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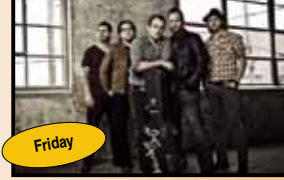
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**Wrigleyville's Deuce's and Diamond Club Features Irish-American Chef**

There is a vibrant new executive chef in the kitchen at Wrigleyville's newest restaurant/club, Deuces and the Diamond Club, 3505 N. Clark Street. James John Finnegan (aka Jamie), whose great-great grandfather hailed from Armagh Ireland, is multi-talented as well as Irish-American. James studied graphic design at DePaul University, worked in advertising and business development and cultivated his passion for food and wine with an AS degree in Culinary Arts at Johnson & Wales University, Miami.

Deuce's lured Jamie away from the Sunshine State to work as their executive chef in 2011. Jamie immediately developed an innovative menu, incorporating organic produce and sustainable products, including herbs grown on the walls of the outside patio.

Putting a new spin on the common burger, Jamie created five of his own:



*Chicken sandwich, market salad, and housemade hummus are just a few of things on an extensive menu.*

**Shroomed:** caramelized mushrooms and onions, Fontina cheese with Worcestershire mayo.

**Greek:** Colorado lamb, feta cheese, tomato, lightly pickled cucumbers and tzatziki. Tzatziki is a greek sauce made of strained yoghurt (usually from sheep or goat milk) mixed with cucumbers, garlic, salt, olive oil, pepper, lemon juice, and dill or mint or parsley.

**Big Sky:** grass-fed, hormone and antibiotic free bison patty, crispy fried sage, pickled red onions, bacon and smoked ketchup.



*Jamie Finnegan hard at work on a busy day.*

**Lobster:** D+D's classic beef patty with butter poached lobster, arugula and saffron aioli.

**Faux-Lafel:** falafel, shredded lettuce,

podium and the state of the art sound system keeps an upbeat tempo.

For more on the D&D (773) 644-5554  
<http://deucesandthediamondclub.com>.

tomato, cucumber, tahini and harisa (ground sesame and hot chili) ketchup.

Deuces and Diamonds opened in September of 2011 by owners Kevin Killerman (O'Donovan's ad Casey Moran's) and James Geier. The club is massive by downtown standards, seating 500 plus in the bar and restaurant. The first floor is Deuce's, named after a fictional baseball player The Deuce, filled with colorful bottles, a huge bar and a more intimate side room called the Whiskey Bar. On warmer days there is a large garden with 9 reserved cabanas each equipped with a personal tv and accommodating up to 16 people. Take an escalator ride up to the Diamond Club, with upscale, cushioned seating, antique ice carts for the bottle service. There is a built-in DJ

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The Keane Machine returns with special guest Howard Levy on Saturday, May 19th, 2012 at 8pm, to perform the first movement of Howard's Concerto for Diatonic Harmonica. The work will be performed for the first time with instrumentalists from the Keane Machine. The musicians will be also featured in their respective genres; jazz, Irish, country, bluegrass, classical & original.

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# City Life: Coming of Age in Chicago

by John Linehan

City Life is a coming of age tale set in the neighborhoods and streets of Chicago, one of America's most dynamic cities. It's the 1970's and Chicago's Southside is changing along with the rest of America. For Francis Curtin, a working class teenager growing up in the West Englewood neighborhood, life is about getting his first car, dodging trouble at his Catholic boys's school, and exploring the city with his

closest pals. But Francis' world is set for rapid-fire expansion when he lands a job as an Andy Frain usher.

Suddenly Francis is on the sidelines at Soldier Field, backstage at concerts at the Chicago Stadium, and rubbing elbows with sports celebrities Harry Carey and Bill Veeck at Comiskey Park. Then there are some of the usher's he meets, a motley crew of characters who expose Francis to the adult world and

the corruption that Chicago is celebrated for. City Life is about coming of age in one of the most turbulent and thrilling eras in American history. Chicagoans will love this story for it's historical undertones and setting in some of the city's most iconic sites, many now demolished or in derepair.

John Linehan grew up in the West Englewood community on Chicago's southside. During his childhood Chicago was known as the "Most Racially Segregated City in America". This was because Chicago has always been a city of immigrants. People from around the world would settle there to escape the oppression and poverty of their homeland. These people worked in the stockyards and steel mills of the city. They settled in ethnic enclaves and brought many of their own suspicions and prejudices with them. Open housing laws were passed by the federal government and the period of time from the mid sixties thru



the late seventies marked rapid racial change as neighborhoods on the west and southsides of the city change literally overnight.

Linehan's neighborhood was changing just as he turned sixteen. He bought an old car and joined a city wide ushering service that gave him access to the stadiums, ballparks, and arenas of the city. He met a lot of characters in the bars and ballparks of Chicago. Corruption was an

accepted part of life in Chicago. He had an inside look at how the "City that Works" actually worked.

Linehan grew up reading Chicago authors: John Powers, James Farrell, Saul Bellow, Nelson Algren, Mike Royko and Stuart Dybek. He saw similarities between the life experiences they wrote about and the characters he met growing up in the city. This inspired his first novel: City Life, Coming of Age in Chicago.

Buy the book at amazon.com or at The Bookies Paperbacks & More, 2419 W 103rd street, Chicago IL. 60655.

John is available for book clubs and libraries. The basic talk is about growing up in Chicago in the sixties and seventies which leads up to his days as an Andy Frain usher. It's about a half an hour or so in length. Anyone interested in a book reading can contact 708-860-2209.



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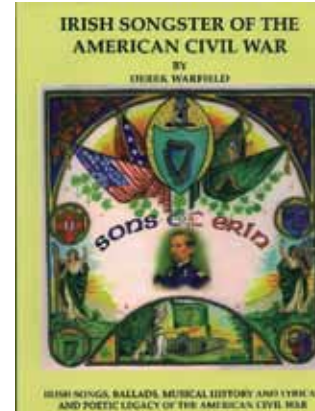
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## Saddle Up, Quiet Man Fans!

By Frank Mahon

Mary Brown Morrison was a "tiny vivacious red-headed bundle of energy," according to her first son. Her grandmother came from County Cork. Mary and her husband, a pharmacist named Clyde, of Scotch Irish descent, lived in Winterset, a little town 40 miles southwest of Des Moines, Iowa. On May 26, 1907, little Mary gave birth to their first of two sons, a 13-pounder they named Marion. When Marion was three years old, the Morrisons moved from their little frame house in Winterset to southern California. Marion grew up big and strong in the California sun, and eventually got a football scholarship at USC and studied pre-law. But an injury ended his football career, his scholarship money, and his college education. Having to earn a living, Marion, who went by his nickname, Duke, stumbled into the movie business, and became John Wayne.

Marion Robert Morrison (he never legally changed his name) passed away in 1979. In the 2010 Harris poll of America's Top 10 Favorite Movie Stars, John Wayne ranked #3, behind Johnny Depp and Denzel Washington. He has always been the only deceased movie star on that list, and the only one to have made the list every year since the poll's inception in 1994. He made over 175 films and won an Oscar for True Grit.

Not surprisingly, the little town of Winterset, population 4,800, celebrates Mr. Morrison's birthday each year. And when it does, always over the Memorial Day weekend, about 10,000 – okay, I'll use the word – "pilgrims" from around the

world show up and join in the festivities. The first birthday celebration was in 2007, the centenary of Mr. Morrison's birth. Each year, the board of the John Wayne Birthplace (JWB) chooses one of Duke's films as a theme for the celebration. Special events are planned, a benefit dinner is held, movies are shown, members of the



John Wayne and Brian Downes

Wayne family and other notables show up, and everyone has a great time. This year promises to be no exception.

On May 25 and 26, everyone is invited to Winterset for the John Wayne Birthday Celebration, this year, also celebrating the 60th anniversary of The Quiet Man.

According to Brian Downes, executive director of the John Wayne Birthplace, this will be the most lavish salute to the 1952 Oscar-winning John Ford classic ever presented. Period! Highlights include special screenings of The Quiet Man at the vintage Iowa Theatre, the Midwest premiere of the documentary Dreaming The Quiet Man

(American Film Institute's Best of Europe Film Festival, 2011) by Dublin filmmaker Seamus Doyle, and performances of the play Maurice Walsh's The Quiet Man (Jeff Award nominated, 2009) by Chicagoan Frank Mahon, produced by The Winterset Stage. (Not to be missed.)

John Wayne's daughter, L.A. attorney Aissa Wayne, will host the Benefit Dinner on Saturday night. Live Irish music, including The Shannon Rovers, and an auction of "Quiet Man" memorabilia will accompany the dinner, along with some other surprises. More Irish music and good craic can be had down the street at Little Dublin Irish Pub, an Irish jaunting car (like the one used in the movie) will be available for rides, and there will even be the "Inisfree 5K Walk/Run" (in lieu of a horse race).

Other attractions include the obligatory tour of Wayne's birthplace, "Pie Squared," a celebration of pie in Courthouse Square (225 pies baked by the "church ladies" of Madison County), breakfast at the firehouse, and corned beef and cabbage served up at Pheasant Run Tavern. There will be plenty of American flags, so just bring your mom and you'll have it all covered.

The practical side to this annual Duke-Fest is to raise funds for the future John Wayne Birthplace Museum. About 30,000 people visit the birthplace annually, and the numbers keep growing. While the small, 4-room frame house and collection of memorabilia have been attracting visitors since the actor's death, the board of the JWB envisions a larger structure that will include a 50-seat theatre, learning center, and plenty of room to display artifacts from Wayne's long career in film. They

have embarked on a fundraising campaign to raise \$5.5 million. They are off to a good start, having raised hundreds of thousands of dollars from donations ranging from \$5 to \$50K, but they have a ways to go.

So what was it about John Wayne that continues to draw people to his image, his films, and his birthplace? Why do all these pilgrims come to Winterset? "He is the embodiment of the American spirit," says Downes. "He is what we aspire to be." Brian Downes, a former Chicago journalist who moved to Winterset in 2008, once spent a day with John Wayne. In a display of true grit, as a young staffer for the Chicago Tribune in 1977, he asked Wayne for an interview, and got it. He was invited to Wayne's home in Newport Beach, CA. He says that Wayne quickly caught on that he was not a seasoned reporter (in fact, he had not yet been published). But Wayne spent the whole day with him anyway, and they stayed in touch for the last two years of Wayne's life. "Whenever people ask me what he was like in person, I tell them to watch his movies," says Downes. "That fella up on the screen is identical to the man I spent the day with at his home."

Aissa Wayne appeared in 4 of her dad's films. She played the little girl who survives the battle of The Alamo. She has a family law practice now, and is the author of the acclaimed John Wayne, My Father (Random House). In an interview Ms. Wayne gave last year, she said "My father always knew how popular and bankable he was as a film star. But never in his life did he know just how much he was loved."

www.johnwaynebirthplace.org/birthday, or contact Brian Downes at (515) 462-5817.

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## Chicago Scots Present 26th Annual Scottish Festival and Highland Games

Experience the best of Scotland without leaving Chicago at the 26th Annual Scottish Festival & Highland Games, June 15-16, 2012 at Hamilton Lakes in Itasca, Illinois. The festival is open to the public on Friday, June 15 from 4:00pm - 10:00pm and Saturday, June 16 from 8:00am - 9:00pm. The Chicago Scots invite everyone to be Scottish for this weekend-long annual summer celebration. Offering an extensive array of unique Scottish traditions, revelry, and culture for the whole family!

"This is the largest and best Scottish festival in the Midwest," said Gus Noble, President of the Chicago Scots. "We pride ourselves on making families feel like they've been transported to Scotland for a weekend of fun while enjoying a unique opportunity to learn more about Scottish culture."

The festival kicks off Friday, June 15 with exhibits and vendors open from 4:00pm - 10:00pm.

The festival continues Saturday, June 16 from 8:00am - 9:00pm and features: Champion Supreme Piping and Drumming competition; Heavy Athletics U.S. Open Championship featuring traditional Scottish contests including the Caber Toss (flipping 20-foot, 140-pound tree trunk), the 22-pound Hammer Throw, the Sheaf Toss (flipping a bale of hay over a high bar) and the Clachnert (throwing a 16-pound river stone); Highland Dance competition; Rugby Sevens Highland Challenge; Coerver Cup 3v3 youth soccer tournament; Dogs of Scotland and other animal presentations; Genealogy and cultural exhibits; Parade of Clan Tartans; Children's activities including mini golf, crafts and carnival attractions; and attendee competitions including the Kilted Mile Fun Run/Walk, British Car Show, Haggis Hurling Contest for women, Knobbly Knees contest for men, Haggis Eating Contest and Shortbread Contest.

The festivities culminate with the Closing Ceremonies and Massed Bands Show, a breath-taking spectacle of 1,000 bagpipers and drummers, all joined in performing several traditional musical selections including Amazing Grace.

Friday-Children 12 and under are FREE; Adults \$12.00

Saturday- Children ages 3-12 \$5.00; Adults \$20.00

Patron Weekend Pass-\$75.00

This two-day pass includes entry into the festival, premier seating inside the Patron Tent, complimentary food and beverages, and a private access VIP Parking Pass.

Tickets purchased in advance will be held at Admission Gate Will Call.

Tickets purchased prior to March 31 are 50% off.

The festival will be held at Hamilton Lakes, Itasca, Illinois which is located at I-290 and Thorndale Avenue.

For more information, event schedules, competition registration forms or to purchase tickets, visit [www.chicagoscotts.org](http://www.chicagoscotts.org) or call (708) 447-5092



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## Bye Bye Bertie

By Maurice Fitzpatrick,

The scene is a conference hall in Donegal in 2007. The Bert, puffed up by a third general election victory, is standing tall and he spits from the podium that opponents of Celtic Tiger-mania should 'commit suicide' for refusing to get into the racket. The conference room erupts in applause. One such party pooper was Morgan Kelly, the Cassandra-like Irish economic analyst who predicted the property bubble bursting and many of the woes resulting from it: our Paul Krugman. The Irish electorate didn't heed Kelly's voice in time because the clapping was so cacophonous. But the worm turns and how...

With the publication of the Mahon report into cronyism and sops in Irish politics last month, Ahern has been found to be untruthful in a myriad of ways, most flagrantly for his role in inflating the property bubble. The matter has been handed to the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Criminal Assets Bureau.

The disconnect between Ahern's perception of himself and the reality of his standing today makes the eyes bulge. The Washington Speaker's Bureau, which organised his circuits of after dinner speeches in the USA, had to politely ask him to desist from tirelessly praising the Celtic Tiger that he and his colleagues had built up. Ahern harboured,

until very recently, the ambition to become Irish President. (The wry Eamonn McCann wrote in early summer 2011 that Ahern might become president if he could stay out of jail; and, at the end of the summer, that he might stay out of jail if he became president). When the presidential elections rolled round late last year Ahern's party, Fianna Fail, passed over him in spite of their lack of any credible candidate to put forward.

His swagger notwithstanding, occasionally over the past few years Ahern has betrayed indignation underneath his veneer of 'successful' retired leader. A momentary wobble or throwaway phrase on a documentary; a rebuke to an 'attention seeking' street protester who challenged him over his machinations while he was in office. Whatever about the face he puts on, it is bitter to stand alone with his pint of Bass at his local pub, Fagan's of Drumcondra in North Dublin, where he used to be a hero. Gone are the days of quaffing beer there with Bill Clinton.

In 2008, Brian Cowen was gentlemanly in his manner of ousting Ahern as leader of the party. Cowen's successor, Michael Martin, formerly a defender of Ahern against allegations of corruption, was utterly dismissive of Ireland's second longest serving Taoiseach: Ahern's preemptive resignation from the party days after the publication of the Mahon report resulted from Martin's public threat to expel him.

So what changed? It is not merely that Ahern was presumed innocent under Cowen's leadership and the evidence now put forward is completely damning. Neither is this a belated scramble to clean house at Ireland's Party of Organised Jobbery. It is partly that Fianna Fail wants to wash its hands of Ahern lest he receive a jail sentence. But the real reason is revenge. Once the best show on the road, today Fianna Fail's wheels have fallen off. The most formidable political machine in the history of Ireland has collapsed. In last year's electoral rout, Fianna Fail was reduced from 78 to 20 seats. Fianna Fail wants to take it out on Ahern. There will be no faction within what remains of the party to defend Ahern's legacy as there is in the case of Charlie Haughey. There will be no State Funeral

either despite his achievements in facilitating dialogue in the North.

How did it all happen? The answer lies in looking at the culture that Fianna Fail fostered and the length of time they held power. The proverb goes: 'Fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me'. But fool me three times? The history of the modern era will record that the 2007 general election was when Ireland covered itself in shame. In that election 41.5% of the electorate dutifully endorsed another Fianna Fail administration despite the onset of the economic downturn and the prevalence of endemic corruption. Three times the Irish electorate returned Ahern to our highest public office. Before 2007 there was still a chance to disengage the banks from the public purse—an Irish version of the Glass-Steagall Act—and to doom Fianna Fail, the banks' political fixers, to relegation without incurring mass emigration. There was still a chance to avoid the humiliation of an European Central Bank appointee 'managing' our affairs. We lost it. We did not loosen ourselves in time from the grip of the building lobby, Fianna Fail and the banks: the iron grid

that had taken over Irish public life. The same iron grid killed the genuinely robust economy of the 1990s and ultimately ruined the country with the September 2008 bank guarantee, ensuring that now and in time to be the solvency in Ireland depends on a drip feed from our 'European partners'.

The exposure of the political culture Fianna Fail so assiduously constructed inevitably raises questions about the happy clappers who cheered it on and funded it. The Mahon report should occasion us to wonder about the applause, the backslapping, the cheers, the dutifully marked ballot sheets. The report itself belongs alongside other governmental enquiries published over the past decade—Murphy, Ferns, Saville among others—all of which have gone some way to creating a new consciousness in our society to move away from past deceits. Ahern's exit from Irish public life offers an occasion to examine systemic failures further. When the din of Ahern's fall from grace subsides we must face the task of reforming the political culture in Ireland.

[www.mauricefitzpatrick.org](http://www.mauricefitzpatrick.org).

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## Nominations Invited for Presidential Distinguished Service Awards

Deadline for Submission: 5 p.m. EST,  
Monday May 21st 2012

The Embassy of Ireland in Washington D.C. is pleased to invite submission of nominations for the Presidential Distinguished Service Award for the Irish Abroad.

The awards are primarily aimed at Irish citizens, those entitled to Irish citizenship and persons of Irish descent, who have made a sustained and distinguished service to Ireland or Irish communities abroad. All nominations will be considered by a High Level Panel based in Ireland, which will in turn make recommendations to the Government in respect of no more than 10 individuals in any one year. It is expected that the first awards will be presented by the President of Ireland in October/ November 2012.

Commenting on the an-

nouncement, Ambassador Michael Collins said:

"This initiative allows Ireland to give special recognition to those who have given distinguished service to Ireland or the Irish community abroad. It is obviously important that we do so, in view of the extraordinary contribution of our global family and the interest, generosity and devotion of so many members of that family towards Ireland and its future and towards our people, at home and abroad."

Nominations should be submitted to the Embassy's Press & Information Section for receipt by no later than 5 p.m. US EST on Monday May 21st 2012 and may be sent either by regular mail or via the following e-mail address: [washingtonembassy@dfa.ie](mailto:washingtonembassy@dfa.ie)



# Chicago Gaelic Park

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



## A Chairde:

Irish Fest at Gaelic Park on Memorial Weekend, May 25th through May 28th kicks off the 2012 Festival Season and for many this event is the highlight of the year at Gaelic Park. Irish Fest affords our members and supporters the opportunity to see and hear top class entertainment like Gaelic Storm, Ronan Tynan, The Makem and Spain Brothers and many more at great daily prices with free on-site parking. I believe that the Carnival with unlimited rides and areas dedicated to children and family entertainment is what makes Gaelic Park's Festival unique. We pride ourselves on providing a safe and family-friendly environment where the entire family can celebrate their Irish Heritage and share the experience with neighbors and friends. Every year I look forward to listening to a band I have not heard before, and invariably there are a couple of bands who

sound fantastic! I know that without Irish Fest I could never have heard that particular band. Girsra was one of my highlights last year, a wonderful, talented group of young ladies from NY who are on the schedule again this year. Mairtin De Cogain appeared on the patio at Gaelic Park for a concert last summer and enthralled and charmed those present with his music and wit. Mairtin is also on the schedule, and I highly recommend catching his performances. The directors, volunteers and staff at Gaelic Park sacrifice their Memorial weekend every year to bring the best of Irish song, music, dance, drama and games to Chicago, and they do so willingly and share a great bond in doing so. See our website, [chicagogaelicpark.org](http://chicagogaelicpark.org), for a full schedule of entertainers and discounted ticket packages. I would love to see you at Irish Fest this Memorial Weekend, please drop by our membership booth and become a part of Your Gaelic Park.

**John Devitt,  
President**

## Family Movie Night

### War of the Buttons

**Date: Thursday, June 21  
Time: 7pm**

Food & Drinks will be available for purchase on the patio & in the Tara South beginning at 5:30pm! *War of the Buttons* is a 1994 Irish film directed by John Roberts, about two rival kid groups in Ireland, the Ballys (poor), and the Carricks (rich). The setting is County Cork, where it was filmed on location. Rating is PG.



### Teen "Party on the Patio"

**Date: Thursday, June 14th  
Time: 7-10:30 pm**

School is out for summer and Gaelic Park is hosting its first "Party on the Patio" for high school age teens!

Check CGP web site and Facebook for final details!



**Mother's Day**  
**Sunday May 13, 2012**

*Treat Mom to Dinner Out  
This Year!*

**Make your Reservations for  
Gaelic Park's  
Mother's Day Celtic Supper**

Enjoy a Wonderful All-You-Can-Eat Dinner Buffet with Soup, an Extensive Salad Bar, your main entrees of Prime Rib, Chicken Marsala and Baked Ham, vegetables, potatoes and a

"Make Your Own Ice Cream Sundae" Bar

Musical Entertainment by Ray Gavin

Reservations are Required

Adults \$23.00, Children 4 to 12 \$11.00

Admission includes dinner and entertainment

Cash Bar

Chicago Gaelic Park – 6119 W. 147<sup>th</sup> Street, Oak Forest, IL

708-687-9323 / [www.chicagogaelicpark.org](http://www.chicagogaelicpark.org)

## CGP Monthly Events

- |             |  |         |
|-------------|--|---------|
| 5/02 & 6/06 | <b>Monthly Musical Luncheons</b>   | NOON    |
| 5/13        | <b>Mass &amp; Irish Breakfast</b>  | 10:00am |
|             | <b>May Crowning and Procession</b>   |         |
|             | - Celebrant Father Ruby  |         |
|             | <b>Mother's Day Celtic Supper</b>  | 4:00pm  |
|             | <i>This will be the final Mass &amp; Breakfast and Sunday Celtic Supper of the season, both will resume again in the fall.</i> |         |
| 5/16        | <b>Final Old St. Pat's Series</b>  | 6:30pm  |
|             | Dr. Mary Amore, Mayslake Ministries,<br>In The Footsteps of Jesus  |         |
| 5/25-28     | <b>IRISH FEST 4 DAY WEEKEND<br/>AT CHICAGO GAELIC PARK</b>   |         |

**Monthly Musical Luncheons** FIRST WEDNESDAY of EVERY MONTH! Plan an outing with friends, family, neighbors... come out and meet new people. Enjoy relaxing on our beautiful patio and take a stroll around our grounds. Have a delicious lunch and enjoy the musical entertainment... all for the low admission price of just \$13 per person! Doors open at NOON and lunch (which includes soup, salad, hot entrée, dessert and tea/coffee) is served at 1pm. Reservations required! Call 708-687-9323.

- |                          |                                  |        |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| <b>Monday Evenings</b>   | <b>Set Dancing</b>               | 7:30pm |
| <b>Tuesday Evenings</b>  | <b>Ceili Dancing</b>             | 7:30pm |
|                          | <b>Pub Quiz Night</b>            | 7:30pm |
| <b>Thursday Evenings</b> | <b>Irish Sessions in the Pub</b> | 7:30pm |

**CGP Sunday Radio Program**  
Live broadcast 7-8pm WCEV 1450 AM

**CLIP & POST**  
this listing to your weekly calendar!



phone: 708.687.9323

web: [www.chicagogaelicpark.org](http://www.chicagogaelicpark.org)



**Gaelic Park can be found on  
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TAKE MOMENT AND "LIKE" US!**





# Chicago Gaelic Park

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## DOCUMENTARY FILM "Our Irish Cousins"

On Saturday, May 12 at 8pm, South Sider, Mike Houlihan, will present a preview of his independent feature documentary film, *Our Irish Cousins*, at Chicago Gaelic Park. <http://ouririshcousins.com/about/mike-houlihan/>. Mike Houlihan is a former features columnist for the *Chicago*

*Sun-Times*, and has written the *Hooliganism* column in the *Irish American News* since 1996. *Our Irish Cousins* is an exploration of the Irish American experience... and you will be entertained! Check the Gaelic Park web site and Facebook for more information! [www.chicagogaelic-park.org](http://www.chicagogaelic-park.org).

## GAA More Gaelic Football Teams Coming from Chicago's Youth Program

On Sunday, May 27 the youth teams in Chicago plan on taking the main field at Gaelic Park during Irish Fest to showcase the young talent from around the city with Ireland's national sports. Chicago's youth teams have produced some amazing talent in the past that have even gone on to be North American Champions. This year the St. Jarlath's led by James Staunton plan on fielding a new junior team to compete against the Chicago Patriots second team. This match up will mark true growth in American-born teams emerging from the youth program. The Chicago Patriots began as an all American

Gaelic football club, which went on to win both Chicago championships and North American championships. The Chicago Patriots have already begun fundraising because they plan on sending both of their teams to the North American Finals if they win Chicago's championship again. On Saturday, May 12th at Water's Edge Golf Course, the Patriots will be hosting a golf outing including a closest to the pin contest that evening with customized glow in the dark golf balls. For more information on the golf outing, contact Todd McCutcheon at 773-505-9428 or take a look at more events from the GAA at [chicagogaelicssports.com](http://chicagogaelicssports.com).

**St. Jarlath's Youth** is getting ready for another great season. Anyone interested in playing Gaelic Football and/or hurling, please visit our website at [www.chicagostjarlaths.com](http://www.chicagostjarlaths.com). We are now registering boys and girls, ages 5-18 as of January 1, 2012. The cost is \$75 per child

with a family max of \$150. Any new families that join this season will not be charged. This is for both sports, Gaelic Football and Hurling. All equipment is provided. Gaelic Football training is on Monday and Wednesday, and Hurling is held on Friday, from 6:30 to 8:00 at Chicago Gaelic Park.

## 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  
Traditional Irish Music Session on Thursdays - 7:30pm  
featuring students from the Irish Music School of Chicago  
Pub food available Monday - Saturday.  
Check out our menu items.  
Daily drink and food specials.

### the CARRAIG IRISH PUB

"Pub Trivia" Every Tuesday Night @ 7:30pm

#### Live Music in the Pub

Fri May 4	Chicago Reel	7:30pm
Sat May 5	Week Back	8:00pm
Wed May 9	Frank Rossi	6:30pm
Fri May 11	Pat Smille	7:30pm
Sat May 12	Rico Quinn	8:00pm
Fri May 18	John Dillon	7:30pm
Sat May 19	Joe McShane	8:00pm

May 25 - 28 **IRISH FEST WEEKEND! PUB CLOSED**

New expanded pub food and appetizer menu!

Check Website for Full Schedule

Every 2nd Wednesday of each month (through September) there will be live entertainment in the Pub featuring Frank Rossi at 7:30pm. We are happy he will be entertaining here in the Carraig Pub!

## Chicago Gaelic Park

6119 W. 147th Street • Oak Forest, IL  
708.687.9323

[www.chicagogaelicpark.org](http://www.chicagogaelicpark.org)

**ESSAY CONTEST AWARDS** Chicago Gaelic Park is pleased to announce the winners of our 2012 Essay Contest. This year's topic was "America has re-thought itself since the 9/11 tragedy, how would you describe yourself as an American?" Nearly 200 entries were received and the judges had a difficult job choosing the winners. A huge thank you to all the judges for their time and dedication.



### Grammar School Winners

1st Place	Bridget Giblin, St. Damian
2nd Place	James Begley, Peotone Jr. High
3rd Place	Neil Daly, St. John Fisher
Random	Alexandra Pappas, St. Damian

### High School Winners

1st Place	Robert Nelson, Marist
2nd Place	Matthew McIntyre, Marist
3rd Place	Lisa Schoppe, Sandburg
Random	Kristen O'Donnell, Regina Dominican

## The County Connection



The Clare Association is planning their Special Sunday on June 24. To register, contact Maureen Bennett at 708-301-9773.

Calling all CGP County Associations! Please share all your news, upcoming events and announcements! Send special dates at least one month prior to the event to make the deadline for publication. Email to [cmfreidy5@comcast.net](mailto:cmfreidy5@comcast.net).

Antrim Armagh Carlow Cavan Clare Cork Derry Donegal Down Dublin Fermanagh Galway Kerry Kildare Kilkenny Laois Leitrim Limerick Longford Louth Mayo Meath Monaghan Offaly Roscommon Sligo Tipperary Tyrone Waterford Westmeath Wexford Wicklow

## Membership

All NEW Memberships and All Renewal Memberships will be entered in a raffle to win TWO free tickets sponsored by Aer Lingus Airlines. Winners drawn on Fest Monday.

In addition, members receive a monthly issue of the Irish American News, two tickets for Friday night of Irish Fest (2012 & 2013), complimentary dinner for 2 at the annual convention and other benefits throughout the year for a total value of over \$100.00. Single Membership to Gaelic Park is \$30.00 or couple membership is \$50.00

NEW  RENEWAL  Family \$50  Individual \$30

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# Chicago Gaelic Park

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## Chicago Gaelic Park Irish Fest Memorial (Four) Day Weekend

**5/25 Friday, Gates open 4pm**  
**Special 1/2 price admission 4-5pm**

**5/26 Saturday, Gates open 2pm**  
**\$10 adult admission 2-3pm**

**5/27 Sunday, Gates open 1pm**  
**\$10 adult admission 1-2pm**

**5/28 Monday, Gates open 1pm**  
**\$10 adult admission 1-2pm**

Regular Daily Ticket Prices: \$15 adults, \$12 Senior Citizens and children ages 4 to 12 yrs. *All children under the age of 4 are FREE!*

ONLINE Daily Pass 'til May 20 \$10 adults, \$8 Senior Citizens and children ages 4-12...

A fabulous entertainment line up and



so much more... a huge Carnival full of unlimited rides for all ages, all day/all night, for one admission price! There will be Irish Sports including Gaelic Football and Hurling, Ceili, Theatre and Storytelling! Visit the Tea Room and Wine Bar! Shop in the lanes full of Import Shops. Sit and grab a bite from a variety of Food Vendors! For the wee ones, there will be a Petting Zoo, Pony Rides, Irish Dogs, Magicians, Puppets, Jugglers, Clowns... and many more surprises are planned each day!

**Gaelic Park Players** invite you to stop by the Irish Fest Performing Arts Stage over the 4 Day Memorial Weekend. Sit and relax while enjoying some great theatre! [www.gaelicparkplayers.org](http://www.gaelicparkplayers.org)



Ronan Tynan  
Sunday Evening

## 2 NIGHTS OF CELTIC ROCK Saturday and Sunday!



**"A Tenor as Irish as Baseball and God Bless America... Mr. Tynan's voice is very easy to listen to, effortlessly singing top notes. He has tremendous command of his repertoire..."**

New York Times

### chicago gaelic park's irish festival



#### IRISH DOG EXHIBITION

memorial day weekend  
may 25, 26, 27 & 28, 2012

Irish Dog exhibition hours 2-6pm daily



Looking for the following breeds:

Irish Wolfhound, Irish Setter, Irish Terrier, Kerry Blue Terrier, Glen of Imaal Terrier, Red & White Setter, Irish Water Spaniel, Soft-Coated Wheaten Terrier, Kerry Beagle and one of the most recognized breeds in Ireland, but not an Irish breed, the Border Collie.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Jack Ardaugh at 815-715-7735 or [jackardaugh@yahoo.com](mailto:jackardaugh@yahoo.com) to sign up.

*Come Show Off your Beautiful Irish Dog at  
Chicago Gaelic Park's Annual Irish Fest!*

Chicago Gaelic Park - 6119 W. 147<sup>th</sup> Street - Oak Forest, IL  
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*Girsa, Mairtin De Cogain, Dirt Drifters, Killdares, Makem & Spain Brothers, Blackstairs Rebel, Red Rebel County, Tommy Goodwin & Sharon, Chicago, Reel, 7th Heaven, Lounge Puppets, Gerry Carney, Eddie Gallagher, Murphy Roche Irish Music Club, Bernie Glim & Country Roads, Pat Finnegan & Friends, Streams of Whiskey, Kathleen Keane, Paddy Homan, Crossroads Ceili Band, Larkin & Moran Brothers, Irish Musicians, Gerard Haughey & Sean O'Donnell, Pipes & Drums of the Emerald Society, Stepdancing Schools & more...*





## From the Motherland

Sean Farrell



### The Greying of the Green

Detailed data from last year's census is now starting to emerge. It makes fascinating reading, revealing a country with a vibrant growing population despite the economic downturn and the re-emergence of emigration. It highlights the effects of recent inward migration (on which I have written previously) and also traces the (very) gradual greying of the Irish population. Those interested further should consult either of the two Irish websites

cso.ie or airo.ie.

The population of the 26 Counties is now officially 4,588,252, the highest for 150 years. It has risen by over 25% since 1996 (five times the rate of the rest of the EU) and there is as yet no sign of a slow-down; indeed there has been a 7.6% increase since 2006, despite our economic woes. Moreover, most of this latest increase is due to the number of births since 2006, which at 365,000, far exceeds the number of deaths, 141,000. The

latest data paints a complicated picture, containing several elements. Apologies for what follows; perhaps Mark Twain was right!

Firstly migration, which has, not surprisingly, been the focus of a lot of attention. Non-nationals at 544,000 now account for 12% of the population. And it's now official. Poles are Ireland's largest national minority, at 122,600, more than the British. The number has increased by 94% since 2006, with the number of women increasing by 142% and Polish born children by 300% to 14,000. These figures exclude 10,000 children born here to Poles. The next two largest communities are from the Baltic republics of Lithuania (36,683) and Latvia (20,593), both up by 50%. The number of Romanians, at 17,304, has increased by 124%, and seems set to increase further, given that Romanians will only get unrestricted entry after January 2014. The Indian community now numbers 17,000, having doubled in five years.

Elsewhere, the number of Brazilians recorded was 8700, up 100%, while the figure for people from Mauritius, at 2844 was up by 344%! (Interestingly the flow of arrivals from Mauritius has dried up since a visa requirement was introduced in January 2011, while the numbers arriving from Brazil continue to increase.) Nigerians remain by far the largest African community, up 8% at 17,600, in a total of 41,642, while the number of Filipinos, at 12,791 (34% higher) now exceeds the number of resident Chinese in a declared Asian figure of 65,579. The figure for US citizens, at 11,015, is down by 11.7%. The number of Travellers, at 29,573, is up 32%, though this figure is already being disputed as an underestimate by Traveller groups.

Does this mean Ireland is now a fully-fledged multi-ethnic, multi-cultural society? You be the judge. Nine out of ten of the population are Irish, while the number of persons declaring themselves Catholics, at 84%, has actually risen by 5% or 180,000, at a time when the number of regular mass goers is in decline. The increase in the number of Catholics is probably down to a combination of immigration (the

staunchly Catholic Poles and Lithuanians in particular) and a growing identification among many Irish with Catholicism for cultural as much as religious reasons.

The number of Muslims has risen by 51% to 49,204, in total just over 1% of the population, but this represents only an extra 17,000 people in five years, about the same as the combined increase in "Other Christian" and "Pentacostal" numbers. This is less than the increase in Orthodox Christians, up by 24,425, or 117%, to 45,223. Most other religions are also up significantly with the exception of Methodists, who have shown a sharp fall in numbers from over 12,000 to under 7,000. The numbers declaring no religion have risen by 45% to 270,000.

The shift in the cause of the population increase since 2006 has been dramatic. Between 2002 and 2006 net immigration accounted for two-thirds of the rise. The next five years have seen an almost exact reversal, with natural increase now supplying two thirds of the growth. The Irish fertility rate has remained constant at 2.1% throughout the last decade – one of the highest in Europe – but the numbers of women of child bearing age have increased, and births since 2006 have totalled 365,000, a healthy average annual 73,000. The upward trend in population seems set to continue with Ireland's national average age, at 36.1, among the lowest in Europe. Moreover, despite the recession, while emigration has resumed, immigration has not stopped; in the year to April 2011 20,000 Irish nationals and 34,000 non-nationals relocated to Ireland.

It's now possible to get some perspective also on the changing, gently greying, age profile of the Irish population over the last generation or so. The population (and arguably the country) hit a low in 1961 of 2,818,341. This included 877,000 under 15 years, around 30%, but only 392,000 between 15 and 25, and 315,000 over the age of 65, around 11%, reflecting at once the large sizes of Irish families, the massive emigration of young adults up to 1960, and the effects of emigration and unhealthy lifestyles on

life expectancy among the older sections of the population. This phenomenon, the very young comprising a large percentage of the population and the old a very much smaller one, was almost unique in Europe, and has taken half a century to change significantly.

The number of those under 15 peaked in 1981 at 1,043,729, still around 30% of a population which had risen 22% in 20 years to 3,443,405, while the figure for over 65s, though up to 368,954, remained stubbornly low at 11%, as the effects of earlier emigration continued to work through the system. Even in 1996, while the numbers over 65 had risen to 413,882, this still represented only just over 11% of a total population of 3,626,087. Here, however, the numbers under 15 had fallen to 859,424, under 24% of the total, representing some emigration but also heralding significant social change, with a marked rise in the status of women, increased availability of contraception and a shift to smaller families. The 2011 figures show this trend continuing, with 979,590 aged under 15, now down to 21.34% of the total.

On the face of it, the number of over 65s, while now up to 535,393, still seems modest enough at 11.67%. The trend towards greyness only becomes apparent when the figures for the preceding age group, 45-64, are also examined. There are now 1,042,879 in this category, up from 590,402 in 1981, but representing a percentage rise from 17 to almost 23% of the total. As these age, so the percentage of the over 65s will rise in tandem, bringing Ireland more into line with other European countries.

Further reports are to appear in the coming months, covering, inter alia, in greater detail, population distribution, housing, employment, health, cultural and religious diversity. These are important and will form the information base for the government's strategic planning in areas such as education, health care and provision for the elderly. Right now the current data offers, notably, a positive snapshot of Ireland and her people as a timely counterweight to the prevailing climate of negativity.

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## Premier Musical Headliners Fill Six Stages at Chicago Gaelic Park's Irish Fest

A full roster of Irish music nobility will be onstage over Memorial weekend at Chicago Gaelic Park's Irish Fest in Oak Forest. A Chicago area tradition for all ages, the Fest not only brings the best of contemporary and traditional Irish headliners to six lively stages but also features a full carnival with rides, special events for children, Gaelic football and hurling, Ceiling dancing, pony and dog exhibits, shopping and Irish cultural exhibits all surrounded by food, refreshments and great fun at one low price.

With non-stop music, free on-site parking and early online ticket discounts Irish Fest at Chicago Gaelic Park has become one of the country's premier musical events with some of the best and brightest talent appearing on stage this year.

**Gaelic Storm** sells out hundreds of venues and has played to audiences totaling in the millions and returns to Irish Fest on Saturday and Sunday this year. Gaelic Storm's career soared with their appearance in the blockbuster film *Titanic*. Since then the band's fan base continues to multiply with each new album, turning this one-time pub band into a premier touring act. Gaelic Storm's compelling originals and fresh arrangements are steeped in traditional melody creating new standards in the Celtic music genre.

Highlights from their career include seven Billboard chart topping albums, a DVD, a full-length concert film featured on HD.net, song placement on two EA Sports Games, a 2008 Hallmark greeting card featuring their song "Kiss Me I'm Irish" and countless television and radio appearances. Prepare for the storm - Gaelic Storm - a fan favorite!

### Ronan Tynan



Irish Fest is again proud to present Ronan Tynan from Co. Kilkenny. Well known as one of the famous Irish Tenors, his album

"Ronan" debuted #2 on Billboard's Classical Crossover Chart. Ronan is truly a modern day "Renaissance Man" who has persevered through numerous challenges throughout his well-documented life.

After touring with the Irish Tenors his solo career brought international fame and recognition. Ronan performed before an international TV audience of more than 35 million at President Reagan's funeral. He is famous for his performances of "God Bless America" at Yankee Stadium and he performed at New York's 10th anniversary memorial services of the 9/11 tragedy. Take advantage of this rare opportunity to see the gifted Ronan Tynan, Sunday only, at Irish Fest.

**Girsa** is Gaelic for 'young girls,' Girsa made their debut at Irish Fest last

year. These talented young



women owned the crowds with traditional

selections and their unique high spirited energy.

The members have all known each other since they were very young, growing up participating in Irish music and dance in the community of Pearl River, New York. Most of the band comes from musical families where they learned traditional Irish music from such greats as Martin Mulvihill, Maureen Glynn Connelly and Pete Kelly. Some of their parents and their lifelong friends carry on this great tradition by teaching music in the community. The young ladies enjoy playing together so much that they'll bring tons of musical fun to Irish Fest again

this year!

### Makem and Spain Brothers

The tradition continues - Sunday and Monday only! The Makem and Spain Brothers are an internationally known band that keeps the music alive and defines where Irish folk music is going.

A host of various instruments and five male vocals using precise three part harmonies blend perfectly for what can only be described as a wall of sound. Their talent and enthusiasm draw in fans who have never experienced the joy of folk music. This band of brothers has played before millions of people in the U.S., Caribbean and Ireland. Along the way they were highlighted in national PBS specials and on popular Irish talk shows.

The Makem Brothers, from north of Dublin in Co. Louth, continue an Irish musical dynasty

begun by their grandmother, Sarah Makem and their famous father, Tommy Makem. The Spain Brothers also learned Irish songs at their father's knee. When the Makems met the Spains the brothers realized the powerful synergy of their combined talents. There are bands traveling down uncharted roads trying their best to keep the music alive, but there is only one Makem and Spain Brothers.

### The Killdares

A blend of rock, pop and Celtic, The Killdares bridges the gap between traditional and cutting edge. The Killdares have gone from local pub performers to world-class musicians who create and perform a new version of hard-driving, alternative Celtic rock. They share stages with national and interna-

tional artists and are one of the hottest, cutting edge bands in music today - Celtic or otherwise.

Expanding the definition of "Celtic", the band uses fire-driven fiddle, bagpipes, and a wail of electric guitar, bass and drums to create brilliant arrangements of traditional tunes and original compositions. Even die-hard fans of purely traditional Celtic music have embraced the band's powerful sound.

In 2010 The Killdares released *Up Against The Lights*, a three-disc package (2-Audio CDs/1 DVD) of their energetic and entertaining live show at the historic Granada Theater in Dallas. Now you can experience The Killdares live at Irish Fest Saturday and Sunday!

**Streams of Whiskey** is a New York City based band playing the music of Shane MacGowan, The Pogues and the Popes. In this regard it makes them unique because the formula is to take Shane MacGowan and the Popes songs and play them in the style of the Pogues. Got it?

The problem with most cover bands is that the band concentrates on just one artist until it becomes a soulless imitation of that artist. But not so with Streams of Whiskey. You'll never get the feeling that you were listening to a cover band. They actually own their renditions of the songs, which is rare for a cover band. Hear for yourself Saturday and Sunday at Irish Fest. They love what they do, and it shows!

### 7th Heaven

Appearing Monday only, Chicago Rock/Pop band 7th Heaven is one of the busiest indie bands in the world. Charting #1 in the Midwest Region on the Billboard Charts - Sept 2011, they've had a great couple of years They charted two releases in 2010; performed at Soldier Field with Bon Jovi; received coverage on TV's ABC, NBC, FOX and WGN and charted the hit "Better This Way" at #2 among Chicago radio stations.

Their extremely high-energy live shows receive worldwide press coverage from USA Today, Chicago Sun-Times, Chicago Tribune and the LA Times. 7th Heaven is also been featured on commercials and film soundtracks. They are touring the U.S. through-

out 2012 - including a Monday performance at Chicago Gaelic Park's Irish Fest this year.

### Dirt Drifters

On Friday the talented and creative Nashville musicians, Dirt Drifters, will entertain with a unique country-rock, funky honky-tonk sound that will keep fans stompin'.

Road-tested and club-polished this is a band whose sound has been forged on a thousand club stages. Dirt Drifters brings a resume baked in country, rock, funk and R&B all set in a gritty, lyrical roadhouse country sound that pleases the heart and the dance floor.

Brothers Matt and Ryan Fleener grew up in Oklahoma and moved to Nashville to pursue music. After five years they met up with the musicians who would form The Dirt Drifters. From there the band has made it a point to never drift from its blue-collar working-man personality. The result is top-shelf vintage honky-tonk sound that's sure to please Irish Fest crowds.

### More Special

#### Appearances at Irish Fest

Irish Fest is also proud to present Blackstairs Rebel (Co. Wexford), Chicago Reel, Gerry Carney (Co. Mayo), Paddy Homan & Friends (Co. Cork), Red Rebel County, Eddie Gallagher (Co. Donegal), Kathleen Keane & Friends, Larkin & Moran Brothers, Tommy Goodwin & Sharon (Co. Kerry), Crossroads Ceili Band, The Máirtín de Cógáin Project (Co. Cork), Sean & Charlie, Bernie Glim & Country Roads, The Lounge Puppets, The Irish Musicians \* Gerard Haughey & Sean O'Donnell \* Mulligan Stew \* Murphy Roche Irish Music Club \* The Irish Music School of Chicago \* Shannon Rovers Pipe Band \* Pipes & Drums of The Emerald Society and many more!

Chicago Gaelic Park is located just outside the Chicago city limits in Oak Forest. A full day pass to six musical stages, full carnival with unlimited rides, free on-site parking and all the fun anyone can handle is only \$15. Early online discounts can save up to 60%! Adults over 65 years and kids under 12 are only \$12. Youngsters three years and under are free. Online discount tickets, a complete Irish Fest performance schedule and directions are available at [www.chicagogaelicpark.org](http://www.chicagogaelicpark.org).

## Boyle the Kettle

We'll Have A Sup Of Tea

Tom Boyle



In keeping with our Memorial Day tradition to honor our fighting men and women, this year we honor, "The Fighting Sullivans" from Waterloo Iowa who died while serving on the light cruiser, Juneau, at the battle of Guadalcanal during World War II.

The Fighting Sullivans have been inducted into the "Irish American Hall of Fame." The IA-HOF was founded and incorporat-

ed by the Irish American Heritage Center in Chicago as a National Irish American Hall of Fame.

The movie, "The Fighting Sullivans," (1944) tells the story of the five brothers, George Thomas, Francis Henry, Joseph Eugene, Madison "Matt" Abel, and Albert Leo Sullivan, who grew up during the Great Depression, then came the attack on Pearl Harbor when they all enlisted in the U.S. Navy.

Hollywood romanticized their childhood, pre-war America was an age of innocence, putting aside of course, the Prohibition era gangsters, and bank robbers, the likes of John Dillinger.

The Sullivans were a strong Irish Catholic family, and nobody could have portrayed their father, Thomas R. Sullivan as well as Thomas Mitchell, or their mother, Alleta Sullivan, as played by Selena Royle. Seeing the movie as a child and how touching their story was. I've seen the movie within the last

few years and it is still moving, and takes me back to my own childhood in the 1940's.

November 13, 1942 in the early morning the USS Juneau was struck by a Japanese torpedo. Later that same day the ship was torpedoed again and quickly sank. Survivors of the attack said Frank, Joe and Matt Sullivan died instantly, Al drowned the following day, while George, the oldest brother, survived for nearly five days before going mad from grief over losing his brothers. He slipped over the side of the raft he was on, and joined his brothers in the depths of the sea.

### Burial At Sea

Officers Call, pass the word, "All hands bury the dead. Unto almighty God we commend the souls of our shipmates departed. And we commit their bodies to the deep, in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection unto eternal life, when the sea shall give up her dead in the life of the world to come.

Unto God's gracious mercy and protection we commit you. The Lord bless and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and to be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his continence upon

you and give you peace both now and ever more. Amen. Until we meet again, may God hold you in the hollow of his hand.

Albert Sullivan's granddaughter, Kelly Sullivan Loughren, accepted the award on behalf of the Sullivan family.

### Jesse Jackson Jr.

I'm sure he's having a few sleepless nights knowing that Rob Blagovich is going to be interviewed by the House Ethics Committee. Mr. Blagovich said that Congressman Jackson has a lot of unanswered questions to account for regarding his alledged offer to buy a Senate seat.

You had better wait before you have your, "ceremonial groundbreaking," for the "Peotone" airport. Hopefully, your cronies who bought that land will be planting corn on it!

### Occupancy Entitlement

The Occupy movement? What do they want? Socialism defined: a theory or method of social organization and government whereby the citizenry jointly owns the means of production and distribution, and the power of administrative control is vested in the state.

Social democracy defined: A political doctrine based on a Marxist politico - economic ideology that advocates a gradual transition from a capitalistic to a socialistic society by democratic means and processes.

Social welfare defined: Any and all services organized and sponsored by an agency as a municipality, State, or a private group, for the benefit of the disadvantaged, and the overall betterment of society.

Who pays the bills? One of the

catch phrases I hear is fair wages. Do we pay a custodian as much as we pay a pipefitter? A plumber as much as we pay a urologist? A warehouse man as much as a salesman? A bookkeeper as much as a CPA? What about the creative arts? Music, theatre, artists, poets? What's their value compared to a CEO?

The harder you work, and the smarter you work, the more you get out of life. When I look at the "Occupy" people, I see tatoos and piercings, a throwback to the beat generation, reminiscent of Al Sleet. The hippy-dippy weatherman. Non-conformity is the path they have chosen. Most have no entrepreneurial spirit.

### Another Protest

A bus load of union members headed to Springfield to protest Wisconsin's Governor, Scott Walker, who is speaking to the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce. Governor Walker is perceived as a union buster, and is facing a recall election in Wisconsin. "We know Scott Walker is controversial, but by giving him a forum, it allows us to bring more attention and dialogue to the discussion regarding how Illinois can restore its fiscal integrity, our single most important public policy issue," so said by, Doug Whitely, president and CEO of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce. The political hot potatoes are all in the oven, including pension reform. The democratic leadership, aside from Governor Quinn, thinks we can gamble our way out of this debt crisis. The Indiana Casino revenue dropped to its lowest point in the month of March.



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# Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



## The Political Party As A Criminal Organisation

I've got a question for you: supposing that you have been working with this guy for several years. He's a bit longer in the tooth than you are and has been around the block often enough to know what is right and what is wrong. One day this man accepts €100 from a bloke who asks it to be passed on to you. Instead of doing that this so-called colleague takes the money, tells you bugger all about it and instead gives it to his greedy, grasping wife and tells her to buy herself a nice new top with it.

So what do you do when the cops approach you and ask if you would like to make a complaint against this thief? Will you immediately go into hibernation, after instructing all of your mates who now also know of this theft to keep their traps shut?

I'm a bit of an unforgiving bastard so I would probably handle it myself, in a way that the thief wouldn't find all that pleasant. But just supposing that I worked for an organisation that the money was intended for and so it wasn't just me that he was stealing from?

You see, we have a lot of white-collar thieves here in Ireland, that's a given at this stage; but the one that I'm thinking of at the moment is Pdraig Flynn of Fianna Fail. I have loathed this ignorant man for years so what a pure pleasure to, for a change, not have to write "alleged" before I write the words thief and crook. The Mahon Tribunal has already decided that a thief is what he is.

The developer Tom Gilmartin gave Flynn €50,000 as a donation to be passed on to Fianna Fail. Flynn however, to whom stealing is as natural as breathing for the rest of us, pocketed the loot, thought about it for all of two seconds and then handed it to his grasper of a wife, who doubtless took it with an "all donations kindly accepted" glint in her eye and then went off and proceeded

to buy a farm with it.

With the ghastly Flynn family, who more closely resemble the cast of The Adams Family than anything approaching a political dynasty, of course they couldn't just be content with the theft of the €50,000. I mean there were all those subsidies from Europe now to be taken advantage of.

Does this sound clear-cut to you? Because it sure as hell does to me. Nobody, not even people I like, would ever accuse me of being a good man; but I do have a few standards. One of them is not thieving from people, pure and simple. It's just not something you do. And you most certainly don't thieve from your colleagues.

Michael Martin and his co-conspirators in Fianna Fail don't see it that way. As of writing this they have still to make the decision on whether or not to report this officially and thus turn it into a criminal investigation.

Fianna Fails' Sean Fleming came out with these gems: "We are on public record, and Michael Martin [who mysteriously seems to have caught a throat infection that prevents him from telling us this without a flunkey speaking for him] is on the record that we support the findings 100 per cent and its findings about that particular payment. If the Criminal Assets Bureau wants to follow up with us, we will co-operate fully... [Can anyone else hear a 'but' coming?] but we cannot lead that investigation. Fianna Fail didn't know that money was destined for the party..."

But you see, lads, here's the problem: now you do know. The tribunal that you swear to stand by the findings of has just told you that the donation was indeed meant for you.

So since you still haven't reported it officially to the CAB then either you are the craven, sleveen, venal chancers that I

have always maintained you are or else the likes of cheap crooks such as Pdraig Flynn have so much on the lot of you that, in the immortal words of RP McMurphy, you don't know whether to sh— or wind your wrist watches.

Me, I think it's a little of both. When you go on the take—and I don't care if it's a bent politician, gardai or journalist— then someone, sometime, is going to find out. That's the world that we now live in. You guys, you're still thinking as if we were back in what you undoubtedly think of as the good old days, when a word from Charlie Haughey was enough to have a journalist collecting his or hers' marching papers if they ever had the temerity to ask where all the loot was originating from.

Since not one of you has had the guts to come forward and make an official complaint against Flynn (and he of course is just one of them) then I can only take this to its logical conclusion and assume that you are all as equally to blame as he is. This, to my mind, makes you all equally guilty. Isn't that the way it's supposed to

work? If you cover up the crime of another person then you yourself should be viewed as a criminal.

So to my mind Fianna Fail now stands nakedly exposed for what I always thought it was anyway: a criminal organisation.

In 1971 Gerry Collins, Minister for Post & Telegraphs, helped to set up Section 31 of the Broadcasting Authority Act. This led to us not being able to hear members of Sinn Fein speak on the grounds that they were a criminal organisation. All through the eighties in fact we were in a ludicrous situation in Ireland where we could look at the likes of Gerry Adams speaking but we could not hear his voice. That had to be done by an actor. Jesus wept.

I was trying to tell a young guy in his twenties about this the other day but he honestly thought I was pulling his leg. I don't blame him. Talk about an Irish solution to an Irish problem. Oh, you're wondering what Gerry Collins represented? Well, it was Fianna Fail of course.

Continuing the insanity, the then Fine Gael/Labour coalition

tried to muzzle the sadly missed Irish Press newspaper when they rocked the boat by reporting on the...uh, mistreatment...of Republican prisoners. I'm glad to say the Irish Press won that one.

That was then and this is now.

I've never been an advocate of censorship in any form but I would happily sign up for a new Section 31 that meant that I didn't have to listen to one more word from the criminal organisation that is Fianna Fail; and before someone starts lecturing me on degrees of culpability I believe that through rezoning that was bought and paid for marginalizing whole sections of society; and through back-handers that had the fall-out of the rate of suicide sky-rocketing under FF that they also have blood on their hands.

Dismantle them.

Apart from anything else, what would they have to tell me except lies, lies and more lies? Even if they come forward the day after I send in this piece it is too damned little and far too damned late.

To Hell with them.



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## Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



### All Shall Be Well: An Irish Inheritance

I love this novel and enthusiastically recommend it.

It is about a return to Ireland by a middle aged woman from



Chicago named Morgan Kenny. So far this is familiar, many of us have affectionately visited Ireland.

Morgan's great aunt recently passed away. She feels a family responsibility to help settle her aunt's meager affairs.

The aunt left a small field, a cottage, and very little else. However, as Morgan does this, she quickly becomes involved in a mystery. And What a mystery it is!

The small field is not worth much (probably less than the air fare from Chicago).

The field is in the west of Ireland, in a scenic, but remote part of Connemara. However, no sooner than the aunt had passed away, a neighbor tore down her cottage and took over her field. Morgan learns that in the early 1950's her great aunt had signed over ownership of the land when she would die. Why? Morgan determines to answer that.

A quote from the book's jacket: "Be forewarned - misty Ireland is seductive. All Shall Be Well is set along the West coast and you can still taste the salt spray of the wild Atlantic in its pages."

The author, Lillian Lewis, slowly reveals the parts of the mystery. The reader quickly becomes emotionally involved. As Morgan follows clues and gathers information,

we travel with her and see and learn much about traditional Ireland! Picturesque words in Irish for locations, placenames and people.

The author has a delightful skill at closely and colorfully describing the persons Morgan meets and the places she visits. They come alive and become unforgettable.

Some of the action takes place on Omev Island in Conemara. It is not actually an island but the tip of a peninsula. When the tide comes in, the tip is separated from the mainland. Hence the name.

The author grew up in Chicago's Old Town neighborhood, became a psychologist, and now lives in Southwest Michigan's Berrien County.

All Shall Be Well: An Irish Inheritance will be printed this summer by iUniverse. When it is published, I'll put the information in this column.

I found Lewis's description of Omev to be powerfully emotional and intensely intimate.

Until recent times people lived on Omev. They showed kindness and compassion to the devastated women who came here to bury their dead infants. They showed them the sensitivity and empathy that the Church did not.

"It has become this holy island.. because there are many, many saints here. They are the holy innocents of Ireland - the stillborn, the miscarried, the stillborn infants, many children of the Great Hunger, and yes, that forbidden word, the aborted. Yes, the aborted baby is as holy as any baby, but the Church finds them all wanting. they may not be buried in "ground not approved by the Church." So tell me, what would you do? Over the many decades women came here, often alone... What courage these mothers who'd lost their own must have had!"

"So what's the status of these holy innocents, where are they? The Church would have us believe they are neither in Heaven nor Hell, they are in some in between place theologians strain to justify. Limbo."

### Peter Nolan's Campaign!

"This is storytelling at its very best. Peter Nolan turns a semi-forgotten big city mayoral battle into a riveting and timeless tale of human behavior... the good and the bad." That's how NBC News correspondent Mike Leonard described CAMPAIGN! The 1983 Election That Rocked Chicago, recently published by Amika Press.

"In CAMPAIGN!, veteran newsman Peter Nolan, who covered all the players in the 1983 contest, has written a first hand account of, not only the key participants, the candidates and their top supporters, but also of relatively unknown election workers who invested their time and passions in a way not seen since in Chicago politics.

*This is a book that every Chicago politician ought to keep under his pillow.*" (From the foreword to CAMPAIGN! by F. Richard Ciccone, author of *Daley: Power and Presidential Politics*, and Mike Royko: *A Life in Print*, former Managing Editor of the Chicago Tribune.)

"Nolan has penned a riveting



*chronology of the 1983 campaign that elected Harold Washington as the first black mayor of Chicago. It's a well documented history for sure, but it's also a wonderfully told story full of the colorful characters that*

*always rank the Chicago political scene as so captivating.*" (From a book review, 3/25/12, by Robert McCarthy, political writer for the Buffalo News.)

"Nolan has produced an insightful, nicely-paced look at this important event in Chicago and American politics." (David Yepsen, Director, Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, Southern Illinois University.)

Partially a memoir of what it was like to be in the media thirty years ago, CAMPAIGN! also focuses on the human folly so often involved in American politics.

For political junkies or those just interested in a good story with memorable characters, CAMPAIGN! is a great read. The book is now available through amikapress.com (where an excerpt and more media coverage can be accessed or Amazon.com.



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# Special Day for Special People June 24 at Chicago Gaelic Park

On Sunday, June 24th, 2012, The Clare Association of Chicago will celebrate the 26th Anniversary of the "Day for Special People" at Chicago Gaelic Park, 6119 W. 147th Street in Oak Forest, IL. The day will start with a 10 am Mass on the Patio, with the main celebrant, Bishop Frances Kane of Chicago.

A delicious Irish buffet breakfast will follow, and as there is no charge to "special guests," and a nominal fee charged to all others.

The grand raffle, one of the highlights of this day will follow the breakfast. All of our special guests' names are placed in a drawing upon entry to the park that morning. Names of winners will continue to be drawn until all the prizes are gone.

The grand raffle prizes consist of televisions, DVD players, video recorder/players, stereo equipment, bikes, musical equipment, large toys, etc. All the prizes are displayed on the stage awaiting our winner's selection.

Following the Grand Raffle, all the guests are invited to play four games from a choice of ten, for which they are guaranteed a prize. They may choose their game prizes from an array of gifts such as headset radios, games, videos, stuffed animals, tee shirts, sport bags, drink cups, balls, puzzles, children's toys, etc. A wonderful day is promised for all.

Anyone wishing to register a special guest must starting May 17 to June 17, 2012. Maureen Bennett at 708/301-9773.



The Women of Concern Awards were bestowed upon two exceptional women. The Concern Leadership Award was given to Diane Geraghty, Professor, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, and the Concern Humanitarian Award was given to Jacqueline Novogratz, Founder and CEO of Acumen Fund. Both women have accomplished much in their careers of service to others. Diane Geraghty explained how Civitas Child Law Center is designed to acquaint law student with the many issues concerning children's rights. Jacqueline Novogratz relayed stories of how she uses entrepreneurial approaches to solve the problems of global poverty. Guests were inspired by the honorees' tremendous work that uses law and innovation to help those most in need.

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## Wild Onion

By Thomas Reimer

Tale of Irish and German Immigrants in Chicago, 1932

*In Wild Onion, Thomas Reimer introduced me to two new friends who were new immigrants to the American frontier. One is Irish and One is German. I was enriched by the fresh information and insights on the settlement of the new frontier I had not known about... Wild Onion also presents a true and moving tale of the Native American in the face of overwhelming force of the westward-moving settlers. It doesn't flinch from the insensitivity and brutality of the invaders. Nor does Reimer over-sentimentalize the Native Americans. He recognizes that both are human - with all the bravery, ambition, virtue, self-interest and cruelty common to all human beings.*

*Occasionally I still wonder what Seamus and Axel are doing and how the new America is changing them,*

*and how they are changing what was then an unsettled and dangerous frontier.*

*Bring them back. How about a sequel? Or two?*

Dr. Donald M. Prince,  
Educator and publisher  
*Thomas Reimer's new novel, Wild Onion, deserves a place in the annals of early Chicago history. American Indians, settled residents and newly arrived immigrants are depicted in a realistic manner, as is travel to the city and the difficult conditions there. Dreams meet reality on a daily basis. At the same time, human values prevail. This reader highly recommends the book.*

Ann Lawson,  
retired Social Worker  
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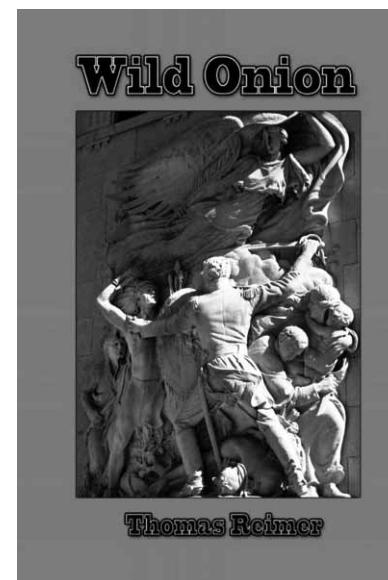
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- Irish-American Heritage Center Irish Fest July 8- 10
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- 2012 Dublin (Ohio) Irish Festival August 3- 5
- Milwaukee August 16 - 19, 2012
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- Fox Valley Irish Fest September 9- 11
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# The Irish Rover

By James McClure



## Family Castle Without the Hassle

I envy people who have the means to travel back to Ireland but their photos seen from afar rarely have direct impact for me. It's not that they aren't quaint or interesting or historical, it's just that I can't see myself on the same journey.

No such lack of vision a couple weeks back when Genoa City, Wisconsin locals Dave and Prudy Sullivan presented their personal views of Irish travel to a crowded City Hall gathering transplanted by the big interest generated by the pre-St. Patrick's Day event put on by The Friends of the Genoa City Public Library.

The trim and fit Sullivans are the picture of health and Ireland itself. Avid walkers and intrepid family geneologists, Dave dresses like a latter-day Indiana Jones ready to take on the elements and Prudy looks like everybody's hip grandma ready to stop and smell the roses after traversing breathtaking mountain wilderness.

In four trips Dave and Prudy have combined an unusual mix of practical travel hints to make the most of their trips

while also tossing a travel salad of vibrant Irish greens and ancient structures with personal meaning.

Their typical three week sojourn to the Emerald Isle's more remote areas is anything but spotaneous.

"When we take a trip like this we do a lot of planning," Prudy explained to the audience. And not a lot of rushing.

"The first night we land at Shannon Airport then find a nearby lodging to bed down and take it easy at first," adds Prudy. Another sure cure for jet lag may be the giant SUV they usually rent to help them cover more ground, though the ferry across the Shannon River helps save enrgy and 85 miles along the way. Their treks through remote southwestern Ireland calls for precision on the road as well--their gas-guzzler Gaelic-style takes up six feet of the 11 foot wide roads and more simply put...is always across the centerline as Dave's rear-view mirrors brush past roadside grasses.

When they do come to a planned upon site Dave make sure they park a few miles short. "We like to find a bed and breakfast a few miles out of town so we can miss the traffic and enjoy long walks of three miles or more to get to the town center and back. It keeps us in shape!" notes Dave.

Prudy wrote recently in a local newsletter that they have enjoyed many of the most popular sights from the Dingle Peninsula to the Cliffs of Moher, but, "we especially enjoy the area near Tuoist--the town of Kenmare, the Healy Pass, the Caha Mountains, the standing stone circle and the waterfall at Glaninchiquin, and the ancient cenetery and the 6th century churc at Kilmakilloge, where Patrick O'Sullivan and his ancestors have been buried for hundreds for years."



Prudy overlooking mountain scenery

In the midst of traveling to a circa-620 castle built on the banks of the Kenmare River in County Kerry, the Sullivans found more than just the Ardea Castle founded by Dave's ancestors, they also met family by surprise in Tuoist where five generations of O'Sullivans have run the post office.

What started as dry geneology ended as a broad family gathering as the Sullivans were entertained and welcomed by a multi-generation mix of Sullivans and O'Sullivans.

After making their way back to Chicago from the breathtaking remote areas of Ireland, the Sullivans told their civic audience a secret for ending the trip refreshed

and with a few dollars extra in the pocket to boot. "We rented a stretch limo and traveled in comfort and style back to Genoa City," Dave explained, adding "When you look at the cost of a parking space at O'hare for three weeks or more it's not such a bad idea."

Looking at the pictures and putting yourself in the practical shoes of Dave and Prudy Sullivan, you clearly see what has repeatedly called them back to the wonder and majesty opened up through four trips of crumbling castles and breathtaking scenery.

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# Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan



I've had three brief encounters with Paul Konerko's wife. Like the classic love story, it's a bittersweet tale.

We bumped into each other again in front of the elevators outside the Skybox Suites at Sox Park on Opening Day.

She pretended she didn't know me.

I went along with the ruse and introduced myself and we exchanged small talk about her husband's performance that day in leading the Sox to victory over the Tigers.

We bid each other adieu as she wheeled the stroller with her baby onto the elevator and out of my heart. Tony Golden and former Chicago Bear John Johnson were with me and Tony

muttered to me, "How do you know Konerko's wife?"

We had been guests of my old pal Charlie Carey in his skybox that day and it was a blast until we drank them out of beer sometime in the 8th inning. After the game I suggested to Tony and John that we have one more at Schaller's.

The place was packed but Sue squeezed us into a table in the back and I kicked back with the sports encyclopedia Tony Golden and the legendary Chicago Bear John Johnson. Ordinarily these guys would be telling me great sports stories but all they wanted to know was "How in the hell do you know Konerko's wife?"

They grilled me relentlessly

as I ran up their tab and I finally spilled my guts and told them of my short but passionate history with the gorgeous Jennifer.

It was the summer of 2010 and I was driving a limo to make ends meet during Obamanomics. The gig was brutal because I was at war with the dispatcher, an uber-nerd named

game on the radio and thought about the great Paul Konerko. I've been a White Sox fan for over 60 years and I will never, ever forget Paulie hitting the first grand slam in White Sox World Series history in game 2 of the 2005 World Series. I pulled up to his building, wondering if Jennifer was his daughter or his wife. Probably the typical airhead bimbo that you see on the arm of most sports zillionaires I thought.

I walked up and rang the bell, heard a hubbub of kids' voices and then she opened the door. This is where the music swells and Grace Kelly steps into frame. She was charming and graceful and just flat out pretty. Little blue birds flew about chirping of her loveliness. She had all the bags ready and waiting by the door and I started hauling them down the steps to the van. She pointed out a very large red trunk and said, "This one is the mother lode."

Each of the bags felt like they were filled with cement and the mother lode must have contained Paul's barbells. Mrs. K floated down the steps with her two little boys in tow and off we headed to her destination. We hit the drive-thru at a McDonald's on the way so the lads could eat and I surreptitiously turned on the radio for the game. The Sox were having a great season and I remarked as much to m'lady. She was very pleasant and told me of her worries about "the other team", i.e., The Minnesota Twins.

She had her hands full with the towheads as they wrestled over the toys in the Happy Meal. Upon departure Mrs. K told her sons, "Make sure you thank

Mike for the ride." A good moment. Maybe a month later the Sox and Twins are battling for contention in the American League and the Sox suddenly start a long slow slide into an end of season collapse that will doom their chances at another championship.

I'm at home one night watching the game with the sound off and the radio doing play by play. I'll take Farmer over the Hawk any day. I've got to listen to one know-it all-blowhard at work, so I'd have to be a masochist if I put up with it on my TV.

Sox are losing. Konerko comes to bat in the bottom of the ninth with two outs and the bases loaded and strikes out. Nooooooo!

A week later, wanker Jim hands me the order, "Konerko" pick-up near north, drop-off at O'Hare. This time I ain't so thrilled.

He says, "Ask her if she can help him with that choking problem."

You dirty blaggard! Don't you dare speak of her.

I pull up in front of Konerko's crib in my Executive Sedan. I ring the bell and there's Paul standing there in his shorts and he asks me if I need any help with the bags.

I can handle it.

He shrugs and hands them off and then gives his old lady a kiss and she follows me to the car where I open the back door for her entrance.

As we drove to the airport in silence we both knew it was over. I caught a glimpse of her in my rear view mirror as she gazed out the back window wistfully. Sorry doll, but no World Series this year.

Curbside at O'Hare, red cap grabs the bags and we look at each other one last time. The sounds of the planes overhead drown out her final words, if there even were any.

Tony pays our tab at Schaller's and asks me, "What kind of a tip did she give 'ya?"

Come on Tony, It was never about the money.

Johnson the Bear scoffs at me, "Who are you kiddin'? You never even got to first base!"



Jennifer and Paul Konerko

Jim who wore his military shorts up around his nipples with black socks under his combat boots and a jangling ring of hundreds of keys on his belt. He treated all the drivers with contempt and every time I laid eyes on him I wanted to jump the counter and beat him to a bloody pulp after gouging out his eyeballs with his magic marker.

He handed me the keys to an SUV with the order that read "Jennifer Konerko". The pick-up was Near North and the drop-off was the private jet terminal by Midway. I recognized the name instantly and looked up at Jim, "Konerko?"

"Don't screw it up." he sneered.

On the drive over to the pick-up address I devised several elaborate schemes for disemboweling Jim. I put the Sox

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## Return of the Keane Machine

The Center and Marlene Productions are pleased to announce the second concert of the Local Artist Concert Series at the Center. The Keane Machine returns with special guest Howard Levy. The concert features: Kathleen Keane, Jackie Moran, Jimmy Moore, Catherine O'Connell, Jim Dooley, Steve Gibbons, Alfonso Ponticelli, Devin Shepherd, Graham Nelson, Marieke Van Der Maelen, Kimberly Bigler, Cristina Dominguez Guotierrez, Alpha Stewart, Kathy Cowan, Larry Gray, Ben Weber,



Kathleen Keane



Jackie Moran

Cristina Dominguez Guotierrez and Rebecca Zimmerman. The concert is Saturday May 19th at 8pm. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door and can be purchased by calling 773-282-7035 or visiting [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org). The Keane Machine is a collaborative effort between musicians, singers and dancers from Irish, Gypsy Jazz, Classical and Flamenco backgrounds. A generous portion of the profits from the concert will be donated to the installation of a permanent sound system in the IAHC auditorium.

For more information, visit [www.kathleenkeane.com](http://www.kathleenkeane.com).

## Lady Lavery Lecture



In May, the Library will present a multimedia presentation on Lady Hazel Lavery (1880-1935). Born in Chicago, Hazel Martyn Lavery is most remembered for having her likeness appear on Banknotes of the Republic of Ireland for much of the 20th Century. She was an Irish-American beauty, with Martyn family ancestors in County Galway. Lavery was also immortalized on canvas by her second husband, the Belfast-born painter, John Lavery. Lavery's interest in Ireland grew

serious after the Roger Casement trial. She became a very influential figure in the lives of such men as Michael Collins and Kevin O'Higgins, during the struggle for Irish Independence. Politicians and artists flocked to the Lavery home when they became involved in the Anglo-Irish Treaty negotiations of 1921. They played a very important role by providing a meeting ground for both sides. Lady Hazel Lavery is Sunday, May 30 at 3pm in the Library and the suggested donation is \$5.

## Irish American Heritage Festival July 13, 14 and 15, 2012

Tickets are now on sale for the 27th annual Irish American Heritage Festival. Irish Fest showcases the finest in local and international Irish and American music, dance and family activities. The festival directly supports and is held on the grounds of the Center and is our largest fundraiser of the year.

The festival features 3 days of music on 5 stages, featuring the following confirmed performers:

- the Tossers
- Young Dubliners
- Dublin City Ramblers
- the Kreellers
- the Mickey Finns
- Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones
- the Sandcarvers
- the Larkin and Moran Brothers
- the Great Whiskey Project
- Dooley Brothers
- Kennedy's Kitchen
- Kevin Flynn and the Avondale Ramblers
- Paddy Homan
- the Bagpipes and Drums of the Emerald Society
- Matt Stedman Band
- Rant Maggie Rant
- Girsa
- the Chancey Brothers
- Nineteen Pints

Hours are 6pm to midnight on July 13, noon to midnight on July 14 and noon to 11pm on July 15. Tickets are \$7 for seniors, \$8 in advance for adults and \$15 at the door and children 12 and under are free.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.irishfestchicago.com](http://www.irishfestchicago.com)



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## President's Message

This time last year, I was first approached about running for the board. I am honored that I was elected to the board and subsequently to the office of President. The work of all the previous Presidents and Board of Directors provides big shoes to fill and has helped build a good road map for us.

I recall writing my nomination document in preparation for the election. I addressed my vision and thoughts that included increased transparency, membership culture, the mission, planning, risk management, training, partnerships and sustainability. I have worked to stay the course concerning what I wrote in the nomination process.

The elections for 2012 to 2016 are upon us and the election process is underway for four new board members. I urge you to become involved in this process. Voting is a fundamental right and responsibility of membership in the Center. Your vote counts and will help set the course for the next four years. I trust you see how the board you elected last year has worked to address your expectations.

2012 will be important to the Center, short and long term, as we face, plan and implement strategies to:

1) Work with our new Development Committee to financially strengthen the Center through grants, foundations, Planned Giving and corporate sponsorship programs.

2) Embark on a Master Plan for the

Center driven by listening to our members, donors, volunteers, sponsors, neighbors, partners and others.

3) Grow our membership by working with our Membership Committee by adding children, young adults, families, seniors and others as we also focus on Membership Renewal.

4) Retain the great volunteers we have and grow the volunteer ranks by working with Membership and our Volunteer Coordinator, Carmel O'Kane, to provide an environment that is volunteer-friendly.

5) Embark on a program to continue to help "brand" the Center as a destination in Chicago for all who seek to connect with Irish culture.

6) Enhance our members' experiences at the Center.

7) Continue to be an organization that is driven by listening to our membership and implementing their wants and needs.

8) Develop a Cultural Committee budget that allows the committee to proceed with their mission-related initiatives so they can focus on cultural programming and less on raising funds.

9) Measure, measure, measure so we make the best possible decisions, using the best facts available.

While we embark on and continue work on the above opportunities, I remain focused on addressing very specific issues we have shared through calls, letters, meetings and Town Hall meetings. These include:

1) Providing additional security.  
2) Adding volunteer evening and weekend office staff and increasing our service to you and others, without adding cost.

3) Adding technology to better serve our members, renters, guests and staff and become more effective and efficient.

4) Continue to serve our volunteers and seniors with our lunch program that is done with little or no cost to the Center or the membership.

5) Implement a Point of Service computer system and invoice approval process that ensures proper financial controls.

6) Begin to pay down the outstanding loan, reduce our debt and continue to develop a budget and a spending culture to help keep us in the black.

7) Continue to share information at Town Hall meetings. Every member has every right to know our plans and these will continue to be provided to you at meetings or when you contact us.

8) Adding resources to our Banquet and Rental operations to help us retain and attract more guests and more profitable renters.

9) Continue to "advantage our members" with ticket, Gift Shop and Fifth Province discounts, improved programming and more.

10) Focus on risk management as an opportunity to reduce our cost, be a great place to visit and to help protect our assets.

11) Focus on energy reductions and green initiatives.

9) Work to add resources to make sure the building and grounds are clean, organized and up to your expectations.

10) Add new revenue streams, programs and events to better serve our members'

interests and continue to strengthen our financial picture.

11) Begin the installation of the Walk of Names brick paver project.

12) Work to grow the Fifth Province Pub and food business with a detailed sales and marketing plan, which includes a new menu, a computerized cash register and information system, new coolers, back bar and more.

13) Continue to work hard to keep the Center clean and organized.

14) Continue to support and improve when we can with events including the Irish American Hall of Fame, iBAM!, St. Patrick's Festival, Irish Fest, McToberfest, our Christmas Bazaar and others

15) Work with the Heritage Singers, Nimble Thimbles, our Library, genealogy group, music and dance partners, language classes, Art Gallery, Museum, theater partners, Gift Shop, Golden Diners program, Cultural Committee, Membership committee and Building committee.

The new board members you elect can help us advance these initiatives and more. Please help make a difference and vote.

Thank you for making the Center what it is. Keep providing your input. It is heard and appreciated. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

The future of the Center is bright and your vote will help make it even brighter.

**John Gorski**  
President  
630-272-3612  
gorski@irishahc.org

## Get Out the Vote!

Elections for four new members of the IAHC Board of Directors is Friday, June 15 at 7:30pm.



Candidates will be elected to serve from 2012-2016. The candidates are Kathy Dunat, Paddy Homan, Kathy Kelly, Ann Murphy, Terry Sweeney, Tom Spence and Tim Taylor.

If your membership has lapsed, call the IAHC Office and renew your membership so you can vote in this important election.

If you are unable to attend, you can call the office for an absentee ballot at 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

## VISIT THE GIFT SHOP Mother's Day is May 13

The IAHC Gift Shop is the best place to shop for the special Mom in your life. We have Irish crystal, claddagh rings, sweaters, scarves, leather journals and so much more. Come in and let our dedicated volunteers help you choose the perfect gift, or surprise her with an IAHC gift card.

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The room is air-conditioned and includes a top quality sound system, top quality projector system, a 10'x20' stage, a mahogany bar, a cloak room, a brides' room, a prep kitchen, brand new chairs and 72-in and 54-in round tables.

To book any of our rental rooms, call our Events Management Team at 773-282-7035, ext. 21 or email [rentals@irishahc.org](mailto:rentals@irishahc.org).



4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, IL 60630 • 773-282-7035





# THE HERITAGE LINE

## IRISH AMERICAN heritage center

Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

### Wish List

- Attend a live performance with the Keane Machine or Len Graham and Brian Ó hAirt
- Renew your membership so you can vote in our June election
- Bring your family and friends to the Fifth Province for a meal
- Call your Mother..... on Mother's Day and often!

## Test Your Trivia Knowledge

Think You're So Smart?

Test your trivia knowledge with Quiz Night at the Center. 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. The remaining 2012 Quiz Night is May 18.

## Culture Corner

Visit the **IAHC Library**

- for research and lending of our extensive collection, book signings, lectures and activities.



Library open:  
Mondays and Wednesdays 4-8pm  
Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-1 pm  
Friday closed  
Saturday 9-3pm  
Sunday open on the 2nd and last Sunday of the month.

### Genealogy Club

- for monthly meetings on finding your roots

**Genealogy Monthly Meetings** The last Sunday of every month at 1pm. (except December)

### Art Gallery

- for lectures, art classes and special exhibits throughout the year.

### Museum

- for our collection and special exhibits call our office for a docent-led 45 minute tour.

## PIOBAIRI

Piobairi, a presentation hosted by Pat Cannady and friend continues through spring and summer in the Fifth Province. Come and sample the pub menu and enjoy music on selected Saturday afternoons from 5pm to 7pm.

Upcoming dates are: May 12, June 2, June 16, July 7



## Meet Our Irish Cousins Film Premieres May 11

Mike Houlihan's long awaited film, *Meet Our Irish Cousins* will have a sneak preview on Friday, May 11 at the Center at 8pm. Houlihan will be at the

Filled with Irish music and laughter, the film features many of our most beloved Irish characters including P.J. O'Dea, Kelly Doherty, Turk Mueller, Frank

Julie Popp, Des Bishop and many more.

Scenes were shot at the Center, Gaelic Park, countless Irish pubs in Chicago, the Abbey Theatre



screening to discuss the film. The film traces Houlihan's adventures as he hustles his book all over Chicago with his son William and then takes us to Ireland where he seeks out his Irish heritage.

West, Sean Ginnelly, Maureen O'Looney, Paddy Homan, Maurice Lennon, Dennis Cahill, Barney Farrelly, Jack and Gayle Baker, Shay Clarke, Assessor Jim Houlihan, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, Billy Lawless,

in Dublin, Fitzpatrick Castle in Dublin, The Ennis Book Festival in County Clare, Mike Houlihan's pub in Kilmallock, Galway Bay FM Studios and more.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door.

**If you have an iPhone and the Kaywa Quick Response Code Reader App, scan the code to the right and be taken directly to the Irish American Heritage Center website!**



Join the fun for a **Misericordia Benefit** in the Fifth Province with live music by **Seamus Kennedy, Friday, May 4, 7pm, \$15-20**



Don't Miss **Len Graham and Brian Ó hAirt** in Concert **Saturday, May 5, 7pm, \$20** in the 3rd floor theatre.



# THE HERITAGE LINE

## IRISH AMERICAN heritage center

Chicago, Illinois



**May 2012**

**WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG**

May 4	Misericordia Benefit Francis O'Neill Ceili Dance	Fifth Province Room 111	7pm 8pm
May 4	JFK: A Homecoming	Auditorium	8pm
May 5	Len Graham Brian O hAirt Concert Shamrock American Club Social	3rd Floor Theatre Sham Am Room	7pm 8pm
May 10	CIIS Tara Club Event	Room 304	10am
May 11	Our Irish Cousins Movie	Auditorium	8pm
May 12	St. Patrick's Fathers Social	Room 109	8pm
May 15	Celtic Women Monthly Meeting	Fifth Province	7pm
May 18	Quiz Night	Room 109	8pm
May 19	The Keane Machine in Concert	Auditorium	8pm
May 24	CIIS Tara Club Event	Room 304	10am
May 27	Genealogy Meeting	Library	1pm
May 28	Memorial Day Building Closed		

Regularly scheduled events -

- Golden Diners Lunch Program in Kitchen on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturdays from 12:30pm-2pm
- Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group on Tuesdays at 10am Room 304

### IAHC's Walk of Names Program

Make your mark permanently at the Center by participating in the Walk of Names Program. Designed to celebrate Irish heritage, the Walk of Names program allows you to make a lasting memory through personalized brick pavers. The IAHC is selling personalized brick pavers to be shown in the east side entrance walkway area at the Center.

Approximately 500 bricks have been sold already! The Center is actively working to establish a start date to break ground and we appreciate your patience. A date will be announced by June 1.

You can still purchase pavers now by contacting the IAHC at 773-282-7035 or visiting [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org).

Become a permanent part of the history at the IAHC by purchasing a paver today. Perfect for families, organizations, dedications, or to celebrate a special memory or event, your paver will be inscribed with your personal message or tribute.

Three brick paver sizes are available:

4" x 8"-up to three lines	\$100
8" x 8"-up to six lines	\$200 IAHC member \$250 non-member
12" x 12"-up to 9 lines	\$400 IAHC member \$500 non-member

The pavers are guaranteed to be in place for a minimum of 100 years.

Show your support for the IAHC Walk of Names by considering a purchase today.



## the fifth province

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

### UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

**May 2012**

All Shows Start  
After 9pm

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- 5/5 Mulligan Stew
- 5/11 Seamus O'Kane  
and Jimmy Moore
- 5/12 Sway with Steve Davern
- 5/18 Gerry Haughey
- 5/19 Fionnghlas
- 5/25 Joe McShane
- 5/26 The Dooley Brothers



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**\$500 - Bard**

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### Our Mission

The mission of the Irish American Heritage Center is to nurture and strengthen Irish culture and heritage through programs emphasizing Irish music, literature, drama, traditional dancing, fine arts, and the constructive contributions of Irish and Irish-Americans to the United States of America. The Irish American Heritage Center supports this mission by maintaining its resources including the:

- MUSEUM • IRISH SCHOOL • ARCHIVES • CHOIR
- ART GALLERY • AUDITORIUM • LIBRARY • THEATRE GROUP

And other related programs and partnerships, while providing a gathering place for the Irish American community and those interested in Irish culture.

**The Heritage Line Staff** Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

Contributors: Theresa Choske, Kathy Dunat, Mary Griffin, John Gorski, Mary Gorski, Mary Morris, Sheila Murphy

# Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



## The Interviewer Is In Charge, Right?

It is a commonly held view that the interviewer is the person in charge of an interview. Perhaps it's time to rethink that point of view. The more interview experiences I hear, the more I believe interviewees should be prepared to take charge of the interview, if necessary. Frequently the interviewer is NOT prepared to conduct the interview. Their reading of one's resume can be casual and hurried, if done at all.

When a human resources person is conducting the interview of a person with a technical background, he is really at a disadvantage. How much is a HR person likely to know about IT, manufacturing, logistics or financial reporting? They are really hard pressed to ask penetrating questions about the technical subject matter. It's clearly not their expertise. They can learn general information from the interviewee such as schooling, interests, past achievements, some of the specifics about former employers and other "personal" things, but can they really learn pertinent info about the interviewee's area of expertise?

Think about it. A human resources person typically knows a lot about the company and its history, the benefits, plus the culture and goals of the organization. But do they know much about the actual day to day activities of the different departments?

In many instances, surprisingly, the HR interviewer will not have had any training in the interview process. They are simply expected to pick up those skills. "Hey, it's just talking to an individual"; a good interviewer can draw some

worthwhile conclusions about the individual. But can they look carefully at the interviewee's background and experiences and relate them to the skills required for the job? Much more likely the interview is concluded and the interviewer says, I like him or I don't like him. He or she would be a good hire.

I recall a discussion with one of the best recruiters Coopers & Lybrand had, Chuck Bond, who said "I just know when a person is right for C&L." This statement was made without guile or conceit. Chuck felt he could discern the person's ability to be successful within our firm. Perhaps because the person seemed to be a really nice person. But as for the presence of the essential skills necessary to execute the job properly, often no real attempt was made to discern that. A dear friend of mine recently told me that the top marketing executive of her potential employer started their interview by asking "What shall we talk about?" He then conducted an interview which never touched upon her considerable marketing skills, although she was being "interviewed" for a senior level marketing position.

The interviewee should prepare an agenda of essential selling points before the interview. Just like the 10 PM news broadcaster, what are the main stories that the interviewee is going to tell the interviewer? What examples or experiences will help the interviewer to conclude that the interviewee possesses the requisite skills?

The interviewee should have the two or three highlights etched

in their memory; they need to share those with the interviewer, even if he doesn't ask. Don't leave the interview without sharing these experiences with the interviewer. If the interviewer remembers nothing else about you, hopefully he will remember one or two of the highlights you were trying to communicate.

The interviewee needs to realize that the interviewer may be as nervous as he is. The interviewer may have realized the interviewee went to a "better" school than s/he did; the interviewee has some really important job experiences. The interviewee may be far more widely traveled or accomplished than the interviewer. Perhaps the interviewer considers the job applicant as far more attractive in his/her overall appearance than himself. More significant than the externals is the reality, the interviewer gets to make a very important decision that affects the other person's life. Many interviewers resist making a final hiring decision because they are uncomfortable having that much power.

An interviewee should remember the rule of the 4P's. #1) You must prepare your story. #2) you must practice what you going to say #3) you must present the individual facts as a cogent statement #4) you must deliver your story with passion.

To be successful in an interview, you need to bring your "A" game. You must strive to help the interviewer see your virtues and skills. You must manifest your excitement and enthusiasm. How else is the interviewer going to know you are excited about the job? The interviewer wants to hire someone, why not you? Remember people hire others with whom they are comfortable.

Your ability to "take over" an interview is directly related to the thoroughness of your preparation for the interview. Like any other process, this approach will not work every time. A highly experienced interviewer is not going to let you run the show, but I think such interviewers are few and far between.

The value of taking over the interview shows itself in how much relevant information (the selling proposition) you have been able to provide the interviewer. Re-

member you are trying to facilitate a positive decision on the part of the interviewer; you are trying to close the sale.

Personal note: In addition to my two excellent editors, I asked Robert Ward, author of From Interview Disaster to Interview Master to review this

column. Carpe Diem. Happy Easter! James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., an Oak Brook, IL-based senior executive coaching and career transition firm. Email:jamesffitz37@hotmail.com. Web-site: jamesfitzgeraldassociates.com Phone#: 630-684-2204

### Heather A. Begley



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www.academyofirishmusic.org



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Check our our other fine Irish publication, IANOhio! Distributed monthly across the state of Ohio!



## Guinness Girl

By Mike Houlihan

Kathleen Keane had her first Guinness at the age of 4. Her mom and dad were having friends over and dad set his bottle on a table while telling a story. 'Lil Kathleen toddled through the room full of adults, picked up the bottle and took a sip. This set off a roomful of laughter from the grown-ups and then the wee lass took another sip, a big one. She liked it! But she never touched another drop of the black stuff after that for 17 long years, until she turned 21. Since then it's been her beverage of choice and it goes naturally with her brilliant career as an Irish songstress, musician, dancer, and powerhouse personality, don't ya know.

Kathleen told me of all the benefits of a hearty pint of Guinness concerning low calories etc., but she needn't have bothered.

Everybody knows Guinness is good for you. So maybe it was serendipity that a Los Angeles ad agency recently chose Kathleen as their "Guinness Girl" in their spec commercial soon to be seen on YouTube. They flew Kathleen to LA last week and she filmed the spot and worked up a terrible thirst while surrounded by all that lovely Guinness. The big shots in Hollywood are now in post-production and hopefully the spot will be up online soon.

We can help Kathleen and her pals by visiting "Guinness Girl" on Facebook and "liking" it. You should be able to find the commercial on YouTube by searching for "Guinness Girl Commercial" and Kathleen Keane. And when you find it, tell your friends. Share the experience of Guinness Girl Kathleen Keane, just like her da shared his Guinness with his little darling oh not so many years ago.

## Keane Machine Concert Gears Up for IAHC Performance May 19

Come out and support the Keane Machine at the second concert of the Local Artist Concert Series at the Irish American Heritage Center 4626 N Knox Chicago 60630. The concert features Kathleen Keane, Jackie Moran, Jimmy Moore, Catherine O'Connell, Jim Dooley, Steve Gibbons, Alfonso Ponticelli, Devin Shepherd, Graham Nelson, Marieke Van Der Maelen, Kimberly Bigler, Cristina Dominguez Guotierrez, Alpha Stewart, Kathy Cowan, Larry Gray, Ben Weber, Cristina Dominguez Guotierrez and Rebecca Zimmerman and, opening act, Maris Maeve O'Tierney.

The concert is Saturday, May 19th, 8pm. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. Call 773-282-7035 or visiting [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org). The Keane Machine is a collaborative effort between musicians, singers and dancers from Irish, Gypsy Jazz, Classical and Flamenco backgrounds.

It is an experience guaranteed to lift your spirits and fill your hearts with joy. A generous portion of the profits from the concert will be donated to the installation of a permanent sound system in the IAHC auditorium. For additional information, visit [www.kathleenkeane.com](http://www.kathleenkeane.com).

## Kathleen Keane Payin' It Forward

By Jim Corboy

I was recently asked by my friend, Nancy Gustafson, a voice teacher at Northwestern and Castleton Festival's general manager, if I could help one of her students map out a career path. Nancy knows talent, and the young Irish twin, Maris Maeve O'Tierney was all that and more. Maris is a classically-trained pianist and opera singer who lived in Ireland for a year before settling in Alaska. Kathleen Keane knows the Chicagoland Irish music

scene very well.

I asked Kathleen if she would meet with Maris to offer some sage advice and without hesitation, Kathleen invited Maris to a house concert at Alderman Joe Moore's home in the 49th Ward. That event led to an invitation to open for the Keane Machine concert on May 19th at the Irish American Heritage Center. Keane calls it, "Paying it forward. People did it for me, and I'm happy to do it for Maris!" It's a classic Irish story of opening doors for others.



Alaska resident, Maris Maeve O'Tierney (left) will open for Kathleen Keane (right) at the Keane Machine Concert May 19th at the Irish American Heritage Center Heritage Center.



# JUNE

## 1<sup>ST</sup> - 3<sup>RD</sup> 2012

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# It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane and Margo O'Donnell

Margo: There is a saying "It started with a song." I do believe this is true of how my friendship started with Joe McShane. I was aware of the singer/songwriter, Joe McShane but I got to know the person, one short night in Chicago - It was a Monday night in November 2010.

Myself and some friends called to his house, where I met his wife Margaret and son Declan. Joe and I started talking and chat led us to



a song Joe had written called "He Wished Me Merry Christmas", I suggested we should do a duet of the song. So down to his studios, we both went and the duo Margo and Joe was born.

The song was released that Christmas. After that we started writing songs together and in 2011, I recorded a CD, produced by Joe, in that same studio at Joe's home in Chicago. So I guess it did all

start with a song. I met Cathy Curry and Cliff Carlson in 2011, Cathy did a photo shoot for Joe and myself. So a lot of friendships were born. I'll take this opportunity now to thank Cliff Carlson for this column that Joe and I will be putting together, to be featured in the Irish American News, in the future. On my side of the Atlantic right now, the weather has turned cold, after a very warm St. Patrick's Day, yet it is quite beautiful as I write. I have 3 concerts lined up for July and August., in Ireland. Ireland is in a very low mood at the present, it reminds me of years ago, when all our young emigrated to find work in foreign lands. I know things are not so good world wide but please God, we can ride the waves and help each other, until things swing around to a better way of life again. I think if we all reach out to one and other, we will be ok. In the music world, we are all singing our songs - Larry Cunningham, the Jim Reeves style singer from Co Longford is not well at present. I recorded a hit CD "Yes Mr. Peter's" with Larry back in 1975 and we toured together for 12 months. We all need to pray for him now. We lost one of our greatest songwriter's and a true gentleman Johnnie McCauley. I recorded a lot of Johnnie's songs including "Any Tipperary Town", "Destination Donegal" to name just a couple. He wrote a lot of hit songs for Big Tom. My brother Daniel had his first big hit with Johnnie's composition "My Donegal Shore". Rest in Peace Johnnie. I only just heard Barney McKenna has also passed away, he's the last of the Dubliners folk group to leave us. The Duliners and Clancy Brothers made musical history. R.I.P.

I will be back in Chicago for the Saint Patrick's Father's on October 27, which I look forward to each year, I just heard the tickets are now on sale for this very worthy cause. God Bless All - I will hand you over to Joe, I know he will enjoy this partnership as much as I will. Thanks for taking the time to read this, until next time, over to Joe. Love always, Margo

Joe: Thank you Margo and Thank you Cliff for letting us

## "He Played His Farewell Song"

written by Margo O'Donnell, Joe McShane and Joe Cullen Verse 1

At the grotto by the old spring well, he sat down for a while with the fiddle he so cherished on his knee  
Old tunes ran through his mind, as they would an exile  
And the sweet notes floated gently to the sea  
Verse 2

In his home close by the rocky shore, he feared he see no more  
The breeze it seemed to whisper, won't you stay  
Departing from his kin, this new life to begin  
Just another son of Ireland going away  
Chorus

He played his farewell song and the birds all sang along  
On that morning down beside the old mill stone  
Put the fiddle in its case, tears rolled down his Mothers face  
Both their hearts were torn as he walked off alone  
Verse 3

He landed in Chicago, with his fiddle and his bow  
And each night he'd play the tunes of Ireland  
He met and wed his sweetheart, reared a family built a home  
No more we'll ever shake that fiddlers hand  
Chorus

We played his farewell song and the birds still sing along  
Like that morning down beside the old mill stone  
We put Dads fiddle in its case, as a tear rolled down my face  
Now with heavy hearts we stand here all alone  
Just a story of a fiddler long ago

To contact Margo or Joe - [www.margoodonnell.com](http://www.margoodonnell.com)  
or just email [joemcshanemusic@yahoo.com](mailto:joemcshanemusic@yahoo.com)  
[www.joemcshane.net](http://www.joemcshane.net)

## Maurice Malone Dies at 89

Maurice Malone, 89, of Cloghanedubh, County Kerry, Ireland passed away on April 20, 2012

Maurice AKA Bob lived in Chicago from the late 1940s to 1980 when he retired back to Ireland. He was very active in Irish activities such as Noraid and was a talented musician. When he retired back to Ireland he had his beloved Mustang shipped back and enjoyed it until he no longer could get parts for it.

He leaves behind a sister Eileen Cleary, two nieces Kathleen Powers and Joan Cleary and a nephew Peter Cleary and



three great nephews in Chicago. His two sisters and ten nieces and nephews survive him near Dingle, Co. Kerry.

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write a piece in the paper. I'll never forget Cliff and Cathy coming down to Nashville with us to be at the Ryman Auditorium for the recording of "Erin Tennessee" by Daniel O'Donnell, it was a songwriter's dream come true. And you know the truth is, its thanks to Margo that Daniel became interested in being part of the song. Gerry Carey came up with that beautiful accordion piece for the solo, it must have been good because Ronnie Kennedy from Daniel's band played it just the way Gerry had played it first. I would like to thank Paddy Homan this month for singing "Boulavogue" as a duet with me, the night of the Clann Na Gael dance on Easter Saturday, I felt very honored to sing a duet with Paddy, we are very lucky here in Chicago to have people like him, he has one of greatest voices I've ever heard. A big thank you to Michael and Cathy Boyle for introducing me to Margo, who has become a dear friend and co writing partner. We will be writ-

ing a wee bit of inside the scenes stuff in the future and I'm sure Margo will have a funny story or 2, this is just a little introduction and hello from Margo and I just to get things started. We will include the lyrics of songs we have written, with a little insight into how they came about. This first one I think has turned out to be Margo's favorite song at the moment. It was written from having a conversation with Joe Cullen after Margo's show, last October. and its about a Great Uncle of Joe's who came out to Chicago in the 1920's. He was a fiddle player and also made them. When Joe told us the story of how his Great Uncle sat outside the door one day and started to play the fiddle, then looked at the ocean then looked at the house, put the fiddle back in its case, walked up the road and never returned. This song just had to be written. It will be on Margo's new CD which comes out in early Summer. From Margo and Joe, be kind to each other. God Bless.

## An Immigrant's Musings

Fr. Michael Leonard



### Irish Workers Needed

For me, as for most people who hail from the "West of Ireland", the economic downturn has a very personal side to it. I have a nephew, who has been out of work in Ireland for over a year. Last month he attended a job fair in Cork. He told me: "It was like going to the Munster hurling finals in Thurles, there were thousands of people in attendance." Most of the folks were in their twenties and thirties and a smaller group in the fifties.

My nephew was offered a job to become a long distance truck driver in Saskatchewan, Canada. He said the Canadians were there in force to recruit young Irish for a variety of positions.

One of the leaders of the Canadian delegation, Rob Norris said watching 20,000 people show up in search of employment at a job fair was a "humbling experience."

Norris, Saskatchewan's Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration, was on hand as part of a recruiting mission by 27 companies from across the province at job fairs in Ireland.

"It was unsettling to see the scope and scale for the need for employment in Ireland," Norris said.

"The interest on the ground in Ireland far exceeded everyone's

expectations."

The Canadians were not the only ones seeking Ireland's young people for work; the jobs fairs also saw teams of recruiters from Australia and New Zealand.

This is good news for those who are ready and willing to immigrate to the above-mentioned countries. It is not good that Ireland is once more in a situation that forces its best and most productive citizens to find employment abroad.

The reality of immigration is that when it is forced upon you, it brings with it both opportunities and obstacles. For the majority, the ability to grasp the opportunities finds fulfillment but alas, for a minority the obstacles are exaggerated. This is particularly the case with folks who have a wide variety of "personal issues." Centers such as ours are finding more and more clients with such issues calling on us for support. This puts a strain on our resources and we are at times stretched to the limits of our capacity as we try to respond to those in need.

The people who come to our centers through the US are fortunate to find support from our centers and from the local communities who support us. Without that support we could not do our work and that work is for me the work of the Gospel in action "where the rubber hits the road." Happy Easter

### CIIS Annual Gala Awards Dinner

Chicago Irish Immigrant Support hosted its Annual Gala Awards Dinner at Gaelic Park on Saturday, March 31. This year's Honoree was Lt. Thomas Maloney of the Chicago Fire Department, a 9/11 first responder and local hero. Lt. Maloney rushed to Ground Zero the day after the attacks and assisted with the rescue efforts. He also established an annual motorcycle ride from Chicago to New York City, now in its tenth year with the American Firefighters Motorcycle Club. He has raised thousands of dollars for the victims' families and kept the memory of those who died alive.

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr. joined the event and echoed Consul General Aidan Cronin's remarks honoring the contribution of Irish immigrants to Chicago. An award was also given to Nancy Kenny, the wife of the late Mike Kenny of Co. Kerry. Kenny was a renowned community organizer in Chicago who raised a lot of money for worthy causes.

### Enda Kenny Visits Chicago

The Teasaich of Ireland, Enda Kenny, took time to talk to Irish American News editor, Cliff Carlson, when he was in town recently.

Cliff: 2012 and 2013 looks to me to be fantastic for Ireland. There's the anniversary of the Titanic in Belfast and Cobh, the Gathering in 2013, the Fleadh going to Derry for the first time, Derry is being celebrated as The City of Culture for the UK, and you've got the Olympiad. It looks like a great time for tourism in the next few years on the entire island.

Enda: It's a real opportunity in so many ways. You have, Dublin, the City of Science, this year (2012). So what you've mentioned between all the facilities, really, present the great opportunity. For instance, Young Roy McIlroy is the world's number one in golf. The Irish Open is happening in Northern Ireland for the first time in a very many years, which will attract enormous attention. The Fleadh will be opening for half a million people next year, and Derry, the City of Culture is doing the same thing. The Volvo race finishes in Galway. They expect 600,000 people to attend that. In 2013 we're looking to bring people home from all over the world-both the Irish diaspora and everyone outside of that. We want them to come and involve themselves in the country and understand the personality of the people that we have and enjoy the very excellent tourism facilities as well. In return of that, we expect our visitors to be given really good value and a quality experience they will never forget. That's going to run all through 2013.

In 2014, we're going to host, what we call, the Davos, in respect to the creative arts, the imaginative arts, theater, drama, music and all of that. As you're aware, the Davos Institute is where they bring all of the chief economists of the world together in Switzerland, every year, for a big discussion over a week, about the economies of the world. We want to give vent to the flare and creativity of the Irish diaspora in literature, art, the creative arts, music, film and drama. That's all being planned up ahead now and we would say to people in the United States, 'Look, if you have Irish descent anywhere in you, and

there are 45 million people who have, 'Come home and find out the missing part of your own personality. Find out where your own people came from. If you've never been there before, get involved, because Irish people are curious, inquisitive, gregarious, and people want to be associated with that. It's about life and living the challenge of life, which is great.'

Enda- We're delighted to be in Chicago, the most American of American cities, but also, it's a really strong thing to meet people



Breandan Magee of Chicago Irish Immigrant Support & Enda Kenny from Ireland, whom I know of myself. Give them a sense of contact of connection with our country.

Cliff: I remember you coming here before you were Taoiseach.

Enda: I have, over the years, yes. You remember, St. Patrick's Day is an Irish day, but it's an Irish day the world over? You only have Bastille Day for the French and Independence day for the United States, which are of similar nature. But they don't have the reach of Ireland with our 70 million diaspora all around the world! I've met people from Galway, Cork, and Limerick, and Mayo, and Tourmakeady. they talk about football and acquaintances and you know, all of that. I mentioned to people of undocumented problems, which are in limbo at the moment. Also the question of what's going on in regard to the E-3 visa's for people who may wish to come to America in the future.

Cliff: A lot of work is being done on that spearheaded by Billy Lawless here in Chicago.

Enda: Billy's a very good friend of mine. He's done a great job for Irish in Chicago. He's very helpful and cooperative in so many personal and sensitive cases.

Cliff: Well the mood seems good in Ireland, I was there in January. I was there twice last year.

Enda: The mood is pragmatic. We show our competitiveness and put us in a position where we focus on job creation and cutting out waste where it applied and are making decision that would bring out country back. One of the things I'm really glad of, is here in America, our international reputation has been restored. American business and American investment now look at Ireland as being a very different place than it was before. They know that there's no messing going on now in the sense of government not applying itself to it's job properly. From that point of view, we retain our 12 1/2% corporate tax rate. We value greatly the work that American investment provides in Ireland and we're also very happy 80,000 people across 50 states are employed in Irish growing companies here. At Enterprise Ireland, which is our agency working from Ireland in the United States, here, we'll do a great job with any young Irish company that wants to expand business. Anybody from Ireland who's wanting to do business in America, Enterprise Ireland deals with those people. Anyone who wants to do business from America to Ireland, we will ask them to involve themselves with the Industrial Development Authority. That's the agency that attracts investment to Ireland. The IDA. Here in the Chicago area, I'm going to visit Hollister which has a big plant in Ireland. I'm going to visit Baxter, who has a plant in my home town. I'm also going to talk to Abbot which make many good facilities in their base in Sligo and Longford. So, I make it a point of going to talk to chief executives and corporate personal when I am in the states and I am very happy with that.

Cliff: Any last words for the people of Chicago?

Enda: I'm thrilled to be here. It's a privilege as Taoiseach of Ireland to come to this historic city to meet so many Irish people. I wish them all a really happy St. Patrick's weekend. Let those here not forget that we will continuously work through government in building opportunities for people so that they can come home if they want to. For those who are home, they don't have to leave if they don't want to either.

# Healy Law

Martin J. Healy, Jr.

Senior Partner



*This is the next of a series of columns on how the law can impact your life. Each month we will focus on various aspects of the law relating to personal injuries, those that happen both on-the-job and otherwise, including mishaps which occur in driving vehicles, using products and receiving medical care. The column will also respond to legal questions relating to personal injury that are sent to us.*

*The Healy Law Firm is comprised of eight trial attorneys, two of whom are from Ireland. We are located downtown at 111 West Washington Street, Suite 1425, Chicago, Illinois 60602 (800-922-4500 or 312-977-0100). www.HealyLawFirm.com. The firm concentrates in the representation of injured victims of all types of accidents.*

*Readers are encouraged to call or write with questions concerning personal injury law.*

## Staying Safe This Boating Season

For many, the beginning of summer means the beginning of boating season. Here in Illinois, from Lake Michigan to the various rivers and smaller lakes, there are many options available to boaters of all ages. For all the enjoyment recreational watercrafts provide, there are also important safety considerations that must be remembered when boating this summer. There are over 12 million registered recreational vessels in the United States.

In 2010 alone, there were over 4,600 boating accidents, leading to over 670 deaths and more than 3,100 injuries. Not surprisingly, most of these accidents occur in the summer months (between May and September). By following these tips and using your common sense, you can ensure your summer on the water is both safe and enjoyable.

- Make sure your boat has an experienced and attentive operator.

According to statistics com-

piled by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Coast Guard Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety, operator inattention, improper lookout, operator inexperience, excessive speed, and alcohol use are the top five primary contributing factors in boating accidents, and were responsible for over 46% of all boating accidents in 2010. Boating safety instruction for drivers is available through a number of courses approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA). Proper safety training decreases the potential for accidents and injuries.

- Be on the lookout for inattentive or inexperienced drivers.

In Illinois, individuals as young as 10 years old are legally allowed to operate watercraft (although you must be 18 to operate a boat without adult supervision). Additionally, while some states do require a boating license or certification, in most states no license is required for recreational boating. In Canada, all boaters are required to obtain a Pleasure Craft Operator Card, but no similar requirement exists in the United States. Operator inexperience and not following the Rules of the Road combined to cause over 12% of all boating accidents in 2010. Collisions, either with other recreational vessels or fixed objects, account for over 23% of all accidents and nearly 10% of all boating deaths. Nearly 60% of accidents involved operators with no boating safety education. 84% of all boating deaths involved boats operated by drivers with no formal instruction or training.

- Don't drink and drive.

Alcohol use was a contributing factor in 7.2% of all accidents in 2010, and is the leading contributing factor in fatal boating accidents, responsible for 19% of all watercraft-related deaths. For many, a cold drink goes hand-in-hand with a warm day out on the water. Remember to drink responsibly, and to ensure that the driver of the boat is not intoxicated. Intoxicated boat operators are subject to penalties similar to

those enforced against motorists who drive a car while intoxicated.

- Follow the rules of the road.

Just like driving a car, there are rules of the road for operating watercraft. While it may seem that boat operators have unlimited freedom out on the water, there are rules that guide maneuvering in crowded waters, right of way, passing and being passed, proper lookout, speed, and other procedures that guide the safe operation of a boat. These rules are readily available on the internet through The BoatU.S. Foundation for boating safety and clean water and other organizations devoted to boating safety. Failing to obey the rules of the road was a contributing factor in over 200 accidents in 2010.

- Bring maps if you are heading out on the water, and do not become overly reliant on electronic devices.

Equipment failure caused over 350 reported accidents in 2010, including electrical system failure and engine failure. Many times, GPS devices, cellular phones and other electronic devices may not be reliable for longer trips or trips on larger bodies of water. Be prepared for electrical failure and equipment failure by knowing your route and planning your trip in advance.

- Make sure to have plenty of life jackets on board

Any time you are on the water, life jackets are a must. Life jackets are particularly important if your boat is 21 feet or smaller, as 80% of all drowning deaths were on boats less than 21 feet in length. In Illinois, boats must carry at least one Coast Guard-approved flotation device for each person on board. All children under 13 years old must wear a flotation device any time they are on a boat less than 26 feet long, unless they are below deck or in the cabin. Be sure to inspect the life jackets and flotation devices before heading out on the water. Like any product, life jackets are subject to wear, damage, breaking, or failure.

- Follow warnings and instructions when using jet skis and other smaller watercraft

Many jet skis, wave runners, and smaller personal watercraft pose different risks than larger boats. Many jet skis simply have too much power-producing capacity and inexperienced or younger drivers can easily lose control. Problems can go from bad to worse when the jet ski or watercraft does not automatically deactivate when the driver falls off. Jet skis are jet-propelled, and when users fall off or are thrown from the watercraft, water from the jet propulsion system can cause severe damage to body orifices and internal organs. Propeller-powered watercraft also pose risks to those who may fall in the water near the vessel. "Prop guards" are available to provide protection for some types of propeller-powered crafts. Because some of these risks are unique to wave runners and smaller watercraft, it is vital to look for and heed the warnings that often accompany these vessels. Wet suits are highly recommended when using any type of jet-propelled watercraft.

- Obtain boat insurance.

Unfortunately, boat insurance is not required in most states. That is why it is especially important that you protect yourself in the event of a boating accident. Boat insurance policies work just like many auto insurance policies with coverage for liability, property damage, collision, theft and fire. Underinsured and uninsured boater coverage is also available and will provide you coverage if you are in an accident caused by an uninsured boater. Boating accidents can cause property damage and serious injuries. Having a good boat policy ensures that you are not left holding a large bill in the event of an accident.

Remember these tips to keep everyone on your boat safe this summer. Taking just a few precautions can ensure a fun, accident-free time on the water.



**By: Martin Healy, Jr.  
Patrick C. Anderson**

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# For The Republic



**Chris Fogarty**



**WHY DID IRELAND** surrender the Six Counties to Britain? It was the greatest land transfer in history absent catastrophic military defeat. That was the Good Friday Agreement's (GFA's) purpose. All but a half-page of its 67.5 pages consisted of aspirational posturing, mutual-contradictions, and baffle-gab. Only that half-page of text was clear and enforceable. It required the gutting of Articles 2 and 3 of Ireland's Constitution that had laid permanent claim to the entire island and its territorial waters. The gutting was done. Someday historians will learn -was it bribery or blackmail? - that induced Ireland's pols to surrender some 18% of its national territory.

**DAVID IRVINE** thought he and his Ulster Volunteer Force had won "Ulster" for Britain by imposing an unbearably-high price on the Occupied-Irish. Helped by British spooks, Irvine's gang had entered Catholic neighborhoods and murdered nearly one thousand men, women, and children, randomly, in ones and twos. Everywhere were UVF graffiti: "ANY TAIG (Catholic) WILL DO," or more commonly "ATWD." So Irvine was shocked during his triumphant visit to the White House along with Irish traitor Gerry Adams. There Irvine met the "head of the Britain Desk at the State

Department" who informed him that it was the U.S. that had won "Ulster" for Britain; explaining; "Well, you know the Provisional IRA don't have Buccaneer bombers, they don't have aircraft carriers, and we need to help sew up the British exchequer so that we can take on the next big battle in the world.' And we all looked at him, and he said, 'Islamic Fundamentalism.' That was November 1994, and I was not alone, there are witnesses." (Irvine's taped words, page 450, *Voices From the Grave*.) It is these tapes, in Boston College, that the British government is demanding, not to prosecute the murderers of the thousand innocents, but to prosecute Adams for one alleged murder. "Ulster" is now officially British; so Adams has served his purpose. He claims to lead a campaign to unite Ireland. First he must explain how unification was advanced by his earlier GFA that surrendered "Ulster" to Britain.

**The GFA** ended the violence? No. The peak homicide year was 1972 (at 472). It dropped to 69 by 1984, a decade before the 1994 sell-out. Today, internment and torture are back; of Irish by British. Separation walls have doubled. British soldiers are back on the streets. They are violent, but British violence isn't newsworthy. Now the media

collaborate to disinform us. They approvingly reported Prime Minister Cameron's "apology" for Bloody Sunday, while ignoring the non-prosecution of the named murderers. Under the GFA it's Victors' Rules - the Brits remain above the law. The known perpetrators of essentially all of the bloodiest atrocities remain untouchable; the Dublin/Monaghan car-bombings of 17May74, the bombing/machine-gunning of the Miami Showband, McGurk's Pub bombing, the Ballymurphy massacre. Likewise, the MI5/RUC perpetrators of the Omagh massacre remain untouchable and unnamed (excepting MI5/FBI agent Buckley, MI5/FBI accomplice David Rupert, and bomb-car owner Paddy Dixon). It was the bomb to end all bombs. By infiltrating the IRA they managed to turn an attack on Britain's finances into a massacre to be blamed, like the Langert murders in Winnetka, on the IRA. Omagh secured the territorial sign-over.

**FALSIFYING HISTORY** A life-long perpetrator of the "Irish famine" lie died recently. The Chicago Tribune gave him a celebrity obituary. We debated once; "Famine" vs. Genocide, on TV. Balancing respect for the Dead and for Truth I wrote the following to the Trib:

*It is entirely appropriate that "potato famine" was part of the first sentence in Emmet Larkin's obituary (ChiTribune, April 2, 2012) and that it mentioned "famine" repeatedly regarding Ireland. Larkin always promoted the notion of "Irish famine," the perpetrators' cover-story for that genocide. There was no famine in the ordinary sense of the word. Through Larkin and countless others the British government has promoted "Irish potato famine" ever since November 3, 1845 when its Viceroy in Ireland, Lord Heytesbury, rejected an alarmed request by a delegation of Irishmen. They urged an immediate end to the at-gunpoint removal of Ireland's food; but the Lord read to them from a prepared paper about potatoes.*

*Contrary to Larkin's contention of "famine," Britain's National Archives' Disposition of the Army records show that it took more than half (69 regiments of the total of 137) of Britain's then-empire army to wrest Ireland's abundant food crops away from its producers and to its ports for export to mostly England, thus starving Ireland. Five decades later Britain's government repatriated Ireland's English landlords after buying them out at above-market prices. Like most of Ireland's farmers, my father was still paying off that old imposed debt in the 1960s. To see which regiment starved which Irish district see my [www.irishholocaust.org](http://www.irishholocaust.org).*

*Genocide as governmental policy will continue for so long as we cover them up. End*

Despite (because of?) his life-time "famine" promotion, Larkin is/was a 2012 inductee into the Irish-American Hall of Fame.

"Having a natural reverence for the dignity and antiquity of my native country,

strengthened by education, and confirmed by an intimate knowledge of its history, I could not, without the greatest pain and indignation, behold ... the extreme passiveness and insensibility of the present race of Irish, at such reiterated insults offered to truth and their country; instances of inattention to their own honor, unexampled in any other civilized nation." -Sylvester O'Halloran, 1772.

**Where's Irish-America's self-respect in 2012?**



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# Crowley on Kells

By Frank Crowley



## Snakes and Fish and Peacocks and Lions, Oh My! Symbolism in the Book of Kells

**Part 1**  
There are 340 surviving folios that comprise the Book of Kells, which means 680 pages (leaves). There are only two pages that don't have any decorated embellishment. A scribe started to ink in the beginnings of a design, but it was never completed. I suspect there is an interesting story there but we will never know. Over 2000 little jewels of images are scattered throughout the pages. Many of them are the symbols that add meaning to the text, others are just dogs, cats, mice, rats and others are just what they seem. They all add to the uniqueness of the Book of Kells. Though they have pagan origins, snakes, fish, lions and peacock images are widely used symbols in the Book. This is an example of appropriating ancient ideas and using them for Christian purposes.

For example, since ancient times snakes were considered symbols of renewal and youth because they regularly shed their skin. In the Christian era it became a metaphor for the resurrection and renewal of Christ's everlasting life. I must add that most Irish scribes knew of snakes only from drawings and added things like faces that looked like ducks and a fish-like fins

at the end of their tails. Other aspects of snakes, like the connection to Eve in the Garden of Eden, are not referenced.

I'm listing a few examples of the snake and fish images from the Book of Kells. One sample will be included in the print edition; the others will be on line. Go to IrishAmericanNews.com,

click on "Arts," click on "Crowley on Kells" to see others.

- Snake images
- 26r Three joined snakes, one with hair, forming the letter "A"
- 130r Snakes used for interlacing design
- 184r three initial letters
- 241v Snake with two legs
- 260r Snake joining a lion to form a letter

**IMAGE 1**

179r Snakes forming letter "S"  
In ancient Celtic beliefs, salmon held a particularly important position in their folklore. Eventually, two variations of salmon myths were joined. First, it was believed that salmon roamed the oceans learning the knowledge of all the places they visited. Seconded, the salmon



returned each season and swam upstream to visit the places the hazel trees grew. The nuts of the hazel trees were the source of great knowledge. Therefore the fish became the source of great knowledge and wisdom. It is the story of Fionn Mac Cumhail and the Salmon of Wisdom. Do you remember being told, "fish

is brain food?"

The fish in the Book is a salmon and its connection in Christian symbolism is a reference to Jesus' miracle of the Loaves and Fishes. The fish image near an illustrated head indicates that it is the image of Jesus.

- Fish Images
- 34r Chi Rho page
- 58v Face with lions eating grapes



- 80v Face part of letter "T"
- 161v Face in bowl of "hIS"
- 296r Face and fish

**IMAGE 2**

179v Fish and Face of Jesus  
Last week, I received an e-mail from a fine poet, Maureen Tolman Flannery. She writes about the Book of Kells, among other things. With her permission, I'm including one of them this month and others in the future. I'm hoping to hear more from her during this year's iBAM! Festival, October 12, 13 and 14.

**If you have an iPhone and a Quick Response Code Reader App, just scan the code below to go directly to the Irish American News website!**



## Letters of the Book of Kells

9th century illuminated manuscript now housed at Trinity College, Dublin  
G is a lamb-faced boy who holds a trumpet scroll between his teeth as he swings from a hammock of azure and dangles his down-turned feet.  
One subdued dragon from a world now altered by these words lies compliant body across golden ground as two necks diverge and carry fiercely elegant heads in opposite directions so their spewed fire can braid a flame of momentum to accompany what is said.  
A wolf bends its neck back from where a thrust-out belly divides into a D and slaving tongue winds into the center to entwine the tail.  
M's mythic bird has wings that curve outward in two cloister arcs while its wheat-yellow legs tie into each other as wind currents beneath light wings of kingfisher blue.  
N is a seated believer with bent knees who clasps his calves with hands at the ends of long arms which have braided through golden locks, and knotted into a shamrock vine.  
To form the X, two lions' heads on regal necks cross and stare into their faces, each startled to see the other at such close range while their tongues of revelation twist into lapis blue lucidity.



Terrence J. O'Brien, President of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, recently announced the retirement of Chief Engineer of Building Operations Bill Casey. Casey served the District for 32 years. Pictured is Bill Casey with his wife, Patricia and President Terrence J. O'Brien.

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## A Word With Monsignor Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

**Rev. Monsignor Michael M. Boland**

Administrator, President and CEO



## May 13, Catholic Charities Mother's Day Collection

Each year, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago takes up its Annual Collection on Mother's Day! This year, as the Church continues to celebrate the Easter Season and the Resurrection of Christ, I ask you to consider how together, we can give new life to our neighbors in need.

How appropriate it is that—even as we honor our own beloved mothers, and Mary, the Mother of Jesus and Mother of the Church—we are generously providing help to poor and struggling mothers, fathers and children—and people of all faiths in need of the basic necessities of life throughout Cook and Lake Counties.

Let us consider the mothers who will be in great need on Mother's Day, especially those who work outside of the home. They may not be able to focus on the joys of motherhood. They may be preoccupied with worry for their children, or feel overwhelmed by the demands of family life. The majority of women, 63 per cent, work outside the home; and 77 per cent of all mothers with school age children work. One in four working families earns too little to meet basic needs.

On Mother's Day and every day, these great needs of families drive Catholic Charities' mission. "Love one another as I love you." These words of Jesus from St. John's Gospel (15:12) are Christ's command for every day of the year—and Catholic Charities lives them every day in our 163 programs at our 159 sites!

Thanks to the generosity of our donors last year, 1,910 members of homeless families were sheltered and guided toward self-sufficiency. We offered quality, affordable day care for 1,577 poor children whose parents worked or attended

school. We provided safe, affordable housing to 1,725 older adults living on fixed incomes in our beautiful senior residences. We served nearly 2.2 million emergency meals to hungry individuals and families, and provided more than 20,000 hours of professional counseling.

If it were not for the generous hearts and offerings of parishioners throughout the Archdiocese, on Mother's Day and throughout the year, we would not be able to help so many people. We also owe tremendous gratitude to the 5,000 volunteers who deliver meals, hold fundraisers large and small, read to the children in our family shelters, organize our donated clothing rooms for men and women, and assist Catholic Charities clients in job preparation and placement—among many other services!

"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love." May these words from the First Letter of John (4:7) summarize our faith and commitment to charity.

Thank you for your love and prayers for your neighbors in need and for your generosity during Catholic Charities' Annual Mother's Day appeal. Without your help, we could not meet the needs of our struggling neighbors.

May the love of Christ and His Blessed Mother bless your families and keep you close to each other and to God's people in need.

Happy Mother's Day!

**92 percent of each dollar you give goes directly to help someone in need.**

**To learn more about Catholic Charities, or to volunteer or donate, please visit [www.catholiccharities.net](http://www.catholiccharities.net)**

## The New Normal?

We've come a long way since March of 2009. As of March 31, 2012, the S&P 500 has returned 108% since the bear market low 3 years ago. However investor confidence has yet to return. Many people have been spooked by the talk of a "new normal" environment moving forward, which implies lower stock market returns in the future.

The idea of a new normal is anything but new. For the past 85 years there have been periods of economic uncertainty and market volatility which have led people to assume that life had somehow changed and new economic rules and expanding government would limit growth. Unfortunately, no one could see how markets would adapt to social and economic changes and lead to new wealth creation.

Let's look at back at other periods of economic and market uncertainty.

1932: The US stock market had just experienced 4 years of negative return. A dollar invested in 1929 was now only worth 31 cents. The Great Depression caused many people to abandon investing for a generation. The next 10 years the market produced annual returns over 10%. A dollar invested in 1932 was worth just under \$12 20 years later, an annual return of over 13%.

1941: The US had just entered into World War II and the stock market had experienced two consecutive years of negative returns. The economy had shown signs of going back into a depression. However, from 1941 to 1951 the market had an annual return of 16.67%.

1974: The US had just had the worst two year market decline since the 1930's and the economy was going into its second year of recession. Inflation averaged 11% and mortgage rates were at 10%. Consumer confidence was very weak and some economists were predicting a depression. If you would have invested your money in 1974, by 1984 you would have earned an annual return of 15.92%.



## Daly Investor

By John P. Daly



1981: The stock market had positive returns five out of the last seven years. The economy had high annual inflation, low GDP growth, and high unemployment. The outlook was so gloomy that in 1979 Business Week ran a cover story titled "The Death of Equities" which claimed the stock market was no longer a good long term investment. Again, the market proved the naysayers wrong posting an average annual return of 18.82% the next 5 years and an average of 16.58% the next decade.

1987: Many of us remember "Black Monday" when the Dow Jones crashed 22% in a single day – the worst day in stock market history. Investor confidence was shook and concerns of a recession were spreading. However, \$1 invested in 1987 would have been worth \$9.46 in 2007, an annualized return of 11.89%.

2008 – Today: The stock market has made a nice recovery from the crash in 2008. However, investors have little confidence in the stock market. This is supported by the fact that there is over \$6 trillion dollars sitting in cash or cash equivalent accounts – basically earning zero interest.

Investors are still concerned with government spending, surging inflation, deflationary threats, rising oil prices, economic stagnation, high unemployment, and market volatility. But you have to remember; earlier generations of investors have faced similar concerns.

Of course no one has a crystal ball to predict the future and past performance is no guarantee for future results. But if you go back to 1932, through all of the tough economic times, recessions, wars, times of uncertainty, etc you'll see that from 1932 – 2011 the US stock market has had an annual rate of return of 10.8%. This leads me to believe that the stock market has rewarded investors for all of the uncertainty and risk that they must bear.

**John P. Daly is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and President of Daly Investment Management, LLC a fee only Registered Investment Advisor specializing in financial planning and wealth management. Phone: 312-239-1317 Email: [john@dalyinvestment.com](mailto:john@dalyinvestment.com) Readers are encouraged to call or email John with questions regarding Investments or Financial Planning.**

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## Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



This is one of those kitchen sink columns. We've ignored a lot of great cd's. They pile up and here we are. It's not pretty, we admit this. But, when you get 500 a year sent to you for review, you can blink once and fall a month behind. So it has happened. In fact, this column is going to waddle us through about half of what we want to talk about. So let's can the chat and get to the work!

Want to start with something really different and special? Wandering in our usual haze to the mailbox recently, what appeared but a cowboy album!? Well, it is and it isn't. Skip Gorman has a wonderful album out entitled, *A Herder's Call*. It is filled with 12 perfectly performed cowboy tunes--most of which are actually Irish. The regular reader knows how much we love this fusion stuff, but we had never P.S. (Pre-Skip) been aware of this rich and deep tradition. We have always loved cowboy music, and you should see our office! Wall to wall Buffalo Bill, Annie Oakley and Wild Bill Hickok. One of our favorites in this genre has always been the great Connie Dover, who actually appears as a guest with Skip on one of the songs here. Just listen to the likes of Buffalo Hunters and you will hear it instantly. Melodies you have heard before, sometimes actual lyrics. Oh, this is wonderful! If you love Americana and you love Irish music, we can't think of a more terrific blend for you than *A Herder's Call*. Skip has been in the business a long time. A perfect voice for the cowboy/Irish songs and a talented fiddle player to boot! Which brings us to his all-fiddle album, *Yankee Porridge*. Subtitled, *Skip Gorman Fiddles Celtic*, and it is all trad. It is fantastic. What a two-pack!! Highly, highly recommended.

Colm Phelan is the bodhran player for Goitse, one of our favorites groups in the world. He is out with his first album, *Full Circle*, and it is a beauty. Lots of different bodhran styles, never overdone.

A nice bit of business, altogether. Recommended, and doubly so if you play bodhran.

One of the hot new musicians on the scene is a young lad from New York. He is a three-time All-Ireland Fiddle Champion named Dylan Foley. Only 20 years old, his first solo album is entitled, *Hup!* Suffice it to say that lots of Irish musicians are getting on board with him, and grabbing him for various bands and projects. There are these young musicians who come along of whom the older cats speak glowingly. You know the older cats. The "ones". The fellow, older, well-regarded and loved musicians who can make or

break a reputation with the drop of a word. Well, in the case of this young lad, they all seem to be "on side". Great buzz on Dylan out there in the music. A student of Rose Flanagan and mentored by Brian Conway among others, his playing has a definitive melodic appeal. Great style, especially in one so young. This young fella is set for a long run.

Luke Daniels is one of our favorite button box players in the world, and has been for some time. He is out with a fabulous double album, entitled *The Mighty Box*. We first heard him years ago with the iconic, *Reeltime*. He stayed with us here in Chicago, and we also met him in Ireland for a couple nights at *Reeltime* founder, Chris Kelly's home. Magic memories, now lost in the veil of history. At that time, he had been selected by the BBC as Young Musician of the Year. That was many years ago (enough that it

would be indelicate of you to ask what specific year) again, all lost in the veil. However, he has gone on to wonderful things since then. He is a master of the traditional form and is also extraordinarily creative at the same time. An extremely gifted musician. If you love Irish button box, this album is a must. Be aware that there are stretches of trad perfection, accompanied by brilliant modern touches. This is magic. This is Luke Daniels. This is the best. Wow! Let us repeat, Wow!

Greentrax is the unquestioned leader on the Scottish music scene. They have been for 25 years. To celebrate their Silver Anniversary, Greentrax has re-released their first album ever. It is a lovely piece of fiddle business called *A Breath of Fresh Air* by Ian Hardie. Wonderful music. As most of us love the Scottish fiddle, you really ought to have this. Along with that particular piece of loveliness

comes a singer new to us. Alistair Ogilvy. The album is *Leaves Sae Green*. All singers come down to whether or not you individually like their voices. We love Ogilvy's. Very mature for his young age, this album shows a real presence and understanding of the music. This is great stuff. The other recent winner we got from Greentrax is by a new Scottish band, Rura. Well, new to us anyway. They most recently won the MG Alba Scots Trad Music 2011 Award for "Best Up and Coming Group". Get hold of this and you will know why. The name of the album is *Break It Up*, and indeed they do. This is a foot tapper. All congratulations must be given to Greentrax for 25 years of unbroken excellence. From Ian Hardie to Shona McMillan's, *People and Songs of the Sea*, Greentrax has offered us not only entertaining albums, but in many cases, culturally important ones as well. Long live Greentrax.

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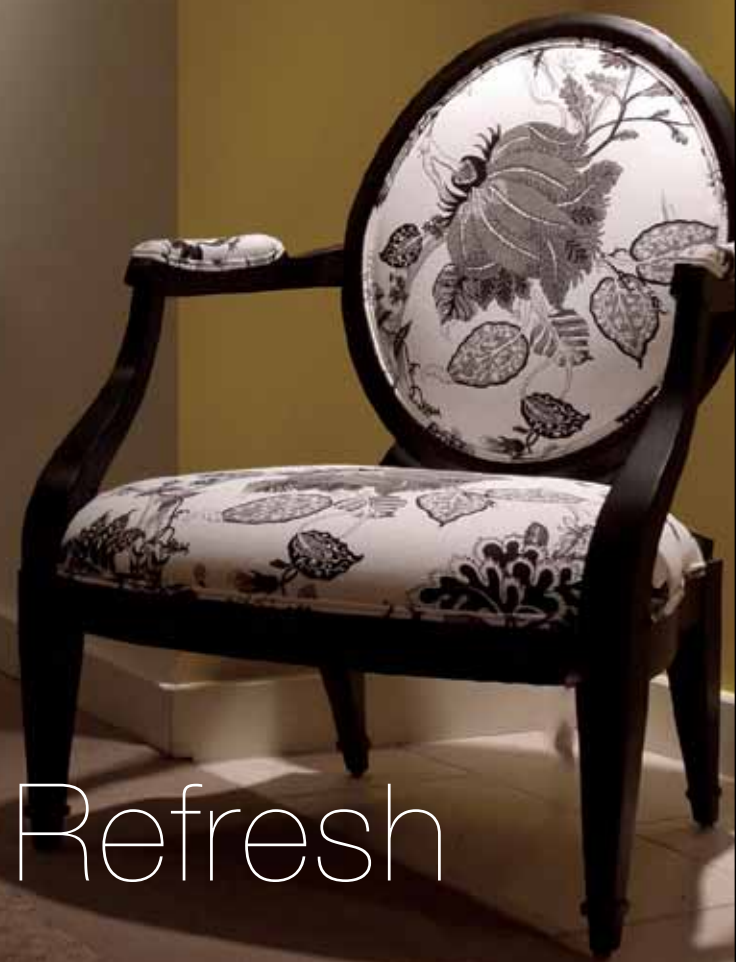
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Refresh



# Piping It In

**Jack Baker**



It's Spring, probably the longest Spring I can remember, but I'm not complaining. Along with flowers popping up everywhere, new CDs are popping up and



good ones too. We always get a crop of new recordings this time of year but this bunch is especially good and includes a couple I've been eagerly awaiting.

I'll start with the recording I've been most anxious to hear. Changeling is Deborah Clark Colón on fiddle and Karl Clark Colón on guitar and vocals. Together they've played a long time and in a number of groups but have worked as a duo for the last few years. They eased off a couple years to concentrate on the family and the result was two of the sweetest babies I've ever been honored to meet. Now Deb and Karl are back at the music and to celebrate their reemergence into the music scene, they've released a simply superb CD called "Changeling Live in England". Some of the best work I've ever heard these two perform in on this CD, starting with a great version of "The Breaking of Omagh Jail"

And featuring some of the sweetest fiddle work Deb has ever done. Good stuff all the way around and the cutest cover ever with their daughter Lily Clair in the center spot. It's great to see quality groups releasing their own work on their own CDs.

Another personal production of great work is the new CD "Full

Circle" from Colm Phelan. Colm plays with the group Goitse (gwi-tcha) which burned thru the Midwest last year in their first ever tour. All the band guests on Colm's new CD resulting in a lovely

traditional collection of Colm on bodhran playing one-on-one with each of his band-mates. Clean, sweet, well-produced, this CD is a gem of the art of traditional Irish music.

Very encouraging to see a young musician like this taking the chance of releasing a collection of his work. Now it's up to us to support him and others like him, since without a label to back them, they take all the financial risk themselves.

A group that needs no introduction for sure is the Irish Rovers. They've been around for years but haven't slowed up at all, producing three CDs in the last year. Their latest, "Drunken Sailor" gives us what these guys are famous for, good old tunes you can sing along with, performed flawlessly. Like I never heard a bad album from the Dubliners, I never heard a bad one from the Irish Rovers. This CD also comes with complete lyrics to make it easier to sing along. Love to throw this one in the CD player when I'm driving, open the window and serenade nature! A side note, my buddy Hamish Burgess did the art work on the CD cover and I think you'll agree that he did a stupendous job. To see more of his art, and to buy some, check out [www.mauiceltic.com](http://www.mauiceltic.com).

I have been awaiting John McSherry's new CD for months and it finally made it in. I shouldn't refer to it as John's so much since it's a group effort now with John joined by Donal O'Connor on fiddle and Francis McIluff on everything else. These three guys, joined by a slew of great

guest musicians have produced a landmark recording. The group is At First Light and the CD is "idir". A wee bit confusing since At First Light was the name of John McSherry's CD that he did with Michael McGoldrick, another great recording. Suffice it to say that we are lucky to have a great artist like John McSherry recording, period. I've enjoyed everything he's put out and this is no exception. I must not forget the other people playing with John here because their contribution is every bit as notable as his, making for a classic recording. It's nice when a CD you've been waiting for turns out to be as good as you hoped. This one's on Compass Records and you know they don't put out anything but classics.

Eagerly awaited also was Finbar Furey's new CD "Colours". Like an old flannel shirt you've had for years and that feels so good when you slip it on, Finbar feels like an old friend singing songs that mean so much to the two of ya. He even slides a Dylan tune in (Blowin' in the Wind) and makes it his own. Here's a CD

you share with good friends who know how to listen and keep their gobs shut when the man's singing. He sings with his heart and that is, unfortunately, rare.


Well, that's it for this month, but there's more on its way, the mail carrier dropped off two while I was typing this. Hope to see you all at the Keane Machine Concert on May 19th at the Irish American Heritage Center, come early and have dinner.

You can reach me at then store 630-834-8108 or online at [pipin-gitin@comcast.net](mailto:pipin-gitin@comcast.net) Slainté

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## Reel Jiggy

Deirdre Kozicki



What some of you may not know is that I am going to be in a play! It's called Music Mad and I will be playing the part of Gracie, the dancer. Music Mad is about Chief O'Neill and his life story. It tells of his career as Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department and how he loved and saved Irish music. It will be at Chief O'Neill's Restaurant every Thursday and Saturday starting May 6. I am ecstatic being able to perform in this play. It has been so much fun to learn the lines and about the inner workings of a play. I have really learned a lot. I have been practicing really hard on both the acting and the dancing I have to do. I can't wait for opening night and I am sure everyone will enjoy it! From what I have seen during rehearsals, this is going to be a great show. If you would like to order tickets just got to musicmad.net and enter "Gracie" into the code box for a discounted price. You won't be disappointed.

There was this little known movie that came out a few months ago called "The Hunger Games." Did anyone see it? I did!! I saw it opening weekend but not because of the big stars but because the books were truly amazing. I read the books last year before I even knew a movie was coming out and I was obsessed the moment I finished the first one. I read the whole series in a week and a half. I recommend that you read them. It might seem weird at the beginning since it is a book about children gathering in an arena to compete in a televised fight to the death. I definitely considered putting it down after the first few chapters but it was too intriguing. The main character, Katniss, lives in future post-apocalyptic North America where children are selected randomly to compete in the Hunger Games where they fight other children from different districts until there is only one living competitor left

just for the entertainment for the wealthy members of the country. Katniss wasn't worried until her sister, Primrose, gets selected. Katniss volunteers for her knowing that Prim would never survive in the arena. That's when the real fun begins. All of the books constantly keep you on the edge of your seat no matter how many times you re-read them. The movie is awesome too! It was very well done and it didn't seem like 2 and a half hours. Although a few things were changed in the movie, the majority stays true to the book. I highly recommend both and I have read a lot of books and seen a lot of movies in my life!

I'd like to congratulate all the Mullane Healy Godley dancers that participated in the World Championships in Belfast! All of the dancers did a terrific job. Now we have to start practicing for the National Championships right here in Chicago! I will be doing teams this year and I cannot wait to start practicing. I know it will be a tough few months but I have high hopes for all of the teams! Next month will be June and by that time I will be an 8th grade graduate. I will tell you all about the fun activities I did leading up to this exciting moment next month. Hope everyone had a good Easter!

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## Spóirt

Maggie O'Leary



Irish American News connected with John Sullivan, recent recipient of the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for public service..

John Sullivan is a senior lecturer



*John B. Sullivan, recent winner of a Pulitzer Prize*

of Journalism at Northwestern University and assistant director of the Medill Watchdog. The Medill Watchdog is a program in conjunction with Northwestern established as an initiative for students to do in-depth, systemic reporting on institutional failures and write public interest news stories. Sullivan co-lead a team of five Philadelphia Inquirer reporters who won the Pulitzer Prize for their project entitled "Assault on Learning".

"Assault on Learning," is a seven-part investigative series that focuses on widespread and under-reported violence in Philadelphia's public schools. The series, which first ran in March, 2011 focused

on the failure of the Philadelphia school system to share information with authorities on cases of violence and criminal behavior. The investigation was broken into the



following topics: Climate of Violence Stifles City Schools, Under-reporting Hides Violence, Young and Violent--Even Kindergartners, Teachers and Staff Attacked, A Flawed System of Intervention, Antiviolence Methods That Work and finally Healing South Philadelphia High's Wounds.

A team of five Philadelphia Inquirer reporters collaborated and devoted a year to examining violence in Philadelphia public schools. The team conducted over 300 interviews, analyzed over 30,000 incidents of violence, studied police reports, court records, transcripts, contracts and school security videos. After working for over a year it became apparent that the Philadelphia school system underreported violent incidents and routinely failed to protect teachers and students. Sullivan noted, "What surprised us in our reporting was just how violent some of the incidents really were—it seemed not only to be acceptable, but it was also something the schools felt like they couldn't solve. Many times the schools would rather hide the problem than deal with it."

Sullivan, the youngest of eight children and a twin, holds dual citizenship of both The United States and Ireland. He is entered on the Foreign Births Register,

because his grandfather Timothy O'Sullivan emigrated from Ireland to the United States in the early 1930s. Sullivan's mother was an O'Sullivan and he remembers, "Growing up we listened to Irish music and my mom would talk a lot about her family. I felt that I lived in a very Irish household and my family took a lot of pride in being Irish." Sullivan mentions how he went to Ireland for the first time a few years ago to his family's home town of Ahakista, in County Cork and whether he was driving along the rugged coast or meeting the locals, he felt the town suited him well and he felt right at home.

He attended undergrad at Cornell College, Graduate school at the University of Missouri and worked at the News and Observer in Raleigh, NC and the Philadelphia Inquirer before joining the faculty at the Medill School of Journalism in 2011.

After witnessing many young kids getting in trouble for the first time with the law, but having records that indicated they had been in trouble a lot at school, Sullivan wanted to figure out what the school districts were doing for the kids and how they were addressing the problems. After reading about the pummeling of a Philadelphia student, Sullivan talked to his editor about doing an investigative series to profile the real situation.

After being awarded the Pulitzer for Public Service, Sullivan says "It was overwhelming and hard to process at first, I was excited and I felt a lot of happiness for the four reporters that I worked with on this. I was very glad that the issue had gotten public attention and that we were rewarded for it." Since the exposure of the series, the Philadelphia school district has established a new set of rules for reporting on serious incidents and crime; and has also created reforms to promote the safety of students and teachers. Kudos to Sullivan and his team for a job well done!

"Assault on Learning" is available on the Inquirer's website [www.philly.com](http://www.philly.com) and on the Pulitzer website [www.pulitzer.org](http://www.pulitzer.org). For more information on Medill Watchdog visit [www.medill-watchdog.org](http://www.medill-watchdog.org)

## Literary Lions of Leo High School:

James T. (Carpenter St) Joyce, James T. (Ada St) Joyce,  
Dr. Jack O'Keefe and John Linehan

The best description of any south sider was offered by the novelist Kurt Vonnegut when he was praising the comedy of Bob and Ray - "Their jokes turn out to be universal, although deeply rooted in old time radio, because so much of life presents itself as the same dilemma: how to seem lusty and purposeful when less than nothing is going on. South siders 'got' Bob and Ray - he didn't get Lenny Bruce.

The south side is a very weird place to experience as an outsider. South siders lived along Archer, 31st, 35th, 45th, 55th, 63rd, 79th, 87th and 95th Streets from Rainbow Beach east to Scottsdale, Clearing and Summit west.

There is a tribal ethic that remains the same whether one is black, Mexican, Lithuanian, Polish, Italian, or Swede. That great Herring Choker Carl Linnaeus developed the taxonomy long before the Union Stockyards. He might have had some issue with Swedish Lutherans who lived in St. Ethel-

reda Parish, or Tommy More. The weirdness is rooted in the Chicago Stockyards and the supplemental industries affixed to the slaughter of beeves, swine and sheep - lumber, crating, carting, piping and building, as well as clerking, accounting, policing, nursing and burying.

If you could smell the Stockyards, you are a south sider. The neighborhoods hugging Halsted, called Brighton and McKinley Parks, Mopetown, Bridgeport, Canaryville and Back of the Yards housed hard people with hard jobs. They retained a happiness around a core toughness that remains foreign to north siders, west siders and outsiders. Arguably ( anything less would not do), the weirdest denizens of this turf might be the south side Irish.

The south side Irish have been chronicled and assaulted by writers and journalists from our very bosom - Finley Peter, James T. Farrell, John Powers, Steve Allen, Mike Houlihan and others. More so, outsiders like Dreiser, Hecht, MacArthur, Royko and the lesser lights have tried, unsuccessfully, to get inside of our heads.

Like Mike Royko getting his inside dope about the family of Richard M. Daley, from teachers of the Daley boys at De LaSalle and St. Ignatius, the south side auslander gets only a South Side Lite understanding. We are a very strange people to be sure.

South Siders are welcoming and at the same instant suspicious. coarse and also devout, forgiving yet never forgetting, generous and thrifty.

Education is valued. Courage is honored. Sins are forgiven. Compliments are unnecessary and even offensive - "For Crissake who asked you to honor me; there are far more important and deserving people who have done more. Take your plaque and jam it! I'm done, A\$\$hole!"

Sorry, Monsignor.

Weird - funny, welcoming, tough, touchy, generous and jealous all at the same time. The only mortally unforgiveable sin anyone could commit can be found in the accusation - collective - " Who the Hell do they think they are, moving out of the neighborhood and Shines are at least two parishes east of us?" or, - individual -I, " See, Hickey lately? I was at County Fair and he was buying cabbages dressed in a Tux and handing out copies of Irish American News. Mr. PH Factor, What's that mean; Pin-head? Pretty Horrid? Man, he is what being an A\$\$hole is all about. God bless."

It takes a south sider to understand a south sider, to tease a south sider; to take and accept a south sider requires more patience than St. Monica, more courage than St. Agnes and more charity than St. Vincent De Paul. PC does not really work all that well. If you are an African American, Lithuanian, Italian, or Polish south sider you were and remain a Shine, Loogan, Ginzo, or Polish person and we be Harps, Micks, Turkey -birds and Narrow-backs. We all went to school together at Longwood, Queen of Peace, De La Salle, Mt Carmel, Mendel, Mercy, Thomas Aquinas, Visitation, St. Rita, Leo and Our Lady of Calumet Public High School. The only places where we never went were YMCA and the YWCA.

Three Leo men, south siders all, have written books in the last year that bring full understanding to the class, order, genus, species, and varietal south sider:

Kingdom - Irish America

Order - Midwesterner

Genus - Chicagoan

Species -St. Sabina / Leo

Varietal -79th & Ada/ Carpenter Streets

Two gentlemen, both named James T. Joyce, chronicle their friendship from the time they were classmates at St. Sabina Grade School and Leo High School. James T. ( Ada) Joyce became a writer-businessman, after college, and as a combat helicopter pilot in Vietnam. James T. (Carpenter) Joyce



## pH Factor

By Pat Hickey



is one of the most honored and respected firefighters in America and retired as Chicago Fire Commissioner. Mr. Joyce worked as editor and author of several articles and introductions to books on Chicago's Fire Department histories. This partnership with Mr. Ada Joyce is his first full-length book.

This is a must read for south siders of every ethnicity, but more so for auslanders.

Dr. Jack O'Keefe is the author of a fine English composition textbook, a mystery novel set in WWII Ireland and Iona College, New York Brother Sleeper Agent and his latest historical novel. Famine Ghosts.

Dr. O'Keefe taught in the City Colleges of Chicago, mostly at Richard J. Daley Campus. Since retiring as a professor, Dr. O'Keefe and Mr. Denny Conway have devote their time to tutoring Leo juniors and seniors in preparation for the ACT exams several days a week, but chiefly on Saturdays. Since Denny and Jack have stepped up for Leo, Leo students' ACT scores soared by 6-7% across the board. With his spare hours Dr. O'Keefe writes and researches. Here is the fruit of that labor

Famine Ghost is a book of historical fiction, the story of the Irish Famine (1845-1850)

as seen through the eyes of young Johnjoe Kevane. He and his family are evicted from their cottage in Dingle. Disdaining the option of life in the local workhouse, the Kevanes sail in a coffin ship to Grosse Ile in Canada. Johnjoe keeps a diary of his family's suffering in the dark bowels of the overcrowded ship. When his parents die of ship fever-typhus-Johnjoe returns home to exact revenge on the landlord, Major Mahon.

"O'Keefe has delicately balanced history with touching humanity and humor. He has provided readers with a vivid tale, surprising in all the right ways, and an unabashed glimpse into the shocking truth of the Irish Famine. A masterful read cover to cover."

--Sara Wolski, literary agent

When a literary agent takes a look at a Chicago writer, that is something. Literary agents eschew our Mid Coasts in favor of

the tonier seaboard. If you want a literary agent, you need to go to New York or California. Dr. Jack O'Keefe is the real deal.

The last an my personal favorite from the Leo Literary Lions

is the first novel by John Linehan - A City Life - A Coming of Age in Chicago.

A City Life reminded me of the great Ben Hecht's coming of age novel/memoir - Gaily, Gaily. Like Hecht's pseudonymous hero Ben Harvey, Linehan's Francis Conroy operates his way, not through the paper business, but as one of Chicago's iconic Andy Frain Ushers.

City Life is a coming of age tale set in the neighborhoods and streets of Chicago, one of Americas most dynamic cities. It's the 1970's and Chicago's Southside is changing along with the rest of America. For Francis Curtin, a working class teenager growing up in the West Englewood neighborhood, life is about getting his first car, dodging trouble at his Catholic boys' school, and exploring the city with his closest pals. But Francis' world is set for rapid-fire expansion when he lands a job as an Andy Frain usher.

Suddenly Francis is on the sidelines at Soldier Field, backstage at concerts at the Chicago Stadium, and rubbing elbows with sports celebrities Harry Carey and Bill Veeck at Comiskey Park. Then there are some of the usher's he meets a motley crew of

characters who expose Francis to the adult world and the corruption that Chicago is celebrated for. City Life is about coming of age in one of the most turbulent and thrilling eras in American history. Chicagoans will love this story for its historical undertones and setting in some of the city's most iconic sites, many now demolished or in disrepair.

Two Joyces, a Linehan and an O'Keefe have produced three insightful and well-crafted books. While the Dominicans, Mercy nuns and Irish Christian Brothers certainly left their marks on palms and buttocks of Leo's Lions they should also be credited with welding literary grace to some tough and talented backbones.

The mystery that is the south side of Chicago may become less so, after giving these books a solid read.

All at amazon.com.

## City Life

Coming of Age In Chicago

John G. Linehan



**The Guys in the Gang**  
and other stories  
By James T. Joyce and James T. Joyce



Famine Ghost: Genocide of the Irish

By Jack O'Keefe

Painting By Richard DeRozet

## Real Ireland



By Rachel Gaffney



### Muesli Or Granola ?

Cake for breakfast is not how I like to start my day. Let's face it, whatever you like to call them, muffins, doughnuts, waffles or pancakes, they are still cakes! That sudden infusion of sugar coursing through my body, enabling me to clean the entire kitchen with a toothbrush with a frenetic energy and then that all too sudden crash to earth, or rather the sofa, by 11am is not for me.

My preference is a bowl of homemade granola with natural yoghurt and a generous helping of raspberries. Perhaps you prefer a bowl of muesli. Muesli and granola tend to be grouped into that ubiquitous category much like tissues are referred to as 'Kleenex' 'Alpen' was the iconic brand for me in Ireland.

It was packaged in a box with the subliminal message that it came from Switzerland, as emblazoned on the front were the snow capped peaks of the Swiss Alps. This cereal was and is made in England. Perhaps it is to pay homage to the Swiss nutritionist, Dr Maximilian ible mark on Irish cuisine, but perhaps a lesser known name over here in the United States is Regina Sexton. Regina is indeed Ireland's foremost food historian. She has

been a columnist for the 'Irish Examiner' and contributed the historical perspective to Darina Allen's 'Irish Traditional Cooking'

In 1998, 'A Little History of Irish Food' was published. This little book is a little gem. I recently purchased it on the internet and when reading came across these interesting facts about muesli. In it, Regina reveals that the 'Ceile De' (an ancient order rooted in authentic Gaelic spirituality and has a deep reverence for Mother Earth) ate a watery gruel known as 'brothchan' as early as the ninth century. On Sunday's these monks were permitted to eat 'brothchan' with 'good milk' served with honey and seasonal fruits, blackberries, sloes, apples and hazelnuts. This literary evidence most certainly pre dates the 'muesli' of the 1930's in Switzerland.

Last year I stayed at 'The Lodge at Doonbeg' in Co. Clare. Located on the west coast of Ireland and perched on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean, this magnificent five star resort beckons you to walk their beaches, amble along the paths and hedgerows, relax on the patio, golf on their breathtaking course and when you are sufficiently exhilarated, flop in front of the turf fireplace in the lobby. Upon awakening from a nights sleep unlike any I had the pleasure to experience in quite some time, I walked from my cottage with a hearty appetite that can only be provided by the heady Atlantic air.

The breakfast buffet was like an offering to the Gods, an abundance of local produce proffered before all in the dining room. Wild Irish salmon, freshly baked soda breads, yoghurt from local dairy farmers, home made preserves and marmalades were all perched at various heights by the magnificent bay window. I had to make a concerted effort not to collide in to my fellow guest as the breathtaking views can distract you from the food.

My gaze shifted from food to food but it was the granola that caught my attention. My well-trained eyes sought it out, honed in and fixated on this, one of my favorite breakfast offerings. Not any granola, but the granola made all year round at 'The Lodge at Doonbeg'.

Executive Chef Wade Murphy (pictured with Rachel) explained that they make it twice a week and serve it daily. Laden with my granola, plain yoghurt and freshly made strawberry coulis, The granola was simply delicious.

It had the right amount of clusters and crunchiness.

Most people think that muesli and granola are the same but they are not. My preference is for granola. Muesli is a combination of dry ingredients and fruits served with milk. Granola on the other hand needs to be baked and fat is essential to give it its crispiness.

Now, we all know someone that likes to return home with a little souvenir from their hotel stay, notably shampoo, conditioners, pens and even on occasion the odd bathrobe or towel (which should be purchased by the way!). I, on the other hand, like to leave with something a little different, something

that will last. No, I did not leave with granola from the 'Lodge at Doonbeg' but I did leave with their recipe. Chef Wade Murphy was kind enough to share it with me and now I will share it with you.

#### The Lodge At Doonbeg Maple Granola

6 cups rolled oats  
2 cups flaked/ chopped almonds  
1 cup coconut  
5 tablespoons sunflower seeds  
5 tablespoons pumpkin seeds  
5 tablespoons sesame seeds  
1/3 cup maple syrup  
1/3 cup soft brown sugar

1/2 cup vegetable oil  
3 tablespoons warm water  
1 teaspoon salt  
1/2 cup raisins (to be added after)  
1/2 cup golden raisins (to be added after)

Mix all dry ingredients together. Whisk all wet ingredients together. Pour over dry ingredients to coat them. Place the mixture on a lined baking sheet (use parchment paper) and bake at 325 degrees for 40-45 mins.

Remove from oven and allow to cool, then add in dried fruits.

#### Tips For Making A Great Granola

I have been making granola for many years now and have a few tips for you:

Pat your mixture onto the baking sheet packing it down well. Turn the baking sheet halfway through. When it has cooled you can break the pieces up into bigger chunks. Do not add the fruits until after the granola has cooked and cooled. Heat will dry it out. Chef Wade has stated the same on his recipe. You can add cranberries and apricots if you prefer.



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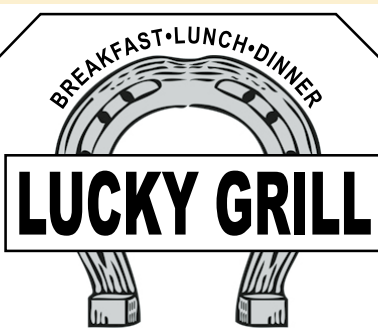
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# Finding Home On The Road

By: Damien Fox

In the southwest of Ireland, unbridled Atlantic waves crash upon a picturesque County Clare coastline. Surrounded by rolling hills and lush green meadows, the West Clare landscape delivers well in favor of Ireland's renowned "forty shades of green". A few kilometers from that Atlantic coast lie two quaint homes tucked away in the quiet countryside from which came the two most important individuals in my life.

Nationwide recession blindsided Ireland in the late 1970's. The dawn of the 1980's triggered panic and discouragement within a generation of Irish people faced with high unemployment, inflation and public debt bringing many to an ill-fated crossroads: to stay or to go? This ultimatum swept the country as desperation quickly absorbed the island's youth. When push came to shove, decade long fiscal stagnancy provoked the emigration of over 200,000 skilled and educated young people, victimized by an economy struggling to sustain itself.

Among those who left to settle in foreign ports of call around the world were my parents—two fresh-faced, naive twenty-something-year-olds exiled to a new life in "The Windy City," with only one another and two modest suitcases in hand. And there, I truly believe, is where my story begins.

As far back as memory will bring me, I have always identified myself as being "Irish. My love affair with my heritage began at just two years old. Congressman Bruce Morrison's 1992 visa program granted 48,000 green cards to Irish expatriates in the U.S., ending my parents four year wait to return home to Ireland. The time had come for my two-year-old self to meet my entire extended family for the first time.

The people in the photos that hung upon the walls of our home finally came to life. And I finally met the family in whose lives I had only ever existed through Kodak photographs and carefully crafted words in letters mailed across the Atlantic.

The arrivals hall of Shannon Airport was filled with love as our relations waited in anticipation for the Aer Lingus 747 carrying our family to touch down on Irish soil on January 31st 1992. Dressed in a grey suit and forest green tie, I clung to my mother's hand as she gently led her little Yank to meet a family that already felt so much love for someone they had never even met.

My life revolved around Ireland from that day forward. With the births of my siblings came the opportunity to pass along my love for Ireland and everything it stood for. As family trips home to Ireland were planned, calendars were created to count down to our departure, months in advance. Bags were packed weeks prior for a journey that would result in late nights, sleepovers and generous relatives slyly slipping us a few "quid" behind our parents' backs. Ireland was heaven on earth. There was simply no place I would rather be.

Tearful goodbyes scarred my childhood when our vacation time would end. Little did we know

on occasion our "goodbyes" were quite final, for when we returned again, God would have called someone home. Saying goodbye before our return trip to America left me devastated; tears would fall as we drove through the winding roads en route to Shannon, leaving our family behind us. Onboard the



Damien Fox with his father on a spacious Aer Lingus flight.

plane, I would strain my neck during take-off, trying to take in every view of Ireland before the pristine landscape would be lost beneath the clouds below.

My parents built a wonderful home for us in Chicago, but most times I could only dwell on being away from Ireland. As our grandparents passed away, we stayed behind, while our parents made their lonely journey back to an Ireland that would never be the same, inevitably leaving them orphaned when they reached the other side.

As I grew into my teenage years, my love for Ireland never diminished, making it especially hard when recession reached American shores in 2006 and trips home came to a halt. With the housing market the first to go, my parents, like most Irish builders, were left invested entirely in a stagnant general contracting business and subsequently vic-

timized economically for the second time in their lives. Left with high debts, mortgage payments, and school tuitions, trips to Ireland became a luxury that our family could no longer afford.

An examination of my own surroundings helped me to recognize a close-knit Chicago community that I could find a place in; a place not much different than the Ireland I had left behind, where I could bring my background and experiences to a unique collective where people's differences, as much as their similarities, made them friends. Looking back, I shudder to think how life would have been had I not come to find "home" in America.

I have not returned to Ireland now for over half a decade. Luckily, my relationships established in childhood have remained strong to this day, despite the distance, while new relationships and experiences have shaped a successful, happy life in America. However, would I change anything if I had the chance? No, I would not. These experiences have shaped my identity, making me the person that I am today. My parents' journey has paved the way for my own. I am home.

Reach Damien at: fox.damienj@gmail.com

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# Safe Home

by Heather Begley



## Keeping The Elderly Safe

Many of us know someone who is elderly or are ourselves "up in years" and need help around the home, doing chores or with personal care. Every situation is unique and assumptions should not be made regarding all elderly people. However, it is essential that the situation is addressed. It is often difficult for the older person and their family to come to terms with what should be done. Needing extra assistance is an emotional and financial issue. Elderly people are often dealing with significant losses of loved ones, health, strength, income and independence. For loved one, it is often difficult to admit that their mother, father or grandparent is experiencing mental or physical changes. Nonetheless, action must be taken to address the changes experienced by elderly people in order to keep them safe.

Balancing safety with the older person's autonomy is a major aspect of elderly care. Issues to address include the residential situation, safety, transportation, medical management, adequate nutrition and sufficient hydration and social needs.

Many families hold strong to the belief that an elderly person should stay in their home if they are able. The belief is that the home provides them a sense of comfort and familiarity. However, safety should again be the number one concern. If it is too much to maintain and the elderly person should not be left alone, there are many other options available. Supported living, nursing homes and moving in with a family member are additional options. It is also possible to

hire a trusted caretaker to provide care to the individual.

Some elderly people are at an increased risk of falling due to balance or

vision problems. Make sure that steps are in good condition, the home is well-lit, obstacles are removed and electrical cords are placed away from traffic areas. A simple fall can result in a broken bone that can become disabling.

Driving is another safety issue that should be addressed with elderly people.

Many older people are able to continue to drive safely. However, a decrease in vision, reaction time and memory skills are serious concerns. Consider the alternatives to driving when making decisions about driving ability.

Many people develop chronic illnesses as they grow older. Treating an illness may require therapy and medication. It can be difficult for elderly people to manage their medication and supplements. A medicine dispenser may be helpful. Seniors should consider asking for help from their family, doctor, pharmacist or caregiver to assist them with their medication. A medication mix-up may lead to dangerous drug interactions, a missed dose or side effects.

Seniors are at a greater risk of becoming victims of crime. It can certainly happen to anyone, but elderly people may have less awareness of potential risks. A caller on the telephone should never ask for your personal information, such as, social security number, credit card number or bank account information. Also, never let anyone into your house who you do not know.

Many elderly people are often alone. Spending too much time alone can be depressing. Family members should make an effort to include the seniors in their lives in their social activities. Everyone benefits from these get-togethers. Additionally, park districts and local organizations, such as the Irish American Heritage Center and Gaelic Park have scheduled events for seniors to get together. Everyone like a good chat!

My grandma often talks of how quickly time passes. "From our birthday, until we die, is but the winking of an eye." - William Butler Yeats. If we are lucky, some day it will be us that our loved ones will be looking after! I hope that your elderly loved ones are healthy and safe. Give them a call today and let them know you are thinking of them. If you are an older person who needs some help, let your loved ones know.

## Sinn Fein's Senator Kathryn Reilly Visits

Twenty-three year young Senator Kathryn Reilly of Sinn Fein visited with IAN while she was here recently in Chicago.

Cliff: Senator, where do you live and serve in Ireland?

Senator: I live in County Cavan and I was elected to the Industrial and Commercial panel of the Seanad for the Sinn Féin party in April 2011. I'm here for the 1916 Commemoration that is going to take place in the Irish Heritage Center in Chicago. I am the main speaker at the event where we will be discussing the Irish peace process and developments thus far and how far we've come since 1916 in building on our goals and looking into the future on what we hope to achieve.

Cliff: Martin McGuinness was a big force in helping Derry land the City of Culture 2013..

Kathryn: Yes. We also have to bear in mind that Derry got the All Ireland Fleadh for 2013 as well, which is the first time it's taken place outside the 26 counties. 2013 is going to be a big occasion for Derry in the celebration of Irish culture and our heritage in terms for music.

Cliff: That wasn't unanimous when it was voted on, was it? The people in the South didn't want the Fleadh to come to the North, but, you managed to make it happen.

Kathryn: Yes, well, there's always fierce competition every year for where the Fleadh is going to take place. Up until now, it had been in various different parts of the island. There had been a few different towns had put in for it as well. I think 2013, because Derry was getting The City of Culture, it did seem like an ideal place for the Fleadh. I think some of the trouble surrounding it was actually the British City of Culture as opposed to the Irish City of Culture. The application was originally denied because of the fear of security and any threats there. Everyone in the city council came together because they realized the mutual benefit that was going to come to Derry from the Fleadh going there.

Cliff: I've noticed, in the next couple of years, you have so much going on in Ireland. The Irish people are really working hard on tourism and getting the diaspora - , not just America - but all of the diaspora, and those that aren't from Ireland to come to Ireland.

Kathryn: They're working feverishly, if you ask me. You've got the Titanic display in 2012, you've got the (Olympic Olympia?) coming up, somewhere I think in the North. You've got the gathering in 2013, that's go-

ing on in the Republic, or all over Ireland. You've got the City of Derry, of course and the Fleadh. I've probably missed a couple of things, but they're really, really pressing to bring Tourism back.

They're building a 100 million pounds golf course and resort in Portrush. That will have a huge economic impact for the North of Ireland for tourism especially. It's around the Giant's Causeway, that's another big benefit. We have to look at what's coming up, there's actually a Decade of Centenaries coming up in the next few years. 2016 is going to be a very big event. It's 100 years after 1916 Eastern Rising. I think looking at that from a tourism potential, there's people across the world with Irish heritage. Everyone, most people, know the 1916 Rising, what happened there, and the struggles with the British. There is a push to try and bring people back for those and celebrate those in various different ways.

Ireland, like many economies in the world are struggling. It's an economic crisis and tourism is very helpful for the economy. I suppose because, we are very lucky, that we're on the edge of Europe, we're a very green island and people see that. We have this Decade of Centenaries coming up, the time is right to capitalize on that and to try and bring people back. Obviously, a lot of Irish across the decades, we've been known for immigration and high Irish populations across the world. So to bring people back and to celebrate their Irishness, there's a huge potential there.

Cliff: Does Sinn Fein have special plans for 2016?

Kathryn: We'll be celebrating it and we're not just going to be celebrating it in the twenty-six counties, we're going to be celebrating it across the island. That's where we, the all Ireland party, are unique in that respect, because the Irish government in twenty-six counties will be celebrating it on a twenty-six county basis. Where as, because the 1916 Rising was about Irish freedom on the whole island, we will be celebrating it across the whole island.

Kathryn: I'd like to say that, we're still on the path towards Irish unification and Irish self-determination. We're going to continue on that path until we reach those goals. I would encourage each and every person in Chicago, especially the Irish diaspora, to put pressure on the Irish government so we can move further, in terms of Irish unification and making sure that we are making progress with the Good Friday Agreement to lobby that we're getting a green light to Irish unity.



Kathryn Reilly and Vincent Casey

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## South Side Tupelo

It rained, it rained, both night and day. My poor parents were worried; had nothing to keep the water away. Before Deep Tunnel safely drained excess runoff into its cavernous depths, the water had nowhere else to

go but into the 1930s-era sewer beneath our curb. Dripping wet, I sat out in the garage doorway, hunkering down so as to get a better view of the lightning while avoiding a possible strike on my person.

"Michael! Get back in here, this instant! You're going to get yourself killed!"

"But I can't see anything from there!"

"Get...back...in...here...NOW," she hissed past gritted teeth.

Whenever our mother used her slow-burn voice, we all knew we'd come close to death, so I reluctantly splashed my way to the back door.

"Run down and see if we have any water coming up in the basement," my mother ordered as I stood shaking rainwater out of my hair. I hiked downstairs and peered over the railing. Hmmm. Nothing yet...no water on the floor or leaks around the windows. To be sure, our sump pump was laboring to hold back the deluge, and had been running almost continuously all day. The sewer grate could not be seen under the mound of grimy kids' clothes, so I made a more thorough inspection. Kicking aside the laundry, to my horror I smelled...That Smell.

"MOM!!!" I yelled upstairs. "It's coming up out of the sewer, fast!"

"Not again!" My mother rushed down the stairs and gasped, from both the aroma and sight of the ever-widening pool of nastiness.

"Quick, Michael, start moving everything up higher!"

Having heard our shouts, my brothers and sisters now arrived, standing safely atop the bottom step and peering through the slats of the banister.

"P, U.," exclaimed my youngest brother Jimmy.

"Are those my clothes, all yucky?" moaned my little sister.

"Don't worry about those, Mary Ellen, just



## Meehall Recalls

By Michael Carroll



grab the clean ones and bring them upstairs! Hurry, it's coming up fast!" She scooped up armfuls of clothes and dumped them into a basket. By now the black water had slithered halfway across the tiles and lapped up against the washing machine. The dryer and furnace would be next.

"Michael, open the fridge and move all the food up to the top shelf. Packy, grab your father's tools on the floor and move them up, too. Denise, take this last load of laundry upstairs...hurry up, or we'll lose everything! No, Jimmy, not one more step! I don't want you getting sick from all this sewer water. Here, you can take this box upstairs for me."

My youngest brother, six, stopped in his tracks with one foot poised in the air over the bottom step. He looked chagrined for a moment; then shrugged, grinned and tramped back upstairs, struggling with the heavy cardboard box. What a great adventure, this flood business. My brother Patrick, in rubber boots, slogged his way to the deepest end to save what he could from Dad's toolbox. Hearing a loud gurgling, he waded back to investigate.

"Aaaagh! MOM! It's coming up out of the toilet now!" He retreated from the vile onslaught, closing the bathroom door to keep anything from floating our way.

"Why does this always have to happen when your father's at work?" Mom sighed, regarding the black waves lapping at her feet.

"He's just lucky that way," quipped Packy. "I wish I was."

"He won't think he's lucky when he gets home and sees this, and no dinner ready," said Mom. "Denise! Quick, grab those shirts hanging there and take them upstairs, before they all smell. Mary Ellen, move those baskets over by the stairs for Jimmy to take up."

It was getting hard to breathe. That

Smell had become That Stench. At this point, even Ed Norton of the Honeymooners would have strapped on his oxygen mask. Our sump pump had been completely overwhelmed, so I unplugged it before the water reached its wiring. Forming a fireman's chain, we passed boxes and possessions from hand to hand. With the sump pump off, the black water surged another foot higher, forcing Jimmy up to the fourth step. My mother's boots had been topped, now filled to overflowing. She stood in the middle of the stygian pool, took one last look and called her troops to beat a hasty retreat.

"All right everybody, that's it. Let's go! Every one of you, upstairs. Now."

"But Mom, we still have to get all these boxes up higher...what if it fills the whole basement, up to the ceiling!" I shouted, grabbing another armful of books.

"Michael, that's it. We can't stay down here another minute. We'll all get asphyxiated by the fumes! Upstairs, all of you!" She began to herd us through the thick black soup towards the stairway. We left our muddy boots there, and shut the upstairs door behind us so as to keep That Smell confined to the nether regions. Not long after, we heard Dad burst through the back door, sopping wet and fumbling with his briefcase, keys, and half-folded travel umbrella. Two seconds later came a loud bump and then a stream of curses with which I shall not despoil the reader's delicate ear. Eventually, he found words of more than one syllable and sputtered,

"Mary! Who left all these boots here, right up against the @#%-damned door?" Then, he smelled That Smell.

"Oh, no...No, no, no, NO!!!" He bent low at the waist, shook his head back and forth and stamped his foot, making the floorboards shake. "Jesus H. Collemial Q. Christ...! Not again!" Then Dad sighed, put down his briefcase, and peeling off his overcoat and rubber galoshes, took charge

of the situation. He rolled up his shirtsleeves and tramped down to survey the disaster area, but had to stop short, only three steps below the back door landing. The floodwaters had filled the basement to within inches of the electrical outlets, which my dad had installed five feet up the walls against occasions such as this.

Crowded behind him on the last few stairs left above water, we all bent down to peer over the banister at the surface of the still, black pool before us. Nothing could be seen upon the dark waters but a pale reflection of the single yellow light bulb burning only a few feet above. Back in the corner, we could hear the gurgling of fresh sewage. The washer and dryer and old 1950s Westinghouse icebox where Dad kept his Strohs beer and we kids our cheap Canfield's pop... all were now submerged beneath the ooze or poking their heads up like forlorn icebergs. But real icebergs had it better, that's for sure.

"Well," Dad said, clapping his two hands together as he stood up, "there's nothing more we can do tonight. We'll just have to wait for the water to go down. If it does, cleanup duty begins tomorrow morning at 0:900 hours." "Mary, we have no dinner, and it's fit for man nor beast out there. I say, let's order pizza."

"Yaaay, for the flood!" we kids cheered.

*These stories are excerpted from Celtic artist Michael Carroll's books "Meehall" and "The Trouble With Meehall," available at [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com). Michael's artwork may be viewed at [www.mccelticdesign.com](http://www.mccelticdesign.com).*

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## Derek Warfield and The Young Wolfe Tones

Nominated in 2009 as Ireland's Best Traditional Irish Folk Group, touring over 400 concerts in 2010 and 2011, throughout 10 different countries, Derek Warfield and The Young Wolfe Tones are known throughout the world for their quality musical presentation of Irish Patriotic Songs & Traditional Irish Music with top class fiery introductions from their lead singer, song writer and storyteller, Derek Warfield. "This band will have you clappin' your hands, tappin' your feet and shoutin' till your voice is hoarse!"

An outstanding singer, stage personality, composer of songs and historian of the song and music tradition, Derek Warfield is a legend wherever Irish roots have

been put down. He has enjoyed phenomenal success for some 40 years with the Wolfe Tones, with 13 best-selling albums, number one hits, television appearances and shows in Carnegie Hall in New York and the Royal Albert Hall in London.

He's also been prolific as a solo artist since the Old Wolfetones broke up in 2001 with eleven albums to his credit the most successful being "On the One Road", "Bonnie Blue Flag" and "A Nation Once Again" in just over a decade and more recently Washington's Irish, this CD and booklet has received great rave reviews across America and highlights in music, song and literature the massive contributions made by the Irish in the revolutionary war.

The man often described as Ireland's greatest ballad singer is bringing an old tradition with a young sound to his legion of fans across the world. Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones have recently brought their musical cameo of Ireland's music and song heritage to the great 2011 "Milwaukee Irish Festival" (The Biggest Irish Festival In The World). They took the festival by storm and are sure to return. Derek and his young tones are looking forward to bringing the finest in Irish Song, Music and Entertainment to many Irish Festivals and venues across America, Ireland & Europe in 2012.

Derek Warfield the leader, founder and front man of the legendary Old Wolfe Tones until they broke up in 2001 and after nearly 40 years together many ballad fans thought that the patriotic spirit of Irish song would die with the



breakup of the quartet, but not so, Derek has ensured that our heroes and patriots will never be forgotten and that the patriotic musical legacy and spirit will live on. He is now joined on stage by some of the finest Irish musicians and singers from a younger generation.

This passing on of one of the greatest aspects and perhaps our the most undervalued of our Irish musical tradition our song culture has been not just successful but culturally and musically important. He has brought many young musicians and singers on his tours throughout the world giving them instruction and know how of fifty years experience and consequently The Young Wolfe Tones bring excitement, fun and passion to our Irish musical tradition and their skill and love of our heritage is greatly valued in Irish communities at home and abroad.

Damaris Woods hails from Co. Meath and is one of the finest musicians and teachers in Ireland. Damaris who plays the tenor Banjo is recognised as one of the finest Banjo players in the country and has recently released her first solo album "With A Banjo On My Knee" but perhaps more importantly she is also a committed and an expert teacher as many of her pupils in the communities of Kildare, Meath, Cavan, Tyrone will attest. Her yearly music camp in July in Cavan Town now in its tenth year

is now recognised one of the most important musical events for the transmission of our musical, song & dance heritage.

Bass player/vocalist Fintan Warfield the youngest member of the band from Dublin plays and

sings his music with an energetic skill that reflects the turbulent history of our country. But perhaps more importantly he has all the passion of his family mentor, for he sings the ballads with echoes of the street entertainer like whom he commands attention by the obvious love and enjoyment that he expresses when performing.

Talented Singer-guitarist Alan Murray hails from Glasgow in Scotland and his love for the Glasgow Celtic Football team means he is no stranger to Irish Traditional Music and Irish Patriotic Songs. The singing of Irish ballads has been an integral part of celebration of the Glasgow Irish identity since the club was founded in 1888. This singing tradition and heritage of Irish Music and Song inspired many Glaswegians including Alan into a career of Irish music, which he loves dearly.

The lineup is completed by the appearance of Dan Lowery who hails from Co. Dallas in Texas. Dan is a multi-talented Flute and Tin-Whistle Player, guitarist and vocalist who hails from a family rich in musical tradition, song and sport and Dan's family hail from Co. Cork.

Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones have already toured successfully in Ireland but are just as at home performing and touring in America where they have performed on countless occasions.

They perform regularly at the Mandalay Bay Casino in the Rira Irish Pub and restaurant in Las Vegas to folks from all over the world. Australia was the destination in April of 2011, twelve concerts in two weeks and of course one of the highlights of their tour of Australia was being invited to perform for four days at the "National Folk Festival" in Canberra at Easter. This band certainly moves around. Representing Ireland and its diverse musical and song tradition, The Young Wolfe Tones are one of the few Irish Bands that can do so. It was Germany, Scotland and England in April & Santa Ponza in Spain & back to America in May. In 2011 Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones released a CD "Far Away in Australia" to coincide with their Australian visit. With 19 tracks the collection is a mixture of classic Irish songs music and literature that connect the two countries. "Far Away In Australia" fittingly highlights the Irish contributions to Australia in Song and Music.

Old and new Patriotic ballads and great tunes make up their powerful double album "On the One Road" released in 2008.

Derek says, "We all share the same passion and enthusiasm for our heritage. I have always believed that because of our history there is something very profound in our song and musical tradition. All our history is there which makes it a rich source of historical information. And I have long considered it a privilege to carry its message of inspiration for many people. But perhaps most importantly it has been fun and enjoyable and every performance gets better. The experience has reinvigorated me and given the young players and singers the opportunity to display their skills and talents around the world"

"Communication with a live audience through music is what I believed to be of primary importance when I founded the Old Wolfe Tones in 1963. I still have that continuity of communication thanks to the Young Wolfe Tones and the satisfaction that I am passing on a worthwhile heritage"

The band have also recently completed successful appearances at many of Americas major Irish music Festivals with acclaim "The

Great Irish Milwaukee Festival", "The Great American Irish Festival" in Utica New York and the "Dublin Irish Festival" in Ohio. These weekend events with attendances of over 100,000 are a musical showcase for many bands. Pat Byrne from Columbus Ohio one of the organising committee had this to say "Derek has always set high standards for his performances and this band raises the bar. The people loved them and gave them an unbelievable rousing and appreciative reception. These Young Wolfe Tones and their legendary leader were given a standing ovation, The Dublin Ohio festival were delighted to have them and the band were thrilled to be here and that's as good as it's gets for any band"

This coming summer Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones will bring the real Irish spirit of music, song and dance to the "Boston Irish Festival" on June 10th, "The Ri Ra Las Vegas" on June 12th-24th June, "The Chicago Heritage Center Festival" on July 15th "Balve Irish Folk & Celtic Music Festival" in Germany on August 4th, "The Irish Fair Of Minnesota" on August 11th & 12th, Peoria Erin Feis on August 24th, Dubuque Irish Hooley on August 25th, The Blackthorne Resort, East Durham on 31st August and 1st September, Ohio's Celtic & International Fall Festival on September 2nd & 3rd, Rochester Irish Festival on September 8th & The Great Irish Fair Of New York on 16th September.

The band will be performing at many venues throughout Ireland in July & August including The Gleneagle Hotel in Killarney every Thursday and The Mercantile on Dame St in Dublin every Tuesday and The O' Carolan Harp Festival in Keadue, Co. Roscommon. You can take advantage of the opportunity to be spend a week with them on a Caribbean February 2013 on Andy Cooney's "Cruise Of Irish Stars" [www.cruiseofirishstars.com](http://www.cruiseofirishstars.com)

Derek Warfield & The Young Wolfe Tones will release a new CD "Let Ye All Be Irish Tonight" and they promise this will be their finest CD to date with 21 tracks (some penned by Derek himself).

No matter where you're from. There will be a "Cead Mile Failte" at their many destinations. [www.derekwarfield.com](http://www.derekwarfield.com) [www.theyoungwolfetones.com](http://www.theyoungwolfetones.com)

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