

The Brothers Gleeson

Irish catalysts for understanding through the arts, pictured in front of a peace mural painted by the Bogside Artists, and on display at the Irish American Heritage Center . . .page 10



Maureen O'Looney
Celebrates . . . pg 29

Cover photo by Cathy Curry, www.4girlsphotography.com

Christmas in Mayo

Celebrate at Brehon Pub

731 N Wells, Chicago IL

First Three Weekends in December

Sat and Sun. 2pm to 8pm

**Come and See the Traditional American
and Irish Christmas Decorations**

**Authentic Irish Music &
the live sounds of Bagpipers**

**Enjoy Great Irish Bill of Fare
Including Irish Soda Bread
from Misericordia's
Hearts and Flour Bakery**

**Come to the Celebration and Support Misericordia's Residents with
Developmental Disabilities by Visiting the Heart of Mercy Holiday Booth
Featuring Hand-Crafted Ornaments, Holiday Cards and Delicious Bakery Items
Created in Misericordia's Work Opportunity Programs**



**If you Time it Right, You Might Even Meet
Daddai Na Nodllaig!**

**For Further Information and Updates, Please Visit
our Website: www.brehonpub.com**

***The Mission of Misericordia/Heart of Mercy is to support individuals with developmental disabilities in maximizing their level of independence and self-determination in an environment that fosters spirituality, dignity, respect and enhanced quality of life. Misericordia offers a continuum of care that maximizes potential for 600 children and adults with mild to profound developmental disabilities, many of whom are also physically challenged.**



Bankers' Pay Performance And Pensions

With yet another savage budget pending in early December there has been public indignation over recent revelations concerning the pay and pensions of Irish bankers and the initial hand wringing of the government on the issue. Hints have been dropped that the budget might contain something about bank pensions. The hard pressed ordinary taxpayer, facing further draconian taxes next year, will be watching closely.

This issue has the potential to upset the coalition in earnest and the government should handle it with great care. The public has been stoical thus far in the face of continued austerity, with most accepting that the fiscal gap has to be bridged, but the bankers have touched a raw nerve, exacerbated by separate disturbing reports of cuts in front line services such as home help.

Bankers already occupy a special place in the public's demonology. Not only did they collectively wreck the economy, but the cost of bailing them out, \$75 billion plus, has made our bad fiscal debt even worse. Anglo Irish Bank was fully nationalised, Allied Irish Bank is 98% funded by the state and most of the others have been taken into state care, with only Bank of Ireland off life support.

So the newspaper revelations last month that 76 bank officials were being paid over \$350,000 in basic salaries, with 1700 bankers earning over \$125,000, almost three times the current average Irish salary of \$ 46,200, caused outrage. This was compounded by the discovery that a new executive at the IBRC (Anglo reconstituted) was on a package of \$600,000 plus (sanctioned by the Irish Minister for Finance), one of 19 in the IBRC (most decidedly OUR bank) getting

\$350,000 plus. This in a state owned bank, in a broke country where only 10% have incomes over \$125,000 and where the state pension is \$15,000 a year for a single person.

There is worse. It has emerged that Allied Irish Banks, 98% funded by the state, channelled around \$1.3 billion from its recapitalisation funds (taxpayers' dollars) to plug the deficit in its pension fund. In response to some of the criticism, AIB bosses also confirmed that letters had been sent to some of their former senior executives asking them to return voluntarily portions of their pensions (In some cases \$500,000 annually), with just one agreeing to reduce his annual pension to around \$300,000. The IBRC, as it happens, has a pension fund fully funded (to 111%), one of the very few "defined benefit" pension funds in the country without a huge hole in it.

The banks have brazenly defended the mega-salaries as the going rate for the job, the suggestion being the recipients are worth it. Park for a moment the observation that banking is not rocket science and at the top hardly merits even half the amounts being paid. Park also the thought that , whatever justification there was for the banks in their former existence to reward their head honchos so handsomely, when they could screw their clients with abandon, they are now almost all totally dependent on the state. The bankers' claim begs the question, in respect of the former and retired bankers who have walked off since 2008 with large pay-offs and huge pensions, whether these payments were deserved, given the unholy mess they created.

The banks' recent performanc-

es merit at best the description of uncivil servants. Business credit has all but dried up. The banks' strategy appears to be to hunker down until better times arrive. The financial regulator is not helping by the very strict regulatory regime now in force, but he can hardly be blamed for carrying out his job. The problem is that the justification for bailing them out then and keeping them on life support now was and is that the economy needed (needs) a functioning banking system. What the public sees is definitely not this -just the old system Mark II with very little changed and certainly not helping the economy.

To date the banks have gone softly on the mortgage crisis, with only a handful of repossessions/evictions. This is not altruism. The banks are coldly aware that to wield the big stick by pressing for repossessions, or forcing thousands of bankruptcies at present, would be a bridge too far and would galvanise the government into radical action. So, like Mickawber, they wait for something to turn up. There is no talk of debt forgiveness, with the banks, incredibly, bleating "moral hazard" (!). The new legislation to update Ireland's antiquated bankruptcy laws will still leave the banks holding most of the aces and observers expect that they will use the new legislation when passed to justify getting tough with debtors - something to be watched.

The Government's reaction on bankers' pay was initially to plead impotence on the grounds that bankers' severance packages were contracts entered into under the previous government and it was powerless to change them. (It is interesting that this line is somewhat similar to that taken regarding the Croke Park Agreement, though Croke Park has a get-out-of-jail clause - not yet invoked.) When challenged, there were vague references to the Constitution and the suggestion that any attempt to renegotiate would risk a legal challenge. There were similar reservations in the 90s expressed about the Criminal Assets Bureau legislation , which however was found to be constitutional; this

NEED A LAWYER?

● ESTATE PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION ● EVICTIONS ●
● PROPERTY TAX APPEALS ● SMALL CLAIMS ●

FITZGERALD LAW GROUP, P.C.

10452 SOUTH KEDZIE AVENUE
CHICAGO, IL 60655
(312) 927-1700
WWW.MKFCHICAGO.COM

might provide inspiration. Such has been the public furore, that, as I write, the Government has shifted tack and is now admitting that the issue will be addressed.

Critics argue that the Government is afraid to go after the bankers' pensions lest it open a Pandora's Box out of which anything and everything could be challenged, not least the pay, pensions and benefits enjoyed by the politicians, and Ministers in particular. Taoiseach Enda Kenny earns more than the British Prime Minister, as, indeed, do the rest of the Cabinet. The levels of additional ministerial benefits are also generous and have come under recent media scrutiny, while the separate pension arrangements for all politicians are regarded, somewhat unfairly, as second only to the bankers.

The options boil down either to introducing a surtax or levy on bankers and other pensions above a certain figure, or holding a referendum to amend the con-

stitution. The argument against introducing a surtax is that , if it were not to be deemed discriminatory, it would have to apply to all pensions above a certain figure, with all that that would imply. However, the Irish income tax code is a comprehensive one, replete with exemptions and exceptions and it should surely be possible to draft legislation in such a way that the practical application would be to reach those for whom it was intended.

The precedent for holding a referendum is the one held last year to permit reductions in judges' pay (constitutionally protected) following the refusal of a minority of the judiciary to agree to a voluntary pay cut. Not surprisingly the referendum was carried four to one. There is little doubt that one on bankers' pensions - maybe even their pay - would be carried similarly, the trick being to find the appropriate wording; and there's the rub.

The budget speech will be interesting.

❖ **Diana Burke** ❖
Stylist

thairapy
Salon & Spa
4247 North Lincoln Avenue
Chicago, IL 60618
(773) 248-5353
diana@thairapyplus.com

Tony Kenny Presents Christmastime In Ireland December 9th at Gaelic Park

Gaelic Park presents "Christmastime in Ireland" direct from Dublin on Sunday, December 2, 2012 at 8.00pm Admission is \$25.00.

Tony Kenny is an icon in the world of Irish music, receiving dozens of awards for his stage and television performances. He has entertained over two million people touring the U.S. on countless tours to packed houses. This multi-talented award-winning performer has done it again - introducing some of Ireland's finest performers. "Christmastime in Ireland" will bring joy and laughter into your

heart for one special evening this holiday season. This show will have you singing, clapping, and laughing from beginning to end, and is sure to be the perfect way to celebrate the Christmas season.

Ireland's King of Blarney, George Casey's self-deprecating humor, tempered with his Irish brogue, has won over audiences across the country. Casey's humor is always in good fun and gets the audience involved. He relates well with his audience and is a good communicator



politically correct person.

Kathy Durkin. From Co. Cavan, is one of Ireland's leading female entertainers and 3-time Irish Recording Artist of the Year. Kathy has toured extensively in Europe and the United States, where her warm personality and happy smile have won her numerous friends and fans. Kathy has had a prolific output of singles and albums during her career and has proved that she is an artist of talent and commitment to the Irish music industry.

The Dublin Trinity Band is one of Ireland's best folk bands and has wowed audiences of all sizes for years. This group features Eimear Reilly on violin and guitar, Andreas Durkin on vocals and keyboard, David Hayes on piano and Peter Brown on button accordion.

To see any of these entertainers individually is a treat, but to see them perform together in Tony Kenny's, "Christmastime in Ireland" show, is magic.

Concert goers can enjoy a delicious Celtic Supper with an unlimited hot buffet which starts at 3:00pm. The charge is \$16.00 and reservations are required.

Gaelic Park is located at 6119 W. 147th Street in Oak Forest. For further information call Gaelic Park at 708-687-9323 or visit the web site at www.chicago-gaelicpark.org

and keen observer of human nature. With his disarming smile and likeable personality, he can charm the habit off a nun, and put a smile on the face of even the most

Anne's Irish Knits



Hand knit sweaters for men, women & children
Ladies cashmere & wool capes, jackets, skirts, Irish linen dresses & accessories

New Fashions Are In!
502 MAIN ST., EVANSTON
847-864-2103
email: annemckeown@comcast.net

**DO YOU...
Accept credit cards?
Desire a lower rate?
I can help!**

Retail, Wireless, POS, Internet and Software, Giftcards and Small Business Cash Advance Solutions available

Tina Trowbridge
630-657-1852
tina@fdiswindycity.com
www.firstdatawindycity.com




PROTECTIVE COATINGS

& Waterproofing, Inc.

- Acid Staining Basement Floors
- Basement crack repairs
- Foundation waterproofing
- Battery back-up sump pumps

ALL WORK GUARANTEED
Call Jim Conway
708-403-7650

Specialist in Stained/Coated Concrete Floors
DECORATIVE EPOXY COATINGS
for GARAGES & BASEMENTS
www.pcwaterproofing.com



WE ARE NOW PRINTING T-SHIRTS!

SIGNSBYDESIGN

E-mail your requests to: sbd2@sbcglobal.net
708.599.9970

McGuire's Teleflora
GARLAND FLOWERS

DAILY DELIVERY WORLDWIDE SERVICE

You'll Love Our Floral Displays

1-877-244-3181
garlandflowers@yahoo.com






GIFT SHOP

IRISH IMPORTS

TEAHAN'S
Navy Pier Chicago IL
Since 1965

Belleek * Crystal * Jewelry
* Music * Sweaters *
Food * and more!

312.595.5504

Exclusively At Navy Pier
WE SHIP ANYWHERE




Catherine O'Connell

BEST SELLING CD!



AVAILABLE NOW IN IRISH SHOPS

Songs From My Father
www.catherineoconnell.com

irish american news iann PERIODICAL

(ISSN #1085-4053) USPS #013454
December 2012 Vol. XXXVI #12

Founder Bob Burns
Publisher Cliff Carlson
Editorial Assistant Cathy Curry
Advertising Sales Cliff Carlson
Photographer Cathy Curry
Columns and Reviews
Books & Theatre - Frank West
Theatre - Terrence Boyle
Trad Music Editor - Bill Margeson
Healy Law - Martin Healy
Mick - Mike Morley
Safe Home - Heather Begley
A Word With Monsignor Boland - Msgr. Michael Boland
Irish Musings - Fr. Michael Leonard
Hooliganism - Mike Houlihan
For The Republic - Chris Fogarty
From the Motherland - Sean Farrell
Swimming Upstream - Charles Brady
Careers - James Fitzgerald, CPA
Reel Jiggy - Deirdre Kozicki
Boyle The Kettle - Tom Boyle
A Slice of Ireland - Cathy Cooney-Millar
Starts With A Song - Joe McShane and Margo O'Donnell
In Another Pattern - Maurice Fitzpatrick
Irish Rover - Jim McClure
Piping it In - Jack Baker
Real Ireland - Rachel Gaffney
Spoirts - Mary Margaret O'Leary
Daly Investor - John Daly CFP
Celtic Traveller - Maureen Callahan
Crowley on Kells - Frank Crowley
Meehall Recalls - Michael Carroll
pH Factor - Pat Hickey
Young Irish - Sarah McDonough
Website - Cathy Curry

Irish News, Inc. is published monthly on the 1st of month

SUBSCRIPTION
Regular delivery
1 year \$30 • 2 year \$55 • 3 year \$75
Canada 1 year \$35 • 2 year \$60
1st class fast! (delivered in envelope)
1 year \$40 • 2 year \$75 • 3 year \$95
International: 1 year \$85
(Periodicals Postage Paid at Palatine, IL, and other mailing offices)

POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to Irish News, Inc.
PO Box 7
Zion, IL 60099
847-872-0700
e-mail to: editor@irishamericannews.com

PUBLISHERS STATEMENT
The opinions and statements expressed in this newspaper are entirely those of the authors, and do not reflect in any way the opinions of Irish American News.

Distribution
15,013

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!
708-445-0700
www.iannnews.com

Private Belleek Collector's Sale at Rampant Lion

Rampant Lion Celtic Traders doesn't normally carry Belleek Pottery in their store in Villa Park, but one weekend this month will be an exception. On Saturday and Sunday, December 8 and 9, Rampant Lion will have available a variety of pieces from a personal collection.

"We were contacted by the estate of this collector and asked if we would assist in selling off what we could" said Jack Baker, owner of Rampant Lion. What is left, after distributions

to family members, is a variety of pieces, including Member's Only pieces from the Belleek Collector's Society. The sale will take place in the store only, at 47 S. Villa Ave in Villa Park, IL. There will be no phone sales available on this collection. Everything will be sold as is, and may or may not come with its box.

"For a Belleek collector, this is the perfect way to acquire something older, something unique or something not available to the general public. In

essence, it's the perfect holiday gift", Baker stated.

The sale will take place on Saturday, December 8 from 10 am to 6 pm and on Sunday, December 9 from Noon to 4 pm. For directions to the store, call 630-834-8108.

**TOOROMEEN SCHOOL
OF IRISH DANCE**



**BURR RIDGE
EVERGREEN PARK
WWW.TOOROMEEN.COM**

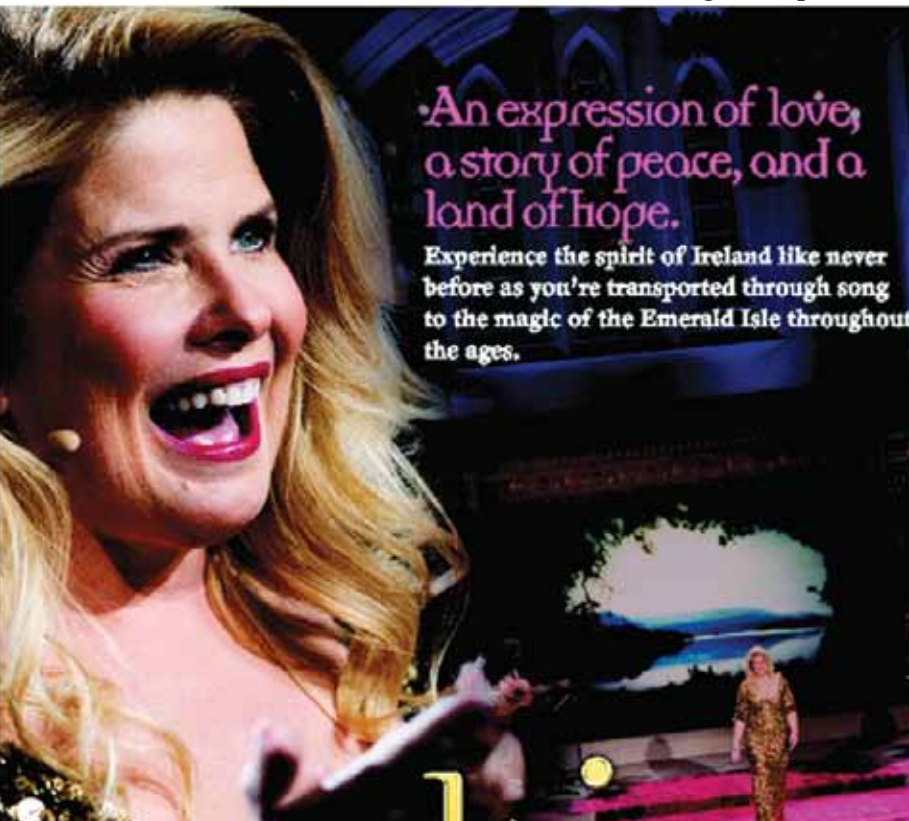
HOME-HEALTHY-HAPPY



Aishling Dalton Kelly
708 728-5538
www.aishlingcare.com

A Private duty non medical home care agency,
licensed by the state of Illinois, Orland Park IL.

Genuine Companion Home Care



*An expression of love,
a story of peace, and a
land of hope.*

Experience the spirit of Ireland like never
before as you're transported through song
to the magic of the Emerald Isle throughout
the ages.

A Celtic Awakening
with
FAITH MARION ROBINSON

facebook | Detroit Public TV | APT | CIE TOURS International | Tourism Ireland

Airing on Public Television; Check with your local PBS station for listings
Website www.faith-marionrobinson.com DVD and CD on sale now at local retail and on-line outlets.

Lakeshore Public Television, Channel 56
January 5th at 12:30 a.m. and at 5:30 p.m.

The station can also be seen on RCN channel 4, Comcast Xfinity channel 17 and AT&T U-verse channel 56. There is a high definition feed offered on Comcast Xfinity digital channel 239. WYIN serves as one of three PBS member stations serving the Chicago television market, alongside Chicago-licensed WTTW and WYCC, and its programming consists of educational programs, sports and local news programming.

Casey the Piper

- ✦ Weddings
- ✦ Birthday Parties
- ✦ Christenings
- ✦ Funerals
- ✦ Anniversaries
- ✦ House Parties

**Call
708-790-8900**



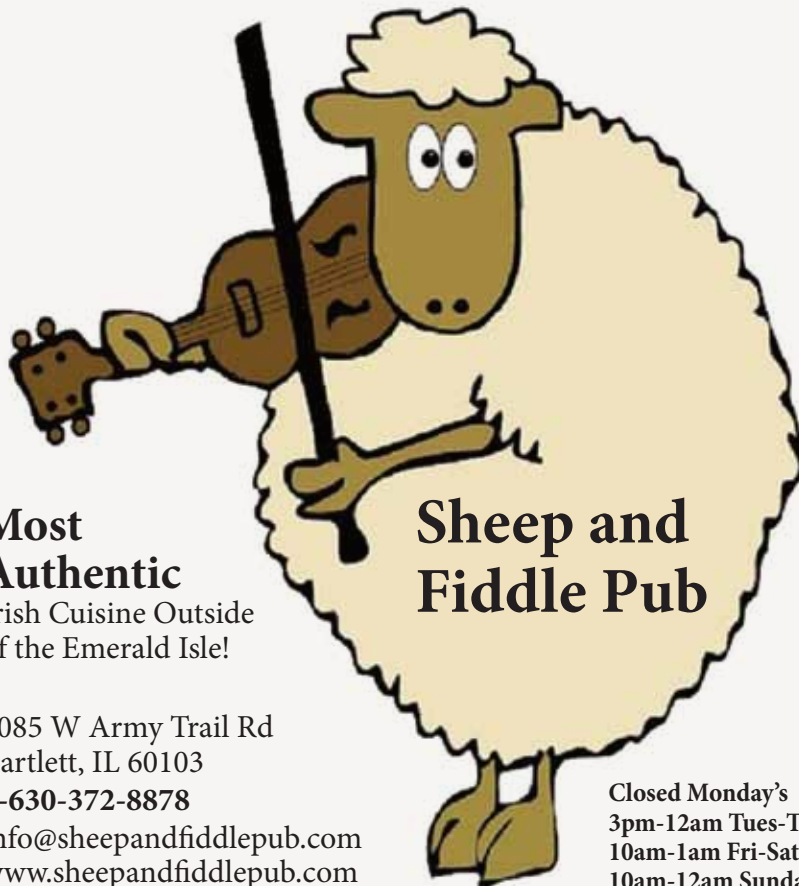
CHICALBA
BAGPIPING SERVICES

**Weddings • Parties
Funerals • Corporate
Teaching**

Dave Johnston
(630) 534 4964
www.chicalba.com
dave@chicalba.com



**It's Time to Say Hello to Jeff, Sarah, and
award winning chef Simon Kearney**



**Most Authentic
Irish Cuisine Outside
of the Emerald Isle!**

**Sheep and
Fiddle Pub**

1085 W Army Trail Rd
Bartlett, IL 60103
1-630-372-8878
info@sheepandfiddlepub.com
www.sheepandfiddlepub.com

Closed Monday's
3pm-12am Tues-Thurs
10am-1am Fri-Sat
10am-12am Sunday

Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan



Sol Hepatica opened the bottom drawer of his desk, pulled out a bottle of Bushmills and poured himself four fingers of fortitude.

He was about to lay off fifteen hundred employees at his magazine, "Ingrown Toenail Monthly".

He knew the business was tanking back in August, but kept it alive in hopes that Romney would be elected. Now with Obamacare breathing down his neck he had to pull the plug.

The magazine had been a huge success for most of the last decade. Dreamed up one night at the bar in Ken's on Western Avenue when Sol and some pals had joked about starting a satirical skin mag that featured

only ugly women. They printed up one issue as a gag and it exploded in popularity beyond their wildest dreams.

Within six months Sol had become a celebrity as the publisher and editor of "Ingrown Toenail Monthly", appearing on talk shows like "The View" where Whoopi Goldberg praised him for his contribution to women's equality and alleged comedian Joy Behar told Sol, "You've opened up a whole new world for overweight, big mouth bitches like me." The audience roared with laughter, and Barbara Walters said, "Sol, you've given all of us another option, and for that we salute you."

What Sol had done with his publication was at first shock-

ing to America, but then just as quickly embraced as a true measure of an original look at beauty. The Prince Charles/Camilla spread where they were photographed together in the barn had broken every publication record in the industry. The royal couple donated their fee for posing to Planned Parenthood.

Without even being aware of it, Sol Hepatica had turned the world on its ear. He would never use the word, but it was all over the gossip columns, "Ugly was now cool. Ugly was beautiful. Ugly has become hip."

Sol Hepatica had made beauty irrelevant. The ladies who posed in "Ingrown Toenail Monthly" were a cross section of race, social stature, and international origins. But they were all frightening to behold. Sol would demur, "We feature the girl next door, if you lived in a trailer camp in Hegewisch."

Sol pored over the books as he poured himself another. His wife Hazel marched in and

grabbed the bottle, taking a big swig and plopping herself down on the couch. "Sol, dummkopf, it's over baby. You gotta lay off everybody tonight, bubala. Or we are broke."

Sol removed his glasses and ran his old hand over his eyes, "Hazel, do you have any idea what today is?"

Hazel took another long pull on the whiskey and smacked her lips. "It's Monday!"

Sol stood up in rage behind the desk, "It's Christmas Eve!"

Hazel laughed in his face, "Sol, you're Jewish!"

Sol sneered as he looked at Hazel, lying on his couch like a Hippo in heat. He'd met some hideous creatures in this biz, but Hazel was ugly on the inside as well. Sol had long since discovered that she was the devil incarnate but he had made his bargain.

"I'm not laying anybody off on Christmas, we'll pink slip 'em all on New Years Eve."

Hazel protested, "You putz! It's over. The Twinkie is dead Sol, and so are we!"

Suddenly there was a knock at the door

Sol opened the door and standing there was the most beautiful young woman he'd ever seen. An older biker type guy with a beard stood behind her. They were both covered in snow and looked like they were cold. Hazel got off the couch and joined Sol at the door and stared at the couple in awe. The girl was pregnant and her

smile was ebullient in spite of the situation.

"Hi, I'm Mary, this is my old man Joe."

Joe said, "Hey."

Mary's mere presence was ethereal in its loveliness and Sol and Hazel were dumbstruck. Mary said, "Our Harley wiped out in the snow and we're gonna need to file an accident report, mind if we use your phone?"

Mary had somehow captivated Sol's soul. He smiled, "Sure, help yourself. I'm Sol and this is my wife Hazel."

Mary smiled. "What a night, huh? Merry Christmas, you guys."

Hazel blurted out, "We're Jewish."

Mary laughed, "For real? So are we!"

Well of course you know the rest of the story. Hazel and Sol drove Mary and Joe over to McNeal Hospital where she gave birth to a baby boy just after midnight. Hope had come knocking on Sol Hepatica's door and he answered it on Christmas Eve.

"Ingrown Toenail Monthly" soon changed its format and its name to "Beautiful Babies", featuring adorable infants. Sol and Hazel made a fortune.

Here's hoping the spirit of the infant Jesus enlightens us all as well.

Merry Christmas!

Read the archives of Hooliganism and do all your holiday shopping at www.mikehoulihan.com

TIS' THE SEASON...



HAVE YOUR HOLIDAY BASH WITH US...

PARTY ROOM FOR UP TO 60 PEOPLE

Live Music

FRANK PRIMO
Singing Favorites in the bar
Fri & Sat Dec 7-8
& Fri Dec 21
Starting at 7pm

JOHNNY BURNETT
Fri Dec 14
Starting at 7pm

JOHN TRUNCALI
New Year's Eve
Mon Dec 31
Starting at 7pm

Holiday Hours:
Xmas Eve 12pm-9pm
Xmas 1pm- 9pm
New Year's Eve
11am-2012
New Year's Day
3pm-9pm

GIFT CERTIFICATE SPECIAL!
For every \$100 purchased, receive
BONUS \$25 GIFT CARD!*

*Cannot be used until Jan. 1, 2013

1740 Milwaukee Avenue (at Lake Ave.) • Glenview

(847)699-9999

Good Morning Ireland Radio Show
CHICAGO

Saturdays 1:05 -3pm

1450 AM WCEV

www.goodmorningirelandradio.com

Irish News, Sports, Music and More...

Presented by Sean Ginnelly

Irish News by RTE's Eileen Magnier

Irish Sports by Mid West Irish Radio's Tommy Marren

For more information or advertising inquiries

Contact Sean Tel. 224-715-8292 or sean@goodmorningirelandradio.com



**SESSION THURSDAYS
with Paddy Homan
8 to 10pm**

204 N. Halsted St.

312-997-3100

Hours: Sun-Fri 11am-2am • Sat 10am-3am

Open for Lunch Every Day

American Traditional and Irish Classic Cuisine

Over 100 Beers, Irish & Canadian

Whiskies plus Specialty Drinks

Watch Sports on our flat-screen TVs

**Mixing Old Chicago with Ole Ireland
(and a Wee Touch of Canadian)**



www.paddyofegans.com

121 S Villa Ave * Villa Park
mahoneyspub.net
630-516-1677

House Charity
Easter Seals' Lilly Garden
Daycare Center



Thomas G. Mulvey
M.S., P.T., M.B.A.

Thomas Mulvey founded **Athletex Sports and Orthopedic Physical Therapy** in 1992 with the mission of offering quality rehabilitation that educates the patient from acute onset to their maximal functional level.

- American Physical Therapy Association (Sports, Orthopedic, and Private Practice Sections) member
- American Academy of Sports Medicine member
- Illinois Physical Therapy Association member

We offer Orthopedic, Neurologic, and Sports Rehabilitation.

We also offer Sports Specific Training for Athletes.

ATHLETEX accepts Medicare, Worker's Compensation and most PPOs and HMOs.

Athletex Physical Therapy has been delivering quality and comprehensive Physical Therapy to the Southland since 1992.

4114 Southwest Hwy.
Hometown, IL 60456
708.424.4047

The Oak Lawn Ice Arena
9320 S. Kenton Ave.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708.424.4025

11140 W. 179th Street
Orland Park, IL 60462
708.478.7225

athletexpt.com



WHERE EVERY PATIENT IS TREATED LIKE A CHAMPION!

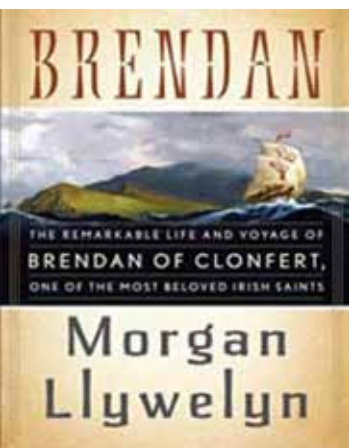


Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



Morgan Llywelyn and Dennis Foley were members of the panel that I introduced at the outstanding Irish cultural event, iBAM!



Brendán The Remarkable Life and Voyage of Brendan of Clonfert by Morgan Llywelyn. Forge/Tom Doherty Associates

Irish Americans are proud of Brendán's famous sea voyage in the Middle Ages. The Irish monk set out in the 500's A.D. on a long sea voyage hoping to find the earthly Paradise. He probably reached what would later be called North America.

Columbus believed that he had found land, because in 1492, he wrote in his diary that he was go-

ing to search for the Island of Saint Brendán. However, Brendán's sea voyage is not the focus of the book. It is focused on his voyage of inner discovery.

As a young man he lived as a pilgrim. On this solitary quest he discovered the strength and resources of his character. The author, Morgan Llywelyn, has him observe about this "The most important part of the pilgrimage took place inside the head."

Brendán developed patience and the wisdom of consideration of people's feelings. He also discovered awareness of the natural world and learned much about human society.

This inner voyage was infinitely more difficult than his later sea voyage would be.

About the lasting impact of Brendán on our civilization, the author states that in Irish monasteries, like the one he founded in Galway, "The flame of literacy was kept alive through the Dark Ages."

Morgan shows us the majesty, power and beauty of Brendán's inner quest. While reading her description of this struggle, I made four pages of single space notes. I decided that I just had to stop!

These are highlights of those notes.

- "He possessed gifts of the mind sufficient to gain admittance to the Order of the Druids, the intellectual class of Celtic society. They were not practitioners of a specific religion and not priests in the Christian sense of the word. The Greeks were more nearly correct by describing Druids as poet-philosophers."

- "Our Gaelic forebears interacted on a daily basis with the unseen world. They were well aware of the important activities that take place in invisible spaces. Dreams and visions were not illusion to them, but an aspect of reality,"

- "Insular Ireland had avoided the iron fist of Imperial Rome, but would not escape the softer hand of Christianity."

- In 325 A.D., Roman Emperor Constantine convened the Council of Nicea. Zealous bishops demanded celibacy of priests. But, they Agreed that men who were already married when ordained would be allowed to cohabit with their wives!"

- "The men and women of the Gael, a passionate people long governed by Brehon Law which took human nature into consideration - were not willing to accept restrictions to their sexual lives."

Sadly, this humane, life-affirming attitude of the Church in Ireland would later be destroyed by Rome's harsh rules.

Drunkard's Son A Chicago Story - Part Memoir, Part Not, by Dennis Foley

A boy is telling his father that he, his brothers and friends were "kings" of the mountain. They had successfully defended their snow mountain against all comers. "Dad said little while we told our tale, but he held a proud grin on his face the whole time. Everything was normal. But things would never be like that again."

Dennis Foley tells marvelous stories - stories that show us humanness and the wonder of life. He recreates emotions many of us have felt. His stories contain humor while showing the pain of living.

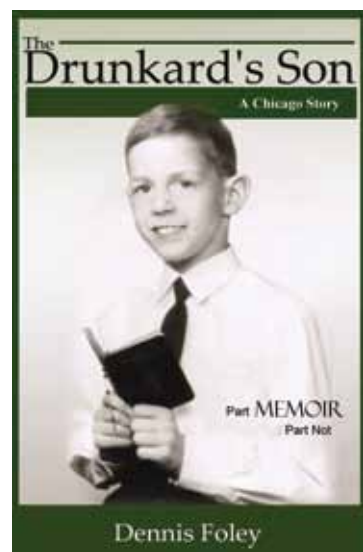
Dennis' first book was the prize winning, "The Streets and San Man's Guide to Chicago Eats." His shorter pieces have appeared in many literary publications.

He holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Columbia College and a JD from John Marshall Law School.

He teaches Englis at St. Laurence High School in Burbank, IL. He is married and is the father of three boys.

Most of the stories are told by the eight or nine year old Foley.

They are interspersed in time and place with his recollections of being a teenager in an Intensive Care unit after he had been



stabbed.

The stories bring back memories of my own childhood in a Chicago neighborhood.

Yes, they are nostalgic, but definitely not a trip down memory lane. This is because they are deceptively simple, but contain much meaning too.

Foley's stories ask these questions. What was it like to grow up in a large family? What did it feel like to have a father who drank the money that should have gone to the family? How did it feel to live in a "changing" neighborhood. (I had relatives and friends who lived in St. Sabina Parish. So the book's recollections are personal and intimate.

The stories in Drunkard's Son by Dennis Foley are filled with life and human warmth.

Barrington's Irish Gem is Now Bigger and Better!

Voted Chicago Suburb's BEST IRISH PUB
2012 "Best of the 'Burbs"

- ✦ Twenty Beers on Tap ✦ Full Lunch & Dinner Menu ✦
- ✦ Live Music Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday Evening ✦
- ✦ Fox Soccer, BeIN, Fox Soccer Plus & NFL Packages ✦
- ✦ Margeson Pub Quiz Every Monday, 7:30 PM ✦

✦ ✦ See our website for New Years Eve Party details ✦ ✦

WE'VE EXPANDED!
Enjoy our great Pub atmosphere next door in this upscale cocktail lounge, which features an amazing menu of small/shared plates, specialty drinks, wines and a wide variety of craft beers!

The Annex

McGonigal's PUB

105 S. Cook Street
Barrington, IL 60010
847-277-7400
Sunday - Thursday 11 AM - 1 AM
Friday & Saturday 11 AM - 2 AM

www.mcgonigalpub.com www.facebook.com/mcgonigals

Tragedy of the Great Irish Famine (1845-1852): new ways of seeing

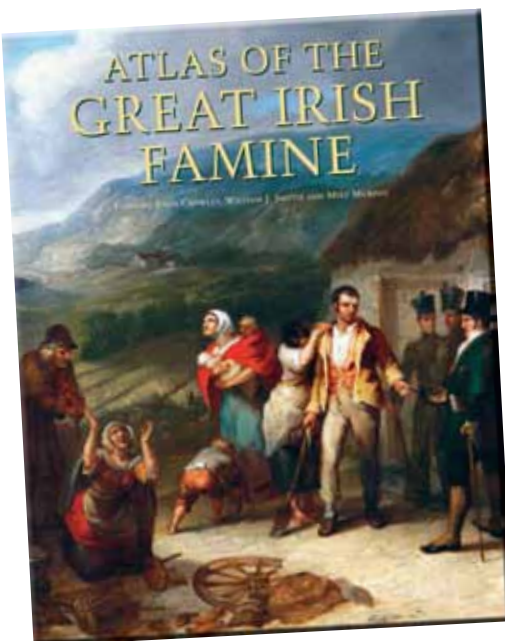
Winner IEBS best Irish published book of 2012

Weighing in at 8 lbs and 720 pages, The Great Irish Famine is possibly the most pivotal event/experience in modern Irish history. Its global reach and implications cannot be underestimated. In terms of mortality it is now widely accepted that over a million people perished between the years 1845-1852 and at least one million people and a quarter fled the country, the great majority to North America, some to Australia and a significant minority to British cities. Ireland had been afflicted by famine before the events of the 1840s; however the Great Famine is marked by both its absolute scale and its longevity.

The Famine is surrounded by controversy, silence and shame. Scholars, politicians and commentators argue about what happened and who was responsible. The voices of the million men, women and children who died of hunger and disease in cabins, by roadsides, in bogs and ditches, in workhouses and fever hospitals are absent. If each of these people who died because of this Great Famine could write the stories of their experiences and feelings, we could not bear to read these accounts. And it is almost certain that their narratives of the Great Famine would clash with ours. This is the great silence which lies at the heart of the Famine story.

In the works for over 20 years, The Atlas of the Great Famine, was published by Cork University Press and by New York University Press in North America. The book begins by acknowledging the impossibility of adequately representing the Great Famine or any major world famine. Comprehending and capturing the enormity of the event and its devastating impact on Irish society is a major challenge then throughout the book.

The atlas is strongly influenced by new and not so new research insights, emanating from a range of disciplines. Many of the scholars currently working in Famine studies – both at international and national levels – have made invaluable contributions to the Atlas. However, there



has been no attempt made to provide an overarching, unifying synthesis. Rather what is recognised in the Atlas is the necessity for a great diversity of approaches and perspectives in seeking to illuminate and represent the monstrous reality of the Famine tragedy and its consequences. Hence, the importance attached to the work of poets, visual artists, musicians, folklorists, photographers and writers of Irish and English literature as well as the research of other established scholars and the extensive use of archival sources.

The generation and interpretation of 200 computer-based maps of population decline, social transformation and other key changes between the census years 1841 and 1851 is naturally central to this Atlas exploration. On the one hand, the Atlas provides original, island-wide, almost panoptic views of the Famine which, while very helpful, are nevertheless limiting in other respects. We can see every

parish from above but we still do not know how the Famine affected individual families and communities on the ground. Hence, the parallel analysis of famine conditions in the provinces, counties, parishes and townlands – and in overseas emigrant destinations – so as to try and tell the stories of particular individuals and families caught up in these terrible events. What these maps document is a range of human worlds and conditions never previously published and revealed in Irish Famine studies. While recognising the power and effects of the general political and administrative forces at work and the devastating impacts of the Famine island-wide, the interpretation of these maps and other evidence equally highlights the diversity of local, county, provincial and emigrant conditions and experiences.

The cartographic journey to the Atlas of the Great Famine began almost twenty years ago with a discussion in the Department of Geography, University College Cork on the best way to calculate the shape and size and then map the civil parishes of Ireland. It was decided that the best approach was to computerise/digitise the civil parishes from the Ordnance Survey six-inch County Index Maps and then compute the shape and size, and map the distribution, of the parishes. Then using GIS (Geographical Information Systems) to link the civil parish maps to the Census database, choropleth (thematic) maps could be produced to visualise changes in population and social structures before, during and after the Famine.

The Famine data maps in the Atlas are, therefore, based on comparing the most relevant data classes from the Census of 1841 and the Census of 1851. The Census was collected at townland level. Townlands are the smallest administrative units in the country. All other admin-

istrative units and boundaries are based on the original structure of over 60,000 townlands. Townlands build into civil parishes (used in the General Census Report, which the maps are based on) and civil parishes in turn build into baronies. This island-wide, nested, administrative and territorial hierarchy is completed by the counties and provinces. Civil parishes were originally Christian (pre-Reformation) ecclesiastical areas. In the post-Reformation period, they became the established administrative units of the Church of Ireland and acquired civil administrative functions after the Tudor conquest of Ireland (The modern Catholic parish – created mainly in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries – is for the most part, an entirely separate geographical entity).

These civil parish maps are at the centre of the unravelling, analysis and interpretation of the origins, varying impacts and consequences of the Great Famine for Ireland and for the Irish people, both at home and abroad. They highlight the social and economic conditions which prevailed in different parts of the island on the eve of the Famine as well as documenting the state of the country and its people as the Famine took its toll. The various maps in the end point to the complex nature of Irish society and underline the importance of local and regional dimensions to the Famine story often ignored in earlier popular writings.

Reading the published and unpublished materials on the Great Famine, the dominant feeling evoked is one of sadness – sadness for all that horror and all that suffering and sadness about the failures at all levels to stop that suffering. The Atlas honours those who gave generously of themselves to alleviate that suffering and continue to regret the betrayals, failures and inhumanity of those in many positions of authority – especially those with the greatest power and responsibility to shape other people's destinies. This Atlas is a study which seeks to more fully understand the Great Famine

and its consequences. It is an act of commemoration to the known and unknown dead of the Famine and to the millions who had to flee Ireland. In seeking to establish a greater understanding, the Atlas is an attempt to address the wounds and transcend this formative tragedy.

After producing many publications including 'Atlases of Cork City' and an Atlas of 'The Iveragh Peninsula' work began in earnest on the Famine Atlas four years ago. Three Editors, and Dr John Crowley, Professor Willie Smyth & Michael Murphy, all work in the Geography Department University College Cork. The Atlas was Commissioned by CUP (Cork University Press) and all produced in house within the University.

It has been supported in the US by Bill Murphy and Joe Cassin.

[Atlas of the Great Irish Famine edited by John Crowley, William J. Smyth and Mike Murphy] <http://nyupress.org/books/book-details.aspx?bookId=11271>

ISBN 978-185918-479-0, €59, £55, Hardback, 299 x 237mm, 728pp, 200 maps and 400 illustrations, 60 contributors.

COTTAGE RENTAL



BREATH TAKING OCEAN VIEWS!

Southwestern Ireland, Co Cork on the Beara Peninsula-WEEKLY
3 Bedroom 2 Bath 1500 sq ft



Sleeps Six Comfortably



all modern appliances
fireplace • central heat

Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, Mar, \$450
Apr, May, Sep, Oct, \$650
Jun, Jul, Aug, \$850

email: doncosgrove tds.net
<http://webpages.charter.net/cosgrovecottage/>

See why Maureen O'Hara calls the Beara Peninsula home!

The Brothers Gleeson

Pictured on this month's cover, and relishing their Irish roots, the Brothers Gleeson (l to r): John and Frank, in front of a mural donated by the Bogside Artists to the Irish American Heritage Center.

One town isn't big enough for the both of them! If you have been around Milwaukee or Chicago any length of time and are involved in the Irish community, you have probably met one or both of the Gleeson brothers. Frank Gleeson is the Cultural Chair at the Irish American Heritage Center, and John is the founder of the Center for Celtic Studies at UW Milwaukee.

Irish American News managed to corner the two of them recently to find out why the Midwest was blessed with these talented Gleesons.

IAN: The two of you obviously left Ireland to come to America. Did that take place at the same time, or did you head over at different times?

Frank: I came to the US first. After graduating from UCD and UCG, I taught mathematics in County Mayo for 9 years before immigrating to the US in 1980.

John followed me over with his family a few years later.

John: I was the best man (still am!) at Frank's June wedding in Milwaukee where I met a woman who was about to visit Ireland. I offered my services as a renowned tour guide and we got married in Dublin 6 months later. At the time, I was employed at (note didn't say worked) in the Guinness Brewery. Four years after our marriage I took a three year leave of absence and we moved to Milwaukee with our son Flannan. I went to UW Milwaukee where I completed a Master's in Applied History and MFA in Film. We have been in Milwaukee ever since.

IAN: Why did you leave Ireland?

Frank: As a student at UCD I had the opportunity to come to the US on a J1 student visa during the summer periods. I made some money in the US each year to cover my University fees. At the same time I fell in love with this great country and that sowed the seeds of today.

IAN: Why are the two of you so well versed in everything Irish?

Was it your Irish education or are you just very interested in all things Irish!

Frank: It was nothing to do with formal education. I always loved Irish music. We grew up in a house where the party piece was a requirement. Whenever anyone showed up on our doorstep us kids were dragged out to perform. All of us had to have an Irish song to sing. My mother was an excellent Irish dancer – her brother Peter Bolton had an Irish dance school in Dublin. Peter was a good friend of Chicago dance legend Pat Roche and they danced together at the Chicago World Fair in 1934. I loved to read books and had figured out in my early years how wonderful an escape that was.

I was co-founder of the Swamp Folk Club in the late 1960's. We tried to keep an emphasis on Irish traditional music which was not very popular in Dublin at that time. It was originally located in Inchicore Dublin on land that flooded frequently due to the Camac river (hence the name). I fondly remember meeting some great Irish musicians who came to play there, such as The Fureys, Skara Brae, Na Fili, Seamus Ennis, Liam Weldon, Liam O'Flynn, Mary Bergin, etc., etc.

John: Unlike Frank, I did not go to university in Ireland. I went to work at 14 years of age as a messenger boy in the Brewery with a very stylish militaristic navy blue uniform with a lovely red stripe down the pants leg. At that time it was not uncommon for older brewery men to mentor young guys like myself to read, to discover local history, to perform in the Guinness Drama Group, join the Guinness Film Society and visit local historical sites. Like St. Augustin I learned more from talking to people than being taught. I would say that was typical of Dublin working class culture at the time.

IAN: What jobs do you hold here in the States?

Frank: I taught mathematics at the University of Wisconsin-Stout for a number of years. I eventually went to work in the Chicago region for AT&T Bell Labs (now known as Alcatel-Lucent). I re-

tired from there in April of this year after 32 years of service.

John: I am the founder and co-director of the Center for Celtic Studies at the UW Milwaukee and a senior lecturer in ethnic studies.

IAN: How did you both get so involved in the Irish organizations in your areas?

Frank: I have been a volunteer at the Irish American Heritage Center for the past 18 years. I originally got involved through working on theatrical productions.

John: In the 1960's I worked for Guinness in Liverpool, England and experienced firsthand the importance of Irish culture in the diaspora. When I came to Milwaukee, it seemed natural that I would seek out and join Irish cultural organizations. I joined the Shamrock Club of Wisconsin which I found like many ethnic organizations had more to do with the American post war dynamic of the move to the suburbs than it had with contemporary Irish culture. Members came back to the old Irish neighborhood in a monthly effort to maintain old friendship and old established social relationships. They came back to drink and socialize, many of them were building Irish American bars in their suburban basements. Fortunately at that time Ed Ward was starting up Irish Fest and I became involved serving on the board and acting as cultural advisor for many years.

IAN: What do you do as volunteers in those Irish Organizations?

Frank: I currently head up the cultural committee at the IAHC as the Chairperson. We have a fantastic group of folks involved who are dedicated to our mission. We pull together many cultural events throughout the year including an annual celebration of Irish writer James Joyce called Bloomsday, and a series of Irish interest films. We just completed a very successful fourth iBAM! event (Irish Books, Arts, and Music) at the IAHC. This event we host at the IAHC in partnership with founders Cliff Carlson and Cathy Curry. I also serve on the Irish American Hall of Fame committee.

IAN: Do you play musical instruments?

Frank: I play some stringed instruments including banjo, and mandolin. I love to play along at sessions. However, I do not consider myself a serious musician. I love music when it is played well and I am proud of this great city of Chicago by the fact it has some of the greatest musicians in the world (including the best Irish traditional musicians). I consider myself blessed to be able to listen and enjoy their music on a regular basis.

John: No....and I don't sing but can tell a good story.

IAN: Frank, when did you take up acting?

Frank: My brother John is greatly responsible for that. John has always been involved with theatre. He was involved with plays before he left Ireland. He started his own theatre company in Milwaukee called Milwaukee Irish Arts. He ran the theatre tent and Cultural Area Center at Irish Fest Milwaukee for many years after its inception. Whenever someone would drop out of a play at the last minute I would often get that desperate call from John to fill in. That is how it started for me. I loved being involved in theatre and perhaps my favorite performance has been in The Thirteenth Man by local playwright Sean Callan – a play based on the life of a great Irish (and world) hero by the name of Roger Casement.

IAN: How did you meet Josephine?

Frank: I met Josephine, my love, some fifteen years ago at Irish Fest Milwaukee. We share many common interests such as theatre, books and music.

IAN: How often do you go back to Ireland?

John: Luckily because of my job I get back a number times a year. As part of my Celtic Studies work I run two programs in Ireland for our students. A summer program in Irish language and culture in Oideas Gael in Glencolmille, Co. Donegal and a semester program based at the University of Ulster in Derry. My wife, Meg and I try to get back as often as possible for major family occasions.

SINCE 1957

gaelic
imports

Closing the miles to make
you feel right at home.

GIFTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

NEW! Belleek LIVING, Galway
Crystal, Official Guinness
Merchandise, Family Crests,
Books, Clothing, and Jewelry
Homemade Shepherd's Pie,
Meat Pies and Sausage Rolls

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Come see us for all of the hard
to find items that you miss.
—Mary Ann

BAKED FRESH

Our Famous
Breads, Scones, &
Apple Tarts!

Mon Closed

Tu-Fri 10_{am}-6_{pm}

Sat 10_{am}-5_{pm}

Sun 10_{am}-3_{pm}

H
O
U
R
S

6346 W. Gunnison St.
Chicago, Illinois 60630
773-792-1905 - phone
773-792-1925 - fax

JUST FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Christmas Biscuit
Tins, Puddings,
Cakes, Stockings,
Mince Pies,
Selection Boxes
and Candies
Specialty Baskets
and Hampers

Don't forget
your traditional
Irish Breakfast!
We have fresh
Sausage, Rashers,
Black and White
Puddings as well
as Boiling Bacon.

Frank: Recently, due to a flurry of nieces and nephews getting married, we are averaging twice a year. It is always great to reconnect with family and very much worthwhile!

IAN: Do you have any children?

John: We have two children. Flannan, who was born in Ireland and went to Marquette University High School, UW Milwaukee and University of Ulster. He now works for the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and is currently posted to the Irish Embassy in Beijing. Our daughter Hannah attended Alverno College in Milwaukee and now works with older adults with behavioral health problems (this includes her parents).

Frank: I have two wonderful daughters (Deirdre and Aishling) and three beautiful grandchildren (Ella, Gwyneth, and Declan).

IAN: Any siblings or relatives living in the USA now?

Frank: We have no other siblings living in the US. However, we have many cousins living in upstate New York. My grandfather Daniel Gleeson came from a large family of 10 living in Killaun, Nenagh, Co Tipperary. All but my grandfather headed to the USA from Killaun and their offspring are mostly based in that region.

John: As Frank mentioned, we have many cousins in upstate New York. One of them, Bill Walsh served as mayor of Syracuse and represented the area in Congress for many years. His son, Jim, also served in Congress until 2010 and was Chairman of the Friends of Ireland Caucus in the House of Representatives.

IAN: John, you teach Gaelic? Do you both know Gaelic, and if so, why?

John: I am the eldest of eight. Before I went to school our mother taught me Irish at home. So when I went to school I was better at it than most of my Dublin classmates, in fact it was the only thing I was good at! I was useless at sport, couldn't sing and unlike Frank couldn't even play a gramophone. So I developed a love of the language very early. I joined Conradh na Gaeilge and



The Peace Mural in the background was painted by the Bogside Artists and pictures Brian Friel, Seamus Heaney, and John Hume. The mural can be seen at the Irish American Heritage Center, Chicago

spend some time in the Gaeltacht. I think the Irish language is even more important today. One thing English speaking post Famine Ireland lacks is an engagement with philosophy. As Prof. Aidan Moran has pointed out, the Irish language contains deeply ingrained psychological wisdom.

*We drink like crazy!
Tell some very bad
jokes, and hope we
will go to heaven
after all is done!*

Frank Gleeson

A good example is the seanfhocail or proverbs, for example Tog go e agus bogfaidh se chughat (Take it easy and it will come easy to you). Nior chaith fear riamh carabhat nios de deise na lamha a leanbh - (A man never wore a nicer necktie that the arms of his child).

In an age of globalization and feral capitalism it is increasingly important to expose our young people to an alternative world view to the dominant one. This is what encouraged me to convince the Irish government in the person of Eamonn O'Cuiv, TD, when he was Minister for the Gaeltacht to fund Irish language teaching in institutions outside of Ireland. We at UWM were the first such institution to receive an annual grant,

currently there are in excess of 50 institutions worldwide receiving this recognition and support.

Frank: When I attended secondary school we had to pass an Oral Irish exam in order to graduate. At that time I was not fond of the Irish language for rebellious reasons. However, since then I have come to love it. I am not fluent. I can manage more than a few words and love it. While I am very proud of my Irish Heritage, I love Chicago and now consider it my home. I had the pleasure of being honored with the Outstanding Community Leadership Award in 2010 by the Chicago Cultural Alliance.

IAN: Where do you come from in Ireland?

We were born in Inchicore, Dublin.

John: Where young boys turn into railway workers or brewery men and buses turn into Ring Street.

IAN: What Irish traditions do you continue today?

Frank: We drink like crazy! Tell some very bad jokes, and hope we will go to heaven after all is done.

John: Until his death, my good friend, poet James Liddy, and I used to celebrate Ivy Day commemorating the death of Ireland's lost leader Charles Stewart Parnell. I celebrate Bloomsday usually in Dublin, Samhain (Hal-

loween) is a major day in our Celtic calendar at UWM, I enjoy doing the mass readings in Irish at the Shamrock Club's annual St. Patrick's Day Mass at St. Patrick's Church in Milwaukee, our Christmas reading of James Joyce's *The Dead* at the County Clare, here in Milwaukee, please join us on December 16th at 3 pm.

IAN: What's your favorite Irish Book?

Frank: At Swim Two Birds - Flann O'Brien

John: I share with Frank this choice. *Nightlines* by John McGahern is another favorite of

mine.

IAN: Movie?

Frank: *The Guard* : Director - John Mc Donagh

John: I don't have just one but favorite recent movies include; *Cowboys and Angels* by David Gleeson, *Garage* by Abrahamson and of course the classic John Ford's *The Quiet Man*.

IAN: Play?

Frank: *The Faith Healer* by Brian Friel

John: Sean O'Casey's classic Dublin trilogy which deal so brilliantly and memorably with events we will be commemorating over the next couple of years namely the *Plough and the Stars* (1916 Rebellion), *The Shadow of a Gunman* (the War of Independence) and *Juno and the Paycock* (The Irish Civil War). Of the three the latter is probably my favorite because of its powerful mix to comedy and tragedy. It has a cast of marvelous Dublin characters.

IAN: Drink?

Frank: Guinness

John: a pint of Guinness with a Power's chaser

IAN: Person or persons?

Frank: Josephine Craven, and all of the great volunteers and staff at the IAHC - they make it a great place to be involved with and a wonderful place to hang-out.

John: Mary McAleese, Liam O'Cuinneagan, Eamonn O'Neill and Madra my dog.

Wedding Traditions are Special



Whether carrying on a family tradition or starting a new one, celebrate your lasting love, eternal friendship & loyalty to each other.

The Irish Cottage
BOUTIQUE HOTEL
Galena, Illinois

Outdoor Ceremonies • Unique Receptions & Rehearsal Dinners
Personalized Menus • Complete Wedding Packages
Onsite Wedding Consultant • Licensed Irish Officiant

www.GalenaWedding.info or 815-776-0707

Fiscal Cliff

Year end is upon us again and at the time I'm writing this article the fiscal cliff issue has still not been resolved. I wanted to take the time to explain the fiscal cliff is and how it will affect investors should we go over the cliff.

The Fiscal Cliff is the expiration of the Bush era tax cuts along with significant cuts in government spending. The combination of increased tax rates and cuts in spending are supposed to reduce the deficit by \$770 billion dollars in 2013. So why are people so worried about the fiscal



Daly Investor

By John P. Daly



cliff? Many economists believe that cutting government spending by such a large amount and simultaneously increasing people's taxes will hurt GDP in an already fragile economic environment. Some are certain that if we go off the fiscal cliff, the economy will head back into recession. That is reason enough for everyone to be concerned. Beyond the widespread potential economic slowdown, the average middle class family can expect to pay \$1,900 more in taxes if no resolution is made.

So specifically, why do investors need to be prepared for the fiscal cliff?

Capital Gains: First off, the tax on realized capital gains will increase from 15% to 20%. For investors, that is a significant increase - 33% to be precise. Investors holding off on selling an appreciated

investment might be better suited making that sale in 2012 or risk possibly facing a higher capital gain tax in 2013.

Qualified Dividends: The expiration of tax cuts will also increase the top tax on qualified dividends. The top rate will go from 15% currently to 39.6%. This will affect many investors who rely on dividend income to supplement their retirement income. Investors might be better suited looking at tax free municipal bond to get a better after tax yield on their investments.

Income Tax Rates: Also, anyone in the current 25% tax bracket and above will see an increase in their respective tax bracket with the top tax bracket moving from 35% to 39.6%. These increases will obviously have an immediate effect on any dividend or investment income that is taxed at ordinary income levels. Again, tax free municipal bonds might become more attractive.

Estate Tax: The current estate tax laws are also set to expire. That means the current estate tax of 35% will go to 55%

and the current exemption amount of \$5million will be reduced to \$1million. Families need to be aware of the effect this increase can have on their estate and do some estate planning or revisit their current estate plan to protect their assets.

Without having a crystal ball it is impossible to predict exactly what happens with the fiscal cliff. There has been a lot of talk about compromise and coming up with a balanced solution to solve the fiscal cliff. Investors need to be aware of the situation at hand and the consequences that may unfold should we fall of the fiscal cliff. A little planning today might result in more after tax returns in your pocket tomorrow.

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 Readers are encouraged to call or email John with questions regarding Investments or Financial Planning

TOOROMEEN SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCE



BURR RIDGE EVERGREEN PARK
WWW.TOOROMEEN.COM

Donegal Imports

From Ireland

Celebrate 34 Years With Us!

real TURF from Ireland!
15 # Boxes 100% Organic



Check out our collection of Christmas Stockings handmade in Erris, Co. Clare, Ireland

We Carry Chicagoland's Largest Selection of Waterford Crystal & Belleek China

• Past Edition Belleek & Waterford Ornaments & Plates in Stock •

• Jewelry • Claddagh & Wedding Rings • Pendants • Earrings • Clothing •

• Hand Knit Sweaters • Hats • Scarves • Mittens • We also carry Donegal China •

Large Variety of Donegal Tweed • Hats • Caps • Jackets •

• Stay Warm this Winter with a pair of Connemara Wool Socks •

Large Selection of Christmas CDs, Cassettes, & Videos in Stock

Food Items Special for Christmas

Jacobs Afternoon Tea & USA Assorted Cookies, Afternoon Tea and Kimberly Biscuits, Sausages-Rashers, Black Pudding, White Pudding

order at: alex@donegalimports.com

We use UPS to Ship Around the World!

Now Open on Sundays from 11 am to 4:30 pm

Holiday Hours Starting Dec 13 M-F 10-7 Sat 10-4:45 Sun 11-4:30

773-792-2377 fax 773-792-5100

5358 W. Devon Ave., Chicago, IL 60646

Have a Jar with a Star!

Night at the Crossing

Original Painting by Thomas Joyce

All Prints signed by the Artist

image area 12.5 h x 25 w



The Cast: (l to r): Flann O'Brien, Gabriel Byrne, Brendan Behan, Liam Neeson, Seamus Heaney, Edna O'brien, WB Yeats, Oscar Wilde (painting), John Phelan, Samuel Beckett, James Cagney, James Joyce, Thomas Moore (statue), Maureen O'Hara. Copy of paintings within by Sean Keating, Paul Henry & John Lavery.

\$49.00 each



Shipping Included (USA)

Overnight Available

Unframed Only

Thomas Joyce



Call 708-445-0700

or email art@iannews.com



Chicago Gaelic Park

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



A Chairde:

There will be a twelve foot Christmas Tree complete with lights and decorations on the patio at Gaelic Park this year. Every year Gaelic Park is lauded for its festive decorations, but this is the first year for a tree on the patio. We encourage you to bring your own decoration and hang it on the tree, or take a family photograph beside the tree. Gaelic Park will be working once again with the local community, and 75 families will have their children's Santa requests posted on the tree. The best way to celebrate Christmas is to give to someone in need. Perhaps it is not too late. We will have an official tree lighting ceremony on November 30 with the Gaelic Park Choir singing Christmas Carols to ring in the festive season. I would like to thank the Gaelic

Park Choir for their wonderful singing at our monthly mass and Our Lady of Knock celebration. They are a wonderful collection of characters who share their vocal talents with us. This tree also allows Gaelic Park to recognize our volunteers who perform many tasks at The Park year around, and I know one of their favorite annual undertakings is decorating the exterior of the building. Mingle Jingle is almost booked out for December 13, there are still openings for December 20. This is a great way for small or large groups to become part of a larger group and celebrate the season. I want to wish all the readers a safe and happy holiday season, and to thank all of you who participated in our Super Fund Raiser.

John Devitt, President



Nov. 25, 2013—1st Annual CGP 5K Run....over 150 runners/walkers on this beautiful Sunday morning!

Christmas Shopping at the Park

Stop in our gift shop for all the names on your shopping list! Everyone loves a night out, so include several Gaelic Park gift certificates that can be used for dinners, concerts and other upcoming events. **Don't forget the gift of membership at Chicago Gaelic Park for all your family members!**



CGP Monthly Events

Sundays	Sunday Celtic Supper	3:00pm
12/5 & 1/2	Monthly Musical Luncheon	NOON
12/9 & 1/13	Sunday Mass/Irish Breakfast	10:00am
12/12 & 1/9	Ladies Auxiliary	7:30pm
12/8 & 12/9	Mary McSweeney Art Exhibit	
12/09	Tony Kenny Concert	8:00pm
12/31	Family NYE Party	4:00pm
1/6	Women's Little Christmas	7:00pm
1/19	Irish House Party Band	8:00pm

Celtic Sunday Supper. This is the perfect way to gather family and friends to celebrate the Christmas season. Doors open at 3pm (reservations required). Hot food buffet, music and dancing, \$16 adults; \$8 under age 12. Call 708.687.9323 for reservations.

Entertainment:

12/2 **Ray Gavin** 12/9 **Joe McShane**

Pub Trivia Tuesday evenings 7:30pm

Quizmaster Tim Tobin challenges your knowledge of everything! \$5 per person - max of 5 to a team.

Musical Luncheon

Doors Open at NOON, Lunch at 1pm \$13
For group reservations 708-687-9323. John Dillon in December and Phil & Amy in January!

Monday Evenings	Set Dancing	7:30pm
Tuesday Evenings	Ceili Dancing Lessons 7pm	Ceili 7:30pm
Thursday Evenings	Family Music Sessions in the Pub	7:30pm

Sunday Evening CGP Radio Live WCEV 1450 AM 7-8pm



CLIP & POST



CGP Office 708.687.9323

www.chicagogaelicpark.org

Merry Christmas To All...



...from everyone at Chicago Gaelic Park



Gaelic Park can be found on
FACEBOOK AND TWITTER!
TAKE A MOMENT AND 'LIKE' US!





Chicago Gaelic Park

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



CONCERTS and PARTIES AT CGP

Tony Kenny's Christmas Time in Ireland concert is on Sunday December 9 with doors opening at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$25 and reservations must be made in advance. Concert goers can also arrange to have dinner before the concert at our Celtic Supper Buffet which begins at 3pm. A complete hot buffet dinner is available for just \$16. Reservations are required for dinner and payment can be made at the door.

Mingle & Jingle Office Parties The dates are December 13 and 20, reservations are required, call the office for your table today! \$35 per person, hot buffet and 4 hour open bar!

The Irish House Party Band on January 19 Tickets \$20. The Irish House Party theatre show leaves behind the old flatcap and waistcoat image of Ireland. The show is hosted by All Ireland champion musicians and dancers who create this unique Irish experience. This fresh approach has made the show hugely popular with both Irish and international audiences with sell out shows in Dublin. The whole idea is creating an atmosphere where the audience can be entertained but also educated about traditional Irish music. The wonderful musicianship is complimented with great comedy from the performers who converse with the audience throughout the show giving a real house party feel.

Merry Ploughboys Party ❁ February 2 ❁ Tickets \$20

The Wolftones ❁ February 16 ❁ Tickets \$25

...more information to come!

FAMILY NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Welcome in the Irish New Year by celebrating their midnight hour at our Family NYE Party (12/31). The celebration starts at 4pm in the Tara Room. A buffet dinner is served at 5pm with a sparkling juice toast for the children and an adult champagne toast at 6pm. Live music by Gerry Haughey.

Call the office for more information and to make your reservation!



www.theirishhouseparty.com

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

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 7 DAYS • LIVE ENTERTAINMENT EVERY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHT

- Daily Drink and Food Specials
- Expanded Pub Food and Appetizer Menu - Available Daily
- Pub Trivia every Tuesday, October-May starting at 7:30pm
- Traditional Irish Music Session Hosted by Members of The Irish Musicians of Chicago and their Students every Thursday at 7:30pm
- Open Jam Night every Sunday at 7:00pm

the CARRAIG IRISH PUB

Live Music in the Pub

Sat Dec 1 The Rockets
 Fri Dec 7 Mulligan Stew
 Sat Dec 8 Wood Street Bloodhounds
 Fri Dec 14 Johnny & Coax
 Sat Dec 15 Billy O'Donoghue
 Fri Dec 21 Pat Smillie
 Sat Dec 22 Joe McShane
 Fri Dec 28 Chris Herold
 Sat Dec 29 Gerry Dignan
 Mon Dec 31 NEW YEARS EVE 9pm
 Bernie Glim & Country Roads

No cover charge. Party favors galore!

Thursday evenings at 7:30pm, members of the Irish Musicians of Chicago with their students, perform a traditional Irish Music Session every Thursday at 7.30pm.

Sunday evenings at 7:00pm, Open Jam Night

All are welcome to participate...so please bring your talent to the Carraig Pub and join in with these groups!

Chicago Gaelic Park
6119 W. 147th Street • Oak Forest, IL
708.687.9323
www.chicagogaelpark.org



SAVE THE DATE

The Bridal Boutique is coming to Chicago Gaelic Park in 2013! Sunday, February 17 is the date... details to follow soon!



Membership

NEW RENEWAL Family \$50 Individual \$30

Name _____ last _____ first _____ initial _____

Spouse (if joining) _____ last _____ first _____ initial _____

Address _____ street _____ Apt/Unit # _____

city _____ state _____ zip _____

Donation enclosed \$ _____ (Checks payable to Chicago Gaelic Park)

Mail to: Chicago Gaelic Park Membership
6119 W. 147th St, Oak Forest IL 60452

phone: 708.687.9323 fax: 708.687.0120
www.chicagogaelpark.org www.facebook.com/ChicagoGaelicPark

"Together For Christmas: A Contemporary Celtic Christmas Collection"

A collaboration with Daly Communications, in stores now!

"Christmas time is approaching... Whatever mood you're in, we have it all here for you and I promise you one thing, Together For Christmas will be the glue that binds your holiday party, dinner or romantic moment

17 years." SO, "Turn up the volume! Kick out those December jams, A very merry Celtic Christmas and joy to the world." – Larry Kirwan.

"Together for Christmas: A Contemporary Celtic Christmas Collection" on Cosmic Trigger Records available Oct 23rd www.cosmictriggerrecords.com, www.togetherforchristmas.com and on iTunes or by calling Dara Records at 1-800-714-3272. For a full list of artists and songs go to: www.togetherforchristmas.com // e mail: togetherforchristmasthealbum@gmail.com / www.facebook.com/togetherforchristmas.com :: Twitter: @celtchristmas



together." Larry Kirwan, Black 47 Christmas season brings along nostalgia, a remembrance for times when we were young with our families gathered round the Christmas tree. Christmas also welcomes in a new era, a birth, a new year and the hope it brings. In that spirit we bring you the gift of new Christmas music by contemporary Irish and Celtic music recording artists.

Anita Daly of Daly Communications, the premier Irish and Celtic entertainment promotion company in the US, has put together a magnificent, eclectic selection of yuletide cheer featuring original Christmas songs and standards titled: "Together For Christmas: A Contemporary Celtic Christmas Collection". From the rousing opening 'Christmas Day' by Kansas City's own, The Elders, to the traditional sounds of Cherish the Ladies and The Celtic Tenors; to the booming vocals of Damien Dempsey to folk heroes, The High Kings, you will be singing along by the second time you play it and you will think of Christmas music in a new light.

Anita Daly says, "This album is a labor of love that I have wanted to do for a long time, it not only represents the best in contemporary Irish/Celtic music, musicians and song writing but some of the amazing artists that have been on my roster and I am so proud to have worked with these past

ROSE'S BAKERY
WHEATFREE

2901 Central St. • Evanston, IL 60201

Bakery ~ Cafe
M-W 10-5pm
Th-F 10-7pm
Sat 9-7pm

- Cakes
- Breads
- Muffins
- Cookies
- Brownies
- Tea Breads
- Pizza Crusts
- Granola Brownies

- Options:**
- Cane Sugar Free
- Gluten Free
- Dairy Free
- Egg Free
- Vegan

Cookie of the Month Club

We Only Use Organic Butter, Eggs, Canola/Olive Oil, Rice Flour, and Tapioca Flour, and other organic ingredients when possible or seasonal.

Available in Retail Stores in Your Area!
ALL GLUTEN FREE!

Wholesale to Retailers/Restaurants
847-859-2723
www.Rosesbakery.com

Faugh A Ballagh

The Irish cleared the way for America to carry forward the shared promise of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. Explore and honor our history with the American Way collection from Ameriglyphics. Like the Irish, our jewelry makes history in style.



Learn more about our unique symbols and see the full collection at ameriglyphics.com

We prefer to sell less but sell the very best!

We will never sacrifice quality for price...

Hayes' Coffees

Connoisseur Coffee Roasters

100% Pure Premium Grade Arabicas

We roast our coffees every day in very small batches to order

- ✓ Slow roasted to bring out the maximum aroma
- ✓ Dry roasted to bring out the maximum flavor
- ✓ All our beans are clean & tar free
- ✓ All of our gourmet coffees ship in special 16 oz bags

- ✦ Jamaican Pure Blue Mountain
- ✦ Hawaiian Pure Fancy Kona
- ✦ Mattari
- ✦ Yemen
- ✦ Arabian
- ✦ Kenyan
- ✦ Colombian
- ✦ Guatemala
- ✦ Java
- ✦ Sumatra



SHIPPED
FEDEX GROUND
We Pay
Your Sales Tax!
For Information
call

708-790-1914
hayescoffee@yahoo.com



Gift Pack

Give A Christmas Gift That Will Be Remembered!
Online www.hayescoffee.com
or 708-790-1914

Life Is TOO SHORT don't drink bad coffee!

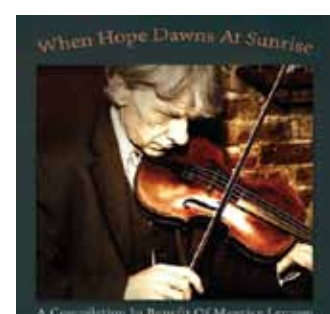


Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



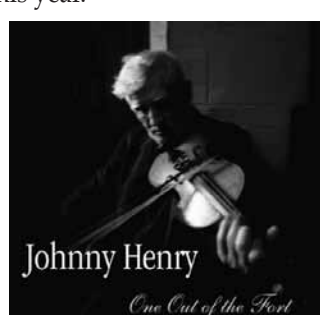
Before we begin our annual Christmas column, respect must be paid to Paddy Homan and his army of volunteers who hosted such a well-run and enjoyable fundraiser for the iconic Irish fiddler, Maurice Lennon.



Held a few weeks ago at the Irish American Heritage Center in Chicago, a terrific amount of money was raised to help pay some of Maurice's medical bills. If you are one of the five people in the Irish music universe who doesn't know who Maurice is, he founded the legendary Stockton's Wing. He has also been among the very best Irish fiddlers in the world for many years, as well as a generous teacher of the music. Massive kudos to all. If you want to know what the real spirit of Christmas is, you would have done well to be at the fundraiser.

There are five CDs on this year's gift list for the true trad fan. The number one gift this year for that trad stocking by the fireplace (if you don't have a

fireplace, never mind—the back of the sofa will do) is the compilation CD that was put together for the Maurice Lennon fundraiser, *When Hope Dawns at Sunrise*. You can get it by going to the site www.mauricelennonfundraiser.com. It is only \$15 plus shipping per CD. The good news is that every single penny raised from the sale of the CD goes directly to Maurice and his massive medical bills. Buy at least one, and send it to someone you love. Now, that is a wonderful Christmas. It is a fantastic album. Do it and you will like yourself a lot better, and Santa may actually forgive you for what you've done wrong this year.



Also, for the true and real trad fan, get the CD *One Out of the Fort* by Johnny Henry. Go to Claddagh or cdbaby and get it online. Johnny Henry passed in 1996, and was Kevin Henry's brother. The great musical Henry family out of Sligo produced a bumper crop of wonderful musicians, and this CD pays tribute

to the very essence of Irish fiddling. It also salutes a master of the form at the height of his powers. It is collected from many sources and lovingly re-mastered and presented by the production firm, Bogfire.

Our favorite Christmas CDs this year remain from the Chief-



tains, *The Bells of Dublin*, and from Kiltartan Road, *A Kiltartan Road Christmas*. The third added to these two regular favorites is *A*



Fiddler's Holiday by Jay Ungar and The Molly Mason Family Band. This talented group is joined in this live recording by the University of Mary Washington's Philharmonic Orchestra.



It's just the real spirit of Christmas, and it's great for the entire holiday season, as there's even an up-tempo salute to Hanukkah! Just Google in the names of these CDs and you'll find them right away online. If you have these three albums, you have Christmas in your CD player. We are taken especially this year with *A Fiddler's Holiday* because it is the newest and is fab, altogether. Rest assured however

that the holidays won't be complete without at least two listens to *A Kiltartan Road Christmas*. The group, Kiltartan Road, put this out several years ago, and it is still completely enjoyable. Wonderful stuff. Very special.

We have fallen so far behind in our reviews that we are embarrassed to continue. Here are some quick new and top recommendations for additional Christmas gift-giving—this time, to yourself.

First up is the new Goitse album, *Transformed*. There are about 4 or 5 really hot groups out in the last year and a half, and Goitse is one of them. First of all, we love the album cover on *Transformed*, and we love the music. Goitse is a wonderful group, true to the tradition, and this talented quintet should be around a long time. *Transformed* is terrific. Really, really terrific.

Danny O'Mahony out of Kerry is an absolutely wonderful button box player and a real treasure in the Irish tradition.



There are two albums of his that you must have: One is, *In Retrospect* and the other is, *As It Happened*. *As It Happened* also has Danny sharing the starring role with Micheal O'Raghallaigh on concertina. Both of these are pure heaven for the true trad fan. O'Mahony is a young and vibrant master of the form, as is Micheal. Don't listen to any silly reviews about "minimalist sound" in *As It Happened*. This is big, full-blown Irish traditional music and it is wonderful.

If you are looking for a talented group of young singers and players with a new album, look no further than Realta and their brand new CD, *Open the Door for Three*. These three

players out of Northern Ireland have crafted a wonderful introduction of real substance. There are a great variety of tunes, all of them played with passion and ability. The singing is also great. This is a contender for New Group of the Year. We love 'em.

Note:

*We hope you are joining co-host, Maryann Keifer, producer Imelda Bhroga and me weekly on our traditional Irish program, *Ireland Tonight*. It is on at 8 o'clock on Mondays on WDCB 90.9fm with live streaming at wdcb.org. We have a spectacular Christmas line up. December 17 will feature our favorite band Chicago Reel in the studio—live, with *A Reel Chicago Christmas*. Clever title, hey? As this is being written, we're also lining up Jimmy Keane, our great pal and Male Musician of the Decade for our December 10 show, live. On the Christmas Eve show, all three of us are going to have the common sense to keep quiet and play lots of music as a musical background to your family get-togethers. It will be a great collection of Irish Christmas music. Enjoy!

*Imelda Bhroga and I are getting in the Christmas mood also for our Bill and Imelda Show every week on Liveireland.com. While the show is repeated several times during the week, we are on every Sunday live at noon, Chicago time. Two hours of pure tradition with Christmas on its way. Just go to liveireland.com and click on the Live Radio tab at the top. We are currently around 45,000 listeners a week, and growing! Ah, the lure of international stardom!

*Also, for great radio, tune in to the aforementioned Danny O'Mahony on his weekly show, *A Trip to the Cottage*. It is on from 2pm-4pm Chicago time, or 8pm-10pm GMT. This show is a blessing from the heart of County Kerry for real trad aficionados, and you are one or you would not have gotten this far in this column.

*From *All Of Our Deep Hearts' Core*, Merry Christmas, and may God truly bless your New Year!



**Rampant
Lion** celtic
TRADERS

December In-Store Appearances

PRIVATE BELLEEK COLLECTORS SALE

Saturday, December 8 from 10 am to 6 pm

We Have the Largest Selection of CDs anywhere

VISIT US AT 47 South Villa Avenue

Villa Park, IL 60181

630-834-8108



THE HERITAGE LINE
 IRISH AMERICAN
 HERITAGE CENTER Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

Deck the Halls of the Fifth Province this December with a

Christmas Tea

Enjoy tea, scones and sandwiches,
 while you get in the holiday spirit with a trio of singers from

It's So About You Entertainment

Saturday, December 8 from 11am to 2pm

Tickets are \$25

and must be purchased by December 1

by calling the Irish American Heritage Center office
 at 773-282-7035, ext. 10.



IRISH AMERICAN
 HERITAGE CENTER

**Irish Language
 Night in the Pub**

Join us in the Fifth Province Pub for An Irish Language Evening with guest bartenders, Irish Consul General, Aidan Cronin and his wife, Maedhbh.

Drop by for an evening of fun and drinks, served by the Cronins, whose tips will be donated to the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless. Patrons are encouraged to order drinks in the Irish language. IAHC language teachers will be on hand to help place orders and cheat sheets will also be provided.

An Irish Language Evening is Saturday, December 8 from 7pm to 9pm in the Fifth Province.

McSweeney Art Show



Stop by the Fifth Province on Friday, December 7 from 4pm to 9pm for an art show and sale with Irish artist, Mary McSweeney.

Next Up!
Tea with Agatha Christie

**Saturday,
 January 12
 11am to
 1pm in the
 Fifth
 Province**

\$25

**Reservations must be
 made by January 1, 2013.**

Agatha Christie, prolific English "Queen of Crime" created



such famous detectives as Hercule Poirot and English spinster Miss Jane Marple. Christie enjoyed a career that

spanned more than 50 years and her works have now sold into the billions.

Join actress Betsey Means of WomanLore, as she brings Dame Christie to life.

**Ring in the New Year
 with Annual Party**

Kick off the New Year in high style with the annual New Year's Eve Party.

This year, celebrate in the Fifth Province Pub. Doors open at 7pm on December 31, 2012.

Tickets for the party are \$25 and include dancing, hors d'oeuvres, and a champagne toast at midnight, party favors and entertainment by Joe McShane and the Silverbridge Band.

Tickets can be purchased at the door or by phone. To reserve tickets or to reserve a table for you and your friends, call the IAHC office at 773-282-7035, ext. 10.



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



THE HERITAGE LINE

Irish American heritage center

Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

President's Message

I would like to share with you reflections on 2012 and what we worked to accomplish. In the latter half of 2011 and in 2012, in an open, sharing and transparent environment, we worked hard to build the financial foundation of the Center for this year and for years to come. That financial foundation helps us produce and fund the mission-related cultural events at the Center.

Our recent iBAM! celebration is a great example of our commitment to the preservation and promotion of Irish culture. In January of 2012, I recall traveling to Derry, standing on the Peace Bridge and discussing and planning with Derry Representative, Garbhan Downey, and the iBAM! Committee Co-Chair Cliff Carlson what would become iBAM! 2012. And what an event it was.

iBAM! 2012 brought the best of Irish culture from Derry and the surrounding areas to the Center. US and other local authors, musicians and artists also had an opportunity to showcase their contribution to the Irish cultural mission we embrace at the Center. The iBAM! Committee's people, planning and execution resulted in establishing the Center, once again, as the premier Irish Cultural institution in North America. Our members and guests saw and heard the breadth and depth of the Irish talent we brought to the Center. The event contributed financially, as well as culturally, to our membership.

I recognize and embrace our mission and will continue in 2013 to display that commitment. We are developing a new plan to increase the budget of the Cultural Committee. We expect to implement this plan in 2013 and ask the Cultural Committee to use this expanded budget for even more exciting and meaningful events

in 2013. iBAM! helped us re-connect with the Center, our friends, our culture and our roots. Connecting with our past and exploring Irish culture is a very important part of our mission at the Center. The connection to our culture and our roots has fueled many to search for their Irish roots and connect with Irish culture.

This search has driven me as well. iBAM! and the Center have helped me be passionate about re-connecting with my roots. On my Irish cultural journey, I have been blessed to have walked the ridge just outside Lismore, County Waterford where my great-great-great-Grandfather, Patrick Crowley, toiled on the property of the Duke of Devonshire, before he prematurely passed trying to support his family in the famine years. I have experienced the silence of the famine graveyard of St. Carthage's in Lismore. I spent years to locate and touch the stone that marks the Wisconsin grave of Patrick's wife, my great-great-



Grandmother Mary O'Keefe Crowley who, as a famine widow, secured passage on a sailing ship and brought the Crowley boys and girls from Lismore to America. I

have walked Crowley Ridge in remote Seneca, Wisconsin where Mary brought the family and settled a farm with the help of a land grant signed by President Buchanan. I have prayed at the grave at St. Patrick's Church in Southwest Wisconsin of my great-Grandfather John Francis Crowley and my great-Grandmother Margaret Sweeney Crowley. I am proud of my roots and I am sure you are of yours as well. I have re-connected with the Crowleys, Sweeneys, O'Keefes and more, all as a part of my Irish cultural journey; a journey that the Center has helped road map.

Your continued support of iBAM! and the Center will help us offer additional cultural programming that will continue to help you and your family connect with your Irish roots and your

Irish culture.

Our cultural menu for the balance of 2012 and into 2013 is extensive. We trust you will find our cultural initiatives, events, efforts and departments meaningful and fulfilling, including:

- Heritage Singers and their recent annual concert
- Fifth Province music
- Language classes
- Archives
- Shapeshifters Theatre
- Library
- Lectures
- Genealogy Fest
- Genealogy
- Gift Shop
- Stone Hearth Staged Readings
- Art Gallery
- Book Club
- Hall of Fame
- Museum
- Kids' Club
- Christmas Bazaar
- Irish Fest
- St. Patrick's Fest and St. Patrick's Day party
- Nimble Thimbles

- Shamrock American Club
- Francis O'Neill Club
- and more

This is a good time to reflect on all our blessings and to pray they will continue into the holidays and next year. We look forward to the hope, holiness, happiness and the good health the holidays bring us and we pray for these blessings on the Center, our members, volunteers, suppliers, staff, friends, sponsors, neighbors and partners as we prepare for the celebration of Christmas.

Finally, as we approach the end of 2012 and the holidays, Mary, Meghan, Maureen, Aaron and I wish you and yours all the best and all the holiness the season brings. From our family to yours, thank you for all your smiles and support. You warm our hearts on these cool nights.

Respectfully,
John Crowley Gorski
President, IAHC

Gift Shop Anniversary

Stop by the Gift Shop to celebrate our one year anniversary and honor our very own Maureen O'Looney.

On Saturday, December 8, we are open from 11am to 11pm and will have decorations, free tea, coffee, hot cider and soda bread as a way to celebrate this successful store, that was featured on *Conan*.

Come by, say hello and get some Christmas shopping done.



Visit the Gift Shop

Hours:

Monday through Friday

4pm to 8pm

Saturday 11am to 10pm

Sunday Closed

We sell scones, tea, cookies, candy and breakfast meats.

Looking for that perfect holiday gift? We have sweaters, jewelry, CD's, books and more. Stop in for all your Irish import needs or call 773-282-7035, ext. 14.



THE HERITAGE LINE

Irish American heritage center

Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

Save the Date for the Genealogy and Cultural Fest

This winter, we present our first ever Genealogy and Cultural Fest on Saturday, February 16, 2013 from 9 am to 5:30pm.

The event features speakers on Irish ancestry and tracing your roots, a lecture for children on how to trace

family trees and vendors selling books, scrap books and genealogy materials, as well as food and live music throughout the day.

Tickets are \$15 for general admission and \$10 for Center members, seniors and children 12 and under.



Visit the IAHC's Museum, Art Gallery and Library. To schedule a docent-led Museum tour, call the IAHC office at 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

Town Hall/State of the Center Address

Join us this winter for a Town Hall/State of the Center Address. Find out what we have been working on and what's in store for 2013.

The Town Hall/State of the Center Address is Friday, January 25 at 7pm.

December 2012

December 1	Piobairi	Fifth Province	5pm
	Shamrock American Club Social	Sham AmRoom	8pm
December 5	Tir Na Nog Christmas Party	Fifth Province	11am
December 6	Tara Club Meeting	Room 304	10am
December 7	Mary McSweeney Art Show	Fifth Province	4pm
	Frances O'Neill Ceili Mor	Fifth Province	8pm
December 8	An Evening of Irish Language	Fifth Province	7pm
	Christmas Tea	Fifth Province	11am
	Gift Shop Anniversary	Gift Shop	11am
	St. Patrick's Fathers Social	Fifth Province	8pm
December 15	Roscommon Club Social	Room 310	8pm
December 14	Tara Club Christmas Party	Fifth Province	11:30am
December 25	Christmas	Building Closed	
December 31	New Year's Eve Party	Fifth Province	7pm

Regularly Scheduled Events

Mon	Monday Night Football	Fifth Province	6pm
Tues	Set Dancing	Room 111	7:30-9:30pm
Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
Wed	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7am-10am
Tues., Thurs., Fri., & Sat.	Golden Diners Senior Lunches	Kitchen	12:30pm-2pm

No Cover

Free Parking



the fifth province

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

DECEMBER ENTERTAINMENT

- 12/1 Joe McShane
- 12/7 Ceili Mor
- 12/14 The Celtic Aires
- 12/15 The Dooley Brothers
- 12/21 Seamus O'Kane and Jimmy Moore
- 12/22 Finbarr Fagan's Band
- 12/28 Fionnghlass
- 12/29 The Boils
- 12/31 New Year's Eve Party With Joe McShane and the Silverbridge Band, 7pm, \$25

All Shows Start After 9pm

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



Don't Miss...

December Drink Special

\$5 Hot Toddy **\$4 Blue Moon Drafts**

Join us each week for Monday Night Football at 6pm
Enjoy \$2 Domestic Drafts

COUPON

December Food Special

Free slice of cheesecake with purchase of entree

Valid for the month of December 2012 only. One per coupon. Original copies only.

COUPON



Find us on Facebook

Follow the IAHC on Facebook & Twitter



For updates on upcoming events and ticket giveaways

The Heritage Line Staff Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

Contributors: Theresa Choske, John Gorski, Mary Gorski, Mary Griffin, Rocio Lancaster, Deirdre McNulty, Mary Morris, Sheila Murphy

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



THE HERITAGE LINE

Irish American heritage center

Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

Annual Appeal

We need your help with the Center's Annual Appeal.

Each year at this time, we ask our members and friends to help the Center by making a donation.

Your donation is important to the operation and success of the Center and an important element of our overall funding. We thank you for your contributions, past and present, and urge to once again think of the Center and make a donation. We are working hard to preserve Irish heritage and provide our members and friends with the events and programming you have come to expect from the Center.

Your contribution will be enhanced once again by the matching program offered by Pat and Peggy Burke. We thank Pat and Peggy for their continued generosity.

All gifts made to the Annual Appeal are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Our children and grandchildren and all who follow after us deserve to enjoy and experience the Center as we have.

The below names are those who have donated from October 18 through November 13. We will continue to list donations through the February 2013 issue of *Irish American News*.

To donate, call 773-282-7035.

Center Champion (\$1,000-2,499)

Dooley Family Foundation, through Raymond James Charitable Endowment Fund

Robert and Mary Ann Sheehan

Benefactor (\$500-999)

T.R. FitzSimons
William C. Mitchell

Patron (\$250-499)

Harry Clarke, matching gift from Grainger Company

Margaret M. Fric, in memory of granddaughter Ryann E. McCarthy
Tom and Lisa Shea
Jeanine Sheehan
George and Marguerite Wenzel

Advocate (\$100-249)

Ann Ahern
Edward and Sheila Barrett
Patrick Barrett
Robert and Laura Boyd
John and Ann Burgess
James and Susan Burke
John Callahan
Mary Cooney
Peggy Cooney
Mary C. Croke
Karen Crotty
Alan Duggan
Brenda Feigus
Stephen Goldspiel
Gerald and Catherine Greenwood
Peter and Molly Heraty
Thomas and Rita Howley
Mr. Arthur Johns
Jean Anne Kennedy
Catherine Lally
Timothy Laughlin
Mr. and Mrs. John Madden
Jack McCabe
Tom Mooney
Rev. James Moriarty
Thomas J. Moriarty
Laurence and Karen Mulcrone
Noel Murtagh
Eileen Nee
Mary O'Looney
John O'Malley
Michael and Mary Beth Rooney
Gerl Schroeder

Michael and Deirdre Smith
Michael and Sarah Whelan

Friend (\$1-99)

Ellen Wade Beals
Arthur P. Birt, in memory of Bridget (Bea) Birt
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Brennan
Thomas Brown
Mary Burke
William Cadigan
John and Camilla Clarke
Robert Cribben
Chuck and Susanne Doonan
Alice Dungan
Patrick Fallon
Helen A. Gauthier
Maureen Gries
Tim Gunning
Kurt Hoffman
Mary Keogh
Jack Lydon
Vince and Judy Lynn
Thomas F. Mahoney
Donald Mahoney
Jim and Ann Malone
Bonny McCarthy
Sr. Ann Kathleen McDonnell, BVM
Terry and Sheila McGovern
Mr. Martin McMahon
Lawrence and Karen Mulcrone
Marguerite Mullen
Mary Mullen
Thomas E. Mulvihill
Mary Neary
Ann O'Connell
Gerald O'Donnell
Kathy O'Neill and Mark Piekarz
Denise Porzetti
Terrence A. Reilly
Bob Ridgely
Mr. and Mrs. John Savage
Mr. and Mrs. William Sedlacek
Cathy Sell
Patricia Sullivan
Bridget Viglione
Ms. Loretta Wagner
Ms. Monica Ward

IAHC Membership Benefits

An IAHC membership entitles you to...

★ Discounts on room rentals, concerts, theatre tickets, classes and programs

★ Discount of 10% on food in the Fifth Province

★ Discount of 10% on purchases in the IAHC Gift Shop

★ All members of the public can read, study, and use library materials

★ Invitations to "Member Only Receptions" such as book signings, visiting dignitaries, openings of unique exhibits, art gallery exhibits

★ Opportunity to run for IAHC Board of Directors

★ Subscription to *Irish American News*

★ Advance notice on opportunities to purchase tickets for festivals, special events and concerts

★ Discounts for plays outside of the Center as part of a group rate discount

★ And, the biggest reward

is knowing that the member is contributing to the continuation of the Center and all of its offerings.

Stop by these partner restaurants and establishments for some great discounts.

Galvin's Public House
5901 W. Lawrence

Avenue
Chicago, IL
Free Dessert with purchase of meal

The Abbey Pub and Restaurant

3420 W. Grace Street
Chicago, IL

Free Pint of Guinness or glass of wine with meal

McNally's Irish Pub

109 West Main Street
St. Charles, IL

Slice of pie and glass of wine with meal

Lee & Eddie's Catering
(630) 350-3500

Call for a catering discount

BECOME A MEMBER

Chicago boasts one of the finest Irish Centers in the world. Become a part of it.

Running, maintaining, and upgrading the Center is a big job that takes big commitment. Your membership helps make the Center happen.

To join call 773-282-7035 x10, visit

www.irish-american.org, or fill out the form below. Send payment to:

The Irish American Heritage Center Membership
4626 N. Knox Avenue
Chicago, IL 60630

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Credit Card # _____

Exp _____ 3 Digit code on card's back: _____

Annual Dues

Individual Membership

\$30/year or \$50/2 years

Family Membership

\$40/year or \$60/2 years

\$250 - Harper

3-year membership

no annual dues

\$500 - Bard

5-year membership

no annual dues

\$1,000 - Chieftain

10-year membership

without annual dues

\$1,000 - Chieftain

10-year membership

without annual dues

\$2,500 - High King

25-year membership

without annual dues

\$5,000 - Saint

Lifetime membership

without annual dues



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 the 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 • 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.

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!



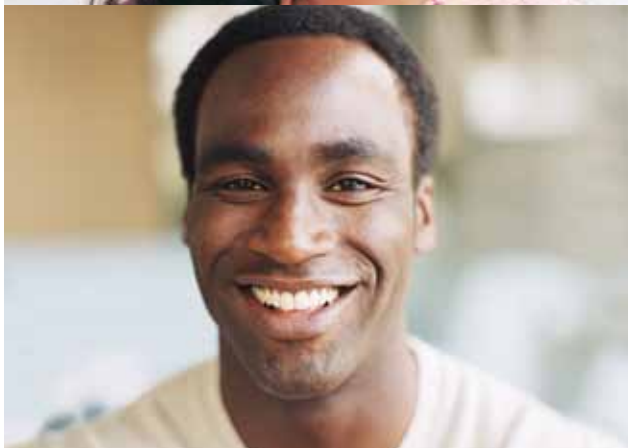
Calling all Flynns, O'Malleys and Schweitzenburgs.

No matter how much, or how little, Irish you have in you, you're invited to come and experience The Gathering Ireland 2013. The year-long celebration of Irish culture promises a trip like none other. You can immerse yourself in countless festivals and events, incredible music and art, exhilarating sports, and there are thousands of ways to connect with your family, friends and Irish roots. If you've ever wanted to come "home" there's never been a better time to do it.

Don't miss this once in a lifetime chance. Be part of it.

thegatheringireland.com

the
gathering
IRELAND 2013



Healy Law

Martin J. Healy, Jr.

Senior Partner



THE HEALY LAW FIRM

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.

Social Networking: Business Implications

Over the last two months, we have discussed social media and how it may impact your life. In September, we explored privacy

concerns relating to social media. Last month, we examined the potential impact of social networking on litigation. This month, we discuss the interaction between social networking and business. More and more, businesses

are using information technology and social media to gather information regarding their customers and to advertise their products to new demographics. This allows businesses to more efficiently promote and market their products and reach new audiences.

Most companies today use social networking in some fashion. According to a report by the McKinsey Global Institute, 70% of companies are using social technology in some way. Indeed, most well-known brands and large companies have registered accounts on blogging or micro-blogging websites for the purpose of releasing updated information about the company or its products, and to otherwise attract the attention of internet users. However, very few companies are anywhere near achieving the full potential benefit. More than 1.5 billion shoppers around the world have an account with one social networking site or another. Almost one in five online hours is spent on social networks, increasingly via smart phones and other handheld devices. The opportunities companies now have to reach these users are nearly limitless.

Search Engine Optimization and Facebook's EdgeRank System

Most companies also engage in "search engine optimization," or "SEO," which is the process of attempting to make a website easier to find when using a search engine, like Google. SEO generally considers how search engines work, what people search for, and the terms or keywords typed into the search engines. Making a website more "visible" means that site is more likely to appear when a search is completed for certain terms in a search engine. Optimizing a website may involve editing its content or coding to increase its relevance to certain specific keywords. Companies can also pay for better search engine placement when certain terms are searched. That way, the company will appear earlier in search results. Using these tools, business owners can track where users are coming from, identify

the actions they took on the site (i.e. making purchases), and calculate the value of that activity.

Similarly, Facebook uses an algorithm called EdgeRank to determine which people see which posts or advertisements. EdgeRank uses a number of factors, including how often one's "friends" log in to Facebook and what settings they choose on their news feeds. The purpose of Edgerank is to highlight only the most engaging posts from brand pages. One of the key factors in that optimization is engagement: the amount of clicks, likes, comments, and shares generated by a piece of content. Simply put, the more activity a certain post generates, the more likely that post is to be pushed to other users.

Having a social media presence will also likely increase the company's ability to be located on the internet. Therefore, companies use social media hand in hand with search engine optimization of their own website to make the company more visible overall.

The Business of Social Media

With its increased usefulness in the business setting, social media has become a big business in and of itself. According to estimates from media advisor, BIA/Kelsey, U.S. social media advertising revenues exceeded \$4.6 billion in 2012. Recent projections indicate that U.S. Social Media ad revenues could reach \$9.2 billion by 2016. Spending on display advertising will increase from \$3 billion in 2012 to \$5.4 billion in 2016.

The social media boom has also led to increased opportunities for training programs. Each year, there are conferences for businesses looking to elevate its social media presence. For example, the SMX Social Media Marketing Conference in Las Vegas assembles each year and is designed for Internet marketing professionals interested in enhancing their social media marketing skills. Attendees focus on how to use Google+, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and other resources to drive traffic, enhance advertising campaign

performance, and improve customer service.

Facebooks "Promoted Post" Feature and Backlash

The growth in social media as a business tool stems in part from the increased abilities of social networking to accommodate advertisers needs and desires to reach the right consumers. For example, this summer, Facebook introduced a feature called, "Promoted Posts," which allows businesses with 400 or more Facebook "likes" to pay a fee so that more fans of that business can see that business' posts in their News Feeds. Many businesses that refuse to pay for the extra exposure provided by the Promoted Post feature are now having difficulty getting their message to their customers via Facebook.

Because of Facebook's new "pay for exposure" program, some business owners have moved more aggressively to other forms of social media including LinkedIn, Tumblr, Twitter, Pinterest, and even the newly revamped MySpace.

While it is uncertain whether any one of these social media providers will move to the forefront, what is certain, however, is that this is an area that will continue to grow and expand. New issues will undoubtedly arise as new technologies are devised and applied to social networking sites. The use of social media in business is not a fad that will soon fade. Social media is likely to be used in the business setting for years to come.

Conclusion

Social networking has had a significant effect on modern life. It has produced many benefits, but has impacted basic concepts of privacy, sometimes in unexpected ways. If you are involved in social networking, try to fully understand its benefits, but always be aware of its potential downsides.

By:
Martin Healy, Jr.
Patrick C. Anderson



The Six Penny Pub
5800 West Montrose
773-545-2033

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY
Music by
Fast Eddie & DJ Fergal

CHAMPAGNE TOAST
BAR 9PM-1:30AM
PARTY FAVORS
TICKETS \$50
TICKETS ARE LIMITED!!!

2012

Republicans Finally See Reality in Hispanic and Asian Vote, But Irish Wont Hold Their Breath

Release by Billy Lawless, Chicago Celts for Immigration Reform

Latino and Asian voters in overwhelmingly choosing President Obama over Mitt Romney by 3 to 1 have changed the whole dynamic for Comprehensive Immigration Reform.

Reality has finally sunk in, with Republican Senators McCain(R-A) Graham(R-S.C) and others who once supported bipartisan immigration reform early in the Bush administration but in latter years opposed it, are now offering support for Comprehensive Immigration Reform.

Republicans now realize that without the Hispanic and Asian vote they will be out of the White House for many years to come.

Influential right wing Fox News host Sean Hannity and Washington Post columnist Charles Krauthammer have actually called for a pathway to citizenship and amnesty.

Former Bush Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez has formed an organization called Republicans for Immigration Reform.

Speaker of the House of Representatives John Boehner is on record as saying "it will happen" and wants to work with President Obama on a Bill.

In addition the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee will have a new Chairman Bob Goodlatte(R) who we hope is more immigration reform friendly than the last chairman Lamar Smith(R).

A coalition of 150 Evangelical Leaders nationwide have asked President Obama to introduce a Bill in the first three months of 2013.

It all adds up to a Bill on Comprehensive Immigration Reform in early 2013.

Any deal on Comprehensive Immigration Reform will of course include the Irish Undocumented of whom we believe could be upwards on 50000 in the United States.

There is also a separate Ireland specific Bill the E-3 which has an outside chance of getting done during the lame duck session of Congress

starting in the last week of November.

Of course the main focus of Congress in the lame duck session will be getting a deal

done on the economic fiscal cliff.

The E-3 would allow 10500 Irish citizens to work in the United States each year, pro-

viding they have a job secured beforehand and would be renewable every two years. Spouses and children would be added to the quota.

Are you happy with your bank?

If you don't love where you bank, it might be time to switch & re-discover what banking should be.



Now is the time, try Marquette Bank and see how you can get up to \$250 in gift cards*!
Go to: www.emarquettebank.com/switch

MARQUETTE BANK

Love where you bank

1-888-254-9500

Join the movement towards local banking and discover a bank that cares about your financial well-being.
When you bank with Marquette Bank, your money stays in Chicagoland and helps support our local economy.



The Gathering Kicks Off On Ne

AS YOU READ THIS WE ARE LESS THAN TWO short months away from the official launch of The Gathering Ireland 2013. The Gathering is a year long invitation to the Irish Diaspora, (all 70 million of us!) to come home and enjoy the party, to celebrate our culture and heritage and to reconnect with friends, relatives and all things Irish. It is the Irish government and communities throughout the country rolling out the red carpet for Ireland's extended family around the globe. No effort will be spared to make sure that those who travel have the time of their lives. Plans are already set for thousands of events, spread throughout every county, from family and clan gatherings to company conventions, from

sporting fixtures to a whole array of spectacular festivals.

The Gathering is interactive and Ireland wants you to be part of it. If you have an idea on a specific event and want advice on how to organize the travel and accommodation, or any other aspect, you can talk to a dedicated 'Gathering' expert (see the box on the right for details). For lots more information on The Gathering please check out www.discoverireland.com and www.thegatheringireland.com. What are you waiting for?

The festivities proper start in Dublin on New Year's Eve, what better time? Ireland's capital city will play host to the rapturous two-day NYE Dublin Festival,



There are a great many reasons to visit Ireland next year and be a part of The Gathering. Whatever your particular motivation—family, friends, connections, a sense of adventure, or you just love a party—you are welcome at any time. It's a year long celebration.

featuring a New Year's Eve Countdown Concert at College Green, a fabulous fireworks display on St Stephen's Green, a Torchlit Procession through Dublin's streets broad and narrow, five Festival Zones located around Dublin City Center and the Big Brunch which takes place in Meeting House Square on New Year's Day. All are welcome to the festival and what a fantastic way to see in the New Year, right in the thick of things, surrounded by all the history, culture and spectacular architecture Dublin has to offer, not to mention the unrivalled wit and welcome of its citizens.

There will literally be no break in the proceedings from then until the end of December 2013. From January 1 onwards The Gathering will be in full flow, with events and festivals and all sorts of fun happening all over the country. As always discoverireland.com is the best resource if you want to find out what's going on, either in a specific area or just to inspire your trip.

Of the bigger organized events happening early in the year, the Temple Bar Tradfest and the St Patrick's Festival stand out.

The Tradfest makes its home in the iconic and diverse—some say Bohemian—Temple Bar district of Dublin. It takes place between January 22 and January 27. Now in its 8th year the Tradfest is billed as Dublin's biggest and best festival of traditional Irish music. Over 200 different events take place during the six days and nights. There will be street performers, outdoor stages and top quality music emanating from the doorways of every hostelry. There will be organized concerts at venues such as Christ Church Cathedral and the Rotunda at Dublin City Hall. Ireland's best musicians will be performing, including such stars as Sharon Shannon, Martin Hayes and Denis Cahill, Maura O'Connell and T with the Maggies. If you're a trad fan this is a 'don't miss' event.

The St Patrick's Festival takes place in Dublin from Thursday March 14 through Monday March 18. Each year this extravaganza gets bigger and better, being a wonderful showcase for Irish arts and culture in general. Street theatre and performance, pageantry, spectacle, music, dance, literature, comedy, film, and family events are all enhanced by a warm and

the
gathering
IRELAND 2013

For assistance with planning your Ireland vacation please contact the following experts:

	Celtic Tours World Vacations	celtictours.com
	European Destinations	EuropeanDestinations.com
	go-today	go-today.com
	Irish Tourism	irishtourism.com
	Manor House Hotels	manorhousehotels.com
	Specialized Travel Services	special-ireland.com
	Tenon Tours	tenontours.com
	Visit Dublin	visitdublin.com



thegatheringireland.com Ireland

New Year's Eve, Are You Ready?



Front cover: Fireworks over Dublin.

Above left: Enjoying a Sesiúin at a pub in Cork City.

Above right: A picnic in the grounds of Kilkenny Castle.

Below: Impromptu street performance in Cavan..

uplifting carnival atmosphere. Last year upwards of half a million people showed up for the center point of the festival, the St Patrick's Day Parade. This year, for the first time ever and in honor of The Gathering, organizers are inviting up to 8,000 people from around the world to march in the St Patrick's Day Parade on March 17. It's called the People's Parade and it's a once in a lifetime opportunity and applications are now open!

As seasoned visitors will know, there is no bad time to visit Ireland. The climate is mild all year round and there is always something going on. In fact, in many ways, those times of year referred to as the 'off-season' can sometimes be the best time for your trip. Just about everything is better value (although in

surveys over the last few year's Ireland has consistently ranked top or almost top in most value-for-money categories). It's easier to get a seat at the theatre, a table at a popular restaurant or a tee-time at a world class golf course when you travel off peak. Hotels and other accommodations are more flexible and generally have better rates. And of course the famous Irish Céad Míle Fáilte, a hundred thousand welcomes, is the same whenever you go.

There are a great many reasons to visit Ireland next year and be a part of The Gathering. Whatever your particular motivation—family, friends, connections, a sense of adventure, or you just love a party—you are welcome at any time. It's a year long celebration.



be part of it.
Book now!

Aer Lingus 
Great Care. Great Fare.

San Francisco to Ireland
Sale Fares

From \$838* Travel between April 1 and May 31, 2013

From \$1,308* Travel between June 1 and August 31, 2013

*Fares are roundtrip including taxes & fees. Restrictions and additional baggage fees may apply. Some portions of travel may be operated by codeshare partner United Airlines. Fares available exclusively at aerlingus.com through November 21, 2012.



Terms and conditions: Fares are per person, round-trip including carrier and government imposed fees and taxes including the September 11th Security Fee of \$2.50 per enplanement originating at a U.S. airport. Fluctuations in exchange rates may affect some taxes and fees. **Additional Fees:** Fares shown cost up to \$80 more if purchased from Aer Lingus over the phone or at an Aer Lingus ticket counter. These amounts are non-refundable. To avoid paying this additional expense, book and ticket your reservation on aerlingus.com. **Fare Conditions/Travel Restrictions:** Fares shown are only available at aerlingus.com until 4:00pm PT on 11/21/12. Fares shown are valid Monday through Thursday in Economy Class between specified travel dates. Valid on Aer Lingus codeshare flights operated by United Airlines. Travel between San Francisco (SFO) and Chicago O'Hare (ORD) is on United Airlines and connects with Aer Lingus scheduled transatlantic services to/from Dublin, Ireland. Higher fares apply for travel Friday through Sunday. Fares apply to North American originating passengers only. Full payment is made at the time of reservations. Seats are limited and fares may not be available on all flights. Higher fares may apply throughout travel period. Fares are non-refundable and cannot be combined with any other discount/promotion. Not eligible for accrual of frequent flyer points/mileage. Child/infant discounts apply. Stopovers are not permitted. Valid for new bookings only. All fares, taxes, fees, rules and offers are subject to change or be withdrawn without notice. **Blackout dates:** 4/5/13-4/7/13 & 5/16/13-6/30/13. **Minimum stay:** Saturday night. See <http://www.aerlingus.com/help/legal/optional-service-fees/> for baggage and optional service fees.

How Irish Are You?

Enter for a chance to go to Ireland! No matter how much, or how little, Irish you have in you, take this fun quiz to find out.

facebook.com/discoverireland.

If you want to play your own part in The Gathering—organize a corporate trip, a reunion or any other group event—you can talk to a Gathering expert on 1-800-SHAMROCK or by emailing gathering.us@tourismireland.com

Boyle the Kettle

We'll Have A Sup Of Tea

Tom Boyle



Douglas Aircraft

The Des Plaines Journal ran a story on October 31st about the Douglas Aircraft plant and a plane that was built with money raised from the sale of \$300,000



in War Bonds by the students of Maine Township High school in Park Ridge, Illinois. My mother worked at that plant which was located at Higgins and Mannheim Road, on the Northeast part of what is now O'Hare Airport.

Douglas built the C-54 transport plane there. The plant was the largest wooden structure in the world. Several of my friends parents also worked at Douglas Aircraft. Did somebody in your family work there? If so, please contact us at editor@iannews.com.

Election Moratorium

Somebody once said, "It's the economy stupid! "The election was turned into a plebiscite on women's rights and immigration. The Republican Party, still perceived as the party of wealthy white men, has not been able to get a grasp on the changing demographic in this country.

The liberal Democrats don't understand that the tax burden we carry, at some point will break not only our spirit, but the bank. We can't afford more government, more bureaucrats, and more social welfare. predictably the Democrats will soon stick their knife into the trade unions that are on state and city payrolls. It's already happening! Why? The benefits package! Mayor, Rahm Emmanuel, just

announced that they are replacing the union janitors at O'Hare Airport with non-union help. Take a look at the unfunded pensions in Illinois. Somethings got to give. More casinos won't fix this problem. The liberal agenda is being rolled out with Mayor Rahm Emmanuel calling for same-sex marriage. Put this on the ballot as a referendum and see what happens. He mentioned reaching out to State Representative, Deborah Mell, a well-known gay rights activist, and the lone member of the House opposed to impeaching Governor Rod Blagojevich, her Brother-in-Law.

Jesse Jackson Jr.

As predicted he was reelected by an overwhelming majority. He has finally tendered his resignation to the U.S. House of Representatives. Attorney Dan Webb has been negotiating a plea bargain for him. The Jackson family is in disarray. Sandi Jackson, who is a Chicago Alderman has come under the scrutiny of the Feds as she has been collecting fees as a political consultant from her husbands campaign funds.

His father, Jesse Jackson Sr., looked a little bit pallid and obviously is stressed as he felt his son could have ultimately become President of the United States. That was quite a stretch! Congressmen Danny Davis, and Bobby Rush are bemoaning the loss of their colleague whom they both had high praise for.

Yet, another stain on the Cook County Democratic Party. Can you believe that named on the short list to replace him is, of all people, Mel Reynolds, a former member of the U.S. House of Representatives whose political career ended in scandal. He was

convicted on 12 counts of sexual assault, August 22, 1995, and fifteen counts of bank fraud in 2001. He ultimately received a pardon from President Bill Clinton. Anybody want to bet a pardon is in the offing for Jesse Jr., no matter what? Chicago politics, you just can't beat it!

State Representative Derrick Smith wins. This is the guy the State legislature just booted out. Now he has been elected claiming, "It's the will of the people." Or, should we say, the implausible thought process of his constituency.

If you live in Illinois you are screwed, and if you live in Cook County you get screwed again! Tax and spend is about to engulf you. Look out for the "cost shift" on your property taxes.

Still another sweetheart deal is brewing for electronic billboards with a 20 year contract being proposed. No thanks Mr. Mayor. Chicago, "skunk place." Phew!

Dermot's Dilemma

My cousin Dermot Cooney, from County Westmeath, had an interesting vacation. After spending a week in Harrisburg, PA, visiting my sister Catherine and her family, he headed for New York city and was staying in Queens when Hurricane



Gerry Adams and Dermot Cooney

Sandy hit. Fortunately, that part of Queens didn't feel the full brunt of the storm. They never lost power. His original plan was to visit Niagara Falls, Ellis Island, Philadelphia, and Washington D.C. Those plans being no longer possible he stayed on in Queens where he met up with contacts

from home. He took advantage of the local area, and visited places like the race track at Aqueduct. The highlight of his trip was the annual Sinn Fein dinner at the Manhattan Sheraton in New York City where he met Gerry Adams, Martin Ferris, and others. He gave them my best regards and those of Maureen O'Looney. The \$500 a plate Gala was kismet. . . Dermot's delight!

Nollaig Shona Duit, Happy Christmas to You.

It will be interesting to see how long the Christ lasts in Christmas. How long before the Cresh is seen only in churches. Hark, the Herald Angels are weeping, hill and dale and slumber sleeping. So, get ready for Jack Frost, Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, Frosty the Snowman, Father Christmas, and the Grinch!

The Grinch lives in Washington D.C. Do you think anyone making over \$250,000 a year should buy Christmas presents for everyone? Should the Neiman Marcus catalog be banned?

Christmas is still precious to some of us as we visit with family and friends, share good food, and carve up the turkey. My vegetarian niece will carve up a turnip and maybe a parsnip, but their is always pumpkin pie to finish the meal.

Christmas started on Black Friday which has become Black Thanksgiving. Screw all those retail salespeople. Let them work. Who cares about the pilgrims, Native Americans, John Alden, and Priscilla Mullins. Bah Humbug?

Get with the times. All for me and none for you. Maybe Clarence, George Bailey's angel will come to your rescue before you jump

in the river you crossed to get to grandma's house. The river Jordan is chilly and wide, Alleluia, milk and honey on the other side, Alleluia, where is all this going? Who the Hell knows! Congress gets a lump of coal in their stockings, oops, that means air pollution, better give them sods of turf. Oh Little

Town of Bethlehem the rockets are flying, peace on earth good will towards men. God rest ye merry gentlemen, angels we have heard on high, oh tidings of comfort and joy!

Dr. Christopher Dignam

Dr. Dignam, a first-generation Irish-American was chosen to be the principal of Lane Tech College Prep High School in the Chicago Public School system.

Dr. Dignam is the son of Danny Dignam, a well-known and prominent member of the Irish



Dr. Christopher Dignam, new principal of Lane Tech College Prep High School. Photo Patty Wetli

community in Chicago. Danny Dignam hails from Dublin, Ireland. He is truly a legend at the Irish American Heritage Center in Chicago where he has been a stalwart volunteer for the last 28 years. Danny is also well known as a singer who has entertained us all for many years.

Dr. Chris Dignam attended Lane Tech College Prep, and after graduating from college, he joined the faculty at Lane Tech, and eventually became an assistant principal. He has already gained national recognition. Lane Tech College Prep, was named a National Blue Ribbon School for overall excellence. The award was presented November 13th

by Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education in Washington D.C. On November 2nd, Dr. Dignam, a former science teacher, gave Mayor Rahm Emmanuel a tour of the new labs where they now teach aquaponics, the first school in the city to do so. New courses also being offered include robotics, engineering, and web design. There are four thousand culturally diverse students at Lane Tech. Congratulations Dr. Dignam!

Athbhliain Shona Duit, Happy New Year!

Appearances

- Cuts
- Foil Highlights
- Color
- Waxing
- Perms
- Gifts/Jewelry



Call Mary 847-825-7615

229 N Northwest Hwy, Park Ridge

Concern Worldwide's Ball Raises Over \$55,000

Concern Worldwide held its Thanks-for-Giving Ball on Saturday, November 10, 2012 at the Hard Rock Hotel Chicago. More than 200 guests enjoyed an evening of music by DJ Madrid, dancing, food, and drinks generously donated by Dia-

geo, Goose Island and Crown Imports. Guests had the chance to bid on several auction items including a Wisconsin winter weekend trip, a Chicago staycation, Ravinia package, Heritage Bicycles rental, Chicago Cubs & Sox tickets, WXRT Studio

X concert tickets and an original painting by Jeff Zimmermann.

This event was hosted by the Concern Leadership Network, a group of service-minded professionals who support Concern's mission through outreach and event-based fundraising. The event was lead by committee co-chairs Kathleen McCauley, Molly McShane and Jeanne Wrenn.

More than \$55,000 was raised for Concern's emergency and development programs that are in most need of assistance. Founded in Ireland in 1968, Concern Worldwide is a non-governmental, non-denominational international humanitarian organization. Our mission is to help people living in extreme poverty achieve major improvements in their lives that last and spread without ongoing support from Concern. Concern's global operations team of 3,200 is working in 25 of the world's poorest countries to implement programs within the sectors of emergency response, education, health, HIV and AIDS and livelihoods. Special thanks to our sponsors, guests, committee members and volunteers who helped make the second annual Thanks-for-Giving Ball a success!



left to right - Co-Chairs Molly McShane, Kathy McCauley and Jeanne Wrenn

Vacation Galena Rentals

Experience the scenic beauty of Ireland in Galena, IL for a vacation in Resort Homes without Resort Prices
773-631-5253

Toll free 866-GalenaRentals

e-mail GalenaRentals@ameritech.net

Visit

www.GalenaRentals.com
Irish owned & operated

Blake-Lamb Funeral Homes



4721 W. 103rd Street
Oak Lawn IL 60453

All phones: 708-636-1193

Owned by SCI Illinois Services, Inc.

signs

- Banners • Channel Letters
- Real Estate • Site Signs • Magnetics
- Truck Lettering • Vehicle Graphics

WE ARE NOW PRINTING T-SHIRTS!

SIGNSBYDESIGN

E-mail your requests to: sbd2@sbcglobal.net

708.599.9970

10330 Harlem Avenue • Palos Hills

SUBSCRIBE TO: Irish American News

Published 12 Times Yearly the First of Each Month

Keep the news coming by subscribing today! It's your news and your newspaper. Enjoy the convenience of home or office delivery.

Know someone who would enjoy receiving their own copy each month? Why not get them a gift subscription as well!



1112



irish american news



irish american news



REGULAR DELIVERY: check the appropriate box

1 year \$30 or 2 year \$55 3 year \$75



FASTER DELIVERY: check the appropriate box

First Class Mail 1year \$40 2years \$75 3years \$95

Canada 1yr \$35 2yr \$60 International: 1yr \$85



I Want To Subscribe For Myself Starting The Month Of : _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone () _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Card # _____ Expires _____

Send Check or Credit Card info to: Irish News Inc. PO Box 7, Zion IL 60099

847-872-0700

I Want a GIFT Subscription for a Friend Starting the Month of : _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone () _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Card # _____ Expires _____



Mick

Mike Morley



Culture City

The Heritage Center invited Northern Ireland political figures to its IBAM weekend in October to speak in favor of the "peace process" and the upcoming "Derry-Londonderry City of Culture 2013". The hyphenated city name is a gesture to nationalist vs. unionist sensibilities.

During a panel discussion I asked the new Sinn Fein Mayor of Derry, Kevin Campbell about a recent incident in which police officers raided his Creggan home taking away his computers and cell phones, and holding them for several days. Campbell said he feels no animosity toward police and blamed the media for spreading what he says are false reports that he had called for the police official who ordered the raid to be fired. He said

he was fully satisfied by an apology from Chief Superintendent Stephen Martin who termed the raid "a mistake". We later interviewed Police Service, Northern Ireland (PSNI) Superintendent Stephen Martin and Sinn Fein Derry Mayor Kevin Campbell. [The interview is available at my website- IRISHTV.US]

I asked Mayor Campbell about complaints from his neighbors in Creggan that police actions are more heavy-handed in that republican enclave, as opposed to loyalist areas such as Larne. Mr. Campbell passed the question to Superintendent Martin who pointed out that the two communities were very different, but said he understood there are many in Creggan with a legacy of mistrust of police and that he tried to be: "responsive to their needs- to listen, to engage, to build relationships, to demonstrate that we care...but I believe

there is a perception from some that we can be heavy-handed... Policing in Creggan is difficult. There is a threat to the lives of police officers... Unfortunately there is a small minority who seek to drag us back and pose a threat... So at times police who enter Creggan need to enter with a certain demeanor that is designed to protect them; but



(l to r): Derry Mayor, Kevin Campbell, Chief Superintendent Stephen Martin, and Mike Morley.

because of the legacy issues I've discussed, can be viewed as heavy-handed, or a resonance of the past, or oppressive... I demand and require my officers to treat everyone they meet with respect and with dignity, with a caring demeanor (but) the level of engagement, the level of partnership and the relationship over a number of years is transformative, compared to what it was."

Mayor Campbell: "there are people in the area who want disruption. What they do is they place their hoax bombs. the police will come in. they have to bring the army in. They have to check out the device. And in this whole process there's an engagement where there's a riot; and everything's turned on its ear. So what we done- we went out and actually lifted 9 or 10 of these so-called devices and disposed of them... There's a small, very small minority, un-

supported group in that area that want to cause major problems... Policing's not perfect; but like everything else, we have to work at that to get it perfect."

I asked Supt. Martin about the effort to increase representation of Catholics on the police force, which had for many years been more than 90% Protestant. He said the Commission chaired by Lord Patton had mandated a 30% Catholic, 70% Protestant representation which had now been achieved, although the majority of Catholics admittedly occupied lower, constable level ranks. (In 2001, the last available census information showed Catholic

population in the 6 counties at about 44%, vs. 53% Protestant.)

I also asked Martin about a couple of recent incidents of provocative Loyalist intimidation of Catholics. A serious riot occurred in July last year because police removed Protestant paramilitary and Orange Order flags that loyalists had hung around St. Nicholas Catholic Church and school in the predominantly Protestant town of Ballyclare, Co. Antrim. Protestants rioted three days in that and others, injuring police and causing considerable damage. Loyalists in Carrickfergus also injured several officers when they drove a bus into a Police Land Rover. But the eye-opener came when Assistant Chief Constable Alistair Finlay appeared on TV and actually apologized for removing the sectarian flags, which were then re-hung around the Catholic school and church. I asked Supt. Martin about the

incident, commenting that in the USA such sectarian acts would be considered a violation of federal civil rights laws, and such an apology would be unthinkable.

The Superintendent said since the incident did not happen in his area he would not talk about it, but offered to say: "There are a number of difficult issues in Northern Ireland; and flags and emblems are one of those issues ...we've still a lifetime of work ahead of us; and there are some difficult and challenging issues... one person may say a flag is offensive; to another person it is an expression of their culture."

I asked: "But these flags; many of them were paramilitary. It's not just cultural. If they were just Orange Order... perhaps." I mentioned another recent incident which was caught on videotape [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=My5cf2zlkpo>] in which a band hired by the Orange Order's Black Preceptory marched around in front of St. Patrick's Church, Belfast, playing and singing 'The Famine Song', derogatory and deeply insulting to Irish Catholics, its chorus ending: "the famine is over,

why don't you go home?" Supt. Martin answered that it was "a hugely challenging time" and again contended that "the difficulty in Northern Ireland is that people can look at the same thing, but see it differently... Often in the middle are the police and other organizations trying to do the right thing... And we do have some way to travel as a society in dealing with these issues."

He felt that the issues I raised were posed from a very nationalist/republican perspective whereas others might pose questions from a very unionist/loyalist perspective. "That's the nature of our society. We're emerging from conflict. We have things that divide us. But the message that the Mayor and I and our colleagues are trying to say is: we're focusing now increasingly on things we can find common ground on ...We're here to promote this- principally

Derry, to try and get people to come and help us by spending their money, seeing what we have to offer, enjoying this area as tourists..."

Mayor Campbell later mentioned that he had an application on his desk at home to address the Apprentice Boys, something that would have been unheard of years ago. Asked from where he felt the main threat to peace was coming, Martin again pointed to republican dissidents, saying "these groups... need to go off the stage, pursue their objectives through politics." Asked if he found no threat at all from loyalist groups such as the UDA, UVF, and UFF he replied that though he felt republican groups were the main threat, those loyalist paramilitaries, though proscribed, still existed and "retain a capacity to put themselves back in that space or be dragged back in through the actions of others." He felt it "imperative that we work collectively to try and insure that all groups who have the ability to take up arms or... access arms... don't do so."

Mayor Campbell pointed out that Sinn Fein had beaten dissident candidates decisively at the polls: "They're out there- they have no strategy. They have no tactics. And most of all, they have no way of generating support."

I came away with the message that institutionalized racism and sectarianism in Northern Ireland is seen as a thorny problem that fosters conflict, but one that will require lots of time to address, but that conflict will not likely be apparent to the average visitor from North America, to whom Derry is extending a welcome in 2013.

© Mike Morley 2012

IRISH JOURNAL TV - Website: <http://www.IRISHTV.US>

Facebook: 'IRISH JOURNAL TELEVISION' Also watch IRISH JOURNAL ON CABLE TV:

CHICAGO - CAN-TV, Channel 19: Monday 7PM, Tuesday 2PM NORTH suburbs - COMCAST, Ch. 19 (or 35): Tuesday, 6PM WEST suburbs - COMCAST, Ch. 19: Tuesday 7:30 PM E-MAIL: IRISHTV@att.net

Heritage Center Gift Shop to Celebrate 1st Anniversary 12-8

If every friend Maureen O'Looney ever had came to wish her well, and celebrate the first anniversary of the gift shop opening at the Irish American Heritage Center, the 86,000 sq. ft. building might not hold them all . . . but it would try!

December 8, 2012, all of Maureen O'Looney's many friends and friends of the IAHC are invited to stop in at the gift shop (open 11am to 11pm Saturday) and wish her well as she celebrates over 45 years of serving the Irish community in Chicago.

Just to the left, inside the main doors of the Irish American Heritage Center, the IAHC



Gift Shop is not your everyday, run of the mill, gift shop. On any given day Maureen, in her 92nd year, might greet you from behind the counter as she did for 44 years at her own Shamrock Imports.

the IAHC gift shop offers a vast collection of Irish food, accessories and items for the home for sure, but what it re-

ally offers is a Cead Mile Failte from Maureen, Mary Gorski, Kathy Dunat, and other volunteers who fill in the many hours the shop is open.

Please join them as they celebrate the weekend with music, food, raffles and more. The shop is located at 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, IL 60630. Hours are Monday thru Thursday 4:00PM - 8:00PM, Friday 4:00PM - 10:00PM and Saturday 11:00AM - 10:00PM. Closed on Sundays. For more information contact (773) 282-7035 x 14.

One of the IAHC Gift Shop goals is to have people walk in and have an enjoyable time, even if they don't buy. "We are the welcome Center of the entire building, Maureen explains. Having only been

settled at the center one year, O'Looney is passing on her vast experience in running an Irish shop to IAHC volunteers. "Come in and have a nice cup

of tea or some hot cider, and maybe buy something while you're here, laughs Maureen. And, don't forget, it all helps the Center!"

"Our Own Maureen O'Looney"

*Written by Margo O'Donnell and Joe McShane
In the heart of Co Mayo over 90 years ago
A little red head girl was born and her story must be told
From the small town of Bohola near the waters of Lough Conn
Lets try and take a journey back to where it all began*

*Raised by loving parents who helped to shape the way
To show an act of kindness at least once in everyday
These words her father taught her, have faith in God above
So she reached out to everyone and showered them with love
Chorus*

*With a heart of gold and full of joy always a helping hand
Never once did she forget her own dear native land
She loves her country dearly, pure Irish thru and thru
Our own Maureen O'Looney to Erin always true*

*All across the USA she's known both far and wide
Especially in Chicago where her name is spoke with pride
Her bright red hair and big blue eyes that light up with a smile
Our own Maureen O'Looney you're the pride of every exile*

THE LARKIN & MORAN BROTHERS

For Booking: www.celticratpack.com

the Atlantic Bar & Grill

Authentic Irish Pub in Lincoln Square

Something Special all the time

5062 N. Lincoln Avenue • Chicago • 773.506.7090
www.theatlanticbar.com

Peggy Kinnane's
IRISH RESTAURANT & PUB

8 N. Vail Avenue
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
Tel. 847-577-7733 Fax. 847-577-3886

*Good food. Good friends.
Just a great time. See you at Peggy's!*

Hours
M-Th 11am-1am
Fri & Sat: 11am-2am
Sun: 10am-1am
www.peggykinnanes.com

King of the Course

Dooley Car Rentals takes you there.

For nearly half a century, travelers have trusted us to make their journeys in Ireland memorable.

When you're ready to see the wonders of Ireland, let Dooley take you there.

Dooley car rentals
We Know the Roads

E-Mail: dooley@monmouth.com
Web: www.dandooley.com
Call your local travel agent or phone: 1-800-331-9301

BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER

LUCKY GRILL

Dine In & Carry Out

We serve Irish Breakfast ALL DAY - EVERY DAY

4454 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago, IL 60630 Ph. (773) 282-2325-6 Fax. (773) 282-2326

7779 W. Talcott Chicago, IL 60631 Ph. (773) 631-9661

www.luckygrillrestaurant.com

IRISH BROTHERS
TRADITIONAL IRISH PUB

- Open 11 AM - 1 AM
- Award-Winning Food & Drink
- Full Menu & Bar
- Irish Entertainment Weekends
- Outdoor Patio Dining

Nine Irish Brothers Traditional Irish Pub
119 Howard Avenue, West Lafayette - 765-746-4782
3520 St Rd 38 East, Lafayette - 765-477-0999
WWW.NINEIRISHBROTHERS.COM

Heather A. Begley



*Proudly serving
the Irish community*



The Law Offices of Jeffrey J. Kroll represents individuals and families in personal injury and wrongful death matters including, motor vehicle collisions, construction negligence, work related injuries and medical malpractice.

10 S. LaSalle St., Suite 3702, Chicago, Illinois 60603
phone: (312)676-7222 fax: (312)849-2030
heather@kroll-lawfirm.com
Website: www.kroll-lawfirm.com Blog: www.chicagoaccidentinjurylawyer.com



For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



A VIRTUOUS FUTURE? To survive best through the impending economic suffering we must, individually and nationally, become more generous, more Christ-like, if you prefer. We must cease resorting to bombs and guns to resolve perceived problems. The old adage applies: "To those with only a hammer, all problems seem to be nails." To those with murder in their hearts, all perceived offenses seem to require the death penalty. We must fund local needs instead of the wiping out of foreign villages. We specialize in zapping wedding parties, funerals and groups of first responders. We must stop violating the Constitution. We must restore the international laws that a less-genocidal America established last century. We routinely violate the Geneva Conventions on torture and on territorial sovereignty. Ditto regarding the laws affirmed at Nuremberg, and those we shepherded at the U.N. We cannot blame only pols for our gov't's current violations of all those laws; against torture, against initiating wars of aggression, against genocide, etc. Many flag-wavers are so obsessed with wiping out our own minorities by eliminating their safety net that they fail to grasp that it would also wipe them out.

THE SAFETY NET is "too expensive," we are told by the corporate-bribed pols and corporate news media. But SS and Medicare aren't funded from general revenue. Their funding is self-sustaining via our 6.2% payroll tax plus an equal percentage paid by employers. One of the greatest lies in this Big Lie era is the notion that we cannot afford the safety net. Further proof that other money is available if necessary is the \$trillions we spend to satisfy America's blood-lust (and oil company greed), some \$1.3 trillion in Iraq alone. It speaks for itself that during recent months of drum-beating for cutting the safety net they haven't mentioned

the cost of our wars.

THE RACE for the presidency posed a war criminal against someone promising to initiate wars even faster and to cut taxes for the richest 1%. Though most GOP voters are entirely respectable citizens, the GOP also encouraged America's blood-thirsty, its bigots, racists, pension fund looters, financial predators, xenophobes, bible-thumping fundamentalists, homophobes, climate-change deniers, anti-union activists, banksters, creationists, secessionists, Israel-firsters, and, oddly, pro-fetus activists. The latter group's affiliation with those other monsters was, sad to say, their only hope. Obama mandates abortion on demand, a policy abhorrent to multitudes, especially the devout.

TAXES at 35% max are near America's post-WW2 low; but Repubs ran on the notion that raising that top rate to 39.6% would crash the economy. 1) The economy DID crash at the current low rate that W. Bush imposed. 2) The economy was OK during Clinton's era and he built up \$billions in surplus at the 39.6% rate. 3) During Ike's prosperous era when I first entered business (house building) the top rate was 91 or 92%. So the Repubs ran on one of the Big Lies of our time, that a top tax rate above 35% will wreck the economy. How did the 1% get so many of their impoverished victims to vote for a policy that widens America's historically-wide wealth chasm?

ANOTHER HOLOCAUST? I write this while hearing TV reports of 30,000 Israeli troops surrounding Gaza. Who can forget the twenty-two days of Operation Cast Lead two years ago last Christmas when Israeli troops murdered 1,400 innocent Gazans? It's insanity-inducing that \$3.5 billion/year of our taxes fund Israel's land robbery and genocide of Palestine. Year after year our gov't vetoes UN attempts to bring justice. How far our nation

has fallen! It once opposed tyrants instead of financing them. Have faith! America awakes! It'll restore our gov't and Supreme Court to work for America instead of its richest 1%, its corporations, and AIPAC. May it be accomplished peacefully. The police have become less threatening to justice-promoters; perhaps they see that their pensions are endangered by those whose orders they enforce.

"THE GATHERING" in Ireland in 2013 is a nice idea that will boost its economy. Hotel rates there have dropped. Mary and I will go. Like many others we'll pay our respects at many Holocaust mass graves. Computers show the locations of some 170 on my map on irish-holocaust.org. Click on the map to enlarge it. To my knowledge the only truth-telling mass grave marker in Ireland is one Mary and I installed. By truth-telling I mean that it names the British reg'ts that removed the district's food at gunpoint; the only marker in Ireland that does so. It's in Ballyglass, on the Glennamaddy road out of Ballymoe, Co. Galway. It marks the site of the murdered village of Lisnabinnia. Its mass grave is a few fields away. Photos of both can be seen on irishholocaust.org. Computerless persons can contact me for a pamphlet with the same map, etc.

GOOD NEWS! A truth-telling novel has been written about 1845-1850 Ireland; the most honest account since Cecil Woodham-Smith's *The Great Hunger...* in 1962. Harolyn Enis' *When Ireland Fell Silent* differs from "famine" books by telling the story from the point of view of those targeted for death; the Irish producers of the crops being removed at-gunpoint by the British army. An engrossing read, its fully-documented final chapter is the most powerful book-conclusion I can remember.

BELFAST AGREEMENT; BENEFICIAL? See www.freegerry.com; www.freemarian.co.nr/; www.michaelmckevitt.com; www.releasemartincorey.com;

WHO ARE THE TERRORISTS? See my www.terrorismireland.org. WHICH BRIT REG'T starved your relatives? See www.irishholocaust.org Contact 312/664-7651 or fogartyc@att.net.

Quality **Shamrock TUCKPOINTING**

- ◆ Caulking
- ◆ All Brick Repairs
- ◆ Chimney Repairs
- ◆ Fully Licensed & Insured

OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

CALL JOHN GALLAGHER FOR A FREE ESTIMATE
PHONE: 708.388.2871 FAX: 708.388.2872

Ray Harrington's Full Irish Breakfast Meats

Our Corned Beef is the Best - Now Try the Rest!

RETAIL: NORTHSIDE AND SOUTHSIDE
Heritage Shamrock Shop 4626 N Knox Chgo 773-282-7035 x14
Harrington's Deli 5685 N Milwaukee Chgo 773-283-8388
Jack & Pat's 10717 Ridgeland Chgo Ridge 708-636-3437

- Corned Beef
- Boiling Bacon
- Black Pudding
- White Pudding
- Bangers
- Raschers
- Brown Bread
- Soda Bread and more!

Wholesale Accounts: call Ken 773-853-0855

By Maurice Fitzpatrick
In Another
Pattern



What Ireland Needs is a Mousetrap

It is going to get even tougher out there. The Greek government just passed its latest round of austerity measures causing, incredibly, fifty officials of the Greek Central Bank to resign in protest. Meanwhile, the Spanish Banking Association has passed a two year moratorium on foreclosures, claiming that the related recent suicides of home-owners are not worth the pain. Do not be fooled: banks and bleeding hearts do not go together. Spain has inflated one of the biggest property bubbles in history and mass repos-

session would break the country (already 400,000 people have been thrown out of their homes and the government does not want to tip the balance of property prices into freefall). And where does Ireland, with a budget looming next month, feature in this lamentable European scene? Very far up the firmament.

A good symbol of our woe is the landlord of a pub in North Dublin, Quinn's of Drumcondra, who has this month become embroiled in a public wrangle over his right to continue trading in his profitable pub. In the red corner, is Eoin Quinlan, an ordinary citizen trying to earn his living. In the blue corner, is the bank, known as IBRC, an outfit pieced together from the dead organs of Anglo-Irish Bank. The bank that put the eke into the Irish economy.

The bank cites the fact that Quinlan has fallen behind on his extortionate rent of 30,000 euro per month as grounds to remove him. Quinlan, who asked a real estate agent to value the property, offered the bank 15,000 per month based on the agent's estimate. They declined. Their 'solution', also enforced in countless similar cases throughout the country, is to close down the premises, hurting suppliers, staff and all others in the turning wheel that should constitute a functioning economy.

Bank officials mounted a raid in the early hours of November 8th on Quinlan's pub, accompanied by security guards and locksmiths. Quinlan wisely barricaded himself in and called the police. On arrival, the Gardaí duly asked to see the bank's court order to evict their tenant. The mobsters did not have one and the Gardaí told them to leave Quinlan alone until they did. The red corner starts to look stronger: Eoin Quinlan is bolstered by the force of the law. The common assumption that banks conduct repossession and evictions within strictures of the law was, in this case, erroneous. Quinlan showed they were pirates dressed in suits.

History does not repeat itself, said Mark Twain, but it does rhyme. A few haunting rhymes come to mind when one remembers the struggle of ordinary people during the Great Depression in the USA. At various stages of the depression, 25 states placed moratoriums on foreclosures, sometimes for as long as five years. But don't expect to see the situation in Ireland turn around without mass resistance to the bullies who have taken over.

Such resistance would be nothing new in Ireland. In 1880, during the Land Wars, we introduced the word 'boycott' into the English language. Healy and Harrington's Plan of Campaign, a manifesto for the right to pay fair rent, also enjoyed great success. Paying fair and pulling together ultimately reinstalled Irish people as owners of their own land. So next time you are in Dublin, call in and patronise Eoin Quinlan's bar. You will be doing more than helping out a man who is being picked at by vultures. You will be participating in a broader resistance to a doctrine that cannot but bring more misery to ordinary people's lives.

Our distressed condition requires artistic expression which unsurprisingly has begun to encounter opposition—as the revealing fracas stirred up by the launch of a new show in Dublin, *Anglo: The Musical* bears out. Performed by puppets, the lampoon includes songs such as 'Put a Zero on the End, He's a friend'. The intention behind it

is to cut Anglo-Irish Bank to the bone. This hammering has been a long time coming and it is a healthy development.

No sooner were the billboards posted up than the Director of Public Prosecutions got in touch with the show's producer to highlight that he was bound for dangerous waters if his show satirised Anglo's former chief Sean FitzPatrick. (Seanie oversaw the most obscene transfer of public money into private hands in the history of the state). The producer of the show, Darren Smith, capitulated, stating that "We have to take on legal advice and be responsible. We love comedy but we love our houses as well." So the 'Putting on the Fitz' puppet will be hung to the closet.

The script of the musical was co-written by Colm Tóibín which suggests that quite a few nuggets of dissent and mischief will survive the hectoring of the legal and banking lobbies (who have very much shown their hands in this episode). Tóibín's support gives it cover.

So what has been achieved by the puppeteers, buoyed up by early publicity but denied their teeth by our overzealous DPP? The need for an art in Ireland to engage with the crisis in our democracy has been highlighted by this incident. I do not know if the musical will have much impact (a producer in New York is trying to bring it Stateside). If it does nothing more than send a message to Irish playwrights and puppetwrights that a more subtle and uncompromising approach is needed to send up the collusion between the law, the banks and politicians, it will have done a lot.

When faced with villainy of another nature, Shakespeare's character Hamlet contrived a short play, *The Mousetrap*, to expose the rotten nature of his uncle's dispensation. Hamlet deftly did so by creating a play using no recognisable names but easily identifiable events. The cap fitted and the uncle was horrified to wear it. Anglo's creators have lighted up the way for others. What the Irish public needs now is a mousetrap to stir them.

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Corrigan Financial Services, Inc.

Money Concepts Financial Planning Centre

Established 1980
Retirement Planning Specialist
for

**Individuals - Families
Business - Investment
Tax - Estate Planning**

Call Mike Corrigan
(708)482-3800
Member International Association
for Financial Planning

Call for a Free Estimate
773-697-9323



DALY MOVING & STORAGE

• Professional • Dependable • Affordable

dalymovingchicago.com

Licensed & Insured ILL CC 167360MC

When Your Family Has Suffered A Loss...

Our Family Can Help

Robert J. Sheehy & Sons is Family Owned and Operated.

Robert J. Sheehy & Sons has been a name that is recognized... and trusted... for their professional manner.

Think of them as a "second family"... at a time when family assistance and reassurance is so very important.

**Robert J. Sheehy & Sons
Funeral Home
(708) 857-7878**

9000 West 151st Street
Orland Park, Illinois 60462

4950 West 79th Street
Burbank, Illinois 60459



5917 W Irving Park Road Chicago
(773) 777-3944

Gibbons Funeral Home
134 South York Road Elmhurst
(630) 832-0018

The Oaks Funeral Home
1201 E Irving Park Road Itasca
(630) 250-8588

Gibbons Elliston Funeral Home
60 S. Grant Street Hinsdale
(630)323-0275

www.irishfuneralhome.com

"Family Owned and Operated
For Over 75 Years"



Go maire tú is gcaithe tú é
May you live and wear it well.

Aran sweaters handknit
by

Maureen Neylon

ph 708 301-1587

Maureen@meaden.com

DANCE LESSONS

McNULTY IRISH DANCERS

Adult & Children Classes
(3 years and older)

10 Suburban Locations
for more information Contact:
Barbara McNulty Heneghan
phone 224-639-8644
fax 847-518-0863

email: irshdancr@aol.com
www.mcNultyirishdancers.com

PLASTERING

**William McNulty & Sons
Plastering Co.**

Insured
All Work Guaranteed

**PLASTERING
STUCCO • DRYVIT**

708-386-2951



The Irish Rover

By James McClure

IrishRoverJim@aol.com



Renewed by the Hands of the Father

Isn't it easy to see renewal in the warmth and new color of Spring? To look about and see the first Easter Day crocus, the Lillies of the Valley, the bold green sprouts poking out of country fields as the farmers pull back the white covers of winter to reveal God's glory in creation.

Were that it was so easy to sense this renewal in our own lives. And what of the most un-Spring like season you can fear or imagine?

Many of us, myself included, have experienced such seasons of cold, and death and doubt. There is comfort, but also bittersweet identification, with the Passage

in Psalm 25: 16-18 (CEV):

*I am lonely and troubled.
Show that you care and have pity on me.*

My awful worries keep growing.

Rescue me from sadness.

See my troubles and misery and forgive my sins.

Whether the consequence of sinful self-reliance or losses beyond our control, we all experience the gloom of Winter that seemingly is never-ending.

But nothing is Eternal but the loving presence of God. A journey toward spring-like renewal can and does begin in the winter of your discontent—start by

praising God and thanking him for all of your blessings.

My greatest blessing, apart from the saving grace of Jesus Christ available to all, has been having an Earthly example of what God's love is all about. And at the coldest times of the year.

I'm speaking of my own father, whose presence was always constant to me even during a four year period of my late childhood when economic circumstances forced him to leave the family five days a week to maintain a traveling executive job in manufacturing.

As Fall quickly left the warmth of Summer and frosted over with the onset of coming Winter, it was my job at home to save the last backyard crop of tomatoes from below-freezing Michigan temperatures.

I'd proudly tell Dad on the phone how I had laid out copies of the Kalamazoo Gazette per his directions as ink-stained tents over the green stakes bracketing the row of vegetables.

Home on the weekends, with the grass long gone brown and the chill blowing the last dead leaves to the ground, Dad would have me join him as he patiently began to dig not far from the tomatoes. It looked to me that first season that his big warm



hands were planting potatoes or onions. But as I handed him the combination of trowel, and soil and fertilizer, the father whose lengthening shadow in the fading twilight outlined a black watch cap and heavy wool plaid shirt over Army olive fatigues revealed opened bags of tulip bulbs. "Those will be red, these should yellow, there might be a white one or two in the bunch but that's to be expected," Dad explained.

I watched for them to bloom throughout that Winter as men played in something new called a Super Bowl, other men marched for peace and other men marched in war. There was never a doubt in my mind that they would come up.

"Just call me when you see

them if I'm on the road, and before you know it I'll be home."

God is with us today in our troubles as surely as my Dad was with me as he slogged through the 1967 Storm of the Century in Chicago snow well over the top of his galoshes through many a boardroom battle. Warm at home, I knew Dad was coming, and so were his flowers!

"Dad, they're here!" I would cry on the phone just before Easter weekend. The ritual would repeat itself with every revelation...from Dad's tulips and tomatoes to the Heavenly Father's lillies and violets.

And within a day or two the same hand that planted God's glories in the last possible moments of Fall was holding mine as we walked through the garden "Look what you did, Dad! They're red and yellow and there's a white one too!"

"Well that's the thing," he observed as he hitched me up on his shoulders and we started tending our two grape vines on a white picket fence. "We just got it started, God did the rest."

"Even under all that ice and snow, Poppa?"

"Even under that. Just like I'm always with you even though I may go for a few days."

Reach your hand out to your Father in Heaven. And know that your Spring of renewal is always coming just as sure as the flowers that push through the melting snow and faded leaves.

And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. (1 Peter 5:10 NIV)

Call O'Grady and Start Packing!



Frank
O'Grady
(224) 616-1054

Eileen
O'Grady
Newell
(773) 406-2216

eogrady@koenigstrey.com

"Two Generations Serving You"

(773)406-2216 Direct (866)727-8605 Fax

View listings at: www.ogradyrealty.com

O'Grady Office

5617 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Chicago, IL
(773) 775-4000

Park Ridge Office

122 Main Street
Park Ridge, IL

"Thank you for your continued support of our business. We truly appreciate it."

— Frank and Eileen

Koenig & Strey

RealLiving

Search www.ogradyrealty.com or check out what Eileen has for sale at www.facebook.com/ogradyrealty/

Lizzie mcneill's

Your DOWNTOWN Irish Pub

Next to the CHICAGO RIVER

Lizzie
mcneill's
Irish Pub

CHICAGO
400 N. McClurg Court
312-467-1992

Irish Sessions

THURSDAYS 8-10pm STARTING JAN. 12th



Kathleen Keane



Jimmy Moore



Jackie Moran

A Word With Monsignor Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Rev. Monsignor Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



"Celebrating 65 Years of Giving"

They shop with great thoughtfulness and even delight, but they will not see the look of wonder on a 4-year-old's face when he plays with his shiny new fire truck, the smile on the face of a little girl as she hugs her new doll, or a teenager's eyes light up at his new computer game or her beautiful sweater! They will not see a mother in a family shelter wipe away tears as she watches her children try on new winter coats – or an unemployed father's joy as he helps his child try out her new bike.

In 1947, Catholic Charities' Adoptive Parents Guild initiated their annual "Toy Shower" for children in need. Over the years, the annual toy collection has expanded with the agency, today providing gifts for thousands of children across our 157 programs whose families – or the children themselves – are receiving Catholic Charities services.

For the last 65 years, generous people of all ages, faiths, and ethnic backgrounds have given out of sheer love to Catholic Charities so that children and families suffering poverty or crisis will have a joyful Christmas – and know that someone cares about them. These "givers" take time out from their own busy schedules and reach into their own limited resources to make a poor child or family happy. And they expect nothing in return.

This year from December 1 through December 19, hundreds of unseen heroes will donate thousands of new Christmas gifts for children and families in need.

This is the true "Spirit of Christmas" and the true "Celebration of Giving!" Today, each of the approximately 10,000 children from the neediest fam-

ilies receiving Catholic Charities' services receives three gifts: something to cuddle, to read and to play with. And our "Sponsor-a-Family" program in Cook County provides 500 of the poorest families in our care with new clothing, household items, books or school supplies.

Last Christmas, through the generosity of our donors, Catholic Charities Lake County Services provided gifts for children whose families were in need, and each child received between one and three gifts each. At this time, many children in need of Christmas gifts are currently matched with donors, but we welcome other generous givers who wish to participate.

Of course, the spirit of giving is alive all year long at Catholic Charities. But during the "Celebration of Giving," we are blessed with great "Giving" events from an enormous number of generous and enthusiastic donors and volunteers from corporations, small businesses, grade and high schools, scout troops and parishes across the Archdiocese who collect, sort, pick up and distribute gifts for our children and clients. The Catholic Charities Junior Board of young adults hosts a huge party for the children and parents who are clients of our Early Childhood programs.

Everyone loves a parade! – especially at Christmastime. For the last 13 years, The Chicago Fire Fighters Union Local 2 and Paramedics and their families have shared the joy of Christmas with families who might not be able to afford Christmas gifts for their children. Each winter, they collect, load and deliver 7,000 gifts, including new bicycles and red wagons, onto antique fire trucks and into family cars for

an exciting and colorful "Toy Shower Parade" to Catholic Charities.

The day may be cold, but the Chicago firefighters' and paramedics' spirit of Christmas love, joy and selfless generosity warms every heart at Catholic Charities as we see the joy of the hundreds of children and families they help.

Since 1917, Catholic Charities has been caring for children and families in need. Today, we protect and nurture the poor and vulnerable children and youth benefiting from our early childhood and after-school programs; or participating in our programs for pregnant and parenting teens, and our maternity and adoption services.

Christ came into this world as a poor child with nowhere to lay his head. I am profoundly grateful to all those who share their joy and generosity with God's beloved children, parents, elders and families who are poor in the eyes of the world.

Throughout the year in Cook and Lake counties, Catholic

Charities feeds elderly or disabled seniors, and those living alone, who are so often forgotten – with home-delivered meals. At Christmas, our thousands of donors and volunteers also happily share gifts of food, clothing and toys with the children of low-income families; as well as thoughtful gifts with the elderly who are living alone. No matter how much or how little they can share, they do so with generous hearts in the true spirit of loving and giving.

My prayer for our readers this Advent and during the Christmas Season is that – in your families, neighborhoods

and workplaces – through your outpouring of loving prayers and thoughtful gifts of the necessities of life to God's beloved poor – you will make the Advent and Christmas Seasons a truly blessed "Celebration of Giving!"

May God, the giver of all good gifts, bless you and your families this Christmas and always!

For information about Catholic Charities "Celebration of Giving," or to donate or volunteer, visit www.catholiccharities.net/celebration; or call the hotline: (312) 226-0650. In Lake County, call (847) 782-4126.

Mary Ellen Considine



Office: 773.769.2500
Voice Mail: 773-564-4250
Cell: 773.704.4250
EFax: 773.697.5705

Email: maryellen.considine@cbexchange.com

Lincoln Square
2156 W. Montrose Avenue
Chicago, IL 60618



CHRISTMAS IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

and the IRISH SHOP is the place for all your holiday needs



For every \$50.00 you spend at our shop this Holiday Season you will receive a \$5.00 gift certificate to spend in January of 2013

Boxing Day Sale
Starts Dec. 26th
up to 50% Off



THE IRISH SHOP 100N. OAK PARK AVE, OAK PARK, IL 60301 708-445-1149
WWW.THEIRISHSHOPOAKPARK.COM

An Immigrant's Musings

By Fr. Michael Leonard



Reform 2013

There is an old Buddhist proverb that goes: "When the pupil is ready, the master appears." And, at last, now that the dust is settling after the elections of 2012, we see very positive signs coming from our elected representatives promising C.I.R. in 2013.

This is an indication that both parties in Congress, finally get it, and are now ready to work together to make it happen. That said there remains much hard work in delivering an acceptable bill, which is capable of passing both houses.

So, what would such a bill look like, I hear you ask? I have often stated in the past that any comprehensive immigration reform bill needs to have the following elements.

1. Border security: this needs to be addressed in a smart way, one that deals with controlling who comes and goes from the country in an orderly and humane fashion.

2. We need a common sense approach to dealing with the millions of law-abiding folks who are out of status in the country at this time.

That also means offering a path to citizenship to those who are willing to learn English, and undergo a background security check. In this way, no serious alien criminals will be able to remain in the country. This will also include the Dream Act, which allows young people who were brought to the country as minors to become permanent residents.

3. It also needs to include a guest

MAKE US TRUE SERVANTS

Make us true servants to all those in need,
Filled with compassion in thought, word and deed;
Loving our neighbor, whatever the cost,
Feeding the hungry and finding the lost.
Lord, make us prophets to cry out the way,
Telling the nations of mercy's new day.
Let us break barriers of hatred and scorn,
Speaking of hope to all people forlorn.
Lord, make us healers of body and mind,
Give us your power to give sight to the blind,
Love to the loveless and gladness for pain,
Filling all heart with the joy of your name.

worker provision and in particular the Ag Workers bill. In order that we truly deal with the labor needs of our country, we also need a provision to deal with "future flow."

4. It is important that any new immigration bill would deal with the need to balance visas for family re-unification with, the needs of our economy, in particular the demand for high skilled labor.

5. Lastly, the new bill needs to address the restoration of "due process" provisions that are sadly lacking in our current immigration laws.

There are signs as I go to press that such a bill can be forged over the next year. Senators Graham and Schumer together with majority leader Reed and McCain have all voiced support for such a push.

On the house side, significantly, we have seen Speaker Boehner and Chief Whip Cantor offering support. The champion on the Democratic side is our own Luis Gutierrez of Illinois.

The promise of passing a comprehensive immigration bill can with, hard work and political compromise, be achieved in the New Year and that is something that I look forward to very much.

Christmas

On behalf of all our staff at Chicago Irish Immigrant Support, I take this chance to wish one and all, a blessed Christmas with a prosperous New Year.

The message at the heart of the Good News is expressed beautifully in a favorite hymn of mine: below by: Susan G. Wentz.

Should you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at: sliabha-noir@yahoo.com or 773-282-8445

Senior Group Meetings

Senior groups take place at IAHC and Gaelic Park. See below for specific details of senior group meetings this month. All senior group meetings begin at 10am. There is no cost and refreshments will be served. All are very welcome. If you need further information, please call our office on 773-282-8445.

Irish American Heritage Center

Thursday, 6th December 2012 – Be Your Peepers Keepers

Regardless of whether or not you believe your eyes are the windows to your soul, I think we can all agree that they are very important. As we age our eyes change and so should the way we look after them. We are joined by a representative from Swedish Covenant Hospital who will teach us about the aging eye and advances in the treatment of eye problems.

Wednesday, 12th December 2012 – Christmas Celebrations!

This year it is the turn of the Irish American Heritage Center to host our annual Christmas party. As always there will be great food, live music, and plenty of craic! All of south side seniors are invited too and there will be a bus running from Gaelic Park. For more details or to book your seat at the party call Paul on 773-282-8445.

Gaelic Park

Due to scheduling the joint Christmas party at the IAHC is the only south side senior event this month so be sure you come along for the festivities!

Caring for the Caregiver

November was Family Caregivers Month. It provided an opportunity to celebrate the estimated 44 million who provide care for a family member. The Family Caregiver Alliance (FCA) calculates that these dedicated caregivers provide about 80% of the long term care in the United States.

While providing care for a loved one can be a very fulfilling and rewarding experience, the physical and emotional strains often involved can take a toll on caregivers. For some, the time demands

Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling



involved in caring for a loved one can lead to a decrease in working hours, missed career opportunities, or even a job loss. Furthermore, caregivers are more susceptible to stress related issues, depression, and health problems like heart disease.

In recognition of the difficulties and challenges that caregivers face, the National Council on Aging decided that Family Caregiver Month was an excellent opportunity to share valuable resources with those who find themselves caring for a loved one. The following are resources that the NCOA published on the website which could help to alleviate some of the challenges involved in providing care. More information can be found at <http://www.ncoa.org>.

1. BenefitsCheckUp®

Millions of seniors and adults with disabilities qualify for—but are not enrolled in—programs that could help them pay for prescription drugs, medical care, food, or heat for their homes. BenefitsCheckUp® is a free, confidential, online service to see if you qualify for benefits and take the first steps toward applying.

2. My Medicare Matters

Let's face it, Medicare can be confusing. This free website provides step-by-step help to choose a Medicare plan for the first time, reassess coverage each year during

open enrollment, and answer common questions about Medicare and what it covers.

3. Home Equity Advisor

A person's home is often their largest and most important financial asset. Most older adults want to stay independent in their own homes as long as possible. This free website developed with the FINRA Investor Education Foundation helps older homeowners explore how they might be able to use their home equity to stay healthy and secure as they age.

4. Eldercare Locator

The Administration on Aging offers this free public service to help connect people to services for older adults and their families. You can also reach Eldercare Locator at 1-800-677-1116.

5. Family Care Navigator

This state-by-state resource from the Family Caregiver Alliance helps caregivers locate government, nonprofit, and private programs in their area. FCA also offers a wealth of information on care strategies, stress relief, family issues, and hands-on care, as well as online discussion groups to keep caregivers connected to each other.

6. VA Caregiver Support

The Veterans Administration offers this website for caregivers of veterans of all ages, along with a toll-free support line at 1-855-260-3274.

Richard Callahan, DDS Orthodontist



Don't rely on luck for the best orthodontic care!

Dr. Richard Callahan has been providing beautiful smiles for more than 25 years.

Mention this ad for a complimentary visit.

Payment plans, credit cards and insurance assignments accepted.

Call today (630) 964.9882

5133 Washington St., Downers Grove, Illinois

callahanortho@comcast.net



A Slice of Ireland

By Cathy Cooney-Millar

Ballydoyle Irish Pub and Restaurant

Rosegreen, a small village on a county crossroad of Tipperary in the southern midlands of Ireland, is home to the world renowned Ballydoyle racing stables. Ballydoyle has a tradition that stretches back almost 50 years as a horse nursery of classic excellence. Over that time, the legendary Vincent O'Brien nurtured the careers of a legion of the superlative racehorses, among them Ballymoss, Sir Ivor, Nijinsky II, The Minstrel, Alleged, Storm Bird, El Gran Senor, and Coolmoors record-breaking champion, Sadlers Wells. Recent years have seen new chapters written in Ballydoyle's storied history as Aidan O'Brien begins to carve out his own legend. The legend brings Ballydoyle to Downers Grove, Aurora, and Bloomingdale.

Phil Cullen, the owner of the three Ballydoyle Irish Pub and Restaurants grew up in Iowa. His grandparents were from County Wexford and Cork. He arrived in

Chicago in 1990 and settled with his wife who is from the Downers Grove area. While in Ireland celebrating his parents 50th wedding anniversary, he was at a popular place called Johnny's Fox Pub in Dublin. While there, he experienced such a memorable time he looked at his brother and said, "I have to build a pub."

He opened the first of three Ballydoyle Irish Pub and Restaurants in Downers Grove in 2002 followed by Ballydoyles Irish Pub and Restaurants in Aurora and Bloomingdale. The restaurants transport you to Ireland. They are transformed into authentic Irish family rooms with the rustic fireplaces, old wood, and antiques. Irish music plays in the background; the only thing that was missing was the aroma of burning pete. At the Downers Grove location, check out the library cathedral room and the Highland room. All the rooms are cozy and can accommodate any type of gathering, party or special event, big or small. There is no cost for reserving any of the rooms, and the décor is whimsical and true to the Irish heritage.

To enjoy special and memorable times, you don't need to reserve a room because there are many unique and fun events scheduled all year. Phil is very involved with the communities and does many charity events and fund raisers such as the HGNA Pancake breakfast, Veterans Honor Flight and the upcoming Toys for Tots drive supported by the Joy Riders on Saturday December 15th. A unique event, open to the public is the Bacon and Beer Dinner scheduled for December 13th. The true bacon lover will experience a delicious bacon and horseradish cream puff on top of a perfectly cooked steak. Even the dessert has bacon infused into the dark chocolate sauce smothering the ice-cream. A Lagunita's beer rep from California will be present to discuss and sample beers.

The cigar socials at the Aurora location have Scotch and Whiskey tastings, and a Jameson Boot Camp sometime in December. If you are lucky enough, you can even catch the Quiet Man play being read by local actors on one of the many stages.

Phil mentions how beer is an important part of history, and he celebrates it by a constant rotation of 42 beers on tap. Have you heard of the "perfect pint?" That's what they are serving every time! I was given a firsthand lesson on how to pour the "perfect pint" of Guinness by Phil. You must let the beer settle and have the correct tilt of the glass. It must be rich and creamy, and you cannot rush the process. At the pub, the beer temperature is set at the perfect 37-41 degrees at all times. Twice a year there is a Guinness dinner where you can learn how to pour the perfect pint, so keep a look out

for that! It is truly a skill. Increase your tips to the bartenders, because there's more than meets the eye when you are ordering your Guinness!

Now, let's get to the food! The menu includes Phil's grandmother's authentic recipes. Some of the local favorites are the hand-cut corned beef dinner and sandwich. This is deliciously spiced and slow roasted for



Phil Cullen, Owner of the Ballydoyle Irish Pub and Restaurants. Don't forget to ask him about the how to pour the perfect pint!

up to 12 hours. The chef hand cuts every order. The "to die for" boxty's fresh ingredients and choices of chicken, steak or veggie is infused with a delicious mushroom gravy! I highly recommend the hearty Beef and Guinness stew and the Fish Fry with your choice of Cod or Haddock. Irish breakfast can be ordered any time of day or night, and the Jim Diamond's sausages with black and white pudding is nothing short of spectacular!

For dessert, Grandma's bread pudding with a subtle whiskey sauce or deep fried cheese cake tower will be hard to share!

The open mic nights and bands are lined up to play on the main stage, check out the website for all the upcoming music and events! Don't wait too long to get to Ballydoyle Irish Pub and Restaurant because life is too short! I look forward to seeing your smiling face there!

www.ballydoylepub.com

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com.ballydoyle.downersgrove>

Locations: 5157 Main Street Downers Grove (630) 969-0600

152 Stratford Drive

Bloomingdale (630) 924-8800

28 West New York Street

Aurora (630) 844-0400

Raisin' The Roof Project Needs Your Input on December 9th

You're invited to the "Raisin'The Roof Project" planning meeting which will be held at 3pm at the Irish American Heritage Center, Sunday, December 9.

The Irish American Heritage Center is raising funds to replace the roof, (which hasn't been done in over 40 years.).

The center is looking for ways to raise the rest of the money needed. A fair amount has already been acquired.

All members, and non-members, committee members, past presidents and past-board members are invited to this meeting

to exchange ideas and form the committee that will make this happen.

You don't want to be on the committee, but have an idea or two? That's okay! Bring those ideas to this informal Raising the Roof Party, and be a part of this major project."

Light refreshments will be served. Your ideas, input and advise are needed!

The Raising the Roof Fundraiser Party will be held in February at the center. Music, food, drink, auction, silent auction, raffle and more! Please watch this paper for the date!



The ELDERS

The greatest Irish-American folk rock band

JAN 25th - AURORA

JAN 26th - DOWNERS GROVE

BOOK YOUR PARTY TODAY!
MAKING PARTIES SIMPLE, ONE PINT AT A TIME.
www.BALLYDOYLEPUB.com

Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Do You Still Think There's No Need to Mention Abortion, Enda?

Let's look at this utterly pointless referendum that we were just lately instructed to vote YES to. All the major goons had people convinced that if they didn't do what they were told that they were

some sort of monsters who hated children. For my own good reasons I had been advocating a NO vote for weeks; but to tell you the truth I didn't really have my heart in it, so sure I was that the YES side had it tied up just due to the lack of information from the opposition. But at least some people changed their minds after the extraordinary events leading up to the actual polling day.

A Dublin engineer called Mark McCrystal had decided to take a legal challenge against the referendum and on the Thursday beforehand the Supreme Court ruled that the campaign run by the Government was NOT fair, was NOT equal, was NOT impartial. This was a unanimous decision by the five most senior judges. Over one million Euros of taxpayers' money has been used by our corrupt Government in order to print literature and run a website that would give people erroneous information; to lie to them.

In a sane country that should have been that. The referendum

should have been at the very least postponed until the people could be given some proper, impartial, non-Government controlled information to digest. But that would be in a sane country with a Government that acted on behalf of the people, not its own agenda; and so we were told that the vote was going to go ahead regardless of what small details like a finding from the SUPREME COURT entailed!

Move along there, ladies and gentlemen, nothing to see...nothing to see here. We accept the findings and respect them but we're going to ignore them anyway. It's time to put the past behind us and move on!

Well, that's what I expected them to say and I wasn't too far wrong

It actually went like this: "We sought advice from the Attorney General's office". Yes, that's impressive so they must have steered you right. No, they were "wrong". What? Wait a minute; this is the ATTORNEY GENERAL'S office?

"Legal advice can be wrong." Well, surely some people will be getting sacked over this waste of taxpayers' money. Heh heh, are you mad? This is Ireland. Nobody will lose their job over this. Anyway, it was only a million Euros and a bundle of lies for your own good. If we had left you to think for yourselves you might have voted NO and then we would have to do it all again until you got it right.

Like the Lisbon Treaty. Like Nice. Remember them? That's democracy, Irish style.

The Fine Gael director of elections, Leo Varadkar stepped forward to say with authority: "The people make the final decision on this matter and the people will make the final decision tomorrow."

The final decision, eh? Even if it's NO? I guess that Leo has erased the original Lisbon and Nice results from history as well.

"If the Government made a mistake here in the information booklet we hold our hands up and we accept that." That's big of you! But what's this IF you made a mistake. Weren't you listening? The Supreme Court didn't mention any if, but or maybe. Then again, you are completely ignoring the Supreme Court in any case which makes me wonder exactly what use it is now at all.

It will publish its findings in full on December the 11th. Maybe I'm just being awkward but I would have thought that was a bit late in the day.

Former MEP and No campaigner Kathy Sinnott said: "The very contempt that the State showed its people in producing one-sided leaflets has now been exposed by the Supreme Court...and that same contempt is the kind they hold us the voters in."

Whilst Mr. McCrystal, the man who got all this rolling said: "People should pay careful attention now at this stage to the Government using taxpayers' money in a way which is not consistent with a fair and open democracy."

And suddenly, all that written yesterday seems unimportant. Tonight (Thursday 14th November) there will be a demonstration outside the Dail to ask our useless bunch to finally get the legislation on abortion sorted out. And here in Galway there will be a candlelit vigil on Saturday to remember Savita Praveen Halappanavar who died in University Hospital Galway after being refused an abortion. She had been admitted whilst undergoing a miscarriage but the foetus was still inside her and when a heartbeat was detected the decision was taken to keep it alive, despite the mother's pleas over three days to have the foetus

taken out of her. By the time the heart had stopped beating she had developed septicaemia and she died too.

It is twenty years since the Supreme Court (again!) ruled on the 1992 X Case that abortion should be permitted in Ireland under the Constitution if the mother's life is in danger. But no government has ever been willing to follow this through legislation as it has been such a contentious issue, Supreme Court or no. I really have to wonder what that court is for as no one seems to listen to them, anyway. And we have been waiting months now for the report that will move us forward on a ruling by the European Court on this country's abortion laws. Of course that one has been delayed and delayed. Sure, what's the rush? If we delay long enough some other lot will be in power and it'll be their problem.

Surprise, surprise. A woman dies for no reason and suddenly Minister for Health Dr. Reilly has the report on his desk.

Gerry Adams had to ask repeatedly in the Dail today for a timeline for when legislation will be brought forward regarding X. The best he could get out of Enda Kenny was that he wouldn't "say anything in this house until we are in full possession of the facts. Anything that we do will not bring back the good woman that has passed away." Well, he got that part right anyway.

Just by the way, I know it's a grey area for doctors because of the lack of political will, but what's wrong with doing the right thing as opposed to the strictly legal thing?

What a mess: a mixture of political cowardice, ludicrous church-inflicted views (on a woman whose religion it wasn't) and a profession that are afraid of being sued so much that someone has to die.

Remember that self-serving Time magazine interview, just two months ago, that you all loved so much. Do you recall when Enda was asked for his views on abortion and said that he was personally against it but sure, not to worry: "I think that this issue is not a priority for the government now."

I wonder if you still feel that way, Enda.



VIRTUAL BUSINESS OFFICE

- Prestigious downtown address
- Mail-forwarding service
- Personalized answering service
- Conference room or day office usage
- Administrative support services
- No locked in contracts
- Customized packages with fixed monthly invoices
- Great business image

Contact us today for your Private Tour and Introduction

Barrett Office Suites & Services
Your Business Our Centre



135 South LaSalle Street • Suite 2100
• Chicago, Illinois 60603 •
312.254.8700
www.barrettoffices.com

Have nun, will travel

Bring one of these hilarious one-woman shows to your very own parish or school!

Fundraisers + Staff/volunteer thank-you events + Alumni weekends



"Sharp, funny, and richly humane" - Chicago Tribune

Late Nite Catechism

by Vicki Quade and Maripat Donovan

Sunday School Cinema

by Vicki Quade

Put the Nuns in Charge!

by Vicki Quade

NEW! Saints & Sinners

by Vicki Quade

www.Nuns4Fun.com

Phone 773-857-7741

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1. Publication Title: *Irish American News*

2. Publication Number: *1085-4057*

3. Filing Date: *11-24-12*

4. Issue Frequency: *Monthly*

5. Number of Issues Published Annually: *12*

6. Annual Subscription Price: *\$30.00/Year*

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4#):
*PO Box 7
Zion IL 60099*

Contact Person: *Cliff Carlson*
Telephone (include area code):

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer):
*2904 Ezekiel
Zion IL 60099*

9. Full Name and Complete Mailing Address of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank):
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address): *Cliff Carlson
2904 Ezekiel
Zion IL 60099*
Editor (Name and complete mailing address): *Cathy Curry
2904 Ezekiel
Zion IL 60099*
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address):

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)

Full Name	Complete Mailing Address
<i>Irish News Inc</i>	<i>2904 Ezekiel Zion IL 60099</i>

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box None

Full Name	Complete Mailing Address
-----------	--------------------------

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one)
 Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
 Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

13. Publication Title: *Irish American News*

14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: *10-26-12*

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation

Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months		No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		
(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	<i>15,000</i>	<i>15,000</i>
(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	<i>2262</i>	
(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	<i>5254</i>	
(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	<i>379</i>	
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		<i>7895</i>
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)		
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541		
(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541		
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	<i>11</i>	
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	<i>4994</i>	
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))		<i>7005</i>
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		<i>14899</i>
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		<i>101</i>
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		<i>15000</i>
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		<i>53%</i>

16. Total circulation includes electronic copies. Report circulation on PS Form 3526-X worksheet.

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership
 If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the *December* issue of this publication. Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: *Cliff Carlson* Date: *11-24-12*

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

PS Form 3526, August 2012 (Page 2 of 3)



pH Factor

By Pat Hickey



Well, Fiddle Dee Dee Fidelity!

"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?" Luke 16: 10-12

Are you monogamous in your love relationship? Note that I use the singular in a vain attempt to poison the well. Are you an athlète sexuelle? You know - are priapistic pig of a Papa, or a mattress-backed Mama? Heavens, I hope not.

Monogamy is mocked. Family is fun to ridicule. Fathers are fatuous and Moms must be single in popular culture. Infidelity is as old the Veteris Testament; witness Abraham, Moses, David and Solomon and many other biblical bounders of old. That does not mean that therefore one should leap over the back yard fence and give the neighbor's hubby or frau a thump on the Simonz. In fact, that could, with all too real probability in my immediate parish, earn the vaulting horn-dog a Louisville Slugger shampoo, or a cap in the ass. You see, I live in a Catholic swan community - mate for life by and large.

I witnessed acts of infidelity . . . rather, I heard about them, more precisely . . . for Crissakes, I'm not a peeping Paddy. I bore witness to acts of infidelity. There. And bored I was when informed by a jackass of my acquaintance that he 'loved his pregnant wife, but damn it a man has needs.' Do, he?

My wife was wildly with child at the time this mewling mope decided to share his extra-curricular

humping and grinding with me. I was as uncomfortable with his tales of adulterous hammerings as I would be with any half-wit's accounts of self-satisfy acts of onanism. Solitary Man, in deed.

I believe in staying faithful to one woman . . . at a time. Once married that's it. I am not, nor do I consider myself virtuous - it is what it is. Like most of my contemporaries, I watched hours of bed hopping Bonds and blaggards, but not feel compelled to imitate art anymore than I did as lad watching Superman in black and white. Though I have heard about youngsters falling to their deaths from great heights wearing a cape, the yarns seemed locally apocryphal - "No way! What a J.O.!" Junior onanist.

Thus, while gifted and cursed with a splendidly healthy ego and libido, I did not feel compelled to exercise ideas or inclinations without a consideration of consequence and condition.

Some lads learn at an early age to artfully spread their seed like an industrial-farm Frontier pendular hooked up to a John Deere 9230. Some seed fruited and Johnny Ample Seed married young. Fidelity was taught. It not only meant that if one turned a TV on it would go one, but that a man would be true to his girl and then to his wife. I do not remember the husband and wives at one of my parents' parties tossing car-keys into a bowl, nor do I recall incidents of adults engaged in adultery - I am reasonably certain that someone within walking distance of 1755 West 75th Place, Chicago, Il Zone 20 - Stewart 3-1560 may have diddled someone other than the betrothed Mrs., or Mr., Randy Indasaddle from across the street.

These thoughts came to my rather Ramen-like labyrinthine layers of logic when I read about the threat to National Security caused by General Petraeus's admitted in-

fidelity. His West Point motto was Honor, Duty and Country - didn't say nothing about Fidelity.

Military men have been cadets historically. Achilles, Alexander, Caesar, Lord Nelson and Napoleon were all randy rangers. The best of them managed their away games on battlefield and in the boudoir mightily handsomely. The Iron Duke, Dublin-born Arthur Wellesley was a hound what am a hound. That the future Duke of Wellington was Irish born was mere circumstance as the Iron Duke repudiated his Irish identity - " Sir, because a man is born in a stable does not make him a horse." True, Duke, but it may have contributed to the stallion-ing about that occupied your busy "Me Time" when not slaughtering Hindus, Afghans, and Frenchmen. The humor is on me now! As it were. The Iron Duke contracted to marry a woman of his own class and breeding and honor-bound to words of betrothal went off to India for a number of years. Upon his return, he discovered that his bride to be had packed on some tonnage and managed to ugly-up in the soldier's absence. True to his word he married Fanny Pakenham and proceeded to have his wicked way every un-Fanny female to cross his path. He married and remained unfaithful to Fanny until his untimely death at 83 in 1853.

That old Irish ditty, which be-moaned the agony of a loveless marriage, did not countenance infidelity, but abstinence Voila! Oh, the humor is on me now. Oh, the humor is on me now. Sayin' I will and I must get married for the humor is on me now. (chorus) So at last the daughter married -- She married well-to-do -- And loved her darlin' husband For a month, a year or two. But Sean was all a tyrant, And she quickly rued her vow, Sayin' I'm sorry I ever got married for the humor is off me now. Oh, the humor is off me now. Oh, the humor is off me now. Sayin' I'm sorry I ever got married for the humor is off me now.

Could Wellesley have defeated his Corsican counterpart in Belgium had he remained celibate? *Continued to next page*

FitzGerald's

MUNDY

6615 Roosevelt Road
Berwyn, IL 60402

December
8th - 8pm



Piping It In

Jack Baker



bands some day.

On Monday December 17th we'll get a chance to see the young talent from the Academy at

their recital in the 5th Province Pub at the Irish American Heritage Center, 7:30 PM. Come on out and join me in giving these young pipers and drummers a little support as they show off the skills they've been developing. To learn when and where the City of Chicago Pipe Band is playing, follow their exploits on their webpage Chicagopipeband.com.

Classic Irish recordings pop up in the most unusual circumstances. A case in point is the recording made to sell at the benefit held last month for Maurice Lennon. A bunch of Maurice's friends and fans got together to raise some money and part of the effort was a CD made up from donated tracks. The resulting CD, "When Hope Dawns At Sunrise", of which only 1000 were made, is a classic, the quality of which I've seldom heard. The donating



artists were, in no special order, Daniel O'Donnell, Margo O'Donnell, Dolly Parton, Moore & Broaders, Liz Carroll, John Doyle, Dennis Cahill, Kathleen Keane, Paddy Homan, Bua, Mike Considine, John Williams, Dean Magraw, Kathy Cowan & Kiltartan Road, Joe McShane, Chicago Reel, Christa Burch, Catherine O'Connell and even one track by Maurice himself. The result is one of the finest collections of tunes you could hope to put together and all in support of one of the finest fiddlers ever, not to mention a great guy too.

Not all of the CDs were sold at the benefit, so the committee placed some at a couple stores in the Chicago area along with the gift shop at the Heritage Center. You can also get them online at www.mauricelennonfundraiser.com. You can also make a donation at Maurice Lennon Fundraiser

c/o Ella Riordan-Pacheco
Signature Bank

6400 N. Northwest Highway, Chicago, IL 60631

Checks payable to "Maurice Lennon Fundraiser"

Thanks to MaryAnn Keifer for turning me on to the final CD I'm expounding on today. She called me awhile back and said that she'd gotten in a CD from a young band in Texas and was listening to it and said "I haven't heard anything I didn't like!" She got the band to send me a copy and I too didn't hear anything I didn't like. The band's name is Flashpoint and their debut CD is called "Jammed" and it is certainly jammed full of evidence of this band's collective talent. The band consists of three young men, and take note of these names because I'm sure that this will not be the last time you hear of them, Joseph Carmichael on guitar, flute and low whistle; David Mehalko on fiddle and Daniel Mehalko on banjo, mandolin and low whistle. The Mehalko brothers hooked up with Joseph Carmichael in 2009 at the O'Flaherty Irish Music Youth Camp in Dallas and have been playing together since. Their sound is pure trad, played

with exuberance, joy and a genuine love for the music. They know what they're doing and they're having fun doing it and the fun is communicated to the listener. I hear people wonder where the traditional musicians will come from in the future, well here's three of them coming from Dallas and sounding pretty darn good. Their website is www.flashpointirish.com and I hope we get to see them at some of the local festivals next year.

Let me close out this month and year with a sincere wish for a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year. Don't forget to throw some business to your local Irish store this holiday season, the big boxes don't need you but we little guys sure do. Finally a New Year's thank you to Gayle, my long-suffering wife, proof reader and conscience, Thank You Dear.

You can find me in Rampant Lion at 630-834-8108, 47 S. Villa Ave, Villa Park or online at pipingitin@comcast.net

Slainté

**WANT TO
SUBSCRIBE!**
Start the
New Year Off Right!
call 847-872-0700
New Subscribers
\$5.00 Off
(mention this ad)

PH Factor

Continued from previous page

We will never know. The old sinner waxed Napoleon and then bullied Europe at the Congress of Vienna for the next twenty years. A publisher threatened to print his letters to the celebrated hooker of Hyde Park, Mrs. Henrietta Wilson, a notorious trollop who would today be a spokesperson for Planned Parenthood. The Iron Duke without a cocked eyebrow caned the blackmailing ink-slinger aside and muttered – "publish and be damned."

We live in times that make a splendid mockery of virtue, valor, family and fidelity. The Presidential Priapus – Bubba Bill Clinton diddle his in and out the White House with no damage to himself, or his Old Lady. E-mails outed General Petraeus and he resigned.

Fidelity. If you are faithful in small things . . . like marriage, perhaps you could yet be faithful to the nation.

Whatever.

4544 N. Lincoln
773.728.6000

 **Old Town School
of Folk Music**

Cherish the Ladies Celtic Christmas

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 7:30PM



98.7wfmt 

oldtownschool.org

It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane and Margo O'Donnell



Hi everybody what a wonderful but busy month November has been. My charity concert in Chicago was as always magic for me. Just performing for the wonderful audience that attends is always such a joy. I got to visit with Nancy Kenny and we went to visit Mike's grave. I love the Kenny family I miss Mike so very much. I want to thank everyone for making my trip a special time. Also thank you to Cathy and Michael Boyle for their wonderful hospitality. Not forgetting that wonderful man Fr. Karl.

After the concert Joe, Shirley and myself headed down the I 65 to Nashville. It was like a dream going there with Joe. I wanted Joe to meet the legends backstage at the Grand Ole Opry. The

sheer excitement on Joe's face as he stood there where all the greats had stood was a pure joy to me. We also went to see the

Time jumpers and I passed on Joe's composed CD to Vince Gill. Plus some songs Joe and myself have written. That was a plus for both of us. On the trip to Nashville we wrote three new songs. One of them was a tribute to that great lady from County Mayo - Maureen O'Looney. On our journey back we talked and laughed and wrote two more songs. We have great memories of our first trip on our music partnership together. While in Nashville I visited the mausoleum where my dear friend Liz Anderson rests RIP. It has been a year now since she passed. We spent the day with her husband Casey. We talked a lot, we cried a lot. I really, really miss Liz. Casey give me a piece of her jewelry that was in a tissue paper with my name on it from Liz. I will

wear it forever and I will always hold her memory near to me.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas.

Love always Margo x

Over to you Joe.

Thank you Margo.

Well it really was a wonderful trip for sure and I will never forget it. Meeting all those great country stars backstage at the Opry was fantastic. It was also very special for me Margo spending some quality time on the road with you and writing some more songs. There are no words that could explain the joy I felt traveling with you and Shirley. It was a great time with some great laughs threw in for good measure. Another highlight of our trip was receiving honorary citizenship along with you and Forrest Lee Jr in Erin, Tennessee. I'm still dizzy from that one. Its great to see the people of Erin are

so proud of their Irish heritage.

I hope everybody had a good Thanksgiving. The Martin McGarry benefit is on December 2nd. I will be performing there at 1pm. I hope it's a huge success. I love the way the people of Chicago really pull together in times of need and it makes me very proud to be a part of this community.

Well Christmas is upon us and so this month we will include a new song written by Margo, James Thacker and myself called "The Wish Of Ireland" It's an up-tempo song about the old traditions of Ireland. Unfortunately time ran out on us, so it didn't get recorded. Hopefully next year. On that note I'd like to wish my dear friend Margo, all my family especially Margaret and Declan and all our friends, a very Merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year. Be good to each other.

Best wishes from Margo and Joe

"The Wish Of Ireland"

written by Margo O'Donnell, Joe McShane and James Thacker

Stockings on the bed post as we all set the scene
 For a miracle to happen over night as we all dream
 The children so excited, with Christmas Drawing near
 Heart's that beat with gladness, sure its that time of year
 Santa Claus is coming, the children shout with joy
 All aboard the sleepy ship bound for the land of toys
 Then on that holy morning to the old church down the road
 We'll celebrate the birth of Jesus, all those years ago

Chorus
 Ah! the old tradition will live on as solid as a rock
 A ring of holly on the door, extra spuds threw in the pot
 A welcome by the fireside to a stranger or a friend
 Keep the Christmas spirit, is the wish of Ireland
 Candles flicker in the windows, oh what a sight to see
 A message from old Ireland, to the holy family
 Sitting by the fireside hearing tales of long ago
 Then mother singing sweetly, see amid the winter snow
 Grandad's hob nailed boots come dancin' cross the floor
 Failte, Nollag shona meets the neighbours at the door
 We'll all join in the music, Daddy plays the bosca ceoil
 With a glass of stout and a drop of punch to keep away the cold

Keep A Song in Your Heart

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and healthy New Year!

Thank - you for all your support in 2012!

From Joe, Margaret and Declan McShane

Also best wishes from Ireland : Margo O'Donnell

OLD ORCHARD INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.
 Since 1946
"We sell Peace Of Mind."
 HOME • LIFE • AUTO • HEALTH • BUSINESS
ALL TYPES OF CONTRACTORS
 14308 Union Orchard Park, IL 60462
708-349-2000



Beautiful Oceanfront Cottage in Dingle for rent
 Remodeled and furnished. 4 bedroom, 4 bath with a fabulous view of the ocean at the mouth of Dingle harbor. Short walk to beach and only two miles from Dingle town. Sleeps 8-10. Call Colleen 312-399-8793

Real Ireland



By Rachel Gaffney



Christmas Chutney

It was election day. A day of media frenzy. Presidential polls were being updated every thirty minutes. After placing his vote, my husband came home for lunch before returning to his office. Upon entering, one may have been forgiven for thinking that our kitchen echoed the same frenzy.

Mason jars and lids were lined upon the counter tops, allspice berries spilled, scraps of cheesecloth strewn about, twine unfurled in pieces, onion skins curled, vinegar splashes, golden brown sugar crystals glistened when the sun caught them.

I like to call it organized chaos.

My husband stood there looking at me and said... "I love you"

He tells me this quite regularly, but this time was different, I just intrinsically knew it was different. I was

pretty sure that the aromas in our kitchen had triggered this declaration of love. The sense of smell is a powerful sense. It acts like a key. It unlocks the memory bank in the blink of an eye. Some memories may not be so pleasant but most tend to be. Our olfactory nerves are truly magical as they have the ability to take us back to cherished places, times and moments. Our very own time machines.

The rooms seemed particularly cozy on this election day. A wood fire was crackling, occasionally spitting pieces in wayward directions. The curtains were drawn in an effort to keep the heat indoors. Oranges pierced with cloves hung by lengths of satin ribbon.

Wire cooling racks played host to stacks of freshly baked mince pies. The aromas of cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, cloves and allspice hung in the air. Bing Crosby sang 'White Christmas' in the background and all was right with the world. My mum hummed along with Bing and moved about the kitchen with such focus that I often wonder if she knew we were there. Of course she knew we were there. How could she not? These tasty treats, were made for us. The effort was for us. They were baked with love. These were our traditions.

On this election day, the aromas from my christmas chutney simmering on the stove, took me back to my childhood. On this election day it was in fact a glorious sunny day in Dallas, Texas, but my olfactory senses took me back to the crackling fire and memories from my childhood home. My intuition tells me that on this

election day, when my husband entered our kitchen, his olfactory senses transported him back to a place he remembers too with love, his own mothers kitchen. This is why he declared his love for me. For food and their wonderfully powerful aromas stir the senses and ignite the soul. I wonder where this christmas chutney will take you?

CHRISTMAS CHUTNEY

2 cups cider vinegar

2 medium yellow onions peeled and finely chopped

2 cups soft brown sugar

1 1/4 cups pitted dried prunes

1 1/4 cups dried apricots

1 1/4 cups raisins or golden raisins

1 tsp salt

2 tablespoons allspice berries

1 tablespoon freshly grated ginger or 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger

Tie the allspice berries in a piece of cheesecloth.

Begin by finely chopping the prunes, apricots and onions.

Bring the vinegar, salt and ginger to a boil in a large saucepan. (preferably not copper as this will react with vinegar)

Reduce the heat and stir in the sugar, allowing it to dissolve.

Spoon in the chopped ingredients and raisins and place the allspice berries in the center. Stir gently.

Allow to simmer, uncovered for about 1 1/2 hours. Stir occasionally to prevent from sticking or burning.

NOTE: If it gets too dry then add a little more vinegar.

If you would like, add a little brandy to taste when finished. Pour into already prepared, sterilized jars. Decorate with some ribbon & labels.

My favorite way to enjoy this chutney is served with crispy french bread and a generous portion of Kerrygold Cashel Blue Cheese.



KIVLEHAN INSURANCE AGENCY

Your Trusted Irish Connection to the Insurance Industry

708-671-9010

Contractors and Builders Risk,
Condo and Apartment Buildings
our Specialties Since 1990

11519 S. Harlem Ave.
Worth, IL 60482

John's Cell
708-369-6639

MO DAILEY'S
6070 N Northwest Hwy
Chicago 773.774.6121
www.modaileys.com
facebook.com/modaileys
Sun-Fri 11am-2am Sat 11am-3am

**FOOTBALL HEADQUARTERS
COLLEGE-NFL TICKET**

PRIVATE PARTY ROOM-BOOK HOLIDAY PARTIES ASAP
773.774.6121

SATURDAYS

\$12 Domestic Buckets, \$2⁵⁰ Stadium Cup Drafts

\$5 20 Oz. Guinness, \$4 Glasses Of Wine

SUNDAYS

Live Irish Music

\$12 Domestic Buckets, \$6 Domestic Pitchers

\$5 Svedka Bloody Marys \$6 Vodka/Lemonade Pitchers

MONDAYS

\$2 Domestic Bottle \$5 Long Island Ice Tea
and \$5 "Mo Burgers"

TUESDAYS

\$2 U-Call-Its!

WEDNESDAYS

Ladies Night 1/2 off Bottles Of Wine

\$5 Martinis \$2⁵⁰ Domestic Pints \$4 Bacardi Mixers

DAILY: \$5 Martinis & \$4 Cherry, Grape & O Bombs!

RESTAURANT/PUB

OWNERS:

FERDYNAND & ANNA HEBAL

Invite you to enjoy

The Red
Apple Buffet!

Czerwone Jabtuszeko
RESTAURANT & DELI'S

3121-23 N. MILWAUKEE AVE

PH 773-588-5781

FAX 773-588-3975

6474 N. MILWAUKEE AVE.

PH 773-763-3407 FAX 773-763-3406

FIDDLER'S HEARTH

A FAMILY-FRIENDLY PUBLIC HOUSE
IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN
SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

127 N. Main Street (between Colfax & Washington)



Shepherd Pie ♣ Fish & Chips ♣ Bangers & Mash
Seafood ♣ Steaks ♣ Smoked Salmon ♣ Pub Burgers
Traditional Breakfast ♣ Sunday Brunch with Live Music
Imported Whiskys ♣ Perfect Pints Certified by Guinness
Live Music Daily ♣ Tailgate Packages Available
Take the Notre Dame Stadium Shuttle to/from our door!

(574) 232-2853 ♣ www.fiddlershearth.com

Open Daily for Lunch & Dinner

Notre Dame Conquers Trojans in Epic Goal Line Stand

By Coleman Clarke

The ghosts of Knute Rockne and the Four Horsemen had to be smiling down on the Fighting Irish who conquered the USC Trojans on Saturday night in the Los Angeles Coliseum 22 to 13. This was the first time since 1988,

early ten point lead ending the half with a score of 16-10 – not a real secure lead. In the second half, the Trojans, sputtered as the Irish defense smothered their running game and harassed backup quarterback, Max Wittek, who had guaranteed USC victory days

to run the ball with All-American Silas Redd, who was demolished by the Irish defense as he tried to bulldoze his way into the end zone. Wittek tried a quarterback sneak that was also snuffed out by the Irish defense.

Then as the clock ticked for the

This is a Cinderella season that Hollywood turns into movies—the tale of a true underdog that rallied around a leader in Heisman candidate Linebacker Manti Te'o, who embodies all that is great in college sports.

The Irish will have to wait for 41 days to compete for the

national championship -- against either Alabama or Georgia. If they win the national title, we will be talking about this team and Brian Kelly like we have talked about the Four Horsemen and Knute Rockne and Frank Leahy and Ara Parseghian and Dan Devine and Lou Holtz.



Knute Rockne -and Babe Ruth in ND uniform and Lou Gehrig in USC uniform circa 1920

that Notre Dame has been undefeated in the regular season—a fact made even more compelling since Notre Dame was not even ranked at the beginning of the season with little chance, it seemed, of getting an invite to the BCS national championship game in Miami, Florida on January, 7th.

So, Saturday night's win over the University of Southern California, USC, surrounded by a frenzied USC crowd capped a Cinderella season that has pollsters gasping and now unanimous in voting the Irish #1. The atmosphere before the opening kick-off was electric with anticipation as injured starting quarterback for the Trojans, Matt Barkley ran onto the field as Phil Collin's "In the Air Tonight" pumped over the PA system.

The Trojans looked ready for a challenge knowing that a win over Notre Dame would salvage their season while the Irish needed this win to secure a berth to the national championship game, their first invite since 1988. The Irish jumped out to an

before.

Despite Notre Dame offense moving the ball against USC, with senior running back Theo Riddick, the game's MVP, they could still only manage field goals against the Trojans, keeping them within striking distance. With around five minutes left, USC Quarterback Max Wittek found a streaking Marqise Lee for a 53 yard gain to the Irish 5 yard line.

With Notre Dame's season hanging in the balance of four and a half minutes of play, the Irish would make a legendary stand for the ages. Twice, USC got the ball in the end zone and drew two pass interference penalties against Notre Dame, giving the Trojans automatic first downs and a seemingly easy opportunity for a touchdown to draw within 2 points of the Irish.

But something amazing happened. . The Irish silenced the Trojans three times on the one yard line. The Irish simply refused to relinquish a touchdown as the Trojans tried desperately

Trojans, USC Head Coach Lane Kiffin frantically called the plays in to his team for the fourth down play that would decide the fate of the Irish. On fourth down, Wittek threw a pass that fell incomplete in another goal line stand as the jubilant Irish savored the victory. Irish Head Coach Brian Kelly has evolved into a superb coach in his third year and his team has unanimously bought into his program. He has succeeded in changing the culture of losing that had taken hold for so long at Notre Dame and built a championship defense by recruiting players like Stephan Tuitt and Louis Nix, two stalwarts on the Notre Dame defensive line. Now, he is on the verge of leading the Irish to their most improbable championship ever.

This Notre Dame team has taken on all comers with the stubborn resolve of their feisty head coach; exhibiting remarkable poise. They showed their first signs of greatness with a convincing win on the road at Michigan State.



STATE BANK
OF COUNTRYSIDE

SPECIALIZING IN:

- Checking Accounts
- Savings Accounts
- Debit Cards with Cash Rewards
- SBC Internet Banking
- SBC Billpay
- SBC Online Statements
- Certificates of Deposit

SIX LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

16250 S. LaGrange Rd. Orland Park, IL 60467 (708) 873-1485	6734 Joliet Road Countryside, IL 60525 (708) 485-3100
3323 N. Clark St. Chicago, IL 60657 (773) 755-2500	6053 W. 79th Street Burbank, IL 60459 (708) 599-9860
15980 S. Parker Rd. Homer Glen, IL 60491 (708) 301-5800	7380 S. Route 83 Darien, IL 60561 (630) 655-3113

www.statebankofcountryside.com

Learning a Few of Life's Lessons through Music and Irish History

By Mark Small

In her first public television production, A Celtic Awakening, Faith-Marion Robinson (pictured) showcases her formidable gifts as a singer, actress, and storyteller in a multimedia concert filmed at Detroit's historic Masonic Temple Chapel. "Throughout my life I've been singing, acting, and producing," says Robinson. "A few years ago I decided to bring all of those aspects of my life together in one artistic piece."

With backing from an ensemble of traditional Celtic instrumentalists and vocalists and orchestral players, Robinson uses 17 musical numbers drawn from Irish folk and contemporary popular music as her vehicle. Through thoughtful tune se-

lection and spectacular visuals of the Irish countryside, Robinson weaves a tale of hope and triumph over adversity inspired by Irish history and events from her own life.



"I produced my first recording in 2006, and then I lost my job in the financial services industry during the 2008 financial crisis," Robinson says. "That loss became

a catalyst for me to put my music together with a story of what matters most to me and my love of Ireland. It begins with the stock market crash and goes back and forth through time showing how the Irish people have suffered and come out for the better. I wanted to reinforce that we all can do that too. Ireland has achieved peace after centuries of conflict and can be a beacon of hope for other countries to follow suit."

Robinson served as writer and artistic director of the show and utilized such poignant Irish favorites ("The Town I Loved so Well," and "Danny Boy") lively dance numbers ("Lannigan's Ball" and "The Kerry Dance"), and classics from the Great American Songbook ("Bridge Over Troubled Water," "I Believe," "Somewhere" and "Over the Rainbow") to create her nar-

ative.

"We start out with the song "Steal Away" with footage shot at the Irish famine gravesite at Skibbereen, and the decision the people faced back then about whether to stay or leave their homelands," says Robinson. "That segues into 'Bridge Over Troubled Water' with footage shot on the rope bridge spanning a strait between two cliffs in Antrim, Northern Ireland. The message is that the human spirit can overcome."

A Celtic Awakening examines the strength and dynamics of family relationships and filial love as well as the indomitable spirit of the people of Ireland. Song selections were thoughtfully chosen to enable the lyrics of songs from a variety of musical genres to relate stories about the avoidable tragedy of the Irish famine, the Irish emigration, and the triumph of Ireland becoming

a player on the world stage in the 21st Century. Robinson's descant makes connections to the parallel story of the adversities that have shaped her life and artistry.

The project was funded through donations from Tourism Ireland, CIE Tours International, Awakening Media Productions, Fitzpatrick's Castle Hotel, Dalkey, Ireland, THIEA Couture, and others. It was produced by Detroit Public Television and is being distributed by American Public Television (APT).

"I've been inspired by Public Television shows and am a huge fan of their programming," Robinson says. "This show is my way of giving back by creating something that I hope will stimulate audience members to be generous during upcoming fundraising drives."

A Celtic Awakening is a departure from other Irish music programming aired on the Public Television network in that it incorporates musical performances with a dramatic storyline integrating episodes from Irish history and breathtaking landscapes from several counties of the Eire Island.

"Creating this film was an enormous amount of fun as well as a labor of love and commitment by all those involved," says Robinson. "We had so much fun making it, that we felt at times that there must be a law against having that much fun!" Robinson is currently preparing a live concert tour of A Celtic Awakening that will play in major American cities.

Interested viewers can contact their local Public Television stations to request that program directors schedule airings of A Celtic Awakening in their region. For more information on Faith-Marion Robinson, the production, or to view excerpts from the show, visit www.faith-marionrobinson.com and click on the Facebook icon. Check local listings for airdates and times.

Winstons

4701 WEST 63RD STREET CHICAGO
773.767.4353

7959 WEST 159TH STREET TINLEY PARK
708.633.7500

MADE FRESH DAILY:

- IRISH SAUSAGE
- BLACK PUDDING
- WHITE PUDDING
- SODA BREAD
- BACON
- CORN BEEF
- SMOKE BUTTS

FULL LINE OF IMPORTED FOODS

Product Available at Fine Irish Shops All Over Chicagoland

WE SHIP UPS anywhere in the U.S.

MAKING FINE IRISH SAUSAGE FOR OVER 40 YEARS!

FOR THE FINEST IN DINING TRY

ASHFORD HOUSE RESTAURANT

FOR THE VERY BEST IN IRISH CUISINE

STEAKS • CHOPS • PASTA

7959 WEST 159TH STREET TINLEY PARK
708.633.7600

WWW.WINSTONSMARKET.NET

Michael Burke PennyWhistle CO.
www.burkewhistles.com

Professional Quality Instruments

618-648-5377
voicemail/fax

High Keys:
G F E E♭ D
C# C B B♭

Low Keys:
A A♭ G F F#
E E♭ D C# C

Taking Holiday Orders Now!

Call for Daily Specials...


Unforgettable Edibles Catering
Wishes You & Yours the Happiest of Holidays!
773-774-4001
We cater Family & Corporate Holiday Parties ✦ Book Now!
Buffets ✦ Party Trays ✦ Hors D'oeuvres ✦ Desserts
O'Connors Deli & Market
Irish Christmas Specialties Now in Stock!
773-631-0747
Homemade Soup & Chili
Hours: Sun-Mon 9:30am to 3pm ✦ Tues-Sat 9am to 7pm
 ✦ Cadbury ✦ Tea ✦
 ✦ Afternoon Tea ✦ Rashers ✦
 ✦ USA ✦ Bangers ✦

7280 West Devon
www.uecatering.com


Chicago, IL 60631
www.oconnorsdeli.com

Actor/Director Ed Burns Launches *The Fitzgerald Family Christmas* on i-Tunes and VOD

By Cliff Carlson

Irish American News talked with the affable actor/director, Ed Burns, about his latest movie, *The Fitzgerald Family Christmas*. Burns, from a large working class Irish family, is proud of his Irish heritage and not afraid to show it. *The Fitzgerald Family Christmas* explores an Irish family's attempt to reunite at Christmas time with a father who abandoned them 20 years earlier.

IAN: What did you do before the movie business?

Burns: I was an English major in school, and thought I wanted to be a novelist and I took a film class because I heard it might be an easy A, and as soon as I took the class I fell in love with film and switched gears. I gave up being a novelist and decided to be a writer/director.

I transferred to Hunter College, and went to night school there taking film production classes, needed a job, and got a job on the assignment desk of the six o'clock news for the local channel 5 in New York as a production assistant. I did that from the time I was 21 to I took *The Brothers McMullen* to the Sundance Film Festival at the age of 26. So, for five years I was basically fetching coffee for different news programs while I was writing my screenplays and made *Brothers McMullen*.

IAN: How did you get into the business?

Burns: At that time in the early 90's there were a lot of young film makers making these extremely low budget films that were being picked up for theatrical distribution and then getting the opportunities of working with a bigger budget. I had spent all of that time writing screenplays in my early 20's, and I probably wrote 6 or 7 screenplays, and sending them out to Hollywood. I was ideally looking to sell one but really just hoping to get an agent. I had no luck. I got nothing back but rejection letters.

When I saw these other guys making films, I had done a number of films in film school, so I thought, you know if they can do it, I can do it. With my dad's help we scraped together about 25,000 dollars, made *The Brothers McMullen*, got accepted into the Sundance Film Festival, and while we were there it won the Best Picture Award, the Grand Jury Award and Fox Search-

light bought into the distribution. So, that was my way in IAN: How many movies have you made?

Burns: *Fitzgerald's Family Christmas* is my eleventh film.

IAN: How many have you acted in

Burns: Probably 20 to 25.

IAN: By acting in these other films, did it help you make your films?

Burns: Yes, I'm one of the luckiest Indie filmmakers out there. After my third film I was asked to act in my first Hollywood feature, *Saving Private Ryan*. Not only an incredible break for a young actor, and a great learning experience for me working with Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg. As a filmmaker I got to go to graduate film school looking over the shoulder of one of the master



filmmakers. Every acting experience since I have been watching the director to see if there is anything I can learn from them.

IAN: Tell us about your latest movie.

Burns: *Fitzgerald's Family Christmas* is a look at a big Irish-Catholic working class family from Long Island, and the seven grown siblings have to deal with the fact that their father who had walked on the family 20 years earlier has asked to spend Christmas back with the family, and the mother, Rosie, absolutely refuses to allow

him back into her home. And, of course, the three days leading up to Christmas there is a lot of tough ground covered, difficult conversations are had. The movie is about forgiveness, and the importance of family. Even when your family is a little screwed up and maybe did some terrible things, at the end of the day it's most important.

Very early on after *The Brother's McMullen*, everyone wanted to know why it works? The more specific the story the more universal. That's the reason I wanted to go back to the neighborhood I grew up in and my memories and the stories I had heard over the years about my friends families and even some things from my family.

IAN: I see your current marketing approach is with social media and you are releasing your movies directly to the public, is that correct? What made you take this route?

Burns: A lot of the theaters that used to play these smaller movies has closed down. If you don't live in an urban area that has an Indie film theater, my movie is not going to get anywhere near you. We recognized that you could open up your movie in New York and L.A. and hopefully over the next four or five weeks you would get a larger distribution across the country and get to its audience. So we decided rather than stay in love with the theatrical experience, most folks were staying home and watching their films on flat screens, laptops and i-pads, so why don't we pipe these films directly into their living room. So the movie comes out today on both VOD (pay per view), and i-tunes. This is the third time I've done it. *Nice Guy Johnny* and did so well I'm in a position to make movies now

because the movies are making money.

We get the movies to the audience when they want it wherever they are and we get to hold on to a little of the money!

The decision to embrace digital distribution reminds me of when people wanted their music only on LP's. That was a sure way to go out of business pretty quick. I have a lot of young neices and nephews and I watched how they are watching films, and I knew that that was the way to go. www.fitzgeraldchristmas.com.

FREE
Conversation


the
Celtic Knot
PUBLIC HOUSE

Brunch • Lunch • Dinner

Afternoon Tea • Catering
Private Party Room Available
Worldwide Wine and Beer Selection

Storytelling • Live Music
Parking Across the Street in the Library Lot

"your home away from home"

626 Church St. | Evanston | 847-864-1679

www.celticknotpub.com

ALL IRISH FOODS

Importers & Distributors
in Chicago since 1987

The best from Ireland & the UK
*Tayto, Lucozade, Club Soda's,
Tea, Batchelors, Heinz,
Meats, Kerrygold, Irish Bread,
Sauces, Curry, Candy,
Cookies, Preserves, Oatmeal etc.*

Free Delivery Chicagoland
Tel: 224-534-7754
Fax: 847-556-0589

sales@allirishfoods.com
WHOLESALE ONLY

THE GALWAY ARMS
2442 NORTH CLARK STREET

Selected as one of

Chicago's Top 100 Bars by Chicago Magazine
Official **Chicago Fire Bar**
Chicago's Premier **Manchester United Bar**

LINCOLN PARK'S BEST SOCCER BAR

Now open for lunch

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 12pm
Special Lunch menu available during the week
from 12pm to 3pm

\$5 Beer of the Month Special
Dog Friendly Patio

Irish Brunch every Saturday and Sunday 11 am til 2pm
Live Music every Sunday night @ 8pm
with Paddy Homan & Guests

FIND GALWAY ARMS ON FACEBOOK

Voted Best Irish Bar 2007 & 2008 By AOL City-Search
Discounted parking is available from the Children's Memorial outpatient facility at 2515 N. Clark Street.

SOUL OF IRELAND, HEART OF CHICAGO
773-472-5555 - GALWAYARMS@CORE.COM

See You at the Thatch Pub December 9th

By Maryanne Fergus

Most days are a mad-dash-boy-scamble for 14-year-old Kieran and 9-year-old Declan King. The Jefferson Park brothers play nearly every park district sport, hang out at the local schoolyard with friends and naturally fend off any suggestion from parents, Joe and Maureen, to clean their rooms.

Kieran, a freshman at Taft High School, has begun to look at girls in a new way and hopes to take driver's education classes in the spring. Declan sneaks in a few episodes of *The Walking Dead* when his parents aren't watching and can't get enough of fourth grade science at Gavy Elementary School.

The boys' worlds are expanding every day just by virtue of their age and yet also closing in because of a rare inherited retinal degenerative disease that threatens to one day steal their vision.

Already, one of the first symptoms has struck: night blindness. The first episodes occurred last spring, slowing down time and making, in Declan's words, "everything seem smaller."

Just a few weeks ago, Declan was playing a night football game at Oriole Park when the lights flickered, causing him to cry out for his dad. Joe King immediately assured Declan that he was nearby, but can't as quickly forget the panic in his youngest son's voice.

Kieran, more guarded about such moments, laughs about tripping over a neighbor's fence at night.

This is a maddening disease called "Choroideremia" with no cure, no single rate of progression or degree of vision loss, even within the same family. Passed on through females via the X chromosome, it strikes males almost exclusively and can skip several generations before showing up again in a family.

With an estimated incident rate of 1 in 50,000, Choroideremia, or CHM for short, is not well known and often mis-diagnosed. Doctors initially told the Kings that Kieran was simply near sighted and had astigmatism in both eyes. It wasn't until after a few more failed vision tests, that both boys went to

the University of Illinois at Chicago and learned their diagnosis through a more in-depth exam.

Maureen grew up in County Kerry and had heard that her grandmother's brothers had terrible eyesight but there was no diagnosis or awareness of the genetic link. She never heard of the disease until a doctor told her that both her sons could go blind with it.

To learn more, Maureen and Joe, who hails from County Mayo, reached out to the Choroideremia Research Foundation, an international organization dedicated to raising awareness and money for research.

Cory MacDonald has run the organization from the basement of his Massachusetts home since the year 2000 when the non-profit was established with about 30 members, few funds and no hope for a cure.

But through families like the Kings, the organization has grown to more than 500 members who have raised nearly \$2 million to help fund four on-going clinical research trials across the globe.



Declan and Kieran King are fighting Choroideremia.

Funding for that research largely rests on the family and friends of those with the disease. This is a cause without a celebrity spokesperson. The closest they have to someone famous is E. J. Scott, a Long Island, New York man with the disorder who is expected to meet his goal of running 12 marathons blindfolded in 12 months on Dec. 2 in Las Vegas. While Scott has raised more than \$100,000 in donations, most people raise research funds through bake sales, house

parties and other grassroots events.

The Kings' family and friends are now doing their part with a Dec. 9 fundraiser at The Thatch Pub on Milwaukee Avenue in Chicago.

"Ten years ago, I'd have to say 'we're trying to raise money and we're hoping for the best,'" MacDonald said. "But now when a parent calls for the first time, I can say with full confidence 'Hang on, it's coming. I can't tell you how long it will be, but a cure is coming.'"

Truth About Kerry Score Goes Digital

The digital release of the soundtrack album for the award winning feature film, *Truth About Kerry*, by Los Angeles based Irish Composer Ciarán Hope has taken place.

Ciaran has worked diligently to present the thrillers delicately remixed score for fans of the genre. November's CD of the month at the Irish Contemporary Music Centre, the downloadable album includes a comprehensive digital booklet with behind the scenes pictures alongside a detailed commentary on the creative process that spawned the films music.

As a bonus track, the closing title theme song *Cry for the Last Time* by award-winning singer/songwriter Marina V was given a comprehensive remix by Hope, who incorporated many of his scores orchestral elements and textures into the song.

Irish writer/director Katie Torpey's film follows an Ameri-

can girl's journey to a small Irish fishing village, in an attempt to find out what happened to her best friend who was found dead 6 months earlier on a local beach. Shot on location in Waterville, Co. Kerry, the film stars Stana Katic from ABC's hit show *Castle*.

"The musical score Ciarán created was exactly what I wanted" says Torpey. She

continues, "He is great at composing music that evokes an emotional response to scenes with little or no dialogue and knows how to take an ordinary scene and use music to make it extraordinary". Producer Shaun O' Sullivan adds, "Ciarán has created a score of such depth and scope, it stands alone as a powerful piece of musical composition in it's own right."

The CD features a very strong Irish presence throughout, including celebrated Irish classical violinist Cora Venus Lunny (Ni-

gel Kennedy, Damien Rice, The Donal Lunny Band, Sinéad O Connor) who collaborated with the composer to sculpt a series of beautiful and evocative melodies for the film score, as well as close friends and legendary Irish band Kíla who recorded some Irish instruments in their unique style over a few tracks to add to Hopes vision for the musical textures



Ciaran Hope

of the soundtrack. Last but by no means least, Hope had fifth generation Irish piper Kevin Rowsome bring the landscapes of Ireland to life, recording all of the scores glorious Uilleann pipes in a Dublin studio.

Internationally, Hope's music has been performed at showcases such as the Electroacoustic Music Festival of Cadiz, the Symposium of Brazilian Computer Music and the Logan Chamber Music Series in the famed Chautauqua Institute, New York. This year, his music was selected for performance at the 2nd Irish Modern Music Festival of Beijing, and his recent commission for children's string orchestra, titled *A Spring Morning* premiered on the main concert stage at Euro Disney and the Church of Sainte-Merri in Paris.

Since being awarded a prestigious Arts Council of Ireland Project Bursary Award to write a new violin concerto for violinist Cora Venus Lunny, violinist and

composer have been collaborating closely on the new concerto, creating an exciting new work for the violin repertoire that they hope to premiere in 2013. Hope has also undertaken residencies at the Tyrone Guthrie Artist's retreat in Co. Monaghan and the Cill Rialaig Artist Retreat in remote Co. Kerry to work on the concerto, with the kind support of a 2011 Tyrone Guthrie Centre regional Bursary Award and a 2012 Cill Rialaig Residency Award.

Recently selected as guest speaker for IMRO's upcoming Scoring for Film Program 2013 film music workshop, Hope is currently exploring a new research project into the sonic stimulation of cell cultures at the world famous Saban Research Institute of Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

1615 1/2 E Washington Blvd
Pasadena CA 91104 650.733.6004
tel 323.356.4997 cell

www.ciaranhope.com

Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



Will 2013 Be A Break Out Year For You?

In my column of December, 2011, I addressed the issue of your GREAT expectations for 2012. Perhaps you will remember an old movie, GREAT EXPECTATIONS, which was my inspiration for last year's column. In brief, a young English boy, Pip, helps an escaping criminal that he had met in the swamp near his home. The criminal ultimately survives and achieves great wealth honestly in Australia. In repayment to Pip, he provides him anonymously with a substantial fortune. In effect, Pip's future is well provided for financially. Wow, wouldn't that be great if some stranger did the same for you or me? We could face our future secure in the knowledge that we have plenty of financial support.

But truth be told, I have not been advised of the generosity of any secret supporter; how about you? Certainly the vast majority of us will have to provide for ourselves. That realization brings us to the core of this column. If 2012 has been just a mediocre year, you need to accept that reality and move on. So what about 2013? You have about a month before New Year's Eve ushers in 2013. Perhaps the New Year will only be 165 days long rather than 365 days; or at least, it may seem that way. I saw a commercial on TV a couple of nights ago, a man was saying he had planned on retiring at age 55, but he realized that he was already 58. I am convinced that many of us tend to procrastinate; whatever the task, it can be put off till tomorrow (or next week or next month).

How about taking a couple of hours of quiet time, either alone or with your closest confidante and decide on the kind of year that would most satisfy you. Ideally, you bring a mirror to the meeting, so you can keep an eye on the person most responsible for your years, past, present and

future. The pervasive tendency to blame somebody or something else does not provide any answer. More often than not, our failures are self inflicted. We succumb to decisions that in retrospect made no sense. They were destined to fail. Perhaps that leads to an important step in how to achieve your GREAT expectations—think before you act. Don't fall for the easy "out" i.e. I had to make an immediate decision.

Many of us do not accept our own greatness. We may have been convinced that we are not the smartest "knife" in the drawer. We have been told all of our lives that we lack the personality for this role or that role. And we have bought into that belief. My suggestion to you as we move into 2013 is to understand that you have greatness within you.

Let me share one of my favorite quotes on the subject: "Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world." This quote is from Marianne Williamson's book, A Return to Love: Reflections on the Principles of A Course in Miracles. The quote is frequently incorrectly ascribed to Nelson Mandela.

Well, 2012 is virtually over now. How did your year unfold or unravel for you? Did you achieve the expectations that you anticipated a year ago? Perhaps you will allow the above quote by Marianne Williamson to serve as an inspiration for your conduct in 2013. Don't you often see, "Our Greatest Fear", played out by friends and relatives? As an observer, you are convinced that the individual in question is really very competent to do a

task, but you have to drag them kicking and resisting before you can get them to accept the reality. They are capable of doing the task.

Perhaps one of the best ways to integrate this sense of positive power into your psyche is to encourage it in others. Not only your work mates, but family and friends, too. Take some risks; step outside of your comfort zone. But recognize that for example, your ability to give an effective presentation will probably require you to practice, practice practice and then finally give your presentation. We don't think it is at all unusual for teams to have batting practice, shooting practice, etc., but somehow we think we can stand up in front of an audience and deliver an excellent presentation without practice. I am in no way suggesting that you can simply say you are going to overcome one of your self perceived shortcomings by pumping yourself up. You will have to take some definitive steps to achieve competence:

1. Believe that you can achieve your goals.
2. Determine your set of goals even if they are still a "work in process."
3. Ask your friends for their help and encouragement.
4. Periodically review all your goals.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION: If you accept the expectations of others, especially negative ones, then you will never change the outcome. Michael Jordan.

May your Christmas be a blessed one and your new year be a prosperous one for you and yours. I would again like to thank my two wonderful editors: my wife, Sandee Wask Fitzgerald and my brother, Joseph Fitzgerald. They have been of great help to me over this past year.

James F. Fitzgerald is president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc, an Oak Brook, IL-based senior executive coaching and career transitions firm. Email: jamesffitz37@hotmail.com. Website: Jamesffitzgeraldassociates.com. Phone: 630-684-2204



YOU'RE HOME

By John Plunkett



Home For the Holidays

"Home for the Holidays" conjures up all sorts of connotations and memories—hopefully most of yours good. Likely they revolve around family, friends and home. One thing's for sure: the older we grow, the faster they come around, oftentimes catching us flat-footed, preventing us from fully enjoying them, even producing some serious stress.

What are your plans/hopes for the 2012 Holidays? An iPhone? Designer handbag? (How about a new couch? -now we're talking!) World peace? Good health and success for your family? Home entertaining? Taking a trip? Making someone or those you care about happy? Set your sites high! Whatever your wishes, whether so-slightly selfish or totally noble, you'll have a better chance realizing them with the right preparation. To do so, follow me on a brief journey to your holidays past.

First, we'll try thinking like Leonardo da Vinci. "Why?" you ask. "Was he related to Santa Clause?" Not directly. But assuming St. Nick was not only benevolent but also quite smart, he probably got that way by doing as Leonardo did: asking lots of questions. The book I am reading, "How to Think Like Leonardo da Vinci", chronicles that this Renaissance genius constantly asked questions. For everything he encountered in life he queried: Why? What? Who? Where? and How can I do/make this better? He knew as we do that the human subconscious mind (enabled by the Spirit) is a powerful problem solver. Whatever questions, challenges or goals we consciously place before it, it instantly goes to work on, oftentimes even without our knowing it. Sooner or later an

answer or prompt jumps out.

So let's apply this practice and a brief meditation to your fast-arriving holidays. Get in a quiet place, slow down for a few minutes and ask yourself questions like: What are some of my earliest holiday memories? Let your mind drift—picture them. What did you like about them? Where were you—at home or at someone else's? Did you travel? What was the weather like? Who was there? Recall their faces, smiles, the conversation, laughter. Who said what? What gifts did I give? Receive? How did I feel? Remember family gatherings, the meals, the food. What was my favorite? Who was gathered around the table? Where did I travel? What was the weather?

Recall similar memories at various times in your life: grammar school, high school, college, early in your marriage, before and then after wee ones waddled out to their first Christmas tree. How about holiday parties with friends and neighbors? Recall ones you attended as well as those you gave. What made them especially fun?

If you get on a roll, go with it. Feel the emotions, at the same time asking, "Which elements of these fond memories can I bring fore to this year?" Oh... one more important one comes to mind: Keep the Christ in Christmas.

And there you have it, recollections and ingredients for what hopefully will be your best holidays ever!

John Plunkett Design, LLC is a relatively new home furnishings and interior design firm. It is deeply rooted in helping Chicagoans realize more attractive, comfortable homes—now more affordable than ever.

Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



Santa's Little Helpers

With Thanksgiving over, we now have to think about Christmas. As the same familiar tunes are cranked out over the radio, and we are assailed with a deluge of adverts, the stress will begin to mount. With such pressure to plan for this festive occasion, it's comforting to know that there is one man who will ensure us a good holiday, Santa. In recent years, if you haven't noticed, life in the North Pole has been greatly affected and changed by recent technological developments. Kids can now email the friendly bearded one, who even has a facebook page (make sure that you friend him early), and, with the acquisition of the iPad, Siri now carries out his requests with a simple voice command. And since he's doles out presents based on merit, a system of checks and balances tallied on Excel makes

the job a lot easier. But, if you're not happy with the big guy's selection, be sure to rate him on ratesanta.com. I'm told that he frequently reads the comments, as well as those posted on Yelp.

Unfortunately, the negative side to modernization has been a downsizing in the work force, or should I say a redistribution of labour. Some helpers faced with possible redundancy have chosen to re-locate and work in the decoration department of the Easter Bunny. While others, mainly those in the communication department, have been moved to the wish list team, and others have been re-trained to meet the increasing new demands of the market place. Indeed, Santa, a man of great foresight and practical wisdom, has encouraged his team of little helpers to diversify and multitask. It is now a require-

ment for helpers to familiarize themselves with current trends in fashion, music and video games. Each week, webinars are conducted to update the gift givers on what is now deemed 'cool' and what is not. Since production is calculated on predictive guesstimates, helpers must videoconference with focus groups, created solely to test the latest available commodities. Based on their findings, and Santa's incredible ability read company portfolios, a shopping list is created three months in advance.

And, since the North Pole has been showing signs of global warming, a new department has been created to monitor snow and ice drifts. Each year their findings are fed into a central computer that provides Santa with enough information to calculate the exact time for take off and landing. And since atmospheric conditions frequently change, the people at google have designed a special planetary dopler specifically for the purpose of aiding Santa's little helpers in determining the big man's flight plan. Apple are presently working on an app which will provide parents with a GWS (Global Warning System) of Santa's whereabouts at any given time on Christmas Eve night. The app, when downloaded, will also provide grown ups with a list of precautions pre-visitation. Douse and put out fires in all working fireplaces, snacks are not to be provided, since Santa has taken to watching Dr. Oz, and has decided to change his dietary habits. For those who wish to keep up with recent changes, you can now follow the jolly man on twitter at HoHoHo@twiter.com.

Such streamlining will radically changed our perception of the once laborious service. In keeping with the times, Santa is in the process of creating a virtual post-box (a prototype has already been launched on his website) that will accept requests beginning October first of each year. A confirmation of the request comes with a disclaimer which reads; Requests may be denied, or deferred should the petitioner fail to actualize his/her good intentions. Letters may be submitted in the form of email,

or short videos. Youtube solicitations are not accepted, since Santa respects, and encourages secrecy, and humility. Attempts publically shame the Christmas giver into giving will forfeit the petitioner's request for a gift. In the true spirit of the holiday, Santa prioritizes those who consider others before themselves. Since the spirit of the season is giving, the big man recommends that we give to those less fortunate than ourselves. The pass it on, or random acts of charity, do not go unnoticed, and are duly noted by the new department aptly called D.G.F.G (Do Good to feel Good).

These changes will gradually be phased into the organization as Santa begins to refine his five-

year plan and the Christmas rush is over. The little helpers have had due notification and are quite supportive of the changes, deeming them to be efficient and cost effective. There are no plans as yet to change Santa's mode of transport. The reindeers that have served him and us will continue to make their yearly trip across the globe. Rudolph, who has been fitted with a state of the art GPS, and radar device (since the airways have become increasingly populated with aircraft), is presently in preparation for this year's celebrations.

Soon you'll be getting your first text, email, facebook message from the man himself. Happy Christmas!

Top 10 Reasons Why You Should Visit Derry with Cliff Carlson in 2013!

1. Derry has been chosen as the UK City of Culture for 2013 bringing a year full of events showcasing Irish music, arts and culture!

2. It's not the Derry you used to know – come see the complete makeover of this vibrant and welcoming city, including the soaring and spectacular Peace Bridge!

3. Traditional Irish Music and up and coming rock bands fill the city's pubs on any given night!

4. Walk along the only remaining example of an intact walled city in Ireland – Derry's walls date back to the 17th century!

5. A chance to see firsthand the visual commemoration of the quest for peace in the famous Bogside murals created by artists from the area.

6. Get a chance to visit the rugged beauty of the Inishowen Peninsula – a short ride outside the city. You might even get a glimpse of Scotland in the distance!

7. Visit the 60 MILLION year old "Giant's Causeway" often referred to as the "8th wonder of the world" and home to the legend of the Finn McCool!

8. This unique and custom tour also features overnight stays in Sligo and Dublin, and includes visits to the Belleek Pottery factory, Ulster American Folk Park, Bushmills Distillery, Kilmainham Gaol (Jail!) - just to name a few!

9. All admissions, delicious meals, flights on Aer Lingus, CIE's expert driver guides, luxury coach and hotel accommodations and much, much more are included in one low price!

10. CLIFF KNOWS IRELAND!
A RARE OPPORTUNITY TO TRAVEL WITH CLIFF AS YOUR ESCORT – HE PROMISES A GREAT TIME TO ALL HIS FELLOW IRELAND LOVERS!

Space is LIMITED! Call Cathy at TriSeasons Travel today to secure your spot! 847.542.1539

Experience Irish Culture in Champaign-Urbana

Unique Shopping At



112 W. Main St, Urbana, IL

217-337-4767 • www.heartland-gallery.com



Experience the cultures of the Celtic lands through our unique collection of imported and domestic fine art and crafts, blending ancient and traditional themes with contemporary style.

2nd location in the Andersonville Galleria at 5247 N. Clark St., Chicago

Elegant Accommodations At

Sylvia's Irish Inn
Old world charm with modern convenience

312 West Green Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801

217-384-4800

www.sylviasirishinn.com

Sylvia's Irish Inn has long been a favorite of visitors to the University of Illinois and the area in general



Member of the Illinois Bed and Breakfast Association

*Join IAN Publisher and Frequent Ireland Visitor
Cliff Carlson on an unforgettable
adventure to Derry and beyond!*

2013 is the year to visit Derry! Chosen the UK City of Culture, Derry will be rolling out the "green carpet" for visitors to enjoy all the sights and sounds of this exciting city-shining a light on the well of talent, creativity and spirit it is home to!

What better way to see this part of Ireland than with a group of friends and fellow subscribers! Cliff will be your host, and promises a great time, a fantastic itinerary, and true Irish camaraderie with plenty of laughs along the way!

Derry, City of Culture Ireland Tour
April 4-12, 2013



ONLY \$2579 per person!*

*Includes airfare from Chicago, lodging, meals,
transportation and more!*

***BOOK BY NOVEMBER 29 and save \$50 per person!**

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

Full Irish breakfast daily!

Delicious Dinner nightly including:

- Dinner Cruise on the Grand Canal
- Dinner and entertainment at The Irish House Party

7 nights in deluxe hotels

Visits and admission fees to:

- Ulster American Folk Park
- Giant's Causeway
- Turner Prize Art Exhibit
- Kilmainham Gaol
- Bogside Murals
- Belleek China Factory
- Bushmills Distillery
-and much, much more!



**To learn more and reserve your
space, Call Cathy at 847-542-
1539 or email :**

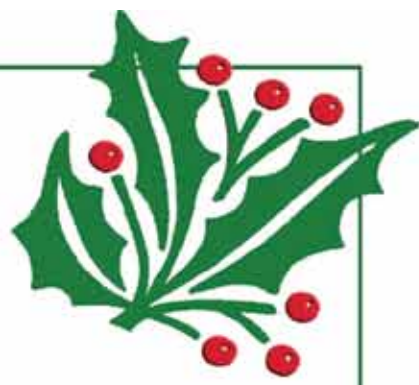
Triseasonsgroups@gmail.com





CHECK IT OUT!

**the
Irish Book Club
.com**
www.theirishbookclub.com



*Nollaig shona
agus
Athbhliain faoi mhaise*

(Merry Christmas *and* a Happy New Year)
to

All the readers of the **IRISH AMERICAN NEWS**



 **THE HEALY LAW FIRM**

Martin Healy, Jr.
John P. Scanlon
David P. Huber
Kevin T. Veugeler

Jack Cannon
Dennis M. Lynch
Patrick Anderson
Matthew Gannon

Of Counsel:
Matthew J. Healy
Terence Geoghegan
Terry Sullivan

Hope you enjoy reading the **HEALY LAW** column in *Irish American News*

Practice Areas:

Personal Injury Products Liability Interstate Trucking Construction
Professional Malpractice Auto, Railroad & Aviation Accidents Workers' Compensation

111 West Washington Street • Suite 1425 • Chicago, IL 60602

Ph. 312-977-0100 • Toll-Free 800-922-4500 • www.healylawfirm.com • www.illinoistruckingaccidents.com