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*Kevin O'Kennedy's Newly Opened Southside Pizza Pub
Features the Best in Irish Traditional Music . . . 11*

*Pictured (l to r): Owner Kevin O'Kennedy, Teresa Shine,
John Williams and Co-Owner Katie Clancy*

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THE 2013 ANNUAL

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS, CHICAGO DIVISION #1 BENEFIT

NOVEMBER 22, 2013



EMCEE AND HOST:
WILLIAM J. KELLY,
PRESIDENT AOH CHICAGO DIVISION #1

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7:00 PM: SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:

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From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell



First Election Budget ?

"With one bound our hero was free." Not quite. Nevertheless the 2014 Budget, introduced in mid-October, was noteworthy. Hard on the heels of an embarrassing defeat for the Government on the Referendum to abolish the Senate, it was billed as "the last of the tough budgets." Maybe. Certainly with breath-taking panache – some would say cynicism – the paper targets were achieved without increasing direct taxation or disturbing most of the major pressure groups in receipt of government hand-outs.

The budget was gift wrapped for Labour, necessary given its poor poll ratings. Not only could the Government announce, triumphantly, that Ireland should be able to leave the Troika's embrace ahead of schedule at the end of the year – the one fig leaf Labour in power had clung to – but crucially, from Labour's perspective, old age pensions, child benefit and unemployment payments weren't touched.

Whether this will be sufficient to reverse Labour's slide remains to be seen, but it now has a foundation on which to build. If the omens remain good, next year's budget could be at worst neutral, at best able to offer some sweeteners. The Coalition is in for the long haul and if its luck holds it could achieve a Fine Gael – Labour first by being re-elected, though there is still a long way to go.

The mortgage crisis elephant remains but the Government has bought time with the new insolvency regime and can plead that the public give it a chance to work. Recent deals on debt restructuring, combined with a carryover effect of measures in the last two budgets provided some wiggle room. Increased emigration and unexpectedly high levels of job creation added

to this with the double effect of reduced unemployment pay-outs and increased tax revenues.

The net result was that the Budget cut spending by \$ three billion instead of four. This was achieved on paper through enhanced cheese paring at the margins of the sort seen in the past two years, further tax increases on alcohol and cigarettes, more stealth taxes in areas such as private health insurance (something which may yet rebound) and maternity benefits, plus the factoring – in of anticipated enhanced yields from the property tax and public sector pay cuts. The remaining shortfall was made up by a balancing figure heaped on the Department of Health, to be achieved inter alia through an overhaul of the medical card system – another potential banana skin.

The few sweeteners include maintenance of child benefit without means testing, plus the introduction of free GP care for all under – fives. These will do Fine Gael no harm either, though neither is defensible in other than political terms. Obviously a plateau has been reached and elements dear to special interest groups are not going to be touched this side of an election.

Fine Gael clearly took a tactical decision to give a helping hand to its junior partner. Yet it needs to tread warily in the health area. The measures proposed will impact most heavily on its traditional middle class support, already hard hit in recent years. The questionable under- fives measure is a zero sum one, paid for in effect by substantial reductions in the income threshold for medical cards for the over -70s. It is justified as a first step in the provision of universal free G.P. care – an election promise – but hardly makes sense in terms of any holistic approach to health care. The generally healthy young will be subsidised at the expense of the group most likely to require

medical attention and expensive medicines– the elderly.

Another problematic health element in the budget, the capping of income tax relief for private health insurance, also affects almost exclusively the middle class. Here too it would appear to be game set and match to Labour. As I write, there is considerable uncertainty as to the precise financial implications of the changes but what IS apparent is that Michael Noonan's dismissive comment that only "gold-plated" health insurance policies would be affected was wide of the mark. Many, perhaps most, ordinary families with quite modest health insurance are going to be further affected on top of already spiralling annual premium increases.

Those with private health insurance comprise for the most part people with no hope of qualifying for medical cards – which provide for free medical care – on income grounds, though the threshold is modest. There are certainly advantages in terms of fast tracking for some medical procedures but private insurance still leaves considerable costs to be met from taxed income for medicines, consultations and tests. Premiums have risen steeply in recent years with the old VHI now facing competition from rival companies cherry picking the young and the healthy. Throw in a 50% surcharge for over 65's and top it off with further restrictions on medical cards for the over 70s and the seeds of discontent are there.

Health is a sensitive issue all round. Ireland, for better or worse, has a two tier health system. Political correctness dictates that all parties state publicly that this is undesirable, inequitable and socially divisive with the left shouting that it is unacceptable that those with money should be able to buy better health care and, indeed, to queue jump for routine operations.

The problem is that Ireland, unlike most advanced Western European countries, never

had a single universal health system and the health sector was until recently chronically underfunded. Historically the gap between health care for those on low incomes, for whom the state provided rudimentary care based on social insurance, and the bulk of the population, was bridged by a state sponsored voluntary health insurance system (VHI), which provided reasonable cover at modest rates.

However the last two decades has seen a dramatic expansion of free medical care for those on lower incomes, in the form of medical cards, for the most part, but not exclusively, means tested. The current situation is that almost half the population, including all those on social welfare, hold medical cards, possession of which also provides free access to a variety of other welfare and educational programmes and benefits. There are, moreover, considerable variations in the percentages holding cards in different counties, for whatever reason.

The other half of the population, including many on very modest incomes, enjoy none of this. One result has been poverty traps with possession of a card and its benefits proving a disincentive to seeking work. The system, in short, is a mess, hence the announced root and branch overhaul. Media focus since the budget has been on recent hard cases where, on review, cards have been denied or withdrawn. The mess will take some sorting. The political fallout may be considerable.

The Government now looks more secure and united than for some time. The challenge it poses to the lukewarm electorate is what, in practical terms, is the alternative? In theory, correct. But in practice matters can evolve differently. Albert Reynolds remarked that it was the small hurdles which tripped politicians up. The Government, Fine Gael especially, should beware lest medical cards and remarks about gold plate do for it also.

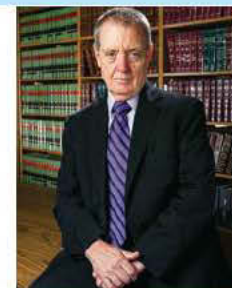


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Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



**Holy Orders:
A Quirke Mystery**

By Benjamin Black
Mantle/MacMillan Publishers.

"Quirke watched the detective. Hackett, he reflected, was one of those jungle predators that go slack and still at the approach of their quarry.

Perhaps that is what it took to be an investigator, that capacity to wait in watchful calm, patiently."

John Banville is the author of the "Quirke Mysteries." Quirke, the main character, is a pathologist in 1950's Dublin, a time of greatly constricted views of human worth and human potential. Sure, they are mystery puzzles, but they also have great psychological insight.

the "Washington Times" says about the beautiful language used in these novels: "There are very few writers who can write elegantly about murder, but there is no question that Benjamin Black is one of them."

Banville is a prize-winning Irish novelist, screenwriter and playwright. Using the pen name Benjamin Black, he writes captivating mystery books. This is the sixth in that stunning series.

The main character is Dr. Quirke. A pathologist, he performs post mortems, and maybe this grim work has led to his bleak outlook on life.

Banville was born in 1945 in Wexford and grew up in that city. He worked for national Irish newspapers and at "The Irish Times" became editor of the literary page.

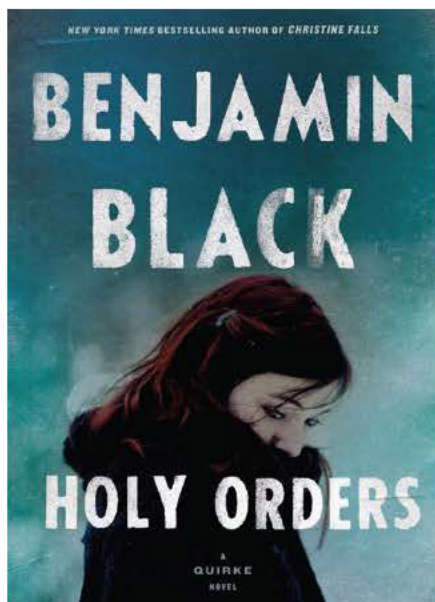
He lives in Dublin with the mother of his two daughters. He has two adult sons from his first marriage.

Banville's writing goal is "to blend poetry and fiction." He was influenced in this by the works of James Joyce, Samuel Beckett and Henry James. About his skill as a writer "The Wall Street Journal" said his "lyrical magic" is shown in scenes that unfold with a poet's

grace." These quotes show this.

* Coming to the camp of the tinkers Quirke

saw a huge fire of tires and the king of the tinkers coming toward him. He grasped a long metal rod with a sort of hook at the top, which he had been using



as a makeshift giant poker, prodding the hooked end among the burning tires ... a pair of stone grey bloodshot eyes glared

... these eyes, and the scorched face and the staff with its crook, gave him the look of an Old Testament prophet lurching in from the desert after many days of solitary communing with a tyrannical and vengeful God."

* Approaching the headquarters of an order of priests: "The house, away off at the end of a curving drive, amid flat expanses of lawn, was massive and grey ... the house in the old days had been the residence of some British dignitary ... how quick the priests had been after the British went to seize the best of what they had left behind. Hackett had not much time for the Church, but he had to admire its relentless way of getting power and having got it, the tenacity with which it held on to it."

* In a moment of complete and blunt honesty, a parish priest says about that power: "Look at our own benighted little country, hide bound by rules and regulations formulated in the corridors and inner chambers of the Vatican and handed down to us as if graven on tablets of stone."

* The detective remembers a teacher at The Garda training college saying: "Lads, never jump to conclusions about a person until you know all the facts about him - and the fact is, you'll never know all the facts."

*I remember well, the relentless invasive questioning and guilty already attitude of priests. In the office of Fr. Dangerfield an official in the order: "Hackett did not much like the look of him, with his raw, bone-dry face and purplish hands, and the shining lenses of his spectacles that magnified his eyes ... The priest leaned his elbows on the arms of his chair and steepled his fingers and touched the tips of them to his lips. It was a studied pose, practiced ... over long hours spent in the confessional, listening in judicious silence to the sins of others."

* A character in Holy Orders is burdened with self-doubt. A friend tells him: "You have to forgive yourself." "Forgive myself? For what?" "For whatever it is that's burdening you. The things that happened to you when you were a child, they were no fault of yours."

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Chicago Gaelic Park

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



A Chairde:

Tickets are all over Chicagoland for Gaelic Park's Annual Super Fundraiser which is scheduled for Sunday, December 8th at the Park. Once a year we appeal to our members and supporters to purchase a ticket for our annual raffle and we appreciate the fact that every year since the fundraiser's inception, our raffle sells out. We had reduced the number of tickets sold for the past couple of years in recognition of the financial hardship of the recession; this year 1500 tickets are available and we ask that you buy a ticket. The funds generated from our fundraiser are important for Gaelic Park, but of greater importance is that buying a ticket is a vote of confidence in all that we endeavor to accomplish at the Park. In pursuit of our mission to foster our culture and all things Irish we do

not charge our constituent groups a user or rental fee and our fundraiser is a vital part in maintaining that policy. We will have a Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Thursday, Dec. 5th, complete with Gaelic Park Choir and games for all the family. This was a memorable event held for the first time last year. All our special family events... Easter Egg Hunt, Heritage and Harvest, Halloween and Christmas Tree Lighting are organized by our wonderful Cultural and Special Events committee who love to see generations of families celebrate together at Gaelic Park and create great memories. We love Gaelic Park, which is also your Park, and a great legacy for all of us. On behalf of our directors and staff, thank-you for your continued support

John Devitt, President

Monthly Park Calendar

11/6 & 12/4	Monthly Musical Luncheon	NOON
11/10 & 12/8	Monthly Mass & Breakfast	10:00am
11/13	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting	7:30pm
	<i>Welcoming new members, come join us!</i>	
11/8-24	GPP Fall Play for three weekends <i>The Two Loves of Gabriel Foley</i>	
11/28	Thanksgiving Dinner - RESERVATIONS REQUIRED <i>Enertainment by Ray Gavin</i>	
12/1	Carraig Challenge 5K	
12/5	Gaelic Park Tree Lighting	
12/8	Super Fundraiser Drawing	
12/7 & 8	Mary McSweeney Exhibit	
12/14	Christmas Concert THE WILLOUGHBY BROTHERS	
12/31	Family NYE Party - RESERVATIONS REQUIRED	

Sunday Classic Carvery (formerly Celtic Supper) **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**
Hot Buffet Dinner \$17 Adults - \$10 Children 3-12 years
Entertainment for 11/3 will be Joe McShane; 11/10 Gerard Haughey and 11/24 Joe Cullen.

Musical Luncheon **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**
Entertainment for December 4 is the music of Kara & Jerry Eadie.
Doors Open at Noon, Lunch at 1pm - \$13 per person
NO LUNCHEON IN JANUARY!

Pub Trivia Tuesday Evenings 7:30pm		
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



CG Office 708.687.9323 www.chicagoga licpark.org

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- 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

the CARRAIG IRISH PUB

Live Music in the Pub

Fr	Nov 1	Kara & Jerry Eadie	7:30pm
Sat	Nov 2	Chicago Kingsnakes	7:30pm
Fri	Nov 8	Joe Cullen	7:30pm
Sat	Nov 9	Coco & Fancy	7:30pm
Wed	Nov 13	Frank Rossi	6:30pm
Fri	Nov 15	The Fabtones	7:30pm
Sat	Nov 16	The Frett Brothers	8:00pm
F	Nov 22	Ray Gavin Band	8:00pm
Sat	Nov 23	Good Ol' Daze	7:30pm
Fri	Nov 29	Gerard Haughey	7:30pm
Sat	Nov 30	John Dillon	7:30pm

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

Chicago Gaelic Park

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www.chicagoga gaelicpark.org



The Carraig Pub at Gaelic Park

Open to the Public 7 nights a week! Monthly food & drink specials! Friday & Saturday night entertainment - no cover charge! Come in for a bite and a cold one while watching Bear Games and Monday Night Football on our Big Screen TV!



SAVE THE DATE - Friday 12/20 beginning at 7:30pm, it is Customer Appreciation night in the Pub! Music, drink specials and complimentary appetizers.

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The perfect pint.
All at the perfect pub.**



Carraig Pub Golf Outing
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Celebrate
Thanksgiving
at
Chicago Gaelic Park
Thursday
November 28, 2013



*A Delicious All You Can Eat Buffet Dinner
With Turkey, Ham, Roast Beef
And All Of The Traditional Trimmings*

Choice of Soup, An Extensive Salad Bar, Vegetables, Potatoes and Dessert

Served from 3:00pm to 6:00pm / Live Music from 4-8pm

Reservations are required and must be paid for in advance

Adults - \$24.00 Children 4 to 12 - \$12.00

Admission includes Dinner and Entertainment - Cash Bar

Chicago Gaelic Park - www.chicagogaelpark.org

6119 W. 147th Street - Oak Forest, Il. 60452 - (708) 687-9323

THE WILLOUGHBY BROTHERS Concert on December 14!

This group of brothers is direct from Ireland and will be making their first appearance at Gaelic Park. The group creates a very special sound with a repertoire featuring a blend of Irish ballads and popular classics. This is a don't miss concert during the holiday season at Gaelic Park! Tickets are \$25. Call Gaelic Park at 708.687.9323 to reserve your tickets.



The Two Loves of Gabriel Foley

by Jimmy Keary

Directed by Phyllis Bierdz

Ticket Info:

\$12 Theater Performance Only

\$20 Theater & Pub Dinner (Fridays & Saturdays)

\$25 Theater and Classic Carvery (Sundays)

Show dates:

Fridays Nov. 8, 15 & 22

Saturdays Nov. 9, 16 & 23

Sundays Nov. 10, 17 & 24

Reservations are a must for Dinner & Theater Tickets are non-refundable
<http://www.gaelicparkplayers.org> info@gaelicparkplayers.org

For reservations please call Chicago Gaelic Park at 708.687.9323

Christmas Tree Lighting



To get you into the
Holiday spirit,
Join us on Thursday
December 05, 2013
6:30pm for a
Christmas Tree Lighting
Ceremony



We'll sing
Christmas Carols
with the Choir,
make ornaments,
Play Reindeer Games,
all kinds of fun!

Hot Soup and Hot Chocolate will be available for purchase

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Enter your child's name
to win a chance to
LIGHT THE TREE!



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the sunday classic carvery

at Chicago Gaelic Park

Wondering what to do for the next family get together, birthday party, graduation, or Anniversary?



Gaelic Park's Sunday Classic Carvery!

A delicious all you can eat buffet dinner with freshly carved meats, complete with soup, an extensive salad bar, 2 main entrees, vegetables, potatoes, and dessert served from 3 to 6pm, with musical entertainment continuing to 8pm

Reservations required

Adults - \$17.00, Children 4 to 12 - \$10.00

Admission includes dinner and entertainment - Cash Bar



Available Sundays - November through Mother's Day
Chicago Gaelic Park - 6119 W. 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL
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Chicago Gaelic Park's

FAMILY NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

On New Year's Eve, Celebrate Ireland's Midnight Hour at Chicago Gaelic Park's Family New Year's Eve Party!

Tuesday, December 31, 2013

4:00pm-8:00pm in the Tara Room

Buffet Dinner 5:00pm

Kids Sparkling Juice Toast 6:00pm

Adults Champagne Toast 6:00pm

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St. Jarlath's Youth GAA Presents: Dancing for Our Stars




This dazzling fundraiser, based on the popular television show Dancing With The Stars, will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2014 at Gaelic Park. Adults are invited to attend and asked to give a \$10 donation at the door.

Twelve amateur dancers will be given professional dance lessons two nights a week for three months to prepare for one night of competition. The couples will perform one group dance and either a ballroom or Latin dance. Judges' scores and audience votes (\$1 each) will decide which couple takes home the trophy! Viewers can vote as many times as they choose. If you are unable to attend the exciting night, you can vote for your favorite couple online!

Your business or organization is also invited to sponsor the event. Every dollar spent in sponsorship will be a vote for the dancer of your choice! St. Jarlath's is a 501c(3) non-profit organization.

All money raised will go to Chicago St. Jarlath's Youth GAA, which promotes the sports of Hurling, Gaelic Football and Camogie in Chicago's south suburban areas. Equipment demands increase every year with this growing club and successful fundraisers are necessary to purchase huris, sliotars, helmets, footballs, practice bibs, jerseys, etc. Your support as a voter and/or sponsor is greatly appreciated!

For more information or to purchase advanced tickets go to the website www.chicagostjarlaths.com or send questions to dancing4ourstars@gmail.com.



Send any special gifts. Cash reserved - tonight. When gathered together we are this - Christ's Christmas delight!

Mingle & Jingle

Gaelic Park's Annual Mingle & Jingle Christmas Party is perfect for businesses: *Who want to celebrate the holidays in a fun and spirited atmosphere, are unable to host an in-office party, or are too small to rent a hall.*

Have more fun with more people as you join together with other offices in the area for one of these two big holiday celebrations! Everyone attending will enjoy a delicious buffet dinner, a four hour open bar and live DJ.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12TH AND THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19TH 2013
6:30-10:30pm
\$36.00 per person

Call Gaelic Park and make reservations for yourself or the entire office!
Reservations must be made as soon as possible. Payment in full due by November 30th. Adults Over 21 Only

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SET DANCERS are hosting

"New Years Eve Gala" Old Time Waltz - Set & Ceili

Tuesday, December 31, 2013
5:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Chicago Gaelic Park
6119 W. 147th Street. Oak Forest, IL

Music by Ceoltoiri Chicago Band

BUFFET DINNER - SWEET TABLE
CASH BAR - DOOR PRIZES

We will ring in the Irish New Year at 6:00 pm with a Champagne Toast

TICKETS: \$15 (\$20 after November 30, 2013)
12 & under FREE

To Order Tickets Email Carol Sweeney
(cjsween513@msn.com)
or call Margaret Mount (708) 352-4624





Chicago Gaelic Park

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



Chicago Gaelic Park Carraig Challenge

Cross Country 5K run / 1.5 mile walk

Thanksgiving Weekend

Sunday, December 1, 2013 at 10:30am

Chicago Gaelic Park • 6119 W. 147th St. • Oak Forest, IL

Age Group Awards

T-Shirt, and Carraig Pub Drink Ticket with Registration

Indoor Prep/Waiting Area with Bathrooms

Finishers water / food table with hot soup

Discount Pricing for Family's and Students

Stay for the Bears Game – free food at halftime

chicagogaelicpark.org/CarraigChallenge

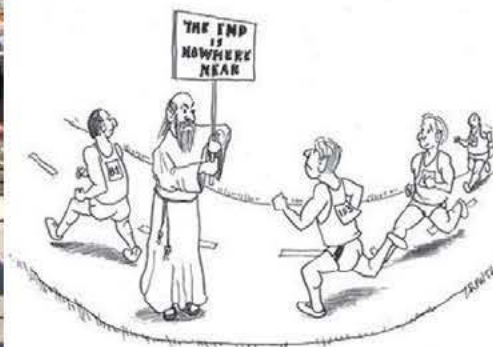
Online registration at www.racetime.info

Questions, contact Chicago Gaelic Park (708) 687-9323

Proceeds to Gaelic Park Charities –
providing to those in need throughout the Chicagoland area



Copyright 2009 John Crowther



Loads Of Fun At CGP Heritage & Harvest Day!



Eugene McLaughlin from Donegal, who fabricated the bookshelves in the new CGP Library.



Chicago Gaelic Park Super Fund Raiser

Tickets are on sale now by contacting one of our Directors or by calling the Gaelic Park office. Donation is \$100 per ticket and **only 1,500 tickets will be sold!**

Drawing will be held on December 8 at 7pm. Don't miss out, get your ticket today!

1st Prize: \$40,000
2nd thru 6th: \$3,000
7th thru 20th: \$1,000



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



Late Nite Catechism Creator Introduces New Comedy Series With Bible and Christmas Bingo

A new line of religious comedies by the author of Late Nite Catechism will have its Chicago premiere this fall. Vicki Quade brings to life a new comedy, Bible Bingo: An Act Of Charity...In Two Acts, opening for four weeks only, starting Nov. 1 at the Royal George Theatre, Chicago.

Then, her new holiday show, Christmas Bingo: It's A Ho-Ho-Holy Night, will also have its Chicago premiere, opening for six weeks only, starting Nov. 29, also at the Royal George Theatre.

Bible Bingo is a comedy about the Catholic culture of fundraising and bingo, featuring a new character, Mrs. Mary Margaret O'Brien, a former nun who now heads a fictitious archdiocese fundraising department.

The role will be shared by three performers: Vicki Quade (who has been touring with the show for the past two years), Kathleen Puls Andrade, and Michelle Thompson.

In this interactive comedy, audience members actually play bingo, win prizes, AND learn funny stories based on the Bible and the impact of religion on our society.

In this interactive comedy, the parish needs money and Mrs. O'Brien is ready to help! Bring the two together and you have a night of bible trivia, audience interaction, improvised moments, and the funniest quiz about the Holy Family you've ever seen.

Add to that a box of wacky prizes, fun bingo cards, and a lot of Catholic humor. In this interactive bingo show, you'll actually play bingo, and still learn a little something about what it means to be Catholic! The show gets the audience talking about everything from Adam & Eve to modern sins.

Quade created the show in 2011 and has been touring across the country performing at various venues. "Thank-

fully you were very respectful of Catholic practices and culture," said Fr. Dennis Quint, pastor at the Basilica of St. Francis in Dyersville, IA. "The performance likely caused many folks to consider how ignorant of the faith they are. More than one person afterward wondered if you were really a religious! Well done!"

"This was really fun," added Monsignor Bill Schooler, pastor at St. Pius X parish in Granger, IN. "Everybody enjoyed it."



Vicki Quade's and her wacky bingo prizes!

After Bible Bingo traveled to the New Orleans area, Sr. M. Michaeline, pastor coordinator for Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish raved: "Your performance was great. You never missed a beat - picking up on audience comments. You kept the show moving and with such a variety of material. Many people in the audience commented on how you brought back memories of their childhood days in Catholic school. In short: great performance, great delivery, great material."

From the author of the smash hit Late Nite Catechism

comes a new holiday show that brings together two of the best things about being Catholic: Christmas and Bingo.

In this interactive comedy, Christmas Bingo: It's a Ho-Ho-Holy Night, audience members actually play bingo, win prizes, AND learn funny stories about Jesus and Santa, and why we love this holiday season.

Christmas Bingo runs six weeks only, starting November 29, at the Royal George Theatre, Chicago. Performances Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 3 p.m.

You don't have to be Catholic to enjoy these shows. But it pays to love bingo!

Bible Bingo will run Nov. 1 through Nov. 24, four weeks only: Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m.

Late Nite Catechism stays on the schedule, at 5 p.m. Saturdays.

Christmas Bingo will run throughout the holiday season, starting Friday, Nov. 29, through Sunday, Jan. 5.

Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m.

Special New Year's Eve show of Late Nite Catechism on Tuesday, Dec. 31.

Royal George Theatre, 1641 N. Halsted, Chicago.

Tickets \$30, group discounts available.,

For ticket info, call the box office at 312-988-9000.

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Clancy's Pizza Pub Now in Seisún

Chicago's Irish Southside is abuzz with a new home for traditional Irish music. Kevin O'Kennedy and Katie Clancy opened Clancy's Pizza Pub in September and took on immediate notoriety in the Irish community with a Friday night session hosted by extraordinary Irish trad musicians, Teresa Shine and John Williams. "We had four generations of musicians last Friday, flutes and fiddles everywhere" said Kevin quoting Christy Moore's song *Lisdoonvarna*.

An original painting of Christy fittingly greets guests inside the door. A small, unassuming venue, Clancy's is the perfect atmosphere for a session where several times in the evening you will hear "Cunas" called out (pronounced "que-ness", Gaelic for "Quiet") and a hush quickly heralds an unaccompanied singer or a recitation by the likes of Kevin or Pauline Henry. "My heart leapt with joy when the musicians started pouring in" said Katie, co-owner, and a Southside Chicago Irish native. "It reminded me of the sessions I sat in on last summer in Miltown Malbay, County Clare in Ireland".

Teresa is a highly accomplished fiddler and music teacher in Chicago and is recently back from touring Poland with the Trinity dance troupe. John Williams is arguably one of our finest Irish musicians having performed with the great Irish band Solas and is currently rehearsing for a performance with the legendary accordion player Jimmy Keane in November at Chief O'Neills.

Clancy's quickly added two more session nights with John joining Teresa on Tuesday evenings and Jimmy Keane on Wednesdays. Kevin will mix in a few songs to get the hands clapping and everyone to sing along, songs he has performed with numerous Irish bands he played with including AnRil, Irish Hearts, and The Celtic Tingers in Hawaii, as well as here in Chicago with Nineteen Pints. They are also starting an acoustic open mic on Thursdays

hosted by Kevin O and Ritchie Z. "I want it to be a home for live Irish entertainment on the Southside" says Kevin. "Not just accomplished musicians, but students, song writers and balladeers all to have a place".

Before opening Clancy's, Kevin has a long history in food and beverage with both the Westin and Four Seasons resorts in California and Hawaii. "We truly lived in paradise on Maui but the only thing missing was a decent

American Feis commission, Comhaltas Ceolteoiri Eirann, and the Irish American Unity conference, among many others. In Chicago, Kevin worked at the Irish American Heritage Center, US Cellular Field and now Clancy's.

The pub is tucked away on 103rd just east of Cicero in Oak Lawn sharing the parking lot with Louie's Chop House and Jewel-Osco. The logo with a smiling pint of Guinness nestled in a shamrock exclaims "Come for the Pizza, Stay for the Pint". A



John Williams, Teresa Shine and Kevin O'Kennedy at the opening of Clancy's Pizza Pub.

pint of Guinness". He quickly cured the situation by opening Mulligan's Irish pub on Maui's Wailea golf course with business partner Tipperary born Mike O'Dwyer.

Kevin relocated to Chicago about four years ago when he met his sweetheart Katie Clancy at a U2 concert at Soldier Field. Many Chicago Irish knew of Kevin's father, Dan O'Kennedy, born in Clare and emigrated to Detroit where he served as chairman of the North American Board of the GAA, the North

new granite top bar is a striking feature with a clean and family friendly atmosphere.

The menu boasts good home cooked meals and, of course, pizza. "The pizza is true Chicago Southside thin crust and made with the best and freshest ingredients" says Kevin. Clancy's uniquely offers a choice of a traditional, sweet or spicy sauce to please any palate. The specialty pizzas include the top selling "Southsider" with homemade pot roast (Yes Pot Roast!!), fresh ground sausage and jardiniere.



"The Irishman" runs a close second and highlights their slow cooked corned beef, sausage and red onion. The menu also features lunches or dinners such as homemade pot roast, corned beef and cabbage, hot grinder sandwiches and hand battered Fish & Chips, all for under ten dollars. "We do our pot roast, corned beef & cabbage, bangers & mash and a veggie tomato pie all like our shepherds pie, baked in a casserole with real mashed potatoes piped on top". The grinder sandwiches are baked in the oven on a french roll oozing with goodness. Appetizers include hand dipped coconut shrimp, Irish Spring Rolls with corned beef, pot roast or pizza stuffing, Irish Nachos and their daily homemade soup. Finish off with Irish cream cheese cake, apple rolls or a cup of Barry's tea. Saturday and Sunday they serve Irish breakfast featuring Diamond sausages and Winston's rashers and puddings.

"We just want to be a neighborhood pub and cater to the local parishes to give them a nice, family friendly place to enjoy Irish hospitality and music; oh, also to watch the Hawks.." say's Katie. Katie has two daughters, Allie and Casey, both Irish dancers who graduated from Oak Lawn High School and her youngest, Erin, graduated from St. Ger-

ald's and is a freshman at Mother MacAuley.

"We recently joined the TRIP program at St. Catherine's to help families pay for their tuition and hope to set up similar arrangements with St. Gerald's, St. Germaine's and St. Linus".

Clancy's is open for lunch and dinner seven days a week with dine-in take out or delivery. They have a full bar and their draft lineup includes Guinness, Harp and Smithwicks as well as Revolution Anti-Hero IPA and Leinenkugels Orange Shandy. Specials include \$2 Bud Light during Hawks, Bears, Sox, Cubs or Bulls games. The Friday night session starts about 8 pm but come early to get good seats. Weekday music starts at 7:30.

You can see their full menu and get coupons on Facebook, at EatAtClancys.com, or give them a call at 708-422-1110. Clancy's Pizza Pub 4624 W 103rd St., Oak Lawn. Come for the Pizza, Stay for the Pint!

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An Irish Life to Remember: Patrick Hennessy

By Tim Moran
South Side Editor

A great writer, family man and notable Southside Irish American passed away in early September.



While Patrick Hennessy worked as a public relations officer for the city of Chicago under six different mayors and as a police officer in England more than a half-century ago -

his granddaughter, Colleen Harstad and daughter, Ellen Hennessy remember him for seeing the bright side in everything.

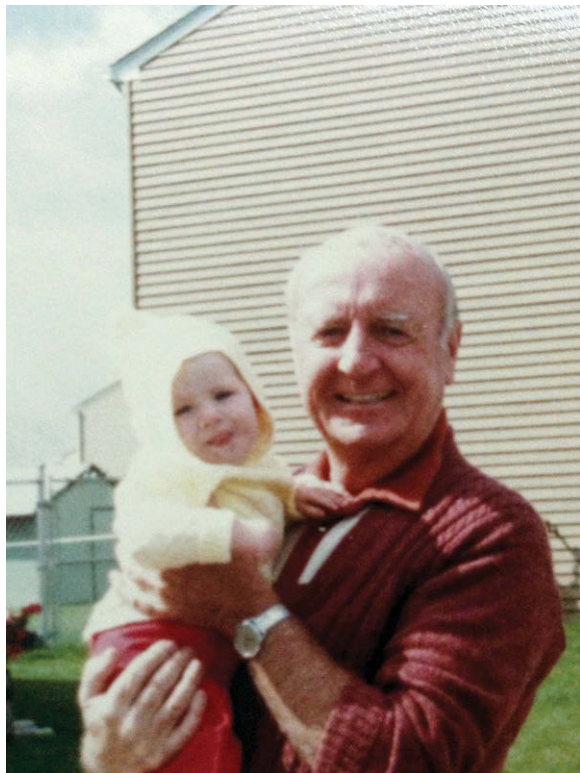
"Grandpa was never the one to make it known if he disliked anybody," Harstad said, noting that while her grandfather actively supported both Mayor Richard J. and Richard M. Daley, he "believed in the Mayor's office."

"He never bad-mouthed a single one of the Mayor's," Colleen added, noting that he worked for every Mayor from Daley to Daley.

Patrick Hennessy lived to be 93 years old, but his list of accomplishments could

His daughter, Ellen Hennessy, remembers the family living at places at 83rd and East End, in St. Sabina and Little Flower parishes and then 68th and Pulaski until spending a few decades in Oak Lawn, where he was a member of St. Catherine of Alexandria parish.

"He could light up a room and make people feel comfortable," Ellen said. "He could see past any differences and had a very kind heart. I don't think there was ever a person he knew that he didn't try to help" - remembering her father once helping an Indian



A young Colleen Harstad with her grandpa, Pat Hennessy.

achieve citizenship and working with the African-American community closely while employed by the city of Chicago.

"Grandpa would work with a lot of different ethnic groups in Chicago," Colleen recalls.

To friend P.J. O'Dea, Hennessy was "a real gentleman and a class act." O'Dea, now a resident

of Elmwood Park, Illinois, had known the revered writer and city worker since 1961.

"There will never be another Pat Hennessy," O'Dea said. "He had a fantastic sense of humor and did what he could to help anybody. If anyone had a problem with the city, he would always help them."

His job in Chicago afforded him an opportunity to meet some of the more well-known people in American history.

According to Colleen, her grandfather met a number of different political heads including John, Bobby and Ted Kennedy as well as Lyndon B. Johnson and Hubert Humphrey. He even had the chance to drive Ethel Kennedy around town.

"Grandpa valued the city so much - they all trusted him," Colleen said.

But the greatest talent of Patrick Hennessy was his storytelling ability. Hennessy would often write for the Irish American News, Irish Echo and other Irish American newspapers for more than 50 years. He even received a plaque from Pope John Paul II for his promotional work on the effort to Canonize the Blessed Edmund Rice.

"Grandpa was a really good writer," Colleen said. "He used his words to communicate with people, and a lot of what he wrote was like Gold to people."

His obituary in the Chicago Tribune points out that he was "active in the Gaelic Athletic Association, Harry Boland's Hurling Club, Immigration reform, Gaelic Park and the St. Patrick's Southside Parade."

"He was everything Irish," recalls Sean Quigley - another longtime friend. "He was a very good man who would support any good cause and was always at your side when you needed him."

He was the "driving force"



Colleen Harstad, Pat's granddaughter, says, "I would like to thank the Harry Boland's Club for having an arch made out of hurling sticks as the mass ended. It was very touching to myself and the rest of my family members and my grandpa, well he would of loved it too. It was such an honor."

behind re-establishing the Gaelic Games in the United States, Quigley said, and was actively involved with the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA).

"He was a genuine, honest man," said Quigley, a resident of Evergreen Park. "He was always positive, a great leader. (His death) was a great loss to the community."

O'Dea recalls Hennessy's work with the Irish American News and Irish Echo as pivotal to Irish Americans across the nation.

"He kept everyone in touch with the Irish community in Chicago," O'Dea said. "He was a man of great character and made you proud to be Irish."

Although he has a long list

of accomplishments promoting Chicago, the Irish American heritage and spreading the word throughout America, Hennessy will always be "grandpa" to Colleen. He was the grandfather of many actually, and even taught all his grandchildren how to drive.

"He used to tell us to keep going until we hit something," Colleen remembered with a smile. "He would make people laugh until the day he died."

In his latter years, Colleen said his Indiana neighbors would call him "Grandpa" whenever they saw him through town or at the grocery store.

"He was a classic man," Colleen said. "You don't find too many like him."

Irish Caregivers Needed
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In the spring of 1996, I remember standing along Broadway Ave., in Merrillville, Indiana to watch the Olympic torch make its way to Atlanta Georgia; it's final destination to be lite for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games.

Last summer, 2012, the world watched the Olympic games in London; the Olympic torch was lite again. I start this article with that because that's what this article is a torch being carried on. My name is Colleen Harstad, and the majority of you have no clue who I am, but we are going to change that in one second; I am one of Pat Hennessy's granddaughter,s and now yes, you know who I am. I am his oldest granddaughter. My two younger sisters are also his granddaughters. One lives in Indianapolis and the other lives in Boston, and my brother, his grandson lives in Wyoming. It is important to the four of us to carry on grandpa's writing and memories, in other words to carry the torch, to honor our grandpa, Pat Hennessy.

My grandpa moved to Indiana in 1997, one year after my grandma; Eileen Hennessy passed away, so I had my grandpa in my life for 16 years. That is a wonderful gift, and I was truly blessed. I considered and still consider my grandpa to be my best friend. I am a teacher in Indiana, and so many times my students tell me their grandparents have passed away, and I look at these kids and they are only 12 or 13, and I feel bad that they will never have the relationship I had with my grandpa. At 31 years of age, I couldn't imagine growing up without my grandpa. He was my backbone.

He taught me so much, but I was young and stubborn and didn't always take his advice, after all experience is the best teacher, and he would agree with me about that. Even after I did things he advised



me not to do, he was there to help me put back the pieces. I would sit down with him after dinner and we would solve the world issues, while he had his cup of tea and cake and I had my coffee; which he did not like, and could never understand why I didn't like tea. Most of the time our conversation would turn about politics, and what the politicians should be doing differently or what they did right, but mostly what they did wrong. I wonder what my grandpa would say about the government shutdown, I know who he would blame, but I wonder how he would think the democrats and republicans should fix it; what they could do differently to prevent this type of shutdown from ever happening again, my grandpa would know, he had all the answers.

Ever since he moved to the United States in the 1950s, he never missed his chance to vote; he would explain to people who did not have their citizenship yet, why it was so important for them to vote. One of his physical therapist was from India, and she was going through the citizenship process and at 90 years of age grandpa was able to walk her through the process. It was remarkable to see his knowledge first hand. As she helped grandpa with his physical therapy, he would go over with her the questions that would be on the citizenship test; in matter of fact, he drilled it in her. I am happy to report, she passed and is a US citizen.

He had an elephant of a memory. He could remember almost every little detail of his past as if it happened yesterday, and he always wanted to make sure I remembered, so he would have me repeat it over and over, and then ask different questions to make sure I was paying attention to him. I am happy he made me do that. It's like what I told my mom, grandpa always knew what to say to make any situation better. His favorite quote to me was, "If you cry, you cry a lone, and if you laugh the world will laugh with you," and he was very

right about that, but like I said he was right about almost everything.

Annual Dinner at Gaelic Park

As many of you know my grandpa also loved Gaelic Park and he loved sharing their news with you in the newspaper. So in that tradition, I invite all of you to attend Gaelic Park's, "The Sunday Classic Carvery," dinner. The dinner is Sunday afternoons starting on November 3rd from 3pm - 8pm; the cost is \$17 for adults and \$10 for children for all you can eat. The food is fantastic, and the atmosphere of Gaelic Park is wonderful as well. The dancing after the dinner is always a delight to see.



Colleen Harstad with her grandpa, Pat Hennessy, at an Irish function of course!

It is a wonderful time for the entire family. Like tradition, the Hennessy Family will be there are on November 3rd for our annual holiday dinner, and although this dinner will be different without my grandpa, it's good to know family tradition carry on. We can all be together because that is what all the Hennessys' from the past generations would want. It will be good to see family members and good friends to share stories, memories, pictures, and a good laugh.

Another Great Irishman Passes

Two weeks after my grandpa passed away, another Harry Boland Club member passed away, Nick Tierney. He left his beloved wife Mary, and their two sons Brian and James. Nick, like my grandpa, worked for the City of Chicago as an electrician. Nick was a good friend of my grandpa's. He would talk to my grandpa all the time about hurling. I grew up knowing my grandpa's friends like Nick,

Sean Quigley, PJ O'Dea, Liam O'Brien, and the countless other good friends grandpa had and their wives; I always have adored every single one of them, it was so neat being a young adult and seeing all of them come together and talk about Ireland, specifically hurling and what team was the best, and of course to grandpa, Kilkenny always was and will always be the best, and that was the end of that discussion with him. Rest in peace Nick. I can picture you and grandpa up in heaven playing hurling like the good old days. God Bless the Tierney family through this hard time, and may you find comfort knowing that many cared for Nick, just how many cared for my grandpa.

Thank you

Finally, I wanted to end this first article of, "Carrying the Torch," thanking you, the readers. My grandpa loved writing and I believe that is what kept his mind young. Writing kept grandpa on his toes; it kept him in the know, and most importantly it gave him a purpose. I can still hear him typing away on his typewriter, singing to himself as he typed his articles. That was my grandpa always happy and generous with his time and kind words. My grandpa lived to be 93 years young, and I know that's because he had the support from all of you and from writing his column which kept him going for

so long. So to all of you who read his articles every month, thank you for the bottom of my heart.

I will be back with more stories about my grandpa and the Hennessy's in January 2014. Until then as grandpa would say, "Slainte a cardé ague beanacct de leat," which means health and blessings to you dear friends.

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Heritage Singers Present Annual Concert

Join the Center for an afternoon of music with the Irish Heritage Singers' annual concert, Féile Cheoil, A Music Festival. Paul Matijevic directs. The Irish Heritage Singers are the resident choir at the Irish American Heritage Center.

of the Irish is present, and to be cultural and artistic ambassadors of the Center. The group performs traditional Irish and Irish-American music including songs as well as music by contemporary Irish choral composers. To date, the Irish Heritage Singers is one of



The concert features musical selections by U2, Enya, Stephen Foster, Percy French, music based on poetry by W.B. Yeats, traditional music, pub songs and more.

The vision of the Irish Heritage Singers is to preserve, perform and bring to life the cultural heritage of Irish music to the Chicago community and wherever the spirit

of the very few Irish/Irish American Choral ensembles in the United States.

Féile Cheoil, A Music Festival, is Sunday, November 17 at 3pm in the Erin Room. Tickets are \$15 for members, \$20 for general admission and children ages 5 to 12 are \$5. Tickets can be purchased by calling 773-282-7035.

Tea with Mary Todd Lincoln

Enjoy tea with Mary Todd Lincoln in November at the Center's ongoing tea series. Brigid Duffy portrays the intriguing First Lady. She will conduct lively conversation about Lincoln and the major events in her life at this one woman presentation.



Duffy has appeared in productions at Apple Tree Theatre, Drury Lane Water Tower and Steppenwolf Theatre. As an Artistic Associate of Irish Repertory, she appeared in *The Mai, A Life,*

Pentecost, Well of the Saints and Famine.

The Saturday Morning Teas feature tea, sandwiches, scones and desserts, as well as presentations on notable women in literature and history.

Tea with Mary Todd Lincoln is Saturday, November 9 from 11am

to 1pm. Tickets are \$25 and must be purchased by November 6 by calling the IAHC Office at 773-282-7035. Reservations are necessary.

The Halls are Alive With the Christmas Bazaar

Get in the holiday spirit with the Christmas Bazaar at the Center.

The annual Bazaar is Sunday, December 1, from 9am to 3pm and includes mass, a breakfast, craft sale, bake sale and visit from Santa Claus. The Fifth

Province Pub will be open from noon until 6pm. Mass is celebrated in the auditorium at 10:30am, with music by the Irish Heritage Singers. A traditional Irish breakfast follows in the Erin Room. The cost for the breakfast is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children and reservations are required. There is no charge to browse and shop the

craft and bake sale and shoppers can enjoy the craft sale with Chicago

artisans. An Irish-American quilt will be raffled off.

The Fifth Province and first floor will be transformed into a Winter Wonderland, courtesy

of Nimble Thimbles. The Bake Shop sells tea, coffee, homemade pies, bread, scones, cakes and cookies. Santa Claus visits from 1-3pm and will pose for photos with each child.

To purchase tickets for the breakfast, call 773-282-7035, ext. 10 by November 28, or fill out the form below and mail to the IAHC office.



Join The Irish American Heritage Center Sunday, December 1, for Mass at 10:30 a.m., followed by an Irish Breakfast in the Erin Room. Reservations are required.

Adults . . . \$8.00
Children . . . \$4.00

To reserve tickets, send check payable to: The Irish American Heritage Center. Tickets will be reserved for pick up on December 1. Mail check and reservation form by November 28 to: The Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 North Knox Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60630.

Christmas Mass
and Old-Fashioned Irish Breakfast Celebration

Christmas Mass
and Old-Fashioned Irish Breakfast Celebration
December 1, 2013

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Adults: _____ Children: _____





THE HERITAGE LINE

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER Chicago, Illinois



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President's Message

I am writing this month's message on the plane back to Chicago from Ireland carrying the 2013 Diaspora Award from the Mayo Emigrant Association, and a few "Made in Ireland" souvenirs.

Just left Dublin and it was overcast, cool and rainy... can you believe it?

On Saturday, Sept 28, in Castlebar, I proudly accepted the Diaspora Award on behalf of the Center, our members, board, friends, volunteers and supporters. I was proud to accept the honor on your behalf.

The Archbishop of Ireland was there, as was the Mayo County Council Mayor and County Manager. The Captain of the Mayo Footballers' minor team who just won the Tom Markham Cup was there and many other distinguished guests.

The highlights of the trip... yes, the award for IAHC volunteer

service to Ireland. Another highlight of the trip was to again see and experience Ireland; the great people, the country, the stories, the chat, the craic, the scenery, the music, the shops, the churches, the culture... The Gathering.

• I spent a full day, plus, with the two of our members who volunteer and who have done so much for the Center. They were home for a visit and we managed to connect. I saw his Newport area turf and I saw firsthand their love for their land. I have a deeper appreciation for him, his volunteerism and for all he does for us. I stood with him and watched his pride, honor and patriotism for his homeland as the sun set at the Titanic Memorial Park in Lahardane.



• I met many friends of our Mayo members. Shop-owners Frank Chambers and Martin Curry of Westport wished us the best.

• I represented the Center at a gathering at Croagh Patrick and at Attymass. The pastor at Attymass acknowledged us at Sunday Harvest Mass, where we were blessed to listen to two sight-challenged volunteer singers with the most moving voices.

• I visited Bohola, the home of one of our most honored and treasured members. It was in her chair in the Auditorium, where years ago I was engaged. How blessed are we to have our senior volunteer member? I felt her presence in that special place called Bohola. Ireland misses her.

• I stayed at an inn in Westport, Mayo, owned and managed by a nephew of one of our great volunteers. Called an inn, it was more like home. I came as a guest and left as a friend.

So much to share about the trip and I shared some of it at the Town Hall

Meeting, but allow me to close with a story and a smile...

I traveled Sunday evening by car for more than four hours to Dublin from Castlebar with a Sister of the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary Congregation. Sister was from Mayo and also a recipient of a Diaspora award. She and I talked all the way covering countless subjects including her missionary time in Sierra Leone Africa, the economy, medicine, her care of mothers and their babies during her missionary times in Africa, American/Irish politics, clean water, local food, religion, volunteerism and more. We talked for more than four hours, talking non-stop all the way, no breaks, no refreshments. When we arrived at the convent in South Dublin, after four solid hours of great interesting and inspirational chat, this Irish legendary missionary servant of God, author and doctor, said as she stepped out of the car... "John, I am truly sorry we didn't have more time to talk." Only in Ireland. God Bless you Sister!

Are there better people? Is Ireland a great country? Need any more reasons why we must press on and take our Center to the next level?

Future members, future volunteers, future board members and future presidents deserve the chance to experience what you and I have been so blessed to experience.

It is up to you and me to give them that chance.

Yes, you and yes, me; it is up to us. So let's take some time to talk... no emails, no faxes, no text messages; just good old fashioned face-to-face talk, like I did with Sister, about how we can see the Center grow and prosper.

Time to go... "I am truly sorry we did not have more time to talk."

P.S. Mary, see you in a few hours. I missed you. Thank you for helping me find my roots.

John Crowley Gorski
President, IAHC

IAHC Annual Appeal Continues

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

Your donation is important to the operation and success of the Center and an important element of our 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.

We are on the road to success, but we do need your contribution.

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

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

Help us continue to make the Center a special place in Chicago. Our children and grandchildren and all who follow after us deserve to enjoy and experience the Center as we have.

The names below are contributors from September 6 to October 15. We will continue to list donor names through the March 2014 issue.

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THE HERITAGE LINE

Irish American Heritage Center

Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

November 2013

November 1	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili Mor Town Hall Meeting	Fifth Province Room 109	8pm 7pm
November 2	Piobairi Shamrock American Club Social	Fifth Province ShamAm Room	5pm 8pm
November 6	Tara Club Meeting /Tir Na Nog	Room 304	10am
November 9	Saturday Morning Tea St. Patrick's Fathers Social	Fifth Province Fifth Province	11am-1pm 8pm
November 15	Quiz Night	Room 109	8pm
November 19	Celtic Women International Meeting	Room 304	7:30pm
November 20	Tara Club Meeting	Room 304	10am
November 22	Ancient Order of Hibernians Benefit	Fifth Province	6:30pm
November 23	Irish American Hall of Fame Trivia Night	Erin Room	7pm
November 24	Genealogy Meeting	Library	1pm
November 30	Galway Fellowship Dance	Fifth Province	8:30pm

Regularly Scheduled Events

Tues	Set Dancing	Room 111	7:30-9:30pm
Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
Tues., Thurs., Fri., & Sat.	Golden Diners Lunch Program	Kitchen	12:30pm-2pm
Wed	Irish Language Class	Room 304	11-1:30pm
Wed	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7-10pm
Thurs	History of Irish-America Class	Library	7pm
Thurs	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsals	Room 304	7pm

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NOVEMBER ENTERTAINMENT

- 11/1 Ceili Mor
- 11/2 Seamus O'Kane
- 11/8 Joe McShane
- 11/9 St. Patrick's Fathers Dance
- 11/15 Gerry Haughey
- 11/16 the Dooley Brothers
- 11/22 Mulligan Stew
- 11/23 Larry Nugent and Bill O'Donoghue
- 11/29 Barn Dance Music
- 11/30 Joe Cullen and Gerry Haughey



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Hall of Fame Trivia Night

Show your talent for trivia at the second annual Trivia Night Fundraiser in support of the Irish American Hall of Fame and the Center.

Trivia questions will cover the Irish American Hall of Fame categories: Arts & Humanities, Public Service, Business & Industry, Sports, Education, Religion and Science, plus plenty of current events and pop culture.



Trivia Night is Saturday, November 23 in the Erin Room at 7pm. The cost is \$150 per team and teams are limited to six players. There will be a silent auction, split-the-pot raffle and

cash bar.

To register, call the Center at 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or visit www.irish-american.org.

For more information on the Irish American Hall of Fame, visit www.iahof.org.

The Heritage Line Staff Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

Contributors: Shelby Baron, Theresa Choske, John Gorski, Mary Griffin, Natalie Miller, Mary Morris Sheila Murphy

Drivers Licenses for Undocumented Begins November

*By: Raia Stoicheva
Immigration Attorney
Chicago Irish Immigrant Support*

Thanksgiving Day marks the roll out of the new Temporary Visitor Driver's License (TVDL) program. This program, administered by the Illinois Secretary of State (SOS), allows undocumented motorists to apply for a driver's license. The Chicago Celts were instrumental in securing the passage of the TVDL legislation in Springfield and welcome its commencement.

In the past, only foreign-born persons with a valid visa could apply for a TVDL. With the implementation of the new program, people who are in Illinois without legal status will be able to obtain one.

Imagine this scenario. A local police officer stops a motorist for something as small as a broken taillight. When the motorist cannot produce a valid license, she is arrested for driving without a license. While booking the motorist, the officer fingerprints her. The fingerprints are run through a federal immigration database. If the fingerprints produce a match, ICE requests that the local police detain the individual until ICE can come and pick her up. Upon transfer into ICE custody, the motorist is placed in immigration detention and removal proceedings are commenced against her.

The likelihood of this scenario repeating itself has significantly diminished with the advent of TDVLs. If stopped by local police now, a person in possession of a TVDL will be able to use it as bond, in the same way that a holder of a regular license would be able to do. This means that she would be ticketed for a driving violation only rather than arrested for driving without a license. Since valid visa holders will continue being able to obtain a TVDL, a police officer will not know that a driver is undocumented. Remember, however, that a TVDL is only valid in conjunction with car insurance. If a holder of a TVDL is stopped and cannot show proof of insurance,

she will be considered to be driving without a license.

To apply for a TVDL, you will need to make an appointment at one of 25 specified SOS facilities. You can find a list of facilities issuing TVDLs on the SOS website. At the appointment, you will need to

prove that you live in Illinois and that you have lived in Illinois for at least one year. You will need to pass all the regular vision, written, and driving examinations. TVDLs will not be issued on the spot, rather mailed within two or three weeks of the appointment. SOS

will begin taking appointments in mid-December. The program should be fully functional by the end of January 2014.

One more thing to remember. TVDLs are not valid for identification. This means that they cannot be used for voting, obtaining a fire-

arm identification card, boarding an airplane, or entering a federal building. You can use a TVDL to indicate your name and address to hospitals, first responders, bars, and other privately owned establishments.

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Celtic Mass and Irish Story Night

Saturday, Nov. 9 5-9pm St. Joseph and St. Aidan's Church Blue Island IL

Christians across America have a deep longing for the ancient Celtic Church. If our ancestors were Irish, Scots, UK, or Welsh, we can all claim of that Celtic Heritage.

Here at the Church of St. Joseph and St. Aidan, in Blue Island, we live within that Celtic heritage. St. Aidan, the holy patron of our parish, traveled about the Celtic lands many years ago proclaiming the Gospel while defending the church from the Vikings and the Pagans.

At 5:00 pm, Saturday, November 9, we will celebrate a Glorious Celtic Mass in honor of St. Aidan. Our brief, but traditional Celtic Eucharist will be filled with wonderful music, played by Mr. Jim White, famous South Side Irish musician, and by Ms. Ysraelia Garbutt, of our parish musical staff. Our pastor, Fr. Rod Reinhart, be the celebrant, and we have a magnificent surprise guest as preacher. All are welcome to share in this delightful Celtic night of liturgy and music.

St. Joseph/ St. Aidan's Episcopal Church is on the corner of Greenwood and Oak Street (2457 Oak) in Blue Island IL 708-528-9862 revrod@comcast.net

Irish Story Night (BYOB) To help our homeless Veterans

Following the Celtic Mass, around 6:30 pm, we will all go upstairs to our Community Room for an "open microphone" festival of Irish stories. Fr. Reinhart is the founder of the South Side Bloomsday event and he is a renowned teller of Irish stories. We all know a few funny, naughty, sad or true Irish... or Celtic stories. Please come and share them in front of an appreciative group of friends.

Our church works with Jesse Brown VA Medical Center to help our homeless veterans. We will take up a collection at the story night to support our annual Christmas Survival Gear drive for homeless veterans. Feel free to bring a warm jacket to give to our vets.

The Story festival will be an informal coffee-house event. We will have coffee and snacks available... and a bit of beer too. You may bring

your own beer, if you wish, but be careful to not overdo it. Irish stories are a big part of our south side Celtic heritage. Please come and tell the stories you know. Call

Mullen's Applesauce: Food for Thought

Editors Note: As publisher of Irish American News and the founder of Food Industry News, I remember the day in 1996 when Officer Mullen was shot. He was on the Northside in my old neighborhood, and his life would never be the same.

But, Officer Mullen is made of strong stuff and 17 years later he's looking forward, not back. His late mother made a special applesauce. So special that friends said she should bottle it! So Jim did!

Now, with a little help from his wife, daughter and friends, Jim is trying to take his product to the next level. Read below and see what you can do.

In Officer Mullen's word, "Hello Mullen's applesauce fans,

I am sending this to inform you about my Mullen foods Kickstarter.com campaign and to simply ask a favor.

Kickstarter.com is the largest crowd funding platform on the Internet. Crowd funding for those of you who are not aware is a newer concept and platform

708-528-9862 so we can feature you at our story night.

The Rev. Rodney Reinhart St. Clement's Episcopal Church, Harvey IL, St. Joseph and St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, Blue Island IL

whereby people present their project in hopes of getting funded by contributions from people all over the Internet. It is really all in the numbers. Small contributions coupled with thousands of backers help small startups and entrepreneurs raise the needed capital to advance their goals and dreams.

So the favor I ask of you is to please share my link with your friends and family. With a little luck and if people find it worthy they might share the campaign with their friends and family. That is the power of using social media.

I have been very blessed and I am very grateful to have been surrounded by so many wonderful people in this world. Thank you for your time, friendship and consideration. All the best, Jim

1. Share our www.Kickstarter.com campaign link <http://kck.st/HavApN> with friends and family by forwarding this story.

1.Share our www.Kickstarter.com campaign link with friends and family by forwarding this story."

Sincerely, Jim Mullen
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Crowley on Kells

By Frank Crowley



A Trip to New England

This past summer, my wife Pauline had a photo exhibit in Washington Depot, Connecticut. I had Book of Kells presentations scheduled in New York City and Atlantic City. We thought this would be a great opportunity to visit a few art museums that were on our "to see" list. So we decided to drive. We would visit the Art Gallery at Yale University, the Athenaeum Museum in Hartford and museums we found when we researched the area. It also gave us the opportunity to visit R. E. Meyer & Sons Leather and Pergamena Parchment factory. The tannery, in upstate New York, is the only leather works in the U.S. that makes vellum that I know



lective and our friend Michael Carroll, the fine Celtic artist, love working on vellum. This was a chance to stock up. When I met

Jesse I had many questions. We had a lengthy conversation about the process of making vellum and he invited Pauline and me to visit the family factory to see how it is made.

On our visit, we saw the entire production process of leather and parchment, from the strong smelling early stages to the finished product. We bought a few pieces of vellum but also a few handmade leather bound note books made by local artists. I was particularly interested in the method and steps involved of making vellum. The

Book of Kells' leaves were made of vellum and the process of making an ecclesiastical book is an important aspect of many of my presentations. Now when I make presentations on production methods, I pass around pieces of vellum. Audiences are always curious about and surprised to see and feel its very smooth surface.

Years ago, when I first started to research medieval manuscripts and the Book of Kells, I learned that they were written on vellum, a type of processed leather. I remember thinking, how could leather have such beautiful lettering and paintings on it. The surface of leather is soft and absorbent and strong, great for many things, from shoes to book covers to upholstery, but not finely

detailed drawing.



But I had no idea what vellum actually was. Next time, the history of vellum.



about. The history of the Meyer's tannery business goes back in the U.S. to before 1853. You may have seen the factory on a broadcast of the Discovery Channel's program "Dirty Jobs" with Mike Rowe a few years ago. It was so popular, they filmed two episodes.

Jesse Meyer and father Karl Meyer's family leather business goes back to 1550 in the town of Eisenberg in East Thuringia, Germany. Jesse came to the Irish American Heritage Center last year as guest of the Chicago Calligraphy Collective and brought samples of this parchment and vellum. Some members of the Calligraphy Col-

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Volunteers Help Procopius School

On 10-5, members of the Irish Fellowship Club and Young Irish Club joined with the Big Shoulders Fund to volunteer at St. Procopius school in Pilsen. Volunteers helped move donated tables to the computer room and organized rooms for students.

"The Big Shoulders Fund helps keep Catholic Schools viable in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods.

We are grateful that IFC President Patti Bidwill and YIFC President Kelly Dougan were able to get such a large group together this morning," said Fred O'Connor, Chairman of the CAC

Board for the Big Shoulders. Principal Brian O'Rourke stated "We are very happy to have these 2 great organizations volunteer their time to help our school".

The Pastor of St. Procopius is Kerry born Father Sean O'Sullivan. "Our organizations were moved by the outpouring of support from Irish organizations during Hurricane Sandy for the Irish neighborhood of Breezy Point. We decided we should work together and give back to our community," said organizer of the event and Irish Fellowship Club Vice President Chris Kozicki.

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Sean Nós Dance, Music at the ICHC Milwaukee November 23

A spectacular show devoted to sean nós dance from Ireland's wild Atlantic Coast and performed by Brian Cunningham, will take place at the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee on Saturday, Nov. 23 at 7:30 p.m. Joining Cunningham are three of Irish music's top singers, musicians, and storytellers.

Cunningham, characterized as the "Michael Flatley of Sean-Nós dance" by RTÉ Television, is an exciting exponent of the "old-style" dance considered a more casual and spontaneous cousin to modern competitive step dancing. It is characterized by improvised steps, "battering" footwork, and free arm movements and has been called an earlier relative of tap dance.

Cunningham has played a ma-

major role in reviving the style in Ireland and well as transforming it into a joyous display of style, skill and athleticism that has



won enthusiastic fans around the world. In 2005 he was invited by the President of Ireland to and creative traditional fiddlers" by Early Hitchner of The Irish Echo.

Uilleann pipes and flute player Seán Gavin is known as the instrumental "heart" of the Chicago based band Bua.

Tickets for the show are \$19 in advance, \$23 on concert day and \$10 for students with ID. To order online, visit www.ichc.net. Tickets may also be ordered by calling (414) 345-8800.

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A reception was held recently to honor Michael B. Barrett, the endorsed Democratic candidate for Judge in the 15th judicial sub-circuit. Many dignitaries of all walks of life were on hand. Both Barrett and his wife, Bernadette, have been prominent attorneys for the past 20 years. Both received their law degrees from Loyola University School of Law.
(l to r): Michael B. Barrett, Bernadette Garrison Barrett and Orland Park Mayor Dan McLaughlin

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Veteran's Day

We have come full circle and will mark another Veteran's Day, originally known as Armistice Day. November 11, 1918 on the eleventh hour the Armistice was signed ending World War I. President Wilson proclaimed Armistice Day . . . "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the countries' service, and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us, and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice, and the councils of the nations . . ."

While in Pennsylvania visiting family, on Sunday, August 11th, my nephew, Michael took me to the Silver Springs Flea Market. Among the trash and treasure I found a bronze French medallion by M. Lordonnois. The medallion is 2 5/8 inches in diameter. On the front it shows an American "Doughboy" WWI running across a battlefield in France. It also showed other soldiers in trenches and the barbed wire. On the obverse it was titled 1917 FRANCE 1918. There is a topographical depiction with the names of the towns where the battles took place: Chatteau Thierry, Bois Belleau, Soissons, Reims, Argonne, Verdun, St. Mihiel.

World War I always brings to mind my life long friend Jim Mulroys', grandfather, John Mulroy, from Balla, Co. Mayo, who died in France fighting for the British Army. No wonder Jim's favorite song was Private William McBride. In the second verse, "And I see by your gravestone you were only 19, when you joined the glorious fallen in 1916, I hope you died quick and I hope you died clean, or Willie McBride was it slow and obscene?"

War never seems to end, and what was written in 1916 by Robert W. Service, whose brother, Albert Service, a Lieutenant in the Cana-

dian infantry was killed in action in France, August, 1916. Robert W. Service, famous for his book, Tales of the Yukon, also wrote "Rhymes of a Red Cross Man." He was a conscientious objector and drove an ambulance for the Red Cross, during World War I. He wrote this poem.

Grand-Pere

And so when he reached my bed
The General made a stand:
"My brave young fellow," he said,
"I would shake your hand."

So I lifted my arm, the right,
With never a hand at all;
Only a stump, a sight
Fit to appall.

"Well, well. Now that's too bad!
That's sorrowful luck," he said;
"But there! You give me, my lad,
The left instead."

So from under the blanket's rim
I raised and showed him the other,
A snag as ugly and grim
As its ugly brother.

He looked at each jagged wrist;
He looked but he did not speak;
And then he bent down and kissed
Me on either cheek.

You wonder now I don't mind
I hadn't a hand to offer . . .
They tell me (you know I'm blind)
'Twas Grand-pere Joffre.

Grand-pere, was Marshall Joseph Joffre, commander of the French army. The troops called him Notre Joffre, a term of affection as he was a fearless leader in battle, but a compassionate man.

So now that you've read the poem, think of our soldiers in Afghanistan, and how they come home missing limbs and shattered emotionally with post-traumatic stress disorder.

When the war is over and the year's pass by veterans march in parades. Eric Bogle's lyrics from his song "And the Band Played Waltzing Matilda" still holds true. "And the old men marched slowly, old bones stiff and sore. They're tired old heroes from a forgotten

war, and the young people ask what are they marching for? And I ask myself the same question. But the band plays Waltzing Matilda, and the old men still answer the call, but as year follows year, more old men disappear. Someday no one will march there at all."

The futility of war is what this is all about.

JFK Fifty Years Later

On November 22, 1963 shots rang out in Dallas and the curtain closed on Camelot. John F. Kennedy was dead.

It all comes rushing back to me, my personal encounters, and my sister Jeanne's encounters with JFK. On my first trip to Ireland I noticed many pictures of JFK and Jackie in many of the homes I visited and in some pubs. In Tralee, Co. Kerry, at the long bar next to the cattle market there was a picture of John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King Jr., and Robert Kennedy after they had been assassinated with the caption, "Three men of peace." The Long Bar is now known as the Pig and Whistle.

As time went on and Jacqueline Kennedy married Aristotle Onassis, many took the picture of JFK and Jackie out of the frame and cut off her half of the picture. Most of the Irish expected her to live the solitary life of a widow. Many books have been written about JFK. One of the more intriguing titles is, "An Unfinished Life," by Robert Dallek. You will all recall JFK's remark before the Irish parliament, June 28, 1963, "I dreamed things that never were and I say, why not?" which he quoted from George Bernard Shaw.

Kanye West

This rap artist proclaimed himself to be a musical genius on the Jimmy Kimmel show. I would describe him as an egocentric boor. Rap music is something akin to eubonics. Nobody understands it. How could he ever compare to the Gershwins, Cole Porter, Hoagy Carmichael, Lionel Ritchie, "Satchmo," Andrew Lloyd Weber, Elton John or the Beatles? Sorry Kanye, your rap-crap doesn't measure up. Whoopie Goldberg condoned his obnoxious behavior. Why? Go figure. In this card game, one-eyed jacks, and queens with the axe, and the race card are wild. Roll over

Beethoven, and tell Tchaikowsky the news!

World War II Memorial

Straight from Obama's Democratic playbook. The World War II Memorial is open 24 hours a day without gates and often without guards. So why was it barricaded. It was designed to make every-

body angry so the administration could point the finger at the Republicans. Another political ploy, but just a little too transparent, and couldn't pass the smell test.

Congress

The latest "fiscal fiasco" was something akin to "copulation without culmination" . . . nuff said!



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Real Ireland

By Rachel Gaffney



Spiced Pumpkin Soup

- Ingredients**
- 2 pumpkins, halved & baked
 - 3 Tablespoons oil
 - 2 medium yellow onions
 - 6 cups chicken stock
 - 1/2 cup heavy whipping cream
 - freshly grated nutmeg

Begin by preparing your pumpkin. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place your pumpkins face down on a lined cookie sheet. Bake for 30-45 minutes. This will vary depending on your oven. You just want them to be cooked until soft when



- 1 tsp granulated sugar (to caramelize the onions)
- 1 jalapeno, seeded & chopped
- salt & pepper
- Topping/Garnish : Freshly grated Kerrygold Skellig or Aged Cheddar Cheese.

tested with a fork or sharp knife. Scoop out flesh and seeds. I put the seeds aside for later as I also roast those to keep for snacks and for adding to my granola recipes (yum)

If you aren't using fresh pumpkins then you need to use one large can of pumpkin puree. I believe these come in 28oz sizes so use 1 can.

Heat oil in a large cast iron pot and add chopped onions. Stir over a medium heat and then sprinkle sugar. This will bring out a lovely flavor in the onions.

Cook for about 10 mins, or until softened nicely.

Add stock , salt & pepper and jalapeno.

Cover and simmer gently for 20 minutes.

Pour in cream and stir.

Using an immersion blender, puree until you reach desired consistency.

TIP: If you like you can reserve your scooped out pumpkins and serve the soup in them. Just make sure you do not score the skin too deeply with your sharp knife !

Winter Art Exhibit - Kiki's Bistro

Six Chicago artists will present their work in exhibition on Monday, December 2, from 5 to 8 pm at Kiki's French Bistro, 900 N. Franklin, Chicago.

Thomas O'Gorman, Adam Um-

bach, Layne Jackson, Jay Miller, Lucia Adams and Peter Axelsen will present a sweeping expanse of bold and creative paintings - many with a powerful Irish theme. The rolling countryside



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of rural Ireland, the singular architecture of Ireland 18th century design splendor and the shattered dreams pungent amid the tenements of Dublin will be on display at the most reasonable of prices in this remarkable pre-Christmas exhibit.

Lovely wines and hefty hor d'oeuvres will be generously laid on by Kiki. The artists are all well-known Chicago favorites whose grasps of the mediums in which they work demonstrates bold creativity and expressive finesse. Lush and sensitive professionals their work goes far beyond their expansive academic training and success at previous exhibitions. Their work is on the grand scale and often ground breaking in their bold vision of where the brush and paint take them.

This exhibition brings together six artists whose work will captivate the most sophisticated aesthetics and budget conscious art lovers. This is a great Chicago art opportunity.



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A Word With Monsignor Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Monsignor Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



The headlines in Chicago's news media have been far too tragic in the last few months. We have heard how gang violence, repeated shootings, school closings, high unemployment, "food deserts," and rising school dropout rates plague the most beleaguered neighborhoods. With so much bad news, it is easy to think that these neighborhoods are hopeless.

And yet, Catholic Charities has thousands of success stories that come right from these very neighborhoods that are besieged by violence and destruction.

We at Catholic Charities are fortunate to carry out Jesus' command for Christians to be the salt and light of the world—we "preserve" human life, "season" lives with help and services, and bring His hope and light to people and neighborhoods that are otherwise shrouded in darkness and despair. Catholic Charities intentionally goes to the communities who need us the most, and brings services to our most vulnerable brothers and sisters.

As the violence rose with the mercury in many poor neighborhoods this summer, Catholic Charities was also in these communities making a positive impact in the lives of thousands of children and youth. We kept over 28,000 children safe, off the streets, well-fed with nutritious meals, and participating in physical activities in our Lunch n More program; prepared 1,000 children for entry into kindergarten at 16 Early Childhood Development Centers; provided jobs to almost 100 youths, giving them real-world employment experience and helping them learn the value of education; gave 115 young people the opportunity to participate in Service Learning Projects that helped the homeless and elderly; and provided Professional Development Training to 350 youth, teaching them important job skills in the areas of communi-

cation, customer service, financial literacy, stress management and conflict resolution.

In addition to improving the lives of children and youth, Catholic Charities makes a difference in the lives of the elderly, veterans, the homeless, and struggling families in every corner of the City, and throughout Cook and Lake counties. From beautiful housing complexes that shine like beacons of hope in blighted neighborhoods, to safe and clean Food Centers that provide access to nutritious foods in what are considered veritable food deserts (communities with no grocery store), to vibrant senior activity and meal centers, and everything in between, Catholic Charities is bringing hope where hope is needed most. With 157 programs at 162 service locations, we are creating communities of salt and light throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago.

At Catholic Charities' Annual Meeting on October 29, we released a position paper titled Creating Communities of Safety and Stability that outlines some of the wonderful impacts that Catholic Charities makes in poor communities. We wrote this paper to serve as a counterbalance to the negative headlines we are confronted with on a daily basis. With the help of Catholic Charities, police departments, churches, schools, and community groups working together, these communities are not as hopeless and full of despair as they are portrayed. In fact, the resilience and fortitude of the residents of these areas is nothing short of astounding, and can serve as proof of Christ's presence in our lives.

I encourage you to read Creating Communities of Safety and Stability, available at www.catholiccharities.net, and learn how you can get involved. Together we can salt the poorest neighborhoods and bring Christ's light to those who need it most.

The Untold Story of the Kennedy Presidency

By Sabina Clarke

Brothers...The Hidden History of the Kennedy Years, a 2007 New York Times bestseller by journalist David Talbot on Kennedy's "beleaguered and heroic presidency," preserves a slice of history that otherwise might have been lost to us forever. The paperback edition of *Brothers* is also available.

Based on extensive research, recently declassified government documents and interviews with Kennedy administration insiders, friends and family members, Talbot weaves a gripping narrative from the perspective of Bobby Kennedy and reveals his secretive quest to track down JFK's killers before he was assassinated.

He exposes the shocking truths about the CIA and the military industrial complex that were bent on prolonging the Cold War. And he shines a light on the shadow government that JFK and his Attorney General Robert Kennedy struggled valiantly with from the day John Fitzgerald Kennedy took office until the day he died.

In remarkable behind closed doors scenes, Talbot captures the isolation and alienation felt by both JFK and Bobby and captures their frustration with the military and intelligence elites and their determination to change the way Washington worked. And he unearths new evidence that proves that JFK, on several occasions, rescued the country from the brink of nuclear war with Russia. Offering what he calls a "revisionist history" of JFK's presidency that he hopes will become mainstream, Talbot makes a convincing case. "Conventional history," he says, "sees JFK as a Cold War hawk, when essentially, both JFK and Bobby were intent on unplugging the country from the permanent war mentality that still prevails in Washington today."

In fact, he says, JFK and his inner circle: Arthur Schlesinger, Theodore Sorenson, Kenny O'Donnell and Robert McNamara were totally estranged from their own national security bureaucracy. So estranged did JFK become from his military and intelligence advisers, that he frequently worried about and discussed with aides the possibility of a coup or an assassination.

Talbot credits McNamara, JFK's former Secretary of Defense with setting the record straight as far as Kennedy's commitment to pull out of Vietnam. He says, "The country owes McNamara an enormous debt" for speaking out about the Kennedy presidency and preserving JFK's legacy as a "warrior for peace."

Brothers opens on the unforgettable afternoon of November 22, 1963 when Bobby Kennedy gets a cold, impersonal phone call from FBI Chief J Edgar Hoover informing him that his brother has been murdered in Dallas. Bobby immediately suspects that his brother is the victim of a powerful conspiracy.

Written with an historian's eye and a journalist's soul, *Brothers...* is powerful drama and superb journalism—and the closest you'll get to the pulse of the Kennedy presidency.

David Talbot, the founder and former editor-in-chief of Salon.com; former senior editor for Mother Jones; and former features editor for the San Francisco Examiner, has written for many publications including: The New Yorker, Rolling Stone, Playboy and Time.

He is the son of deceased 1930's movie idol and television character actor Lyle Talbot and brother of documentary producer Stephen Talbot and journalist Margaret Talbot, a staff writer at The New Yorker.

SC What inspired you to write this book

DT Two major reasons, I worked as a young campaign volunteer for Bobby Kennedy when I was 16. I remember the horror of that night when he was killed. I was an angry kid who was in military prep school in Los Angeles. The Vietnam War was raging and I knew kids from my school that had been sent there. It seemed like such a colossal tragedy and waste and suddenly there was this young charismatic figure with a tragic cloud hanging over him who comes on the scene. When Bobby came along, I knew he had a chance. I was never taken with Eugene McCarthy

SC How did Bobby Kennedy's death affect you

DT I was outraged. I was furious. This was the third time. I was 12 years old when JFK was killed and I remember thinking that the world didn't seem right. Then Martin

Luther King was assassinated and I was affected by his death. And after Bobby was assassinated, I wondered what kind of world was this that I was growing up in and that stayed with me all my life. After George Bush's reelection in 2004, I was very demoralized and I thought what am I handing over to my children. I needed to understand what had gone wrong with America. I was determined to interview what is left of the Camelot generation—some have died. I interviewed Kennedy's former Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara twice and also Arthur Schlesinger twice before he died

SC What was your impression of Robert McNamara. Was he an opportunist, a company man or ...

DT All of the above. McNamara is a humanitarian, a company man and a robot. He is one of the strangest public figures in my lifetime and one of the strangest I've ever interviewed. I have always been interested in McNamara. As a kid in college, I wrote my thesis on him and what he was trying to do at the Pentagon—kind of a nifty thing for a kid to do in the late sixties. I've known McNamara was a strange fish for quite awhile. In the 1980's during the nuclear freeze movement, I was an editor at Mother Jones magazine. I remember when some of the Vietnam hawks like McNamara and McGeorge Bundy came out and surprised people by supporting the nuclear freeze. Suddenly they seemed to be peaceniks. During that time, I interviewed McNamara's son, Craig McNamara, who was a hippy left-wing organic farmer in California. He became my avenue to his father. I thought that any father who could produce a son as sweet and thoughtful and interesting as Craig-- something is going on in that family. Craig told me how his family was literally torn apart by the Vietnam War. The McNamara's are a sharp contrast to the Bush administration that seems to have no conscience at all. The Cheneys and the Rumsfelds are completely one dimensional. There is something about McNamara, despite the horrific things that he did as Secretary of Defense under President Lyndon Johnson, that did get to him. There was a human heart that beat inside this otherwise robotic man. And as

any writer will tell you, that is the grit for a great character

SC You stated in your book that McNamara set the record straight on JFK and his intent to pull out of Vietnam

DT Absolutely. We owe him an enormous debt—all historians and the country as a whole. People try to obfuscate that; people who have self-interest in trying to make Jack Kennedy into a Cold War hawk. Kennedy used that rhetoric to get elected yet he was rapidly changing even as he was elected. By the end of his administration he was transforming the Cold War and he was determined not to get bogged down by Vietnam. McNamara, his own Secretary of Defense offers the best testimony on this. The Kennedy administration was a peace administration—this is the main point of my book. His administration was very radical for its day given the kind of Cold War fog enveloping the country at the time. They were trying to find their way out; trying to find their way towards détente with our enemy, the Soviet Union.

SC There are so many revelations in this book. It gave me a renewed appreciation for JFK's presidency and what he accomplished in such a short time

DT For me what clearly came into focus as I was doing my research was JFK's heroism and his faith in confronting the implacable Cold War apparatus. Despite being a very political person and obviously very shrewd and ambitious, he was willing and committed to rethink the Cold War and get the country out of it before the world blew up. Consequently, his administration was shrinking and becoming more and more of a family operation. The only people he could trust were his brother and a handful of aides. I think that literally the whole government began to turn against him. He split the Democratic Party in two over Civil Rights. He was willing to put all that on the line when he sent federal troops into Oxford, Mississippi to quell the riots that were sparked by James Meredith's admission into the University of Mississippi. It took so long for the federal troops to arrive that Kennedy and his aides were in a full panic wondering 'what's going on and why isn't the military moving'

SC I admire the courage of Mort Sahl who joined New Orleans attorney Jim Garrison in his investigation into JFK's assassination. What did you think of him

DT Mort Sahl is a total hero. I interviewed him and got to know him fairly well. He became a friend actually and someone I care about a lot. He's a wonderful man. He was making about a million dollars a year in the sixties. He was at the top of his profession. He threw it all away. He put his career on the line trying to find out who killed JFK. It is terrible that a man who has done so much as he has to go through all he has had to go through.

SC I was bothered by the way Bobby Kennedy treated Mort Sahl and attorney Jim Garrison who were trying to find out who the people were that killed his brother

DT I agree with you. There were lots of unpleasant things about Bobby Kennedy. Not only as a younger man when he gets the reputation for being ruthless during the McCarthy Hearings but even when he's older and grappling with the assassination. He's a flawed man—a weak man in some ways. He's an indecisive man who's haunted by guilt that he may have had some responsibility for his brother's death. He thought that in pushing for a confrontation with Castro, he may have unleashed some of these forces himself. I think this is key and explains why he is in a sort of fog for a long time after the assassination. I think people like Mort Sahl shamed him because here was someone who was risking his career

SC Why do you think Bobby Kennedy brushed off the work of other assassination researchers such as Jim Garrison

DT I think the subject was too painful for him. He was ashamed by what they were doing that he wasn't doing. It made him feel uncomfortable. But on the other hand, he treated what they were doing with great respect and assigned staff members to stay on top of their work. I think Walt Sheridan, his close friend and former FBI agent was going to be his right hand man when he reopened the investigation. I think Bobby knew it was the CIA and the mob. He was deathly afraid that Jim Garrison's investigation was going to screw things up—which is exactly what it did

SC Do you think the CIA was involved in the plot to kill Kennedy

DT I think they were compromised. I think John Kennedy was killed by a plot that involved the top national security people in the country. I think it went even higher than the CIA

SC Do you think LBJ was involved

DT I think he clearly knew what happened as soon as it happened. I think he was clearly prepared to benefit from the plot. I think that he was plagued by guilt until the end of his days. He didn't want to go there but he did want to go there. He kept asking people trying to figure out just what happened. LBJ is one of the most curious men in American politics. There is no way he couldn't know what happened. I don't think he was necessarily involved in the plot or had prior knowledge even but I certainly think he figured it out right away. Instead of really trying to solve the crime, he covered it up with the Warren Commission. So, he is a very tainted character. But I don't think he is one of the prime conspirators. I think the people who put the operation together--once it was decided that it had to go forward--were Allen Dulles and Richard Helms of the CIA.

SC Frank Mankiewicz, Bobby's press aide and a Kennedy insider didn't go along with the Warren Commission and was ostracized by the Kennedy family--what did you think of him

DT Frank Mankiewicz is a complete consummate Washington insider who could have gone along too and not done anything but he shook things up and he came out publicly and supported Oliver Stone's movie JFK. So, I have enormous respect and fondness for Frank. I interviewed him. I love him. He is a wonderful man--a ruffled, lovable crusty old guy from the old school who has a lovable heart. He was one of my favorite people during the course of my interviews for the book

SC What did you think of Ted Sorenson, JFK's speechwriter

DT He's a beautiful speechwriter but kind of a strange, remote man. He's certainly not willing to question these darker things about the assassination. I think he was in love with John Kennedy. It was almost romantic. He devoted his life to him.

I think he was married to Jack Kennedy. For him, it was such a terrible loss in every way. I don't think he has ever been able to recover from that

+SC You talk about Joe Kennedy's fears about Bobby's targeting the mob

DT Bobby was naïve as far as the mob went and his father knew that and he was desperately trying to head it off. Bobby was driven to clean up the family name and do penance, even though it threatened the old man directly. It certainly threatened his cronies. Bobby quoted Shakespeare often and referred to the 'cancered inheritance.' He had incredible self-knowledge even with all his flaws to be able to make that kind of connection

SC Bob Blakely, Bobby Kennedy's friend and Chief Counsel on the House Assassinations Committee's investigation into the assassination is disappointing

DT He still disappoints me. He is a really intelligent but arrogant man who can't quite get out of his own way but he is still driven to debate people to try to figure this out. He knows this will be on his tombstone when he dies--what he did and didn't do

to solve this crime. He got part way into understanding the crime but refused to look at the government involvement. Because of his training and background, he just wouldn't allow himself to go there. He will admit to me and another researcher that there was probably low level CIA involvement but he won't go any higher

SC You seem convinced of Bobby's intentions to reopen the investigation into the assassination

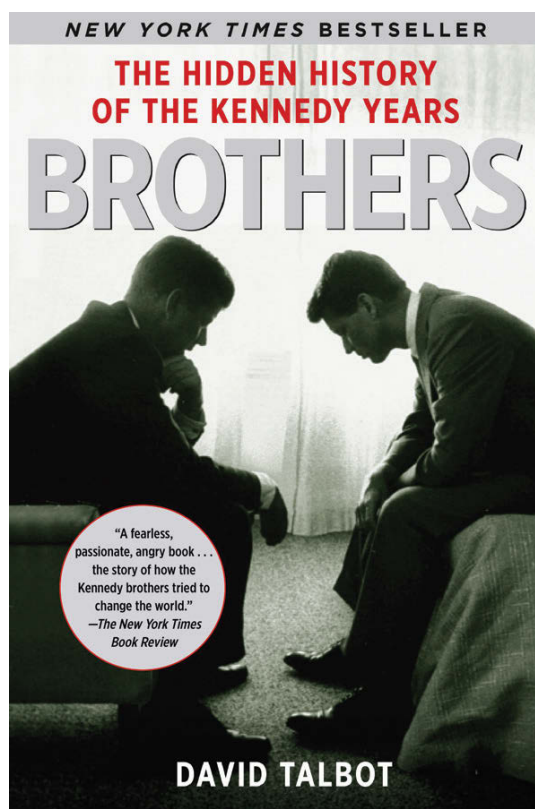
DT Adam Walinsky, Bobby's aide and speechwriter said that Bobby knew how power worked. He knew that he needed the full federal machinery behind him to solve this. He knew what he was up against. Until that time, Bobby was doing a lot behind the scenes. That is the way Bobby operated

SC Do you think the Secret Service was involved in the plot to kill JFK

DT I think they were compromised. I think John Kennedy was killed by a plot that involved the top national security people in the country. I think it went even higher than the CIA

SC I was fascinated by your portrait of Ben Bradlee, former editor of the Washington Post and close friend of both JFK and Jackie Kennedy

DT Bradlee is older now and I wanted to do this in a way that was



respectful and not brutal. But no one, I think, had asked him these tough questions before and he wasn't prepared for it. He thought this was going to be another walk down memory lane. But to his credit, I think the old journalist in him came through, in a sense, because he was trying to grapple with it in an honest way--without coming right out and telling me, 'look, I sold out, I was a coward.' He essentially said that his career was more important. That whole generation of journalists has a lot to answer for--Bradlee, maybe the most. He is like the pompous men who live in the Washington bubble for so long that they can't see right from wrong. They lose their moral bearings. Bradlee was a hero to me when the Washington Post broke the Watergate Scandal. I was in college and because of Watergate; I wanted to go into journalism. But the biggest story that Ben Bradlee

had was bigger than Watergate--it was the assassination. It was on his watch and he could have done something and he chose to do nothing. JFK was his best friend, he claimed. Instead, he wrote a very saccharine book about his friendship with JFK. Not only did he betray his friend by not lifting a finger trying to find out what happened to him--but he betrayed his profession and the country as well.

SC What happened on the Chris Matthews show. I read that you called it one of the low points on your book tour

DT When I appeared on his show, he introduced me as "my friend David Talbot" then he turned to his panel which included the inevitable Howard Fineman and Gloria Borger and puzzled aloud "how any journalist in his right mind could question the Warren Report." He suggested that I just couldn't accept the fact that "a loser like Oswald can kill a Kennedy." This prompted equally inane musings from Fineman about how assassination is the "price we pay for living in the chaos of democracy." Chris clearly demonstrated that he

hadn't read my book. It drives me nuts when journalists don't do the hard work required to really find out what happened. There are so many good books on the assassination that show that something strange happened. It's the third rail in American journalism. You're seen as a kook if you go there. Journalists are supposed to ask the tough questions and journalists continue to blithely refuse to answer some of the toughest things in American life

SC Do you see any parallels between President Obama and JFK

DT Everyone is scared to death about the parallels between Kennedy and Obama. Just as JFK had to run as a hawk on Cuba and the Soviet Union during his campaign, Obama had to run as a hawk on Afghanistan. Obama is now a work in progress. We'll have to see if he is going to be pushed into escalating this war on Afghanistan. This machine

in American political life that pushes for war again and again because there is money to be made, has been haunting America way before Eisenhower. Obama is obviously trying to carve out a new direction after eight appalling years. My concern is will Americans learn enough from their history to know that democracies are fragile things and have to be fought for every day. Presidencies that try to do something right and fight for the people and not just special interests, are endangered presidencies. These people are very powerful and make powerful enemies.

SC Who do you think killed Bobby Kennedy

DT I think the same people who killed Bobby Kennedy killed John Kennedy. This gets clearer and clearer as time goes by. It is just remarkable that you could kill the President and then his brother runs for the presidency, in part, to find his brother's killers and then he is murdered by the same people

SC How was your book tour received in Ireland

DT They were completely straightforward as to how they saw the assassination. I was on the equivalent of the Today Show in Dublin and the host came right out and said, "So, the CIA killed Jack Kennedy." It was a bestseller in Ireland. They don't have the same blinders that they have in America. In fact, all of Europe immediately looked at the assassination very skeptically. They thought there is more here than meets the eye

SC Have any film studios contacted you

DT The book has been optioned by Lionsgate Studio. They want to do a cable network HBO miniseries--like John Adams. We haven't got a director yet

SC Who do you want as the director

DT I want the Irish. I'm pushing for the Irish. Someone like John Patrick Shanley or Neil Jordan or Jim Sheridan or Martin McDonagh. I think the Irish understand this in their guts and in their hearts. My father Lyle Talbot was an actor and very Irish. He was raised by his off the boat Irish grandmother. I am Irish on his side and English on my mother's side. My Dad really identified with his Irish roots. He loved the Dublin Theater

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THERE WAS A HIGH SCHOOL WHERE BOYS LIVED THEIR CATHOLIC FAITH EACH AND EVERY DAY.

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What if...

THERE WAS A HIGH SCHOOL WHERE BOYS LEARNED TO BECOME STRONG CATHOLIC LEADERS IN A SAFE, NURTURING AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT.

What if...

THERE WAS A HIGH SCHOOL WHERE BOYS BECOME MEN, AND WHERE CLASSMATES BECOME LIFE LONG BROTHERS.

What if...

THERE WAS A HIGH SCHOOL THAT COMBINED 150 YEARS OF TRADITION AND MORAL VALUES, WITH A COLLEGE PREPARATORY EDUCATION.

What if...

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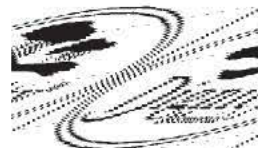
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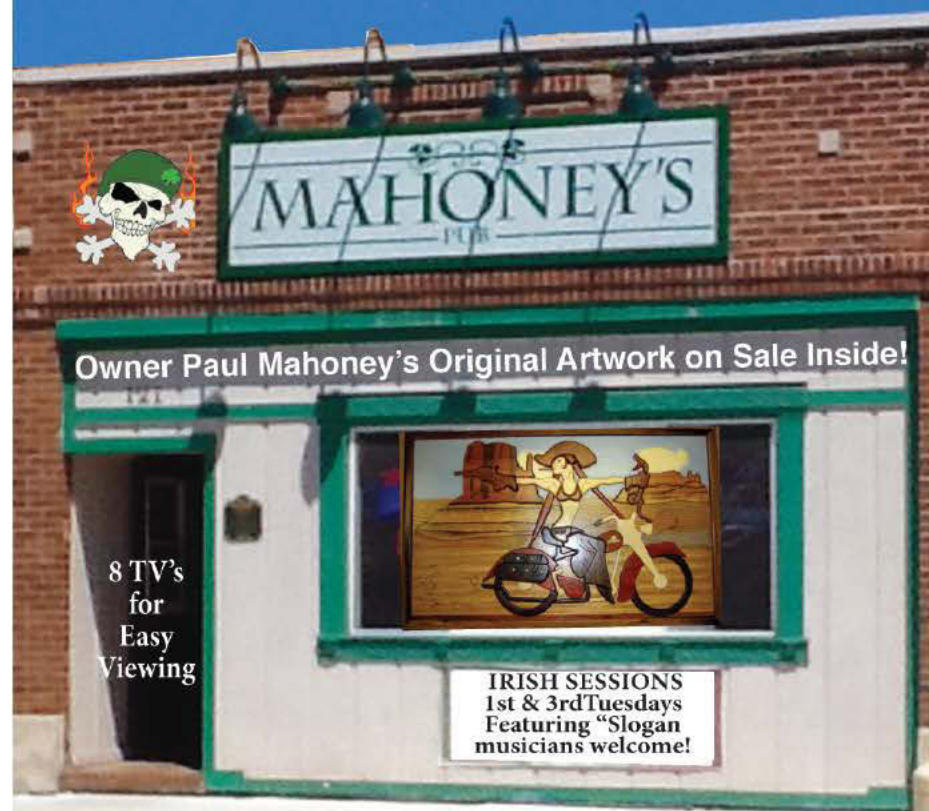
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Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson

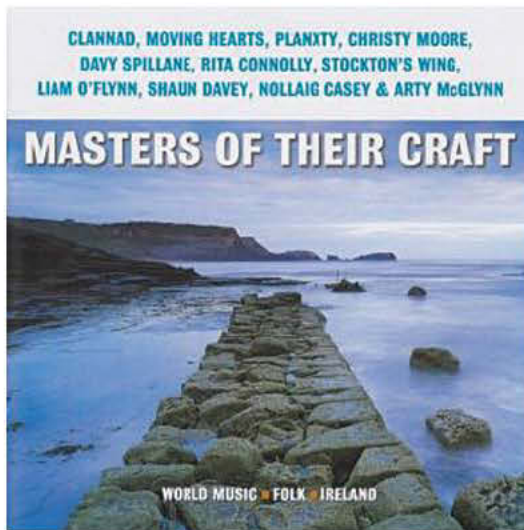


Here's a good question: if you are an experienced Irish music lover, is there any reason to buy compendium albums? The answer is assuredly, yes. No matter how much time you spend in Irish music, there are hundreds or thousands of songs, tunes, and singers whom you have not heard. Look, everyone knows what they like. That takes no knowledge or experience. You either like Clannad or not. Christy Moore, or not. DeDannan or not. It is a far different thing to really know Irish music at its core. So yes, unless you're an expert (and how many actual experts are there?) there is much to be gained from a wonderful compendium album. Which brings us to the Tara-released, *Masters of Their Craft*. There are so many treats here that even those of us who live in this, haven't heard a few. Listen to this line-up: Shaun Davey, Rita Connelly, Stockton's Wing, Clannad, Moving Hearts, Planxty, Christy Moore, Davy Spillane, Liam O'Flynn, Nollaig Casey and Arty McGlynn. The deal is that Tara is one of the three great labels in Irish music. Therefore, any compendium album of music from Tara has to be terrific. That doesn't mean that you are going to like every one of the 18 cuts. You're not. And, in a perverse way, that is exactly the point. If, like me, you think that Smenceno Horo by Planxty is a dreadful assault on the ears which leads the listener to wonder why it is even on an Irish CD, you will not be alone. Planxty has a lot of explaining to do for that little "gem". Again, that's the point, because on this same album you'll find wondrous things such as two less frequently heard compositions by Shaun Davy, Ireland's greatest composer. You will also hear a magical piece

of work called Muineira De Poio by piper, Liam O'Flynn and the wonderful Galician piper, Carlos Nunez. Magic. It follows that one of Ireland's top three labels, Tara, would release something this tasty. But, it is not just that you will love the overwhelming majority of these tunes, it is that you will also receive an education of the ear and heart. You'll find new favs, and be reminded why you love some of the old friends. The variety is stunning. If you don't care for the drums in Stockton's Wing, you'll love the traditional perfection of the iconic, *The Good Ship Kangaroo* by the aforementioned, Planxty. Daire's Dream by Davy Spillane is gorgeous and a treat. A real treat. *Masters of Their Craft* may not deepen your technical understanding of the complexities of Irish music. However, it will deepen your appreciation. If you are an experienced Irish music lover, what is better than hearing old friends while discovering the new? If you are new to the scene, brace yourself Bridgid, you are in for a wonderful journey and *Masters of Their Craft* is the vehicle to begin the trip. We know that the iconic, Copperplate Distribution in London has this available. Just go to them online.

There is a commonly held believe among Irish record companies and producers that compendium albums do not sell well in the British Isles because people are already familiar with the contents. They do, however, sell well in the United States. This assumes the old Irish shibboleth about the musically ignorant Yank. If it is true that compendiums sell better in the States, there is another reason. CDs are far more expensive in Europe. Therefore, listeners are not as liable to take an economic toss of the dice to discover some new tunes. In America, we can afford to fully enjoy what a compendium experience brings to the table. Be it Europe or America—or anywhere else, compendium albums are a unique gift. A good one can actually reinvigorate your musical enjoyment. *Masters of Their Craft* is a really good one. Big time. We heartily recommend it to all lovers of Irish music, whether you really understand the art form, or like 98% of the listeners, "just know what you like". Just know that you will like this, a whole bunch.

*Don't forget to tune in Imelda Bhroga and me every week on LiveIreland.com, Sundays at 12 noon Missouri time on liveireland.com Each week, we bring you two hours of the real Irish music, broadcast on the net from Dublin, Ireland. We are told that it is now one of the most listened-to programs on Irish music in the world. With the reach of LiveIreland.com



we can believe it. *While you have your listening ears on, don't forget Maryann Keifer and my weekly program, Ireland Tonight on WDCB-fm, 90.9. You can also hear it on wdcb.org if you are out of the listening area. A full hour of the best music, and lots of local chat about what is going on and coming in.



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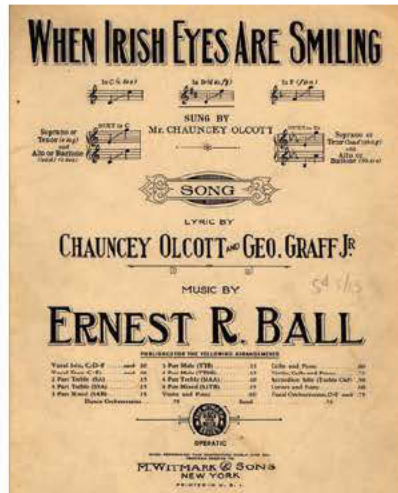
The Milwaukee-based Ward Irish Music Archives today launches a new website dedicated to Irish sheet music. Available at www.irishsheetmusicarchives.com, the site will function as an online catalog for all the sheet music across the collections of the Ward Irish Music Archives. More than 5,000 pieces of Irish and Irish American themed sheet music can now be browsed or searched by category, making it the largest collection of Irish and Irish American sheet music online.

"Whether you want to play music from it, enjoy the images or artwork, or have an academic interest, the material conveys an interesting historical view point," says Jeff Ksiazek, archivist at the Ward Irish Music Archives. "It serves as a gateway to a specific time."

Educators, academics, musicians, entertainers, artists, social historians and the general public will all have access to the sheet music archives, which span from 1750 to present. The most prolific era in the collection is Tin Pan Alley, the name given to the collection of New York City music publishers and songwriters who dominated popular music in the United States from approximately 1901 to 1922.

Search filters include free, online sheet music in the public domain (published before 1923) and special galleries that focus on historical events, such as WWI songs; famous performers, like George M. Cohen; and talented lithographers such as Alfred Concanen. Additional filters include novelty songs, like Irish-Hawaiian; place of publication, with most coming out of New York City; subjects, like patriotic songs; and even specific eras, like Tin Pan Alley.

Visitors to the site will be able to purchase high resolution, digital versions of non-copyrighted sheet music for \$10. Low resolutions versions of non-copyrighted music can be downloaded for free. For those with a specific research interest, the archives staff will assist with background info on materials still under copyright.



Once launched, the website will continue to be a work in progress.

"The site will continue to grow as the Archives acquires more sheet music and with the addition of more galleries," said Ksiazek. "These galleries will explore various themes, composers, events, artists and historical aspects of the collection."

To explore the collections and learn more, visit www.irishsheetmusicarchives.com.

About Ward Irish Music Archives
Milwaukee-based Ward Irish Music Archives is home to the largest public collection of Irish and Irish-American music in America. Past events hosted by the Archives include a Bing Crosby Centennial Celebration and an Association for Recorded Sound Collections national conference.

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Piping It In

Jack Baker



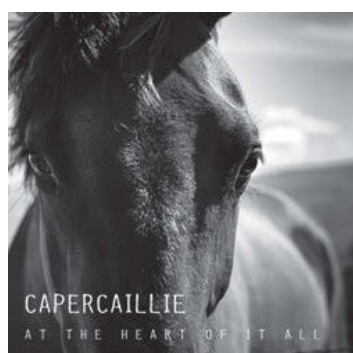
I've been lucky enough to be involved in Celtic music for quite some time now and in that time I've seen bands come and go. I've seen talented bands with great potential rise up like sky rockets and disappear just as quickly. I've seen other bands hang around long after someone should have given them the hook. Every so often I've seen a band with great potential, a unique sound and bucketloads of talent work their way up, playing every gig they could

and finally be recognized as a great band. Such is the case with Burning Bridget Cleary (www.Burning-BridgetCleary.com), a uniquely talented group from the Philadelphia area that I've been privileged to watch over the past few years as they put out great CDs and played their hearts out. I've written about them before but they have a new CD and it's easily their best yet. "Pressed for Time" is the name of the CD and of the first track, a Gordon Duncan reel that will leave you astonished at its complexity and at the way the band handles it. The band, I should mention, consists of Rose Baldino on fiddle, banjo and beautiful vocals, Deirdre Lockman also on fiddle and vocals, Lou Baldino on guitar, bass and vocals and percussionist Peter Trezzi who supplies the heartbeat. I like fiddle duos who know how to harmonize and these ladies do a great job. They also put together some great vocal arrangements. In this CD, their fourth, they add a little bluegrass with a spirited version of "Oh My Little Darling" and one of the sweetest renderings of "Ashokan Farewell" that I've heard. The band played the Kansas City Irish Fest this year and was very well received. They also played the Michigan Irish Music Festival in Muskegon where they were the talk of the weekend. Everybody loved them.

Another band that has been around a long time and that is well loved is the Fenians, www.thefenians.com. They've released a new CD called "Take Me Home" which



features the songwriting talents of the band. When I first started listening to the Fenians, they did spirited renditions of traditional tunes and did them quite well. They still do the trad tunes in their own inimitable style but have also



started writing some new songs and, like the band itself, they're fun and entertaining. Terry Casey, who plays mandolin and guitar and sings, has three original songs on the new CD and I like them all. Brendan Harkins, who plays bass, uilleann pipes and sings, has four new songs to his credit, also good. The gem of the CD, for me, is a new song put together by Harkins and Rob Williams, guitar and vocals, called "Banshee Under My Bed", a really cute song that will quickly become a favorite of kids of all ages, I wager. The other two members of the band are Bryon Holley on drums and Tardu Yegin, who blazes away on whistles, flute, sax, accordion and keyboards and,

to my thinking, is responsible for the bands very unique sound. The only bad thing about this band is that they're based out on the west coast and we don't get to see them often enough in the Midwest.

Compass Records (www.compassrecords.com) scores big this month with two super releases that have been getting a lot of play in my store. First off is "Story Map" a beautiful little sleeper of a CD put together by the team of Eamonn Coyne and Kris Drever. Coyne is a master of the banjo and Drever smokes on guitar. They teamed up earlier on what turned out to be one of my favorite CDs, "Honk Toot Suite" and now they're back with another collection of seriously good trad music. These guys have not toured much in the Midwest and that is

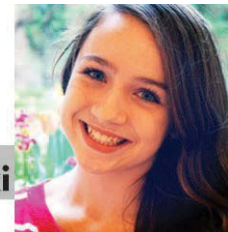
a bloody shame, because they are master musicians who are plowing fresh ground and I, for one, would love to see them banging this stuff out live. Till they get the chance to visit, I'll content myself with their two CDs and thank Compass for having the courage to put stuff like this onto CD.

The second CD to come from Compass Records this month is "At The Heart Of It All" the 30th anniversary release by Scottish supergroup Capercaillie. Yeah, that's right, 30 years this band has been recording some of the finest in the folk tradition that I've ever heard and now I really do feel old. Karen Matheson's sweet voice is here plus Donald Shaw on keyboards, Charlie McKerron on fiddle, Manus Lunny on guitar, Ewen Vernal on bass, Michael McGoldrick on flute and pipes, David Robertson on percussion and Che Beresford on drums. A more traditional recording than some of their work, this one is solid and sweet and every bit as good to listen to as "Sidewalk" or "Crosswinds". The CD cover features a horse looking at the camera, just so you know, no political statement here. This is the finest recording of Scottish Gaelic folk to come down the road in awhile and I say you will enjoy it.

Catch me 7 days a week in December, 630-834-8108 or online at jack@rampantlion.com Slainté

Reel Jiggy

Deirdre Kozicki



Happy Oireachtas month!! I can't believe it's only a few weeks away! Every dancer starts training for this each year around August so its always exciting when the big weekend comes. I can't wait to show off my new steps to the judges. I have been practicing exceptionally hard and really trying to improve on the things that are wrong with my steps. I want them to be perfect. This is the hardest I have worked in a long time. I'm really glad I was able to go to Worlds this year because I feel it has motivated me to become a better dancer. Usually I'm nervous for Oireachtas but this year, I'm more excited. Our teams are going to be spectacular since my team is fresh off their victory at Nationals. Everything is going

according to plan and I cant wait to share the (hopefully good) news of Oireachtas (Thanksgiving Day).

Cheer has also been going well. Since I have made varsity, I got to go to all the home Friday night football games and even though Ignatius didn't win many, it was still so fun to cheer and stunt on the sidelines. My team and I have been working hard for our upcoming competition season. It starts right after Oireachtas. (Will I ever catch a break?) I have really high hopes for our team. Out stunts and tumbling are the best Ignatius has ever seen. State is in 3 months so even when the Irish dancers are taking a much needed rest after Oireachtas, I'll be working hard until February. Wish me luck on that.



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Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan



We've returned from Ireland just as we hit the deadline for The Irish American News, so this is going to be short but sweet.

The Skinny & Houli Show brought 25 hearty folks to Ireland from October 17-24 for the trip of a lifetime. We hit Dublin, Galway, Ennis, Killarney, and back

to Dublin while consuming vast amounts of booze and laughing like we've never laughed before. As a matter of fact Skinny laughed so hard one night that he threw up! No lie!

No time to give you all the details, those will come on The Skinny & Houli Show over the

next several weeks, but here's a couple photos.

We met Mary Houlihan on the coast of Dingle, she's about 89 years old and next to her thatch house is a 4,000-year-old beehive hut that our ancestors lived in and cursed the darkness. Mrs. Houlihan charges a couple Euro to visit the hut and for Americans she'll take a couple US singles and she uses those when she visits her relations in the states.

When I met her she had a pile of dough in her hand and invited me into her house. a lovely little place not unlike my baronial home in Berwyn.

So many great times during the course of our adventures. CIE Tours lined us up with a genius named Philip Duffy who spun historic tales, jokes, and stories while driving our big bus like it was a tiny Chevy. He's got style, he's got class, and he's badass!



Mary and Mike Houlihan

Brilliant man.

Our first night in Galway my old pal Mike Monaghan, star of "Our Irish Cousins" joined us in the bar with his two brothers Ger and Joe. They entertained us and Mike gave a special welcome to our group before we had a lovely group dinner and then returned to find the Monaghan brothers still in the bar afterwards for more craic.

Along the way we were entertained by Kathleen Keane in pubs as she fiddled and sang. We hit a bar in Killarney, Sheehan's, where Kathleen joined a trad session in progress. Mike Miller remarked on a particular group of inbred lookin' fellas in the bar, "Their family tree must look like a utility pole!"

As we drove through Ballybunnion, Duffy our driver told us of former Prez Clinton's visit and how the town paid a woman named 'Monica' five thousand Euros to remove her sign from in front of her shop during his visit so Clinton wouldn't be embarrassed. Skinny remarked, "It was probably a cigar shop!"

When a flock of sheep held up all traffic on the road to Dingle, Duffy our driver shouted out, "No Skinny, you can't get out of the bus!"

Duffy sticks his head out the window and tells the sheep-herder, "I've a fella in the back here who's mad for 'em!" The guy yells back, "For 70 Euro I'll deliver her to your hotel!"

Then Duffy tells us, "Know how they make virgin wool? Ugly Sheep!"

And so it went.

Our group was inter-generational with folks in their late twenties up to those who could pass for eighty. All joined together in the madness and we lived a lifetime in seven days.

We saw more rainbows than you could find in Boys Town on a Sunday in June and felt the presence of Our Lord in our midst every day as we marveled at the beauty of this magnificent country.

So there 'ya are. The spirit speaks louder in Ireland. We're going back next year for The Skinny & Houli Ireland Tour II. Join us!



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A Slice of Ireland

By Cathy Cooney-Millar

Galway Bakers Are Smile Makers!

If you have ever wondered where in Chicago you buy the traditional Irish Soda bread or other baked goodies, I have the answer. Galway Bakers is Chicago's premier provider of Irish baked goods since 2004.

The Galway Bakers consists of three sisters, Gretta, Irene and Dolores, from Turloughmore, Co. Galway, and their spouse Lou, Hal and Pat. They grew up baking bread with their mother and grandmother, and the recipes used today

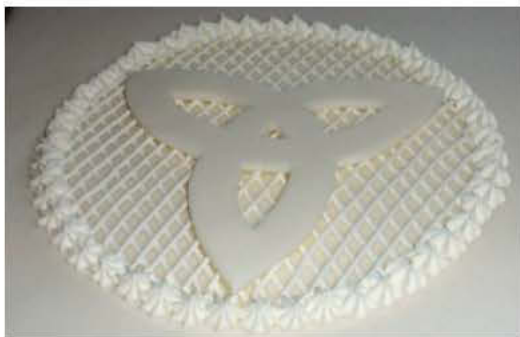
and make up the cornerstone of their bakery are the same ones they learned as children. Gretta, Irene and Dolores are 3 of 6 sisters. Their Dad passed away too soon in 1960. He was very successful tailor but when he passed away that was the end of that business. They were all still in school at the time and being that their mother had family in Chicago they decided they would make the trip across the ocean. Five of the kids along with their Mom, Marguerite McHugh Higgins, left Ireland in 1964 and Chicago has been their home ever since. One of their sisters came to Chicago a couple of years before them. Their mom passed away in 2005 shortly after Galway Bakers was formed.

She was the master baker in the family, and her brown bread was requested at all parties and

events.

The Galway Bakers was formed in October of 2004 following requests for Irish bread and desserts for parties and gatherings that the sisters had become known for.

The sisters of The Galway Bakers bake a variety of prod-



A beautiful piece of artwork atop a Galway Baker homemade cake!

ucts which are carried by Irish shops in Chicago and surrounding areas, and served in restaurants and "Tea Rooms" at Irish



Festivals. The Galway Bakers are vendors at Irish Festivals at The Irish American Heritage

Center in Chicago, as well as other Festivals in and around the Midwest

The Galway Bakers have requests all over the USA for their traditional Irish Soda Bread and Nana's Brown Bread. Scones include Apricot, Blueberry, Cranberry Orange, Kerrygold Cheese, Traditional Raisin to name a few.

Cakes: Guinness Cake, Jameson, Bailey's & Guinness, Double Chocolate Guinness Cake, Banana Chocolate Chip, Galway Tea Cake, Zesty Lemon and many more. All Cakes and Tea Breads come in a variety of sizes as well.

Specialty Items can be ordered at any time! You cannot attend a holiday party without bringing one of the following:

Traditional Irish Fruit Cakes - for Christmas, Birthdays, Anniversary's, Christenings, etc. Cakes are finished with a layer of marzipan (imported from Ireland), topped and decorated with royal icing.

Christmas Plum Puddings - made in the traditional style with a deluxe mixture of fruit and suitable for vegetarians and available only during December.

Mincemeat Tartlets - made with their special homemade mincemeat in a flaky pastry, and are available only during December.

Sweet Tables - a wide variety of desserts are available to suit any event.

Wedding Cakes - made with a deluxe fruit mixture, a layer of marzipan topped and decorated with royal icing. Their Celtic Wedding Cake features handcrafted Celtic Knots.

The Galway Bakers do not use preservatives in their products and can provide gluten free baked goods. Only quality ingredients used, including Irish multi-grain flours and marzipan imported from Ireland.



(l to r): Irene Higgins, Dolores Byrne, and Gretta Yore are the frontline of Galway Bakers. They get a great assist from their men in the background!

Don't fret, if you are looking for the perfect holiday gift! They can ship overnight any to anywhere in the world!

The Galway Bakers, Gretta, Irene and Dolores say that their success is the result of sticking to Irish tradition and growing up learning how to bake great tasting baked goods.

Galway Bakers is available at the two Long Grove Irish stores, and is delivered like clockwork to the Irish Heritage Center every Friday evening.! Their bread is on the fine menu at Chief O'

Neil's as well.

You can meet the sisters and their spouses at Upcoming events like The Grove's Arts & Craft Faire, 1421 Milwaukee Avenue, Glenview IL, Nov 7 - 10 & 14 - 17. and at the Christmas Celtic Boutique in Milwaukee, Nov. 23, or at the Irish American Heritage Center Holiday Bazaar, Chicago on December 1st.

Get your holiday orders in early!

To place an order or contact the Galway Bakers: galwaybakers@sbcglobal.net.

Mary Ellen Considine



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The Irish Rover

By James McClure



replied "No I want guns on the Albany." Painting one of their gunsights was a good enough footnote to history for me, but something more

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Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



What To Do In "Retirement"?

I am struck by a variety of things as I age; one thing is that many of my contemporaries are almost afraid to retire. Why? Because they don't know what they will do with their time. How much golf can you play? How much fishing can one do? Ah, but I have a ton of chores to do around the house. Okay, it's a year later and many of those chores have been successfully completed, now what? I am convinced that many retirees don't ever think about what their retirement life will be like. Yes, I understand the notion that I can "veg" out in the backyard and watch the world go by. But how long does that last before winter arrives?

Here's my thought, many people from all levels of the work a day world simply "die" professionally when they retire. They leave behind that great storehouse of wisdom that they have accumulated over the years. They have seen the economy rise and fall. They have experienced the lunacy of our government and its machinations over the years. They have seen wage freezes. They have seen the Federal government actually shut down or come very close to it. They are WISE old folks, male and female, brown, black and white, highly or poorly educated. They have a lifetime of experience. They have survived a "lot of winters." They know the ways of the world.

How can our society use their wisdom? Yes, they can volunteer at their local hospital. They can help visitors and /or patients navigate the hospital. They can man the visitor's center and perform a valued service. They can patrol the perimeters of the local school to minimize the possibility of intruders. They can tutor children in many different subjects. But can they transfer some of their wisdom that has been accumulated over the years to younger,

less experienced individuals?

Perhaps to start with, we will have to convince those retirees that they have a great deal of wisdom locked in their heads and hearts. In my experience, once a person has retired they are very quick to downplay their knowledge and insights into things, unless it is very directly tied to their recent experience. Think about it. Didn't you once look to your elders for advice and counsel? Didn't you seek their insights? As my friend and fellow consultant Greg Fream says, the older/wiser person has often achieved clarity of thought given their experience, age and their freedom of thought.

Shouldn't we encourage retirees to pass their insights on many issues along to help the younger generation? Or do you want to ignore their past learnings? Consider some of the decisions that you have made in the last two years. With the advantage of those two years would you have made the same decision? What if you had the counsel of an older, wiser "head" raising some pertinent issues with you before the decision was made? How do we

"bottle" the life experience that older folks bring to our lives? Do you ever ask your mom or dad or even Uncle Jack for advice? Didn't some of us take our fathers with us when we bought our first car or home? Think about it this way, perhaps the current day 80 year old is what we used to see as a 60 year old.

We could create locally based Senior Councils to deal with all kinds of problems. These retirees could interact with their communities to help resolve long standing issues. People who are in the everyday work world often don't feel like they have the time, knowledge or energy to tackle some problems.

Why else do politicians and bureaucrats keep kicking the problems down the road? Well, why not have a group of people who are used to thinking through problems tackle the issue. These are people who have seen bad winters and rainy springs, they know better than always assuming that tomorrow is going to be a fantastic day. Not using the significant experience of elders seems to me to be akin to a person who labors over a wonderful pot of stew and then throws it away without taking a taste? Older heads are often more likely to be cooler heads and they have time to ponder serious issues. It just seems to make sense that retirees with skills could be encouraged to use their technical

ability, whether carpentry or medical competencies, for the good of their community.

How can we organize the wise (aka more experienced and more bruised) people in our society? Thank goodness, we have a great number of very smart young people in this country but they lack the seasoning of an older "head", perhaps like putting a drop of garlic in the mashed potatoes. How do we mobilize these individuals, those who have carried the weight on their shoulders for many years? Do you have some thoughts on how this could be done? Don't we ascribe wisdom to older, more experienced people whether

scholars, business people, police officers, plumbers or service personnel? Carpe Diem.

For Your Consideration. The society which scorns excellence in plumbing as a humble activity and tolerates shoddiness in philosophy because it is an exalted activity will have neither good plumbing nor good philosophy; neither its pipes nor its theories will hold water. John W. Gardner

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Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



The Artful Dodger

It's only once a year, but it's a cultural binge that requires a month of two to digest some, if not all, of the information presented at this yearly banquet of all things Irish. If one is bloated, the gluttony is justified, if one is famished, then one is unfairly deprived, the happy feaster is discerning enough to read ahead or buy books, or even surf the internet. I am of course referring to iBAM, the annual book and music conference in Chicago. Whereas some people like to gorge themselves on the 'Danny Boy' camaraderie of the event, and there is much to indulge in, I enjoy the discussions. The cravings of the heart are easily appeased with good music in the environment of the pub, but the mind needs a rush of information from 'those in the know'.

I was pleased to have the opportunity to moderate 3 of the 4 panels in which we discussed the legacy of Heaney, the Famine and the Irish Republic. With the invaluable insights offered by the esteemed Tim Pat Coogan, and artist, Robert Ballagh, each session, fueled by anecdotal and 'factual' information, we were both entertained and informed. Thankfully, the panel on Heaney was not haunted by the conditioned response of 'don't speak ill of the dead', but there was rather an honest

exploration of both the man and the poet. Words such as 'careful', 'managerial', 'conservative' were also qualified with; 'modest', 'generous', 'honest', and even the accusation, and self-accusation of Heaney himself, of 'political evasiveness'. Throughout the 75 minutes, we neither buried Heaney, nor lauded him with false praise but rather he emerged as a cautiously candid man struggling to integrate the hostilities of the North through his poetic sensibility. And, it was his poetry that called us all to applaud him, rally behind his 'turn of phrase', and fall in love with his deep sense of connection to his Irish identity.

Our discussion on the Famine was complex. The deep psychic scar of the mid-19th Century continues to disturb

has passionately canvassed the cause of those who died, and in his attempts to bring this event into the legal forum has encountered resistance. Time has numbed us to this atrocity despite the ongoing legacy of what Ballagh told us of a 1000 young people leaving Ireland every week.

In the final session we discussed 'Where Stands the Republic?'. The title itself was enough to make me think that we were throwing a fat pigeon to some very hungry cats. The ambiguity was enough of a stimulus to draw out some interesting areas of discussion. Ballagh argued, and no one would disagree with him, that the Republic was never fully realized. The Free State, and subsequently DeValera's Republic was marked by censorship, and religious conservatism. Coogan amplified this sentiment further by drawing attention to the dual colonization of both the English, and the Catholic Church. While independence from one, could be argued, lead to a greater dependence on the other. Coogan was able to provide us with a clear insight into DeValera's 'guided democracy', a democracy that some would argue was draconian. The reaction against the arts as Ballagh saw it, was primarily class centered. While paperback books were banned, hardback books of the same texts were allowed, thus this underlining the class-conscious mentality of the early Republic.



Maurice Fitzpatrick, Tim Pat Coogan, and Owen Rodgers at iBAM!Chicago2013

the consciousness of those seeking to understand how so many lives could be lost, and in turn cursing subsequent generations with the living horror of immigration. Words like 'genocide', 'holocaust' were quite rightly used, though historians and politicians alike resist these inflammatory terms either because they wish to court the new constitutional language of reconciliation or they simply cannot justify the terms on what is seen as a 'natural disaster'. While the actual failure of the potato crop is the result of natural causes, the subsequent horrors brought about by starvation and illness belong to human beings mismanaging the situation due to their greed for land and profit. The dead will continue to haunt us until we can with integrity find justice, and publically point the finger at the true culprits. The voices of the lost rage against what Coogan called the 'learned helplessness' of the Irish populace who simply allow the famine victims to be buried in an unmarked place in Irish/British relations. Owen Rodgers, a fellow Northerner,

were allowed, thus this underlining the class-conscious mentality of the early Republic.

The title came to mind when I sat down to try and think about all of these subjects. Heaney will, and has dodged many a harsh criticism because of art. In this sense, his art will be his legacy and redemption. He will continue for generations to warm our thoughts, and avoid our criticism. When it comes to the famine, art does not dodge the facts whereas politicians do. In the games of Irish and British relations the dead will find themselves moved in accordance with what is politically expedient. Whereas the dead will and continue to haunt our art, as Cynthia Neale – a novelist proves. Art in this sense will not try to dodge the unpleasant truth. And finally, the Republic has not been realized and as an ideal never will be realized, but we can try to re-imagine how it should be but this is only possible if the Irish voters refuse to allow politicians and businessmen to dodge the bullet of accountability.

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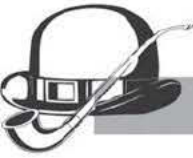
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Mick

Mike Morley



"Truth" And Consequences

Last month at Irish American Heritage Center's IBAM weekend we spoke with writer, broadcaster and former Irish Press Editor Tim Pat Coogan about his latest work: "The Famine Plot". I asked the author about his assertion that Prime Minister Sir Robert Peel's increase in the annual grant from the British government to the Catholic seminary at Maynooth in Ireland, along with Catholic Emancipation, was upsetting to elders of the English Church.

TPC: Oh, deeply! It was a factor in the famine. You would have thought that they would have, with the famine raging in the sister island, that they'd all have been only too quick to come and help. But they weren't, because a lot of Protestant clergy, leaders of opinion, had the same sort of sectarian outlook you still find in Belfast to the Catholics- no different. And the things they cited were the grant to Maynooth; the Catholic Emancipation they didn't like either. And very powerful people shared that feeling. It had a very harmful effect on the starvation because they kept putting out the line that this was "providential".

I told Mr. Coogan about one trip I made to Ireland and how difficult it was to get directions to a famine burial site for children, said in a travel book to be located at a Killarney church. No one, including the Bord Fáilte office, knew a thing about it. And when I finally found it by trial and error, I purchased a glossy brochure inside the cathedral which told me the church was actually built during the famine, although no mention was made of the mass grave outside. Entering the sacristy, I was further astounded after I asked the priest about the area behind the church marked with a large stone inscribed "Gorta" (hunger, famine) and was told he knew nothing about it. On that and several occasions during the trip, it seemed people all over the country were blind to 'the elephant in

the room'.

TPC: Well, part of the sometimes hysterical reaction to my books is the fact that I uncovered a lot of what happened. And they don't want the 'elephant in the room'. De Valera wanted a book written commemorating the famine in the year 1945, which was a century of the blight coming. And the historians of the time, led by a man called Dudley Edwards, UCD, eventually compiled a book with seven chapters... It took thirteen years to produce. (Coogan knew



some of the writers, including three who worked for the Irish Press Newspaper.) They were very careful... The book on the issue of culpability was virtually silent on that issue. ...And this was supposed to be a great book; and it took 13 years to get it out!

MM: What do you think went on there?

TPC: I think what went on was that they didn't want to come out and say what it was: genocide. It was an effort to clear the land, ethnic cleansing, to have more efficient farming... The top ministers in the cabinet of the time in Lord Russell's Liberal administration- Palmerston, the archetypal gunboat diplomacy; he was the guy that got Hong King for the British- They were huge landowners in Ireland. And Palmerston, for instance, was infamous for imposing the opium trade on the Chinese. Well, do you think he was going to care much about Irish peasantry, and hunger. He said, he's on record in the minutes of the cabinet, he said: look; the only solution to the Irish

problem is sustained emigration. Get the people off the land. He was joined in that by Lord Clanricarde, another huge Irish landowner. Lord Landsdowne was a more humane man; but what he did was wrote a check to his agent, a famous landlord's agent called Trench. And he got so many people to emigrate that a parish priest complained that "one Trench would drain all Ireland". ...So those were the attitudes... of three of the most powerful men in the government. So you can imagine what the rest of them was like- the Treasury- run by this extraordinary man, Trevelyan, who detested the Irish.

MM: Speaking of Trevelyan and the press... I believe you mentioned that he was writing for the London Times under

the articles are very hostile to the Irish- to Daniel O'Connell. I reproduced them in my book. But no historian before ever referred to them. And yet they are the essential text of Trevelyan's mindset.

MM Oh, my God!

TPC: How you could mention him without those things; when his own Prime Minister (Peel) wouldn't speak to him after he wrote them. So that kind of thing has bedeviled discussion of the famine. Because there's two kinds of lies: there's straightforward lies, when you bend the truth; and the other is suppressive, when you suppress the truth. You don't tell a lie; you just don't give all the relevant facts. And those attitudes were really behind the whole thing. Get them off the land. They're an inferior race- treacherous ways.

MM: Well, it's interesting you mention that he made the analogy of the Irish to the red man, because that's basically... what they did to the Irish is what they had done here.

TPC: Yeah, Manifest Destiny- the same element- WASPS- white Anglo-Saxon Protestants.

[Researching further into the pseudonym used by Trevelyan, "Philaethes" (lover of truth) I discovered the following: Eirenaeus Philaethes was a name used by a 17th-century alchemist who claimed to have discovered the Philosopher's Stone. Also, the Philaethes Society is a Masonic research group; and 'Freemason and Masonic Illustrated' in 1877 names

Charles Trevelyan as a distinguished member.] (MM)

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a pseudonym.

TPC: Apparently he and the rest of the cabinet had such access to the Editor of the Times which was the organ of information at the time. ...In those days this was the voice of the imperial power of the world. So they put out things like: "We're looking forward to the day when a Celt on the banks of the Shannon will be as rare as a red Indian on the banks of the Hudson". That was their attitude. And the Morning Chronicle articles were the cause of Trevelyan falling out with the previous Prime Minister, Peel, because he came back from Ireland having had a tour of Ireland, six weeks, and he told him the state of Ireland, in confidence, and he goes out the door and over to the Morning Chronicle and writes the two articles, which were signed by a pseudonym. But they were reeking with hostility.

MM: What was the pseudonym?

TPC: Ah, Philates* or something, which is apparently "enlightened" or something... a Greek word. But clearly

This month's 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 - Tara Club

Wednesday, 6th November 2013 - Home is Where the Heart is (Joint Meeting with Tír na nÓg)

Aishling Dalton Kelly is both a native of Dublin and an expert on the caring profession. She will be coming along to tell us what we need to know about home care services and how you can remain living at home for as long as possible. Kathy O'Grady, a clinical social worker from Advocate's memory assessment program, will also be joining us to answer any question you may have.

Wednesday, 20th November 2013 - Art & Faith of the Nativ-

ity from the Loyola University Museum of Art

The story of Mary, Joseph, and the Christ Child has great appeal throughout the world as a story of a family facing hardship with hope. See how artists across the globe depict the Nativity. Learn how artists recreate the scene with clothing, architecture, and figures from their native lands including Ireland as well as examples from other countries around the world.

Gaelic Park - Emerald Club
Wednesday, 13th November 2013 - Medicare Update

Just when you think you really understand Medicare and how it affects you, it changes! This is particularly true during the annual open enrolment period for Part D prescription drug plans. To bring us up to date with more

Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling



recent changes to Medicare we are joined by a representative from the Senior Health Insurance Program at the Illinois Department on Ageing.

Wednesday, 27 November 2013 - Home is Where the Heart is

This is a repeat of the event held at IAHC on November 6th. Please see above for full details.

Benefits for Immigrants - Free Workshops

As you know healthcare and immigration reform have been two of the most politically contentious and widely discussed issues of recent times. On both fronts there has been a lot of movement lately and it has left many very confused as to what it actually means for them. To explain some of the more significant developments, Chicago Irish

Immigrant Support is hosting free workshops covering the new legislation allowing for drivers' licenses for undocumented individuals, the Affordable Care Act, and comprehensive immigration reform. Registration is not required and there is no fee. If you need any further information please call our office on 773-282-8445. Details of the workshops are listed below.

Irish American Heritage Center, Thursday 7th November at 7pm

Gaelic Park, Wednesday 13th November at 7pm

Helping the Hungry

According to the Meals on Wheels Association of America one in seven seniors is threatened by hunger. This equates to 8.3 million older adults across the U.S. and it seems that things have gotten decidedly worse for our seniors in recent years. There has been a 78% increase in the number of seniors facing hunger since 2001 and a 34% increase since the start of the recession 2007. And those numbers are

likely to worsen this month when the additional funding provided by the 2009 Recovery Act for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP - formally food stamps) will be discontinued as of November 1st. In Illinois the SNAP program budget will be reduced by \$220 million and the effects of this reduction will be felt by each of the over 2 million recipients of nutritional assistance across the state.

Despite the recent cuts to the SNAP program, it offers a crucial lifeline to low income individuals and households, especially to seniors. The National Council on Aging is currently engaged in an outreach campaign to seniors encouraging them to sign up for SNAP. Eligibility requirements for SNAP are based on several different factors including household composition, income, and assets. If you would like more information or think you or someone you know could qualify for assistance please call us on 773-282-8445.

Happy Thanks Giving!

An Immigrant's Musings

Fr. Michael Leonard



And The Wait Goes On

As I go to press, we are once again seeing Washington grind to a halt. With the government shutdown in its second week and no end in sight, one can truly understand why this congress has the lowest approval ratings (5 %) of any since polling began.

The frustration is truly understandable, we have elected these representatives to govern and they do everything but govern. What other profession would allow its members to stay in office? Wasting hours, days and weeks to produce the most basic of government functions, namely, a budget. We are supposed to be the leader of the free world and right now the

only distinction we can honestly claim is, leadership of the inactive, which is not exactly something to be proud of.

I recently read an op-ed piece by Judd Gregg, the former Republican Senator from New Hampshire, in which he states: "What a tactical fiasco it has been for the Republicans, especially those who really do want to change ObamaCare and address our debt issues rather than just raise money and control the microphone.

The Democratic Party in the '70s went through a period of being led around by a bunch of folks who were incredibly self-destructive to the effectiveness to the party, and who almost destroyed its ability to govern and speak to a majority of the American people.

In time, other members of the party, led by Bill Clinton and the centrist Democratic Leadership Council (DLC), righted their boat and got them back on course.

The Republican Party is fast approaching the same sort of test.

People who have no interest in governing cannot be allowed to be the dominant voices in a major party. Any such party must by definition be inclusive, within the basic bounds of its ideology. If it is to succeed, the majority of the American people must see it as serious and constructive.

The Republican Party is not in that place today. It had better get there soon if it plans to be an effective force for fiscal responsibility, rather than just a gathering place for gadflies, PAC funders and base-narrowers."

Mr. Gregg has been described as a moderate republican, which is as one commentator described as "an endangered species". The Republican Party

has in the past had a very good record on immigration reform. Today Senators, Mc Cain, Graham, Hatch and Rubio have shown real leadership on the issue. Now is the time for the leadership in the House to step up and take the advise of Mr. Gregg and pass immigration legislation that is worthy of the GOP.

The Worry Tree

Naresh, an Indian carpenter I once hired to help me restore my old farmhouse had just finished a difficult and hard first day on the job. A flat tyre on his lorry made him lose an hour of work, his electric saw packed in, and now his ancient pickup truck refused to start. While I drove him home, Naresh sat in stony, thoughtful silence.

On arriving, Naresh, in the way of all Indian gentlefolk, invited me in to meet his family. As we walked toward the front door, he paused briefly at a small tree, touching the tips of the branches with both hands.

When opening the door to his home, he underwent an amazing transformation. His tanned face wreathed in smiles and he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a kiss.

After a cup of tea, he walked me to my car. We passed the tree and my curiosity got the better of me. I asked him about what I had seen him do earlier.

'Oh, that's my trouble tree,' Naresh replied. 'I know I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing for sure, troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children. So I just hang them on the tree every night when I come home. Then in the morning I pick them up again. Funny thing is', he smiled winningly, 'when I come out in the morning to pick them up, there aren't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before.'

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

Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Priorities; and Separating What is Real from What is Not

I'm writing this on a Sunday morning, Ye Editor of the IAN needing any copy in by tomorrow, so information on last night's drive by shooting in Dublin is scant. Still, what we know of this morning is that a gunman opened fire on a group of people who were standing outside Hanlon's Pub on the corner of the Old Cabra Road at 2.30 am. One man was hit in the head and is described as being in a 'serious condition'. Also shot but stable are three women aged from 19 to 33 who happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Sitting here, I'm struck by a few things, most obvious among them being that even perhaps as recently as some fifteen years ago I would be astonished at finding myself so casually using a phrase like 'drive by shooting' in anything relating to Ireland.

You who are reading this will have more information by now; but I'm first of all reminded of my years in Limerick in the late seventies to early eighties, where the Dunne family were reputed to be the first major crime figures to introduce serious drugs to Ireland. As the last of them was put in jail I recall him saying that if we thought that they were bad we had literally no idea as to what was coming down the road.

Well, he got that one right, didn't he?

How quickly we have become desensitised to armed criminals virtually taking over the streets, not caring who gets killed as long as they get the one who is standing in their way. And we just don't seem to be as outraged at this as we, in the name of human decency, should be. At one point we were happy to be saying: "Well, as long as they're only

shooting each other, I couldn't care less."

And I have to admit to a certain sympathy with that attitude. Yet somehow, along the way, we became disquietingly blasé about the fact that there will be a certain amount of 'collateral damage.' And how awful for us as human beings that this appalling phrase

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so easily trips off the tongue when referring to our unfortunate fellow innocent bystanders.

We just seem to accept now that these thugs, these venomous little scumbags, aren't even particularly very good at doing what they're doing. They are so coked up now before a 'job' that they're a liability not only to their own cretinous selves (which I could live with) but to anyone who happens to just be on the streets or in the bar when they go on a rampage.

I'm sick and tired of hearing the cries of 'when are the Garda going to do their job properly?' I'm just sick of it. There are a lot of good cops in Dublin and around the country who would love to be able to take these vermin on; but it's just easier to wail and moan about them, isn't it?

Leave aside the fact that they are ridiculously under resourced thanks to a negligent, distant Minister for Justice like Alan Shatter. Alan doesn't have to worry about his home being hit. He has 24 hour protection. I don't begrudge him that; but I do begrudge the

fact that, isolated in his ivory tower as he is, he doesn't see that some whole communities live in actual fear of these thugs.

Let's leave aside, also, the fact that decent cops are so inundated with ridiculous amounts of paperwork now that are solely aimed at looking after the 'human rights' of these swine. What happened to the rights of the taxpayer, Alan? What happened to the rights of the ordinary Paddy and Bridget Q. Sucker who only want to live their lives in peace, to raise their kids to be good citizens, who just want to be able to enjoy an evening out without the chances of being shot dead? When are you going to start speaking for them?

And even without those shackles on their hands, how does the average cop feel when he has wasted days in a witness box, doing his job and asking for these ghouls to be put away for a decent amount of time? How does he feel when after all that it seems that we have a judiciary that seems to be Hell-bent

on letting them let out on bail or walking the streets in a few months' time?

We can take a whole lot of the blame ourselves, too.

I've watched in absolute bafflement for the last six days now as more indignation was poured by ordinary people into the killing of a FICTIONAL cat for a FICTIONAL TV show called 'Love/Hate' than I am ever likely to see being written about last night's shootings.

Animal charity groups have been lining up to tell us how terrible it was to see an animal being sprayed with bullets. The poor thing was even trotted out on The Late Late Show to assure people who seem to have a poor grasp of reality that it is hale and hearty.

What? WHAT? This is a show that has had rape, murder and any amount of violence in it and it takes this to upset people? I'm a cat lover myself. There are a lot of gorgeous little felines around here that would go hungry without me; but come on! It's a work of fiction, for heaven's sake! Try

to separate that from reality. Here's a clue: what happened in last week's episode was made up. What happened in Dublin in the early hours of the morning was real.

Jeez, get a grip, would you? Sort out your priorities and complain about something that is real.

There you go: I had a nice, hopefully funny article planned for this morning and that's gone out the window. Still, with this off my chest, I have to share the best few lines I've heard in a while, from a show I'm watching at the moment. It's called 'Under the Dome' and deals with a fictional ---fictional, remember?---town that finds itself sealed off by a giant...uh, dome.

"What if the Government built this thing?"

"I doubt it."

"Why?"

"Because it works."

I do like that.

You can email me (not about dead cats) at chasbrady7@eircom.net or read my blog on www.charleybrady.com





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For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



direction. Buckley kept Biro at large by prohibiting the local police from pursuing him, their sole suspect.

WINNETKA & OMAGH. The connection? The same criminals were involved. WINNETKA: Using FBI Agent Lewis's gun 16-year-old David Biro murdered the Langert family; two 1st Degree murders and one homicide. All related Winnetka crimes were perpetrated by FBI Agent Patrick "Ed" Buckley or under Buckley's

Covering for Biro, Buckley's Winnetka crimes included Obstruction of Justice, False Accusation, and Evidence Fabrication (to support his false accusation of mass murder). Buckley was bribed and subverted by Britain's MI5 according to FBI Agent Joe Doyle who also alerted Mary and me that they were planning crimes against us to silence

our human rights work. Buckley and his mole Jerry Boyle got TV's Carol Marin to "break the news" of an IRA "link" to that atrocity. The rest of the media parroted Marin. Buckley framed me so cunningly for those murders that I was doomed had Biro not saved me by blabbing through his FBI cover into Life Without Parole.

For the next two years (1991-1993) Buckley perpetrated other, non-Winnetka, crimes against us. He fabricated an FBI audiotape which, with his perjuries, was his basis for incarcerating four of us in Chicago's Federal jail at Clark and VanBuren Sts. He tried to imprison us for many years. If poor we'd have gone from jail-to-trial-to-prison, but by spending much of our life's savings on legal fees, Buckley was defeated again by proof that his evidence was fabricated, his allegations perjury. Exposing this second set of Buckley's MI5 crimes against us forced US Prosecutor Fleissner to plead US Judge Lindberg's permission to drop all charges against us. Buckley continued; he spent months directing David Rupert's private meetings with one of our unwary members, trying unavailingly to ensnare us. Failing; they formed another "Irish" group led by Rupert. Though all three sets of Buckley's (and Rupert's) crimes against us had failed, MI5 was evidently impressed enough to send both to Ireland. I can document the above. They constitute the pattern of immunized MI5/FBI crimes that would murder twenty-nine innocents in Omagh to be blamed, like the Winnetka atrocity, on the IRA, thus drive home the Belfast "Agreement's" surrender to Britain of the contested Six Counties, disarm the IRA to free up Britain's military for the Neo-Cons' planned attacks on Islam, make \$billions of off-shore hydrocarbons uncontestedly British, and, as a bonus, frame Irish Patriot Michael McKeivitt. Omagh helped immunize Britain's other mass murders (Bloody Sunday, Ballymurphy, Dublin/Monaghan, Miami Show Band, McGurk's Pub, Loughinisland, St. Enda footballers, etc. It also reestablished internment without charge, and torture/abuse of prisoners.

Olympics bombing/murder site (where Buckley and his FBI colleagues performed Buckley's specialty - they framed Security Guard Richard Jewell for it).

Prior to Omagh the IRA had, bloodlessly, blasted shopfronts in five towns and villages, costing Britain's Exchequer \$millions. Through MI5/FBI and Omagh, Britain would end that IRA tactic. The bomb-car owner, Paddy Dixon, was a government informant. MI5/FBI had total control of everything via satellite-surveillance of it. Instead of dispersing people away through side streets, the RUC corralled them down High Street to the bomb-car while standing far enough back to avoid injury to themselves. Then they "lost" the tapes of the warnings, and later "lost" the log book into which such calls were transcribed. When the Crown rewarded their "negligence" with George Crosses the consequent stench forced it to award them to all RUCs.

DAVID RUPERT is Massena, NY's most despised predator. Though we'd never heard of Michael McKeivitt until news of his impending frame-up, Mary and I visited Massena seeking data useful for McKeivitt's defense. Massena truck repair shop owner Bub Layo claims a Massena record, the only person ever to deal with Rupert without getting cheated. Rupert embezzled the FICA deductions from drivers' paychecks. A NY State Police Affidavit calls Rupert a life-long criminal. He defrauded all of his first three wives' parents. Upon selling his house on which he owed a \$40,000 mortgage, the buyer's attorney advanced Rupert a \$40,000 partial payment to clear the title. Instead of paying off the mortgage Rupert spent the \$40,000. The buyer's attorney's trust in Rupert resulted in her disbarment. Working for a Detroit trucking company, Rupert embezzled some \$600,000 from it; his biggest scam until he encountered FBI and MI5 from whom he extracted \$millions. I possess copies of his bankruptcy filings - all four are fraudulent. He testified that an accident caused one bankruptcy, but he had filed it two weeks before the accident. The FBI got the IRS to accept \$25,000 as full payment of Rupert's \$million taxes owed on his criminal loot.

There is much more; but to cap it all, the FBI awarded Rupert its "prestigious" Peters Award, according to the October 7, 2013 Watertown (NY) Daily Times. <http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/article/20131007/DCO/710079897>

The above info about Ireland is from public sources or our observations of Buckley and Rupert at the "trial" of Michael McKeivitt.

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View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



(Saoil), a memoir by Michael MacGowan. The memoir depicts the slavery, in all but name, into which children were sold for the

A Portrait of Donegal

James Joyce described Dublin's sky as being, 'as unpredictable as a baby's bottom'. I wonder how Joyce's shade would respond to a few weeks in Donegal?

It is not that Donegal weather deceives; it defies. Dusk lines of light meet the sea on the horizon as fork-lightning streaks downwards. Wake to find a calm morning, one that is quickly overtaken by gale-force winds accompanied by blasts of beating rain. Hardly have you taken refuge from the onslaught, than a brilliant torch of sun illuminates the sky. And there is still time for a change before lunch. A postprandial walk is marred by a definite chill, something that had been thankfully absent in one of Ireland's finest summers on record. Don't dress to impress in Donegal. Dress for elemental combat.

Donegal is the most rugged, remote and recondite county in Ireland. It stretches from the northernmost point of the island, Malin Head, to the fishing village of Killybegs and tourist town of Bundoran. Its people, exposed from an early age to weather that could render a lesser folk mute, speak eloquently through ventriloquist-tight lips. Its colours are spectacular: the green of its bevel hills, the navy blue of the boundless Atlantic, the painful gorse and the haunted stone walls bespeak a struggle to exist; the purple heather on the Blue Stack Mountains sways under the ever shifting, scurrying sky.

Against this canvass, the foundation stones of some of Donegal's towns, Gaith Dobhair for example, hark to the exodus of Irish people during the Plantation's confiscations. While that view of the origin of Donegal's urban settlements may be apocryphal—people certainly lived on the herring and mackerel rich North West coast before 1606—an element of truth attaches to it nevertheless. The coastal villages of Donegal, which string together like beads as though to meet the sea in phalanx formation, constitute Ireland's final frontier. The communities of Ireland's West Coast were formed and forged against the repression of Irish people and culture, and they survived intolerable conditions.

Donegal is braver than most counties in the facts and events it commemorates. Letterkenny's Main Square remembers The Hard Road to the Klondyke (Rotha Mór an

upkeep of strong farmers' holdings at hiring fairs. A statue to unnamed children with hollow cheeks is also etched in the Main Square; their gaunt eyes stare back demandingly at the beholder.

Ballyshannon is home to one of the best examples of a famine Workhouse preserved in Ireland, the lineaments of which contain as important a piece of famine architectural history as we have. Ballyshannon actors Sean McGinley and Conan Sweeney have performed in several of Brian Friel's historical plays, and have achieved renown on the world stage and screen, often in roles that explore the darker side of Irish heritage.

Further up the county, at Kindrum, a monument was erected in 1960 to commemorate the killing of a landlord, Lord Leitrim. Leitrim, whose era was passing in 1878, at the height of the Land War, had been notoriously overbearing. Michael McElwee and Neil Sheils, his alleged killers, were never apprehended and the inscription on the cross at Kindrum commends those who 'Ended the Tyranny of Landlordism'.

The writer Patrick MacGill is honoured at The Glenties. Known as 'The Navy Poet', MacGill's life and work came to symbolise the lives of thousands of Donegal people who left the unprosperous land of west Donegal to work in heavy industry in the Clyde Valley shipyards and on the Glasgow docks.

The name of the county town, Donegal, encompasses many layers of Irish history. Alternately known as Tír Chonaill and Dhún na nGall—Land of Connell and the Fort of the Foreigner, the Norse foreigner that is, a group that proved adept at blending with, and enhancing, the native culture they encountered. Donegal Castle represents the zenith of Gaelic culture and the castle's recent restoration is a triumph.

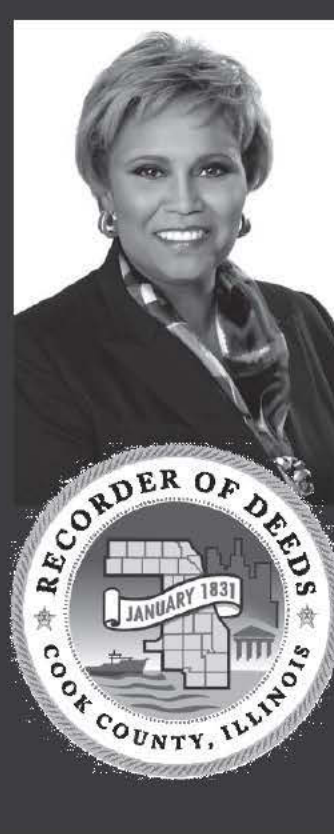


Names on the plaque for Donegal Person of the Year, Brian Friel and Sean McGinley, read more like a national list than a county one. The list tells of a county whose sons and daughters are world figures, and rightly so.

The cultural wealth of the small islands off Donegal—off the really big one, Ireland—is central to our wider, national, heritage too. Tory Island's community, one of the strongest Irish-speaking areas (Gaeltachtaí) in the country, was fervidly defended from extinction by Fr. Diarmuid O'Peicin, in the early 1980s. O'Peicin had spent his life at the missions and understood the need to celebrate cultural wealth. He was removed for his trouble-making by Bishop Hegarty. Yet even as the bishop and local government conspired to rub out the island's living culture, and to replace it with

a Cultural Heritage Centre, another force, in the form of a local band, was working to reinvigorate the island's heritage. The music group Clannad, their name from clann and Dobhar or family from Dore, ventured out to Tory Island to gather material for their early albums—a fine example of how an oral tradition communicates and forms anew in the mouths of the next generation.

A sweep of images of Gaelic Donegal are visible on a drive back east towards Derry City—Grottos, Holy wells, termons, cursed gaps, cairns, dolmens, Celtic crosses, points, raths, carrows, drums, doughs and tooms. It is sacred country and it has always stirred our artists, musicians and writers. As poet Louis MacNeice put it in his 'Western Landscape': "With a stone on the cairn, with a word on the wind, with a prayer in the flesh let me honour this country".



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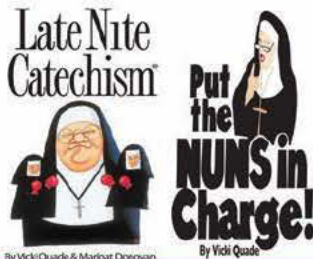
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