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March 17-June 7

March 2015



Ireland
*Crossroads of
Art and Design
1690-1840*

page 64

La Fhéile Pádraig Shona Duit!

Happy St. Patrick's Day!



Front Row: Martin Healy, Jr., John Scanlon, David Huber, Kevin Veugeler
Back Row: Terence Geoghegan, Jack Cannon, Matthew Healy, Terry Sullivan,
Patrick Anderson, Jill Fowler, Matthew Gannon, Dennis Lynch.

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From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell



in politics, with a clear ambition to become Taoiseach. He was not alone. He was one of a group of ambitious, brash, rela-

tively youthful politicians who came to the fore in Fianna Fail in the sixties, displacing the party's geriatric old guard as the country finally emerged from decades of stagnation. The issue was who would succeed Taoiseach Sean Lemass, Haughey's father-in-law. In the event, in 1966, the party opted for a compromise candidate, Jack Lynch, leaving the leadership ambitions of several, including Haughey, unfulfilled but undiminished.

Haughey had already proved an able, competent and modernising Minister for Justice; Lynch appointed him Minister for Finance in 1966. His tenure in Finance, when he was in effect in control of the Government's finances, saw the emergence of a distinct Haughey style. It was, above all, high profile. Where there was substance, there was style in abundance, something that morphed later into a tendency to talk up and oversell achievements. It was clear also who was the boss. Ken Whitaker, Departmental Secretary and architect of Ireland's economic revival, was shunted sideways into the Central Bank.

Yet his ability was also clear. As Minister, with little fiscal room for manoeuvre, he championed a number of populist measures, costing little but proving immensely popular. These included free travel and other subsidies for the elderly and the 1969 tax exemption scheme for writers, artists, and composers. (The scheme wasn't perfect – to benefit one had to earn money first and few did – but it established Haughey firmly as a patron of the arts. That it helped create, in effect, a class of people who paid no tax at the expense of those who did was conveniently overlooked.) In the leadership stakes he appeared to have the edge over his chief rivals, former schoolmate George Colley, who had actually run against Lynch in 1966, and Neil Blaney, a militant republican from Donegal.

Then Northern Ireland exploded. The Fianna Fail cabinet was split. Haughey, not previously known for strong republican views, became involved in 1970, together with Blaney, in an attempt to import arms destined for republicans in Northern Ireland. There are still unanswered questions about the whole affair, including Haughey's motive. Was it simply political, to avoid being outflanked on the Fianna Fail right by Blaney, in a move aimed at undermining the low-key Lynch? If so it was a miscalculation. The 1970 Arms Crisis did for Blaney

To Be A Taoiseach: Haughey Part One The Path To Power

Charlie Haughey merits more than one column. A recent TV mini-series, "Charlie," with Aidan Gillen ("The Wire") in the title role, topped the ratings here, demonstrating how Haughey continues to fascinate over two decades since he was in power.

He was Ireland's seventh Taoiseach and held the office for a total of seven years and three months. Together with Garret Fitzgerald he dominated politics in Ireland for a generation, but, while Fitzgerald is generally regarded with respect and affection, Haughey continues to provoke strong feelings for and against. His whole political career attracts attention. Indeed arguably his achievements before becoming Taoiseach outweigh what he did in the top job.

Mention Haughey and a myriad of images come to mind. \$500 Charvet shirts (each!). The 1970 Arms Trial. The bungs from rich businessmen. The "Irish solution to an Irish problem." Teapot Diplomacy. The failed heaves against him. The "We are Living Away beyond our Means" speech. McCracken. Moriarty. And many more.

His administrations included the disastrous short lived GUBU government of 1982 and the much more successful one after 1987, which at last took the harsh but necessary steps to begin fixing a broke economy (firm actions he had ducked eight years before). His legacy includes populist features now woven into the fabric of society, such as free travel for the elderly, together with programmes to assist the Arts (and artists), including a tax exempt scheme and the establishment of Aosdana. Whether there is anything more enduring must await the verdict of history.

Ireland in the Sixties was a time of opportunity for some, with Ireland experiencing her first (mild) economic boom. Haughey, an accountant, prospered, becoming a rich man with a circle of influential and wealthy friends among builders, speculators and businessmen. His odyssey in a few short years from a semi-detached in a north Dublin suburb to first one, then a second mansion, with extensive lands, was already becoming the stuff of legend and attracting attention. He was also making his mark

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and almost did for Haughey. A galvanised Lynch fired both; Haughey was acquitted in the subsequent court case.

Haughey's political career seemed over, but, unlike Blaney, he was clever enough to avoid expulsion from Fianna Fail, which would have consigned him also to the permanent political wilderness. He ate humble pie from Lynch, while garnering support among the party rank and file over several years. Restored to the front bench (in opposition) in 1975, he joined the Cabinet as Health Minister in 1977. He was handed the perceived political hot potato of introducing measures to legalise the sale of contraceptives, required by a Supreme Court decision, and did so (the "Irish Solution"). He also introduced Ireland's first serious anti-smoking measures. But these were sideshows.

Fianna Fail had bought the 1977 election, securing a huge majority (their last), by undermining the tax base with frivolous giveaways including the abolition of road tax and property taxes on private dwellings. The second oil crisis in 1978 stopped the economy in its tracks and was followed by a series of damaging industrial disputes, culminating in a postal strike lasting over four months in 1979. Disastrous European election results, as well as the murder of Lord Mountbatten by the IRA, fatally damaged Lynch. In December 1979 Haughey mounted a successful coup against a jaded Lynch, edg-

ing out Colley in a close contest among Fianna Fail parliamentarians (forty two to thirty six) and becoming Taoiseach without an election.

Despite reservations from Garret Fitzgerald (who spoke of Haughey's "flawed pedigree" in the Dail), and George Colley ("low standards in high places") Haughey took over with considerable benefit of the doubt from the public after the preceding two years of disastrous government. He was known, or believed, to have disapproved of Fianna Fail's economic policy and in fact one of his first actions as Taoiseach was to drop the architect of that policy, O'Donoghue, and abolish his Department. And, while he had arguably received a hospital pass – an economy in poor shape halfway through the government's term of office – it was certainly no worse than the one his father-in-law had inherited in 1959.

Initially he made all the right noises and appeared hands on and proactive. At his first press conference he condemned the Provos unreservedly. Several weeks later, in a televised address to the nation he spelled out the serious state of the economy and the need to reduce the national debt. He called for economies and the curbing of borrowing, stating flatly that "we are living away beyond our means." It was a phrase that was to come back to haunt him. But right then the question was, having lusted for power – and got it – how would Haughey use it.



Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



Clancy on guitar and vocals. They are on tour as you read this, but their popularity almost always ensures

that they are on tour somewhere. By the time you see this, they will have been in Chicago, but check their website, since they have an extensive tour well into March. The album is 11 songs and tunes of the highest caliber. We have come to expect only the best from Danu and here we have it again. Over the years,

There are three albums this month to which attention must be paid. Great stuff to be sure, to be sure! Two of them are immediate contenders for Vocal/Instrumental CD of the Year, and one the early leader for Compendium Album of the Year. No priority order here:

Caladh Nua is a great young quintet out with what is, I believe, their third album, Honest to Goodness. It is great trad played with terrific energy and intuitive understanding. The group consists of Eoin O'Meachair on banjo and whistle, Derek Morrissey on button box, Colm O' Caoimh on guitar, Paddy Tutty on fiddle, and this album's revelation, Lisa Butler doing the vocals. She also plays fiddle

and is stunning. We have enjoyed her singing from the very first album, but something happened here. Maybe all those years on the road came together, and the performances put a lovely round in the voice. Whatever, she has never been better. We risk raving about her to the exclusion of the four other band members, which would be criminal. Quite simply, this is a must-have album from a must-have group. This CD is a super-contender for every Award we give at the end of the year. Wow!

Talk about incredible albums from wonderful groups; is there any better vocal/instrumental group in the business right now than Danu? The group is out with a brand new cd named Buan. Danu shares a lot of things with Caladh Nua. First is the fact that no one else sounds like them. The second is that they are four guys with one terrific female singer fronting the whole thing. Muireann Nic Amhlaioibh is on vocals and flute here. She is a two-time winner of Female Vocalist of the Year here. There are

many who would say she is the best female Irish vocalist in the business right now. (Here comes Lisa Butler!) Benny McCarthy is on button box, Oisín McAuley on fiddle, Eamon Doorley on guitar, and Donal



Danu has established themselves as absolutely essential to the music. Very few groups do this. There have been ups and downs, ins and outs. But the group is celebrating their 20th anniversary. There have been changes in personnel, but what has not changed is the group's unique sound, and ability to arrange their music in a form that is both immediately appealing to the general public, and truly tasty to a knowledgeable trad fan. LiveIreland.com, a site with which you must be familiar, debuted the album worldwide to a massive reaction on the Dublin-based site. LiveIreland remains the only vehicle for a worldwide debut of Irish Traditional music and few, if any, groups have received an immediate reception at this level. This is the real deal, and professionals at their work.

There are almost no major labels left in the recording industry. One of them is the wonderful Borealis out of Ontario. It is home to some of the best acts in the world including La Bottine Souriante and the unequalled, Laura Smith. The label has rolled through its



vast archives and come up with a massive and fabulous product, entitled Six Strings North of the Border-The Collection. It is actually three cd's featuring the best guitar work from Canadian artists and the label. There are so many artists represented ranging from the already-famous J.P Cormier to the little-know Eve Goldberg and Rick Fielding, at least little known in the States. That's the purpose of this cd. If there is any justice, names like Eve Goldberg and Rick Fielding will become hugely known in the Universe. Justice may be hard to find, but not these three cd's. This is music you can just put on, leave on, and love. Highly varied, the one uniting musical feature is that each cut is wonderful. You really should have at least one of these cd's, and if you are smart, you will have all three in the collection. It is well worth the money and Canada needs the exchange! Only kidding. Get this collection! Get it now! Get up! Fill 'yer boots, man!

Don't forget to listen to Imelda Bhroga and me on the aforementioned LiveIreland.com on Sundays at 18:00 GMT for two hours of the best in trad. Join us in the chat room along with listeners from all over the world. We will also be featured during the unbelievably popular LiveIreland St. Patrick's Day Marathon over the high holy holiday. Check it all out on the site, LiveIreland.com Literally thousands upon thousands will join you there on Paddy's Day. Also, if you love bluegrass, (and if you love the parent that is Irish music, you must love the child, bluegrass, if you are musical at all at all!!) Imelda and I are on WDCB 90.9fm and wdcb.org every Monday night at 10 o'clock pm. You can join us there in yet another chat room. We do love to chat! Visit our facebook page WDCB House Party for more info and the chat link. Happy Paddy's Day!!

Remember the Ides of March

4 PM, Sunday, March 15, 2015

Please join us in welcoming, Peter Murray, Director of the Crawford Art Gallery, Cork, Ireland

This presentation, "Contemporary and 20th Century Irish Art, Aspects of the Crawford's Collection", coincides with The Art Institute of Chicago's special exhibition: "Ireland: Crossroads of Art and Design, 1690-1840", opening on March 17, 2015.

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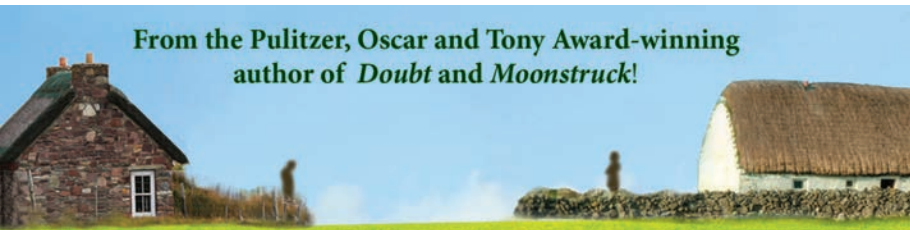
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LOOK OF THE LASS

By Serafina Marmo

Paddy's Day Apparel

Now it's really the most wonderful time of the year; a time for the Irish to express our undying gratitude to the marvelous Celtic heritage. Marching with pride, we show our appreciation with floats, banners, and decorations in an exciting annual production. Saint Patrick's Day and Parade Day is a time that even the non-Irish look forward to celebrating every year. The thrilling events include family, food, culture, and of course, clothes. So consider this a collection of sorts; an article that brings

together multiple trends into one merry cultural festival, famous in Chicago.

The city is infamous for it's chilly breeze and never ending roller-coaster of temperatures. What better way to keep comfortably warm than by rocking timeless, trendy wool? Standing outside for hours on end, you may watch the floats breeze by and feel a bit nippy, so treat yourself to a set of wool accessories like scarves, gloves, and hats! Not only is it cute and cozy, but a lovely cultural tradition, na-



tive to Ireland. Most of us keep a few of those famous knitted wool sweaters straight out of Ireland and break them out when necessary. However the material may be expensive, so if you don't already own a wool article and aren't willing to blow your cash, you might want to go with something a bit easier to obtain.

Flourish in none other than a flouncy green (forest green, neon green, or kelly green; we don't discriminate). You're sure to have something green in your closet, and sporting the hue is a St. Paddy's Day tradition known across the globe. Throw on a green T-Shirt and a pair



Jacket: Blackfive, \$45

Sweater: Blackfive, \$42

Jeans: J.Crew, \$135

Socks: Topshop, \$3.02

Shoes: Public Desire, \$38

Glasses: The Row, \$345

This past Turkey Season we talked about the beautiful creation that is plaid. It's trendy yet traditional, and hip yet meaningful. Find cheap and attractive plaid that shows your sense of pride and sense of fashion this St. Patrick's Day. With tartan being such a booming trend this year, it's almost impossible to find a store that won't stock up.

That being said, there are so many different approaches to creating the perfect Saint Patrick's Day look. A few other ideas include your granddad's tweed flat cap, and the old Irish Dancing dress from

when you were thirteen. Heck, throw in a shillelagh while you're at it. And should Paddy's Day happen to be 75 degrees this March, scratch everything you've read and let's start over.

of cheap street vendor shamrock glasses and you're ready to roll! Now if that idea is too effortless and wool is too expensive, we're going to take it all the way back to November.

ONE DAY ONLY
St. Patrick's Day, Tuesday, March 17th
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To celebrate our 4th anniversary, we are having our biggest sale of the year, **Buy One Get One Free on everything on the entire website.** There is no special coupon code to enter, and there is no limit to how much you can buy.

Any order placed on March 17 until 11:59 p.m. EST will receive double their order. The additional products do not show up in the shopping cart, but they will be sent to you. (Cannot be combined with any other offer).

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The O'Keefe Committee

We would like to take this opportunity to tell you about a special lady and a good friend to many.

Over the years, many of us have crossed paths with people in all walks of life. Some people undertake each day with a grateful smile and heartfelt welcome to all. We are very happy to know one such

Christina and myself. Now we were both struggling through this together.

Today, thirteen months after so much trauma, we continue to cope. My oncologist said my cancer is back and I am starting a different chemo. Also, as a result of chemotherapy treatments, I'm cur-



person in Delia O'Keefe, originally from Bangor, Erris, County Mayo, and a long time resident of the northwest side of Chicago.

Picture this family of six: mother, father, three daughters, one son, ages 9 to 14. Father suddenly dies - sadness, shock and grief entered and life became different forever.

DELIA'S STORY

My children and I carried on through all this sadness, trying to move forward, going back to work and living on one salary. It became very difficult to keep a roof over our heads. Sometime later, my daughter, Christina, was disabled with a traumatic brain injury from a car accident.

One day after Christmas, 2013, I was rushed to the hospital and after a CT scan, I was diagnosed with cancerous tumors in my abdomen. After major surgery, they removed 96% of the tumors, with 6 months of follow-up chemotherapy.

On my first treatment day, my other daughter, Patricia, had a mammogram. This resulted in her being diagnosed with a tumor, stage 2B, in her left breast with two axillary lymph nodes also cancerous. We entered chemotherapy together for 6 months. In order to help me with my recovery, Patricia and her daughter moved in with

rently suffering from back lumbar pain with compression fractures; several surgeries to cement them together are helping the healing. I am fighting on.

My advice to others that are affected by cancer is to strive to be positive and have the utmost faith in God, so as not to allow fear to overcome you. This is a battle that needs all the love, support and prayers to get you through the long treatment process.

I wish to thank, from the bottom of my heart, all friends who are assisting in fundraising, bringing meals, snow shoveling. I'm so amazed at the outreach of love and compassion from all of you. Life is precious and is a remarkable journey. You never know what's around the corner.

Thank you, Delia O'Keefe

BENEFIT PARTY

The benefit party will be held on May 2, 2015 at The Irish-American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox in Chicago from 5 pm to 11:30 pm. Donations are voluntary at door. Food, music and entertainment will be provided, along with a Live and a Silent Auction. Music by Mike O'Connell and the Shannon Aires along with other musicians.

If you are unable to attend please send a donation to assist Delia to:

Signature Bank/O'Keefe Benefit, 6400 N. Northwest Highway, Chicago, IL 60631. For more information on this benefit you can contact any of the officers or visit: www.bridgetokeefebenefit.com

Please be generous by sending a donation or attending the party. You may also wish to buy a \$100 raffle ticket or a portion of one with a chance to win \$7,000 in prizes by sending your \$100 donation and ticket stub to: Bernie Larsen, 622 N. Hamlin, Park Ridge, IL 60068.

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Bridget Delia O'Keefe Benefit



The Bridget "Delia" O'Keefe Benefit will be held to support Delia in her battle with stomach cancer. Delia hails from Bangor Erris, County Mayo but has been a Chicagoan for more than forty years. Following surgery in October 2013 she underwent chemotherapy and continues to challenge the disease. Her daughter Patti was diagnosed with breast cancer in April 2014 requiring mastectomy and ongoing chemotherapy. Join us in assisting Delia as she faces the physical and economic challenges of this disease.

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Piping It In

Jack Baker



Another year has gone by since I last wrote Jack's column and this should tell you that he is hibernating in Florida again. He will have returned home by the time you read this, so feel free to give him a little grief on my behalf!

Last year I gave you, for good or bad, my favorite recordings. This year I give you my favorite band from Ireland. A large body of work and a new release puts them in my spotlight.

Kila is a Dublin based band, formed in 1987, and has been recording and performing for decades now, a supergroup, if you will. They are comprised of 8 very

talented multi-instrumentalists, several of whom have separate successful recording careers. Aside from performing, they have collaborated with Bruce Coulais, a French composer, on soundtracks for two Oscar nominated animated films, *The Secret of Kells* (2010) and *Song of the Sea* (2014) and they are featured in one of the Tourism Ireland "Jump Into Ireland" TV commercials.

Kila's newest CD, *Suas Sios*, was released in January, 2015 and is everything that Kila has ever been to me. The rhythms are still driving and forceful when they need to be and steady and pur-

poseful when they don't. That's probably what draws me to them to begin with, as I have always loved great rhythms. Eoin Dillon has several pipe tunes on this release and each one is a gem. Aside from the usual array of instruments like whistle, fiddle and bodhran, they always add in something a little unexpected (to me) and this time it was saxophone, banjo and chimes! The best part is that it works so well, you may not even notice it right away because it doesn't sound wrong. Ronan O' Snodaigh's vocals are always a delight to me, even when I don't understand them (since they are in Irish). Those vocals become yet another instrument for me, moving the music along in a new direction and taking me on the ride. The artful blend of the traditional tunes with the uptempo rhythms and contemporary sound makes Kila a group that can span a wide variety of tastes and ranges.

Ronan released a new CD in 2014 called *SOS*, with a small group of friends backing him, including Liam O' Maonlai of Hothouse Flowers. The 8 tracks are pretty consistent with Ronan's percussion taking center stage and his Irish vocals. On his own, Ronan is a little more contemporary but you can't deny the man has talent.

Other items available from Kila

and its members include a tune book and a book by Rossa O' Snodaigh called *Making Out in Irish*. Simply called "Kila Book of Tunes", it contains every Kila tune from *Groovin'* (the first Kila written tune) to the music for the CD *Soisin*, plus the tunes from Eoin Dillon's release "The Third Twin" and tunes from Dee's yet unreleased solo album. All the tunes come written in standard notation plus many of them are written in ABC notation, for those trad musicians who were taught that way. The book includes many photos of the band as well as notes and stories and poems by the band. A fair portion of this is written in Irish and translated into English.

Rossa's book "Making Out In Irish" is an English-Irish phrase book covering such enlightened topics as Eat, Drink and Be Merry; Orders and Profanities; Lover's Language and Loving Words plus a whole array of topics

you wouldn't normally find in a Berlitz or Rosetta Stone language class! There is also a Pronunciation Guide included along with some basic history of the Irish language. This would be a very handy book for those studying the language!

The rest of Kila's releases are generally available through the store and include *Soisin*, *Rogha*, *Secret of Kells Soundtrack*, *Gambler's Ballet*, *Kila and Oki*, *Live in Dublin*, *Luna Park*, *Live in Vicar St*, *Lemonade and Buns*, *Tog E*, *Go Bog E*, *Mind the Gap* and *Handel's Fantasy*.

On a side note, don't forget the Hoffman Estates Northwest Celtic Fest on Sunday March 22 at the Sears Centre Arena in Hoffman Estates. Admission and parking are FREE.

You can reach Jack at the store, 630 834-8108 or by email at jack@rampantlion.com. Don't drink and drive on St. Patrick's Day or any other day of the year!!



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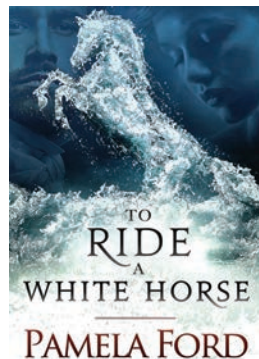
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Novel Set During Great Famine Earns A Starred Review

Inspired by events in Ireland and America in the mid-1800s, Pamela Ford's newest novel, *To Ride a White Horse*, has received a starred, featured review in Publishers Weekly, which indicates a book of outstanding quality.



Ireland, she crosses the Atlantic, determined to save her family and find her missing fiancé. But her journey doesn't go as planned and she ends up in America, forced to accept the help of an English whaling captain,

Jack Montgomery, who symbolizes everything she despises. As Jack helps her search for her fiancé and fight to save her family, she must confront her own prejudices and make a devastating choice—remain loyal to her country or follow her heart. *To Ride a White Horse* is a historical saga of hope, loyalty, the strength of the human spirit, and the power of love.

Publishers Weekly called the story: "A sweeping historical love story that hits all the marks. Pacing the plot for maximum tension, Ford skillfully conveys the anguish and fury of not only her heroine, but all the struggling Irish both at home and abroad. She delivers genuine heat by teasing out the passion between her protagonists. Ford has made a deeply satisfying foray into new territory."

When Ireland is struck by a devastating potato famine in 1846, Kathleen Deacey reluctantly leaves her country to find work. Despising the English for refusing to help

To Ride a White Horse is Ford's sixth book, and her first historical novel. Ford has won several awards for her novels, including the Booksellers Best.

The complete review can be read at: <http://publishersweekly.com/ASINB00OT271O8>. The boxed review can be seen at: <http://www.digitalpw.com/digitalpw/20141208?folio=62#pg66>.

To Ride a White Horse is available in ebook format at amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com, ibooks.com, and googleplay.com. Print books are available at amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com. www.pamelaford.net

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Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



Lines Of Vision: Irish Writers On Art

Edited by Janet McLean-
Thames and Hudson
Review by Frank West

This is an incredibly beautiful and rich book. It has excellent color prints of over fifty paintings from Ireland's National Gallery, each is accompanied by the commentary of an Irish writer: novelists, playwrights and poets. The book celebrates the 150th Anniversary of the National Gallery. *Lines Of Vision* is not a book that you would read cover-to-cover, but rather a book that you can dip into at any time for inspiration.

Over fifty Irish writers each chose a painting and wrote a short essay or poem inspired by that picture. The pictures are "starting points to explore ideas and tell stories about art, love, loss, family, dreams, places and privacy."

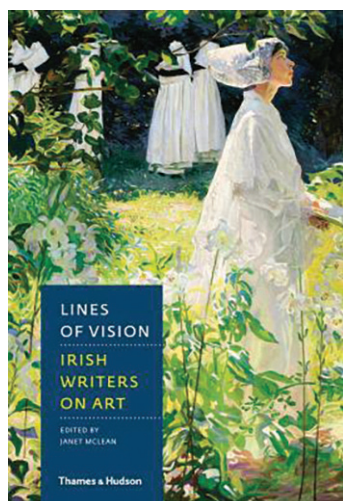
Janet McLean is the editor of this unique book. She is the Curator of European Art -1850-1950 at Ireland's National Gallery.

She grew up in County Down - was educated at Trinity College - became curator of several Art galleries in the U.K. - including The Royal Academy of Arts in London and is now curator at the National Gallery.

I talked with Janet for this review and found her to be knowledgeable, approachable and absolutely charming. No wonder she is in the sensitive position of getting many creative people to work cooperatively. Her book reflects her outstanding qualities.

I have travelled in the County Down area of Northern Ireland, where she grew up. Many parts of Ireland have impressive beauty, but that is a place of exceeding beauty.

* Janet, how did your experience of growing up in that beautiful location make you sensitive to art and inspire you to devote your life to art? "As a child I read many books and then traded them with



my friends. The authors of many of those books created powerful and vivid scenes and my imagination was greatly stimulated!"

* Paintings speak to us, but we each hear differently. The writers in *Lines Of Vision* constantly show this. Please speak to this. "A painting is all about reception." And later she says, "Art can be very difficult, but very surprising!" She pointed out award-winning novelist Jennifer Johnston's comment about this: "I do meet paintings that I like a lot and we speak silently to each other."

I have three prints of artist Paul Henry's paintings and prints of Jack B. Yeats'. *The Singing Horseman* and *There Is No Night* in my apartment. I'll have to listen carefully to hear what they said and are saying to me.

In 1949, Jack B. Yeats created the impressionist masterpiece *The Singing Horseman*. When I chose it for my living room wall, I didn't know what had inspired him, or where he might have seen the scene. I just knew it was a colorful and "happy" painting. To me it was very Irish and showed great verve for life and loftiness of spirit.

Imagine how pleased and surprised I was to learn Yeats had seen this on a beach in Sligo, near where my relatives came from! Talk about fate.

Included in the book is another painting that has a profound effect on me. It is by Sean Keating, and is called *I Stepped Into Allegory*. He painted it in 1924. It is about the result of the civil war.

The thesaurus shows that one of the meanings for - allegory - is morality play.

In the foreground of the painting are two soldiers. They are digging a grave for a dead patriot whose body is slumped against a nearby tree. The soldiers have their backs to each other and are digging at cross purposes. A woman, holding a baby leans against the other side of the tree. She suffers quietly.

To the left of the center scene are two persons, a clergyman and a businessman. They are talking together, and are obviously to the civil war. This is because their positions in society will be secure and profitable no matter which side wins.

This observation by Keating, shows the unchanging power of the establishment. They remind me of Pieter Bruegel's "The Peasant Wedding," painted three hundred and fifty years before. In that painting a priest and a nobleman talk together in the background. They ignore the events around them in this painting also. Both painters make the observation of the unchanging establishment.

Thanks to Janet McLean for creating this beautiful and powerful book. The paintings in it are eternally present and now. The writings that accompany them show that they are all about people - curiosity, creative exchange and human perspective.

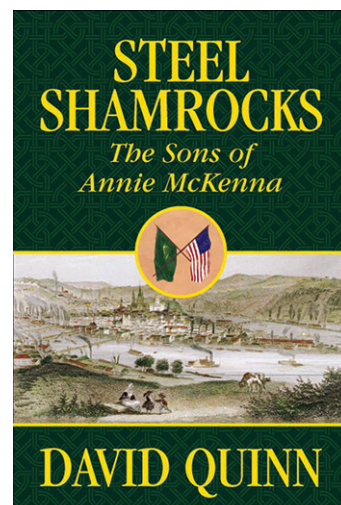
Steel Shamrocks: The Sons Of Annie McKenna

By David Quinn
Iuniverse - Amazon

Review By Frank West

Steel Shamrocks is a journey of the heart. It is a sparkling tribute to our ancestors and tells their story by tracing the lives of the descendants of the children of Annie McKenna after they left Ireland in 1830. They are the ancestors of the authors wife.

The author makes the story fas-



inating, even though we are familiar with it: Irish immigrants work hard and achieve their dreams.

David Quinn, the author, does this by creating dialogue that is almost magical, and we quickly become closely involved with the persons in the story. Quinn writes gracefully and with a novelist's soul.

Quoting from the information sheet: "In 1840 Hugh McKenna, a widowed farmer and father of eleven, left his home in Ireland's County Tyrone for economic survival in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Arriving in Quebec . . . Hugh and the family walked the twelve hundred miles to a new life in the raucous, burgeoning gateway to the American West. Thus began nearly a hundred years of trial and triumph for Hugh's widowed daughter-in-law Annie, and two of her sons . . . through financial struggle, fire, civil war, flood, labor unrest, political corruption and reform, they made their challenges with fortitude and civic devotion. Whether defending the Union from Antietam to Appomattox or helping to build a new industrial and political order, the McKenna men and their remarkable mother are emblematic of the many contributions Irish Americans have made to a great city and a great nation." Quinn adds to this, the accomplishments of these people are "testimony to the opportunities afforded by their adopted country . . ."

David Quinn and wife Elizabeth (Betsy) have three children and five grandchildren. They live in Frederick, Maryland. He was born in Oak Ridge, Tennessee and

grew up in the Washington, D.C. area. He studied at Wheeling Jesuit University and at Fordham University. He then worked for thirty years in the corporate world of telecommunications.

I'm happy to say that after leaving the corporate world he dedicated himself to his passion of genealogy and history.

While earning a degree in history, I spent countless hours at the college library, so I understand what a great accomplishment of historical research STEEL SHAMROCKS is. What he makes look easy, really required hours of research. Even the bibliography is six pages long!

Quinn has an eye for the telling detail. For example: What food did our ancestors take with them for a sea voyage, which in the mid 1800's would take a month? Quinn tells us they brought "hard cheese, salt cured meat, black bread and dried fruit." There are many facts like this throughout the book.

As we see the development in the lives of the McKenna family, we also see the progression of American history. The author so develops the people in the book that they become friends. I didn't want to see the end of the book come, because they had become so personal to me.

Steel Shamrocks is about one family, but all of our ancestors were steel shamrocks or we wouldn't be here.

Next year is the hundredth anniversary of the uprising of 1916. A quote from this book is about their motivation. The rebels of 1916 were powerfully motivated by searing memories of famine and eviction that their parents and, sometimes themselves, had experienced.

Those memories made them heroically brave, and even though greatly outnumbered, they never retreated or flinched.

From STEEL SHAMROCKS: "The late 1870's were a difficult time, again, in Ireland. Especially in the western province of Connaught, continued potato blight and severe winters produced another economic crisis for peasants. Rising rents and mass evictions ...resulted ..."

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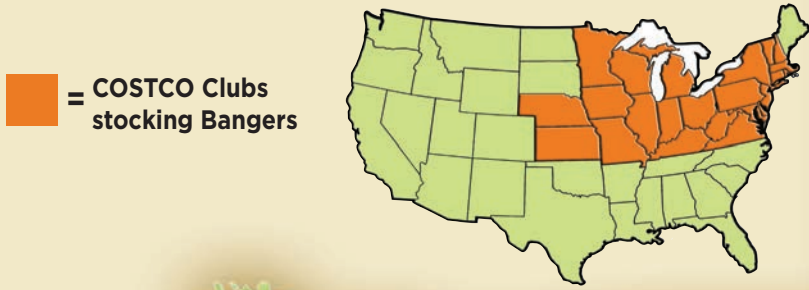
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Starting the first week of February while supplies last, "Balson Bangers" will be stocked and sold at all COSTCO club locations in the Northeast and Midwest (see map below). These traditional sausages are sold in a 2 lb. pack and can be frozen for up to 12 months. The following COSTCO Club Regions are stocking ... NORTHEAST; VA, WV, MD, DE, PA, NJ, NY, CT, RI, MA, VT, NH, and Wash. DC; MIDWEST; KY, KS, NE, MO, IA, IL, IN, OH, MI, WI, and MN.

RJ Balson USA President Oliver Balson says, "We are thrilled with these placements. We are continually working hard to make English/Irish products more accessible here in the U.S., and we couldn't think of a better way to do so than work with COSTCO again on our 500th Anniversary! We are encouraging club members to stock up on the bangers, as the price is exceptional and they freeze well. This presents a huge opportunity for shoppers to show COSTCO that there is a strong demand for traditional English and Irish items. We are grateful for the support we are receiving from the Ex-Pat community here in the States, and we are humbled to be a part of bringing these traditional items to U.S. markets."





Mother Clutter Buster

Procrastinate No More

by Rita Emmett

The Anti-Procrastination Tip Sheet

Many people email to let me know that my help with breaking the procrastination habit has moved them toward pursuing a wide variety of goals and dreams. Then there are others who emailed that you can't move forward on anything... because your clutter is holding you back.

Pity my poor husband who listened to me rave and rant each time I read an email that said "All this clutter prevents me from pursuing my dream. And I can't get rid of it because..." Did I want to get into a debate over was your "because" a valid reason or a miserable mealy-mouthed excuse? I did not. More fun to continue ranting at my ever-patient husband.

Then it hit me...NOT reasons, NOT excuses...MYTHS!! The dictionary defines myth as a fictitious story or belief serving to explain some phenomenon, often spoken of as though true. Based on emails I received, here is my response:

Emmett's List Of Miserable, Mealy-Mouthed Myths Of Clutter

1. It's too overwhelming. I can never get rid of all this clutter. Poor Baby. So true. It IS overwhelming. So smack yourself in the face with a trout and let's get real. Start by picking just one spot to clutter-bust. Not the whole house, not even a whole room. Just one part of the room. So to begin, PICK ONE SPOT. Not the whole closet, just that shelf. Not the whole office, just the stack in the corner Not the whole car, just the trunk.

2. It will take me forever. Yes... um...and how long did it take to accumulate? Yes, Sparky, It WILL take a while to gain control. No sense procrastinating. Might as well start now.

3. I don't have time to devote to clutter-busting. OK, you don't have a whole afternoon to devote to it, but you can find an hour. Maybe not an hour a day, but at least an hour a week. If you can't do that, then every day, take 3 things from that spot you selected (See Myth #1) and process it. That means either toss, recycle, donate

or put it where it belongs.

4. First I need to be organized. Nope. You don't. In fact, it's almost impossible to be organized when surrounded by clutter. As you get rid of clutter, you will become more organized. In fact, you'll actually be able to find things. (What a concept!!)

5. Clutter-busting doesn't work for me; when I'm done, the stuff is still there. Ummmm, yes, we know how that goes. You take everything out of the closet or garage, sweep it out, and put everything back in. And you are puzzled why nothing disappeared, correct? So before you start, write these lines down and post where you are clutter-busting:

EMMETT'S LAW

The dread of doing a task uses up more time and energy than doing the task itself.

~~ Rita Emmett

Conquering clutter means MAKING DECISIONS.

If you don't need or use it, get rid of it.

If you don't have enough room for all your stuff, you don't need more room, you need less stuff.

If something doesn't have a place to belong, it automatically becomes clutter.

6. After I get rid of clutter, it just seems to re-appear in no time.

Let's consider: Do you ever find yourself saying: "Poor, poor pitiful me. I'm swamped with the clutter of stuff and the clutter of debt. Wait!! I know what will fix it...I'LL GO SHOPPING!!!"

Or...when someone finishes cleaning out their basement and offers you 16 boxes of stuff, do you say "YIPPEE. I'd love it. Thank you"?

Or...does your car screech to a halt on trash day when you see something at the curb that is "just too good to throw out"?

Or...do you consider garage sales and flea markets to be bliss-

ful, spiritual experiences??

Tell me, Punkin, are you starting to figure out how that clutter magically re-appears?

7. I need to find the perfect recipient for everything I'm getting rid of.

Let me guess. The last time you went through your closet, you ended up with 15 stacks of stuff that you planned to pack up and mail or deliver to many people. Then you were too tired to pack it all up, so you put it back in the closet and are still mystified why that closet continues to be so cluttered.

You need a DISPOSAL PLAN. Instead of packing up a bunch of items, donate it all to one organization. If getting it there is too overwhelming, ask a friend if he will help by delivering your donation bags to Goodwill. If a garage sale, Ebay and Freecycle are too overwhelming now, don't do them. Just donate everything to one place. Being free of clutter will mean more to you than the \$39.52 you would make after spending all weekend on a garage sale. Make it easy to get rid of your stuff.

Now Comes The Super-Duper, Tear-Jerking, Heart-Rending Reasons (Myths) "Why I Really Can Never Ever Get Rid Of This Stuff".

8. I might possibly need this one day. OR maybe I won't, but maybe someone sometime some place on this planet might need it. Seriously?? A coffee can full of rusty nails? Seven pounds of rubber bands, ketchup packets or used gift boxes (with matching faded, crunched bows)? Your old used faded curtains that you had hanging for ten years? Your Textbooks And Notes From School??? Seriously? How many mugs, towels, sets of sheets does a person need?

Now a bit of reality (Yes, another slap yourself in the face with a trout moment) IF someone told you she needed a thing-a-ma-bob, you would probably forget you had one...because it's buried under all your clutter. And if you DID remember you had it...would you really be able to find it? Seriously?

9. I just need to get it fixed or repaired. If it broke yesterday and you know how to fix it. OK. Keep it. Otherwise, if you've had it for

more than six months, and it still isn't fixed...it's clutter.

10. This brings back memories. Ahhh Sweet Little Grasshopper, let us contemplate boxes of memory-providing mementos...in the storage unit, back of your closet, basement or garage. Um... what is in those boxes? You don't remember? Then How Is It Bringing A Memory To You??? Our memories are in our minds and in our hearts, not in those boxes. If you absolutely need a memento, then take ONE picture your child drew, not all of them. One tee shirt from college, not 135. One item your grandmother left you, not everything. Then honor her memory by giving the rest of her items to people who need and will cherish and use them.

11. It's a gift. When you give a gift, do you expect it to be kept forever? If yes, then you need more face-trout-smacking because that is an unrealistic expectation. If the answer is no, then you understand that gift-giver does not expect you to keep it forever either. Keep it for a while and then get rid of it.

If they ask you about it, act absent-minded and say "I was using it but then something happened to it." You don't have to get specific and tell them you gleefully donated it to the Organization of People Who Love Weird Stuff.

12. I might lose a ton of weight and then I'd fit into these clothes again. Dear, dear adorable, delusional, unrealistic, clueless darlin'. Ask anyone who's done it. Once you lose all that weight you will say "Wear this old, out-of-date stuff?? Heck no. I deserve some cool new clothes for the cool new me." Trust me. It's true.

Please share this Tip Sheet with 2 or 3 friends who would be interested. And feel free to use this message in your blog or newsletter, as long as you include my bio and contact info:

Rita is the author of The Procrastinator's Handbook, The Clutter-Busting Handbook and Manage Your Time to Reduce Your Stress: A Handbook for the Overworked, Overscheduled, and Overwhelmed. www.ritaemmett.com

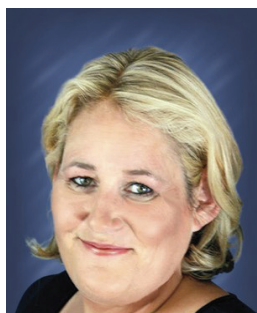
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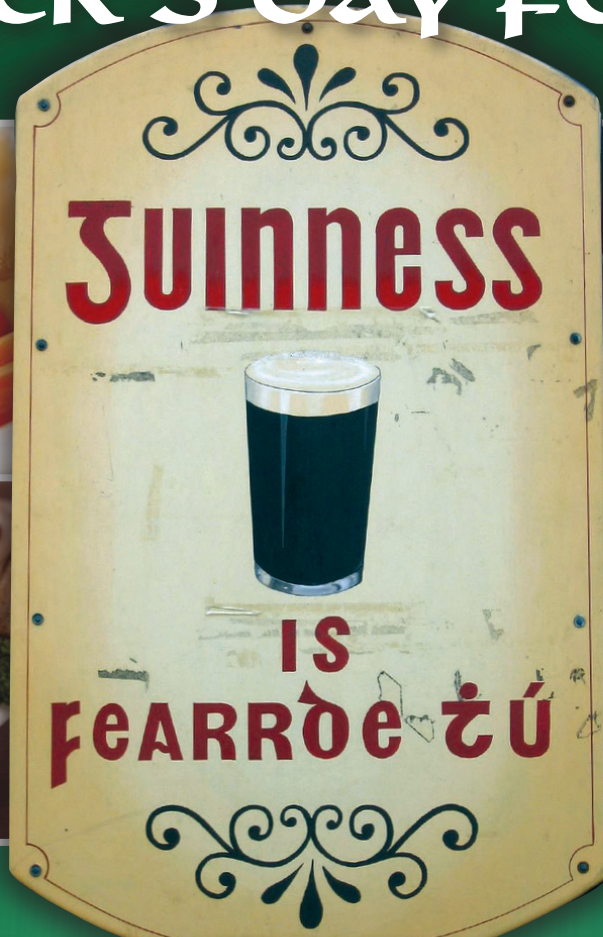


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Left of Centre?

As is often the way in politics, it was all very clear cut when it began. It was easy at the outset to work out what Left and Right wing politics meant. Nowadays, even when politicians seem to be irreducibly in the clutches of one side or another, circumstances can change—the party whip gets to work on them, or they get elected, and volte-faces are then all the rage.

Occasionally, a whole govern-

ment is elected that constitutes a definite swing. Last month, the Greek right-wing party, Golden Dawn, whose members visited random attacks on immigrants and rallied to a Nazi flag, scored only 6.3% in their general election. The story could have been very different had the outgoing government not instigated a spate of arrests two years ago, taking down Golden Dawn's leadership. The far right in Greece, because it was too far right, devoured its own chil-

View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



dren and very few people take it seriously today. Good riddance.

The party that triumphed in the Greek election in January has Europe in a tailspin nonetheless. That party, SYRIZA, has had the temerity to say that Greece's €315 billion (\$357 billion) national debt is unpayable for an economy seemingly doomed to irreversible deflation, and therefore it will never be paid, so let's discuss an alternative settlement like adults. They are called (and simultaneously dismissed as) left wing for arriving at that formulation. Hmm.

Could it be that for Greece, as for Ireland, a profiteering cadre of bankers has usurped the workings of parliaments who are controlling national governments through blackmail and other forms of pressure? Could it be that one gentle, or not so gentle, push to expose the illegitimate role that finance plays in governing Europe now would be enough to cause it to relent?

Watching Irish politicians squirm over the past month has been, if nothing else, amusing. Initially, as the newly appointed Greek Prime Minister was rebuked by Eurogroup (a consortium of Eurozone finance ministers), the Irish government was content to see Greece's new leader as someone who needed to learn the ropes. You know, a relatively young idealist with cavalier views who needs to

be groomed in the ways of the world. The criticism against the new Greek cabinet became personal of course: what would a cohort of engineers and professors of economics know about running a country in crisis? As the Greek Prime Minister and his Minister for Finance kept playing their trump card—we get a new deal or we are out of the Eurozone—European leaders began to reluctantly edge towards the other side of the table. This left Irish politicians in a muddle. If the leaders of strong European economies (Holland and Germany) swing towards acceptance of a write-down of Greek debt, do we stand with the Greeks or with their antagonists? Put it another way, are Irish interests better served by arguing that we are in the same boat as the Greeks or in hoping that if some forbearance is extended to Greece it might filter to Ireland eventually?

The answer is clear, but do not hold your breath to hear it articulated by our elected representatives. Here is our Minister for Agriculture, Simon Coveney: "What we are saying is let's be realistic about what is possible. Ireland like other countries will try and be helpful as we can but I think we have to be firm that the same approach and the same standards have to apply to Greece as to every other country that has found themselves

in difficulty over the last number of years." Our current Minister for Finance, Michael Noonan, had this to say: "Our debt is in a very good position now; it's affordable and it's repayable." They both have the 2016 general election on their minds, but it is clear from Coveney's gentle bending that he

is less convinced of the current arrangements in Europe, and more solicitous of his future political career, than Noonan. Coveney is the younger man and he wants to have a future in politics.

Yet, come next year, if Greece has secured a substantial reduction in its debt through whatever device (bridging loan, warehousing of debt, federalisation of debt, Eurobonds or gentleman's arrangement), practicing politicians in Ireland today will be confronted with accusations from the electorate that they could have, and should have, secured similar concessions. Their stances today will, at that stage, retreat to that ever amenable touchstone position in Irish politics, the phrase and mentality "we are where we are."

The pressure that a write-down of Greek debt would exert on Irish political parties is highly desirable. In that scenario, the probable realignment that next year's election will bring—a coalition of the centrist parties, Fianna Fail and Fianna Gael, in a bid to keep Sinn Féin out of power (with Lucinda Creighton's new party propping up the rear, if it can find a name for itself)—might not be the biggest news of the election. If Greece advances out of its mire, how will those vying for votes in Ireland account for their failure to act as the Greeks did?

This issue truly does matter. Ireland's debt stands at €214 billion (\$242 billion). The ill-effects of that groaning fiscal burden filters down to hospital beds, to places in schools, to oppourtunities for young people to find a job and make a life in Ireland. The approach successive Irish governments have taken over the past seven years has a diplomatic dance: the government played it long, hoped for the best and assured the electorate that there is just one more hurdle to cross. The results have been dismal. Greece stalled as well, but now it has found a government that is willing to make demands. Can Ireland do the same?



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The Irish Rover

By James McClure



to renovate the ornate exterior of the facility which doubles as both a stellar observatory of astronomers and a work-

place for University and other engineers working on projects that run the global gamut from research at the South Polar to machining devices and experiments that orbit the Earth or fly aboard an airborne high-altitude telescope.

Yerkes manager Jim Gee, who also heads the engineering research department at Yerkes, says that the University of Chicago name carved above the entrance of the Williams Bay institution is more than just a historical footnote.

"What this tells us is that the University

of Chicago is spending six years, and a lot of university money, into putting this building into absolutely wonderful condition," says Gee, who estimates the total cost as being "in the seven figure range."

He adds that spending millions of dollars on a structure some residents and supporters feared was due to be sold off or shuttered not only restores the appearance but sends a clear message.

"So this is the University's way of telling the community there is a commitment from the University of Chicago to keep this place alive and going, and they're very serious about it," adds Gee.

Among the features currently sheathed in steel tubing are Romanesque columns and artwork along with trademark U. of C. winged griffens on the building's gothic heights atop a shield marked with the letter "Y" for the structure's namesake, Charles Yerkes.

Yerkes was a Chicago industrialist perhaps best known in the 1890's for something that's long been forgotten—he built the network of elevated trains that now surround the Chicago Loop as part of the Chicago Transit Authority's elevated train system know as "The El."

The exterior being renovated and restored include number upon number of intricate designs and obvious and not so obvious clues from the original architect, Henry Ives Cobb. For example one can see faces carved into the terra cotta of first University Presi-

dent Williams Rainey Harper and benefactor John D. Rockefeller, who helped found the school in 1892. Cobb was hired to design Yerkes in the same style that he had just begun with the University.

Observatory tour guide Dan Koehler is a self-taught expert on the architecture and points out Cobb's most obvious design clue to weekend visitors. It's on the back entrance on the side of the 73 acre complex that faces the shore to Geneva Lake just to the south. The first clue is an H., I, and C.

"That's Henry Ives Cobb's monogram, and then over on the right hand side the tools of the trade of the architect—the compass, triangle and the square," says Koehler to a weekend tour crowd, pointed to the right side of the south entryway. "So he's showing you exactly what he used to design his building."

"It's an amazing building " says Kansas City, Missouri resident Melissa Koch, who has done small scale restorations on the exterior of older structures back home. "I'm happy to see they're doing some restoration work but I can see that they need more done, so people need to contribute!" adds Koch with a laugh.

Among the original craftsmen were Swedish immigrants whose modern day descendants still live nearby in Walworth County like Doug Anderson, senior pastor of Calvary Community Church in Williams Bay.

"Few communities in America are blessed with both a remarkably beautiful lake AND an Observatory, especially an Observatory with an historic and functioning telescope. All of us who live in this area should celebrate the restoration efforts to keep Yerkes functional and attractive," says Anderson.

"Those who love its appearance and history or are descendants of those like my great-grandfather who helped to build it are grateful to be privileged to live in its shadow."

Regular Saturday tours of the observatory will continue unhindered by the restoration work.

Observatory Gets Further Renovation & Commitment to Future

Late last year, visitors to the regular Saturday tours at the historic 1897 Yerkes Observatory in Williams Bay, Wisconsin noticed a new addition to the eastern wing of the University of Chicago's northern stargazing outpost: an array of scaffolds.

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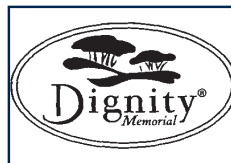
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Billy Lawless, I Owe Ya

That's not exactly what I said to myself when they called me to ask if I would be a judge for the St. Jarlath's 'Dancing for Our Stars' contest at Gaelic Park last month.

The gal on the phone told me Billy Lawless suggested me as a judge. Billy has been very kind to me over the years so I said, Sure I will. Is Billy doing it too?

Billy had a prior commitment. Yeah sure he did, so he threw me into the mix instead. Thanks Billy.

I've glanced at the TV show Dancing With the Stars while channel surfing and it makes my thumb itch watching supposed, stars like Rob Kardashian and Kelly Osbourne attempting to tango. Sure I like cheese on my pizza but not piped into my living room.

So I gritted my teeth and thought of ways to try and get out of it. The lovely Mary told me, You can't. You made a commitment! And what about Billy Lawless?

Yes it was so nice of him to volunteer me. I did some research and discovered the St. Jarlath's Youth GAA is a Gaelic football and hurling club for boys and girls ages 5-18. They have been in existence since 1977.

Every year they travel to a different city with approximately 10-15 teams to compete in a National Tournament against teams around the U.S. and Canada. Most of the money raised helps offset the costs of traveling to this tournament, and equipment purchased, jerseys, pizza parties, a Christmas party and other fun events for the kids.

Good for them, but still the idea of a Mario Lopez marathon made me wary.

But that night at Gaelic Park I'm shooting the breeze with my fellow judges and another judge walks in with a drink in each hand. Things are looking up. How do I get one of those?

Downstairs in the dancers waiting room with the sandwiches.

Booze and sandwiches, all of a sudden I'm starting to feel like Arthur Murray.

Are the dancers nervous?

Guy laughs and says, How could they be nervous with two bottles of whiskey in front of em.

Fast forward to me sitting on the dais and somebody is bringing me unlimited pints while I look out on a crowd of hundreds

of Irish folks laughing, cheering, and ready to have a great time. Okay I just might be in heaven.

We had 8 couples competing. Most had never met until put together for the contest. They practiced two nights a week for 3 months! Winners are chosen by 60% of the judges score and 40% of the audience votes. The audience votes can be done on-line or the night of the contest and each vote costs a buck.

So the judges don't really have the final say because votes can be bought. I like this; I think it's called Chicagoland!

Speaking of which, during a break I headed into the head and one wise guy sez to me, Uh oh, one them judges! Hey I got a hundred dollar bill in my pocket, will it help my friend?

Give it to me and let's find out.

The beauty of the night was the sheer moxie of the contestants who got out on that dance floor and entertained us with their panache as they worked out the choreography to the music. The program book had bios on each of the couples dancing and at least two guys claimed to have studied at the Polekatz School of Dancing. Polekatz is also coincidentally the name of the topless strip club nearby.

Halfway through the evening I'm enjoying the fun with the audience as the dancers are putting it all out there for charity and I get a text from Skinny in Florida on my phone. Vote for Maureen Lawless.

Sure enough the couple dancing at that moment was a gal named Maureen, or so I thought. I gave them a 10 and then got the elbow from judge Siobhainn O'Connor next to me. Have another Guinness dopey, that's not Maureen Lawless.

Ooops. Well they deserved a ten anyway. As a matter of fact I think all the dancers deserved tens and

that's the way I voted for the rest of the night. Hey, tens for everybody!

Looking back on the evening it was just one huge blur of laughs and pure entertainment. I can't even remember who won, but I know that the crowd had an absolute blast that night, myself included.

On my way home, I stopped at White Castle on 147th Street for a late supper. As I

South Side Irish Parade Announces 2015 Parade Queen

The South Side Irish Parade Committee announces Mary Kate Love as the 2015 South Side Irish Parade Queen. Love, 27, is from Chicago's Beverly neighborhood and currently works at new Chicago start up UI Labs.

Love was one of six candidates who took part in the selection process held during the South Side Irish Pre-Parade fundraising party on Saturday, February 21st at 115 Bourbon Street raising funds to support the annual march down Western Avenue.

"My Irish heritage has always been an integral part of who I am and I am honored to be the 2015 South Side Irish Parade Queen," said Love. "I'm also proud to say I have never missed a South Side Irish Parade

gazed out the window chuckling to myself about the evening I almost spit my slider across the table when I noticed the sign lit up outside White Castle, Don't Forget to Make Reservations for Valentine's Day!

What a night, thanks to you Maureen Gill and all the folks who put the St. Jarlath's Dancing For Our Stars event together.

Billy Lawless, I guess I do owe ya.

in my entire life and can't wait to be in this year's parade," added Love.

The Queen will be prominently featured in the South Side Irish Parade and will also ride in the downtown Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade.

All Parade Queen candidates were interviewed individually by a panel of independent judges including Mary Kay Gavin-Marmo, Executive Director of Chicago Rose of Tralee, Kathy Zofkie member of the Chicago Rose of Tralee Committee and Margaret McGann, the 2013 South Side Irish Queen. Prior to the announcement, the South Side Irish Parade Queen hopefuls helped sell raffle tickets during the fundraiser.

Continued to page 20





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Selkie From the Sea on PBS March 7-15

Linda Marie Smith's Mearra-Selkie from the Sea, as performed and filmed live at the Irish American Heritage Center in Chicago, will make its broadcast premiere on PBS-WYCC (<http://www.wycc.org/home/>) on Saturday,

March 7th, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. CST. For info on Mearra-Selkie from the Sea and air dates, check out producer/director Christopher Kai Olsen's post at <http://kaiharding.com/mearra-on-pbs-wycc-march-7th-2015-7pm>.

Catch the Larkin Brothers in March!

March 6th - Forevergreen At The Park West 322 West Armitage Chicago, IL 7:00 PM

March 7th - Manhattan Irish Fest Manhattan, IL 7:45 PM

March 13th - Nevin's Brewing Company 12337 SOUTH RT. 59

Plainfield, IL 8:30 PM

March 14th - Tommy Nevin's Pub 3032 English Rows Naperville, IL 12:00 PM

March 14th - Kerry Piper Tent Show 7900 Joliet Road Willowbrook, IL 9:00 PM

March 15th - Gaelic Park - Emerald Room 6119 W 147th Street Oak Forest, IL 1:30 PM

March 17th - Tommy Nevin's Pub 1450-1458 Sherman Avenue Evanston, IL 1:00 PM

March 17th - 115 Bourbon Street 3359 West 115th Street Merrionette Park, IL 7:00 PM

March 21st - Frosty Walk Benefit 9900 S Pulaski Chicago, IL 2:00 PM

March 29th - Tourney 4 Tommy 7700 South Western Ave Chicago, Illinois 1:00 PM

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3p.- 7p.

Music, step dancing, ILE scholarship presentation, cocktails and buffet dinner: \$30 members; \$35 Friends.

For more info contact: IASCW VP Chris Schaal, 779-279-2305 or schaal.chris@yahoo.com

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St. Patrick's Weekend – Kick-off Friday, March 13 running through Tuesday, March 17, 2015

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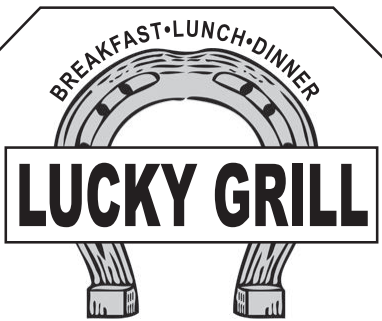


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Celebrate St. Patrick's Season at the IAHC

The IAHC continues its tradition of hosting some of Chicago's largest St. Patrick's Day Celebrations this March.

Wearing of the Green Dinner Dance



Sunday, March 1 • 5-10pm • \$40

Kick off the St. Patrick's Day season with a dinner, dancing and music with Gerry Haughey

Friday Night Lenten Fish Fry Through April 3 • 6:30-9pm

Adults: \$12 • Children: \$8

Songs and Stories from Of Irish Blood

Saturday, March 7, 1pm • \$10

Author Mary Pat Kelly returns with a sequel to her bestselling book, *Galway Bay*, with an afternoon of readings and music. She is joined by singer Catherine O'Connell.

Revolutionary Irish Women Series Friends and Foes: Women on Both Sides of the Treaty

Saturday, March 28, 1pm • \$10-\$15

A multi-media program profiling such women as Maud Gonne, Countess Markievicz, Lady August Gregory and their activities during the Irish Civil War.

Palm Sunday Mass and Irish Breakfast:

Sunday, March 29, 10:30am

Celebrate the Easter Season with the Annual Palm Sunday Mass and Irish Breakfast. Mass is at 10:30am, followed by breakfast in the Fifth Province. Tickets: \$8 for adults and \$4 for children.

Continue the holiday fun with the St. Patrick's Day Celebration

March 17 • 11am-10pm

Tickets: \$10

Children: 12 and under are free

The celebration includes music, dance and face painting for children.

11am: Mass in the Auditorium

1pm: The Toolies

3:15pm: O'Hare School of Irish Dance

4pm: The Chancey Brothers

6:15pm: Mulhern School of Irish Dance

7pm: Without U2

St. Patrick's Festival



Saturday, March 14
1pm-midnight

Tickets: \$15 or \$12 in advance if purchased through March 12
Children: 12 and under are free.

FIFTH PROVINCE

1pm: Tim O'Shea and Philip Crickard

3pm: Shannon Rovers

3:30pm: Dooley Brothers

6pm: Mulligan Stew

9pm: Chancey Brothers



AUDITORIUM

1pm: Irish Heritage Singers

2pm: Identity Irish Dancers

3pm: Rebecca McCarthy School of Dance

4pm: O'Hare School of Irish Dance

5pm: Trinity Academy of Irish Dance

6pm: Mullane Healy Godley School of Irish Dance



ERIN ROOM

2pm: Wiggleworms

2:45pm: Irish Dance Lesson with Trinity Irish Dancers

3:15pm: Wiggleworms

5pm: Fonn Mor

7:30pm: In Spite of Ourselves



ROOM 310

2pm: Academy of Irish Music

4pm: Pat and Karen Cannady and Friends

ROOM 111

1pm-6:30pm: Crafters and Vendors

8pm: Francis O'Neill Ceili

LIBRARY

1pm-7pm: Genealogy and used book sale

MUSEUM and ART GALLERY

1pm-5pm: Exhibits on display



(l to r) 2014 S. Side Irish Parade Queen Maeve McSweeney, 2015 S.S. Parade Queen Mary Kate Love, 2013 S. S. Parade Queen Margaret McGann

South Side Parade Queen 2015 Announced

Continued from page 17

"We are so thrilled to have Mary Kate wear our crown as the 2015 South Side Irish Parade Queen," said Mary Kay Gavin-Marmo. "We had six excellent candidates this year. Our judges interviewed all of the candidates and selected Mary Kate as this year's honoree," added Marmo.

The South Side Irish Parade Queen will also receive sponsorship from the South Side Irish Parade Committee to compete in the Chicago Rose of Tralee Selection as the South Side Irish Rose. This selection process will take place on March 22, 2015 at Gaelic Park.

The mission of the Chicago Rose of Tralee is to provide enrichment opportunities that will encourage young women of Irish descent to be exemplary role models for tomorrow's youth and to make a positive difference in the world. The winner of the Chicago Rose of Tralee will receive an all-expense paid trip to Ireland for an experience of a lifetime and represent Chicago in a two-night televised event in Tralee, Ireland. For more information or application for the Chicago Rose of Tralee visit www.chicago-roseoftralee.com.

Background:

The 2015 South Side Irish Parade will step off at Noon on Sunday, March 15th at 103rd Street and Western Avenue. Despite below freezing temperature, the 2014 parade featured 100 entries and attracted more than 125,000 spectators. The zero tolerance alcohol policy will remain in strict force to ensure a continued safe, family-friendly celebration of community and Irish heritage.

The Irish American Labor Council (IALC) will serve as the Grand Marshal for the 2015 South Side Irish Parade. A committee of the AFL-CIO, the IALC is focused on improving and promoting social and community welfare. The council also participates in issues of importance to Irish Immigrants in Chicago.

The Chicago Police Memorial Foundation (CPMF) is the 2015 Honoree. The not-for-profit organization is dedicated to honoring the lives of our fallen heroes. The foundation provides support and assistance to the families of Chicago police officers who are killed or catastrophically injured in the line of duty.

Parade merchandise can also be purchased at South Side Irish Imports. South Side Irish Parade gear will be available at both their Chicago and Tinley Park locations. For every piece of South Side Irish Parade merchandise sold in stores, South Side Irish Imports will donate \$1 to the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation.

The Emerald Isle Mile continues to be part of the family friendly South Side Irish St. Patrick's Day Parade pre-activities. The one-mile run will begin at 11:00 a.m. the morning of the parade at 112th and Western Ave and end at Running Excels, located at 104th and Western Avenue near the Parade's stepping off point. Registration for the race is available online or at the South Side Irish Parade Pre-Parade Fundraiser.

Northwest Side Irish Parade March 15

Assembly 10:00 am, Kick - Off 12:00 pm

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The Northwest Irish Parade is a celebration of faith, family, and heritage on the Northwest side of Chicago.

Official Northwest Side After Party

March 15 Immaculate Conception Recreation Center, 7211 W. Talcott Ave beginning at 1 pm

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2015 Queen - Alexandria Murray



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St. Patrick's Day Celebrations at the Center

Celebrate all that is Irish at the Irish American Heritage Center's annual St. Patrick's Day celebrations this March. These parties are among Chicago's largest, and this year, we expect more than 10,000 attendees to visit us in March.

What makes these celebrations different than the many that Chicago holds is that the live music, food, dance and activities all take place under one roof.

On Saturday, March 14 we host our St. Patrick's Festival following the downtown



Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade. This large-scale, family-oriented annual event includes traditional and contemporary Irish music, dance, food, and children's activities and an Arts and Craft Fair, with vendors selling Irish gifts. Visit the Art Gallery, Museum and Library for exhibits and programming.

Festivities begin at 1pm and end at midnight with live entertainment by Chicago Irish music groups and performers on tour from Ireland. Attendees can park at a remote lot at

Wilson and Lamon and take a free shuttle bus three blocks to the Center that runs from 2pm to midnight. For a \$5 donation, parking is available in the South Lot until the spaces are full.

Vendors include Galway Bakers, Rampant Lion, Because I Like It, Kats by Kelly, Nimble Thimbles, Ballyea, Petersen's Gifts, Paddy's on the Square, Creative Design Jewelry and Mary Rose Teahan.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, or \$12 for advance purchase if bought by the end of the day on March 12. Children 12 and under are free. NOTE: Tickets will not be mailed after March 9.

Come back for more fun with the St. Patrick's

Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 17. The day-long celebration in the Fifth Province includes music, dance and face painting for children. There will be a mass at 11am.

The party is from noon to 10pm and tickets are \$10. Children 12 and under are free. NOTE: Tickets will not be mailed after March 9.

Tickets can be purchased by visiting www.irish-american.org, calling the IAHC office at 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or visiting the IAHC Office or Gift Shop. Want to volunteer? Send an email to info@irishahc.org.



Do You Love a Parade?

Join us as we participate in two parades this March.

Downtown Chicago Parade, March 14-The downtown parade steps off at noon and our float will be staged near Balbo on Columbus Drive. Marchers should gather no later than 11:30am. Seating on this float is limited and for children only. We ask that all adults walk along side the float.

Northwest Side Irish Parade, March 15-The Northwest Side Irish Parade travels through Norwood Park. There is limited seating available on this float. Marchers, strollers and wagons are welcome. Look for us at Onahan School at 6634 West Raven Street on the west side of the school by 11:30 am.

If you plan to march with us, email IAHCparades@aol.com with your family name, which parade, and how many people are joining us.

ST. PATRICK'S FESTIVAL

MARCH 14, 1pm-midnight

Fifth Province

1pm Tim O'Shea and Philip Crickard
3pm Shannon Rovers
3:30pm Dooley Brothers
6pm Mulligan Stew
9pm Chancey Brothers

Auditorium

1pm Irish Heritage Singers
2pm Identity Irish Dancers
3pm Rebecca McCarthy School of Dance
4pm O'Hare School of Irish Dance
5pm Trinity Academy of Irish Dance
6pm Mullane Healy Godley School of Irish Dance

Erin Room

2pm Wiggleworms
2:45pm Dance Lesson with Trinity Irish Dancers
3:15pm Wiggleworms
5pm Fonn Mor
7:30pm In Spite of Ourselves

Room 310

2pm Academy of Irish Music
4pm Pat and Karen Cannady and Friends

Room 111

1pm-6:30pm Crafters and Vendors
8pm Francis O'Neill Ceili

Library

1pm-7pm-Genealogy and used book sale

Museum and Art Gallery

1pm-5pm Exhibits on display

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION

MARCH 17, Noon-10pm

Mass at 11am in the Auditorium

Fifth Province

1pm The Tooles
3:15pm O'Hare School of Irish Dance
4pm The Chancey Brothers
6:15pm Mulhern School of Irish Dance
7pm Without U2

Anam Cara Reading



Enjoy an encore performance of storytelling this spring.

Anam Cara is a semi-annual evening of readings by the creative writers from the on-going Memoir and Creative Writing Workshops at the Center. They will be joined by storytellers from Chicago's vast storytelling community; Loud and Clear.

The original stories of Anam Cara are from students who have joined the writing sessions, which have helped them find their voice in their writings. They will team up with Chicago's storytelling community for an unforgettable night of stories.

Anam Cara is Saturday, April 11 from 6:30pm to 9pm in the IAHC Library and tickets are \$5 at the door.

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



THE HERITAGE LINE

Irish American Heritage Center

Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

President's Message

During the St. Patrick's Day celebration season, we often see and hear "Everybody is Irish on St. Patrick's Day."

Reviewing our databases and knowing the Center's members, volunteers, guests, donors, supporters, sponsors and customers shows the rich diversity of the Center. Yes, it is an "everybody" group. The multi-ethnicity of our members, volunteers and guests is a strength of the Center. The combination of young, seniors and families is a strength of the Center. First, second, third and fourth and other generations are a strength of the Center. Those who join us from the city, the surrounding suburbs and states and countries are a strength of the Center.

We value all of our members, volunteers, donors and guests. It takes all kinds to build a strong Center. Let's continue to work toward inclusion as, by example, we motivate our St. Patrick's Festival and Irish Fest guests to become members, volunteers, donors and supporters.

Let's welcome all to the Center at this special time of the year.

Inclusion is an essential investment in

our continued and future success.

"It is not blood that makes you Irish but a willingness to be part of the Irish nation."

—Thomas Davis.

Thomas Davis (1814 -1845) was an Irish writer who was an organizer and poet of the Young Ireland movement who aimed to create a common and more inclusive base for the future.

The Good Lord likes to "meet us where we are," and hopefully that road for you happens to pass through the Center during this St. Patrick's season.

Finally, as you see new and exciting things at the Center during the 2015 St. Patrick's Day season and at Irish Fest, please keep in mind, as was said by Irish Music Journalist Earle Hitchner... *"There can be no tradition without innovation."*

Enjoy both the innovation, inclusion and the cultural tradition at the Center this year.

Together this strengthens the Center.
John Crowley Gorski
President



Annual Appeal and Pledge Donors

The IAHC Annual Appeal and Back to the Future Pledge Campaigns continue.

Below are names who contributed to the campaigns from January 6 through February 10. Contributions to the Annual Appeal have been enhanced once again by the matching program offered by Pat and Peggy Burke. We thank them for their continued support. We will continue to list names of contributors to both campaigns through June 2015.

ANNUAL APPEAL

CENTER CHAMPION (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Richard A. Doyle

ADVOCATE (\$100-\$249)

Anthony Barrett

Tristia Barrett

David F. and Gloria L. Dooley

Catherine Lally

James Sloan

FRIEND (\$1-\$99)

Mary C. Dwyer

Jack P. Lydon

BACK TO THE FUTURE PLEDGE \$500-\$999

Helene R. Hembreiker, in memory of my dear Irish mother, Clara Frances

Songs and Stories From *Of Irish Blood*



Irish American author Mary Pat Kelly returns to the Center with a sequel to her bestselling book, *Galway Bay*, with an afternoon of readings and music.

Of Irish Blood

weaves historical characters such as Maud Gonne, William Butler Yeats, Michael Collins, Eamon de Valera, Gertrude Stein and James Joyce, into a vivid and compelling story inspired by the life of her great-aunt in 1903.

Kelly will read from and sign her book and will be joined by singer Catherine O'Connell for songs from the era.

Songs and Stories from *Of Irish Blood* is Saturday, March 7 at 1pm in the Fifth Province. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by calling 773-282-7035, ext. 10, by visiting www.irish-american.org or at the door.

Andy Cooney Concert

The Center is pleased to present Andy Cooney in concert for a night of Irish music, comedy and dance with *An Irish Spring: Andy Cooney in Concert*.

Cooney, with his outstanding voice and dynamic stage presence, has always been a favorite among American and Irish audiences everywhere. His talent and versatility provide the ability to deliver a song directly to the hearts of his audience. He is just coming off of a sold out performance with Phil



Coulter at Carnegie Hall.

Cooney will be joined by Dee Reilly, one of the most exciting entertainers on the Irish and Nashville scene. The result is a high energy show that showcases the finest in Irish music, comedy and dance.

An Irish Spring: Andy Cooney in Concert is Sunday, April 26 at 5pm. Tickets are \$25 or \$35 for reserved

seating. Tickets can be purchased at www.irish-american.org or by calling 773-282-7035.

Friday Night Lenten Fish Fry

Join us each Friday night through April 3 for a family dinner in our Fifth Province. Dinner consists of fried cod, fries and a vegetable.

The cost is \$12 for adults and \$8 for children and live music begins at 9pm.



Announcing the 2015 Inductees!

ARTS & HUMANITIES:

Bob Newhart John Huston Gene Kelly

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY:

Sr. Sheila Lyne, RSM

EDUCATION:

Mother Frances Xavier Warde, RSM

PUBLIC SERVICE:

Justice Anne McGlone Burke

RELIGION:
Fr. Jack Wall

SPORTS:
Ben Hogan

SCIENCE:
Francis Collins

www.iahof.org • info@iahof.org

SAVE THE DATE!
Awards Gala is April 25, 2015!



THE HERITAGE LINE

Irish American heritage center

Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

March 2015

March 4	Tara Club Senior Meeting	Room 304	10am
March 6	Lenten Fish Fry	Fifth Province	6:30pm
	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili Mor	Room 109	8pm
March 7	Songs and Stories From <i>Of Irish Blood</i>	Fifth Province	1pm
	Shamrock American Club Social	Sham Am Room	8pm
March 13	Lenten Fish Fry	Fifth Province	6:30pm
March 14	St. Patrick's Festival	Whole Bldg	1pm
March 17	St. Patrick's Day Mass	Auditorium	11am
	St. Patrick's Day Celebration	Fifth Province	Noon
March 18	Tara Club Senior Meeting	Room 304	10am
March 20	Lenten Fish Fry	Fifth Province	6:30pm
	Quiz Night	Room 109	8pm
	Shamrock American Club Meeting	Sham Am Room	8pm
March 21	St. Patrick's Fathers Social	Fifth Province	8pm
March 27	Lenten Fish Fry	Fifth Province	6:30pm
March 28	Revolutionary Women Series	Room 304	1pm
	Mother Jones Museum Benefit	Fifth Province	5pm
March 29	Palm Sunday Mass	Auditorium	10:30am
	Palm Sunday Breakfast	Fifth Province	11:30am
	Genealogy Meeting	Library	1pm
	Book Club, <i>A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</i>	Library	1pm

Regularly Scheduled Events

Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
Tues	Creative Writing and Memoir Classes	Library	4pm and 7pm
	(thru 3/31)		
Tues	Set Dancing	Room 111	7:30-9:30pm
Tues, Thurs,			12:30pm-
Fri, & Sat	Golden Diners Lunch Program	Kitchen	2pm
Wed	Irish Language Classes	Room 304	7pm
Wed	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7-10pm
Thurs	Creative Writing and Memoir Classes	Library	4pm
	(thru 3/24)		
Thurs	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsals	Room 304	7pm
Fri	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili	Room 111	8pm
Sat	Irish Language Classes	Library	11am

Revolutionary Irish Women Series

Celtic Women International Chicago Branch and the Center present the eighth annual Revolutionary Irish Women Series program: Friends and Foes: Women on Both Sides of the Treaty.

The lecture examines Irish women involved in the Easter Rising, such as Maud Gonne, Countess Markievicz and Lady August Gregory, and their activities during the Irish Civil War.

The program features lectures, music, readings and videos. The program is Saturday, March 28 from 1pm to 4pm. Tickets are \$10 for IAHC Members and \$15 for general admission and can be purchased at the door only.

The Heritage Line Staff Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

Contributors: Shelby Baron, Theresa Choske, Mike Frericks, John Gorski, Catherine Kelly, Kathy Kelly, Natalie Miller, Mary Morris, Pam Marshall, Peggy Murphy and Sheila Murphy

No Cover

Free Parking



the fifth province

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

MARCH ENTERTAINMENT

- 3/6 Ceili Mor
- 3/7 Cirrus Falcon
- 3/13 The Sullivan Brothers
- 3/14 St. Patrick's Festival
1pm \$12-\$15
- 3/17 St. Patrick's Day Celebration
Noon \$10
- 3/20 The Boils
- 3/21 St. Patrick's Fathers
- 3/27 Joe McShane
- 3/28 World Music

All Shows Start After 9pm

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

March Drink Special

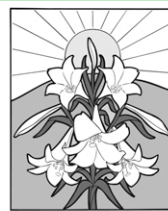
\$6 Irish Eyes Cocktail

Dingle Gin and Green River Soda

March Food Special

\$6 Chicken Sandwich

Valid for the month of March 2015 only.



Annual Palm Sunday Mass and Irish Breakfast

Join The Irish American Heritage Center for its Annual Palm Sunday Mass and Irish Breakfast, Sunday, March 29, 2015.

Join us for Mass at 10:30 a.m. in the Auditorium followed by breakfast in the Fifth Province.

Tickets are Adults . . . \$8.00 Children . . . \$4.00

Reservations must be made by March 25. The form below can be used to mail in checks.

For more information, call 773-282-7035.

Annual Palm Sunday Mass and Irish Breakfast March 29, 2015

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Number of Tickets: _____

Adults: _____ Children: _____



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Bonfires and Effigies: New Exhibit Opens 3-11

Bonfires and Effigies: The Contested Territories of Belfast, Northern Ireland, is a new photography exhibit presented as part of ART WORKS Projects' 625 AT 6:25 public programming series. With less than two decades separating Northern Ireland's Troubles from this present moment, centuries of aggression continue to affect a region still largely divided between loyalists, who ally themselves with the United Kingdom, and republicans opposed to British rule.

Photographer and sociologist David Schalliol captures one manifestation of this tension: the celebrations of the Eleventh Night and the Twelfth, during which loyalist factions construct massive bonfires to celebrate the

sions, from political allegiances to neighborhood boundaries."

As Northern Ireland moves into quieter times, acknowledging historic moments and honoring the dead provide opportunities for both peace and conflict. With more than twenty miles of peace walls separating the land, it is spatially and psychologically difficult to set aside generations of resentment. "This exhibit explores the intersections of cultural traditions and politics," says curator Claire Dillon, "It aims to highlight the successes of ongoing peace building efforts while providing a platform to discuss how lingering challenges might be resolved."

Opening the installation at 6:25 PM on March 11 will be a



seventeenth century victory of Protestant King William of Orange over Catholic King James II, which solidified Protestant dominance in the area. While loyalists see these parades and bonfires as cultural traditions, republicans view such practices as invasive and politically charged demonstrations. Schalliol elaborates, "Members of both political factions have made great strides to ease the conflict, but the events of Eleventh Night and the Twelfth annually reignite longstanding tensions. In the process, these few days in July clarify – and reinforce – many of Belfast's divi-

community conversation about the region's history and current political situation. The discussion features David Schalliol and playwright and professor Terry Boyle, originally from Northern Ireland.

These events are part of an occasional series entitled Contested Lands/Occupied Territories, organized through ART WORKS Projects' 625 AT 6:25 programming.

Website: <http://tinyurl.com/awpbelfast> Exhibition Opening & Panel: Wednesday, March 11, 2015, 6:25 PM, panel begins at 6:45 PM, 625 N. Kingsbury St., Chicago. Free & Open to the Public. RSVP at artworksprojects.org

Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



I am taking a break from Irish/English history to honor our beloved Saint Patrick. St. Patrick was born in a British Isle near Scotland in 385AD and died in 461AD. He was buried in Downpatrick Abby in Co. Down. His birth name was Maewyn Succat. He's known as the Apostle of Ireland.

St. Patrick's Day is a cultural and religious holiday, the feast of St. Patrick celebrates the anniversary of his death. It represents the arrival of Christianity in Ireland we have observed this day for a 1,000 years. Today we can agree it's an international celebration. St. Patrick was born into a wealthy family and the story goes he was kidnapped by Irish raiders/thieves when he was 16 and taken as a slave.

He had to tend sheep in the mountains. He was sold to a chieftain named Michu and he spent 6 years in captivity. God came to St. Patrick in a dream and told him to escape and that a boat would be waiting for him to take him home. After making his way home he wanted to become a priest, like his grandfather. (his father was a deacon) He struggled whether to return to the country that enslaved him, but his faith was so strong he knew if he went he could change the hearts of the pagans.

St. Patrick recounts his time in a memoir, The Confession. It is told that St. Patrick used the shamrock to explain the Trinity. There is a myth that St. Patrick drove out all the snakes in Ireland, as we know Ireland isn't a climate

for snakes, it was merely a symbolic reference that snakes represent evil. Therefore, St. Patrick drove out the evil and non believing ways of Ireland. St. Patrick lit a fire in the Irish people and that's why we love him. Saint Patrick died in his beloved Ireland, March 17, 461 AD The land that once enslaved him now set him free.

Some famous places in Ireland dedicated to him include: Croagh Patrick near Westport, looking over the village of Murrisk, Co. Mayo, nicknamed the reek, and at the top there is a chapel, There is a Sanctuary of St. Patrick in Lough Derg, Co. Donegal, St. Patrick's Well, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, and Down Cathedral, Co. Down is the burial place of St. Patrick.

Countries around the world celebrate St. Patrick's day. In India for example they shine thousands of green lights on that day in the city of Mumbai. Our St. Patrick's day parade on the south side is on Sunday March 15, it starts at noon. (103 Western) The downtown parade is on March 14, Saturday also at noon. (Balbo and Columbus) They will dye the river green at 9:30am on March 14th. (a tradition since 1962)

Some famous quotes by St. Patrick, "If I have any worth it is to live my life for God so as to teach these people even though some of them look down on me."

"Christ beside me, before me, behind me, within me, beneath me and Christ above me."

For any movie lovers, there is St. Patrick, "The Irish Legend" (2000) Starring Pat Bergeon.

Gaelic words for the month: Saint (naomh) tradition (traidisiun) parade (paraid) A pint of Guinness please~pionta Guinness le do thoil

If you have any questions or comments you can email me: Molanive@yahoo.com

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Manhattan Irish Fest: Charity, Tradition, Fun

American Irish Society of County Will and Manhattan Park District are hosting the 21st annual Manhattan Irish Fest Friday, March 6th and Saturday, March 7th, 2015. Manhattan Irish Fest is a charitable event which has given back over \$250,000.00 to the Manhattan community and local organizations.

This is the one weekend of the year for friends, families, and visitors from all around to come together to celebrate Manhattan's Irish heritage and participate in a charitable event at the same time. Organizations such as; the Irish American Society of County Will, the Manhattan Park District, Manhattan Chamber of Commerce, Operation Care Package, Illinois Celtics and the Manhattan Neighborhood Food Pantry are a few of the organizations which benefit from the fest. Each organization donates its time and good spirits to help run Manhattan Irish Fest, which relies solely on volunteerism. Attendance at this fest awards scholarships, brightens military lives, builds athletic fields, creates programs for area children and promotes local businesses.

As always, Manhattan Irish Fest will

highlight some of the most enjoyed aspects of the Irish Culture, such as, bagpipers, Irish dancers, Irish music, food and drink in the entertainment tent located at Central Park in Manhattan. There will also be fun activities for children to enjoy at the Manhattan Park District Program Center and the Manhattan-Elwood Public Library. If crafts are of interest; Anna McDonald school will be the place to visit to experience the craft show. All are welcome to join Irish mass and breakfast at St. Joseph's church. One last exciting part of Manhattan Irish Fest, is the 5K run hosted by the Prairie State Roadrunners which starts off the parade. Keep in mind, there are not many parades which are started off by a 5K race.

How many towns do you know hosts a Festival for one weekend to offer family activities, celebrate the Irish culture, give back to the community and local organizations, and support its local businesses at the same time? One town that does, is Manhattan.

To learn more about Manhattan Irish Fest and where to purchase a button, please visit our website www.manhattanirishfest.com

AOH DIV 32 Parade March And Luncheon

The annual Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 32 St. Patrick's downtown parade march and luncheon party afterwards have been scheduled for Saturday, March 14th.

At 10 am sharp, busses will leave from the De Paul College Prep gym at 3633 N. California for the downtown parade for \$5. round trip, and return after marching with / on the AOH float for a corned beef luncheon party at the De Paul Prep cafeteria starting at 1 pm until ending

at 5:30. The cost of the corned beef luncheon party, which includes beverages and live music by the McGowans, is \$35. Children under 18 with parents will be admitted free.

There will also be a soda bread contest put on by Lady Hibernians Division 8.

For tickets for the bus trip downtown and the luncheon party, chaired by Hibernians Mike Hill, Terry Smyrniotis and John Resch, please go to our website of AOH.ORG.

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THE DOOLEY BROTHERS



March 7	Forest Park- Goldyburgers	8:00pm
March 14	Chicago- IAHC "St. Patrick's Parade Day"	3:30pm
March 14	Berwyn- FitzGerald's "St. Pat's Celebration"	8:00pm
March 19	Joliet- Jacob Henry Mansion "Luncheon Concert"	1:00pm
March 21	Ludington, MI- Sportsman's Restaurant & Irish Pub	8:00pm
March 28	Forest Park - Brian Boru Irish Pub	8:00pm
April 4	Chicago- IAHC Fifth Province Pub	9:00pm

Contact: dooleyinfo@dooleybrothers.com or (708) 366-9458
www.dooleybrothers.com

Have a safe and happy St. Patrick's Day!

May love and laughter
 light your days,
 and warm your heart and home.
 May good and faithful
 friends be yours,
 wherever you may roam.

May peace and plenty
 bless your world
 with joy that long endures.
 May all life's passing seasons
 bring the best to you and yours!
 ~ Old Irish Blessing

Dan McLaughlin
 Mayor
 Orland Park



Happy New Year, Happy Winter and Happy February! As I sit here today and type my column, I am looking out of my window and I see snow falling and I think to myself only one more month, I can do this. If you live in the Midwest, you know how I feel. You were

very grateful that in December, we did not have much snow or cold. On the downside if you are school teacher like me, you realize the school year has just been extended thanks to the cold and snow! I know March is right around the corner and so is St. Patrick's Day



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performers and musicians mix rock's energy with traditional folklore, classic pipes and fiddle, dance, and humor.



Parade Day Family Fun Get In Get Irish!

Sun, Mar 15, 11am-4pm

\$5 or \$10/family

Join us on South Side Irish Parade Day and enjoy family fun with food, beverages, crafts, and more!



Tickets/more info
773.445.3838
beverlyartcenter.org



Carrying the Torch



By Colleen Harstad

(two things to be excited about!)

If you remember back in July, I typed an article about immigration and the laws that have been made which have made the US immigration system a complete mess. On November 20th 2014, President Barak Obama made an executive order bypassing Congress all together, and he temporarily gave legal status and work permits to about 5 million illegal immigrants. In order for the immigrants to be given the temporary legal status they must do something first: 1) been in the US for five years, 2) come forward and register, and 3) pass a background check. If the "illegal" immigrant does all of this and passes, they will be granted a stay of deportation and work permit for three years. However, they may not receive the benefits under the Affordable Care Act and will not be able to vote, but would live in the US without the threat of deportation. Great news for Irish who forgot to go back.

President Obama expanded his 2012 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals or DACA act by

allowing the children to apply for deportation deferrals or work permits if they entered the US before June 2010. The way the deferral for the DACA was originally set up was for two years and needs to be renewed every two years; this plan extended it to every three years instead. Also, if a child under this plan turns 31 years old and had



not been approved for citizenship, they will be able to stay under the new executive order (unlike before where many of times they had to come out and then were considered to be an "illegal" citizen). This is an expansion of the "dreamer" act which allowed children to come to the US to better themselves, their families, and the US with what they had to offer.

Of course President Obama did face criticism from the Republicans but he had a comeback. He has dared the Republicans to counter him by passing their own bill that would give illegal immigrants a path to citizenship. The President said that he would sign the bill which would then void his executive order. Stay tuned folks, this will be an interesting session in Congress coming up. I am sure immigration will continue to be a subject of interest especially with the Presidential Election of 2016 just around the corner.

South Side Irish Parade

Now onto something fun to discuss without all the politics. The South Side Irish parade will be held on Sunday, March 15th,

2015. The parade will start at 104th and Western. This year some of the Hennessy Clan will be participating in the Emerald Isle Mile. It is a one mile race starting at 112th and Western going to 104th. It starts at 11am, an hour before the parade. The only requirement is that you are able to run/walk a mile in 15 minutes. The cost is \$20 pre-race registration and at the race the cost is \$25. The cost includes: 1) t-shirt, 2) goody bag, and 3) pre/post race activities. The race caps off at 500 participants and a portion of the money go to the Special Olympics Chicago. Members of the Hennessy Clan then plan to march with Gaelic Park in the parade and then go out to eat as a family, since the idea of the St. Patrick's Day is to celebrate our roots.

The parade has a kick off fundraiser on February 21st, 2015 at 115th Bourbon Street from 6pm to 11pm. The cost of the fundraiser is \$30 and includes food, beverages and music. The money goes to help the cost of the parade; come out and support a tradition. More information about both of these events can be found on the South Side Irish Parade (SSIP) website.

Tommy Walsh

Finally, many of you knew my grandpa, Pat Hennessy was a huge fan and a great hurler for Kilkenny, and he was always very proud of Tommy Walsh. Tommy Walsh is a cousin to my family by marriage. In November, Tommy announced that he was retiring from hurling after 13 years. At the age of 31, Tommy is considered to be a Kilkenny hurling legend. He has 9 All Ireland medals, 9 Leinster medals, 9 GAA all starts and appeared in 54 championships. I know for a fact Tommy made Kilkenny very proud and gave them a lot to cheer for the past 13 years; enjoy your retirement Tommy!

I hope to see many of you at the South Side Parade and that you stay safe and warm during these winter months. Hopefully when I write to you in April, I can say all the snow is gone until then cúram a ghlacadh (take care).

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Chicago Gaelic Park

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A Chairde:

Ireland on Parade Week and the St. Patrick Day Parades are here once more, which signals the arrival of Spring and one of the busiest periods of our calendar year at Gaelic Park. There was a time when I would scoff at The Plastic Paddies that invariably come out of hiding around St. Patrick's Day each year. After 40 years living in America, I now cast an understanding and sympathetic eye on this annual phenomenon. I, like many others, emigrated from an Ireland that was not multi-cultural, conservative and church dominated. Ireland has changed considerably in that 40 year period which coincides with Ireland's entry into the European Economic Community, and the opening of our borders to all our European neighbors and a diverse array of cultures and opinions. America has been experimenting with the Melting Pot for over 400 years, and it is still a challenge, as new waves of immigrants from different parts of the world enter this great country and add a new flavor to the pot. Many embrace the new order in

America, and others cling stubbornly to the customs of the country they left behind. I celebrate the freedom and opportunities that America has given me and my family, but I also still embrace all the elements of our culture that Gaelic Park celebrates 365 days a year. I have come to understand that the tenuous connections many people have to Ireland are a great source of pride and also very important to them. We all become part of the great stew which America represents, but we need to know that the particular flavor that we bring is still identifiable. I know that Gaelic Park represents the real deal (bacon and cabbage), but I can accept that I can eat and enjoy corn beef and cabbage too... but no horseradish or rye bread, I never heard of that stuff. As always, whatever flavor you bring to the pot, you are welcome at Gaelic Park, just remember when you order a pint that means Guinness and football is our game.

John Devitt, President

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the CARRAIG IRISH PUB

Live Music in the Pub

Fri Mar 6	Gerry Haughey	7:30pm
Sat Mar 7	DJ Jonathan	8:00pm
Fri Mar 13	Kieran Byrne	7:30pm
Sat Mar 14	Bernie Glim	7:30pm
Tues Mar 17	Happy St. Patrick's Day! Richie Z Gerry Haughey	3:00pm 6:30pm
Fri Mar 20	Gerry Haughey	7:30pm
Sat Mar 21	Dirty Wellies	9:00pm
Fri Mar 27	Nicky G & Sandy Lee	8:00pm
Sat Mar 28	DJ Bernie	9:00pm

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

Thursdays Irish Musicians Traditional Sessions



2015 CGP Calendar of Events 2015

March

3/4	Musical Luncheon RR	NOON
No meeting	Ladies Auxiliary	
3/6-17	IRELAND ON PARADE WEEK	
3/7	Queen Contest Final	
3/7	Carraig Pub St. Baldrick's Fundraiser	
3/14	St. Patrick Concert RR	
3/15	Sunday Mass & Breakfast	9am
	South Side Irish Sunday Celebrations start at 1pm	
	St. Patrick's Day Luncheon RR	

April

4/1	Musical Luncheon RR	NOON
4/8	Ladies Auxiliary	7:30pm
4/19	Sunday Mass & Breakfast	10am

*(RR) = Reservations Required 708.687.9323

Monthly Musical Luncheon Doors open at noon, hot lunch served at 1pm for just \$15 per person. Entertainment for March will be Kara and Jerry Eady on March 4. *RESERVATIONS REQUIRED*

Sunday Classic Carvery Full hot buffet dinner! Entertainment will be March 8, Richie Z; March 22, Joe McShane; and March 29, Kieran Byrne. *RESERVATIONS REQUIRED*

Pub Irish Music Sessions Thursday Evenings		7:30pm
Pub Trivia Tuesday Evenings		7:30pm
Set Dancing Monday Evenings		7:30pm
Ceili Dancing Tuesday Evenings	Lessons 7pm/Ceili	7:30pm
Sunday Evening	CGP Radio Live WCEV 1450 AM	7-8pm



CGP Office 708.687.9323 www.chicagogaelpark.org

Visit the CGP Library in the Shamrock Room



Tuesday, St. Patrick's Day, March 17,
the WGN Radio - Hometown Voices will broadcast
LIVE from Gaelic Park!

The broadcast hosts, Bill Leff and Wendy Snyder, will do a live broadcast from the Tara Room starting at 9am until 12noon. A selection of Irish food and beverages will be available for purchase, including an Irish Breakfast and Corned Beef and Cabbage Lunch.

Begin your St. Patrick's Day early with WGN radio LIVE at Chicago Gaelic Park!





Chicago Gaelic Park

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



IRELAND'S INTERNATIONAL COMEDIAN
GEORGE CASEY

A NIGHT OF
 LAUGHTER WITH
 THE KING OF BLARNEY

"Good clean comedy
 with deadly timing...
 genuine belly-laughs!"
 - The Chicago Sun-Times

Appearing At

Chicago Gaelic Park

Saturday March 14, 2015 - 8:00pm

Tickets \$25

Call 708-687-9323 to get your tickets!



SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2015

Gaelic Park's Annual Easter Egg Hunt!

Doors open
4:00pm

THE HUNT starts at
4:30pm for ages 1-4,
Ages 5-9 are at 5:00.
Ages 10 & Up are at
5:30

There will be face
painting, a children's
movie THE EASTER
BUNNY! And other fun
activities!

Admission is free and
food will be available
for purchase.

CHICAGO GAELIC PARK

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Oak Forest, IL 60452
708-687-9323

www.chicagogaelicpark.org

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The perfect pint.
All at the
perfect pub.

*May the winds of Fortune sail you,
may you sail a gentle sea.*

*May it always be the other guy
who says, "this drink 's on me!"*

The County Connection Corner

Clare Association 49th Dinner Dance

Date: March 14 Chicago Gaelic Park

Entertainment: Gerry Haughey Band

For dinner reservations, contact Olive Falsey
708.424.0618.

To purchase your \$100 Raffle Ticket,
please call John Curtin 708.828.5224 or John Donovan
773.445.3756.

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

Share your County upcoming events with our readers...
call the Gaelic Park Office or email your news to dunmaynor12@yahoo.com.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 48th Anniversary of Ireland on Parade

CHICAGO GAELIC PARK • MARCH 6TH - MARCH 17, 2015

FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH

CARRAIG PUB - Open 3:00pm
Pub Food Served 5:00pm - 10:00pm
Gerard Haughey on Stage at 7:30pm
No Cover Charge

EMERALD ROOM

Doors Open 5:30pm
No Cover Charge

Music by Sean O'Donnell & The Irish Musicians

DANCE SCHOOLS ON STAGE

7:00pm McCormack Fay School of Dance
7:30 Trinity Irish Dancers
8:00pm Cross Keys School of Irish Dancing

TARA ROOM

Delicious Hot Food Buffet 5:30pm - 9:00pm

SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH

CARRAIG PUB

Open 12 noon
Pub Food 12:00pm - 10:00pm
Billy O'Donoghue & Larry Nugent
On Stage 4:00pm - 8:00pm
D.J. Bernie 8:00pm - late
No cover charge

OAK FOREST PARADE 11:00 AM
Bus departs Gaelic Park 10:00am

TARA ROOM

St. Baldrick's Foundation
Head Shaving Event 3:00pm

CELTIC ROOM

Queen Contest
Crowning of Irish Fest Queen

SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH

CARRAIG PUB - Open 12 noon
Pub Food 3:00pm - 8:00pm

EMERALD ROOM

Sunday Classic Carvery 3:00pm - 8:00pm
Delicious all you can eat hot food buffet
Admission \$17.00 Cash bar

Entertainment by Richie Z
Reservations Required

MONDAY, MARCH 9TH

CARRAIG PUB - Open at 3:00pm
Pub Food Served 5:00pm - 9:00pm

TUESDAY, MARCH 10TH

CARRAIG PUB

Open 3:00pm
Pub Food 5:00pm - 9:00pm
Pub Trivia 7:30pm

EMERALD ROOM

Doors Open 5:30pm • No Cover Charge

Music by Sean O'Donnell & The Irish Musicians

DANCE SCHOOLS ON STAGE

6:30pm Gaelic Park Ceili Dancers
7:00pm McNamara School of Dance
7:30pm Maiden Street Dancers
8:00pm Mullane, Healy Godley
School of Irish Dance

TARA ROOM

Delicious Hot Food Buffet 5:30pm - 9:00pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11TH

CARRAIG PUB - Open 3:00pm
Pub Food - 5:00pm - 9:00pm
Frank Rossi on Stage at 6:30pm
No Cover Charge

EMERALD ROOM

Doors Open 5:30pm • No Cover Charge

Music by Sean O'Donnell & The Irish Musicians

DANCE SCHOOLS ON STAGE

7:00pm Weber School of Dancing
7:30pm Foy School of Irish Dance
8:00pm Tooromeen School of Irish Dance

TARA ROOM

Delicious Hot Food Buffet 5:30pm - 9:00pm

THURSDAY, MARCH 12TH

CARRAIG PUB - Open 3:00pm
Pub Food - 5:00pm - 9:00pm
8:00pm on Stage Irish Music Session

EMERALD ROOM

Doors Open 5:30pm • No Cover Charge

Music by Sean O'Donnell & The Irish Musicians

DANCE SCHOOLS ON STAGE

6:30 pm Gaelic Park Set Dancers
7:00pm Blackbird Academy
7:30pm Identity Irish Dance
8:00pm Irish Musicians Session

TARA ROOM

Delicious Hot Food Buffet 5:30pm - 9:00pm

FRIDAY, MARCH 13TH

CARRAIG PUB - Open 3:00pm
Pub Food - 5:00pm - 10:00pm
Kieran Byrne on Stage at 7:30pm
No Cover Charge

EMERALD ROOM

Doors Open 5:30pm • No Cover Charge

Music by Sean O'Donnell & The Irish Musicians

DANCE SCHOOLS ON STAGE

7:00pm Eilish Sullivan School of Dance
7:30pm Mulhern School of Dancing
8:00pm Lavin Cassidy School of Dancing

TARA ROOM

Delicious Hot Food Buffet 5:30pm - 9:00pm

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH

CARRAIG PUB - Open 12 noon
Pub Food - 3:00pm - 10:00pm
Joe McShane on Stage 7:30pm
No Cover Charge



TARA ROOM

St. Patrick's Concert
featuring

COMEDIAN

GEORGE CASEY

& A SHOW BY

CROSS KEYS SCHOOL OF DANCING

Doors open 7:00pm Concert 8:00pm
Reservations Only - Tickets \$25.00

Schedule Subject to Change

SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH SOUTH SIDE IRISH SUNDAY

EMERALD ROOM

Mass & Irish Breakfast 9:00am
Admission \$9.00



DOORS RE-OPEN 1:00PM

Admission \$5.00 - Kids 12 & under \$3.00
Four Stages of Continuous Entertainment
Delicious Hot Food Buffet in Tara Room
Available from 1:00pm

EMERALD ROOM

1:30pm Larkin & Moran Brothers
5:15pm Arranmore
7:30pm The Dennehy School of Irish Dancing

TARA ROOM

1:30pm Billy O'Donoghue & Larry Nugent
5:30pm Dirty Wellies
Delicious Hot Food Buffet Available All Day

CARRAIG PUB

1:30pm John Dillon
6:00pm Highland Reign

CELTIC ROOM - Children's Stage

1:30pm Dublin Deceptions
3:30pm A Bit of Magic
5:00pm Shamrock Shenanigans

MONDAY, MARCH 16TH

CARRAIG PUB - Open at 3:00pm
Pub Food Served 5:00pm - 9:00pm



TUESDAY, MARCH 17TH ST. PATRICK'S DAY

THE EMERALD ROOM

Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon
Featuring
Corned Beef & Cabbage Luncheon
Doors open 12:00pm. Lunch Served 1:00pm
Reservations Required • Admission \$25.00

*Entertainment Provided
by Joe Cullen &
A Show by Cross Keys School of Irish Dancing*

THE TARA ROOM

4:00pm Children's Entertainment
5:00pm Jan's Clans Puppet Show
5:30pm Lavin Cassidy School of Dancing
6:00pm The Ploughboys

CARRAIG PUB

Open 11:00am
Pub Food 11:00am - 10:00pm
3:00pm Richie Z
6:30pm Gerard Haughey

Schedule Subject to Change

IRELAND ON PARADE

DANCE SCHOOL SCHEDULE

EMERALD ROOM

Doors Open Each Evening 5:30pm
No Cover Charge

*Music By Sean O'Donnell
& The Irish Musicians*
Hot Food Buffet Available in Tara Room

FRIDAY MARCH 6TH

7:00pm McCormack Fay
7:30pm Trinity Irish Dancers
8:00pm Cross Keys School of Irish Dancing

TUESDAY MARCH 10TH

6:30pm Gaelic Park Ceili Dancers
7:00pm McNamara School of Irish Dancing
7:30pm Maiden Street Dancers
8:00pm Mullane, Healy & Godley
School of Dance

WEDNESDAY MARCH 11TH

7:00pm Weber School of Dancing
7:30pm Foy School of Irish Dance
8:00pm Tooromeen School of Dancing

THURSDAY MARCH 12TH

6:30pm Gaelic Park Set Dancers
7:00pm Blackbird Academy
7:30pm Identity Irish Dance Co
8:00pm Irish Musicians

FRIDAY MARCH 13TH

7:00pm Eilish Sullivan School of Dancing
7:30pm Mulhern School of Dancing
8:00pm Lavin Cassidy School of Dancing

SUNDAY MARCH 15TH

7:30pm Dennehy School of Irish Dancing
(In conjunction with South Side Irish Sunday)

CHICAGO GAELIC PARK IRELAND ON PARADE and ST. PATRICK'S DAY Celebrations





Chicago Gaelic Park

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



GPP Spring Performance



If you are looking for a fun night out filled with theatre and laughter, then look

The Maiden Aunt is a three-act comedy written by Jimmy Keary, and has eight colorful characters who may or may not have each other's best intentions at hand. This comedy tells the story of Dan and Mary Murphy who host Mary's elderly aunt, Gertie O'Grady, who has recently been released from the hospital. Gertie O'Grady is a retired teacher, a spinster, and one fiery woman who may or may not have a pot of gold, but the characters are willing to risk everything they have to find out. Mary tries to persuade her Aunt Gertie to make out a will, and Dan comes up with an elaborate plan to get their hands on Gertie's money. This is a laugh out loud play and one you will not want to miss! To reserve your tickets, please contact Gaelic Park's Main Office at 708.687.9323. Please like the Gaelic Park Players on Facebook. Slainte!

no further. The Gaelic Park Player's Spring Play, *The Maiden Aunt*, will open on Friday, April 10, and will run for three consecutive weekends: Fridays /Saturdays, April 10 & 11, 17 & 18 and 24 & 25 at 8pm; and Sundays, April 12, 19 & 26 at 3pm. The Gaelic Park Players and Carraig Pub will be offering the Pub Grub Special, for Friday and Saturday evening performances, which includes your theatre ticket and dinner for \$20. For Sunday performances, there will be the Sunday Carvery, which includes your theatre ticket and a beautiful buffet spread in the Emerald Room. Tickets for the Sunday Carvery is \$27 and a theatre ticket is \$12.00.

CGP Parade Scarf!

For just \$12 you can own your own Chicago Gaelic Park knit scarf in the perfect green and white colors complete with the CGP logo! The parade scarf will be on sale during Ireland On Parade Week. We hope every member will purchase one and join the CGP Float in all the St. Patrick parades!



Oak Forest Parade on Saturday, March 7, step off at 11am

Tinley Park Parade on Sunday March 8, step off at 2pm

Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday March 14, step off at 12noon

South Side Parade on Sunday March 15, step off at 12noon



4th Annual Cusack's Leprechaun Dash 5K Run/Walk at CGP

Date: Saturday March 21

Time: 10:30am (kids one mile dash at 10am)

Location: Chicago Gaelic Park Grounds

The course is predominately cross country style where the runners and walkers will double loop the grounds of Gaelic park. This is the same for the kids race double looped for one mile.

Cost: \$30 for the 5K run/walk
\$10 for the kids 1 mile dash

To register for the race online they can simply click our club website <http://www.chicagocusackhurling.com> and look for the race link or Cusacks' Leprechaun Dash. Offline registration is a option too and that can be done at packet pick up or the morning of the race. At packet pick up, you will receive a shirt and goodie bag. After the race, participants will enjoy their pot of gold in the Carraig Pub! Every participant will receive one drink ticket. Also there will be a prize given out for the best dressed leprechaun! If you know someone who would like to help as a volunteer, please let us know. Volunteer duties include course marshalls, registration and packet pick up, and water stations. If you have any questions or concerns please email the event organizer at eirecamogie13@yahoo.com - or email us at cusackhurling@gmail.com. For additional information, see the main website: <http://cross-roads-events.com/>.



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

phone: 708.687.9323

fax: 708.687.0120

www.chicagogaelpark.org

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Kevin O'Brien

Special Olympics champion, Kevin O'Brien, passed away on January 20, 2015. Kevin was quite a guy. I met him on many occasions, almost always with his sister, Melanie O'Brien. These chance meetings were invariably at Irish events. Everyone who met him couldn't help but admire him and find affection for him. Kevin led a richly rewarding life. He found his way in this world with the love and support of a strong Irish family, the O'Brien's. God Bless!

Please donate to Special Olympics charities in his honor. www.sochicago.org

St. Patrick's Day

Will your St. Patrick's Day be stereotypical, consumed with drunken behavior, red-headed, freckle-faced caricatures and all the other insults? The commercially opportunistic greeting card companies get away with exploiting the Irish drunk and all of the gobshites that buy into that crap. Will you be one of them? Of course not!

Celebrate your Irish heritage by remembering it's the Feast Day of St. Patrick, the Pa-

Boyle the Kettle**We'll Have A Sup Of Tea****Tom Boyle**

tron Saint of Ireland. The Mass and breakfast at Old St. Patrick's Church in Chicago is the way to start the day. From there it's on to the St. Patrick's Day Parade on Columbus Drive. The Shannon Rovers Pipes and Drums will lead the way followed by two and a half hours of floats, marching units and bands. The St. Patrick's Day Queen, Loren Corey, and her Court. The Grand Marshall, William P. Hite, General President of the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters for the USA, Canada, and Australia, will be up front.

The Guests of Honor this year are the Chicago Police and Fire departments. Our City's first responders, the men and women responsible for our public safety.

Get the family together and make it a day to remember. Pay a visit to Chicago Gaelic

Park and the Irish American Heritage Center, for food, live entertainment, including Irish dancing schools who will strut their stuff, enjoy your favorite beverage. Celebrate the Irish culture and the contributions we made to this great country, the U.S.A. Safety first, have a designated driver and celebrate with dignity.

Little League

The Jackie Robinson West Little League has been stripped of its title of U.S. Champions. Reportedly, some of the players lived outside of the boundaries prescribed by the league.

We all celebrated their victory. It was a bright spot in the otherwise dark shadow that gang violence casts over Chicago. It's unfortunate that Jesse Jackson and Father Michael Pflaeger played the race card. Black paranoia is a crutch. Race wasn't a factor, violating the residency rules was the problem. If I blamed all my troubles on being Irish, would that matter to anybody? Hardly! Playing the race card, beating the same drum, the 'woe is me' syndrome only polarizes the community. We would all like to see them retain their title.

Chicago Mayoral Election

The candidates have had some public debates. Mayor Rahm Emanuel chose not to attend the final debate at the Irish American Heritage Center. Once again, the ethnic diversity of Chicago comes into play. One Hispanic, two African-Americans, and two Caucasians are running for Mayor. The hope here is to split the vote and open the door to a minority candidate. Question? Do any of them have the experience to run a city the size of Chicago? It's doubtful! People are upset over school closings and red light cameras. However, the incumbent, Rahm Emanuel, is joined at the hip with President Obama, and has been endorsed by Congressman Bobby Rush the Chicago Tribune, Chicago Sun-Times, and Crain's Chicago Business. It ain't over til the fat lady sings! If there is a runoff the election takes place in April.

Notre Dame vs the KKK

Rummaging around at the flea market a number of years back I came across a book titled, Notre Dame vs the Klan. An uncorrected proof printed by the Loyola Press.

At one time there were more KKK members in Indiana than any other state in the Union, reaching nearly 425,000 members!

The Klan was anti-Catholic, saying Catholics shouldn't be allowed to become citizens because they answered to Rome. This was at a time when the Irish immigrant population was at its peak. The Klan took over the

Republican Party in Indiana and held many political offices at the state and local level. At one time the entire city council in Indianapolis were Klansmen. Indiana state police even attended cross burnings in uniform.

South Bend was the second largest city in Indiana, and the University of Notre Dame was there and the student population was all male, 2000 strong.

The Reverend Mathew Walsh was president. He grew up in Chicago and attended St. Columkille School. At age 15 he arrived at the University of Notre Dame to become a seminarian. He would serve as an army chaplain in World War One and become the second army chaplain to become the President of the University of Notre Dame. The first being Fr. Corby, Chaplain of the Irish Brigade in the U.S. Civil War. Confrontation between the University of Notre Dame and the Klan was inevitable. Students hurling potato's at Klansmen.

The Klan planned a large rally for South Bend. The young men from the University of Notre Dame played a large role in disrupting the event. Fights broke out between the students and the Klansmen. This all took place in 1924. This book is a must read. There are many connections between the University of Notre Dame and Chicago. Full of interesting facts. Some of the history of the football team is also interspersed in the book. One tidbit that surprised me was the fact that George Gipp and Knute Rockne did not get along. George was fond of a drop it would seem. Measure that against what we saw in the movie with Pat O'Brien playing Knute Rockne, and Ronald Reagan playing George Gipp. You can find the book on Amazon.

ISIS

Is it time to reconsider putting napalm back into our arsenal? This is from an article by Mark Thompson, April 11, 2013, "It's use against concentrations of civilians" napalm has been banned under Protocol III of the United Nations Convention on certain conventional weapons. There are at present 106 states (countries) parties to the protocol. The U.S. signed it almost three decades after the general assembly adopted it, on January 21, 2009 President Obama's first day in office. America's ratification however is subject to diplomatic reservation that says it can disregard the treaty at its discretion, if doing so would save civilian lives."

Boko Haram could use a strong deterrent, Christians in Nigeria are all at risk. 23 Egyptian Coptic's have recently been beheaded. The atrocities committed by ISIS can never be accepted in a civilized world. You decide what's right and what's wrong. Can we fight fire with fire and claim the moral high ground?

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St. Patrick's Day Needs

Best Selling Shirts:

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I'm Magically Delicious
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Himself & Herself



Join us FOR OUR
6th Annual
Soda Bread
Contest
March 21rd at 3pm



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Daly Investor

By John P. Daly



By now most investors have heard the term ETF. However, many are still unfamiliar with what exactly an ETF is and whether they should own them in their portfolio.

ETF stands for Exchange Traded Fund. It is an investment vehicle that owns a basket of investments, usually stocks or bonds, similar to a mutual fund. As with buying mutual funds, buying 1 share of an ETF gives you exposure to numerous investments. Unlike mutual funds, ETFs trade on the stock exchange like individual stocks – hence the name Exchange Traded Funds. What this means is that you can buy or sell your ETF in real time during the trading day, like you would an individual stock. With a mutual fund, orders are taken during the day but are not filled until after the market has closed. This gives the owner of ETFs the advantage of added

liquidity.

The first ETF started to trade in 1993. Since that time the growth and popularity of these new investment vehicles has taken off. At the end of 2014, there were nearly \$2 trillion dollars invested in ETFs. Most ETFs are index products and are passively managed. That means they try to track the performance of a specific index like the S&P 500. There are also ETFs that track specific areas of the market and sectors like small cap stocks or large cap value stocks. There are even ETFs that track specific segments such as technology companies or energy stocks.

Since most ETFs are index based, they usually have low expense ratios. With that being said, recently there has been the emergence of actively traded ETFs – which like their name suggests – try to outperform a segment of the market by

actively trading the securities held within the ETF. These types of ETFs have higher expense ratios than their more traditional counterparts. Like mutual funds, ETFs are a cost effective way to diversify your portfolio. As mentioned above you can get as specific as types of stocks or sectors you want to own or be as broad as owning a total market ETF that owns more than 6,000 stocks in some cases.

I've mentioned a lot of examples of stock ETFs but there are also bond and fixed income ETFs as well. And just like stock ETFs, you can get as specific or broad with the investments. For example, investors can buy an ETF that owns only Municipal Bonds or Treasury Bonds. They can decide if they want to own long term bonds or short term bonds. Or they can buy a total bond market ETF that owns thousands of individual bonds for diversification. Again this is one of the main strengths of ETFs, diversification, since it would not be cost effective or efficient for most investors to go out and buy a thousand issues on their own.

In summary, ETFs provide

diversification and liquidity at a low cost. Just like mutual funds, there are many different types of ETFs, some are risky and some are more conservative. All ETFs are considered investments and can lose money. If you are looking into investing in ETFs, be sure you know what you are buying and make sure it fits your own specific goals and risk tolerance.

Have a Happy St. Patrick's Day!

John P. Daly is a CERTIFIED

FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and President of Daly Investment Management, LLC a Registered Investment Advisor specializing in financial planning and wealth management for individuals and families. 180 N LaSalle St Suite 3700 Chicago, IL 60601 Phone: 312-239-1317, Email: john@dalyinvestment.com Readers are encouraged to call or email John with questions regarding Investments or financial planning. www.dalyinvestment.com

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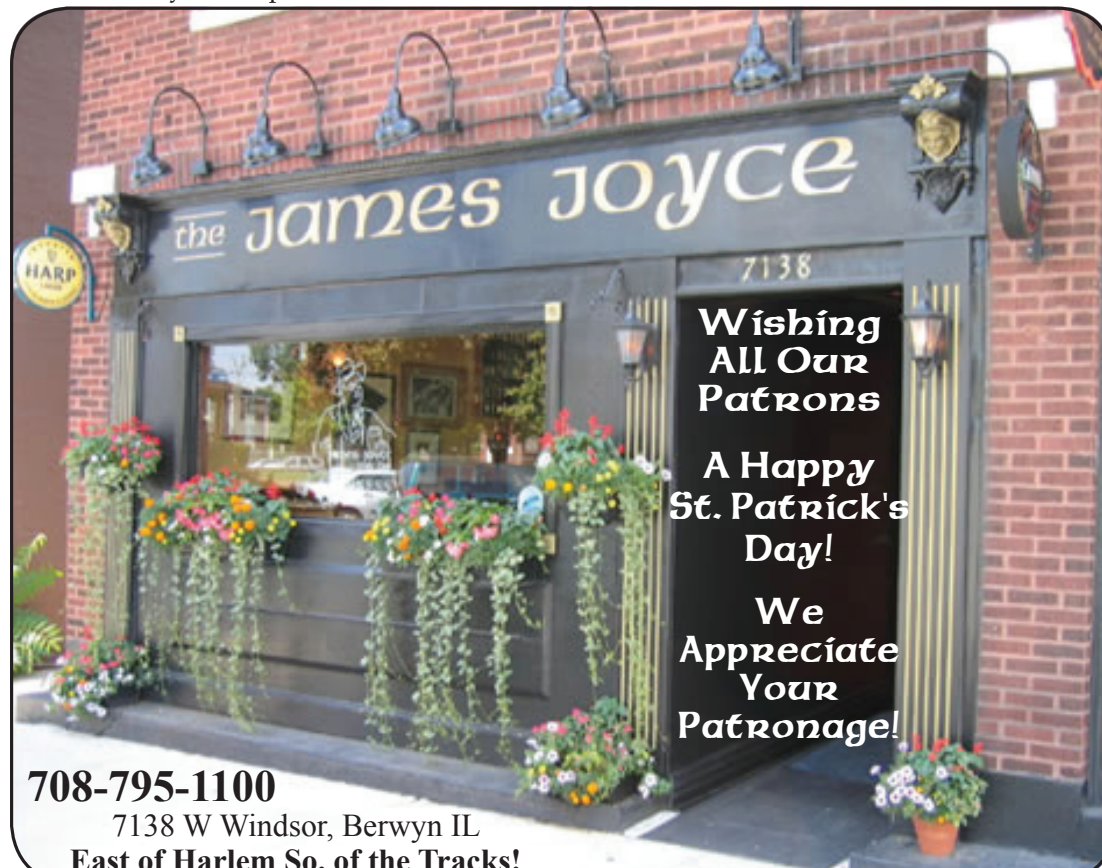
ALL YOUR IRISH GEAR!

Show your spirit: T-Shirts, Hats, Flags, Stickers, CD's and other Novelties to celebrate in style!

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

Mon Closed
Tu-Fri 10am-6pm
Sat 10am-5pm
Sun 10am-3pm

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A Happy St. Patrick's Day!

We Appreciate Your Patronage!

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East of Harlem So. of the Tracks!

Sixth Annual Boulder Junction St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl March 14th at McGann's Pub

Kick Off at Noon

Céad Míle Fáilte, a hundred thousand welcomes. McGann's Café and Wine Bar has been a labor of love for the McGann family, who decided after 23 years of vacationing in the Northwoods to build a new home and business in downtown Boulder Junction, WI. McGann's Café and Wine Bar opened October 5, 2009 and offers an inviting relaxed atmosphere with comfortable table



and bar seating, cozy stoned fireplace and large outdoor patio seating.

McGann's Café features an extensive wine and beer list with over 30 select domestic and imported wines as well as a nice variety of domestic, imported and popular Wisconsin and Mid-Western craft beers. Home made soup, chili, appetizers, pizza and fresh home made sandwiches round out the menu. Complementary

High Speed WIFI access is available, along with High-Definition TV's for sports events. (715)385-3200

5461 Park St. Boulder Junction, WI 54512. McGann's Cafe Open Daily:

Closed Monday Tuesday-Friday 4PM Saturday-Sunday 12:00

Serving Lunch, Appetizers, Home Made Sandwiches, Pizza Seasonal Soup and Chili Wine . Beer. WI-FI

Irish Marching Society

Presents

The 38th Annual St. Patrick's Day Party March 14, 2015

Parade starts at 3:00pm Downtown Rockford
Prairie Street Brewhouse doors open at 4:30pm

Ticket Information:

\$8 in advance available at www.irishmarchingsociety.com

\$10 at the door

OR

\$25 Family pack of tickets (4 tickets)

Price includes IMS membership card good for discounts at participating vendors.

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FRIDAY MARCH 13TH
THRU
TUESDAY MARCH 17TH

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION!

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BEGGARMEN

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bring the green!

An Immigrant's Musings

Michael Leonard



Political Games-Again!

So here we go again, we are just into the second month of 2015 and the political games for next year's Presidential race have already began to emerge.

The Republican party in control of both chambers have, it can be argued, once again been guilty of wasting valuable time taking votes on bills that are dead on arrival in the Senate. That coupled with their efforts to continue to undermine Obama's Affordable Care Act, has left many wondering if it is at all possible to move past the gridlock that has brought

this nations political system to a grinding halt for these past six years. In addition, the Republican efforts to defund the President's executive action on Immigration have left the Immigrant community and their supporters wondering if they will ever see a genuine fix to our broken system. And as anyone who is at all familiar with how the laws of this land are formed will tell you, the Republican stance is a waste of time and energy. This is because no matter how many votes they take to oppose Obama's actions, they will end up in a cul-de-sac. The simple reason being they do not have enough votes to overcome a filibuster in the Senate and even if they did manage such a vote they still lack the numbers to overcome a Presidential veto.

There is a further position taken up by the archconservative wing of the Republican Party that is to most fair-minded people seen as truly mean spirited and downright un-American. I'm referring to the proposal to undo/revoke Obama's D.A.C.A. That is very hard to understand, why punish the children for the miss-doings of their parents. This is truly an unchristian position to take and one that is not

supported by the vast majority of the American people.

And so looking into the future it seems that the Republican Party are willing to take the chance on kicking the Immigration issue down the road to 2017. That to me is a huge mistake for two reasons. Firstly, I can't see them retaining control of the Senate past the 2016 election and secondly, it also presumes that they can take control of the White House which is in the view of many neutral commentators a very long shot at this time.

Tale Of Two Pebbles

Many years ago in a small Indian village, a farmer had the misfortune of owing a large sum of money to a village moneylender. The moneylender, who was old and ugly, fancied the farmer's beautiful daughter.

So he proposed a bargain. He said he would forgo the farmer's debt if he could marry his daughter.

Both the farmer and his daughter were horrified by the proposal. So the cunning money-lender suggested that they let providence decide the matter. He told them that he would put a black pebble and a white pebble into an empty money bag. Then the girl would have to pick one pebble from the bag.

If she picked the black pebble, she would become his wife and her father's debt would be forgiven. If she picked the white pebble she need not marry him and her father's debt would still be forgiven. If she refused to pick a pebble, her father would be thrown into jail.

They were standing on a pebble strewn path in the farmer's field. As they talked, the moneylender bent over to pick up two pebbles. As he picked them up, the sharp-eyed girl noticed that he had picked up two black pebbles and put them into the bag. He then asked the girl to pick a pebble from the bag.

Now, imagine that you were standing in the field. What would

you have done if you were the girl? If you had to advise her, what would you have told her?

Take a moment to ponder this. What would you recommend that the girl do?

The girl put her hand into the moneybag and drew out a pebble. Without looking at it, she fumbled and let it fall onto the pebble-strewn path where it immediately became lost among all the other pebbles.

"Oh, how clumsy of me!" she

said. "But never mind, if you look into the bag for the one that is left, you will be able to tell which pebble I picked."

The moneylender dared not admit his dishonesty. The girl changed what seemed an impossible situation into an extremely advantageous one.

By Edward de Bono

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

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Milwaukee Fest Announces 35th Anniversary Entertainment Lineup

2015 Festival Brings Together Fan Favorites and Emerging Talent for Largest Celebration Yet

Milwaukee Irish Fest, the world's largest celebration of Celtic music and culture, announces the festival's 2015 entertainment lineup. Celebrating its 35th anniversary Milwaukee Irish Fest is pulling out all the stops for this year's festival, offering the widest selection of Irish and Celtic music to date. Taking place August 13-16, along Milwaukee's lakefront, the 2015 festival will honor tradition with some of the biggest and brightest stars, as well as previously undiscovered new artists.

"Thirty-five years in the making, we think this is our strongest lineup yet," said Patrick Boyle, executive director, Milwaukee Irish Fest. "We look forward to shining the spotlight on acts that have influenced – or been influenced by – the growth and popularity of traditional Irish and Celtic music over the past few decades."

LIVING TRADITION SHOWCASE
Milwaukee Irish Fest has been introducing American audiences to contemporary traditional music for the past 35 years. In keeping with that tradition, this year's festival will feature the Living Tradition Showcase which will highlight Irish traditional music with festival favorites, as well as up-and-coming new artists.

Living Tradition Showcase performers include: Cherish The Ladies, Dallahan, Eileen Ivers and Immigrant Soul, Flashpoint, FullSet, Goitse, John Whelan, Liz Carroll, Lunasa, Moloney, Keane, and O'Connell, Morga, Pride of New York, Ross Ainslie and Jarlath Henderson, Socks in the Frying Pan, Ten Strings and a Goat Skin, Tim Edey and Brendan Power, and We Banjo 3.

NEW TO MILWAUKEE IRISH FEST
Scouring festivals and events all over the world, Milwaukee Irish Fest prides itself on discovering and presenting emerging artists. The festival is excited to welcome the following acts for

the first time:

- Flashpoint (Dallas, TX) – Irish Trad
- FullSet (Ireland) – Irish Trad
- Joe Rooney (Ireland) – Comedian
- Kilkennys (Ireland) – Folk and Ballad Tradition
- Mórğa (Ireland) – Irish Traditional
- Pride of New York (New York, NY) – Irish Traditional
- Ross and Jarlath (Scotland) – Irish Traditional
- Ten Strings and a Goat Skin (Canada) – Irish Traditional
- Tim Edey and Brendan Power (United Kingdom) – Irish Trad

FOLK AND BALLAD TRADITION

Since 1981, Milwaukee Irish Fest has provided a national platform for folk and ballad performers. Continuing this tradition into the 35th year, the festival will welcome the following acts: Brigids Cross, The Makem & Spain Brothers, Tom Sweeney, The High Kings,

Celtic Band Nessa at Howmet Mar 14

Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 14 at the Howmet Playhouse in Whitehall featuring Detroit area's Celtic Band, Nessa led by flutist/



vocalist Kelly McDermott. Ms. McDermott's musical journey started with three degrees in flute performance, two of them advanced degrees from Temple University in Philadelphia. She later worked for more than a decade around the east coast as an orchestral and chamber musician.

This brand new group combines classical, jazz, and Celtic influences with accents of world music and soul. The music

The Kilkennys, Evans & Doherty, Moloney and Keane & O'Connell.

AMERICANA

Although a relatively new musical genre, Milwaukee Irish Fest has featured American folk and crossover artists since day one. Americana-inspired artists this year include: We Banjo 3, Scythian and Eileen Ivers & Immigrant Soul.

CELTIC AND FOLK ROCK

Dating back to the mid-1980s, Milwaukee Irish Fest has been a pioneer in showcasing bands that put an electrifying spin on traditional Irish and Celtic music. Back to rock audiences again this year are: the Red Hot Chilli Pipers, Screaming Orphans, Gaelic Storm and The Elders.

Milwaukee Irish Fest will also welcome fan favorites, The Willis Clan, The Celtic Tenors and the Omagh Community Youth Choir, as well as over 25 local and regional bands, the Irish Fest Choir

reflects Ms. McDermott's deep passion for rediscovering, and rearranging old Celtic and European folk songs, along with clever, soulful arrangements

of Classical themes. Nessa is a fun, funky ensemble with depth and color that includes some of Southeastern Michigan's finest players.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Doors open at 7:00 pm and the show begins at 7:30 pm. Adult beverages will be available for purchase. Call 231.894.4048 for more information or go to the Howmet Playhouse website: howmet-playhouse.org

and Irish Fest School of Music.

Special shows will include:

- A Celebration of Irish Traditional Music featuring Cherish The Ladies and Friends.
- Americana Irish Style featuring We Banjo 3, Scythian, Eileen Ivers and Immigrant Soul.
- A Special Tribute to Tommy Makem featuring the Makem & Spain Brothers, Evans & Doherty and Tom Sweeney.

For more information, including performer bios, visit www.irishfest.com.

ABOUT MILWAUKEE IRISH FEST

Milwaukee Irish Fest is the world's largest celebration of Irish music and culture. The four-day festival showcases more than 100

entertainment acts on 16 stages at Henry W. Maier Festival Park on Milwaukee's lakefront. The annual festival occurs every third weekend in August. The 35th annual festival takes place August 13-16, 2015.

More than just a festival, the Milwaukee Irish Fest organization is passionately committed to igniting a love of Celtic culture in all people. With the help of more than 4,000 volunteers, Milwaukee Irish Fest promotes Celtic music, dance, drama, sports, culture, children's activities and genealogy through year-round programming. For more information visit www.irishfest.com.

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Exciting news for Kelly Clan Gathering

Joining Kellys from world-wide locations at their Gathering this year will be the famous American Author, Mary Pat Kelly. The International Gathering which is supported by Westport County Council takes place on the weekend of 15-17 May at the Castlecourt Hotel in Westport, County Mayo, Ireland.

Mary Pat Kelly has written several books of Irish historical interest, including the best seller, Galway Bay. She will be talking on the Book of Uí Mhaine (Book of Hy Many) written for the O'Kellys in the 14th century; the manuscript of which she had the rare privilege of seeing in 1979 while writing her PhD dissertation in Dublin. Also joining the festivities will be Robert W J O'Kelly, son of Walter Count O'Kelly The O'Kelly of Gallagh and Tycooley. Count Walter is head of the Kelly Clan Association and Robert will be attending, with his wife Tina, and will be speaking on behalf of his father.

Also included in the weekend's programme will be a tour of locations of Kelly



interest, presentations from a local historian and an update on the Kelly Surname DNA programme. A Gala Dinner will be the highlight of the Saturday evening, where friends old and new will meet - to the tune of local musicians.

Mary Kelly, a spokesperson for the Association, says that "The Kelly Clan are excited and delighted to

welcome Mary Pat Kelly and Robert O'Kelly to the Gathering which promises to be a convivial and action-packed event. It's a great opportunity for people with a genetic, historic and cultural link to meet, in a great location, with the added benefit of learning about their ancestors, and meet up with living relatives."

Further information can be found on the Kelly Clan Website www.kellyclans.com email clankellyinfo@gmail.com or phone Des Kelly on + 353 (0)87 2414234.

Kelly Clan Website: www.kellyclans.com
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Prelude - 6:30 pm, Mass - 7:00 pm

Soda Bread Reception to follow

Saturday, March 14th

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Downtown Naperville: 10:00 am sharp

www.wsirish.org

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"We are the music makers,
And we are the dreamers of dreams,
Wandering by lone sea-breakers
And sitting by desolate streams;—
World-losers and world-forsakers,
On whom the pale moon gleams:
Yet we are the movers and shakers
Of the world for ever, it seems..."

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Rose of Tralee Sponsor Helps Celtic Women

The Rose of Tralee International Festival is one of Ireland's largest and longest running festivals, celebrating 56 years in 2015. Each year, young women of Irish descent from around the world compete in County Kerry, Ireland, to become that year's Rose of Tralee. Celtic Complexion (www.CelticComplexion.com), and its founder Jennifer Devlin Waller, (pictured) is a sponsor of local Rose of Tralee events throughout the United States.

"The majority of our customers have a

Celtic complexion (Irish, Scottish, English heritage), so our products are a perfect fit for The Rose of Tralee Festival contestants," says Devlin Waller.

As part of Celtic Complexion's local sponsorships, each contestant receives a "goody bag" of Celtic Complexion products. The winner gets a gift bag of full-size products. Celtic Complexion also donates a gift basket of products for the local raffles. This year, the goody bags will include travel sizes of the award-winning Celtic Complexion Crème, Organic Sheer Lipstick in First Kiss, and a compact.

While the Rose of Tralee contestants are between 18-28, and just starting to focus on their skin care regimes, many Celtic Complexion customers are older, and looking for anti-aging benefits.

About Celtic Complexion



Devlin Waller, of Celtic descent, began her career as a professional makeup artist, and then became an esthetician. While she had access to all kinds of skin care products, she was never able to treat her own rosacea. Everything she tried just made her skin get more sensitive and red. Eventually Devlin met an Australian Holistic Esthetician who urged her to stop using all toxic and chemical ingredients on her skin, and within two months of using natural skin care and pure organic products, her skin healed itself.

Devlin Waller then decided to see if her problems were typical of Celtic skin. She learned that Celtic skin was very different than other skin types. It is typically dry to very dry, and sensitive, especially prone to rosacea and broken capillaries. Celtic skin also ages much faster than other ethnicities. To help others like herself, Devlin Waller decided to create her own line of skin care products, launched under the Celtic Complexion name, in late 2010.

Today Celtic Complexion offers luxury artisan, hypo-allergenic products ranging from its popular Calming Serum (for rosacea), to moisturizing creams, anti-aging serums, tinted moisturizer, face cleansers, and cosmetics. For info visit CelticComplexion.com.

Hooley XI at Celtic Knot!

It's Hooley XI at Evanston's Celtic Knot Public House, a four day celebration of the best in people, music, song and dance!

The Eleventh Annual Hooley will feature Kerry's own Tim O'Shea and locally-based traditional Irish music from John Williams.

The Knot knows plenty about how songs and melodies, like people, have been travelling back and forth across the Atlantic. So there is more than a flavor of bluegrass and American roots thrown into the mix.

From 12pm to 3pm on the 17th, the champion dancers from The McNulty School of Irish Dance will dazzle with their original and contemporary take on the ancient art of Irish dance. The dancers will also be performing on Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th from noon until 3pm

From 3:30pm to 5:30pm, Annie Andrews, Patrick Murray and Donald Terao, no strangers to The Celtic Knot as they are regulars at the weekly sessions, take to the stage for some fine traditional Irish music.

One of the Girls, Chicago-based but deeply influenced by traditional and popular Irish folk, take to the stage at 6pm on St Patrick's Day. One of the Girls specializes in rollicking tunes, rousing drinking songs and cry in your beer ballads.

And at 9 pm, veteran County

Kerry musicians Tim O'Shea and Phillip Crickard, will make you feel that you are back in Ireland for a three hour trip.



Tim and Phillip are back for two gigs at the Celtic Knot over the week. For 20 years, O'Shea, recognized in Ireland as one of the most gifted traditional singers and guitarists by the public, his peers and the press, has made Chicago a real home away home. And if it's St Patrick's week and it's Chicagoland, the Celtic Knot is where O'Shea says he wants to be. Happily, there will be two chances to hear what Cork's Irish Examiner daily newspaper described as "real music as it should be played". They will be playing on Sunday March 15th starting at 6 pm (reservations recommended for this one) and on St. Patrick's Day at 9 pm.

On Saturday evening at 5:30pm, Evanstonian and master musician

of all things Irish, John Williams will be joined by Maggie Danaher for two hours of top class folk music.

Catch the owners' commitment to bluegrass and American roots, and Mad Bread, on stage at 10 pm on Saturday night, March 14th, perfectly captures that mix. With two albums of original material and in ten years of solid gigging, Mad Bread has built a solid following in Chicago and beyond.

During St Patrick's week, from 7 pm on Monday, Gus and Friends will play their regular Eclectic Celtic music session.

Guinness Beef Pasty, Corned Beef and Cabbage, Shepherds' Pie, Fish and Chips and Lamb Stew are available daily and there's no cover for any events. Reservations are not being accepted on Saturday 14th or Tuesday 17th. So get there early and get comfortable.

Knot co-owner Patrick Breslin, a Co. Down native said: "This is the best St. Patrick's line-up we have put together. We are delighted to have such a great bunch of down to earth talented musicians, dancers and singers to celebrate with us. That's what a hooley is all about - bringing good people together and having a great time."

Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St, Evanston, IL 60201. www.celticknotpub.com. email celticknotpub@sbcglobal.net or 847-864-1679.



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pH Factor

By Pat Hickey



Out of the House . . . for Keeps

Rent. Own a home and the home owns you. A house should be owned by a man and a woman who have married for life and have been blessed with children. The first home that I owned was in Griffith, Indiana (218 N. LaFayette). It was a shot-gun bungalow with an unfinished basement two huge trees on the parkway in front of house and another massive maple in the yard.

Prior to that ownership, my wife and I rented in Bourbonnais, Illinois moving from one to two bedroom apartments with the birth of our daughter. Then, we lived on the campus of a Catholic boarding school in La Porte Indiana and joyed to the arrival of our son. Wife/hubby two kids. Kids need a home. New job. Exit teaching/coaching and become fund-raising guy with a significant jump in salary.

I became a home owner in 1994 and was blessed with the arrival of

our youngest another baby girl in 1995. My wife died of brain cancer in 1998. I had begun development work for Leo High School in 1996 and our massive extended family live on the south side. I bought my current and last home in July 1999. Kids need a house and home.

My children have flown the nest.



Dad comes home to the cat and gets rocked to sleep by the CXS rail road trains, which is the most splendid white noise sleeping aid I know. I wake at homeowner nightmare sounds – sump pump buzz, furnace signals, dripping water from somewhere. Those indicators mean money on the way out for repairs, parts and labor.

I hate being a homeowner.

When we lived as a happy and complete family in Griffith, I kept

up with home improvements and upkeep. When a storm nailed the massive trees in the front and back, I went on the hook for thousands of dollars in removal. I replaced the roof and fought the flooding and snow removal like real Dad. My wife had Honey-do lists and put together these Ikea cabinets and curio wood. Cheerful me. I am a lazy bastard, by inclination and soul conditioning, but I made a great go of being a handy Dad.

Widowhood is everything it's cracked up to be – lousy, isolating and confusing. My new home was given very short shrift by your humble servant. I am less than handy and less than enthusiastic about home ownership

Now, I hope to unload Casa Hickey on a young go-getter who thoroughly enjoys wall-paper, sump pump warfare, sewer

roddings, snow plowing, grass cutting, painting, carpet removal, and general cleaning. Some barrel-chested young gent who unsnaps a measuring tape from his belt as quickly as he eyes some 'real possibilities for leaky basement and new sheet rock, now, he should own a home! If you happen to be a skilled home improver and are interested in snatching up a house, give me a call at (773) 208-8067. I'll put you in touch with the pros handling all the legal and paper flummery.

Early applicants can tale their pick of my garage full of useful stuff – lawn seed spreaders, weed whackers, bolt cutter and such. I'd like to see the house go to much better custodian than your humble scribbler.

I will send whatever I can not move to a modest apartment over St. Vincent DePaul or bestow upon my future son-in-law, if he needs anything. That boy is major handy.

A room of my own, as Jane Eyre dreamed of, a reduction in monthly housing payments, utilities and the elimination of water bills. Property taxes? Not this geezer.

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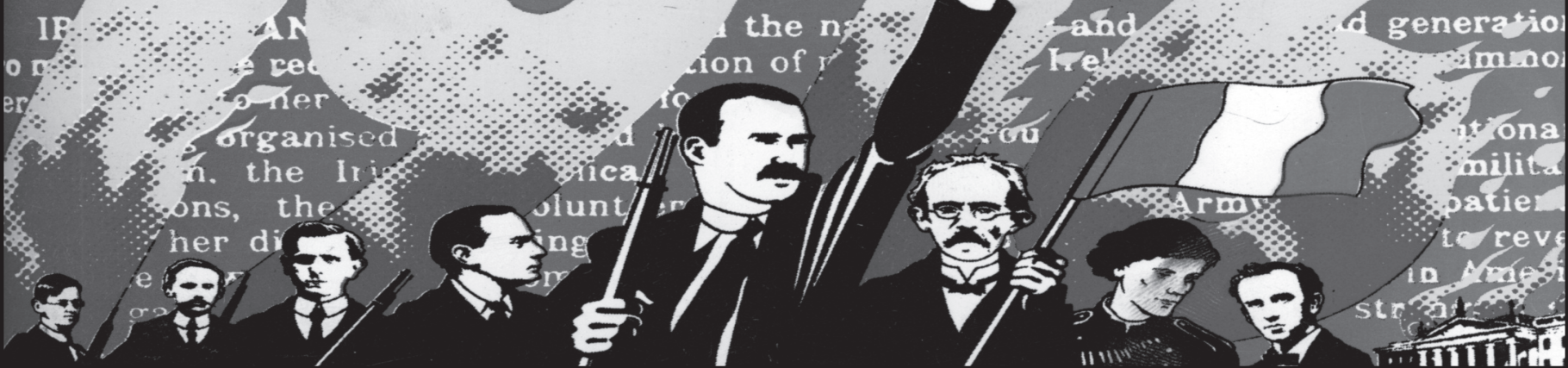
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I fell in love with Indian food in Belfast at one of my now favorite dining spots, the Bengal Brasserie.

Ireland's take on curry is not the same as in India, of course, but the interpretation is delicious. Eating curry chips doesn't count – that sauce comes in a packet in a powder form that you mix with boiling water. So, every time I'm home in County Down, I make an effort to have dinner at Bengal, where you won't find any "sauce packets."

According to Darina Allen, the Julia Child of Ireland, cooking with spices only gained momentum in the 1980s when Allen first offered a course called, "Cooking with Fresh Herbs." Until then, most people didn't have access to much more than parsley, thyme and chives. At the time, Allen relied on her own garden for fresh chiles because even the specialty food shops didn't offer the varieties she needed for her Ballymaloe Cookery School.

I'm glad times have changed



Guilty Pleasures

Christine Gallagher Kearney



because the experience at Bengal is a rich and delicious affair. The evening usually starts with poppadums (you have to ask for them), which are served with four different sauces. My favorite is the



spiciest – it's a deep red color, with a thicker consistency as compared to the yogurt-based and sweeter sauces, which can be runnier.

Once we've stuffed ourselves full of crispy and delicate poppadums and as much sauce as

balti or tikka masala with chicken (spicy hot or spicy sweet).

Waiting for the dishes to arrive is sort of like waiting for Santa to deliver presents – this is how much I love eating the Bengal curries.

Once the oblong dishes arrive at the table, piping hot, giving off enticing aromas, I have to do everything in my power not to inhale the entire dish at once.

With all of this love for the dishes at Bengal, I decided to recreate the experience at home. It turns out that it's easy, if you follow all the steps.

My go-to curry recipe is one by Jamie Oliver, but there are many fantastic recipes, so I encourage you to try a few until you find your favorite. All curries have similar ingredients as the foundational elements: garlic, onion, ginger and tomatoes. I've made a few alternations to Jamie's recipe to adapt his curry base sauce to the Midwest, where it can be difficult to find some of the ingredients, including the 7 spices.

A note about spices: if you're

like me, you may have a cupboard full of jars of oregano, parsley, cinnamon, nutmeg; over time you also may have acquired paprika, cumin and turmeric. Before you begin making the recipe, check all the dates on your spice jars because an out-of-date spice will detract from the freshness of the curry. If necessary, replace old spices.

For this recipe in particular, always use fresh ginger. It's a pain to peel (I use my vegetable peeler), but the flavor it adds to the curry is worth the trouble of working your way around all the knots and crevices.

The curry base works well with chicken and lamb, but is too overpowering for shrimp. If you're going to cook meat to accompany the sauce base, brown it first in a hot pan using coconut oil, then let it simmer in the large pot where you've already gently fried the spices, browned the onion and combined all the vegetables. Below you can follow the detailed instructions.

Don't let the variety of ingredients intimidate you. Your jarred spices will do just fine, even if you don't have a beautiful spice and herb garden like Allen. So take the plunge and try this curry recipe, it will bring warmth to your belly on a cold March day.

A Midwest Take on Curry

Adapted slightly from Jamie Oliver's Curry Base Sauce

3.5 ounces red lentils

2 medium onions
3-4 medium carrots
1 red pepper
light olive oil or vegetable oil
6 cloves garlic
2.4 ounces fresh ginger
6 coriander stalks
1 large jalapeno
1 tablespoon ground coriander
½ tablespoon black pepper
1 cinnamon stick
1 tablespoon paprika
1 tablespoon turmeric
1 tablespoon garam masala
800 grams tin of plum tomatoes
300 ml water
200 ml tinned coconut milk (half a can)

salt and freshly ground black pepper

3 chicken breasts or ½ pound diced lamb (meat optional)

naan bread

A note before you begin: if your guests find the taste of coriander equivalent to soap, leave it out of the recipe.

Wash and soak the lentils. Boil in a saucepan for 15-20 minutes until soft.

Peel and chop all the vegetables, ginger and garlic. Set onions aside in a separate bowl.

Measure spices into a bowl.

Heat oil in a large, deep pot and be careful not to let it burn, decrease the heat and add the spices. Fry delicately for 2-3 minutes, then add the onions for 5 minutes. Once the onions are soft, add all the vegetables, stirring occasionally for 10 minutes.

If you want to include meat, now is the time to gently brown it in a separate pan and then place it in the pot with all the vegetables.

Add the tomatoes, water and lentils and cover and simmer for 1 hour. Remove heat, take out the cinnamon stick; add coconut milk and blend until smooth using an immersion blender. A regular blender will work as well, but you will need to carefully blend the sauce in stages, minding the heat. I once had scorching curry sauce burst out of the top of my blender, so I now use a kitchen towel to cover the lid while I blend the sauce.

Serve with lightly toasted naan bread. You can purchase naan at most major grocery stores.

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It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane and Margo O'Donnell



Hi everybody,
Hope all is well in your part of the world. Up until now we have had quite a mild winter.

Our winters are not as severe as the ones you have in Chicago. I have been having a quiet time in my home. I do feel it's good to reflect on times past in the comfort of my home and looking into a nice fire.

I am off to Tenerife in the Canary Islands next month for a nice sunny, quiet few weeks holiday. It has been a year now since I had a break. It's nice to spend quality time by oneself and to recharge the batteries.

Joe has been back in Ireland and England doing some special shows. It's always so nice to know he is around. We will be meeting up in a few days from now. I have finished almost all of my shows apart from August when I will do two or three concerts in Killarney, Mayo and maybe Galway. No recording either at the moment so it's really switch off time for me. In November I will probably go to Boston for the Annual Donegal Dinner Dance and that I'm sure will be a great night. I have been a few times over the past number of years as a special guest and I always enjoyed the night. Everyone makes me feel so special and I meet up with lots of fans and friends. Till next time, take care everybody and God Bless.

Over to you Joe.
Love always,
Margo
Thank you Margo,
I look forward to visiting with you in a few days from now. Margo always has a Kit-Kat for me with a cup of tea. Its such a pleasure to sit there in that kitchen and enjoy the great humour of Margo. I'll be heading over to England in the morning, from Dublin to Liverpool. "On The Boat To Liverpool" as the song we wrote with Nathan Carter goes. I'll be over in Ireland/UK for 16 days on this trip and boy is it flying by. I've been able to do some shows, write some songs and a bit of craic for good measure. Had a great nights craic performing in Tigh Phlunkett's in Lettermore, Connemara. Also got to spend some time writing songs with Nathan Carter and John Pettifer (member of Nathan's band), in Enniskillen. I'm sure you will hear some of these songs on Nathan's up

coming albums.

One night we all went to see Lisa McHugh and her band at the Four Seasons Hotel in Monaghan. The place was packed. It seems to me that the dancing is as big as ever in Ireland. The dance floor was hopping all night. Lisa has got an outstanding voice and a fabulous band. I see she's doing a bit of guitar picking also. You'll be able to catch Lisa on her 2nd series for Irish TV. Its called "On The Road With Lisa". It can be seen on the internet also. I was sitting along with John Pettifer, Gareth Lowry (Nathan's drummer) and enjoying a few pints of Guinness while Nathan danced almost every girl in the dance hall. Every time he would go to sit down, another one would be over to dance with him. I must say he really is a people's man. The more I get to know him the more I can see how really down to earth and talented he is.

So its been another memorable trip and as I sit here in the old home place and look out my window, I really appreciate it's beauty. I can see Slieve Gullion from my front door. Silverbridge may be very small on the map but it's a big place in my heart. This month's song is a song I wrote the day before I left Ireland. I remember going up the mountain with my dog Lassie and sitting down wondering if I should leave the next day. Then I wrote the song "Apple Blossom County"

Both Margo and I send our deepest sympathies and prayers to the family of Martin O'Connor. Martin was the drummer in Declan Nerney's band. His life was taken very tragically in Fort Lauderdale FL. by a hit and run driver. They were just hours away from being a part of the Irish, musical Caribbean cruise.

Until next time, be good to one another.
We wish everyone a very Happy St. Patrick's Day! Joe and Margo

Apple Blossom County

Written by Joe McShane

- Verse 1 The winters passed and now I see, the young flowers are sprayed
There's beauty all around, of natures wild bouquet
My faithful dog is at my feet, her work is done she sleeps
And for a while I'll watch the lambs at play
As morning sun beams down upon my face
- Chorus Soon I will leave Ard Mhacha I will miss you
My life has been imbedded within your rugged hills
Walking ore the mountains, I see the mist below
With music of natures special kind
Apple Blossom County.. good bye....
- Verse 2 Things I took for granted, I'll think about tonight
My decision it came hard, to leave come morning light
Walking ore your mountains, I see the mist below
Then fields are bright as sun peeps through the haze
And lets the country start another day
- Chorus And now I will leave, Ard Mhacha I will miss you
My life has been imbedded within your rugged hills
Walking ore the mountains, I see the mist below
With music of natures special kind
Apple Blossom County.. good bye....

Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Some Very Big Fish – and All of Them Rotten

If – unlike myself—you're not the kind of person who likes to read yarns about giant fish from Innsmouth who walk like men, then you probably haven't come across a terrific short story by Kim Newman called, appropriately enough, 'The Big Fish'. It's a pity, because there's a great phrase in it:

"In prison, you get newspapers with neat oblongs cut out to remove articles the censor feels provocative. They don't make any difference: all newspapers have invisible oblongs."

Of course, you can tell right there that it's set in the '40s and not today, where prisoners have more rights than the victims. It's called progress or something and always makes me come over all warm and funny. Still, I've been thinking of that phrase a lot lately, as regards the Irish and how they've developed this crazy idea that maybe being asked to pay three times for water isn't really all that fair.

In fact, some of us think that it's SO unfair we simply aren't going to pay it at all, even if it means jail; instead, we have taken to the streets on a regular basis in our tens of thousands to try to get this through to our corrupt government

Even the guys who read the monitors on our own propaganda service RTE have begun to look embarrassed when they say that only 30,000 turned out whilst everybody else is reporting figures of at least 100,000. It's as if the collective hive mind at RTE Pravda have developed this condition where they can't count above that figure. Come to think of it, since they're only parroting what their political masters are telling them to report they may not be able to count above ten.

Then there are the cases of not just omission but blatant lies,

where every single protestor is made out to be a young unemployed layabout and scrounger, something which always strikes me as particularly funny. Just for myself, I'm 56 and all of the protestors that I am personally associated with, are in roughly the two decades that surround that number. Hardly mad-eyed radicals in the first flush of youth, taking to the streets in order to burn out cars whilst smashing the windows of the nearest McDonald's. The reason that the latest protest in Dublin was so successful – as compared to the mess before Christmas – was because this time we wouldn't allow any speeches from the motherless Union reps or-- more importantly-- politicians who suddenly see a way to leap on a bandwagon. I certainly don't want to hear anything from the Shinners who happily sat on the fence until they saw which way the wind was blowing.

Unfortunately, in a crowd of any size you will get a few dozen eejits who think they're anarchists because they threw a water balloon or surrounded a car; and it's always those, not the peaceful majority, who will get endless air time. If they think that's a riot then God help us. How would our own big fish, like Dame Edna and his greasy cohorts have handled being in Greece, since we hardly ever see them these days unless they're spouting off to their German masters about how great we are behaving, their tongues hanging out and waiting for a pat on the head; or sneaking in the back door of hotels under Garda escort in order to avoid the very people whom they are supposed to be representing.

If this week was anything by which to judge, then by going ape and completely over the top with

mass arrests. We have seen dawn raids where it takes ten cops to arrest a 16 year old. It took six to arrest Paul Murphy TD in his pajamas. And Murphy is hardly a great big yoke. Perhaps they were working on the old adage that it's the little ones you have to watch.

It's all in stark contrast to how they dealt with Sean Fitzpatrick and his banking buddies, whereby they were given a time and politely asked if it would be possible to bring them in for some soft questions—at their own convenience, of course. It's a great little country as long as you're a dodgy politician or a bent banker; not so much if you are one of the many who live in fear of the next bill dropping through the letter box.

Naturally, the Dame is bleating that it's nothing to do with him, that it's down to the police force. And if you believe that, then you probably also believe that giant Innsmouth fish are stalking the streets. It's scare tactics all the way, now. There are a lot of Very Big Fish who want to know why this Irish Water thingy just didn't go through without any hitches and when are they going to start making some ill-earned loot through the privatization that you can be sure they have been promised. Money has changed hands and our lot are panicking because they haven't been able to deliver. Simple as that.

As of this morning we know that they have already wasted €300 million and that figure is rising so OF COURSE their answer is take away medical cards from kids with cancer or intimidate anyone who 'dissents', with political policing. They must be looking with huge interest at Spain and wondering how they can implement those kinds of laws against peaceful protest here.

Some are saying that our government wouldn't be so stupid as to be giving the nod to mass arrests. Run that one past me again? The Dail is clogged with failed school-teachers who only want that nice fat pension for selling us down the Swanee. These aren't Big Brains; these are jumped up little gangsters in suits with euro signs where

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A Word With Father Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Reverend Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



Spring is in the air! Everyone looks forward to this hopeful time of year when nature renews itself and we witness the final melting of winter and the opening of fresh blooms everywhere. For Catholics and Christians, the new life that spring unveils is especially profound because it coincides with Lent and the wondrous promise of Easter.

The liturgical season of Lent is truly a beautiful gift of the Church, giving us the time and the framework to look inward at ourselves, and outward toward the needs of others. Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we deepen our relationship with Christ and recommit ourselves to following His Gospel message in word and action.

The liturgical season of Easter is also a gift, reminding us that Easter is not a one-day event, but rather a great rebirth and renewal which we celebrate for a full 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost. Long after the Easter baskets are put away and the chocolate bunnies have been eaten, we Catholics are still celebrating the true joy of Easter—the Risen Christ.

Every Sunday during the Easter Season, we confirm our commitment to follow Christ as we renew our baptismal vows and are sprinkled "anew" with holy water. So even though we may be happy to get back to our dessert, soda pop, or whatever we have sacrificed during Lent, we are not meant to go back to our old, comfortable ways when it comes to our spiritual life. Our Lenten preparations are intended to re-energize our desire to live out our faith as people of the Resurrection.

Lent is about conversion—a true change of heart. We are called to challenge ourselves to see things differently, to open ourselves to those around us, to better understand and accept Jesus' message of humility and charity, and to be genuinely grate-

ful for our food, our homes, our families and other things we may take for granted. Then, when Easter arrives, it is not simply an end to Lent, but rather a joyful new beginning.

There are many Lenten activities throughout the Archdiocese that can help us make the most of our Lenten preparations. This year, with the help of some dedicated board members, Catholic Charities is also offering a Lenten program. I invite you to visit www.catholic-charities.net/lent to explore One Mission: Many Hearts, Many Hands. You will find scripture passages, prayers, videos, reflection questions, and suggested volunteer opportunities. The goal of the program is to help the faithful understand and accept the challenges faced by those in poverty so that our hearts are opened and our hands are committed to carrying out the Gospel mission to care for those in need—not just during Lent, but all year long.

I am deeply grateful for the volunteers who choose to serve God and neighbor through Catholic Charities, and I invite you to explore our many volunteer opportunities at www.volunteerbridge.com. Without volunteer help, Catholic Charities would not be able to assist the more than one million people who come to our doors throughout Cook and Lake Counties. As our volunteers well know, it is a truly honor to help the poor and vulnerable, for Jesus told us that "whatever you did for these least brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Mt. 25:40)

In the coming weeks, I hope the beautiful rebirth of spring will be a constant reminder of our own personal renewed commitment to following Christ. And I hope that your Lenten journey will lead you to become one of the "Many Hearts and Many Hands" who come together at Catholic Charities to carry out Jesus' mission to serve those in need.

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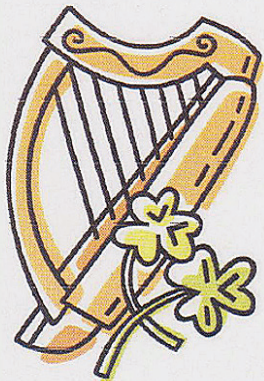
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Swimming Upstream

Continued from page 44

conscience and integrity should be. These are guys who go on record as saying that it's OK to lie during an election. Expect duplicity; expect a low sort of cunning; expect corruption; for heaven's sake don't expect brains. And definitely don't expect decency.

I haven't had a chance to keep up my own political blog of late as 'Hand in Hand', the charity that I help out with, will have opened Ireland's only children's cancer support center by the time you read this. With absolutely no help from the government, needless to say. However, I'll be remedying that and you can check out what's happening on the site below.

In the meantime, watch out for those invisible oblongs. *****

And just a quick word on Independent TD Clare Daly's Bill on fatal foetal abnormalities: it was humane and decent and so of course was thoroughly rejected by 104 to 20, despite the fact that in the most recent poll 87% of the population wanted it.

15 courageous Labour TDs who wrote an open letter to the previous Health Minister, asking him to allow the terminations under the proposals in the Bill, had second thoughts.

All but one of them – Anne Ferris – had toilet accidents when it was put to them that they would be out of a job if they didn't change their minds pronto.

Even more contemptibly, unsure of what way the wind was blowing [see above] Sinn Fein abstained altogether. No surprises anywhere, then.

You can email at chasbrady7@eircom.net or read my blogs on www.charleybrady.com & www.cbsays.com



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Progressive Green Revelation

Barely out of February, and the colour green becomes predominant. Cities throughout the world will celebrate the mass conversion of the pagan Celts to Christianity without knowing why. The old superstitions of paganism were quashed under the missionary zeal of one man, St. Patrick.

But as with every festival, the history is less important than the celebration, and this is not always a bad thing. Life is a continual cycle of revising, reinventing, and transformation. What we were, what we are, or become, is simply a matter of how we imagine it.

The notion of celebrating St. Paddy's Day as an occasion to kick the British and assert Irish autonomy is no longer relevant. The Queen has worn the green, visited the former colony of the Irish Republic, and Sinn Fein has embraced the democratic process and dropped its abstention policy. Now, the Queen's shilling is worth the taking, and a United Ireland, since the Republic's economic meltdown, less a preoccupation. I'm sure that these points are over simplifications, and matters of contention among those who are 'in the know', but it does seem as if the celebration of St. Patrick's Day could become something more than sentimental nationalism.

Ireland as a part of the E.U, and a modern progressive country now celebrates its inclusiveness, and diversity. It's now a place where sexual and cultural diversity is celebrated, and affirmed. The unity in the aspirational United Ireland has developed in ways not formerly conceived of.

It has become more than simply patching back the north with the south. Now, the island of Ireland is actively working against religious, sexual, and cultural sectarianism. The introduction of new cultures, European, African, and others, has helped to break the bipolar perspective of the Irish as simply Protestant and Catholic.

These changes in both the north and south of Ireland have not always been met with typical Irish generosity. Ironically, as a nation whose history is scarred with the effects of emigration, Ireland has in the last decades found itself becoming a place



of opportunity. Conversely, reports of racism run counter to the inclusive ideals of a nation whose past has been blighted by the loss of its people. We now can be a haven, sanctuary for those forced to leave their own countries.

The stranglehold of clericalism has changed not only public opinion, but public policies. Now, the guiding principles of government no longer have to doff the cap towards the cardinals in Rome. The mandate for governing is liberal humanism rather than religious indoctrination.

Religion has increasingly become identified with cultural identification and less about religious affiliation. The paganism of the past is alive and well in the superstitious affectations of modern Catholicism. The rituals of the church are less about instruction and more about good and bad luck.

These changes have significant repercussions on the popular interpretation of religious celebrations, and St. Patrick's Day is a prime example of a festival that has lost its religious significance. Faced with a world that is in danger of ruining the balance of climate, teetering on new dangers from religious radicalism, and generally feeling as though the apocalypse is just around the corner, St. Patrick's Day can be a note of hope; a moment of solidarity. Each nation would love to parade its best attributes, but no nation is without its shame, so every national holiday is a mixture of regret and hope for the future.

If it were simply a case for mass drunkenness, it could be any day of the week. It would be nice to reclaim this perception of the inebriated Irish, and make the day something more of who we want to be. There has to be something more we want from a day that should celebrate who we wish we could become rather than a reaffirmation of a stereotype.

I would hate to be thought of as a 'killjoy', but is it

complimentary to equate the Irish with drunkenness? Or is it simply a way of saying that we enjoy a good time? Could it simply another form of disempowerment, and self-negation? Has our history been reduced to nothing other than a lamentation of the old wounds of injustices with another round?

I'd like to think we could embrace the value of the rich culture, and traditions of Ireland while still sober. And, if we travel backwards, then let our history become more than dates to be remembered, and more about what we've learned from the story of who we are. St. Paddy's Day has been hijacked to become an Irish version of Mardi Gras. Is that what we want from a day that gives us a sense of national pride?

When it comes to this time of the year, I have mixed reactions. First of all, I hate that the general perception is one of casual racism: drunken Irish. The Irish love drinking so much they have a national holiday dedicated to getting paralytic. On the other hand, I love that people think about Ireland. It is the day we have the world looking at our small island on the western coast of Europe, and wondering why it's so important. What should prevail?

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ways' following their purchase of Spain's national airline, Iberia.) Willie admits some jobs will be lost, but prom-

ises others will be created. He also swears Aer Lingus will keep control of its valuable Heathrow flight slots. Is IAG a sheep or a woolly wolf?

Most Americans don't consider that what happens in England and Ireland often has huge implications for US citizens. Take London-based HSBC. (You could be forgiven for thinking that's a cable shopping channel, rather the world's second largest bank.) HSBC held billions of dollars for Colonel Muammar Gaddafi's Libyan Investment Authority; then after his assassination, refused to reveal where the funds went, citing "customer confidentiality".

In 2006-07 a computer technical analyst at HSBC Switzerland collected confidential data from over 300,000 private accounts in over 200 countries, many held by well-known figures in business, film, music, sports - even heads of royal families. The whistleblower fled to France, where authorities seized the files and shared them with the US and other governments.

In 2010 the US Treasury investigated HSBC for massive money laundering (\$15 billion) and failure to monitor \$60 trillion in customer wire transfers annually! The bank allegedly laundered some \$881 million in drug money for international cartels through the U.S. and processed another \$660 million for banks in countries under US sanctions- Cuba, Sudan and Iran. HSBC's US bank reportedly also "failed to monitor more than \$670 billion in wire transfers and more than \$9.4 billion in dollar purchases from its Mexico unit."

US Attorney for NY, Loretta Lynch, Obama's pick for US Attorney General to

succeed Eric Holder, prosecuted. A month after Obama's election to a second term, the government announced a record \$1.9 billion settlement. But many, including Democratic stalwarts, were critical, including Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren. Rolling Stone magazine said "Yes, they issued a fine ...about five weeks' profit - but they didn't extract so much as one dollar or one day in jail from any individual, despite a decade of stupefying abuses". One D.C. banking expert called the fine "a parking ticket."

Similar British ruthlessness and disregard for the law is endemic in Northern Ireland. Nonetheless some will insist there is hope in events like last month's decision to exonerate Terry Lavery, convicted over forty years ago of rioting when British Paratroopers' invaded his Irish Catholic Belfast neighborhood of Ballymurphy in 1971, arresting citizens and dragging them off to internment camps. The soldiers murdered 11 civilians, men, women and children-including Lavery's own brother John, and a Catholic priest. Yet all these years later Britain still refuses to charge the soldiers for their rampage. Justice delayed is justice denied.

Then there's the case of Sean Brown, a Gaelic Athletic Association official abducted and killed in 1997 by British loyalists in Bellaghy, County Derry, as he locked the gates of the GAA football pitch there. Last month his family was informed by the Northern Ireland Court Service that the long-awaited inquest into his murder will be "postponed indefinitely" because the Police Service has "lost" 'dozens and dozens' of important files.

MLA and Policing Board member Dolores Kelly claimed Mr. Brown's killers were being protected because they were "state agents" or informers.

Northern Ireland's Chief Constable George Hamilton denied that claim stating: "Let me be absolutely clear, in a liberal democracy such as ours, no-one is above the law." He requested if anyone had information about a murder, including members of the policing board, that they bring it to the police. Hamilton did not say how he could insure that any new evidence submitted would not also be "lost" in his 'liberal democracy'.

And loyalist Winston Rea is among dozens of combatants who in 2001 gave recorded testimonies to Boston College's Belfast Project, under solemn "guarantees" that their tapes would never be made public prior to their deaths. However due to a 2003 US/UK treaty, Rea's taped testimony has been handed over to investigators, who now want all of the Belfast Project material.

And Seamus Daly, 44, accused of murder

in the 1998 Omagh bombing, will finally be prosecuted. Daly was one of four men ordered to pay more than £1.5m in damages to the families of those killed, though no one has yet been criminally convicted in the bombing, and the defense claims the prosecution has no new evidence.

The case is controversial also because families of the Omagh victims claim they have evidence that prior to the bombing MI5 possessed four pieces of high-grade intelligence warning of a car bomb attack in Omagh, including information from a satellite-monitored tracking device planted in the bomb car by a British agent working along with the bombers. Yet despite this "avalanche of intelligence", MI5 made no attempt to stop the car or alert police on the ground. Why?

The Irish government has also decided to re-open the case of the "hooded men," 14 men imprisoned without trial by British forces in 1971. They were subjected to "deep interrogation techniques" including beatings, starvation, sleep deprivation, exposure to white noise and being forced to stand in painful stress positions for long periods of time. They were threatened with death and subjected to mock executions: thrown from low flying helicopters while hooded and bound. Not one of these men was convicted of a crime. The Commission of Human Rights upheld Ireland's torture charges, but Britain appealed, and a new ruling labeled the prisoners' treatment "inhumane and degrading," not torture. That decision later was cited by several countries, including the US, in cases involving torture and waterboarding brought by human rights organizations.

Lawyer Amal Clooney, wife of actor George, has joined a team prosecuting that case, based on new evidence that Britain withheld information from the European Court. It's nice to have high profile people like Amal highlight issues of Irish freedom, and confront the real terrorists in Ireland. Better yet to have an Irish American public with more concern for issues affecting their people and less enthusiasm for Notre Dame and British-owned "Irish" beer and spirits.

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Woolly Wolves

Are British unionists in Ireland circling the wagons? UUP leader Mike Nesbitt wants to make an election deal with First Minister Peter Robinson of the DUP, the party founded by rabid anti-Catholic Ian Paisley. "Without a deal" Nesbitt warns, "there is a real prospect there could be no unionist representing the capital city of Northern Ireland in Westminster on the 8th May".

Even the most gullible Irish Republican will dismiss Nesbitt's "fears" as political puffery, knowing that Britain and its Unionist allies have managed to manipulate Ireland, North and South for centuries. The tale of greed and ruthlessness began long before Dutch Prince William III of Orange set foot on the island sending Irish Catholics "to Hell or Connaught".

Ireland's economy has been under Britain's paw so long that some British products are considered uniquely Irish. Irishmen so identify with Guinness that the brewery could withdraw support for New York's annual St. Patrick's Parade last year without risking a strong backlash, despite the fact that for over 200 years prior to WWII, no Catholic ever held a management position in the company, and Edward Guinness (Lord Iveagh) once donated £10,000 (£65,450,000.00 in today's money) to buy illegal arms to crush Ireland's bid for independence and Home Rule.

The Irish government owns 25% of Aer Lingus, but currently Willie Walsh, chief executive of International Consolidated Airlines Group (IAG), is trying to buy the airline. (IAG is the new name for British Air-

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Herself

By *Katheryn Morley*

A Review: Of Irish Blood

I recently had the pleasure of meeting Mary Pat Kelly, author of Galway Bay and her latest effort, *Of Irish Blood*. She is an absolute delight to speak with – a fantastic writer and very humble. I so enjoyed interviewing Mary Pat and listening to her speak about her experiences and her craft! (You can watch that interview online at IrishTV.us) She was kind enough to provide me with a copy of her new novel, *Of Irish Blood*, which I found thoroughly engaging. After the wonderful reception of her



ri Matisse, and Maud Gonne.

What I found most interesting about the novel is its characterizations of strong-willed women possessing an absolute determination to not only survive, but to prosper. Nora fleeing Chicago for Paris mimics her grandmother and namesake Honora Keeley Kelly's escape from starvation in Ireland and emigration to Chicago. Nora must steal away from her family and remain out of reach, lest Tim McShane find her and exact revenge. She is alone in a foreign country, estranged from her family and the comforts of home. She faces many obstacles in Paris, beginning with the obvious language barrier, using a smattering of high school French to get by. But Nora falls in love with the "City of Lights", developing a love for

fiction, providing an accurate depiction of Paris at the outbreak of World War I. The reader is allowed to explore and learn along with Nora as she meets with Irish activist Maud Gonne and American writer Gertrude Stein. Kelly affords readers a unique perspective on both WWI and the Easter Rising, seen through the eyes of an American in Paris. While Nora felt proud to be Irish in Chicago, she begins to understand the burdens of those left in Ireland. When the war begins, Nora works as a nurse and sees firsthand many Irish soldiers who are killed or brutally wounded, and meets the mothers left to mourn them. Suddenly the warfare and pain that her grandmother left behind in Ireland becomes palpable for Nora; and she gains a new sense of pride in her heritage.

Much of the novel focuses on Ireland's effort to achieve freedom from Britain. There is one wonderful quotation from Maud Gonne: "Twenty million Americans of Irish Blood – surely enough to free Ireland." After Nora heard Gonne say this in Chicago, it stuck with her, but having traveled to

Europe, becoming involved with the cause and in touch with her roots, she identifies with the words.

There is a great sadness in the Irish diaspora, but also a marvelous strength. The Irish moved abroad and thrived world-wide. The reader, reminded of the many barriers the Irish had to overcome, bonds with Nora as she comes to realize how proud she should be of her heritage, and why.

Of Irish Blood is a worthwhile read. Kelly is a fantastic writer, taking readers on an adventure beginning in Chicago in the early 1900's and traveling through WWI Paris. The novel is filled with familiar historical characters and peppered with lovely French language. There is so much history and humanity in this book. Nora is a relatable character, who tries to understand all the politics and prejudices swirling around her. At its core, however, the novel portrays an Irish American on a grand adventure, discovering what it really means to be Irish.

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Katheryn Morley and Mary Pat Kelly at Brian Boru Pub.

novel *Galway Bay*, Mary Pat Kelly's sequel, *Of Irish Blood*, focuses on the life of Nora Kelly, an Irish American woman living in Chicago in the early 1900s. Nora, unmarried and independent, applies herself at Montgomery Ward, rising to become a designer for the company. Nora has the world at her fingertips, until she meets Tim McShane and is "taken over by a fairy woman". Nora becomes involved in a secret relationship with him. Publicly he is attached to Dolly McKee, an older woman and performer. After eight years of meeting in hotels and keeping her relationship a secret, Nora is ready to separate herself from McShane. When she gathers her resolve to tell him, he becomes enraged, threatening to kill her. Fearing for her life, Nora flees America and heads to Europe and an opportunity to work with a Parisian dressmaker. In Paris, Nora has exciting and eye-opening experiences. She meets celebrities like Coco Chanel, Hen-

wine, profiteroles and photography.

She is threatened not only by the immediate dangers arising from the onset of WWI, but also immerses herself in the movement to gain independence for Ireland. Working through feelings of shame and defeat resulting from her relationship with McShane, Nora slowly regains confidence. Her own transformation and her involvement in the fight for Ireland echo the struggle of Ireland, often depicted as a strong woman, beaten down and exploited by greed and hate, yet refusing to kneel.

Nora also is surprised to learn that her beloved Irish are not as well respected throughout Europe as they are in Chicago. Forced to stand up for her Irish heritage, she refuses to be marginalized, and instead develops a deeper connection to her motherland.

Like *Galway Bay*, *Of Irish Blood* is a meticulously researched work of historical





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Hibernian Transmedia Takes Houli's Hooley Live to Goldy's in Forest Park

Bill and Paddy Houlihan, brothers and co-hosts of The Houli's Hooley radio show, are now recording live with musical guests every Thursday night at 7PM at Goldy-burgers, 7316 Circle Ave in

Hooley" continues to provide a preview of the weekend for Chicagoland's Young Irish community.

The show is produced by Hibernian Transmedia NFP, providing a platform to pres-



Bill and Paddy Houlihan, hosts of The Houli's Hooley!

Forest Park.

The show debuted on WSBC in November and has been steadily building their audience of savvy young Irish Americans with community news, comedy, sports, and fun guest performances by musicians and comedians.

The show began recording in Goldy's in February and has featured a wave of great talent to a live audience ever since, including Irish fiddler Teresa Shine, troubadour Vince Mammoser, singer-songwriter Phil Angotti, comedian, local legend Mike Mullen, comedian Pat Chase, WGN radio host Mike Stephen, Irish piper Max Dunne and his students, and Kevin Flynn and the Avondale Ramblers. Hitting the airwaves on Saturday nights from 7-8PM, the newest addition to the Irish-American radio scene, "The Houli's

ent, produce, and create educational content that promotes and preserves Irish and Irish-American culture through film, TV, radio, theatre, literature, and the Internet.

Chairman Mike Houlihan says, "We tell stories to enlighten future generations while honoring our ancestors."

Hibernian Transmedia NFP is a 501c3 public charity, and all contributions are tax deductible under Internal Revenue Code Section 170.

To learn more about the radio shows and listen to their podcasts, visit the website at <http://freecraic.com/houli-hooley/>

And don't forget to tune in every Saturday night from 7-8PM on WSBC 1240 AM and WCFJ 1470 AM for The Hooley! Or just show up at Goldyburgers any Thursday night at 7PM.

Professor Brings Innovations to Classroom

Regina Garrity performs on the accordion. thexavierite

As seen in the Xavierite, by Katharine Arvia Senior News Editor

Saint Xavier University is home to many talented faculty, including adjunct music professor, Regina Garrity, (pictured). Garrity has been teaching a course entitled Music of Ireland to Saint Xavier students for two years now. Her goal is to offer students an overview of Irish music.

Additionally, Garrity said, "My underlying goal for this class is for students to appreciate and enjoy Irish music in their community." An accomplished musician herself, Garrity grew up in Ireland. Learning how to play primarily through school, Regina can play the accordion, tin whistle, and piano, thanks to the heavy influence of music in Irish academics.

"Music is a focal point of Irish culture and identity. Growing up in rural Ireland, there aren't that many things to do," Garrity said. "The weather often dampens the possibility of outdoor activities. In a way, you rely on music as a social outlet. It never rains in the pub!"

Garrity says that she has been playing her three instruments intermittently since childhood and cites "natural absorption" as one of the many ways through which she learned how to play. "As a child, I was mostly exposed to Irish music. [...] In this way, Irish music became a part of who I am," Garrity said. "As an adult, Irish music helps me stay close to my roots and is a social avenue to meet like-minded people."

Although Music of Ireland is a relatively new course to the Saint Xavier curriculum, Garrity's exciting teaching

methods have already proved to be unique and hands-on. One of the first assignments for the class was to pay a visit to Clancy's, a local pub.

Students were asked to listen to a seisiún, also known as a "session", or informal performance. These sessions,



"I use a textbook as a reference only. To make the class as authentic as possible, I bring in a number of guest speakers and Irish musicians to perform. [...] This year I am excited to host Skype interviews with a number of musicians abroad," Garrity said.

In addition to guest speakers, Garrity also integrates technology into her lessons. "Technology is a critical component of the class. I embed all my assignments on Canvas and use multimedia to drive my instruction," Garrity said.

Not only are students able to listen to traditional Irish music, they also learn about many instruments. Just some of these instruments include the harp, uilleann pipes, and the bodhrán. By the end of the semester, students will be able to distinguish each instrument and the different types of traditional Irish tunes such as jigs, reels, and airs.

"It is important to preserve and promote Irish music. Irish music has been traditionally passed down by ear, and has been subjected to risk of dying. Fortunately, we live in an area with a wealth of virtuosic traditional Irish musicians. In fact, I would say that we are surrounded by a great deal of talent," Garrity said.

As Garrity said, there are many local sessions that happen in the Chicago area. Other than Clancy's in Oak Lawn, Garrity recommends Lanigan's Pub, Gaelic Park, and The Irish Times, just to name a few. She encourages everyone to pay a visit and experience Irish music for themselves. "Irish music evokes a sense of community," Garrity said. "It's all about the people."

Garrity said, are not planned or rehearsed and often include storytelling, songs, and dancing.

Not only were students invited to Clancy's, they were also invited to a concert on-campus, which Garrity performed at with her group, the Dirty Wellies. Formed in 2013 by Garrity and two of her cousins, the Dirty Wellies now play local gigs, charity events, and even weddings.

"Originally, there were four members in the group. Now, we have doubled in size and even have a few guest artists who join us from time to time," Garrity said. Garrity also brings in local Irish musicians to speak to and perform for her class, something that isn't exactly a common occurrence.



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subject to change without notice.

Dirty Wellies at Irish Times, Sundays

One of my favorite spots to perform is the Irish Times, located in the heart of Brookfield. The Irish Times welcomes the Dirty Wellies the first Sunday each month. The owner Martin

and enjoy the music (and maybe a pint of Guinness or two)! It is not uncommon for someone in the audience to join in on a tune, whether it be playing or singing. The inclusivity of a session em-



Lynch, originally from Ireland, has been a great supporter of the Dirty Wellies and traditional Irish music. With the cozy fire and friendly staff, there is undeniable warmth about the Irish Times. People will often stop in for dinner and end up staying the rest of the evening just to relax

bodies that rare quality of Irish music. I myself host the session at the Irish Times each month and I cordially invite everyone to sit-in on a session. All are welcome - you don't even need to be Irish! For more information check The Dirty Wellies website www.thedirtywellies.com

Outside Mullingar at Northlight

Northlight Theatre, under the direction of Artistic Director BJ Jones and Executive Director Timothy J. Evans presents John Patrick Shanley's new romantic comedy *Outside Mullingar*. The play by the Pulitzer, Oscar and Tony Award-winning writer of *Moonstruck* and *Doubt* is directed by Artistic Director BJ Jones. Anthony and Rosemary are two introverted misfits. Anthony has spent his entire life on a cattle farm in rural Ireland, oblivious to the longing of his neighbor Rosemary, who hopelessly pines for him as the years slip away. With Anthony's father threatening to disinherit him and a land feud simmering between their families, Rosemary fears romantic catastrophe. These two eccentric souls scramble their way towards happiness in a compassionate, delightful tale of how surprising love can be.

BJ Jones comments, "*Outside Mullingar* is an American play, written by an Irish-American,

about his Irish cousin. It's important to remember that, though it is based in truth, the play takes a fable-like trajectory. John Patrick Shanley has a gift for poetry, for heightened characters grounded in reality but floating above us in a wonderful theatricality, and our remarkable Chicago cast brings these colorful characters to vivid life." Previews: March 13-19, 2015. Regular run: through April 19, 2015. Schedule: Tues: 7:30pm (March 17 and 31 only) Wed 1:00pm (except April 8) and 7:30pm (except March 25) Thurs: 7:30pm, Fri: 8:00pm (except Opening on March 20 at 7:30pm), Sat: 2:30pm (except April 14) and 8:00pm Sun: 2:30pm (except April 5) and 7:00pm (except March 22, April 5 and 19), Sunday, April 12 at 7:00pm. Tickets: Previews: \$25-\$54, Regular run: \$25-\$78, Student tickets are \$15, any performance (subject to availability) 847.673.6300; northlight.org Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd in Skokie.

Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling



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.

Gaelic Park – Emerald Club

Wednesday, 11th March 2015 – Mass for St Patrick's Day

Join us as we celebrate St Patrick's Day and all things Irish with a special mass.

Wednesday, 25th March 2015 – Letters from the 1916 Easter Rising

With the centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising just over a year away we will take a look at one of the many projects that have started in recent years in preparation for celebrations to mark the event. The Letter of 1916 project is seeking to gather together letters written during and around the time of the rising in order to make them accessible to everybody online.

IAHC – Tara Club

Wednesday, 4th March 2015 – What's up Doc?

Joint Meeting with Tír na nÓg

For those with several health issues it can be difficult to know which kind of doctor is best positioned to treat each of your conditions and how to get the most out of your relationship with your primary care physician. In this session our friends at Oak Street Health join us as we consider whether to see a geriatrician or an internist.

Weds, 18th March – Mass for St Patrick's Day Joint Meeting with Tír na nÓg Join us as we celebrate St Patrick's Day and all things Irish with a special mass.

Darkness into Light

Toward the end of last year, the Irish Independent newspaper published an article on their website discussing suicide in Ireland. The headline read 'Suicide rates hit an all-time high as 554 take own lives'. The article cited 2011 research results from the Central Statistics Office that paint a concerning picture. The study revealed the highest number of suicides Ireland has experienced since records began in 2000. Furthermore, some researchers feel that incidents of suicide are underreported and the actual number is closer to 600.

The study also showed that men were five times more likely to take their own lives than women with 83% of the suicide victims that year were male. Most of those male deaths were fell within the 45-64 age group. Despite the frequency of suicidal deaths, Ireland was just below the European average but still had the fourth highest rate for suicides in young men aged 15 to 24. The highest number of deaths by suicide in women was among those aged between 24 and 44.

In reaction to a personal experience of suicide and the worrying national trends in suicide, Joan Freeman – a Dublin based psychologist established Pieta House in 2006. This is a charitable organization that raises awareness of suicide and self-harm and offers direct therapeutic services to those

impacted by these issues. Since then Pieta House has opened 9 crisis centers throughout Ireland and served 4,000 people in 2013. With 3 more centers billed to open in the near future, Pieta House is close to achieving its vision of having a suicide crisis centre within 100 kilometres of everyone in Ireland. Having achieved so much in Ireland, Pieta House is now looking to extend its mission to raise awareness of suicide and self-harm among Irish communities overseas.

On May 9th 2015, Chicago Irish Immigrant Support will partner with Pieta House to host a Darkness into Light 5k walk/run along the Chicago lakefront. Pieta House has been hosting Darkness into light walks/runs as their flagship awareness and fundraising events for several years. This year the Darkness into Light walk/run will take place in over 80 venues in Ireland, the UK, Australia, and for the first time, the US.

The walk kicks off at 4.30am on Saturday 9th May along the lakefront while it still dark, but as participants finish the 5k route, dawn is breaking across Lake Michigan. This symbolizes the journey of those who are feeling suicidal from the darkness of despair into the bright hope of a new day. We would love to have the entire community get behind the event and the important work that is done by Pieta House. The walk is an opportunity for us to raise awareness of suicide and self-harm within the Irish community and to show our support to those amongst us struggling with these issues.

Registration is not open but we are hoping to generate interest in the event and solicit sponsorship. If you or someone you know would like to be a sponsor and help to offset the considerable expense of staging the event please reach out to me – Paul Dowling – at the CIIS office on 773-282-8445. Pieta house and CIIS are inviting all members of our community to walk with us! Lastly, Chicago Irish Immigrant Support would like to wish you all a very happy St Patrick's day!

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What's So Irish about Chicago? Lots of Things!

The Consulate General of Ireland in Chicago is excited to have launched our "50 links to Ireland in Chicago," Instagram page [http://instagram.com/irelandchicago], which started 30 January. Running over the weeks leading up to St. Patrick's Day, the initiative will document and publicise ultimately fifty of our favourite uniquely Irish objects, organisations, places, figures, and things in Chicago, with something Irish about Chicago posted each day up until 17th March. Some of the most popular links we have posted include Chicago's Gaelic Park, Old St. Patrick's Church, and the Purty Loft at Fadó Irish Pub. Inspired by Olivia Barry's "Céad Léiriú" project in New York City, the Consulate also invites members of the community to share and submit their own #IrishChicago objects via our Facebook page and Twitter (@IrelandChicago). The best ones we will share and add to our own Instagram page, provided we haven't thought of them already! Our first post was of course the Consulate of Ireland itself, located in the heart of Chicago in the Kemper Building on 1 East Wacker Drive.

CWI Hosts Kathy O'Neill

Tuesday, April 21, 7:00 (social), 7:30 (Program) - Celtic Women International's Chicago Branch, Regular "Third Tuesday" meeting on April 21 at the IAHC. Featuring a very special program featuring Kathy O'Neill and Mark Piekarz. \$5 donation at the door.

Kathy will read poems and short stories about growing up American Irish in Irish America in the 1970s and 1980s. Her stories are wicked and sad, funny and forlorn. They range from wanting to fit in and wanting to stand out, and feature issues of identity, self-worth and hope. She will be joined by tenor and pianist Mark Piekarz with songs from the era.

O'Neill has read her short stories and poetry about growing up Irish Catholic in New Jersey at the iBAM! Irish Books, Art and Music Celebration and is active in Chicago's storytelling scene; reading at Storylab, "Is this a Thing" and Jamie O'Reilly's Roots Salon. She
Continued to page 61

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Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



Can You Learn Outside Of A Class Room Setting?

I am sure that many of us are delighted to have the formal "class rooms" of our earlier life behind us. But clearly we must continue to learn and grow or we atrophy intellectually. Some authorities say that many college graduates never read another "serious" book after college. Obviously we live in a world of a lot of smart people, so how did they grow if they failed to read a book or two since college?

Clearly there are many "class rooms" in our lives. If we are fortunate, we acquire a number of mentors who share their wisdom and past learnings with us. We can focus our TV viewing time on stations like WTTW. We make time to attend lectures and seminars that expand our understanding of the world. Or we read three or four of the most intellectually satisfying periodicals on a regular basis.

Let me suggest another option that has only recently occurred to me; there is a web site called Brainy Quotes. It lists the quotes of several hundred different people ranging from the most brilliant people to ordinary folks who had a particular facility with words. The people being quoted range from intellectuals, artists, authors, leaders of different sorts and a myriad of others. You will find that some of these people are blessed with the ability to encapsulate great wisdom in a sentence or two. We can all learn by carefully studying worthwhile quotes.

Interestingly enough the person who set me off on this track, Mr. Selfridge of Masterpiece Theater fame, is not one of the hundreds of people whose quotes are on the web site. But the seven quotes attributed to Mr. Selfridge on leadership really speak to me. They could constitute the basis of an excellent book on leadership.

1. The boss drives his men, the

leader coaches them. Haven't we all worked for the "boss" who insists that you must do things his way or you are wrong? S/he doesn't want to hear your ideas; they simply feel that their ideas must be better than yours, else why are they the boss? There is a very sharp contrast between this boss versus the leader who coaches or guides you through the situation while bringing out your best ideas.

2. The boss depends upon authority, the leader on goodwill. The authority driven boss commonly points to the stars on his shoulder; these stars clearly identify his superiority in all things. But the real leader demonstrates his leadership by engaging you and your ideas in the process; you want to demonstrate your best.

3. The boss inspires fear, the leader inspires enthusiasm. This boss reminds you of your limited value to the organization; you are easily replaced. But the leader helps you to see your own significance is evidenced by your contributions. The leader inspires you to achieve the next level. He is not afraid to learn that you might in fact be smarter or more knowledgeable than he is. In fact, if you demonstrate your "superiority" to him, he will celebrate it, not denigrate it.

4. The boss says "I", the leader says "we". The distinction between these two is highlighted by politicians who tell the voters what "I" will achieve for you.

The leader is willing to share or even deflect the credit to better reflect on your contribution. Don't you feel more appreciated when the leader includes you in the ultimate solution?

5. The boss fixes the blame for the breakdown, the leader fixes the breakdown. It seems to me that the boss is all too often looking to shift the blame on anyone

other than himself. In many instances, the boss wants all the glory but not a bit of the blame. The leader is far more concerned about solving the problem than beating on someone who may or may not have been responsible. He will likely seize on this moment as a teachable moment to help you better prepare for a future challenge.

6. The boss says "Go"; the leader says "Let's go". The boss wants someone out front on point to deflect any injury to him or his status. Whereas the leader let's his people know that he is going to lead the way; as they teach infantry officers, FOLLOW ME. The leader simply will not duck his responsibilities.

7. The boss knows how it is done, the leader shows how. The boss is signaling that he doesn't like the way you did something, even though he may not know how to do it properly himself. The leader, on the other hand, is quite capable of doing the required chore. He will walk you through the process so you will be acquainted with the proper way to do it in the future.

In summary, the above seven quotes reflect some of the best thinking of a leader. Do you see the sharp difference between these two approaches to leadership? One is seriously flawed and the other grounded in the notion of engagement and involvement on the part of the "leader." If you as an aspiring member of your organization could adopt these seven guidelines, you would very likely be highly respected and admired. CARPE DIEM.

Additional Thought For Your Consideration: Outstanding leaders go out of their way to boost the self-esteem of their personnel. If people believe in themselves, it's amazing what they can accomplish. Sam Walton, founder of Wal-Mart.

James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville, IL-based senior executive coaching and outplacement firm.

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On the Law

Martin J. Healy, Jr.

Founding Partner



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

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

The Role Of Our Civil Justice System In Promoting Safe Products

Brooke Melton, a 29 year-old pediatric nurse, died while driving her 2005 Chevrolet Cobalt. The Cobalt ignition switch failed, causing Brooke to lose control of her vehicle, and after being struck by another vehicle, she was killed.

Brooke's family filed suit against General Motors (GM),

the manufacturer of the car, and during the course of litigation, learned that over 2.6 million GM cars suffered from the same defect as Brooke's Cobalt. The ignition switches on these vehicles had a defect that allowed them to slip from the "on" position to the "accessory" position, causing the

entire vehicle to shut down, including its engine, power steering, and brakes. The defect also disabled the vehicle airbags.

During the course of the investigation, it was discovered that GM was aware of the fatal ignition switch defect as early as 2001, but did not correct the defect. The solution would have added a small cost to each car. Ultimately, the work of the Melton family's attorney and the engineers hired by them to investigate the incident helped spur a massive recall of Chevrolet, Pontiac, and Saturn vehicles. These discoveries, many of which came to light during depositions conducted in the Melton lawsuit, led to a 2014 recall of millions of GM vehicles, and caused the launch of a Congressional investigation into GM.

The Melton case is just one recent example of how the civil justice system, and products liability litigation specifically, has served as an effective and powerful mechanism for the protection of consumers.

The Impact Of The Civil Justice System Is Not Limited To Just Vehicles

The impact of litigation on product safety is not limited to the automobile industry. The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), the organization charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of harm or death associated with various types of consumer products, including most children's toys. However, until 2007 the CPSC had only 15 inspectors to monitor

all the ports in the U.S. for all products being imported, and only one employee to conduct safety tests on toys. Wal-Mart's yearly marketing budget was over 20 times greater than the CPSC's total annual budget. Our country imports more than 30,000 tons of toys every year from foreign markets, accounting for about 95% of toys sold in the U.S. The combined effect of these factors is that dangerous products can be sold for many years before the public has any idea of their hazards.

With such weak regulatory resources available, consumer groups and the civil justice system are that much more important to serve as an early warning system and an enforcement mechanism against those who manufacture dangerous toys.

For example, in 2007, a 9 year-old boy from Chicago died after choking on a two-inch soft dart from a Chinese-made toy gun. The CPSC attempted to convince the importer of the toy to recall the gun, but the company refused. After the boy's family filed suit, at least one of the toy's retailers, Family Dollar, finally agreed to recall the guns.

Lead Poisoning Is A Major Concern

Lead poisoning is another issue of concern when it comes to children's toys. Lead is the second-most deadly household toxin in existence, after arsenic. Children are most vulnerable to lead poisoning, and even at low levels, lead exposure can seriously affect a child's physical and mental growth. A 2007 investigation, during which

over 1200 toys were tested, many of which had passed manufacturers' internal tests, found over a third of the toys tested contained lead. Several lawsuits have been filed regarding dangerous levels of lead in children's toys. In 2006, a four-year-old died after swallowing a lead-tainted charm bracelet, which had been given away as a promotional item with the purchase of children's shoes. Testing revealed the charm had significant amounts of lead. Just one month after the four-year-old's death, Reebok International recalled 300,000 lead-tainted charm bracelets. The lead poisoning also caused the California attorney general to file a civil action against several of the major toy manufacturers and distributors in 2007. As a result of that lawsuit, the companies agreed to pay \$550,000 to establish California's Toy Testing and Outreach Fund to help identify defective toys.

In another settlement involving litigation concerning lead-contaminated toys, Mattel agreed to create a court-overseen quality assurance program, and to set aside as much as \$50 million to compensate consumers.

For decades, our civil justice system has helped to make safer many of the products we use on a daily basis. At Healy Scanlon, we have represented many consumers injured by products, including automobile and recreational vehicle defects, as well as many other consumer products. As technology continues to advance and more and different products are introduced into the market, we will continue to work to help protect consumers by holding manufacturers responsible for any dangerous products they place on the market.

By:
Martin Healy, Jr.
(picture above)
and (right)
Patrick C.
Anderson



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Seamus Kennedy to Perform at St. Patrick's Party in Michigan Mar 13-14

The Michigan Irish Music Festival is presenting its annual St. Patrick's Party March 13 and 14 at the Fricano Event Center in downtown Muskegon.

The party will feature live music both nights with Seamus Kennedy and Finvarra's Wren. For many years, Seamus Kennedy has been a favorite at the Michigan Irish Music Festival. This will be his first appearance at the annual St. Pat's Party. Seamus' trademark is his ongoing interaction with the audiences. Fast-paced humor is very much a part of what Seamus does, whether he's telling a series of rapid-fire jokes or launching into a lyrical parody. In fact, Seamus seems to be having such a grand time and makes it all look so effortless that it is easy not to notice what a superb musician he truly is.

Finvarra's Wren is one of North America's most exciting Irish quartets. This family based group from Detroit, Michigan plays with a tightness and effortlessness that often evades other ensembles. Their performances have been described as a swirl of musical tradition and performance energy.

The St. Patrick's Party will feature McGovern's Corned Beef and Irish fare, Fricano's pizza, with scones and pretzels from the Village Baker. Irish Fest Stout, Magnier's Irish Cider, Jameson Irish Whiskey, Irish Cream and Budweiser products will also be served. In addition, Irish dancers from the Ardan Academy of Dance will perform and a silent auction will be held each night. Doors open at 5:30 pm both nights with music starting at 6pm. Tickets are \$6 and are available at the door.

The mission of the Michigan Irish Music Festival is to produce a quality Midwest Irish Music Festival that promotes Irish culture and heritage while enhancing the com-

munity through entertainment, tourism, education and philanthropy. The festival is proud to support Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry and other local food pantries with gifts of non-perishable food items and cash donations. In 2014, due to the success of the St. Pat's Party and the Festival, the Michigan Irish Music Festival was able to donate over 3000 pounds of food and \$27,000 to these organizations.

The Michigan Irish Music Festival will return this fall, September 17-20, 2015, at Heritage Landing in downtown Muskegon. An additional day has officially been added to the festival with a Pub Party on Thursday, September 17th. The festival and the St. Patrick's Party are sponsored by Mercy Health, Waddell & Reed, G&L, Family Financial Credit Union, and Budweiser. For complete Festival information including ticket sales, visit www.michiganirish.org.

Murphy Benefit

At 34, James Murphy of Pulkathomas, Co. Mayo, Ireland suffered a stroke that was the result



of thrombocytosis, a rare blood disorder. Now, his blood disorder had taken a turn and had developed into myelofibrosis, a rare form of chronic leukemia with the only cure being a bone marrow / stem cell transplant.

Consider attending the benefit on Sunday, 4-12, 2015 at Gaelic Park in Oak Forest, Illinois, and / or donating to James' cause at JoiningTogetherforJames.com

Michigander's Short Film Opens Chicago Irish Film Fest

The Chicago Irish Film Festival opened on February 28 with a short film produced and directed by Dublin-based Erin Mullally. Mullally is a native of Muskegon, Michigan, and has worked as a public relations manager for ten years in Ireland, where he is a dual Irish-U.S. citizen.

Mullally's film, "The Struggle of Libations," is an 8 minute comedy that explores the relationship



between an Irishman and his faithful after-work pint.

The movie has been accepted in several international film festivals, including the Cannes short film festival and the Los Angeles short film festival. Mullally's "short" preceded the Chicago festival's opening feature film, "Poison Pen." For more information visit <http://www.chicagoirishfilmfestival.com/poisonpen#prettyPhoto> or www.struggleoflibations.com.



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Live Music Begins at Noon On 3/14 & Goes all Day!

'STACHE' and 'MODERN DAY ROMEOS' End The Evening...

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- ★ 1:15 - 1:45 · Trinity Irish Dancers
- ★ 2:15 - 3:45 · Kevin Flynn & the Avondale Ramblers
- ★ 4:30 - 6:00 · Character Fleadh
- ★ 6:30 - 8:30 · Screw City Saints
- ★ 9:30 - 10:30 · Stache
- ★ 11:00 - 1:30 · Modern Day Romeos

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For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



GRAVE MARKERS are installed on fifteen unmarked resting places at the Irish Nationalist Monument in Section 15, Mt.

Dlivet Cemetery, 2800 W. 111th St. Their cost was paid by the Friends of Irish Freedom (FOIF) and Clan na Gael (CnG, the true one). McShane brothers Regan and Shay and Kevin Riley trucked the headstones from Gast Monuments on Peterson Ave. See photo of Shay and Kevin.

THE EASTER RISING will be commemorated by FOIF and CnG at The Irish Legend Restaurant, 8900 So. Archer Ave. on Easter Saturday starting at

7 pm. Live music, finger-food. All are welcome, gratis. Donations to republican prisoners.

IRISH-AMERICA must re-unite to support human rights in Occupied Ireland. The recent interview

of ex-combatants by trusted English reporter Peter Taylor

reveals the catastrophic reality of the Good Friday Agreement

(GFA). Both Pro-Irish and Pro-British agree that, through

the GFA, British goals were achieved; Irish ones were not.

The GFA is still promoted as having "ended the violence;"

a shocking lie. Homicides had peaked in 1972 at 472, and

had dropped to 69 as long ago as 1984, fourteen years

before the GFA in 1998. Its downward trajectory would

obviously have continued. UNITY is required to stop

the GFA's results; the current

torture and beatings of Irish patriots in Maghaberry prison,

imprisonments without trial, the RUC's mere name-change to PSNI.

Ex-RUC officers are now PSNI officers "investigating" their own murders, etc. Everything is back

to pre-1981 Hungerstrike days - even worse. Under the GFA, \$billions in offshore hydrocarbons were surrendered to Britain along



Shay McShane and Kevin Riley Delivering Patriot Headstones.

with the Six-Counties themselves in history's greatest transfer of national territory absent catastrophic military defeat (and the IRA were not militarily defeated). **"IRISH SLAVE-OWNERS"** was



a recent headline in British and Irish newspapers, as well as Irish-Central. Its source was British gov't records of compensation

paid to slave-owners (not to the slaves!) upon abolition in 1834.

The news excluded the names of

some two thousand compensated English slave-owners, but it named 99 "Irish families" as such. A Liam Hogan is writing a book about the "historical relationship between Limerick and slavery."

What the news reports and Hogan omit is the fact that the compensated "Irish" were genocidal landlords in Ireland such as Lord Sligo (Browne) of Westport,

Bagot, Brereton, Fullerton, Massy, and Massy-Dawson, etc. some with Irish addresses of Castle So-and-So.

"Irish" compensates included a Coddington, two Digg-LaTouches, Bedlow, Brice, Brooke, Broomfield, etc. The partial truth of this "Irish" slave-owner smear is evinced in nine Irish names among the 99 "Irish" compensates.

THE CRAIGAVON TWO (TC2) travesty exemplifies the GFA's evil. A GFA-condoned

court has re-convicted John Paul Wootton and Brendan McConville of murder. Lisburn City Independent Councilor Angela Nelson (a one-time GFA believer) provides the following shocking facts:

•WITNESS M DID NOT COME FORWARD FOR 11 MONTHS

•WITNESS M WAS INTOXICATED WHEN HE CONTACTED THE PSNI

•WITNESS M WAS FOUND TO HAVE CONTINUOUSLY LIED UNDER OATH

•WITNESS M'S TESTIMONY WAS MEDICALLY IMPOSSIBLE

•WITNESS M'S IDENTITY WAS HIDDEN TO STOP PROPER CROSS EXAMINATION

•WITNESS M WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS PARTNER ON NIGHT IN QUESTION, YET SHE IS UNABLE TO CONFIRM HIS VERSION OF EVENTS

•WITNESS M BENEFITED FINANCIALLY FROM HIS INVOLVEMENT

•A COVERT BRITISH ARMY UNIT INVOLVED IN EVIDENCE TAMPERING

•A TRACKING DEVICE FITTED TO WOOTTON'S CAR SHOWS

THE VEHICLE NEVER WENT ANYWHERE NEAR THE HOUSING ESTATE WHERE THE AK47 USED IN THE SHOOTING WAS LATER DISCOVERED.

•DATA FROM THE TRACKING DEVICE WAS MYSTERIOUSLY WIPED WHILST IN THE HANDS OF THE ARMY. NO PLAUSIBLE EXPLANATION WAS GIVEN AS TO WHY THIS HAPPENED.

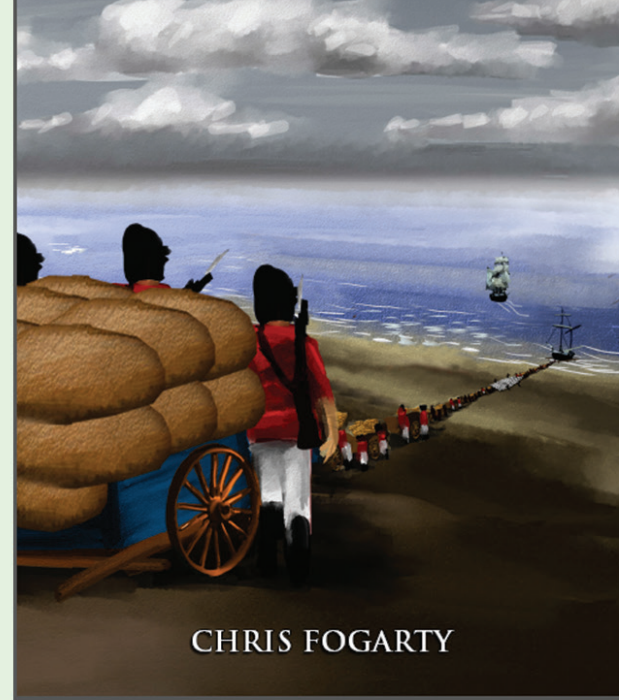
•WHEN THE SAID AK47 WAS DISCOVERED, A PARTIAL FINGERPRINT WAS FOUND ON THE INTERNAL SPRING MECHANISM OF THE MAG-AZINE. THIS FINGERPRINT WAS CHECKED AGAINST THE FINGERPRINTS OF MC-CONVILLE AND WOOTTON. NO MATCHES WERE FOUND.

"These are the facts of the case. More information available from their legal representatives, our committee, or me, Angela Nelson angelanelsonindependent@gmail.com." Also see www.justiceforthecraigavontwo.com. WHICH BRIT REG'T starved your relatives? See www.irishholocaust.org. WHO ARE THE TERRORISTS? See www.terrorismireland.org

GFA BENEFICIAL? See www.michaelmckevitt.com, www.billymcguire.com MI5/FBI; See www.chicagomole.org. WRITE to Ireland's patriot/prisoners. For names/addresses contact maryosullivanpaa@gmail.com or 312/437-3175.

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The 16th Chicago Irish Film Festival brings some of the best of contemporary Irish film to Chicago. This year we have an amazing selection of narrative features, documentaries and Irish shorts. Highlights of the festival include Filmbase's charming rom-com Poison Pen, Tom Collin's edgy crime thriller An Brontannas, Patrick Ryan's tension filled revenge film Darkness on the Edge of Town and Brian Reddin's humorous tribute to filmmaker Roger Corman in It Came from Connemara. This year's films shed a new light on many aspects of Irish life, history and identity that will surprise, entertain and fascinate: come and enjoy the Féile.

For the full program & tickets visit: www.chicagoirishfilmfestival.com

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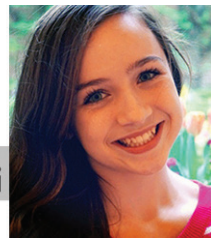
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Reel Jiggy

Deirdre Kozicki



What a wild past few months these have been for me. I have been busy with a number of things. After a rather disappointing Oireachtas placement, I realized a lot about what makes Irish dance enjoyable. Although I did not place as well as I had hoped, it was one of the more fun Oireachtas because I became a lot closer with my dance friends who were all so supportive and helped me feel better after I had been feeling down. That's just the kind of sport Irish dance is. You have to roll with the punches it gives you and try to make the most out of it. You just have to work harder next time and I am so motivated for next Oireachtas. (Sadly, my school will not be participating in Nationals this year due to a judging conflict.) On the last day, my friend Sinead and I got to help prepare the under 8 dancers for their solo competition. We got to take them from stage to stage, help get them ready, and calm any last minute nerves. I had never really thought about being a dance teacher or anything like that but this experience kind of reminded me that is always an option and it is a fun thing to do. I always forget

CWI Hosts Kathy O'Neill

Continued from page 53

lives in Logan Square with the dashing musician, Mark Piekarz. Kathy O'Neill is a writer, journalist, special events producer and publicist. She works for the Irish American Heritage Center and often appears on in the media, such as NPR and the Chicago Sun Times, discussing issues of Irish identity. O'Neill has been a writer for NewCity Newspapers and was the Midwest Correspondent for ABCNews.com. She has also worked for Redmoon Theater, the Democratic National Convention, Nightline, Good Morning America and World News Tonight, with Peter Jennings.

there is more to dance than actually being a dancer.

It's now March though, arguably the most fun month for Irish dancers everywhere. I know some people hate doing all the St. Patrick's Day shows, but I love them. You get to show off and dance in front of tons of people and they won't even know if you're that good or not. It is really stress free and reminds me of why it's nice to Irish dance. It's nice to just forget about competitions for a month and dance for the fun of it. It's the one month were Irish dancers are remembered and appreciated. Plus, the end of March brings the start of the World Championships in Montreal, Canada this year. I just want to give a quick shout out to all my fellow Mullane Healy Godley friends going to Worlds. I wish you the very best of luck! I know you will all kill it. I wish I was there with you guys more than anything!

On a different note, my high school cheerleading team qualified for the IHSA state finals by placing 3rd at our sectional.

Qualifying was an amazing feeling because we hadn't qualified last year so we didn't know what to expect. State for cheer was kind of similar to a dance major because you get to stay in a hotel with your friends and you're just completely consumed with that sport for the weekend. Nothing else matters besides what you are there to do. The state floor is so intense and there are bright spotlights on you. I loved being able to show off for the cameras. My favorite part of the routine was when I was able to do an Irish jig. It is the first time that has ever been done in IHSA history and I love being able to say it was I that got to do it. It received so much great attention from everyone. My two sports got to collide that day, which was so exciting. I can't wait to be a senior on the team next year! I hope everyone has a blast this Saint Patrick's Day!

St. Patrick's Day Tradition Continues With Return Of Irish Tenor Paddy Homan To The Wilmette Theatre

Enjoy an evening of Celtic spirit and songs with Internationally acclaimed Irish tenor Paddy Homan

Wilmette, IL, – Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Chicago's favorite Irish Tenor Paddy Homan, who is bringing his concert "Irish Songs and Stories" to the Wilmette Theatre. The one night only performance will be on Monday, March 16, 2015 at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$22 in advance, \$25 at the door.

Hailing from Cork County, Homan is a born entertainer who crafts an authentic Irish experience with his lively and celebratory concerts. The evening will put concertgoers in the St. Patrick's Day mood with a musical medley of great Irish 'sing-songs.' Also featured will be accordion player John Williams, guitarist James Moore, fiddler Maggie Danaher and special guest, Nora Byrd.

"This is probably my 4th or 5th time coming to the theatre around St. Patrick's Day time, and has become a part of an annual tradition in Wilmette," said Homan. "I should say that when Jimmy, Maggie, Johnny and myself get together, it's always magic and electric. Nora's voice is amazing – it's crystal clear. She and I do a great rendition of 'Red is the Rose,' which I know the audience will enjoy. I'm looking forward to a fun and entertaining evening!"

Having been transplanted from the great County Cork in Ireland to the great County Cook in Illinois, Homan has adopted Chicago as his home. His passionate delivery of Irish songs, and deep knowledge of the history of these songs, has attracted appreciative notice from Irish music critics, fellow musicians and an ever-widening audience in Chicagoland and the USA. A master entertainer, Paddy brings to Chicago a vast repertoire of songs from Ireland in addition stories and a quick-witted Cork humor.

Currently, Homan is in rehearsals for a one-man show, which will come to theatres in fall 2015, on the history of Ireland between 1798 and 1916. Homan will re-tell the story of Ireland's road to in-

dependence through the songs of her people, as well as feature a few songs including Skibbereen and the Foggy Dew. The show is being produced by Michael Londra of Wexford House.

To learn more about Paddy, please visit: www.paddyhoman.com

Tickets can be purchased by visiting www.wilmettetheatre.com or by calling the box office at 847.251.7424



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Irish American Police Association

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**Just mention the Emerald Society of Illinois when you are
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**Additional Information and Map can be obtained at
www.emeraldsocietyofillinois.org**

Where Are They Now?

Katie Killacky Toomey was the 1999 Chicago Rose of Tralee. She graduated from the University of Illinois @ Champaign-Urbana with a BFA in theatre.

She was on the St Patrick's Day Chicago Parade Queen's Court for a number of years and also was a first runner-up in the Miss Illinois-Miss America contest.

She lived in Los Angeles for a decade where she was a member of SAG-AFTRA, traveled

performing stand up comedy and working as a commercial actress. In 2011 she returned to her hometown of Chicago where she worked at O'Connor Casting and was a comedy writer for various magazines.

She met her husband in Chicago while he was assigned to President Obama's security detail and in 2013 they welcomed their daughter, Margaret, and settled in the Washington, DC area.

Katie has been working

steadily in commercials and industrials. In 2015 she opened her business, Capital Coaching, which focuses on training actors, speakers and writers. She also works in freelance casting and continues to pursue acting as a profession. Her most recent work includes an upcoming episode in House of Cards Season 3.



4626 North Knox Avenue,
Chicago, IL 60630

(773) 282-7035

Website: irish-american.org

Sunday, March 8, 2015

Time: 3PM KELLY REUNION

Polo Cafe,
3322 South Morgan St. 60608
(773) 927-7656

PoloCafe.com

EVERGREEN PARK, IL

Monday, March 9, 2015

Time: 6:30PM

Evergreen Park Public Library,

9400 S. Troy Ave.,

Evergreen Park, IL 60805

(708) 422-8522

NAPERVILLE, IL

Wednesday, March 11, 2015

Time: 7PM

Anderson's Bookshop,

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andersonsbookshop.com

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Chicago Area Book Signings With Irish Author Mary Pat Kelly

Mary Pat Kelly will attempt a whirlwind book signing at the following locations around Chicagoland in March with her books, *Galway Bay* and the just released, *Of Irish Blood*.

Stop by and see her if you can!



GLENVIEW

Friday, March 6, 2015

Time: 12 NOON

Songs and Stories With Catherine O'Connell

Hackney's On Lake,

1514 E. Lake Ave.,

Glenview, IL 60025

(847) 724-7171

Website: Hackney's On Lake

ORLAND PARK

Friday, March 6, 2015

Time: 7PM

Irish Tunes and Tales With Catherine O'Connell

Orland Park Public Library,

14921 S. Ravinia Ave.,

Orland Park, IL 60462

(708) 428-5100

Website: Orland Park Library

CHICAGO

Saturday, March 7, 2015

Time: 1-3PM

Songs and Stories With Catherine O'Connell

Irish American Heritage Center,,

4626 North Knox Avenue,

Chicago, IL 60630 (773) 282-7035

Website: irish-american.org

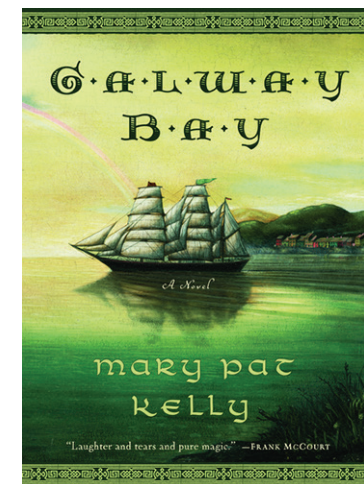
CHICAGO

Sunday, March 8, 2015

Time: 11:30AM

Irish American Teachers Assn.

Irish American Heritage Center,



August O'Neill Deuser Running for Congress in 2016

August is pro Second Amendment pro-life. He would sponsor

a term limit bill

to a maximum of

a two, four-year

terms, a pension

bill, a no foreign

aid bill, a trans-

parency bill, a vet-

erans bill, and an

education bill.

August is mar-

ried to Cynthia

for 35 years and

has two adult

children. He is a retired teacher,

and a graduate of the University

of Illinois at Chicago. He has a

Masters in education administration from Lewis University.

He resides in Lock-

port and was a 5 year

resident of Mokena

and 35 year resident

of Chicago.

August is a grand-

son, and son of Chi-

cago police officers.

He is a member of

the NRA, a union

representative and

a member of IEA /

NEA AND AFT Lo-

cal 604.

You can learn more about Au-

gust at www.deuser.us.



Crowley on Kells

By Frank Crowley



SS. Patrick and Columba

With March 17th here again, I was thinking about St. Patrick and St. Columba. They had more in common than I ever knew. For example, Patrick had a guardian angel. A little research revealed more similarities between the two most revered saints of Ireland.

As I've noted before, historians acknowledge that most of the reliable documentation about the earliest times of the Christianization of Ireland has been lost. The early history is a grand mixture of facts and legends and in the case of this column, simplified.

Patrick

Irish raiders captured a group of young men in Britain, which included Patrick, took them back to Ireland and sold them as slaves. Patrick spent six years in the northwest of Ireland as a sheep and cattle herder. Because of his religious devotion and kindness in aiding people during that time a guardian angel named Victor was sent to help and counsel Patrick. Eventually the angel helped Patrick escape to be reunited with his family in Britain. After a few years, Victor again appeared in a vision carrying innumerable letters and gave one

to Patrick. When Patrick began reading the first line of the letter, "The voice of the Irish people," when he heard Irish voices begging him to return and help them join the Church.

Patrick decided go to Gaul (France) to be trained for missionary work. After he was ordained a priest and later made a Bishop he returned to Ireland to begin his mission.

Columba

Born Colm Cille, he was from a ruling Northern Ui Neill clan that had complex political involvements. Many details are missing, but in 561, he was somehow con-



nected to the inter-clan battle of Cul Dreimhne with the Southern Ui Neills. A few years after this the newly ordained Columba sailed to the island of Hibna off the coast of Scotland. Around 563 he went to the island of Iona which became his center for conversions and baptisms. His evangelism resulted in new Catholic settlements throughout the area.

Patrick and Columba both experienced what could be described as a period of exile followed by the fulfillment of their religious missions.

Patrick and Columba Snakes and Dragons

Patrick is credited with banishing snakes from Ireland.

Columba is credited with confronting the Loch Ness monster. The beast tried to attack a fellow monk who was swimming out to a boat. With the sign of the cross and orders to go away, Columba forced the monster to return to the bottom of the lake

Again, showing both saints with control over dangerous reptiles.

Angels

Patrick's relationship with the guardian angel Victor, who counseled and aided him, lasted until Patrick died. In fact, it is recorded, when Patrick was very old and ready to die, Victor guided Patrick to the town of Ulydia.

Victor explained that it was the first town where Patrick began his conversions and the town where he would also die.

There are many stories of Columba's relationship with angels on Iona. Many were recounted by Adomnan, the ninth Abbot of the monastery at Iona in his book, "Life of St. Columba." These encounters with angels are said to have been witnessed by monks of the Iona Abby. Among these experiences, Columba is witnessed having long discussions with angels and on another occasion actually having a fist fight with an angel. Columba carried a scar as a result of that disagreement. The last sighting of angels and Columba was when they were carrying him up to heaven after he died.

These experiences of Patrick and Columba were very interesting to me. It may be that the two saints had to have similar miraculous achievements in order to be held in similar prominence in the history of Ireland.



The Chicago Chapter of Darkness Into Light

in support of Pieta House, Ireland and Chicago Irish Immigrant Support

announces the launch of its First Annual Darkness Into Light 5K Walk/Run

Join our launch event at

Galvin's Public House

5901 West Lawrence, Chicago

Sunday March 8 5 pm to 7 pm

Pieta House Ireland raises awareness and resources for self harm and suicide prevention in Ireland. Partnering with Chicago Irish Immigrant Support, we are planning this event to raise awareness in Chicago, to support the Irish Pieta Houses and to begin a support and awareness network for Irish in Chicago.

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4:30 AM

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Ireland: Crossroads of Art and Design, 1690-1840

Opening March 17th at the Art Institute

Showcases the Country's Decorative and Fine Arts

Exhibition of More Than 300 Objects From Public And Private Collections

Will Open With St. Patrick's Day Ribbon Cutting on Museum Steps

Ireland: Crossroads of Art and Design, 1690-1840, will open at the Art Institute of Chicago on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2015, with a special ribbon-cutting featuring bagpipes and local dignitaries. It will be the first major exhibition to showcase the decorative and fine arts of 18th century Ireland, bringing together more than 300 objects – many never before seen in public – lent by public and private collectors across North America.

The exhibition, which continues through June 7, 2015, will provide an extraordinarily rich overview of Ireland's creative legacy. To add to the Gaelic atmosphere of the show, a temporary Irish pub will be created in the museum's Café Moderno where guests can hoist a beer after they visit the exhibition.

The seeds for the exhibition were first planted by historian Desmond FitzGerald, the Knight of Glin, who in his 2007 book *Irish Furniture* outlined his vision for "a major exhibition on Ireland's Decorative arts of the 18th century, which would include furniture [and] bring together the common threads of the different fields. ... A show of this stature would waken up the world to a staggering array of art that was manufactured in Ireland during this period."

Ireland expands on FitzGerald's vision to also include paintings, sculpture and architecture as well as ceramics, glass, furniture, metalwork, musical instruments, and textiles. Such

an exhibition has never before been undertaken on either side of the Atlantic.



Lead funding for the exhibition has been provided by Kay and Fred Krehbiel, Jay Frederick Krehbiel, and the Krehbiel Family Foundation. The lead corporate sponsor of the event is Kerry Group.

A gala to celebrate the exhibition opening will be held at the



Art Institute on March 14. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Kara Shively at kshively@pjhchicago.com or (312) 553-2000, or visit the event

website.

Organized thematically in 10 galleries – from portraiture to landscapes, from Dublin to the Irish country house – the exhibition celebrates the Irish as artists, collectors, and patrons. Through this exhibition and its accompanying catalogue, these often little-known and mostly privately held objects will be shown together for the first time.

The exhibition begins in 1690, the year of the Battle of the Boyne, and ends in 1840, a few years before the onset of the Great Famine. Galleries will explore the harp as a symbol of Ireland; portraiture in Ireland; Dublin as a center of government, commerce, and education;

Irish landscapes and tourism; and the material world of the Irish country house (with particular attention to Carton House, County Kildare, and Headfort House, County Meath). A series of "Made in Ireland" galleries will feature objects in all media highlighting Dublin, Belfast, Cork, and Waterford as

centers of production and consumption, and will also include amateur arts such as needlework and cut paper. Objects representing more than 24 of Ireland's 32

counties will be on display.

The exhibition, organized by Christopher Monkhouse, Eloise W. Martin Chair and Curator, European Decorative Arts, was conceived with an American audience in mind, so one curatorial goal was to identify potential loans from public and private collections in the U.S. The Art Institute's own important Irish holdings serve as the nucleus of the exhibition. Added to those works are important objects with an Irish provenance, many never seen in public, from private collectors, as well as from major institutions such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the National Gallery of Art; and the J. Paul Getty Museum, Villa Collection.

"We hope this exhibition will present Ireland as a multilayered mix of artistic cross-currents," said Monkhouse, "and we are grateful to those collectors and institutions whose objects are enabling us to present a thorough view of this rich period of Irish creativity."

Notable items in the exhibition represent the breadth of Irish decorative arts practiced during the 18th century. The image of the harp became a key symbol of Ireland during this period, and Dublin craftsman John Egan was well known for his gut-strung Portable Irish Harps, one of which appears in the exhibition. Other musical instruments on display include a cither viol, also called a Sultana, and an upright piano, an Irish invention.

A broad selection of paintings and works on paper are on display, including Irish landscapes, still lifes and portraiture. Examples range from Robert Fagan's titillating *Portrait of a Lady as Hibernia* to a rare group portrait of officers and Belfast literati, Joseph Wilson's *The Adelphi Club*, Belfast. Neoclassical artist Adam Buck is represented



by a self-portrait with his family, which includes a poignant marble statue of a deceased child that presents a stark contrast to the elegant setting and Buck's fashionable clothing.

Two of the highlights of the exhibition are from the museum's own collection: One, a fine example of Irish furniture, is a marquetry desk and bookcase made by John Kirkhoffer. The other is an important piece of silver by Dublin silversmith Thomas Bolton, a large monteith, or bowl, used for cooling wine glasses or serving punch.

The exhibition catalogue features essays by leading scholars including Toby Barnard, Tom Dunne, Finola O'Kane, Kevin Mulligan and Brendan Rooney. Published in association with Yale University Press, it will create a lasting record of the Irish objects that have made their way to North America. Other media prepared for the exhibition include a special audio tour and a CD of Irish music by fiddlers Liz Knowles and Chicagoan Liz Carroll.

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windy city gaels

youth irish football
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March 8 March 22 March 29 10 am to 11:30 am

Contact: Jerry Kealy 773.719.2847

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The tour starts in the heart of Dublin City, and continues south to take in the sights and sounds of Cork City and Killarney in Kerry. From there it is up the stunningly rugged and picturesque west coast to Ennis in County Clare and then onwards to Galway for a whole weekend experiencing the best the west of Ireland has to offer. For good measure Galway plays host to one of Ireland's most popular festivals, the Galway Oyster Festival, the same weekend that we will be there!

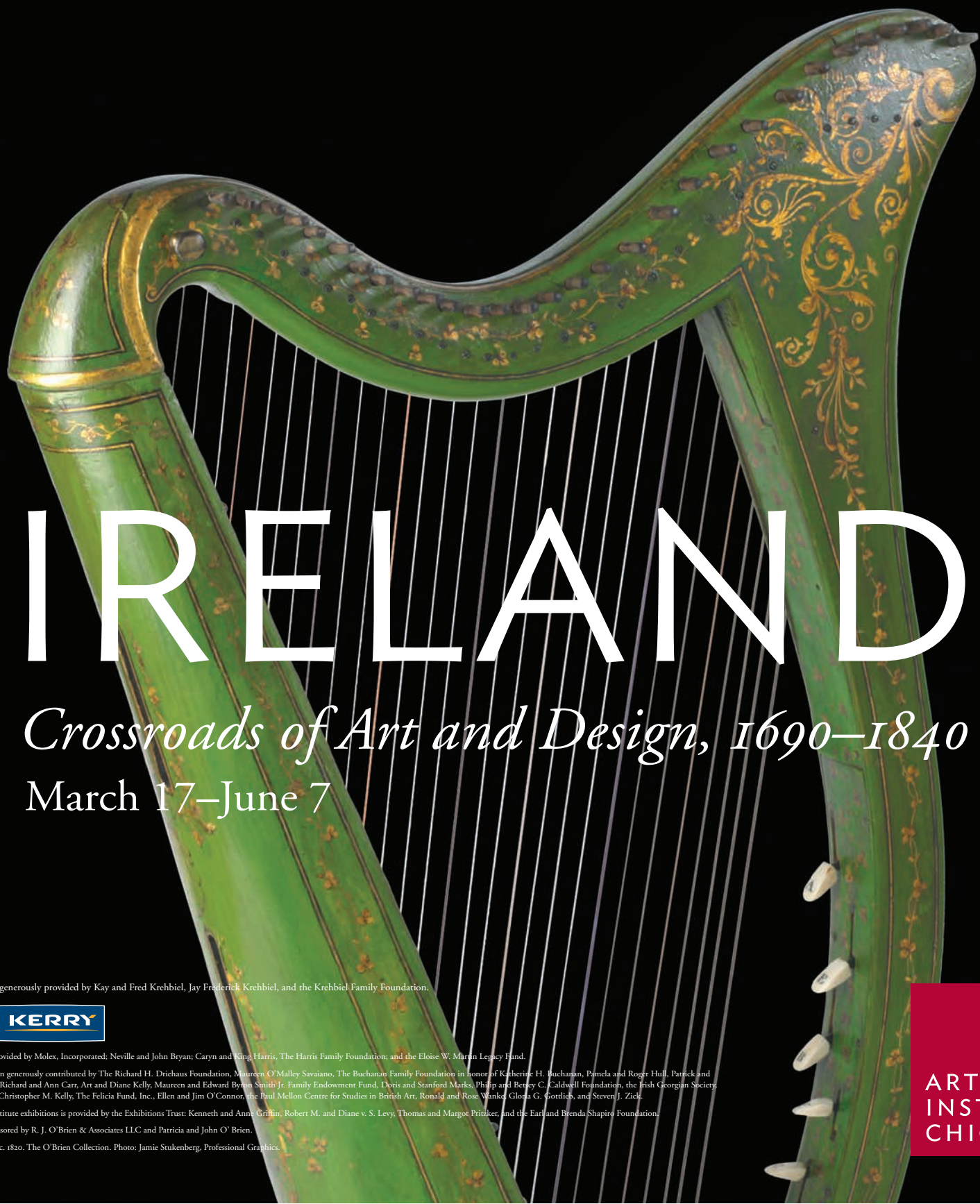
All the hotels included in the tour have been selected for quality, and their location in the center of their respective cities. They offer easy walking distance to shopping, nightlife and attractions.

Traveling around Ireland on board luxury escorted coaches, you will see castles aplenty, country estates, beautiful towns and villages and scenery to make your eyes water. Evenings will be equally rich with joy as you experience the famed Irish hospitality at each stopping point. We have laid on three fantastically entertaining 'Dinner Shows' and every night will be marked by camaraderie and 'craic.'
We will be visiting top attractions such as King John's Castle, the Ring of Kerry, the Rock of Cashel, the Cliffs of Moher and many others. You'll even get a chance to kiss the famed Blarney Stone at Blarney Castle in Cork!





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John Egan. *Portable Harp*, c. 1820. The O'Brien Collection. Photo: Jamie Stukenberg, Professional Graphics.

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