fresh basil, thyme, tarragon & parsley
- olive oil for frying
- 2 cups white wine
- 2 cups vegetable or chicken stock
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream

Method

Preheat Oven to 375 degrees. Clean and debeard all the mussels, making sure that all the shellfish are closed prior to cooking.

Clean and trim the fennel bulb, cut it in half and then in 1/4 inch ribbons.

Clean and peel the sweet onion.

Soak the leeks in a cold water bath. Trim

The cattle in Ireland are grass fed, that, coupled with our temperate climate and the Gulf stream winding it’s way through the Atlantic to the Southwest Coast of Ireland provides a fertile environment for our cattle. The milk is rich in beta-carotene, turning butter and cheese into a natural gold. This butter is widely available throughout the United States, everywhere from Irish import stores, to Trader Joes, Costco, Whole Foods and other major grocery chains. There are two types of butter. Salted, found in a gold foil and unsalted in a silver foil. The unsalted butter is the only butter I bake with.

If you were to go to Ireland anytime from April 30th-May 2nd, 2011, then a visit to the ‘Conne-

the green stem. Cut white stalk in half and then into 1/4 inch coins.

Clean all fresh herbs. Use your judgement here to adjust to your own personal taste. Chop coarsely.

In a bowl mix the leeks, fennel and onions in some olive oil. Spread on a parchment lined baking sheet and roast for 15 minutes. Set Aside to cool.

In a large saute pan, heat olive

oil, add shellfish and toss for 2 to 3 minutes.

Add fennel/leek/onion mixture, white wine, stock, chopped herbs and cream. Cover pan and let steam for 4 to 5 minutes or until shells are open. Add salt & pepper to taste.

www.Rachelgaffney.blogspot.com

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Friday, April 8, 2011

Opening Ceremony

Céilí

Duet & Trio Competitions

7:00 PM

Saturday, April 9, 2011

Doors open at 8:00 AM

Competitions begin

at 9:00 AM

Sunday, April 10, 2011

Mass at 10:00 AM

This weekend offers something for everyone—competitors and spectators alike. Plan to join us for a great weekend of traditional Irish music, including an amazing concert and céilí on Friday night, competitions all day Saturday and the not-to-be-missed group band competitions that evening. The weekend wraps up with a rare opportunity to play in workshops with the master musicians for all students of Irish traditional music.

The Friday night concert and Céilí will feature the reigning champion 2010 All-Ireland Fleadh Cheoil Céilí Band in their first U.S. performance. Be sure to join us for this great event—all are welcome

The Templeglantine Céilí Band from West Limerick



2011 Chicago Rose of Tralee Crowned

Congratulations to Siobhan Carroll of Arlington Heights, IL, who was sponsored by The Irish Boutique. Siobhan has been selected to represent Chicago in Ireland's Rose of Tralee Selection in June. She will fly to Ireland to join young women of Irish descent from countries around the world, including Great Britain, Europe, Dubai, Australia and New Zealand. Siobhan will be an ambassador for Chicago, connecting the global Irish community in a celebration of their rich culture and sharing the heritage of Irish People at home and abroad. Her goal is to be selected from amongst the other participants representing their perspective countries to be named the Rose of Tralee during the International Rose of Tralee broadcasted live on Irish TV for two simultaneous nights.

Siobhan, along with fourteen other highly qualified candidates, submitted a six-page application and took part in an extensive interview process as well as a stage appearance prior to being selected the 2011 Chicago Rose of Tralee. The applications, interviews and stage appearances were evaluated by six well-respected members of the Irish community. The stage appearances took place during the weekend festivities at the Irish American Heritage Center on March 11. The stage appearances were emceed by the 2010 Chicago Rose, Julia Rose McDermott Polk and all the way from Ireland, Ronan Keary, International 2009 Escort. The ladies joined the Irish American Heritage Center and marched in the downtown parade, signed autographs at the IAHC and participated in a group interview. The judges tallied up the scores and Siobhan was announced on stage at the Irish American Heritage Center Sat-

urday evening. Siobhan attended Buffalo Grove High School, Indiana University and is now in progress of obtaining her Masters Degree



(L-R) 2011 Chicago Rose of Tralee Winner, Siobhan Carroll with 2010 Chicago Rose Julia Rose McDermott Polk.

at National Louis University. She is an Administrative Assistant at Northwest Community Hospital but is seeking a future career as a high school math teacher for the fall. Her father Thomas Frances Carroll of Tuam, Co. Galway played in the band for many years at the International

Festival for the Rose of Tralee and her mother, Deirdre Ann Carroll (Cadogan) was a Waterford International Rose.

When asked the question of "What it would mean for you to become the Chicago Rose," this was Siobhan's had to say: "I'm sure everyone presents the classic response of, 'it would mean the world to me,' and as I sit here pondering this question, all that I can think to say is that it would mean the world to me! The Rose of Tralee has held such a strong presence in my family and it would be such an incredible honor to keep the family tradition alive. I have long heard stories of my mom's own experience as a Rose of Waterford and of the nights my dad played in the selection ceremony. Even just being a part of the Chicago Rose has brought so much joy to my family all over the world. From my aunt in Australia to my Grammy's

in Ireland, everyone is so excited and so proud that I am involved. I would love to make that phone call and say, 'Gram, I'll see you in June!'"

The mission of the Chicago Rose of Tralee is to provide enrichment opportunities that will encourage young women of Irish

descent to be exemplary role models for tomorrow's youth and to make a positive difference in the world. The Chicago Rose of Tralee is currently accepting applications for 2012 Rose candidates, Rosepetals and Rosebuds. For information call 773-239-3927 or email at info@chicagoroseoftralee.com.

A special thanks to the Irish

American Heritage Center for hosting the Chicago Rose of Tralee and the *Irish American News* for all their dedication to help promoting such a wonderful opportunity for our Chicago land ladies. And a special shout out to all the Irish Radio Stations that have promoted the Chicago Rose – without you, we would never be able to get the word out!

Larkin & Moran Brothers CD Release Party

Larkin & Moran Brothers have a new CD, *éistigi*, and are have a CD Release Party (and Ireland Tour Pre-party) at The Fifth Province Pub in the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave. in Chicago, on April 15th at 8pm.

Advance copies of the new CD *éistigi* have received some great early reviews. The Celtic rock radio site Paddyrock.com reviewer, John Bowles, stated: "I can finally say that this is the BEST release from the The Larkin and Moran Brothers to date. I love it when



I get a release that makes me feel like I'm in a pub..." www.celticratpack.com.

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Crowley on Kells

By Frank Crowley



The Book of Kells—Its History and Art

Editor's Note—In the March edition of the *Irish American News*, a large portion of this column was inadvertently cut short. We are publishing the rest of column here, and apologize to Mr. Crowley and our readers for the error.

The *Book's* examination in this series is divided into the following historic and artistic topics.

1. Brief Introduction to the history of the *Book of Kells*
2. The general organization of Insular Gospels
3. Comparison to other Insular Gospels
4. Full page illuminations of *BoK*
5. Themes and symbolism
6. Scribes: Styles; Errors; Later contributions
7. Production Methods: Tools; Vellum; Pigments and Inks

A Brief Introduction to the History of the *Book of Kells*

The *Book of Kells* is considered to be the finest surviving example of Gospel manuscripts in what scholars call Insular Style. They were produced from the 6th through the 9th centuries in monasteries in Ireland, Scotland, Northern England and in Continental monasteries with Irish or English origins. The manuscripts all had similarities in textual, artistic and calligraphic traditions and were mutually influential.

In 563 AD, the Irish monk Colum Kille, also known as St. Columba, led a group of his followers to the Island of Iona off the west coast of Scotland to establish a monastery and scriptorium. Scholars believe the *Book* was begun some time later. After a long period of peace, Viking raids made life for the monks too dangerous and in 807, many of the

monks left Iona for Kells ("Cenannas" at that time,) site of an ancient hill fort in Co. Meath, Ireland, and built a new monastery and scriptorium.

The *Annals of Ulster*, a chronicle of medieval Ireland, recorded that

in the year 878 another group of monks arrived from Iona with valuables and relics. The description in the *Annals* suggests that the *Book* was among their valuables.

Medieval Era

6th to 14th Century

9th Century: The *Book* (possibly, see above) at Kells Abby (not yet called *Book of Kells*)

1007: An entry in the *Annals of Ulster* described the *Book of Kells* as stolen and recovered. The "Great Gospel of Columkille (still not yet called the "*Book of Kells*") was wickedly stolen during the night from the western sacristy to the great stone church at Cenannas on account of its wrought shrine." It was found "two months and twenty days" later "under a sod." Shrines often were decorated with gold or silver and gems and contained a bound book of great value. Many Gospel books themselves were often covered with gems and precious metals. Scholars surmise that both the shrine and the *Book's* covers were taken and the folios were ripped out and discarded because they were not considered valuable.

Which could easily explain the estimated 10 folios (double pages) that are missing from the beginning and 12 folios that are lost from the end of the *Book*. There are at least 28 folios—56 leaves (pages) of text and images that are missing. This estimate is determined by what sections are missing and what Insular Style Gospels usually included.

During the **12th century**, land charters regarding the Abby of Kells were written on blank leaves of the *Book*: 6 verso (left side) and 7 recto (right side).

A permanent record that the Abby would need for this transaction was indeed safe in the *Book*.

Modern Era

15th Century to Present

The Early Modern Era brought additional alterations to the *Book*. In some cases the *Book* was merely defaced with notations while others irreparably damaged leaves. However, everything that happened to the *Book* continues to be a source of historic interest and research.

In the **15th century** a poem by an unknown author complaining about taxation on church land was written on a blank leaf, 289v.

16th Century. Gerald Plunkett of Dublin entered chapter numbers of the Gospels that were created in the 13th century by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Plunkett also made many other comments throughout the *Book*.

1621. Bishop-elect of Meath, James Ussher numbered all the leaves. (This is the same Bishop Ussher who dated the time of the Creation, Saturday, October 22, 4004 BC, by counting backwards in the Bible.)

In the **17th century** during the period of the Comwellian invasions and the Irish Uprising of 1641, the Church of Kells was badly damaged and remained unrepaired. The Governor of Kells, Charles Lambart, sent the *Book* for safe-keeping in 1653 to government commissioners in Dublin. Henry Jones, who later became Bishop of Meath, presented the *Book* to Trinity College Library in 1661.

The *Book* continued to be under constant examination by scholars and Library officials at Trinity College. A folio was discovered to be folded the wrong way. It was corrected and reinserted in 1741.

The most egregious damage took place during 1821. Vellum leaves in hand-trimmed manuscripts are not exactly even, as they are in modern books with machine-cut paper pages. Slight differences were accepted. I imagine a monk taking the *Book* and tapping it on each side to make it as even as he could. The monk then carefully trimmed off about a half inch or so on each side, but he didn't check inside—many leaves had the edges of their images trimmed.

Subsequently, the dimensions are now 13" by 10" from the original 14½" by 10¼". A blank



Iona at "A"

flyleaf was inserted into the front of the *Book* and it then was rebound. The new edges were gilded.

During a visit 28 years later, Queen Victoria and Albert visited Dublin. At Trinity College Library they were shown many of Ireland's treasured manuscripts, including the *Book of Kells*. Victoria and Albert signed that blank flyleaf from 1821 with the

following inscription: "Victoria R" and "Albert" followed by the date, 7 August 1849. A Dublin newspaper claimed at the time their autographs would be regarded with more interest than the *Book* itself!

Other English royals signed the same flyleaf in 1861 and 1902 during visits to Trinity College. The flyleaf with the royal signatures was removed in 1953.

J. H. Todd, Trinity College Librarian (1852-'69) added more folio numbers to the lower left corners.

Another rebinding in 1895 was an opportunity for photographs to be taken for the Librarian. Soon after it became clear the binding was not going to last.

In **1951** Urs Graf-verlag of Bern made a complete reproduction with most folios in black and white with 48 pages in color. Only 500 copies were printed.

During the 1950s discussions for more repairs continued. For example, several of the leaves became loose and damaged from wear. It was clear that there needed to be immediate repairs but there was not agreement on how to proceed.

Finally in **1953** Roger Powell, the leading conservation bookbinder of his day, rebound the *Book* creating four volumes, one for each Gospel.

Francoise Henry published a major study in 1974 with many color reproductions.

Fine Art Publishers of Luzern, Switzerland in 1990 published a facsimile made with the latest technology that reproduced the smallest details. The IAHC bought a copy and displays it in the Center's Museum.

St. Mark's Gospel was sent to Australia for display in 2000. During that trip some pigment was damaged.

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Julia Creighton Passes

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Julia Creighton, owner of Irish Treasure Trove in Elmhurst, IL. Our sympathy goes to her family and many friends.

Creighton, Julia F. (nee Coen), age 70 of Downers Grove; formerly of Kilkerrin, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway. Beloved wife of John "Jerry" Creighton for 43 yrs, loving mother of Patrick (Lisa Monsour), John (Kristin), Julie (Keith) Shannon and Daniel (Christine Geberbauer); adoring grandmother of Jack, Aidan, Emma, Daniel, Jane and Liam; dear sister of Patrick, Teresa Hynes, Christopher (Breda), the late Christina and the late Edward (Brenda) Coen; proud aunt to many both here and abroad. Owner of the Irish Treasure Trove since 1983, Elmhurst. Julia will forever be missed. Interment Bronswood Cemetery Oak Brook. In lieu of flowers, please make private donation to a favorite cause.



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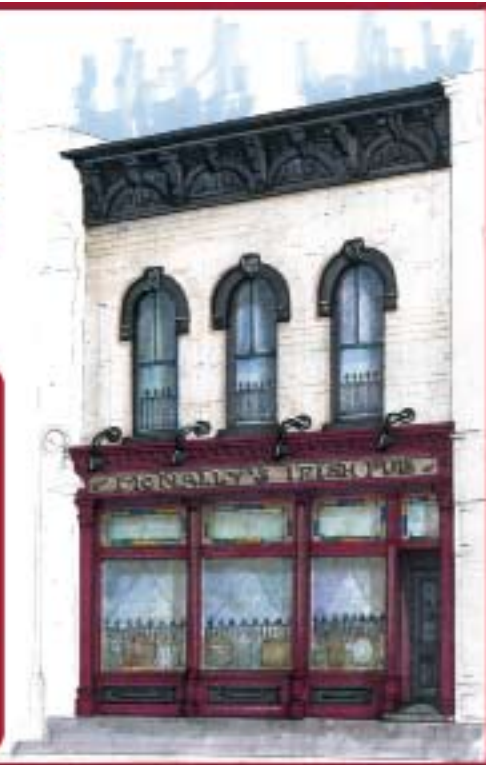
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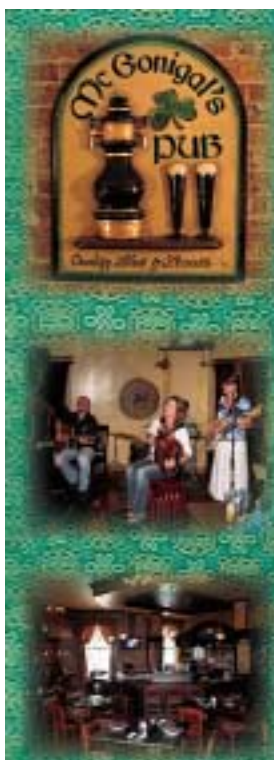
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Kill the Irishman

Kill the Irishman is not your average mafia movie. It blows up common cinema stereotypes and introduces audiences to the explosive true story of Danny Greene, an Irish mobster who rose from humble dockworker to criminal powerhouse. He incited the wrath of the local Italian mafia and caused a gang war so violent that during the summer of 1976, Cleveland was known as “Bomb City, USA.” Ray Stevenson, the charismatic Irish actor who portrays Greene with bravado, likens the movie to a western imbued with the flamboyance of the 1970’s, an era marked by exaggeration—a time when the only thing bigger than the



Our New York correspondent Amanda Donnellan (Center), with (L-R): Vincent D’Onofrio, and Ray Stevenson, stars of *Kill the Irishman!*

cars, lapels and mustaches were the gangsters. Greene was a larger than life figure himself, known as the “man the mafia couldn’t kill” for his seeming invincibility against a barrage of assassination attempts and his own brutal retaliation against enemies. Filled with local color, this film also boasts an impressive and eclectic cast. Christopher Walken as loan shark Shondor Birns, Greene’s ally turned enemy, Vincent D’Onofrio as his partner in crime John Nardi, and Val Kilmer, the cop with whom Greene shares an unusual cat-and-mouse friendship. These relationships, along with the romantic and familial subplots, form a complex and compelling

anti-hero with philosophical shades. Without romanticizing the villainy, *Kill the Irishman* successfully lends humanity to this fascinating and violent slice of Americana.

Rick Porello, who authored the book, *To Kill the Irishman*, on which this film is based, has his own colorful and complicated history. He wrote his first book *The Rise and Fall of the Cleveland Mafia—Corn Sugar and Blood* after researching the murders of his grandfather and uncles, mafia leaders in the “Porello Seven,” a Prohibition-era gang. He is currently Chief of Police in Lindhurst, the Cleveland suburb where Danny Greene was ultimately killed in 1977.

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Kathleen and Paddy Gilhooly with one of the founders of the Irish American News, Jean Burns.

Famine Ghost: Genocide of the Irish
By Jack O'Keefe

O'Keefe captures the raw details of the 1845-1850 Great Irish Famine, building our awareness of the true drama through photos, newspaper clips and drawings. It is a chilling story of the one million who died in Ireland and two million who emigrated.

Jack O'Keefe, Ph.D., is also the author of *Brother Sleeper Agent: The Plot to Kill F.D.R.*

www.famineghost.com



Chicago Gaelic Park

Serving the social & cultural needs of the Irish community throughout Chicagoland



A Chairde:

I had a wonderful time at Gaelic Park last night, as I write we are in the middle of Ireland on Parade, our annual event hosted by the ageless Martin Fahey. This event brings out the best in Gaelic Park as we celebrate our music and song with whole families present. It is a joy to see babies, young children, teenagers, parents, and grandparents come together to share their heritage and each other. My memories of the Ireland I left are of front doors being left open and visitors always welcomed, and that is what Gaelic Park means to me. Whether it is for music, song, dance, drama, Gaelic Games, good conversation or just a good pint of Guinness you are always welcome at Gaelic Park. We are blessed to have such a wonderful venue and grounds built by the sweat and commitment of so many. Outgoing President John Griffin completed 20 years as President of Gaelic Park and is loved and respected by all the various groups that call Gaelic Park home. John has earned that respect by his wise and caring leadership and his love of Gaelic Park. I want to thank all the people who have wished me well as President of Gaelic Park, and I look forward to a busy schedule with Gaelic Park Players Spring Production "The Castlecomer Jukebox" and preparation for our 26th Irish Fest.

Sincerely yours,

John Devitt, President

Our Irish Fest Queens



Bidget Fitzgerald Forbes is a resident of Chicago, 26 years old and a graduate of Saint Xavier University, where she earned her undergrad degree and completed her masters in business. Bidget is an Irish dancer and is learning to speak Irish. Runner-Up Megan Rutch grew up in Orland Park and is 18 years old. She attends Providence Catholic High School where she is enthusiastic athlete in her favorite sports of cross country and track. Megan is an honor roll student, a Christian student leader and an Irish dancer.

A warm "thank you" to all our wonderful contestants who participated in the 2011 Queen Contest.

Essay Contest Winners

Gaelic Park is pleased to announce the winners of the 2011 Essay Contest. This year's topic was "Who is Your Hero." We received nearly 200 entries, and each participant should be proud of what they contributed. Winners received cash prizes that were presented at the Celtic Supper of March 27.

Grammar School Winners

1st Place Camille Manguerra, St. Damien School, Grade 7
 2nd Place Ann Bojan, Queen of Martyrs, Grade 6
 3rd Place Grainne Kilroy, St. Mary of the Woods, Grade 8
 Random Allison Barclay, Queen of Martyrs, Grade 6

High School Winners

1st Place Savonna Beard, Maria High School, Grade 10
 2nd Place Daniel Fleming Carl Sandburg High School, Grade 10
 3rd Place Erin Carmody, Marist High School, Grade 12
 Random Edward Roland, St. Rita High School, Grade 10

Thank you to our fine judges for the dedication; their time and energy is very much appreciated: Jeannie Carroll, James Durkin, Michelle Greenfield, Maureen Healy, Rosemary Higgins and Geraldine McCabe.



GET READYthere's a huge storm said to be headed to the far south side of Chicago over the Memorial Day Weekend - but no worry, Gaelic Park will be prepared with tents and stages all in place for everyone to take cover... and party with

Gaelic Storm

.....for two big nights!



Gaelic Park Players Spring Play

Don't miss the 2011 production of *The Castlecomer Jukebox* written by Jimmy Murphy. Larry Coughlin is the Director, Kate McNally, Assistant Director and Stage Manager is Myra McWilliams. The story tells of a President of America who visits Ireland and what better way to entertain him than a showband from the good old days! The members of *The Castlecomer Jukebox* are ready to reform; it's been years since they dusted off their instruments and took the house down. Can they pull it off and shine in the limelight once more? Or will past hurts, crooked politicians and greedy business dealings strike a sour note and send the band crashing down...? **The Cast:** Robert Reidy, Bridget Christianson, Mick Kenna, Dave Denham, Meek Azarkiewicz, Barney Farrelly, John Devitt and Phillyis Bierdiz.

Show Dates

Fridays
 April 1, 8 & 15 - 8pm

Saturdays
 April 2, 9 & 16 - 8pm

Sundays
 April 3, 10 & 17 - 3pm

Ticket price is \$12 and non refundable.

Sundays Matinees Only \$25.00 Dinner & Theater

Reservations are a must - call 708.687.9323.



Harry Costello accepting the Mayor Richard J. Daley Trophy awarded to Chicago Gaelic Park for "overall excellence" participation in the 2010 St. Patrick's Parade.





Chicago Gaelic Park

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Memorial Day Weekend 2011 Celebrating 25 Years of Irish Fest on Six Stages

To celebrate this major milestone, we are promising to have some of the best international and local Irish entertainment. Here is a just a sneak preview:

gaelic storm ✪ ronan tynan ✪ leahy ✪ de danann ✪ tartan terrors ✪ declan nerney ✪ fenians
 american english ✪ infinity ✪ girsa ✪ sean wilson ✪ liz carroll ✪ sandcarvers ✪ 7th heaven ✪ four courts
 crossroads ✪ chicago reel ✪ red rebel county ✪ kathleen keane ✪ tommy goodwin&sharon ✪ larkin moran
 bernie glim country roads ✪ joe cullen ✪ baal tinne ✪ irish musicians ✪ gerard haughey ✪ sean o'donnell
 shannon rovers ✪ emerald society ✪ joe mcshane ✪ ray gavin ✪ solid-aire ✪ character fleadh
 o'learys lantern ✪ week back ✪ celtic sounds ✪ patrick guinee ✪ pat daly ✪ mulligan stew ✪ sean&charlie
 irish music club ✪ pat finnegan ✪ billy o'donoghue ✪ murphy roche

De Danann is a legendary group originally formed in 1976 in Galway. Then in August 2009, Frankie Gavin unleashed a new De Danann ensemble of fiercely talented performers who are committed to performing the very best in Irish music.

The Four Courts group includes the well respected Chicago based performers of Paddy Homan, Dennis Cahill, Jimmy Keane and Maurice Lennan. Together

these artists deliver a wonderfully magical evening filled with contemporary and traditional Irish music and song.

Liz Carroll was recently honored at the 2010 IBAM (Irish Books, Arts, Music) Cultural Arts Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Music. *The Irish Voice* named Liz one of the



2010 Most Influential Woman. She has been celebrated for invigorating the traditional styles of Irish music. Her compositions have entered into the repertoire of Irish and Celtic performers throughout the world. **American English** is simply the best Beatie tribute story of our time. They have been voted the "Best Tribute Band" in three of the last four years by their fans in the Chicagoland area.

Gaelic Park's Banquet Facilities Add Elegance to your Special Events

Chicago Gaelic Park has the experience and facilities to host events from 50 to 500 people in banquet rooms recently remodeled and which are among the most beautiful in the southwest suburbs. With three different banquet rooms that can be rented for a host of occasions, Gaelic Park is the perfect locale for bridal and baby showers, weddings, school proms, dinner dances, concerts and more. Each banquet room has its own special flair, so that your special event is planned in a way that is sure to impress. A variety of menus are available to suit different special occasions and allows each event to be customized.

The Emerald Room is a perfect fit for your large wedding reception or party. Upon entering, elegance abounds, as collections of Irish Waterford Crystal and Belleek China adorn the lobby. This luxurious room features sparkling crystal chandeliers, two oak bars featuring hand carved glass mirrors, an extra large hardwood dance floor and elevated stage and a state of the art audio visual system.

The Tara Room, most recently remodeled, allows for a lot of flexibility, as many different kinds of events can be held here, from wedding receptions to concerts to retirement parties. The room features two beautiful oak bars with antique mirrors, two sets of washrooms, a hardwood dance floor and stage and audio visual system. This room can hold up to 400 guests. Plans are now well under way for the upgrading of the back patio and surround. Included in these plans will be the installation of a waterfall which should set the scene for a tranquil setting that will be enjoyed by everyone.

The Celtic Room is the most intimate of the three banquet rooms and can host parties up to 120 guests. Its location on the second floor gives it privacy, while still offering all the amenities of a full service banquet facility. The Celtic Room, which is easily accessed by elevator, is an ideal spot for showers, corporate dinners, family reunions and smaller wedding parties. Another great feature of having a party at Gaelic Park is that guests can take advantage of the Carraig Irish Pub. Guests who arrive early, or not ready to leave after the festivities, can continue the party at The Carraig. It's not only convenient, but it has a wonderful atmosphere as well. Gaelic Park staff is available daily from 9:00am to 8:00pm, to help you with your planning or any questions. www.chicagogaelicpark.org. 708.687.9323

Cork Team Wins All Ireland Trivia Quiz



Larry Coughlin, Tom Kearney, David O'Connell, Bob Kearney

There were 21 teams participating in the 5th year of this event that is sponsored by the Gaelic Park Players. Team Once De Mayo finished a close 2nd, with the 2010 champions, Roscommon, finishing 3rd. Three teams represented Galway and Donegal and 14 counties were represented in all. A fantastic night was had by all! Congrats to the winning Cork group!

Special Events at the Park

Annual Luncheon is on Wednesday, April 6 beginning at noon and features the music of Sean O'Donnell, with dancing until 4pm. The luncheon includes a delicious sit down meal of soup, salad, entrée, vegetable, potato, dessert and tea and coffee, for the modest cost of \$13.

Sunday Celtic Suppers continue each week and feature a delicious hot food buffet, that includes choice of soups, salad bar, choice of entrée's, selection of vegetables, potato, dessert, tea and coffee. The Celtic Supper is perfect for birthday parties, anniversaries, christenings or any family get together. Admission is \$16 for adults, children 12 and under \$8 and children 3 and under are free. Entertainment on April 3 will be Thee Grinnys, Joe Cullen on April 10 and Sean O'Donnell on April 17. There will be a special **Earlier Sunday** edition of the Celtic Supper on Sunday April 24 and music will be provided by John Dillon. The Easter Bunny is scheduled to make a very special appearance with treats for the little ones. All of the music, food and fun, is included in the special price of \$21 for adults, and \$11 for children twelve and under.

Monthly Mass and Breakfast will be on Sunday, April 10 beginning at 10am, in the Emerald Room. A delicious Irish Breakfast, featuring bacon, Irish sausages, Irish soda bread, scrambled egg, hash browns and black pudding will be served following Mass. Admission is \$8.

Sunday nights from 7 to 9pm, listen to a live broadcast from Gaelic Park by Hony Costelloe, Mary Hackett, and Mary Riordan on WCEV 1450 A.M. Hear all the week's Irish news and sports direct from Ireland, and all the latest events and goings on at Gaelic Park. Call 708.687.9330 to request a song or dedication. Also live on the internet at www.wcev1450.com.



Chicago Gaelic Park

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Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) Chicago's GAA will host a month long demonstration of Gaelic sports on the lakefront soccer fields near Montrose Harbor every Sunday at noon from April 10 to May 16. This event is part of the new North American GAA Central Board's initiative to promote Gaelic sports here in Chicago this year, which will include concerts, events at Gaelic park every Sunday during the summer, and challenge matches being held all over the Chicago land area. Tom Sheehy, the GAA Development Officer for Chicago, has been setting up youth leagues in both North side and Southside neighborhoods for this summer as well as during the school year. Tom says, "The last few years we've seen loads of growth in America for Gaelic Sports, and these youth teams are going to let us keep it going for years to come by building great connections with each parish and community." Contact Tom at 773.329.8263 email tom@sheehy.gaa-centralusa.org. The new Central Board for the GAA invites you to come see a game any Sunday at Gaelic Park this summer, and keep an eye out for our events all around the city. If you'd like to sponsor any of the events run by the Chicago GAA, email gregmiller@chicago@gmail.com. Greg Miller, NAGAA Central Board P.R.O.

St. Jolain's Youth Gaelic Football and Hurling clubs 2011 season is almost upon us, and we are always looking for new players, boys and girls from ages 6-18 with all skill levels to play. Football practices are Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8 pm, and Hurling practices are Friday evenings from 6:30-8 pm. All which are held at Gaelic Park. For more information visit our website www.chicagosjolaitha.com.

The Carraig Pub hosts musicians and delicious pub food served seven days a week, beer specials and live music on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Enjoy the energetic and free musical entertainment beginning at 7:30pm on Friday's and 9:30pm on Saturdays. Every Thursday night at 7:30pm, join Pat Finnegan and Friends in a traditional Irish Music Session. All ages are welcome. On Tuesday nights, come in to test your knowledge in our weekly Carraig Pub Quiz beginning at 7:30pm. Enter a team for a minimal entry fee. The Pub will have a Lenten fish fry every Friday from 5-10pm and includes a variety of fish entrees.

St. Baldrick's fundraiser was held on March 6. All donations benefit the fight against children's cancer. Volunteers, sponsored by donations from friends and family, shove their heads in solidarity for children with cancer. More information on the foundation can be found on their website at www.stbaldricks.org.

Enjoy the Music & Spirit of the Irish in our Authentic Pub Imported Directly From Ireland.

Open to the Public 7 Days - Live Entertainment Every Weekend
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"Pub Trivia" Every Tuesday Night @ 7:30pm

Live Music in the Pub

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- 4/02 Beate 66
- 4/08 John Dillon
- 4/09 The Reckets
- 4/15 TBA
- 4/16 Bernice Gilra & Country Roads
- 4/23 John Dillon
- 4/29 Joe McShane
- 4/30 TBA

Friday night entertainment begins at 7:30pm and Saturday night at 9:30pm.

Check Website for Full Schedule

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My St. Patrick’s Day weekend was awesome. It started on Friday when I danced at the Irish Fellowship Dinner with my sister, Maeve and other Mullane dancers. My sister was excited because she got to wear the team dresses. We danced for the Taoiseach

fun because my dance teacher, Mike, was announcing all the dancers at the party. My 2 year old cousin, Grace, likes watching us dance. She tries to imitate us. She also likes our wigs. After the party, we went to Aurelio’s pizza with my family. We had a great



time. I was ready for bed after that. I was exhausted! I got to rest on Sunday. Usually, I would have gone to the South Side Parade. I was sad about the parade but I’m glad I got to rest. On St. Patrick’s Day, my sister and I got to leave school to dance at O’Brien’s Restaurant during the

of Ireland, Brian Cowen. He even shook my hand. We practiced hard and our dance performance turned out great. Everyone liked it. On Saturday, I went to the parade with all my cousins and siblings. We ended up leaving before we were supposed to march because it was so cold and rainy. It was still fun while it lasted. I regret not marching, but it was cold. When we went back to the hotel, I got ready to dance at the Mercy Home party. It was

Queens’ lunch. I think we did a good job. Channel 5 filmed us but they didn’t put us on the news. When we returned to school, we danced for every classroom at my school. We went to dance practice that night. What a perfect way to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day. I had a great St. Patrick’s Day this year and I hope next year will be even better. Happy Easter to everyone and good luck to the Mullane Healy O’Brien dancers going to World’s!

Queen Elizabeth to Visit Ireland

A statement was recently released from the Office of the President of Ireland announcing that an invitation has been issued, and accepted, to the British Head of State, Queen Elizabeth, to pay a State Visit to Ireland in 2011. This will be the first State Visit to Ireland of a British Head of State.

The gov’t believes that the vast majority of Irish people will welcome a State visit by the Queen in the present day spirit of mutual respect between our nations and friendship between the peoples of these islands.

While it will be no surprise if there are some protesters—peaceful protest

Seanachai Theatre Company’s 2011-12 Season

Seanachai’s announced its second season at the 3rd Flr Theatre at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox in Chicago, IL 60630. Sean O’Casey’s political tragicomedy *The Shadow of a Gunman* unveils the theme of the 2011-2012 season, *Classic Voices—The Revolutionaries*. In spring 2012, veteran Chicago actors Brad Armacost and Steve Pickering star as Phil Hogan and James Tyrone, in iconoclast Eugene O’Neill’s emotionally searing *A Moon for the Misbegotten*.

Long celebrated for producing contemporary Irish works, Seanachai journeys back to explore these early 20th century revolutionary masters, the now classic voices of Irish/American theatre.

During the 1910s, Eugene O’Neill

(1888–1953) began a playwriting career that would revolutionize the American Theatre. In 1936, he became the first American playwright to win the Nobel Prize and went on to become a four-time recipient of the Pulitzer Prize. His most well known works include *Beyond The Horizon*, *Anna Christie*, *The Hairy Ape*, *Desire Under the Elms*, *The Iceman Cometh*, *Long Day’s Journey Into Night*, *A Moon for the Misbegotten* and *A Touch of the Poet*. Today, he is generally recognized as one of the greatest dramatists in the history of American Theatre.

Séan O’Casey (1880–1964), born to a poor Protestant family, embraced the Irish nationalist cause and became active in the labor movement and its paramilitary Irish

Welcome Back Ed Sexton, Happy 40th Anniversary!

Our customers and advertisers are very interesting people, and a vital part of the fabric that makes the Chicago area so vibrant. It is the vibrancy of the people that makes the *Irish American News* an exciting and relevant publication to the community.

One of our long time advertisers, Sexton Complete Care, formally known as Bissell Complete Care, has returned

to our pages. This not only speaks to a recovering economy but the fact they are celebrating their 40th anniversary, is something worth bringing to our attention.

They are a firm specializing in periodic maintenance in restaurants, with a special emphasis on wood floor care. As you can see from the advertisement on page 11, they serve a number of fine Irish Pubs, not all are pictured

in this ad. However, as Ed Sexton, Sr. said to me “we are always looking for more customers, for our longevity and specialization in restaurants means we can bring the very best in procedures and knowledge to our customers.”

As always, we encourage you to support our advertiser and we can say with no hesitation, give The Sexton Group a call, you will not regret it.

Cliff Carlson

Andy White - One Night Only

Belfast-born and raised globe travelling singing storyteller Andy White is coming to the Chicago-land area—but he’s going to be here for just one night,

White, set to release his simply entitled tenth album, *Songwriter*, in the US this spring, plays a venue he always loves coming back to, the Celtic Knot in Evanston.

The Wednesday April 13 show is one of only five gigs White has penciled in for the US this time around, after his tours of Australia and Canada.

White’s music is a blend of folk and pop styles but arguably more important every song also tells a story—and he’s been spinning tales for more than 20 years.

Andy White plays the Snug in the Celtic Knot, 626 Church Street, Evanston, at 8pm on Wednesday April 13.

Daniel O’Donnell’s Moon Over Ireland

Internationally acclaimed Irish singer Daniel O’Donnell has release his 40th album, *Moon Over Ireland* through DPTV in the U.S. last month.

Throughout his 20-year career, Queen Elizabeth awarded an honorary MBE to O’Donnell for his “service to the music industry,” as well as two nominations in the U.S. for CMA’s Global Country Artist Award. He’s been awarded numerous platinum and gold awards from the CRIA for both CD and DVD sales. He performs 15 sold-out shows annually at the Tri-Lakes Center in Branson, Missouri and recently taped his 11th Public Televi-

sion performance from the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, which will be aired by Public TV stations nationwide in August.

Known for his deep dedication to his fans and unmistakable voice,



O’Donnell has shown that he is more than simply a traditional Irish singer, but is a multi-genre artist who performs a unique blend of Celtic, country and inspirational music. His vast fan base knows and loves him for his beauti-

fully arranged renditions of traditional Irish and American country music and he continues to deliver just that with his new album *Moon Over Ireland*.

Mayo Association Day at the Races

The Mayo Association Annual Day at the Races at Hawthorne Race Course will be on Saturday, April 16, 2011; doors open at 11:45am; Buffet at 12:30pm; and the first race is at 1:25pm.

Tickets are now available for \$38 each, which includes admission, racing program and a delicious buffet luncheon. Parking is extra.

To order tickets, please contact Judy Maloney, 708-562-1156 or Peggy Ruane 708-422-5899. Tickets must be purchased in advance, as tickets must be in hand to guarantee entry to the race track.

In conjunction with the Day at the Races there will also be a raffle. Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 3-for-\$10. If you can’t make it to race day, please consider purchasing some raffle tickets—then mail the stubs and your check, made payable to THE MAYO ASSOCIATION, to Julia Gibbons, 6967 Margaret’s Court, Tinley Park, IL 60477. There will be a number of great prizes, and the **winner need not be present**.

Last year donations in the amount of \$1,750 were made to four different charities.

O’Molloy Clan Rally in Ireland

The third O’Molloy Clan Rally will be held from Friday 12th to Saturday 13th August 2011, in Tullamore and will include lectures by guest speakers, access to local genealogical records, Tours of O’Molloy castles, homes and burial sites in their ancient ancestral territory, music, dance and storytelling, dinner at Charleville Castle.

Membership of the O’Molloy Association is open to anyone with family links or interest in the O’Molloy clan or its ancient territory of Firceall, comprised of the ancient baronies of Ballycowan, Ballyboy and Eglis, and extends from Durrow north of Tullamore to Eglis on the edge of Birr. The O’Molloy clan ruled Firceall from the 5th to the 17th centuries.

The O’Molloys are descended from the famous Niall of the Nine Hostages, High King of Ireland in the fifth century.

The O’Molloy Clan Association was formed in November 2004 with a view to promoting the O’Molloy name and the territory of Firceall. It is hoped to achieve this through holding Clan Rallies and by developing connections in Ireland and worldwide which will gather, conserve and share relevant historical and genealogical information.

For additional information contact Thomas Molloy at info@omolloy.com or John Malloy at johnpmalloy@comcast.net. Further details may be found at www.omolloy.com.

in accordance with the law is part of the democracy—such a visit would testify to the modern bilateral relationship both countries now share.

Britain is Ireland’s most important source of tourists. In 2010, Great Britain accounted for 45% of visits to Ireland.


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