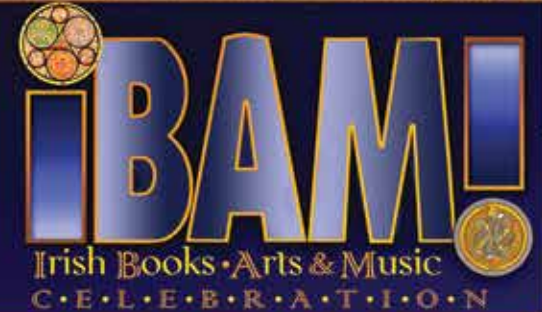




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for this year's festival, offering the widest selection of Irish and Celtic music to date.

Stay on top of festival updates at IrishFest.com, on Facebook at [facebook.com/irishfest.milwaukee](https://www.facebook.com/irishfest.milwaukee), or on Twitter

@MKEIrishFest.

Hours:

Thursday, August 13th – 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Friday, August 14th – 4 p.m. to midnight



Saturday, August 15th – Noon to midnight

Sunday, August 16th – 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Admission:

Adults: \$17

Seniors 60+: \$12

Kids 12 & Under: FREE



Milwaukee Irish Fest makes it easy and affordable to enjoy the festival. There is a wide variety of special promotions and discounts guests can take advantage of, including discounts for college students, seniors, military personnel and their families. The festival is always FREE for children ages 12 years old and under. To learn more about discounts and special promotions, visit IrishFest.com and click on the "Festival Info" tab.



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Mother Clutter Buster

Procrastinate No More

by Rita Emmett

Fadden More Psalter (Part 1)

Usually this column deals with procrastination and clutter, but today I want to share a story with you and possibly introduce you to something you've not known about.

Last month, while exploring the National Museum of Ireland in Dublin, hubby Bruce felt weary so found a place to sit. Next to him was a whole room devoted to the Faddan More Psalter so



Faddan More Psalter in situ

having absolutely no idea what the heck that was, I had to investigate.

Turns out, Psalter means contains Psalms (OK, you probably knew that) and this one was written possibly by monks around 800 AD, similar to the

Book of Kells.

It was found in a bog in Tipperary in 2006. Just nine years ago!! My mind was reeling. How is it

I never heard about this?

We both love learning about the Book of Kells and follow Frank Crowley's column in this newspaper, plus the talks he presents on it. Frank has turned us into such raving fans of the Book of Kells that when we have Irish guests, we make an appointment with him to see the replica of it at the Irish American Heritage Center museum and hear the story about it.

Awestruck by the finding of this Tipperary manuscript, I continued to act like a calm normal person, but my mind was bouncing with excitement to learn more about it and I was on a quest for the story of how it was found.

Exploring the exhibit, I saw replications of the pages, maps of Ireland and of where it was found in Tipperary, explanations of the papyrus inside the covers, and photos of the leather pouch that probably transported it. All

fascinating! Still my mind was craving to hear how it was found. I want to hear the story.

Just as I was getting cranky and ready to begin sulking about the lack of a story, I turned a corner. There

it was!! And I could hear angel choirs singing the Alleluia Chorus. (No... not in the museum ... just in my mind..... but it was loud.)

Exactly what I was seeking. About 20 photos in a row. First a picture of a bog, next one of a machine lifting a rectangle of peat.

And then...enchanted... three men in a waist-deep trench handing up the brown book on a white board to men above. They raised it as if it was sacred, the way a priest lifts the host at the Consecration. Or like the opening scene of The Lion King. I was riveted by that picture.

No one else was at this display except one man. I turned to him and blurted "Isn't this fantastic?? Did you see this photo?" He asked what about that particular picture. I said, "I wonder if they

are scientists or maybe just field workers. I wonder if they know what they are holding."

He pointed to the back of the head of one of the guys in the ditch and pointed to himself. "Look familiar?"

"You!!??" I shouted, "Did you work there??" (The Alleluia music got louder ... with more harmonies...and more joy.) However, he looked startled at my over-the-top reaction and a bit scared of me.

"Um...I...um.... own the land and ...yes... I work there."

This was just what I wanted. Way more than I could have ever prayed for.

But guess what. This column is out of room. So tune in next time to hear his incredible story.

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Coyne Re-Elected

James F. Coyne is the Business Manager of Plumbers Local Unions 130 U.A.

Jim is a 38 year member of the Union and in his first 25 years of his plumbing career he worked on many commercial buildings in downtown Chicago. In 1987, Jim was appointed by Business Manager James J. McCarthy as a part time officer. Since then, he has held multiple part time positions up until 2000 when Business Manager Gerald M. Sullivan appointed Jim a full time position as the Recording Secretary. In 2002 Jim was appointed as the Financial Secretary-Treasurer where he served for the next 10 years. In 2012 Jim was elected as the Business Manger. Jim also serves as the President of the



James Coyne

Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee which produces the annual downtown parade.

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the CURRAGH

IRELAND BY WAY OF THE WINDY CITY

by Ralph Banville

"When the belly is full, the bones like to stretch ..." Irish proverb

There is no better place to stretch after a great meal – to relax with a drink and something sweet, tell stories and laugh, perhaps bounce a kid on your knee – than the private party room at the Curragh, an Irish pub in Edison Park.

"Right in the heart of the Irish community on Chicago's north-west side, a strong neighborhood of policemen and firemen" said Sean Ginnelly, general manager of the pub at 6705 North Northwest Highway.

"Having a party with us is a very simple process," said Ginnelly, a native of Castlebar in County Mayo in the old country. "Pick your menu from several we offer, select your drink options and we'll be ready for you." The host of the "Good Morning Ireland" radio show – heard Saturday afternoons from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on WCEV, 1450 on the AM dial – Ginnelly emphasized the convenience and affordability of the sophisticated venue.



Simply called "The Room," the 2,000 square foot loft above the Curragh pub features iron chandeliers, floors made of slate and hardwood and private dressing rooms for bridal parties to get ready for their guests.

and cabbage, ribs and pasta and whatever else someone might want for the fun of it. Sit down weddings to pizza parties of the kid's team." It can be light fare or as heavy as you want.

And there's a large stone fireplace for holiday parties that will be here before you've realized you forgot to buy a gift for Uncle Finnian.

"Christmas, graduations, showers, anniversaries birthdays, wakes, we're here to welcome all of them," said Ginnelly, noting that any of the more than two-dozen beers on tap in the pub – from the artisanal Temperance Gatecrasher to the old faithful of Guinness -- can be pumped upstairs for private parties.

It debuted last November and can accommodate 100 people for a sit-down dinner and up to as 150 people for a dance party. Bring your own records for a sock-hop or ask the Curragh to provide live music, as they do regularly in the downstairs pub.

As Van "The Man" Morrison sang, "Come on out and dance, come on out and make romance."

There are several custom menu options – elevated pub food to pizza that allows a customer to mix and match between the menus – for private parties in the Room. Ginnelly said the Curragh's "Finest Fayre Buffet" is among the most popular.

"It's a mix of Irish and American," he noted. "Corned beef



The Edison Park Curragh is one of three in greater Chicago – the other pubs are in Skokie (with outdoor patio) and Glenview (with a sidewalk patio) -- along with a fourth on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan in the Wolverine State town of Holland.

The most recent Curragh to come on line is the one in Glenview –which opened last year – and serves the many specialties of Chef George. “Chef George is highly creative and really takes our menu to another level,” says Ginnelly.



Chef George with rack of lamb

The area of Ireland known as the Curragh is a flat, open plain of nearly 5,000 acres in County Kildare. The area, with its expanse of sandy soil, is renowned for the breeding and training of horses.

As a wide, open space, it was often used for mustering armies. During the 1798 rebellion – also known as the United Irishmen Rebellion against British rule – a massacre took place in the Curragh at Gibbet Rath. The Curragh Camp is now there, a training ground for Irish Defense Forces.

Along the Curragh is a naturally-formed amphitheater known to the locals as Donnelly's Hollow. There, the Irish champion boxer Dan Donnelly [1788-to-1820] defeated the English champion George Cooper in 1815. Legend has it that the remains of the great Donnelly's arm were on reliquary display for a time at the Hideout Pub not far from the Hollow in the town of Kilcullen.

And while the walls of the various Curragh pubs in Chicagoland are adorned with many a pleasing Irish aphorism – “There are not strangers here, only friends you haven't yet met” – you may be sure that the only arms in sight are those of friends toasting to one another's health.

"Toasting the health of ones enemies' enemies" - Sláinte!



“There's a private space at the Glenview as well for small business meetings but they can also do full-on weddings,” said Ginnelly.

Located at 1800 Tower Drive in the Glen Town Center, the Glenview Curragh covers weekend brunch (featuring a great pesto scramble with ham off the bone), lunch (try the delicious and healthy Tuscan Kale Salad), and a dinner menu featuring salads, steaks, burgers, and seafood. Chef George also creates daily specials.

The Oysters Rockefeller are stuffed with spinach and topped with Hollandaise sauce. Wash that down with an Irish orange soda for a culinary combo of brine and bubbles!





Save the Date

IASCW CelticFest
Saturday August 29, 2015.
At St. Joe's Park in
Joliet. Live music all day!

The Irish American Society of County Will hereby pledges itself to the following ideals:

- * To promote Irish culture in America and to preserve Irish-American Heritage
- * To promote education, friendship, understanding and cooperation among members, and the community in general.
- * To promote and cooperate in the general welfare work of the community.

WILL COUNTY CELTICFEST:

The Irish American Society of County Will presents Celtic Fest 2015 Saturday, Aug. 29th at St. Joe's Park, 1500 Raynor Ave., Joliet, IL 60435. The website is will-countycelticfest.com. The fest is fun for the whole family and is a celebration of Irish music, culture and heritage. Admission is just \$5/ adults, children 12 and under are free with an adult. The fest features great live music from various



Gavin Coyle

performers including Larkin & Moran Brothers, Reilly, John Condron, the Hatfield Sisters, Gavin Coyle and Pat Otto.

Gavin Coyle kicks off the Celtic Fest 2015 main stage musical entertainment at 12:30 p.m. Gavin is an accomplished singer and songwriter whose musical range covers pop and folk music as well as traditional music from his native Derry in Northern Ireland. His performances often reflect this versatility as he mixes traditional and original compositions. In addition to being a guitarist, he plays several other instru-

ments including the bodhran (an Irish drum) and the flute. Gavin's musical influences are a varied lot: Elvis, Patsy Cline, Beethoven, U2, The Velvet Underground and John Williams. Check out the full lineup at willcountycelticfest.com.

Proceeds from the fest support scholarships enabling high school students to study through the Irish Life Experience Program in Ireland. CelticFest will feature a St. Baldrick's Foundation head-shaving event to raise funds



Reilly

to fight childhood cancer.

Celtic Fest Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Will-County-Celtic-Fest/166140760233383>

Sponsorships are available. For information contact: Tim Brophy at tmb777@aol.com.

Calendar of upcoming events

August 29 - Jailbreak-Rugby Fest - , Will County Celtic Fest, St. Joseph Park, 1500 N Raynor Ave., Joliet www.willcountycelticfest.com

September 5, outing to Australia v. US Rugby game, Soldier Field, Chicago www.countywillirish.net

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SLATE OF OFFICERS ANNOUNCED:

The IASCW year runs from the Celtic new year of November 1 to October 31st each year. Members are entitled to nominate officers and directors for election at the annual meeting. Volunteers are welcome. If interested, please contact board secretary Sharon Houk at smhouk@gmail.com. Those proposed by the board include:

Chairman - Mic Brophy
President - Chris Schall
Vice President - open
Secretary - Sharon Houk
Treasurer - Tim Brophy
New Member - open
2016 Director - open
2017 Director - open
2018 Director - Dan Maher
2018 Director - Coley O'Connell

Who Wants to Bingo?

The hilarious, interactive dinner/theater experience "We Gotta Bingo," will officially open in Chicago Monday, Aug. 3 at 7 p.m. at the new Chicago Theater Works (1113 W. Belmont).

In the spirit of "Tony n' Tina's Wedding," "We Gotta Bingo" will treat guests to a night of raucous, interactive, theatrical fun. This exciting new show, directed by Ross Young, allows guests to mix and mingle with a lively cast of characters while eating, drinking and playing bingo all night long!

The ensemble cast includes Jane Allyson (Rosa), Mitch Conti (Jeremy), Jerry Marzullo (Rudy), Riley McIlveen (Stephen), Sheila O'Connor (Franny), Jennifer Pompa (Mary), Mollie Rehner (Sister Mary Catherine), Merrick Robison (Bucky), Tyler Rood (Tyler), Jessica Scott (Darla), Gary Smiley (Father Duncan), Michael Tatar (Helmut), Tamara White (Moira) and Susan Wingerter

(Sister Gigi).

The fun, interactive premise of "We Gotta Bingo" allows audience members to be immersed in a dynamic, riotous show filled with music, comedy and of course, bingo! As guests enter into the German beer hall known as "Der Brew-Ha-Ha," they are greeted by the lively house polka band as well as the rousing, colorful cast of characters that soon become their dinner dates and bingo partners for the evening. Guests soon learn that they are amongst two rival Chicago parishes, one Italian and one Irish, who are set to merge with one another—against their wishes—and are participating in this bingo bonanza in order to raise money for the imminent union. In between exhilarating games of bingo, all in attendance are treated to an Italian dinner, drinks, dancing, music, mayhem and more.

"We Gotta Bingo" was first presented by the Actors Theater of Minnesota in 2004. Since then, the show has played in various

venues throughout the Midwest including Playhouse Square in Cleveland and has delighted more than 100,000 theatergoers of every age. The Star Tribune hails the show as "a hilarious night of Bingo and Beer. 'We Gotta Bingo' is great fun!" The Stillwater Gazette states that "We Gotta Bingo" is "a tremendous play" and Lavender Magazine calls it "a wild affair."

Regular performances are Fridays at 7 p.m., Saturdays at 8:30 p.m. and Sundays at 5 p.m. Tickets for regular performances are priced from \$64.75 - \$74.75 and include a meal and select non-alcoholic beverages. Other beverages are available for purchase.

Tickets can be obtained by visiting wegottabingo.com or by calling 312-391-0404.

Discounted tickets for groups of 16 or more are currently available at GroupTix by calling 773.327.3778 or visiting grouptix.net. Please visit wegottabingo.com for more information.

New Scoreboard at Gaelic Park

Its a very exciting month this month at Gaelic park as the old scoreboard gets torn down to be replaced by the new giant. After many challenging weeks of construction and hard work

digging and conduit pipes were installed and wiring for the electronics were buried. Scaffolding was mounted and up the scoreboard went with the assistance of strong men and hours of crane

foot deep, displaying the clock, team name, points and scores. The score can be seen from all fields not just the main field, and the score can be seen from the approach road to Gaelic park. The light is astounding from the score board display and if left on, it can illuminate the field for the kids to play at night after the games.

The next phase is constructing the commemorative brick wall. All orders have been finalized and the bricks ordered. Deliver of the brick will be mid August. We are expecting our sponsors sign this week and that will be done in addition to the brick wall. Expected date of completion is the third week in August. Following the completion of the project A ribbon cutting ceremony will take place, blessing of the new score board, and a thank you event for all that assisted in the construction of the scoreboard and sponsors of the project.

manipulation. After some test driving the electronics checking and re checking, the score board is fully operational. It has a display front spanning 26 feet wide, three



the twenty foot steel posts were installed to mount the scoreboard on. Followed by the steel cross bars, bracket installation and support beams from the back. After approve, the trench

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**New Northside Men's
American Born
Junior Irish Football Team Forming**

Wednesday August 12 6:30 pm

Taft High School

6530 West Bryn Mawr, Chicago



The Windy City Gaels and the Chicago Celtic Youth Irish Football teams are joining forces to organize an all-American born junior men's Irish football team based on Chicago's north side. This team will be a stepping stone to the older adult teams.

We are looking for men aged 16 and older who are interested in learning Irish football for the first time or becoming reacquainted with their favorite youth sport. This is an opportunity for those finishing high school or college (and beyond) to be active in one of the world's best sports.

This team is fully supported by the north side adult teams including the Padraig Pearse Gaelic Football Club, John McBride's GAA Club, Limerick Hurling Club and the Aisling Gaels Chicago Ladies Gaelic Football Club. Join us for our initial training on Wednesday August 12 at Taft High School fields. No prior experience necessary. All welcome.

Contact Jerry Kealy 773.719-2847 or Mickey Brady 773.426.4815 for further details.



2015 North American County Board Championship Playoffs

By Eamonn Kelly

For the first time since 2010 Chicago Gaelic Park will host this year's North American County Board National Championships playoffs. The 33 rd. staging of this huge sporting event is scheduled for the Labor Day weekend, September 4th



Photo by John Wijsman

thru 6th.

Based on team affiliations and the number of divisional championships currently in progress around the country all indications show that it may be the biggest NACB tournament ever staged. Thirty two cities were represented in eighty seven games that were played five years ago here in Chicago. Ninety nine games, including runner-up shield games, were played in last year's playoffs in Boston. Given that new teams from New Jersey and Virginia as well as Toronto, over 100 games with teams representing between 35 and 50 cities and suburban towns are expected to expand the schedule for this year's playoffs. Also, for the second consecutive year the Cayman Islands will be part of the playoffs, competing in men's junior B football and ladies junior B football.

A special playoff committee headed by former North American County Board Chairman Harry Costello, and the Chicago Central division under the chairmanship of Mike Flanagan are completing arrangements for the playoffs which are expected to attract over 8,000 spectators over the course of the holiday weekend. It is anticipated that about 2,000 people from out of town will be attending the games. Besides the main Gaelic Park field, four additional fields adjacent to the main complex have been prepared to facilitate the huge tournament. Also, additional fields are all set to accommodate the youth tournament.

A special pre-playoff meeting was held

in Gaelic Park in late June to conduct the draw for the playoffs and discuss other important issues such as transportation and accommodation in preparation for the event. For several years the pre-

playoff committee had to struggle to structure the senior hurling and football championships to make them more competitive with only teams from Chicago, Boston and San Francisco competing. However, in recent years, with the return of senior football to Philadelphia and the addition of teams from Toronto and Vancouver the senior grades have become extremely more competitive and very entertaining. For the first time there will be quarter finals in the senior hurling and football championships with the entrance of Canadian clubs.

Typically, the winners of each divisional championship will represent their division in the playoffs but there will be cases where two teams from the same division will be entered in the same grade. In some cases, the defeated divisional finalists will represent their division in a lower grade in the playoffs. Since there are teams from several cities competing for divisional championships in various grades it may not be known until mid to late August what club or city will have qualified for the playoffs. Consequently, divisions or cities rather than club names will be identified in the initial draw.

Following is the draw for the 2015 NACB Championship playoffs.

Senior Hurling: Quarter-final

Toronto vs Vancouver

Semi-finals

Chicago vs Vancouver or Toronto

Boston vs San Francisco

Junior A Hurling: Semi-finals:

Vancouver vs Washington DC

Boston vs Indianapolis

Junior B Premier Hurling:

Semi-Finals

Austin Celtic Cowboys vs San Jose

Northeast vs Chicago Michael Cusacks

Junior B Hurling Quarter finals:

Northeast vs Raleigh

Milwaukee vs San Diego St. Peter's

Baltimore vs St. Louis

Bye to semi-finals – Twin Cities

Junior C Hurling

Preliminary rounds:

Milwaukee vs Philadelphia

Atlanta vs Naperville (IL)

Twin Cities vs Indianapolis

Seattle vs Northeast

Continued on page 41

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**Dingle
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Undocumented Irish in America

A new group has been established in Ireland to campaign on behalf of the Undocumented Irish in America. The group, called The Families of the Undocumented Irish in America, will be chaired by Bundoran man Michael McMahon. Speaking after the launch, Mr McMahon said: "For far too long, successive Irish governments have sat on their hands and failed to support their citizens living in America. The current American administration has exhausted all avenues to

with the American administration. Other countries like Israel, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic and Australia already participate in this waiver scheme. Despite knowing about the existence of this visa waiver scheme for over four years, which could have been the solution for a significant number of our undocumented citizens in America, the Irish government has failed to seek this option for our people. We believe that the Irish government should immediately explore the po-



Pictured in Donegal Town at the launch of The Families of the Undocumented Irish in America are members of the group, including the Chairperson Michael McMahon (centre) and local politicians Phil Flanagan MLA Sinn Féin (left), Councillor Martin Kenny Sinn Féin (second from right) and Senator Marc MacSharry (right).

introduce comprehensive immigration reform at this stage, but I am hopeful that the issue will resurface during and after the coming Presidential election campaign. However, there exists a mechanism for the Irish government to involve itself in resolving the plight of the undocumented Irish in America through a visa waiver scheme, which remove the three and ten year unlawful presence bars for undocumented citizens. "Thousands of families across Ireland have been failed by this current government.

Mexico received 58,000 of these waivers in 2011 alone according to the New York Times, all because the Mexican government pursued it

tential for the introduction of a visa waiver scheme for undocumented Irish citizens living in America. In March of this year, a briefing was held in Dublin for TDs, Senators and MLAs and a clear call was made of the Minister for Foreign Affairs Charlie Flanagan TD to raise this issue with the American Embassy in Dublin. Contact was made with the Embassy, but it only came from a secretary within the department and not from the Minister himself. We are left asking if citizens are not worth Minister's Flanagan's time and effort?

To date, Charlie Flanagan has never formally asked the US Ambassador to Ireland Kevin O'Malley for these

waivers. An Taoiseach has also never asked Mr O'Malley for these waivers. The important thing about these waivers is that they would be granted by the American Embassy in Dublin, but Irish government must formally ask the US Ambassador for them. Ministers do not need to Washington DC or to New York to do this.

The Irish government just needs to go to the US Embassy in Dublin and formally ask for the visa waivers to be granted to eligible Irish citizens. I am calling for them to do that as a matter of priority and The Families of the Undocumented Irish in America will continue to put pressure on them until they do. We will be

holding a series of meetings across the island of Ireland in the coming weeks. I would encourage people interested in joining our campaign or lending us a hand to get in contact by email on irishundocumented@gmail.com or find us on Twitter @IRLUndocumented."



Photo by Steve Rogers @ Sligo

The Inimitable

Sharon Shannon



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Photo by Steve Rogers @ Sligo



Murrays Will Miss Milwaukee

Tom and Rose Murray of Murray's Irish House, one of the very first vendors at Milwaukee's Irish Fest will not be celebrating their 35th year as a vendor this year. Along with their daughter, Kathleen Murray Devitt, and her husband Roger Devitt of Murray's Irish Outfitters whose

store is in Oak Brook, Illinois, we would like to thank all of our loyal customers, many of which have become, great friends over the last 35 years.

We loved traveling to Ireland every year to bring you beautiful Irish sweaters, and unique Irish Jewelry, that we hand picked,

with our customers in mind. We will miss taking care of all of our very loyal customers in this way.

In the beginning, we carried exclusively our custom designed "Tom Murray Irish sportswear"

Every year at Irish Fest we would have customers that would stop by to show us some of their favorite T-shirts that they were wearing, some of which

were over 30 years old! and are still going!

We loved hearing these testimonials from all of you, we always tried to bring our customers the very best product we could.

Tommy Makem of the Clancy Brothers, famously named one of our T-shirts "the Field of Shamrocks" when he was performing on stage and a great number of the crowd was wearing one of Tom's latest designs. He said, "All I see from here is a field of Shamrocks!"

He later stopped by our booth that night, and we had the privilege of selling this design to Tommy Makem, to carry in his bar in New York, The Irish Pavilion.

We will miss seeing all of you this year, but you can still find us at Murray's Irish Outfitters, at the store in Oak Brook, or reach us at murraysirishoutfitters.com. Our phone number is 630-572-1520 if you would like to contact us directly.

Tom is now spending his time painting the beautiful scenery of Ireland and it's historic monuments. Ireland is the birthplace of both of his parents. We invite you to visit

Tom Murray's beautiful Irish Artwork at tmurrayirishart.bigcartel.com

Until we meet again, We thank you for all of your loyal business and friendships! The Murray's

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Waiting for a Star to Fall

Alyson Hughes can't take it anymore!

Between her dead-end job, odious boss, and two-timing boyfriend, she needs to go somewhere far away from Cork, Ireland. Order book here!

When a position opens up at her company's New York subsidiary, Aly leaps at the opportunity. The Big Apple would be the perfect place to make a new start, plus her two best friends live there.

But leaving Ireland's second city for America's first has its share of problems. Not only are Jen and Karen battling personal demons, bosses are the same wherever you go, and Aly soon realizes the grass isn't greener on the other side of the pond. It would take something, or someone, extraordinary to make her stay . .

currently live in London and have done for 11 years now.

For many years I knew I wanted to do something more than be a PA and always dabbled in a little writing, nobody was really aware of this, but my friends who received my long emails! :-)) Leaflets from the Writers Bureau kept falling through my door in London a few years back.

One would fall through the letterbox, I'd think about it and forget about it again, but when they started coming every two weeks or so, I took it as a sign and completed one of their courses. It was from this I started writing my first novel "Waiting for a Star to Fall" which I have self published.

I've got many more ideas for my next novel or novels and one day I too want to tackle a screen play - which may be a bit ambitious, but now I've come this far, I'm not going to stop following the dream. Find the book on Facebook under Elaine Cremin



About the Author

Basically, I work as a Personal Assistant and have done for over 20 years in various cities, from Cork, Dublin, Rome and London. My dream would be to work and live in New York.I

Ed Burns Stars in New Series

This summer, TNT is going to take viewers to the seedy, gritty streets and the bright, seductive lights of 1960s New York with *Public Morals*, a powerful, buzz-generating police drama from writer, director, executive producer and star Edward Burns (*Saving Private Ryan*, *The Brothers McMullen*, TNT's *Mob City*). The series premiere of TNT's *Public Morals* will air Tuesday August 25 at 10pmET.

Executive produced by Steven Spielberg, *Public Morals* takes place in the seedy, gritty streets and the bright, seductive lights of New York in the 1960s. The show centers on Terry Muldoon (played by Edward Burns), an officer of the Public

as executive producer is Aaron Lubin. *Public Morals* is set to premiere Tuesday, Aug. 25, at 10 p.m. (ET/PT) on TNT, with availability via TNT's on-demand, digital and mobile platforms the following day.

The city has laws on the books that no one wants enforced, rules to curb all kinds of sin and vice. Gambling and prostitution are as old as the city itself. And the cops in the *Public Morals*



Morals Division, which investigates vice crimes in the city; his family, including wife Christine (Elizabeth Masucci); and his partner, Charlie Bullman (Michael Rapaport). The series focuses on the crimes the officers investigate, including an escalating war within two factions of the Irish-American Mob, as well as on the cops' home lives, especially Terry's relationship with his wife and kids. Muldoon must figure out how to maintain control over his tightly ordered world. *Public Morals* also stars Michael Rapaport (*Justified*, *Prison Break*) and Elizabeth Masucci (*The Americans*, *Inside*

Division do what's been done for the last hundred years. They manage it for the city. But for Terry Muldoon (Burns), this all might come to an end when a war between two factions of the Irish Mob breaks out in his own Hell's Kitchen neighborhood, prompting his wife, Christine (Masucci), to demand that they leave the city for good.

Also starring in *Public Morals* are Ruben Santiago-Hudson (*Castle*, *Low Winter Sun*) as Lt. King; Wass Stevens (*House of Cards*, *The Wrestler*) as Vince Latucci; Keith Nobbs (*In Plain Sight*, *The Pacific*) as Pat Duffy; Austin Stowell (*Whiplash*) as



Amy Schumer). The series is produced in collaboration with Amblin Television and executive producers Steven Spielberg, Justin Falvey and Darryl Frank, the team behind TNT's epic sci-fi hit *Falling Skies*. Also serving

ean O'Bannon; Patrick Murney (*Person of Interest*, *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*) as Det. "Mac" McKenna; Katrina Bowden (*30 Rock*, *Tucker & Dale vs. Evil*) as Fortune; Lynn Smith (*Parenthood*, *2010*) as Deirdre; Brian Wiles (*Person of Interest*) as Jimmy Shea; and Cormac Cullinane (*Honestly Amelia*) as James Muldoon.

In addition, *Public Morals* will feature guest appearances by Oscar® winner Timothy Hut-



ton (*Ordinary People*, TNT's *Leverage*, *American Crime*), Golden Globe® winner Brian Dennehy (*Death of a Salesman*, *Presumed Innocent*, *Cocon*), Satellite Award® winner Neal McDonough (*Desperate Housewives*, *Boomtown*, TNT's *Mob City*) and Satellite Award nominee Robert Knepper (*Prison Break*, TNT's *Mob City*).

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**David McDonnell:
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on the Irish Street**



NFL Predictions is the Waiting Game

Soon the long wait will be over. It's been six months since the Superbowl but to every NFL fan, June/July is a particular lull in the offseason. Long finished are the postmortems of the previous year. The hiring's and firings of head coaches and co-coordinators is yesterday's news.

The off-season certainly had its moments. The first week of the free agency was absorbing. The draft satisfied without ever threatening to knock anyone over. In between there were surprise trades and tantrums, there were lines in the sand drawn and plenty of money grabbing. Between the owners and coaches, players and agents, there were so many PR battles and spin doctoring going on, it would make a politician dizzy. However, for the

last few weeks there has been a sort of calm before the storm.

To their credit, the league analysts and ex players did their best to play along with the importance of the annual Top 100 player countdown, offering incredulities on the merits of this and that entry. JJ Watt was almost believable with his lip service at the honor of being voted number one.

So who are the winners and losers of the offseason? Who are the Superbowl challengers or have the pedigree to make the playoffs?

There are varying abacuses of success in the NFL. For the serial contenders, anything less than walking away with the Vince Lombardi will be seen as failure. For all the sides that failed to

make the playoffs last season, January football will be viewed as tangible progress. There will be clubs who will fall short of their lofty ambitions and there will be those teams, where not sucking as badly as they did last season will be enough. So before the curtain comes up on the season, let's make season projections the order of the day.

AFC

The NFL champions, New England Patriots will no doubt have their hat in the ring again for Superbowl success. Listening to the seemingly never-ending trials and tribulations over 'Deflate-gate' has bore a hole in the skull of even the most ardent NFL supporter over the past few months. Coupled with an unhealthy dose of self-righteousness and indignation, a certain amount of distain for the Patriots has been apparent throughout the league. They may call it sour grapes, but nevertheless it is there.

Although the Bills and Jets went big in the offseason with a plethora of additions includ-

ing LeSean McCoy and Darrelle Revis respectively, it is hard to see either side knocking the Pats off their divisional perch in 2015. The Indianapolis Colts look best to challenge for AFC honors with Andrew Luck getting offensive help in new toy wide receivers Andre Johnson and Philip Dorsett, in addition to the arrival of Frank Gore in the backfield.

The AFC North was highly competitive throughout last season. Both the Baltimore Ravens and the Pittsburg Steelers should challenge for AFC honors if they continue their form. However, I find it difficult to see the Cincinnati Bengals reaching the playoffs again or the Cleveland Browns being as competitive as they were until the final stretch last season.

I hope I'm wrong about that one.

The Browns have become a second favorite team to many NFL fans in Ireland. Maybe there is something about being perennial underdogs that appeals to the Irish disposition or maybe it is an unwillingness to jump on a successful bandwagon. However,

from my perspective, too many of their wins last season were one score games, that even the loss of a Bryan Hoyer could see a decrease in production to swing a 7-9 season to a 5-11.

The only AFC team that didn't make the playoffs last season that could go all the way is the Houston Texans. The arrival of Vince Wilfork and the return of Jadeveon Clowney in addition to draft selection of Benardrick McKinney, I expect JJ Watt and his defense to open up a metaphorical 'Can of Whupp*ss' from the get go. If that transpires, they should be able to have a proper cut at the post season.

The AFC South is a toss of a coin between the Broncos, Chargers and Chiefs with the eventual winner to finish their season on the first weekend in January. I'll go with the Broncos.

NFC

Where the AFC looks predictable, the NFC looks to be where the fun is with Seattle and Green Bay the only post-season certain-

Continued on next page

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An Immigrant's Musings

Michael Leonard



The Pope & the Communist Crucifix

I was recently asked to comment on the controversy surrounding the cross-presented to Pope Francis last month by the Bolivian President Evo Morales. The cross in question was made in the shape of a hammer and sickle. This indeed could not be seen without bringing to mind the whole idea of communism that was (is) represented by the hammer and sickle.

Some have criticized the Pope for accepting this gift from Evo Morales and suggested that the Holy Father is himself Marxist in his thinking. Other commentators have pointed out his criticism of the consumerism rampant in the developed world as proof of his "leftist leaning".

The Associated press pointed out correctly, "It turns out, the crucifix was originally designed by a Jesuit activist, the Rev. Luis Espinal, who was assassinated in 1980 by suspected paramilitaries during the months that preceded a military coup. Francis, a fellow Jesuit, stopped his motorcade to pray at the site where Espinal's body had been dumped."

Fr. Fedrico Lombardi, the Pope's spokesperson said: "Espinal had designed the crucifix as a symbol of dialogue and commitment to freedom and progress for Bolivia, not with any specific ideology in mind. Fr. Lombardi said he personally wasn't offended by it."

My own opinion is this: Pope

Francis is to be commended for his taking a firm stand with and speaking out for and on behalf of the poor. As for his leftist leaning, then anyone who accuses the Pope of such a charge haven't paid very close attention to the New Testament. The message of Jesus, that the Pope so strongly proclaims is one of commitment to freedom for all people to have the ability to live with the dignity and respect that allows them to take care of body and soul.

In fact one has only to read this passage from the Acts of the Apostles to realize why the members of the early church have also been accused of acting like communists: 32 Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. 33 With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. 34 There was not a needy person

among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. 35 They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. Acts 4; 32-35

Long may Pope Francis continue to call all men and women of goodwill to remain open to the message of a radical option for the poor which he continually draws attention to both in words and deeds.

Wrong email:

A couple going on vacation but his wife was on a business trip so he went to the destination first and his wife would meet him the next day.

When he reached his hotel, he decided to send his wife a quick email.

Unfortunately, when typing her address, he mistyped a letter and his note was directed instead to an elderly preacher's wife whose husband had passed away only the day before.

When the grieving widow checked her email, she took one look at the monitor, let out a piercing scream, and fell to the floor in a dead faint.

At the sound, her family rushed into the room and saw this note on the screen:

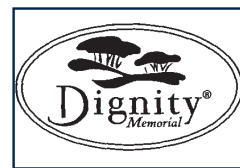
Dearest Wife,

Just got checked in. Everything prepared for your arrival tomorrow. P.S. Sure is hot down here

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NFL Predictions is the Waiting Game

Continued from previous page

ties. Seattle started slowly last year but a home defeat by Dallas sparked a return to form that brought them within one yard of Superbowl victory. By my estimation they have won the off-season with the acquisition of tight end Jimmy Graham. He will cause matchup problems for every defense while also taking a tackler away from Marshawn Lynch on third down and in the red zone. He is certainly going to make Russell Wilson's job at quarterback so much easier.

In the NFC West, the Jim Harbaugh's San Francisco 49ers are gone and the squad in almost unrecognizable. Gone is the heart of the side with the retirements of Justin Smith, Patrick Willis, Anthony Davis and Chris Borland, while Mike Iupati, Chris Culliver, Frank Gore, Michael Crabtree and Perrish Cox have taken their talents elsewhere. It is hard to make a case for them finishing anywhere but bottom of their division.

The Cardinals will be in the

mix for the playoffs but I have a feeling that the St Louis Rams are a team to watch. They have a strong defense, a strong special teams unit and if Nick Foles and Todd Gurley can give them some consistency in attack, I can see the Rams playing football in January.

In the NFC North, it will be interesting to see if anyone can run Green Bay close for divisional honors. They return with the same cast that took the Packers within a kickback recovery of a Superbowl appearance last time out.

The Minnesota Vikings and the Detroit Lions both have post season objectives. The Vikes finished last season very strongly with rookie QB Teddy Bridgewater dispelling doubts of his NFL credentials. If Mike Zimmer can get Adrian Peterson's head right, Minnesota should be playing playoff football. Detroit looks weaker in defense than they did last year with the departures of Ndamukong Suh and Nick Fairly. However, an injury free Calvin

Johnson should also have them in the hunt.

The NFC East should be an enthralling division with favorites Dallas always likely to implode much to the satisfaction of everybody who doesn't support 'America's Team. I wouldn't rule out both the New York Giants and the Washington Redskins making a run for divisional honors. I have been very impressed with GM Scot McCloughan's start as in DC. The additions of hungry talented players at the right age like Stephen Paea, Chris Culliver and Terrence Knighton have set the tone in what surely will be an improved Redskins defense. Similarly, the arrival of Bill Callahan and the selection of Brandon Scherff at number 5 in the draft could see the Redskins significantly improve their offense as well.

In the NFC South, it's as you were with all four teams with the capability of topping the division but little else. I'll begrudgingly take the New Orleans Saints.

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Chicago Gaelic Park

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



A Cháirde

Chicago Gaelic Park's annual commemoration of the Feast of Our Lady of Knock will be held on Monday, August 17th, beginning at 7:30 P.M. The evening will include benediction, rosary, hymns sung by our choir and a procession to the grotto, followed by refreshments provided by the Gaelic Park Auxiliary. We thank Monsignor Boland and our volunteers for their assistance with this free event.

Local GAA play-offs in August will determine the teams that will represent the Chicago area in

the North American Board Finals, which will be held here on Labor Day weekend. Hope you can come out for the local semi-finals (August 16th) or finals (August 23rd) and enjoy some very competitive and hotly contested matches.

Best wishes to Chicago Rose Maeve McSweeney as she represents her hometown at the Rose of Tralee Festival in Kerry this month.

Slán go fóil,

Bill O'Sullivan, President



The Gaelic Park Players are happy to announce their fall play will be, *Troubled Bachelors*, written by A.J. Stanley.

The play will open on Friday, November 6th, 2015. The cast consists of six men, four women, and one child. If you would be interested in auditioning for the fall play, volunteering to work lights, sound, box office, or have a special talent you

would like to showcase, please contact the Players via their Facebook page or go to www.GaelicParkPlayers.org and click on Contact Us and submit your information. The Gaelic Park Players welcome all new members, so come on out and stay for the craic, because it's sure to be mighty.

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Sat Aug 8	Fabtones	9:00pm
Fri Aug 14	Bernie Glim	7:30pm
Sat Aug 15	Joe McShane	9:00pm
Fri Aug 21	Rhonda Lee and Jimmy O	9:00pm
Sat Aug 22	Joe Cullen	9:00pm
Fri Aug 28	TBA	
Sat Aug 29	Kara & Jerry	9:00pm

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



NO COVER CHARGE

2015 CGP Calendar of Events 2015

August

8/5	Monthly Musical Luncheon - *RR	NOON
	BarBQ on the Patio - Ray Gavin	6:00pm
8/12	BarBQ on the Patio - Frank Rossi	6:00pm
8/19	BarBQ on the Patio - Joe McShane	6:00pm
8/26	BarBQ on the Patio - Richie Z	6:00pm

*RR = Reservations Required 708.687.9323

Monthly Musical Luncheon Doors open at noon, hot lunch served at 1pm for just \$15 per person. Entertainment: Kara & Gerry
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Pub Trivia Tuesday Evenings will resume in October

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.chicagogaelicpark.org

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Share your county's upcoming events with our readers...

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Straw Pillow Fight, Candy in the Straw Scramble, Three Legged Race, Sack Race, Dizzy Stick Race, Barrel Race, Water Balloon Toss, Tug of War, Wellington Toss & Gaelic Sports Skills Test (all times and events subject to change)

For More information call 708-687-9323 or visit www.chicagogaelicpark.org



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Opportunity Knocks in Oak Forest (displayed at 158th and Cicero)



Joey Keane Makes U17 Hockey Team USA!

Joey Keane, 16, has been selected to represent the USA in the 5 Nations Cup in Switzerland this August on the U17 team. Son of Joe (Drumshabo, Co. Leitrim) & Kim Keane, Homer Glen, Joey is one of four brothers who play hockey. Joey will play for the Dubuque Fighting Saints, USHL this season and has committed

to play for Miami of Ohio Redhawks. Joey has won a National Championship and has been drafted by Barrie Colts OHL, but feels his greatest accomplishment was winning Defenseman of the Silversticks Tournament, playing against and with the top players in North America. Best of luck to Joey and Team USA!



Farewell Reception for General Consul Aidan Cronin



(Clockwise—bottom left to bottom right) Gaelic Park President Bill O'Sullivan presenting the plaque to the General Consul Aidan Cronin and his wife; the plaque presented to the General Consul; the room decorated for the occasion; Matt Riordan, General Consul Cronin and Mary Riordan; Pat King, Tina Butler, Mary Carmody, General Consul Cronin, Bill Langevin and Marion Langevin.



View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



Lies, Damn Lies and Documentaries Part One

On June 15th RTE's documentary series Prime Time screened a feature length documentary film, *Collusion*, which investigated British collusion in loyalist killings over the span of the Northern Irish Troubles. In several of the cases under examination, collusion has been established beyond any reasonable doubt. Yet, criminal convictions, a measure of justice for the families of the victims, are as rare as hen's teeth. Why so?

As Dublin's top diplomat in Northern Ireland in the 1970s, Sean Donlon, stated in this documentary, "we would raise it [collusion], the British would deny it, that was it". The British emphasised to Donlon that they were fighting the IRA and therefore had no time to fight loyalist atrocities. Donlon pointed out that such appeasement (or worse) was the seed of an unsavoury culture of permissiveness toward state sponsored murder.

Collusion hones in on several high profile cases of collusion such as the Glenanne Gang (a group of police, terrorists and British soldiers) and supergrass Brian Nelson, who pleaded guilty to his crimes and left copious police statements behind which, seen by a rigorous judiciary, should have been used as evidence in criminal processes against the colluding members of the police force.

Unsurprisingly, The Ulster Defence Force and The Ulster Defence Association were almost gleeful about the level of British assistance they received in perpetuating murder. The UDA would paste intelligence documents delivered to them by the British, facilitating their crime rampage, on Belfast walls accompanied by graffiti stating, "we've plenty more".

Collusion illustrates that during the Troubles sentences handed down by the magistrates on collusion cases did a great deal to destroy any possibility of trust in the police and the law among the Northern minority. In their verdicts, magistrates were at pains to insist that the language used to designate guilty police officers—on the rare occasion when one was convicted—be distinguished from the language used to describe the IRA, even if a more objective observer may find it difficult to discern any difference. If Mar-

gret Thatcher truly believed that "there is no such thing as political murder, political bombing or political violence... there is only criminal murder, criminal bombing and criminal violence" she might have acted decisively on this travesty of the British criminal justice system.

Collusion, developed by Ed Moloney (of the Boston College tapes fame), is a brave and comprehensive examination within the bounds of delicate legality—even in a documentary made for, and screened in, the Republic, names of alleged colluders were beeped out throughout the film. Its narrator, John Ware, is effective: as he suggested to an interviewee in a provocative moment, "the non-response as it were by Prime Ministers and officials to your request for a legal framework was 'carry on, but don't get caught'. Is that a fair comment?" Former Special Branch head, Raymond White replied, "Yes. I think that captures it in a nutshell".

Former British Security Minister Michael Mates emphasises in this film the eery longevity and the legal complexity of the official British collusion in Northern Irish crimes: compared to Kenya or Cyprus, foreign territories where no scruple on the part of the British about breaking a law was evident, Northern Ireland was part of the UK during the decades of the Troubles and yet the State had no qualms about murdering its own subjects.

David Cameron acknowledged in the British House of Commons on the 12th December 2012 that "frankly shocking levels of State collusion" had taken place. So, one would assume, that in post-conflict Northern Ireland the Historical Enquiries Team (HET) set up in Northern Ireland would be given every assistance in its task to uncover historical crimes perpetrated by the state? Dream on. When the Head of the HET, Dave Cox, resigned in September 2013 in high dudgeon it was clear that as soon as he and other detectives strayed into the prickly subject of killings perpetrated by the British that his job was undoable. The following year the HET was closed due to "budget cuts".

The progress after decades of investigators' hovering around the subject of British collusion is minimal. Nuala O'Loan, Northern Ireland Police Ombudsman 1999-2007, stated in this documentary that as Police Ombudsman there was "pressure not to

report" on certain issues and that she was not "going any further" on camera.

What is the entity behind this collusion which has managed to elude investigation at every turn, and which was not explicitly stated by Cameron in his House of Commons admission? It is MI5, the British secret intelligence and security service. Cameron was even so naive as to almost admit that MI5 are pulling the puppet strings in British government when he met the family of Pat Finucane and informed them that he could not open a formal court trial into Finucane's killing "because there are people all around this place [10 Downing Street] who won't let it happen". What he did not say (but he might as well have said) is that those people who govern the government were also responsible for Finucane's murder.

What MI5 cannot countenance is exposure: the most a journalist, a documentary film-maker, a diplomat, a lawyer or even an Ombudsman has so far succeeded in exposing about the MI5's actions in the North over the past four decades is the near certainty of its involvement in facilitating loyalist terrorists who carried out assassinations and bombings in Northern Ireland. When the moment comes to provide evidence or witness testimony in a court trial (as in the famous, costly and lengthy Saville Tribunal into Bloody Sunday, for instance) the British system conspires at the very top to frustrate the process.

For the British to acknowledge MI5 collusion in murders would be a most grave admission because it would show the British government to have been a terrorist agent in the North, relentlessly murdering innocent men and women and, even more spectacularly, doing the same outside its jurisdiction—the Dublin and Monaghan bombings being a prime

example. The MI5's chokehold on every relevant organ of the British state has proved to be powerful enough to ensure that the full truth about collusion remains tucked away in secret vaults. I will return to this subject in next month's column.

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After twelve years of being a widow Angela Delaney felt like she was finally hitting her stride. Her late husband Tony had left her enough dough, not a fortune but enough where she didn't have to work. That was important to her because if she had to work there wouldn't be as much time for her to pray.

Tony had been killed crossing Western avenue after closing Ken's one rainy night when an honor student from Lindblom wacked him with his 96 Buick. Tony never knew what him.

Angela had prayed about that night often, asking our Lord to go back in time and make sure Tony felt no pain. God can do that of

course and for every rosary Angie offered up for Tony that Roadmaster picked up speed until it was only a blur out of the corner of Tony's eye.

So Tony was at peace.

And so was Angie. Oh sure at first it was tough without Tony, but she started sleeping late and going to daily noon mass at Barnabas instead of the 6:30AM mass she and Tony used to hit every morning when he was alive. She would lead the rosary group before mass and then the Our Lady of Perpetual Help novena after mass and then of course adoration in the chapel adjacent to the church each day. She'd get home every day just in time to watch Jeopardy.

She would take a nap then till the early news came on and then she'd fix herself some dinner, tuna melt on an English muffin and half a cookie for dessert. She'd break out the cigs and beers around nine as she racked up rosary after rosary while watching Mother Angelica on EWTN and then would hit the hay around 3AM, unless the Pope was doing a mass live from the Vatican. She never missed those. Next day she would get up and do it all over again.

Angie was the leader of her rosary group every day and she doled out the decade assignments to the rosary regulars and joined them in prayer over their special intentions, i.e., Eloise's sister with the mastoid, Rosemary's husband Earl with the porn addiction, or almost anyone who had an alkie in the family that needed their prayers.

There was quite a bit of responsibility as rosary leader. You had to know which mysteries to say on each particular day, whether the five joyful mysteries, the five luminous mysteries, the five sorrowful mysteries or the five glorious mysteries. You had to dole out the decades to the faithful followers and welcome new people to the group.

Visitors often showed up to pray with the group but Angie usually waited a good six months for them to be there every day before assigning them a decade to lead.

Angie did not suffer fools well and she had that rosary group humming like a well-oiled machine and Father Foley had even complimented her on their precision at always finishing the rosary almost exactly three minutes before mass started.

And then one day an interloper showed

Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan



up by the name of Kathy Boyle, an ex-nun who seemed to enjoy throwing her considerable weight around.

She had dyed red hair and a high-pitched nasal voice that had trouble pronouncing the letter R.

She kind of announced her presence one day as she flopped into a pew and shouted out, "The first Joyful Mystewy, the Wezu-wection."

Rosemary turned to Angie with a look of complete shock on her face as her jaw dropped at the pure effrontery of Kathy thinking she could just jump in and start leading the rosary. The rest of the group was equally shocked, particularly Harold the old Filipino guy who silently messed his pants that day

But Angie remained serene throughout and each time she tried to begin the next decade, Kathy Boyle would cut her off with a ridiculously shortened version of "Ave Mawia", before tearing into the next mystery.

After mass, when Kathy left, the rest of the group all went to Angie and expressed their dismay at this usurpation. Angie just smiled, "Now, now, what would Our Lord say. We just have to be patient and it will all work out."

Of course inside she was seething. Especially when Kathy showed up the next day and started in on the same routine. Kathy just kept coming every day for the next three weeks. Rosemary would always look at Angie with her eyes wide as if to say, "Good Lord please shut this fat slob up!"

It started to wear on Angie, she felt like she might be getting an ulcer and she wondered if she should find a new parish to say the rosary. Angie decided to pray for Kathy, perhaps a novena to our Lady to, at the very least, improve her diction.

And then one day Kathy wasn't there and all the members of the rosary group looked to Angie and smiled as she announced, "The First Joyful Mystery, The Annunciation."

Angie was back in her groove and all was well once again at the St. Barnabas rosary circle. A week later Rosemary turned to the group just as they finished the rosary and said, "Did you hear about Kathy Boyle?"

Nobody had even mentioned that name and they were anxious to hear the news. Rosemary leaned back in her pew, "Apparently she was hit by a car, a Buick Roadmaster. She never knew what hit her."

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Tom Boyle



SCOTUS

Same Sex Marriage, far-fetched, a real stretch, half-fetched, "I now pronounce you married," "I now pronounce you bride and bride," "I now pronounce you spouse and spouse," "I pronounce you legally married spouses." Obviously, the people who are performing marriages either ministers, priests, and/or civil servants really don't know what to say. Episcopalians will not use gender specific language in their wedding ceremonies, using "the couple" instead of bride and groom.

Justice Scalia

"Who ever thought that intimacy, and spirituality (whatever that means) were freedoms? And if intimacy is, one would think that the freedom of intimacy is abridged rather than expanded by marriage. Ask the nearest hippy."

Justice Scalia was criticized for being out of step, saying hippy, instead of hipster. Really folks, it's a generational term. Hippy, defined: nonconformist, freak, free spirit, dead beat, flower child, Bohemian.

A hipster is: a subculture of men and women that value independent thinking, counter-culture, progressive politics, creativity, intelligence, and witty banter. Hipsterism is a state of mind. They are often seen wearing thrift store fashions, shaggy haircuts etc in order to present the image they wish to project. They are generally well educated, have liberal arts degrees or degrees in math and science which require creative analytical thinking abilities. Hipsters are racially open-minded, and you will find many inter-racial couples among them. To sum it all up, you are basically dealing with elitist hippies.

Socialist Democrats

Seemingly, the Democratic party is fraught with multi-millionaire office holders and wannabes who wish only to denigrate and put down entrepreneurs, and choke off productivity with burdensome taxes and regulations.

Remember President Obama's famous "you didn't build that speech." "If you have got a business, you didn't build that. Somebody else made that happen." He gives all the credit to the government for building our highways, and the internet and such.

President John F. Kennedy launched the space program saying, "We choose to go to the moon." Following that he said, "We do things not because they are easy, but because they are hard."

In 1988 Senator Lloyd Bentsen once said to Dan Quayle, "You're no Jack Kennedy." Somebody might say the same thing to President Obama who endorsed the Pacific Rim Trade Deal, which like NAFTA, will cost us thousands of good paying union jobs.

Half Baked Cake?

"If I knew you were coming, I would have baked a cake!" Can you believe that the little bakery which refused to bake a wedding cake for a lesbian couple, has been fined \$135,000.

Socialist Radio

Anytime you need a laugh tune into 820 on the AM radio dial and listen to the fanatical tirades. The socialists are having a great time condemning Donald Trump, and denigrating every Republican candidate. They regurgitate this crap all day long. They see Wall Street as a monster stealing everyone's money. Corporations and profits are pure

evil. Please note: without corporations and the profits they make there would be no jobs.

Bernie Sanders

The independent senator from the "Peoples Republic of Burlington Vermont" is running for president. He said, "money can not be the God of life." He agrees with Pope Francis on climate change. Still, we haven't heard anything from Pope Francis about the cutting down of the rain forest in Brazil. He bemoans the fact that there are 45 million people living in poverty in the USA, and that we have the highest rate of childhood poverty in the world. I highly doubt that. I wonder where he gets his statistics? He is also opposed to "casino type capitalism" which is the kind of high risk, high reward behavior indulged in by the former high street bankers and many others which helped lead to the ongoing economic crisis. We can all buy into that one.

Charleston

The FBI blew the background check on Dylann Roof who had a drug possession charge on his record. He should never have been able to buy a gun legally. Would that have stopped him? It's doubtful!

In order to become a white supremacist, you must have an overwhelming inferiority complex. Nine innocent people died as a result on the failure of the FBI as well as the failure of his parents.

Bill Cosby

The Presidential Medal of Freedom, and his star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame seem to be safe for the moment. President Obama said, "there is no mechanism in place to take back the Medal of Freedom." I don't understand the use of the word mechanism. Why not just tell him to give it back? Quaaludes was his drug of choice. Too bad Robert Culp is dead. He may have been able to expand on the subject. Cosby is just another failed Black icon, a self-styled role model with a whole lot of

dirt in his closet.

Caitlin Jenner

Caitlin Jenner was given the Arthur Ashe Courage Award at the EPSY Awards (excellence in sports performance yearly) Caitlin, formerly known as Bruce Jenner, who won the Olympic Medal in the Decathlon in 1976, delivered a most compelling speech detailing her struggle with being transgender. The acceptance speech was not only compelling, but intensely profound, leading to a greater understanding of the problems transgender people face.

Henry Wallace

Presidential candidate for the Progressive Party in 1948 waged his campaign for the Presidency standing on the planks of social welfare and equal rights for Blacks in his platform. Sup-

port from the Communist Party (USA) was his downfall. My stepfather was a shop steward for the United Auto Workers at Douglas Aircraft and he was working for Wallaces' campaign.

My friends and I were distributing campaign literature door to door for Wallace with Tom Dewey's picture on the front. When people turned the page they chased us away! Most of the flyers were dumped into a culvert by the river. Wallace never had a chance. Will Bernie Sanders, the socialist, have a chance?

The liberal Republican candidate, Tom Dewey, lost the election in 1948 to Harry S. Truman. Wallace finished a very distant last.

Greyhound Cup

My young cousin, Kevin McCarthy from Lixnaw, was on the winning team in Listowel, Co. Kerry.



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Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



The Know Nothings

– The Wild Onion Saga
By Thomas Reimer VBW Publishing – AMAZON

Seamus O'Shea from Ireland is of average height, lean and with red hair. A character admires his "infectious sense of humor, a free spirit which tided him over the hard times." He also admires "the confidence and faith that Seamus enjoys deep in his soul that all will eventually work out."

The book is about the Know Nothings, a nativist party known nationally as the American Party. The story is told by two immigrants, one from Ireland and the other from Germany. The story is a really great depiction of life in early Chicago – the early and mid 1800's.

The focus of the story is the election of Levi Boone as mayor of Chicago. His term in office was from 1855-1856. But during that short time he created profound turmoil in the city.

One of Boone/s first acts in office was to fire all foreigners – from policemen, firemen and other city workers. These three groups made up about 60% of the city workforce. That percent roughly mirrored the immigrant make up of the city's population. It was composed of immigrants from Germany and Ireland. He reformed and modernized the police force, but hired only native-born replacements.

The lowest point in his administration was the Lager Beer Riot on April 21, 1855. The grim result of that was: one dead and 60 injured. How, and why, did he cause that?

Until unions became strong in the 1930's and forced better working conditions, workers had to work a six-day workweek. (My father considered himself very lucky to only have to work a half-day on Saturday!)

Workers had worked ten and twelve hour days all week and Sunday was their only day to relax. Irish and German workers came from countries where pubs and beer gardens were places to meet friends. Drinking was secondary to socializing.

Boone instructed his police to close the taverns, pubs and beer gardens on Sunday. That created the Lager Beer Riot.

His action was a precursor to the prohibition movement. The goal of that movement was the end of the manufacture of alcohol.

The corner tavern and beer gardens were often places of Democratic and union activity. For political and social reasons, prohibition became a quasi-religious crusade to force prohibition on the American people. In 1919 it succeeded. Levi Boone would have been happy.

The author, Thomas Reimer, was "born in Chicago, graduated from Northwestern University's Technological Institute." Retired now, after a career of working "for the government," he began to write the Wild Onion Saga. This is the fourth book in that series. He lives in Northbrook.

These two quotes are pertinent. After meeting the mayor in his office, a character observes: "You know, all I could think of was how arrogant Boone was... The know Nothings proved today that their party is properly named. They truly are ignorant of common

decency, respect for others and the guarantee of our constitution."

From the ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CHICAGO: "In March, 1856, a heavy German and Irish turnout defeated the nativists. More important was the renewed attention to city elections on the part of political party leaders, ending the era of municipal nonpartisanship. Never again would city elections be of such limited interest that a small group of extremists could win surreptitiously."

Frank West is a retired teacher and has written book and play reviews since the paper's inception in 1977. Many are online at irishamericannews.com.

Grand Concourse

by Heidi Shrek
Reviewed by Frank West

Oscar Wilde made the ironic observation: "If there was less sympathy in the world there would be less trouble in the world."

Grand Concourse is a play that is filled with fun and laughter. It is being presented at Steppenwolf Theatre. And despite enormous humanity, great humor and colorful characters, it is a serious look

at generosity and forgiveness.

The play features wonderful acting, a powerful, but understated set, laughter, and some great lines. It has all this going for it, but it succeeds, as any good play should, in making us think and question our surroundings and assumptions.

The play is set in a soup kitchen near a church. The rear of the set is composed of the elaborate, colorful and beautifully detailed windows and wall of the church.

One nun runs it with the help of the security guard, and later in the play, a volunteer. No priest or other nuns, ever appear. The other nuns are only mentioned when the nun in the soup kitchen is asked where they are, and she says: "Across the street playing basketball."

One of the things it discussed: Would the soup kitchen be forever? Nobody chooses to be poor and maybe the people who it serves really need the soup and need the social companionship of the others who come there. And maybe that basic level of social interaction is important and essential to them.

Other questions suggested by Grand Concourse : What are our

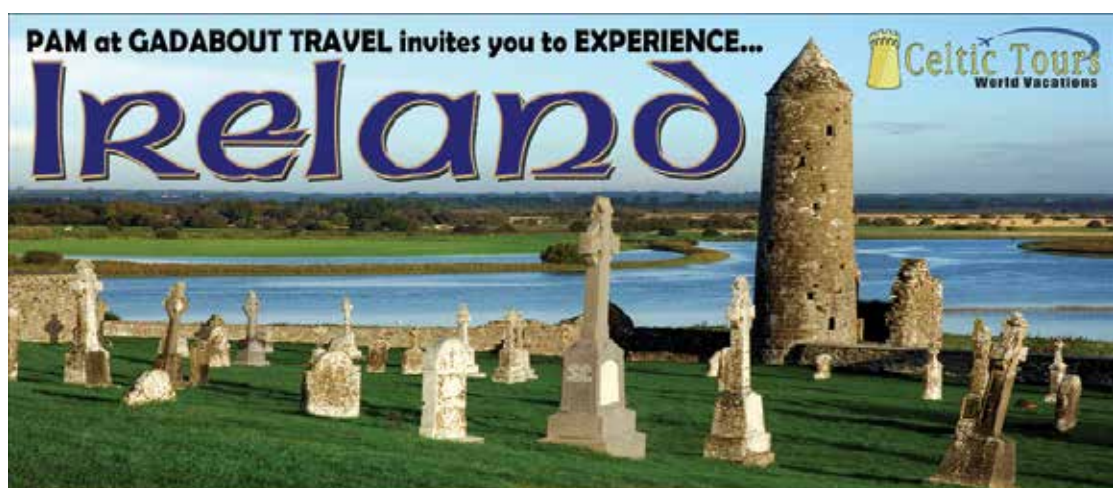
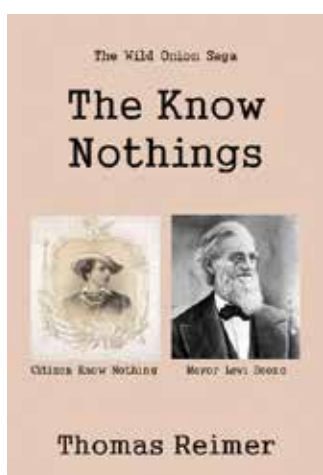
motives for being charitable? Do we do it to feel better about ourselves? Or is being charitable something we just ought to do? What does forgiveness mean? Are we forgiving others or ourselves? Why do we forgive?

Oscar Wilde wondered about forgiveness and wryly advised: "Always forgive your enemies, nothing annoys them more."

The Grand Concourse is summarized by this quote from the director, Yasen PeyanKov. In the playbill he says: "The line that sticks in my head, after Emma (the volunteer) has served her first meal, 'So much need,' puts into context the times we are living in."

Grand Concourse , by Heidi Schreck, is a Chicago premier production. It is "full of both fun and heart."

It will be presented through August 30 at the Steppenwolf Theatre Company, 1650 N. Halsted St., Chicago. The curtain times are: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at 7:30, and Saturday and Sunday at 3:00 and 7:30. Ticket prices range from \$20-\$89. The Box Office number is 312-335-1650 or steppenwolf.org.



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Herself

By *Katheryn Morley*



The Inspiring Life of Edward Dunne

This month I have been researching Edward Fitzsimmons Dunne, who acted as Mayor of Chicago as well as governor of Illinois. Dunne was the only person to have ever held both these offices and he lived a fascinating life. Born in Connecticut to Irish immigrants, a sense of pride in his Irish heritage was instilled in Dunne from a very young age. His father was a fervent Irish Nationalist who left his homeland after the Young Ireland revolt failed. His mother also came from a family with strong nationalist roots, her father having taken part in the 1798 Irish Rebellion. After they moved to Peoria, Illinois when he was still an infant, Dunne was educated in Illinois public schools. His father chose not to send his son to Catholic schools after the church spoke out opposing the Fenians. Dunne went on to study at Trinity College in Dublin and ultimately graduated from Union Law in Chicago, now Northwestern University. He married Elizabeth Kelly, started a successful law practice and served as a judge from 1892-1905.

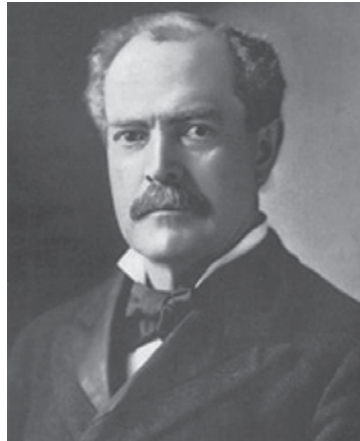
In 1901, Dunne was one of the founding members of the Irish Fellowship Club and was elected as first president of the group. The club built a solid foundation for the Irish in Chicago within the first few years of its existence. Members arranged a large celebration for St. Patrick's Day in 1903 during which Fr. John Carroll gave his sermon in Gaelic. The day was described as a stunningly formal affair attended by 800 of the city's leading Irishmen. The Irish Fellowship Club still hosts a marvelous St. Patrick's Day dinner each year. Dunne was known to be very pro-Ireland and pro-Irish, but he was also an extremely fair man who believed that all people deserved equal treatment despite their beliefs or heritage.

Dunne was elected mayor of Chicago on April 4th, 1905 and became Chicago's first Irish-American Catholic mayor. Interestingly, he had a friendship with Clarence Darrow and appointed him "special traction council to the mayor." Shortly after his inauguration, Dunne was praised by William Jennings Bryan as a dynamic leader involved in national reform. Bryan

and Darrow would, of course, later go head-to-head in the "Scopes Monkey Trial," in which Darrow defended a high school teacher who taught evolution theory to his students. Dunne has been described as a humane liberal who advocated reform and who genuinely wanted to make his city and state a better place for all. However, he immediately faced several challenges as mayor.

Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle* was released in serial form throughout 1905. The expose of Chicago's meatpacking industry would have put a lot of pressure on Dunne to improve working conditions and regulate meat processing and its packaging for sale. Congress passed the first Food and Drug Act in 1906 as a result of the outrage arising from Sinclair's book. Additionally, one of Dunne's main platforms in his mayoral campaign was bringing the city's transit system under municipal ownership. However, he was met with fierce opposition on the subject and was unable to fulfill this promise. As a result, Dunne wasn't nominated for reelection in 1907.

Dunne became the first Irish-American Catholic governor of Illinois in 1913, a position in which he could bring about much more change than he was able to as mayor. He advocated for prison reform, worker's compensation, teacher's pensions, and women's suffrage, as well as many other progressive goals. Dunne signed a bill in 1913 that gave women in Illinois the right to vote for an American President, making Illinois the first state East of the Mississippi river to do so. The 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote was not passed by Congress until 1919. Dunne served one term as governor, but remained politically active throughout the rest of his life. He was elected to serve on the American Commission on Irish Independence in 1919, which advocated the cause of Irish



freedom at the Paris Peace Conference. Dunne traveled to Paris for the occasion and spent time in Ireland during his stay, meeting many Irish leaders. Facilitating a peaceful agreement between Britain and Ireland to organize an Irish free state was as important to Dunne as maintaining world peace was to those back home in America.

In 1921, Dunne headed an organization called the National Unity Council, with the intention of opposing the growth of the Ku Klux Klan in the Chicagoland area. The KKK was advertising themselves as being "pure" Americans and Dunne felt their hatred was far from American.

Dunne said:

"In the South... it is anti-Negro; on the Pacific coast, it is anti-Japanese; in many other places it is anti-Catholic, anti-Jew, anti-foreign-born – anti-anything, in fact... I have no sympathy for the Ku Klux Klan because it stirs up prejudices against creed and race, which is an intolerable practice attacking the very roots of our national life. America is for all people who be-

come citizens and abide by our laws." The KKK detested Catholics, an experience with which Dunne was quite familiar—his father and grandfather had fought for a united Ireland, opposing the oppression of Catholics by British Protestant leaders. His parents had come to America in search of freedom and now Dunne found his people being attacked again in his home. This second rise of the Klan was focused on ridding America of Catholics and immigrants, with a specific focus on the Irish. Newspapers carried cartoon depictions of the KKK chasing the Catholic Church, personified by St. Patrick, from the shores of America. The KKK grew in response to Catholics with non-Protestant values gaining power in the city. Dunne's National Unity Council aimed to solidify into one group all races and religions, to dissipate prejudices already formed, and to promote universal cooperation throughout the country among members of all creeds and races.

In his later years, Dunne was appointed by President Franklin Roosevelt to be a United States Commissioner for the 1933-34 Century of Progress World's Fair of Chicago. He was 80 years old at the time, but thoroughly enjoyed his position and joked that he had served at all levels of government – mayor, governor and now federal commissioner. He died in 1937 at the age of 83. His last words are said to have been, "I am satisfied and peaceful."

Edward F. Dunne might be viewed as the most effective reformer of the Progressive Era. Some tributes to Dunne remain around the city. A water intake crib at 68th street; Dunne Academy on the South Side and, as recently as 2013, Knox Avenue at the Irish American Heritage Center was renamed Edward F. Dunne Way. Dunne's ideals stand the test of time. Our country continually combats the hatred of racism and religious persecution and turmoil between Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland persists. We could all learn a thing or two about tolerance and respect from the Honorable Edward Fitzsimmons Dunne.

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Piping It In

Jack Baker



Time for the largest Irish Music festival in the United States and perhaps the world, The Milwaukee Wisconsin Irish Fest, www.irishfest.com. This is the one festival that sets the bar for all the

rest. This year it features the most outstanding lineup of talent I've ever seen and I'm not going to list everybody that's playing this year, you can go to the website and read all who's coming. I do want to mention two groups that are playing there that you'll really want to see, We Banjo 3 and Socks in the Frying Pan. I've written about both groups and their new CDs in the last couple of issues of the paper and, if you read this regularly, you'll know that I'm very fond of both groups. Please

do yourself a favor and see these two groups, if you see nothing else. Let me know what you think and I'll try and get some of your comments in the next issue.

Now for some new CDs and I have two beauties to talk about and a new one coming that I've yet to hear but am anxious to do so. The new CD I'm waiting on is the new one from Open The Door For Three. Pat Broaders, Liz Knowles and Kieran O'Hare make up the band and their first CD was one of my favorite all time. I can't imagine how much I'll like the new one, but until it gets here, imagine is all I can do. Did hear from Pat this morning, they're on the road performing and he'll bring some by the store when they get home. There's something to look forward to hearing.

The two CDs I have to review both came to me from the artists who recorded them and were wonderful surprises. First is the latest from the Gothard Sisters, "Mountain Rose". This is their third CD and, while I had heard

of them, I had never heard them before. What a lovely surprise! They are great! Three sisters, Greta, Willow and Solana, who started their career as classical violinists and who have obvi-



ously been singing together since they were babies, are the Gothard Sisters (www.gothardsisters.com). Based in Seattle, we have unfortunately not seen much of the sisters in this area but I sincerely hope that problem will be rectified soon. Their music is a delightful blend of Irish, Scottish, Welsh, American Folk and original songs played on fiddle, guitar, bodhran, whistle and sung with just a taste of western influence that gives them a unique sound all their own. Their original pieces are bright and well written and their original arrangements of classic tunes are clever, intelligent and very easy on the ear. Their CD comes with full lyric sheet, so you can sing along if you've a mind to. They do a lovely rendition of Andy M. Stewart's "Queen of Argyll" and certainly my favorite rendition of Kate Rusby's "I Courted A Sailor". Covers aren't their only glory, original tunes like "Cat in a Bush" and "Mountain Rose Waltz" are spectacular and certainly worth the price of

admission. This is a band that I am honestly looking forward to hear in person, but until I do I am going to enjoy their CDs for all they're worth.

The last CD I have to talk about today is one of those the Uncle Bill Margeson calls "the real deal" and man is it ever. Very very traditional fiddle, button box, guitar, whistle and flute played by three of the most impressive musicians. The CD is "Lá ag Ól Uisce" and the three

musicians are Tomás Ó Gealbháin, Caoimhín Ó Fearghail and Seán Ó Fearghail. Together they perform the best and purest Irish music you can imagine. This is one of those CDs that are getting increasingly hard to come by, since very few are produced, very few are brought into the states and those that are

brought in are snapped up by serious music collectors as soon as they hit the shelves. The few that I got were gone in a week and I'm not sure I can get any more. This music though is what I call the soul of Ireland, or Irish Soul if you will. It's what defines us and is at the heart of all Irish music, though sometimes you've got to look pretty deep to find it. I've had people press me to define this better and I can't, it's more feelings than words. I do know that if you listen to Bothy Band, Planxty, Wolf Tones, Derek Warfield, Pat Cannady, Jimmy Keane, Paddy Homan, Liz Carroll and so many others, you'll start to understand what I mean. So here's to the great music that surrounds us all, defines us, nurtures us, sustains us and the wonderful folks who play it for us. Bless them all.

Off to the festivals now, please continue to support independent music and musicians. See you in the store at 630-834-8108 or online at store@rampantlion.com.

Slainté



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Chicago, Illinois



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President's Message

It is a great honor and privilege to be elected President of the Irish American Heritage Center of Chicago. I have been getting wonderful thank-yous and congratulatory messages from many people. I want all of the members to know that I will try my hardest to keep up the great traditions the Center has long offered.

My greatest interest would be getting the membership numbers to record levels. We need the young people of the Irish community, and welcome their families into the benefits that the Center has to offer. I will always have a great appreciation for the long time volunteers who have dug the well so that the members of today can drink from it. I have witnessed long ago the many drops of sweat that have mixed in with the concrete and paint and mortar that make up many rooms and parts of the IAHC. I have witnessed the many woman volunteers who helped feed the many helpers over the years. Year after year. When I helped volunteer many years ago, I thought it was the best apprenticeship I've ever experienced. I learned and I laughed.

With imagination and continued hard work within our membership and outstanding volunteers, I am confident that we will succeed in Irish fellowship and embrace our Irish heritage even further.

I have a few thoughts up my magical sleeve that I hope will increase membership. I am up for any ideas from any, and all of you as members. Many have already whispered in my ear. I am ready for criticism as well. They say in politics "The minute you are sworn in, you are sworn at."

As you are aware, we also added four new members to the Board of Directors last month. I was astonished and extremely happy that as many as 14 members were nominated to serve.

What this tells me is that there is great passion from the members who want to make the Center excel. I ask those who ran to continue to serve the Center in other ways. What will make my job easy is that I am surrounded by a great group of Board members. All great leaders surround themselves with great people. We must remember that the Board are hard-working volunteers as well, and make the decisions for the betterment of the entire Center and all of the groups within.

I am here to help, and like most things I do in life, I enjoy doing that with a lot of fun and humor. I want to mention the hard work of our outgoing president John Gorski and the other Board members who have served their terms with honor and duty. Volunteering is one of the greatest forms of charity. It is giving of your time and that means that charity is one of the greatest of all virtues. I will soon meet with all of our groups and committees in the Irish community. I am here to serve and not be served.

Very best regards,
Eugene M. Cooney
President



Memoir Classes Capture Stories

Memoir and creative writing classes continue this fall at the Center. The course is taught by Virginia Gibbons, Professor of English at Oakton Community College and facilitator for the Great Irish Book Club at the IAHC Library.

Whether your story is a memorable summer or an incredible life voyage, this writing workshop helps you identify key moments in your life and understand them against a backdrop of time and place.

Students perform in-class writing exercises, readings and take part in discussions. Out-

side assignments will also be given.

There are three fall sessions:
Tuesdays from September 22 through October 27 from 4pm to 6pm

Tuesdays from September 22 through October 27 from 7pm to 9pm

Thursdays from September 24 through October 29 from 7pm to 9pm

The cost of the six-week class is \$60 per person.

To register, call Theresa Choske at 773-545-8057.

Anam Cara Storytelling

Enjoy an encore performance of storytelling this fall.

Anam Cara is a semi-annual evening of readings by the creative writers from the 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 these sessions,

which have helped them find their voice in their writings. Each has shown incredible growth in their unique style of writing as they put pen to paper to craft their stories. They will team up with Chicago's storytelling community for an unforgettable night of storytelling.

Anam Cara is Saturday, September 19 from 6:30pm to 9pm in the IAHC Library and tickets are \$5 at the door.

Shapeshifters Theatre Returns With Staged Readings

Shapeshifters Theatre presents the first in their new Staged Readings Series on Monday, September 14 in the Fifth Province.

Kicking off the series will be the black comedy, *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, the first in the Leenane Trilogy by Tony Award nominee and Academy Award-winning writer Martin McDonough. The Fifth Province opens at 6 pm, and the reading is at 7 pm. The audience is invited to stay after the reading for a talk back with director Robert Ayres and the cast.

Beauty Queen tells the story of the dysfunctional relationship between a lonely woman, facing her first and possibly last chance at love, and her domineering mother,



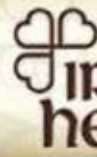
intent on derailing the course of true love. The play was nominated for an Olivier Award as Best Play for its 1997 London production, and the 1998 Broadway production was

nominated for six Tony Awards and won four: Best Leading Actress in a Play, Best Featured Actor in a Play, Best Featured Actress in a Play and Best Direction of a Play. The second and third plays in the trilogy, *A Skull in Connemara* and *The Lonesome West* will be performed on Monday, October 5 and Monday, November 2. Tickets for the readings are \$10 and can be purchased by visiting www.irish-american.org, calling 773-282-7035, ext 10 or at the door.



Members of the Irish Heritage Singers performed at the Taste of Chicago Chieftains concert on July 10.

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Mórga Salon Concert

The Salon Concert Series is proud to present Mórga for an evening of traditional Irish music this August.

Energy, passion, respect, and fun are four words that sum up the musical mission statement behind Mórga. The group is four friends; virtuoso musicians, on a mission to bring together the wild energy of the Irish-American dance bands of the roaring '20s, the sound of the Irish traditional music revival of the 1970s, and the excitement of the best pub session imaginable.

Growing out of the rich Galway music scene, a shared passion for old and lively traditional music drew the band members together. Mórga (Irish for majestic) was formed in 2008, and the band released their self-titled debut album in 2009 to critical acclaim.



Since then, Mórga has toured extensively, appearing at highly respected festivals throughout Ireland and Europe, most recently a five week tour of Germany, in addition to appearing several times on Irish television and radio.

Mórga is Dominic Keogh on bodhran, Danny Diamond on fiddle, David Munnely on accordion and Jonas

Fromseier on banjo and bouzouki.

Mórga is Wednesday, August 12 at 8pm. The Academy of Irish Music Young Musicians and Performance Group will open the show. Tickets are \$15 and children 18 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased by calling 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or at the door.

Thanks to all of our volunteers, performers, patrons and YOU for making the 30th Annual Irish American Heritage Festival a great weekend!
Irish Fest 2016 is July 8, 9 and 10.



Monthly Mass, Carvery Brunch and Open House

The Monthly Mass and Carvery Brunch continues this August with a summer cook-out theme.

The day begins on Sunday, August 9, with Mass at 10:30am in the Auditorium. Brunch follows in the Fifth Province from 11:30am to 2pm and reservations are necessary. Attire is casual elegance.

Chef John Dempsey's menu features a carvery of beef brisket, smoked baby back ribs in a caramel onion whiskey glaze, baked beans with onion and tomato, summer melon, green cabbage with a honey apple vinaigrette and caraway, fresh butter bread, knockwurst and portobello sauerkraut, German potato salad, grass fed beef burgers, black bean patties, Irish mac

and cheese and fruit cobbler for dessert. Coffee, tea, juice and lemonade will be served and there will be a cash bar.

Tickets are \$20 for IAHC adult members and \$22 for adult general admission. Children 12 and under who are members are \$12, and children general admission are \$14. Children 2 and under are free. Gratuity is not included.

Stay for a tour of the building and meet partners and members of our committees at our Open House from 2pm to 5pm. Learn more about the Center and its programs and how you can become an active part of the Irish community.

To purchase tickets, visit www.irish-american.org or call 773-282-7035.

Tune In For An Evening of Irish Radio

Inspired by a trip last year to Kilfinane, Limerick for the Hearsay Audio Festival, Third Coast International Audio Festival has teamed up with

the Center for a sonic sampling of Irish radio at in the Fifth Province.

Based in Chicago, Third Coast International Audio Festival curates sound-rich audio stories from around the world and shares them with as many ears as possible; on the radio, online and at public listening events. Operating year-round, Third Coast offers producers and listeners a multitude of ways to celebrate audio storytelling through weekly broadcasts,

THIRD COAST
INTERNATIONAL
AUDIO
FESTIVAL



a radio show on WBEZ Radio and with partner events.

Guests will gather to listen to the broadcast from the Third Coast's trip

to Limerick and discuss the Irish storytelling tradition over pints and a bite to eat. Special guests performing Irish music and stories will join the evening.

Third Coast at the Fifth Province: An Evening of Irish Radio is Thursday, September 17. The Fifth Province opens at 6pm and the program is at 7pm. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by at www.thirdcoastfestfestival.org.



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August/Early September 2015

August 7	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili Mor	Fifth Province	8pm
August 9	Monthly Mass	Auditorium	10:30am
	Carvery Brunch	Fifth Province	11:30am
	Open House	Various Rooms	Noon
August 12	Mórga Salon Concert	TBA	8pm
August 21	Shamrock American Club Meeting	ShamAm Room	7pm
August 30	Genealogy Meeting	Library	1pm
September 4	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili Mor	Fifth Province	8pm
September 7	Labor Day	Building Closed	

Regularly Scheduled Events

Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
Tues	Set Dancing	Room 111	7:30-9:30pm
Tues, Thurs,			12:30pm-
Fri, & Sat	Golden Diners Lunch Program	Kitchen	2pm
Wed	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7-10pm
Thurs	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsals	Room 304	7pm
Fri	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili	Room 111	8pm

August Library Hours

Closed, except by appointment and Genealogy on 8/30 at 1pm.



NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE CLASS OF 2016

to honor the achievements of outstanding Irish Americans who have contributed to society in one or more of the following areas:

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the fifth province

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Enjoy taped music through September 11th.

Note: The Fifth Province kitchen will be closed through 9/11.

Summer hours are Friday and Saturday 7am to 12:30am.



August Drink Special

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Valid for the month of August 2015 only.



Our very own the Great Irish Books Club was featured in the July 19 edition of the Chicago Tribune. Want to join the club? Email moderator Virginia Gibbons at vgibbon@oakton.edu.

The Heritage Line Staff Kathleen O'Neill, **Editor**
Contributors: Shelby Baron, Theresa Choske, Gene Cooney, Laura Coyle, Elizabeth Ellis, Catherine Kelly, Natalie Miller, Mary Morris, Sheila Murphy, Pam Marshall Taylor

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For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



ica’s Slavocracy to Six-County Loyalists. The statement on its left half is by Jefferson Davis, the one on the

Touring through the Six Counties one knows whether any area is Irish or British. Irish areas fly the flags of Ireland and Palestine, while British areas fly the flags of Britain, Israel, the Swastika, and the Confederacy. So while the Occupied Irish sympathize with Occupied and genocided Palestine, their British erstwhile-overlords advertise their admiration for Israel, the Nazis, and our slave-owning Confederacy.

What must Israelis make of their flag flying alongside the Swastika? The message is inescapable; those flag flyers admire the Nazis and today’s Israel for the same rea-

right by Loyalist opponents of Irish freedom in 1912.

The flags explain Six-County conflicts. Irish/Palestinian affinity on one side, Loyalist/Israeli/Nazi/Slavocracy affinity on the other. Brotherhood on one side, Supremacy, man’s inhumanity to man, on the other. The world might save itself by grasping this difference so spontaneously expressed by flags on the streets of Ireland’s Six-Counties.

Last year the Dervock, Antrim pyre had the usual KAT (Kill All Taigs) signs affixed. At its top was PADRAIG MCSHANE DEAD MAN. The police? Many are assassins, Glenanne gang alone murdered 120 Catholics, randomly. Padraig McShane is an elected Moyle District Councilor of Antrim-to-Gaza experience. Some months ago his house was fire-bombed, but he and family were out. Note the photo of this year’s Bushmills, Antrim pyre. At its base, awaiting the torch, are mock-ups of three persons. The mock-ups are made realistic by photos of faces pasted where faces should be. The figure on the left is Derry/Strabane Independent Councilor Gary Donnelly. On the right is Independent Councilor McShane, and the middle mock-up is of recent visitor Mohammed Al-Halabi, the International Director of Cooperation for the Municipality of Gaza City. Scrawled above them is “Army Council” suggesting they are IRA leaders. Notice the cross-hairs on McShane’s face.

McShane writes: “Loyalists are escalating their threats against me, and by extension my family.” The news media ignore the death-threats against McShane. Editors tell reporters; “The GFA brought peace; this is peace. Ignore torture, crime and intimidation. Support the GFA” Contact fogartyc@att.net or 312/664-7651. Phone, eMail your Congressmen about McShane and family.



son – their Supremacy in action. Naziism was modeled on Britain’s colonial policies. See “Hitler’s English Inspirers” by Manuel Sarkisyanz, Ph.D.

While our gov’t has bankrupted the KKKK/White Citizens’ Councils, and So. Carolina bans the Confederate flag from gov’t property, Ireland’s Ex-President Mary MacAleese supports Confederate-flag-waving, Six-County Loyalists, the KKK’s blood relatives and fellow-WASP supremacists. She recently attended the inauguration of a Loyalist-promoting museum. Though the ubiquitous Star of David is missing from the adjacent photos, the flags speak for themselves. Note carefully the tie binding Amer-





Guilty Pleasures

Christine Gallagher Kearney



It's time for a summer road trip to New York State, where we're going to explore their booming craft spirits scene. Expert and author Heather Dolland is in her element talking about spirits, the "farm to glass" movement and the successes and triumphs of using locally grown products.

According to Dolland, Washington State leads the craft spirits movement—which primarily includes whiskey, bourbon, gin and vodka—but New York State isn't far behind. "I believe that much of why New York State is becoming prominent in the craft spirits arena is as a result of changing laws and legislation. New laws have made it easier to sell local spirits and build a sustainable business. Laws allow distillers to sell at their facility as well as conduct tastings of each products and create cocktails," she said.

Dolland's love for eating and drinking local comes from a deep tradition of growing up with her grandmother cooking fresh bread and Caribbean-influenced food. "Saturday evening, everybody showed up at Grandma's house. It was a whole community of food," she said. Later, Dolland spent more than eight years as a brand ambassador for a number of premium wine and spirit companies before embarking on her tour of New York State's distilleries.

In order for a spirit, like gin, to be considered locally crafted in New York State, "more than 75 percent of the raw ingredients need to be sourced from local farmers," said Dolland. Some farmers simply sell their raw materials to distillers; others are farmer distillers thanks to The Farm Distillery Act that was passed in 2007 that allows famers to create their own liquors.

Although the distilling laws are important, food, community and family remain central to Dolland's reason for sharing the stories of the distillers. Hudson Valley Distillers, one of the 30 that Dolland visited, opened last March on a small farm and apple orchard in Clermont, New York. The owners, Thomas Yozzo and Chris Moyer, are life-long friends and make an effort to source their raw materials, like corn, within a five-mile radius of the distillery. They even make use of their orchard, using cider in their Sprits Grove Vodka.

"What stands out to me is their commitment to sourcing their natural ingredients

locally. They are also taking the opportunity to make their distillery a destination where you can come to enjoy the beauty of your surroundings while supporting a local business and this budding industry," said Dolland.

Over the course of touring the distilleries, she developed an acute knowledge of the differences between the flavors and the influences of the raw ingredients on the finished product. "I can differentiate between a New York rye whiskey versus a Tennessee whiskey," Dolland said.

Many years after those days in her grandmother's kitchen (where most often during the Christmas season adults sipped Sorrel, a white rum drink from the Caribbean islands), Dolland's love for the spirits movement continues to grow, but she never imagined she'd write a book about it. "I tasted my way through writing this book," said Dolland.

She certainly didn't expect to become a 'spirits sommelier' either. Much like a wine sommelier would get certified, Dolland is studying to be a Certified Specialist of Spirits. She pays close attention to subtle flavors, knowing that everyone has par-

ticular likes and dislikes when it comes to spirits.

Asking for a drink recommendation to pair with a dish comes down to what you like, she advised. "For me, marrying whiskey with anything that is smoked or barbecued is a homerun, because you have the smokiness and spiciness of the whiskey married with the same elements in meats. The meat can hold up to the complexity of the whiskey. To me, that's a dream."

For her guilty pleasure, Dolland goes back to her roots: Roti. "To get a visual, think of a burrito. It's typically made with a curried meat, chickpeas, potatoes and many spices. It is a carb-loaded meal. I don't eat it often given that I love to eat and drink as much as I do, but whenever I go to neighborhoods that have large Caribbean populations, I always try to find my way to a roti shop."

John Coyle Boxing Benefit

McGarry's Boxing club is holding a benefit featuring Chicagoland boxing champions on Thursday, September to support John Coyle, and all proceeds will be used to help John cover all the expenses he has endured from cancer treatments the last year.

The show is a USA boxing sanctioned

To learn more about Dolland's journey through New York, pick up a copy of her book "Discovering the New York Craft Spirits Boom," which chronicles the lives of 30 craft distillers from Brooklyn to the Finger Lakes.

Basilberry Buzz

By Hudson Valley Distillers
 1 1/2 ounces Spirits Grove Vodka
 1-2 large fresh basil sprigs
 1/4 cup strawberries
 splash of simple syrup
 1 ounce lemon juice
 3-4 ounces chilled soda water

In shaker, muddle basil and strawberries, add ice, vodka, syrup, and lemon juice. Cap and shake. Pour into glass, add soda water and garnish with strawberry and basil leaf.

event with all amateur boxers. It will be held at 115 Bourbon Street. Live music by Coyote Riot. The doors open at 6:30 with bouts beginning at 7:30. It is a \$30 donation and a cash bar.

For information contact: Oliver McGarry, 708-715-4160, Martin McGarry, 312-339-6219, or Morgan McGarry at 773-454-6319. Thank you to 115 Bourbon Street for holding the event!

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Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Beware Irish Politicians Bearing Advice to Greeks

As I sit down to start this I hear that Enda Kenny has just been revealing the advice he gave to the Greeks. As if they don't have enough problems...

God knows I have often been ashamed of this government. The craven manner in which they abase themselves every time one of the Big Boys deigns to include them in the conversation makes me break out in a rash every time.

One of these unelected Eu-

rocrats need only look in the direction of our toadies and they fall over themselves in a bid to see who can be the most openly sycophantic.

But I have never – and I mean bloody NEVER – been as ashamed of them as I was in the week running up to the Greek referendum.

At a time when Greece was on its knees – something that Ireland knows about and should have had a bit of compassion for—our

two beauties, Kenny and his toy wind-up Finance Minister Michael Noonan, were putting the boot in. As hard as they could.

Well, why wouldn't they? The Greeks had what we were never given: a chance to cast a vote as to whether they accepted what was being done to them in the form of the non-elected, Clockwork Orange bully-boys and Eurocratic thugs who were closing down their banks because democracy looked as if it might just be in danger of breaking out.

We didn't have the choice. Our deal was done under cover of darkness while the bought-and-paid-for were swilling down the booze during the especially extended opening hours of the Dail Bar.

Jesus wept! And then they slag off Greece, who got about 10% of

the money from the 'great bailout' that everyone kept throwing back in their faces. As if our chancers have a right to open their mouths about ANYTHING to do with showing some guts.

I saw a photograph last week of Noonan that I couldn't get out of my head: there he was, perched on the edge of a table, with his little hobbit-legs not even touching the ground; and he looks so damned happy because Christine Lagarde of the IMF is towering over him, for all the world like someone who is about to rub his shiny bald pate and tell him what a good wee boy he is. This is the same condescending woman who complained that there weren't enough 'adults in the room' to have proper negotiations. I haven't cringed so much since the last time I saw a photo of Dame Edna Kenny himself in front of his boss, Angela Merkel.

With what mixed feelings must they have watched what was unfolding: on the one hand, the Greek people were turning on each other, which is the 'divide-and-conquer' strategy that our lads have attempted with the Irish Water charges. On the other, if Greece had ended up with a better deal, out would have come the kind of questions that should have been asked all along. And that would have been very embarrassing for our Euro-whipped government.

So as I write it looks as if, after all they've gone through, the Greek people have been betrayed by their own government. (And doesn't that sound familiar?)

They knew that they would have to take some pain, no matter what; but NOW it is being made clear to them that they also must be utterly humiliated for having had the temerity to stand up for themselves. And Ireland – which knows a bit about pain – is represented by some puffed-up wasters who are assisting in making it hurt as much as they can. And representing us whilst they're at it.

The whole mess got me thinking back to my conversation with Ken Smollen last month. He is the chairman of the fledgling, very interesting Irish Democratic Party, who base their thinking on something called 'participatory

democracy'. At first I had a vague notion that this was the system of 'participatory politics' put forward by Professor Stephen Shalom in William Paterson University, New Jersey.

In fact, the IDP takes its inspiration from the great George Orwell's book 'Homage to Catalonia' where Orwell wrote about seeing participatory democracy in action whilst in Spain. He declared it the fairest form of democracy anywhere.

Reasons of space don't allow me to give a complete rundown on it – and I must emphasise once more that I'm not a member of ANY party nor likely to ever be one. Yet two aspects that appeal to me here are the lack of a Whip system and the idea of being able to 'Recall' politicians who have been voted in and then simply refuse to implement the policies that they had promised.

That would have saved us some time when it became obvious that Fine Gael and Labour had no intention of implementing anything that they had lied about; nor would we have had to listen to Pat Rabbitte telling us openly that this is exactly what politicians do before an election and that we were a bunch of cretins for even EXPECTING integrity from them.

I asked Ken how their system would have worked for Greece in the last weeks:

"I suppose the fact that there was a referendum held in the country means that it was actually used and the result is being rejected by the powers-that-be in Europe.

"The argument could be made that the situation in Greece is very different to that in Ireland as there was extensive tax evasion in Greece by individuals and businesses alike for years which has led them to the situation they're in today.

"However, it can be argued that the wording in the referendum was very confusing for the Greek people and one would have to ask why this was the case. Was it to allow the Seriza Government the opportunity to re-enter talks with

Continued on next page



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The Irish Rover

By James McClure



A Hug in the Dark

Kitty is often crying when I get home. I'd be alarmed by it if I didn't also observe that it only begins when she sees me coming up the driveway, and she behaved the same way when she lived with my late father for three years.

In the three years that I've had her, she's been very content during the day or night leaping from window to window observing the birds, walking the parapet from one end of the couch to the other on guard duty, or racing from room to room burning off endless feline energy.

At any rate, the daily homecomings are first rate. Kitty won't be content until she's either rubbing up against me or resting in my arms. She tirelessly follows me from living room to kitchen to bathroom to bedroom until such time as she's purring in my arms and all is well in the world.

The other day I was getting ready to do my daily hike to the beach and back when she leaped up onto my lap as I was tying my gym shoes. As she curled around my chest she let out a cry-meow that said in no uncertain terms, "Please don't leave me now, I'll really miss you!" I leaned back on the couch and wrapped my arms around her, and she curled even tighter

against me. No purring. This was pure "don't let me go!" togetherness.

Needless to say I decided it was movie night instead and pulled a Gregory Peck western from the shelf. She was back



to her independent self once the MGM lion roared and she repositioned herself to watch all the HD horses, cattle and shootouts.

The loving loyalty is part of her nature, and I like to think I earn it by taking extra good care of her and letting her know how much I value her company. But I link part of my cat's cuddliness to the night she learned to trust me.

I woke up about 2 a.m. one morning with a loud thundercrack. The rain was coming down in sheets and a severe thunderstorm was blowing that rain sideways as lightning seemed to strike with a resounding BOOM every few seconds.

Usually Kitty is easily found during sleeping hours, either right up against my ribs or on top of my hip. The next menacing lightning bolt sounded as if it was mere feet away and lit up the room to reveal no cat in sight.

I knew right to where to look. Cats seemingly come from the factory with a built in protection system that makes me marvel at God's handiwork. With the sense of a building engineer and the knowledge of a meteorologist built in, Kitty heads for the strongest portion of the apartment opposite the direction most major storms approach from Tornado Alley to the southwest. In fact, had my apartment not been an open field 50 years ago during the Williams Bay Palm Sunday Tornado, the twister would have literally cut a diagonal through my domicile.

Still, knowing she was safely ensconced in a Northeast corner in a gap between the refrigerator and the wall far from any windows, I didn't like the thought of her being alone and crying her most feminine of meows.

I threw off the covers and found her right where expected; gathering Kitty up I headed back to bed and saw her recoil at the next big thunderclap. She's never been one for being under the covers but I lifted them up and said "C'mon Honey, you're okay with me."

The next strike of lightning revealed her curled in a C against my ribcage, her

green eyes as wide as saucers. With the next crash, the light bathing the room revealed a furry red and orange tabby head with eyes closed, sound asleep.

It's nice to be trusted. Nice to be missed. Wonderful to share the enduring love of a cat.

E-mail IrishRoverJim@aol.com



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Beware Irish Politicians Bearing Advice to Greeks

Continued from previous page

the Troika while saying that they're not really going against their own electorate's wishes?

"Anyway, if Participatory Democracy was in use in Greece there would certainly be enough justification to 'Recall' Mr. Tsipras for failing to adhere to those wishes!"

I wish the Irish Democratic Party well; with our current model of politics outdated and simply not working, we could seriously do with a REAL change -- and I don't mean more of the same such as the Renua Party.

And I'll be damned if I hadn't just written those words when I heard that three politicians have formed yet another party, the

Social Democrats. With Catherine Murphy joining Roisin Shortall this should have been another cause for best wishes.

Like most people, I have a lot of time for Murphy after the way she has fearlessly put herself out there over the past months.

To my astonishment, however, the third member is none other than Stephen Donnelly, who sides with the Bill that agrees with evictions. What on earth is she thinking?

He may have his reasons for that one, but here's the kicker: he ALSO agrees with Irish Water charges. Fair enough, says you; but wait! Just to really confuse things he says that the SocDems will be against the water charges...but that he more than likely will

personally be paying them!

That has to be some sort of a record: not even in existence for a whole 24 hours and already speaking out of both sides of their mouths!

NB: For those who take an interest in such things, you'll notice that three months in I'm still having problems with 'Forgive those who trespass against us...'

You can read my blogs on www.charleybrady.com & www.cbsays.com or email me at

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From the Executive Director of Chicago Irish Immigrant Support

By Michael Collins

J1 Berkley Tragedy

Chicago Irish Immigrant Support would like to thank the Chicagoland Irish community for its generous and heartfelt support of the families and friends of the Berkley tragedy in June. As you are aware, six students were killed when a balcony became detached from an apartment building in Berkley, California. Seven others were injured, some of them with life-changing injuries. The response of the Irish community worldwide to this horrible tragedy has been unprecedented. Minister for Diaspora, Jimmy Deenihan, sums this up best when he said "I've never seen such an outpouring of love, genuine sympathy and grief from the whole country. Irish people support each other in time of need." The response to this tragedy in Chicago was truly moving. A vigil was held at Millennium Park in downtown Chicago on June 17th. This was organized by J1 students in Chicago and a hundreds of students attended. It was clear to

see that this tragedy has deeply affected a significant number of young people.

Chicago Irish Immigrant Support started a fund to raise money for the families of the victims. This fund has currently generated more than \$275,000 for the victims and their families. CIIS has handed control of the fund over to the Irish Immigration Pastoral Center (IIPC) in San Francisco as they have closer contact with the families of the victims. CIIS is very proud to have participated in such a successful fundraising campaign and is extremely happy to have partnered with the IIPC in this project. The fund is still open and accepting donations for anyone who would still like to donate to the families. The link follows: <http://www.gofundme.com/J1tragedyfund>.

CIIS held a memorial mass at the Irish American Heritage Center on Sunday June 21st. This mass gave the Irish community in Chicago a chance to pay their respects to everyone involved in this tragedy. Over one hundred fifty people attended this service.

The collection during Mass generated significant funds for the families of the tragedy. I would like to thank Fr. Moore, Fr. O'Brien, Consul General of Ireland Chicago Aidan Cronin, and all of the J1 students who helped us with this service. Also, I would like to thank everyone who has supported the victims or the Berkley tragedy in any way. Your contributions and support

have been internationally recognized. THANK YOU!

IAHC Irish Fest

It was a pleasure to see so many people come out for this year's Irish Fest at the Irish American Heritage Center. Irish fest is a great opportunity to bring people together and celebrate Irish heritage and Irish culture. CIIS had an information booth at Irish fest providing immigration and social services information to those who stopped by. It was great to be able to provide a needed service while enjoying Irish music and the craic with so many of you.

Maggie O'Neill Introduction

I would like to formally introduce our newest member of the CIIS team. Maggie O'Neill is a summer intern. She is entering the last year of her undergraduate degree studies at Loyola University in Chicago. Maggie is a member of the interdisciplinary honors program majoring in Communication and minoring in International Studies. She has been involved with the Irish community her entire life, most notably through her thirteen years as an Irish Dancer. Although Maggie has not been with CIIS very long, she has already had many successes. Maggie helped organize our annual golf outing, manage our website and social media platforms, and many other tasks essential to the running of CIIS. Everyone at Chicago Irish Immigrant Support is extremely happy to have Maggie on board until the end of summer.

Immigration Services

CIIS is continuing to host legal clinics for anyone who might have immigration questions. These clinics are currently being held once a month by appointment only. Each clinic provides a client with a 30 minute face to face consultation with a fully qualified immigration attorney. Our next legal clinic is being held on Thursday August 13th from 5:30pm-8:30pm. We have another legal clinic scheduled for Thursday September 10th from 5:30pm-8:30pm. Please call (773) 282-8445 or email mcollins@irishchicago.org to schedule your appointment.

Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling



Senior Group Meetings

Our senior group meetings - held at Gaelic Park and the Irish American Heritage Center - will be on hiatus for the months of July and August. Each year we take a break over the summer to recharge and plan the next fall program. We will meet again in September for what's sure to be another wonderful year of group meetings.

Bringing it Back Home

This month our introductory series on returning to live in Ireland continues with an overview of accessing the Irish social security system through the Bilateral Social Security Agreement. Alongside the social security benefits available in Ireland is a host of assistance benefits available to those on very low incomes that are assessed through means testing. These payments are for those that do not qualify for the contributory programs. This can be a little confusing but these need based assistance payments are not being discussed in this article (for more information see www.welfare.ie).

In Ireland social security benefits include important long term payments such as the State pension (for retirees) and Invalidity Pension. Both in Ireland and the US, eligibility for social security payments is based on an individual having made a certain number of payments or contributions to the system over the course of time. Social security can be thought of as an insurance program whereby people make contributions that are comparable to an insurance premium. For many people these contributions are made automatically on their behalf by their employer each time they are paid. In Ireland these payments are often referred to as Pay Related Social Insurance (PRSI). It is quite likely that those returning to live in Ireland have been living and

working outside of the country for an extended period of time. This means that they have not been making 'contributions' to the social security fund in Ireland. Should a recent returnee find themselves in a situation where they need financial assistance from social security they may not have made enough social security contributions to the Irish system to qualify for social security benefits. It's in this instance that the Bilateral Social Security Agreement between Ireland and the US comes into play. This agreement allows individuals to combine social security payments that they have made in the US with the payments they have made in Ireland, potentially qualifying them for social security benefits in Ireland.

The Bilateral Social Security Agreement, however, does have some important limitations. In order for the bilateral agreement to apply an individual must have been in insurable employment in Ireland for at least one and have at least 52 reckonable weeks under Irish legislation. Furthermore, not all Irish social security benefits are available to those combining Irish and US social security payments.

Depending on your work history in Ireland and the US it may be possible for someone to qualify for a payment from both countries. If you are applying for an Irish social security benefit and you have indicated that you have a work history in another country they will automatically make an application to that country on your behalf.

For more information on welfare payments please visit the website of Citizens Information (http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social_welfare) or if you wish to find out more about your PRSI records in Ireland you can reach the Department of Social Protection by phone on 011 353 1 471 5898 or on line at www.welfare.ie.



Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



Tell Me a Story

One of the more notable attributes of the Irish is the love of a good story. Recently, I've been reading Frank Delaney's novel Ireland. The tone, and diction of his stories took me back to days when I lived with my grandparents and stories seemed to have more importance than they do now. Delaney evoked memories of nights sitting listening to a favourable uncle regale heartwarming tales.

Of course the element of exaggeration, added for dramatic effect, was the most charming aspect of the story. The art of storytelling, as a communal form of bonding, has, for the most part, been lost, saved now for wakes and special occasions.

For those of us who were fortunate enough to remember stories of strange apparitions and tales as big as the one that got away are among the last of the witnesses to a dying art. Delaney in his novel demonstrates an art form that cannot be reproduced by any other medium, since the basis of storytelling is the love of direct human interaction. The storyteller is as mysterious as the tale he tells.

The impact of the storyteller goes beyond stirring up the imagination. Our enchantment with him or her is almost spiritual. They become the medium through which the forces beyond our comprehension manifest themselves in a tale that seems almost credible, no matter how skeptical we think we are. The power of the storyteller is without doubt magical. Facts become less important than the mysterious truth that puzzles and perplexes the listener.

Ancient traditions and cultures draw us into a consciousness of a shared memory, so far hidden in our psyche, that it appears lost, until the storyteller awakes

in us a genetic connection to our distant ancestors. And, Delaney, in his novel, does this most effectively.

In my ruminations about storytelling and its effects, I've been captivated by the power of the word. Language, as we know, is more than simply words structured together to convey meaning.

If the sociologists are right then most of our language is non-verbal. Words are enhanced, refined, and elaborated by inflexion, body language, and setting. The priest's formal attire in the performance of a mass creates a message that goes beyond his words. The sports commentator deciphers the listeners' thoughts and feelings and communicates them to millions of others. A raised voice, short staccato sentences take words to a new level of excitement.



Author Frank Delaney

Each radio or television personality elucidates the power of the storyteller, consciously or unconsciously. The same words delivered in a monotone voice lose their magic as the words fall dead, lifeless, and the audience either changes channel or parish. Even those of us who use the Internet more than we should know how much our conversations are improved by emoticons and clever use of punctuation marks. The story is devoid of personality without these technological cues.

The art of storytelling has been evolving with our technological advancements. Epic tales are being formed with the aid of new mediums. Now we see videos of alien spaceships, apparitions of ghosts; religious mysteries are being resurrected in new and invigorating ways.

The doorway to the imagination is firmly open. The viral pathway to discovery drives us to seek out new stories to share and elaborate on. And, yet despite this burst of quick fire bytes of oddities, there is still a deep need for the direct human connection, something that cannot be replicated.

Perhaps the old adage for aspiring radio DJs about speaking to the listener as if they were only person listening is what we all long for. Each of us wants to be told a story. We long to be transported on the imaginative

powers of one who transcends the immediate gratification of a cute cat video, or the stupidity of human folly. We want a story to do more than tickle us.

The epic stories of our childhood connect us to something we cannot always explain in rational terms. We read into the themes of human and spiritual entities a quest that brings some sort of meaning to the empty materialism that we call modern life. The current explosion of fantasy based movies and Television shows are a perfect example of this desire to escape the dearth that we call modernity. We live in cages of our own making, while watching the shapes and shadows move around us, wishing that we could step outside into the fantastic world full of challenges and perils.

The storyteller prizes open the cage door and invites us to fly. The invitation may go unacknowledged, or realized, but we still want to hear its call. It's this cry of the heart that makes us crave a new story, or an old story with a new context. We want someone to rattle our cages and force us to see how we've allowed ourselves to simply exist. The effect of the storyteller is felt in the pin and needles of a soul being revived, as the imagination rouses from its sleep.

So go ahead and tell me a story that makes me feel alive, and opens up the cage that has become home.

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Mick

Mike Morley

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Firepower

It's been over 17 years now since the 1998 signing of the Belfast agreement and the advent of "The Peace Process" when Britain and Ireland agreed that in the North: "... the power of the sovereign government with jurisdiction there shall be exercised with rigorous impartiality on behalf of all the people in the diversity of their identities and traditions and shall be founded on the principles of full respect for, and equality of, civil, political, social and cultural rights, of freedom from discrimination for all citizens, and of parity of esteem and of just and equal treatment for the identity, ethos and aspirations of both communities".

Fine words. But in nearly two decades since the agreement and the IRA's decommissioning of weapons in favor of a political solution, Britain has

striven to slowly squeeze the Republican juices out of the North, reneging on amnesty deals and leaning heavily on dissenters. Pro-British Loyalists receive more symbolic negative attention: small restrictions on parades and flags for which they complain loudly, and often riot. And the "peace walls" between neighborhoods have only grown longer and higher.

The Finucane family predictably lost their legal challenge to Prime Minister Cameron's refusal to hold a public

fergus, along with paramilitary flags and the union flag.

Another Summer of Orangemen marching all over the North celebrating their superiority over Catholics began as usual, with loyalists rioting when police tried to enforce a marching ban. Orangemen were allowed to march down Belfast's Crumlin Road past the Catholic Ardoyne shop area, but agreed not to pass that way when returning. But the Masonic Orange Order is Protest-ant, locked in perpetual protest against Catholics. In 2012 they paraded around Belfast's St. Patrick's church like snickering prepubescent Beavis and Buttthead characters, singing the derogatory "Famine Song". This year they agreed to play no music while passing the church, but once more defied the ruling, playing a Protestant hymn instead.

On their return march, rather than detouring around Belfast's Ardoyne shop area as agreed, Orangemen and their supporters rioted, pelting police with metal bolts fired from slingshots. One Orangeman driving a car hurled insults at a group of Catholic nationalist residents, then suddenly drove his vehicle into the group, pinning 16-year-old Phoebe Clawson beneath the car, injuring her seriously. A phalanx of police had to lift the vehicle off the girl. The driver, John Aughey, was described



Driver, John Aughey and Phoebe Clawson. (picture at Irishnews.com)

inquiry into the murder of attorney Pat Finucane by loyalist paramilitaries, aided by agents of the state. In a display of the best British baffle-gab, Sir Desmond de Silva issued a ruling splitting the difference between "collusion" and "conspiracy". He admitted he found "shocking levels of state collusion" in the murder, but found no "overarching state conspiracy" to merit a public inquiry.

Foreign immigrants now are being hounded out of Loyalist areas, not only with threats and graffiti, but by regular incidents of beatings, fire bombings, home invasions and damage to vehicles and homes- a situation reminiscent of America's Deep South nearly 100 years ago. Police know the groups responsible, but most investigations begin and end with requests for the public to "call with any information".

A new loyalist terror gang released a photo last month of its members in camo clothes with automatic weapons, along with a threat naming police and the Parades Commission as "legitimate targets".

Another gang posted a photo of several hooded men clutching bats and axes, standing by a wall painted with the words: "Taigs will be crucified. VTOT". ("Taigs" is a derogatory Protestant term for 'Catholics'. 'VTOT' is a South Belfast loyalist gang, 'Village Team on Tour'.) Despite the ID, PSNI police issued only the usual "appeal for information".

Crucifixion is not an idle threat. In April 2002, Harry McCartan, 23, was abducted by pro-British loyalists, severely beaten, his legs broken, then nailed to a fence in the Dunmurry area of South Belfast.

This year Belfast residents complained to police that outsiders were erecting flags along the Ormeau Road, scene of vicious rioting in earlier marching seasons. Police announced last year they would treat the erection of flags there as "a breach of the peace". But Police Chief Superintendent Nigel Grimshaw has now told residents flatly: "The removal of flags is not the responsibility of the Police Service of Northern Ireland."

Nazi and Confederate flags were erected on lamp posts near a loyalist bonfire site at the Glenfield estate, Carrick-

as "a prominent Orangeman" and was pictured being led away by PSNI officers, un-handcuffed, in white band shirt and orange striped tie. One thing about Aughey was indeed "prominent": his enormous, bloated beer belly.

July's events once again showed who wields real power. On Chobham Street in East Belfast, Loyalists constructed a huge bonfire only 30 feet from a row of homes on land owned by the Department for Regional Development. Local Ulster Unionist Party councilor Sonia Copeland appealed to loyalists to reduce its size. Instead, they built it bigger. Another UUP councilor, Jim Rodgers, said it posed a risk to property, and that action needed to be taken. But despite many meetings with government agencies over May and June, loyalists still refused to move the bonfire. Said Rodgers: "they're adamant that the bonfire is not going to be reduced in size".

SDLP councilor Declan Boyle: "It is a scandalous situation when nobody in authority is prepared to do anything to protect these people and their homes... nobody is willing to help."

The fire pile stood just yards from a Community Center. Boyle claimed women workers there had to pay from their own pockets for it to be boarded up. And many families were forced to move out of their homes when the Fire and Rescue Service warned their property and lives were in danger. Housing Executive workers then boarded up more than 50 buildings at a cost of some £10,000. That's not including the cost of fire crews that had to stand by for action as the huge flaming stack pitched over, sending spectators running for their lives.

Is there any other "democracy" whose government kow-tows this way to a secret, militant, sectarian cabal?

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It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane and Margo O'Donnell



Hi Everybody,
Where the time has gone, I can't even imagine but soon summer will be over. And my 50 years celebrations will end on October 8th with a special 2 hour TV show back home in my native Donegal. My first band "The Keynotes" will be there with me. All of them are still alive, except Johnny Gallagher the guitar player. He died some years ago, may he rest in peace. People I have met down through the years with my music and personal life will be there.

I am looking forward to meeting up with everyone this Month as I have three special Concerts. It's always special to meet the fans who have kept my dream alive for 50 years. I have seen many changes in music and indeed in life in general. It has been an experience that brought me and my family a lot of joy.

I will have some tales of the road to share with you next month. Joe is going to take over for now as I'm very much on the go at this point in time. Take care of each other till then and

I'll leave you with my buddy Joe. Till the next time God Bless.

Love
Margo
Thank you Margo,

I really enjoyed the show last night in the Armagh City Hotel. And thanks to you I got to do a TV interview for the "Phil Mac Show"

These trips back to Ireland are very therapeutic. Its been a month so far of writing songs and performing. Nathan Carter just released his latest single called "Good Luck To The Girl" Nathan and I wrote the song the last time I was home. Also Margo and I wrote a song for Charley Pride. Which he will be recording soon. So the song writing is very enjoyable to say the least. Mr Charley Pride's song if called "Thanks" Its a little bit of his life story and him saying thank you to his many fans.

There are some new young talents springing up in Ireland and I must say, they are setting the bar high. I heard a young 21 year old singing last night at the concert. The guy tore the place

down with his deep rich voice. His name is Jordan Moge. Jordan comes from Ballymoney and I'm sure he's headed for a great musical career. I got to chat with him for a while and he is also into the song writing. So we hit it off straight away. Also a young lady who lives only a couple of miles from me, here in Ireland. Her name is Kerry Fearon and she really has a wonderful voice and personality to go with it. She came up to sing along with me at a show at the Ti Chulainn. In Mullaghbane, Co Armagh. Just her voice and my guitar to back her up with. That gave me an opportunity to hear her voice. I get a feeling about certain voices and her's is one of them. I wish her and Jordan great success.

I'm happy to say the warmth of the people in Ireland has changed very little and it really is a wonderful feeling when you go to visit someone. You get the feeling

they really want you to stay. You'll be heading for the door after probably staying too long and they'll say, "sure the dinner will be ready soon, you might as well stay now and eat with us" It makes me feel very proud of my people.

This months song is an idea I got from a headline in a newspaper. It read "Someone

Drove Through Oklahoma" I don't know what the story was about. Imediately I saw a song in that title. So I was doing some skype writing with my friend James (Jim) Thacker from Nashville. We came up with an idea about a boy that had no father just a hard working mom. She worked at a gas station diner. Anyway the words will explain

the rest.

Margo will be back in full swing again next month and she says she has some funny tales from the road she wants to share with you. But I'd better warn you Some May Shock You. Ha! Ha!

As always be good to one another.

Slan anois,
Joe and Margo

Someone Drove Through Oklahoma

Written by Joe McShane and James Thacker

Verse 1

The Oklahoma sun would rise and light her pretty face
Through that dusty old diner window where she worked hard every day
I'd help her set the tables fill the shakers up then catch my bus to school.

Just the two of us Mom and me the only life I knew

Verse 2

Early every Friday morning Joe would stop on by
He'd stay a while they'd talk a lot and he always made her smile
I'd sit up in his truck, hold the wheel and pretend I owned the road

And hear his words of wisdom, from a life spent on the go

Chorus

Someone changed my life when he drove through Oklahoma
On that lonely road he stopped by one day
You can hold the wheel but fate will turn it for ya
someone changed my life when he drove through Oklahoma
Yes all because someone drove through Oklahoma

Verse 3

That little old stretch of highway, really wasn't all that bad
But sometimes I'd kick up dust wondering, where the hell is my dad

Didn't see it coming, but those worries were all about to go
Mom sat me down one mornin and said son, I love you and Joe

Chorus

Bridge
That true love is a blessing and every day it grows
For Me-- Mom-- Joe... in Oklahoma

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pH Factor

By Pat Hickey



Masters of the Fist

In the John Ford classic "The Long Grey Line," an Irish immigrant gets his chance at American life by taking a job as a waiter for the dining mess of the United

States Military Academy at West Point. Martin Maher, played by the always wonderful Tyrone Power, soon learns that he can become free of mounting debt, due to his breakage of plates, cups and saucers, while serving

the cadets, if he joins the Army. That he does.

Maher finds a place in life as an athletic manager for West Point's Master of the Sword, the anachronistic term for Athletic Director, played by the always wonderful Ward Bond. We no longer have 'always wonderful' actors anymore, it seems to me, because Hollywood, like politics, academics and the law is dominated by jerks who take themselves way too seriously. That said, John Ford's wonderful movie about West Point (Honor, Duty, & Country) and its impact one Greenhorn should be required viewing – for anyone.

West Point is place where young Americans and young immigrants to America continue to learn honor, duty and country and take those lessons into harm's way for all of us.

In one of the more delightful scenes in this film, Martin Maher is asked to give boxing lessons to warriors. The bantyo-rooster Irishman is decked seconds upon entering square ring, the Master of the Sword. He takes his licks and learns to dish out portions of his own, but more so the genuine love he bears for the cadets under his charge.

These cadets will go into the trenches of France during WWI and global killing fields of WWII and eventually Korea, in Ford's film. These heroes learned the tri-pointed lessons not only in the classroom and parade grounds, but on the basketball courts baseball and football fields, tracks and boxing rings of West Point. Boyd Melson (Class of 2003) who fought with the Star of David on his boxing trunks would go on to the welter-weight Championships of US ARMY and World Military Championship in 2004, as well as the quarter finals for the World Amateur Boxing Championship. Melson knows Honor Duty and Country.

Honor, duty and country. These are words cause media anchors to smirk and academics to dismiss as justification of genocide, racism and classism. Warriors are as anachronistic to

the craven sophisticates of our society, as the term Master of the Sword.

Leo Alumnus and United States Army Master Sergeant Marvin Carey captained the Army's Boxing team, as well served in Iraq and Afghanistan with ground combat units. Mar-

exhibitions of the manly art of self-defense.

Leo Boxing Coach, Mike Joyce was contacted by the West Point Society to help provide assistance in bringing the vales of Honor, Duty and Country to boxing rings here at Leo High School and at a yet to be determined



vin Carey knows Honor, Duty and Country. The corner stone of Leo High School laid by Cardinal George Mundelein, a fierce American, is engraved with Latin motto Pro Deo et Patria – for God and Country. I have yet to see that on any public school.

Leo High School on 79th Street, like every Catholic high school I know of, holds honor, duty and country to his heaving chest. Leo High School has conducted a Veterans Observance at the Leo War Memorial for more than twenty years. Many Leo graduates died in the service of our country and more than a few are graduates of America's service academies.

West Point, Annapolis, the Air Force and the Coast Guard Academy have welcomed Leo Men for the last eighty years and now it is our turn. The West Point Society of Chicago will partner with Leo High School in showing inner city youth the West Point Way. West Point Boxing Club will join the Leo Boxing Club and the Celtic Boxing Foundation of Chicago in demonstrations and

venue for an evening of boxing.

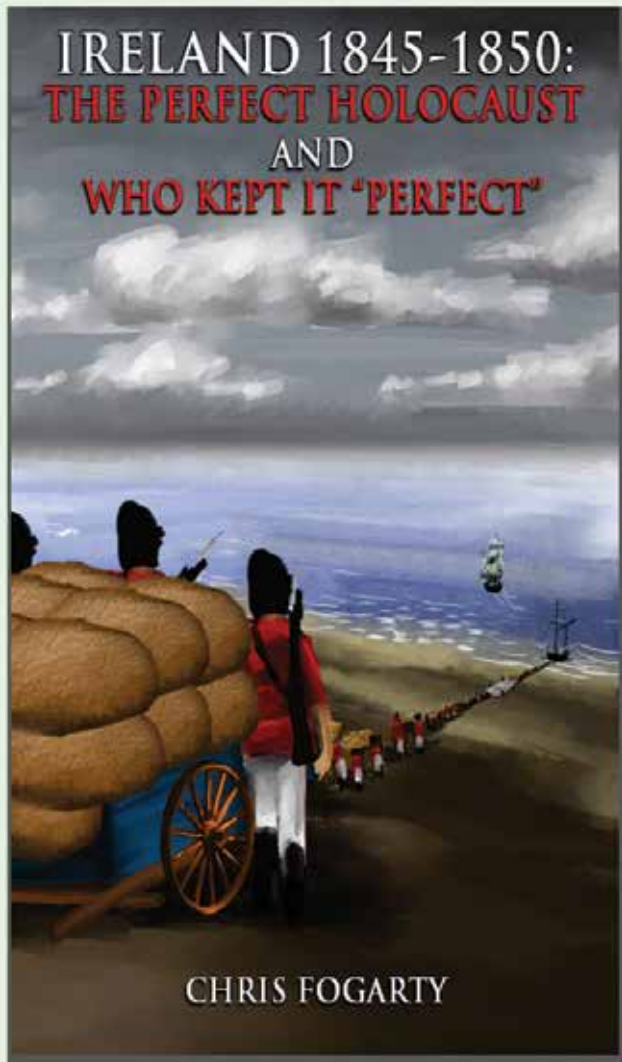
When Irish American News hits the stands in September, I will provide more details about this great partnership between schools and more specific information like ticket prices and the exact location for this event listed below by West Point Society -

"On Saturday, September 19th, the team will conduct a boxing clinic in Chicago for middle school to early high school students, and that evening will be putting on a boxing exhibition consisting of eight bouts, complete with announcers, officials and local youth boxers from Chicago that evening. Eight cadets will match up with local boxers, with the goal of highlighting good sportsmanship and awareness. Proceeds from the event will be used in veterans' programs"

The Master of Sword might belong to the mists of memory, come out and see the masters of the fist offer lessons in duty, honor and country.

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Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



Who was Theobald Wolfe Tone? He was a leading Irish revolutionary figure born in Dublin in 1763, into a middle-class Protestant family. His father was Peter Tone and his Mother was Margaret. Margaret was born a Catholic but converted to protestantism when Theo was 8 years old. Theo grew up in very comfortable circumstances, he was the eldest of 16 children. He had a happy childhood among his many brothers and sisters. He was exceptionally intelligent as a child, with a highly developed sense of humor and extremely witty. Theo grew up at a time when Catholics were invisible politically. They couldn't get most jobs because of their religion and had to pay a tax to the Church of Ireland, a church they didn't belong. At a young age Tone already had a passion for politics, for debates and knew the treatment of Catholics was cruel and unfair.

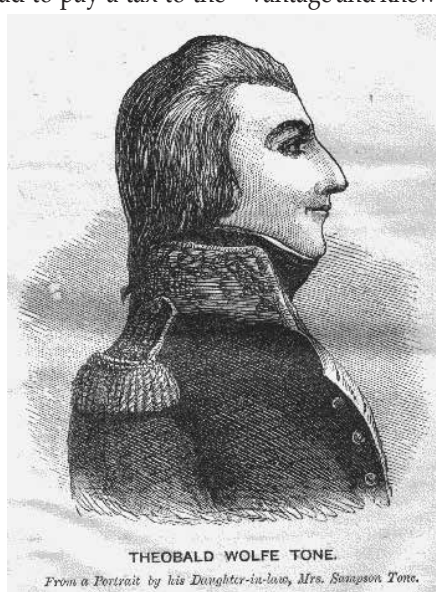
He enrolled into Trinity College, at the age of eighteen. He qualified as a barrister and attended the Inns of court in London. He married his college sweetheart Martha Witherington. She later changed her name to Matilda at Tone's request. The name Martha means Lady and in the Bible, Martha was the sister of Lazarus. The name Matilda means strength in battle. I doubt any man is going to find a woman to change her first name today. In any case they had 4 children, sadly only one survived, a boy named William. He was raised mostly in France and later he would be the one to publish Tone's journals after his fathers death.

In 1791, Tone helped find the Society of United Irishmen for parliamentary reforms. (a liberal political organization, consequently made up of mostly protestants, to change laws in parliament, to promote civil, religious, and po-

litical liberty, it evolved into a revolutionary Republican organization)

By 1794, Tone and the United Irishmen began to seek armed aid from France to help overthrow English rule. The United Irish Society which worked to unite Roman Catholics and Protestants in a common cause against English oppression of Ireland. Tone played a leading role in the Catholic convention of 1792 that pressed the British government to pass the Catholic Relief Act (1793).

Tone traveled to America, he lived for sometime in Philadelphia, however he wasn't happy or impressed with American culture. He didn't feel America was democratic enough. "I bless God I am no American", Tone said. I think America was too English for Tone and he thought commerce was a vice. Also the people were too proud but didn't know what they were proud of in their own country. France and England at the time were at war so Tone used this to his advantage and knew Ireland and France had the mutual interest of wanting England out. He worked to get France and Ireland together to fight against English rule and tyranny.



THEOBALD WOLFE TONE.
From a Portrait by his Daughter-in-law, Mrs. Sampson Tone.

He persuaded the french military to fight along side his countrymen to end English tyranny. He convinced the French government to send expeditions to Ireland. French leaders De La Croix and Carriot were impressed by Tone's passion, sincerity and ability. Tone was made assistant general to the French army which he hoped might protect him from the penalty of treason in the event of his capture by the English. Tone sailed with 3,000 men (Irish and French) in a raid at Lough Swilly, Co. Donegal in 1798. The English were waiting, there were 30,000 of them and the French and Irish soldiers were outnumbered. The French were sent home and the Irish were executed after their surrender. Sadly, many female peasant Irish faced the cannon with pitchfork and Tone went to Dublin in chains. He requested to die like a soldier, to be shot, but it was denied. They say he attempted suicide by slitting his throat, he died 8 days later from his wounds, thus avoided being hanged for treason as a convicted traitor to the crown.

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tor to the crown.

Tone states, "I have labored to abolish the infernal spirit of religious persecution, by uniting Catholics and dissenters (protestant). To Catholics I owe more than ever can be repaid. When the public cry was raised against me-when the friends of my youth swarmed off and left me alone-the Catholics did not desert me. They had the virtue even to sacrifice their own interest to a rigid principal of honour, they refused, strongly urged never to disgrace a man whatever his conduct toward the government might have been, had faithfully and conscientiously discharged his duty towards them, I will say they showed an instance of public virtue of which I know not whether there exists another example."

We love Wolfe Tone because of his many efforts and he stood for Catholic people while he wasn't one. It's not for nothing that he has been called the father of Irish democracy, his commitment to this cause was profound and he will never be forgotten.

Things Named in Wolfe Tone's Honor:

Every Summer Republicans hold commemorations at Wolfe Tone's grave in Bodinstown, Co. Kildare, the place where Tone lived in Pennsylvania they name their chapter of Ancient order of Hibernians after him, the band Wolfe Tone's from Dublin, a street in Limerick is named after him, there is a bridge in Galway named Wolfe Tone bridge and of course several GAA clubs are named in his honor. I want to say a special message to my parents Thomas & Mary, they were married in 1968 on August 31st, St. Lucy's Church in Chicago. You mean the world to us! Thank you for teaching us to give everyone a chance and to be kind to everyone we meet! Happy Anniversary! Your story is our favorite...Love your children, Michael,(he sends his love from Dublin) John, Steven (he sends his love from Mayo), Seamus, and Tina

Gaelic for the month
Republican- poblachtacha
Democracy- daonlathas
Protestant-protastúnaigh
Seanfhocal (proverb)
Níl aon tinteán mar do thinteán féin. There is no home like your own home.

If you have any comments, email: Molanive@yahoo.com

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Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



Do People Really Like You?

I can remember as a little boy wondering whether my fellow first grader who sat next to me

liked me. At that time in my life it didn't matter much to me whether that person was another boy or

girl. Fortunately, that flaw was overcome in the years that followed. I jest a bit, this column is not about children, except to say that we probably did begin to wonder if this or that person liked us in our early school years. Maybe they wouldn't play with us on the playground. Or maybe they wouldn't throw a ball to us. Fortunately, most of these social slights melted away as we grew older.

So after you zipped through the rest of your schooling, including college, your first full-time job looming ahead of you, you came to realize that it was helpful to have your fellow employees like you; and that it's even better if they obviously respect you. The criteria for "liking" people seems to change as we go through this phase of our lives. Our hero worship over a peer youngster who was an excellent athlete begins to melt away. We become much more aware of the importance of academic excellence. As Mr. Bill Gates has reportedly said, "be nice to us nerds, because you will probably have one for a boss at some time in your career."

I am convinced that at about this time in our careers it really becomes important that you are not only well liked, but that you are also well-respected as a competent, effective colleague. When the boss says to one of your colleagues, "How's the new marketing person doing?", it is important that your colleague say something positive about you. Those favorable

comments (or at least the tenor of the comments should be positive) may very well be one of the few data points that the boss has on the "new" employee. The more substantive and specific remarks are, the better and more likely they are to be remembered. Just saying something like,

"yeah, boss, the new accountant could be a real asset" isn't a great endorsement.

Clearly, one of the most important factors that influences a person's success is how well liked (and respected) he/she is.

You have now acquired a certain amount of success in your organization, but you seem to have become stymied. Why? Perhaps you have changed over the past few years; you are not seen as the person that people liked and admired just two or three years ago. What's happened? How do you find out? What has gone wrong? It might be that your success has gone to your head and people are turned off by that. You need to find a way to assess your status within your company.

One way of dealing with this issue would be to authorize a 360 assessment of you by a trusted colleague. You need to find a well-respected, mature individual who can solicit input with a cohort of your colleagues, including superiors, peers and subordinates. This person should be introduced, by you, to your colleagues whose opinions you respect. He should assure every one of the utmost confidentiality in the process; nothing they say will be attributed to them in any way. Typically, he meets with each person individually if possible, or speak with them by phone and inquire about you through a list of questions. Here are a few examples of some questions that might be used, but it is not, in any way, a complete list. The list of questions must be appropriate to the individual being assessed.

What are his/her (serious) strengths?

What are his/her (serious) weaknesses?

Is he/she genuinely respected by his superiors? His peers? His subordinates?

Is he considered a person of honor?

What should she/he START doing?

What should she/he STOP doing?

What about this person ir-

ritates you?

Once the questions are answered, it is the duty of the evaluator to cleanse the responses so as to minimize the possibility of the subject being able to determine the source of any comment. In my experience, it is frequently the closest of associates who are the most critical. They know the individual the best. Dear friends, spouses, and relatives are likely to know more significant things about the individual than other relatively new colleagues would know.

The data collector now has to summarize the comments and make cohesive statements about the various criticisms, both the positive and the negative. Then comes the most difficult task for the data gatherer, he has to share this synthesized information with the one being evaluated. They should meet for a face to face discussion. The collector should present the information in the most professional way possible.

I have seen this process work wonders with individuals. They had lost touch with themselves and did not realize how it was affecting their relationships. We see it all the time when an individual gets a big promotion and all of a sudden, he is beginning to sound like his press clippings, not like the person you once knew. Obviously this process can also be painful (albeit temporarily); there can be some hurt feelings and even a sense of betrayal. How could my friends say these things about me? Hopefully, the results of the process will help the individual to be better grounded going forward. CARPE DIEM.

For Your Consideration:

"It's what you learn after you know it all that counts." Legendary UCLA basketball coach, John Wooden.

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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2015 North American County Board Championship Playoffs

Continued from page 10

Madison vs Hampton Road
 Fox River (WI) vs Midwest
Denver - Bye to quarter finals
Men's senior football
Quarter final:
 Vancouver vs Philadelphia
Semi-finals:
 Chicago vs Vancouver or Philadelphia
 Boston vs San Francisco
Men's Junior A football:
Quarter final:
 Charlotte vs Raleigh
Semi-finals:
 San Francisco Sons of Boru Vs Charlotte or Raleigh
Men's Junior B football

Preliminary rounds:
 Washington Dc vs San Diego Setanta
 Midwest vs Austin
 Baltimore vs Northeast
Quarter finals:
 Philadelphia vs Washington DC or San Diego Setanta
 Dallas vs Midwest or Austin
 Chicago vs Cayman Islands
 Atlanta vs Baltimore or North-east
Men's Junior C football
Preliminary Rounds:
 Seattle vs Western
 Midwest vs St. Louis
Quarter finals:
 San Diego Setanta vs Seattle

or Western
 Charlotte vs Mason Dixon (MD)
 Denver vs Midwest or St. Louis
 Madison vs LA Wild Geese
Men's Junior D football
Semi-finals:
 Indianapolis vs Kansas City
 Austin Celtic Cowboys vs Twin Cities
Ladies Senior Football
Semi-finals:
 Charlotte vs Western
 Boston vs Chicago

Ladies Intermediate football
Semi-finals:
 Chicago vs San Francisco
 Vancouver vs loser of Chicago/San Francisco

Ladies junior A football
Semi-finals:
 San Diego Na Fianna vs Chicago
 Toronto St. Mike's vs loser of Chicago/San Diego
Ladies junior B football
Preliminary Round:
 Charlotte vs Baltimore
 Denver vs Western
 Philadelphia vs Pittsburgh
Quarter Finals:
 Austin Celtic Cowboys vs Charlotte or Baltimore
 Dallas vs Washington DC
 Cayman vs Den. or Western
 Chicago vs Philadelphia or Pittsburgh
Senior Camogie
Quarter final:
 Vancouver vs Philadelphia

Semi-finals:
 Chicago vs Vancouver or Philadelphia
 Boston vs Interm. Camogie
Quarter finals:
 Vancouver vs Indianapolis
 Baltimore vs Toronto
Semi-finals:
 San Francisco vs Vancouver or Indianapolis
 Atlanta vs Baltimore or Toronto
Junior Camogie
Quarter finals:
 Chicago St. Mary's vs Washington DC
 Twin Cities vs St. Louis
Semi-finals:
 Seattle vs Chicago or Washington DC
 Hoboken (NJ) vs Twin Cities Or St. Louis

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From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell



Greek Tragedy, Or Farce?

It's been a bruising few months for the Eurozone, and for one Member State in particular. It's been also, depending on your point of view, an object lesson in Economics, in Realpolitik, in how the Strong can bully the Weak, on the impracticalities of instant solutions to complex problems, and above all on the inadequacies of the Eurozone.

The Greek saga still has some way to run. As I write negotiations on a third bailout are to begin, the Greek Parliament having passed legislation agreeing austerity measures harsher than those rejected in a referendum less than two weeks before. The measures were very much the stick part of the offer/ultimatum from the other Eurozone countries. The carrot the prospect of securing that third bailout of an estimated \$90 billion.

Where that money if agreed will come from remains to be seen. Will all Eurozone countries pay, including the four poorer than Greece (the Baltics and Slovakia) and the three with roughly the same income? And what guarantees will be sought to ensure that Greece implements the measures passed – a problem with earlier austerity packages?

Moreover the issue of existing debt write down is still not resolved, lending an air of unreality to the sticking plaster solution currently proposed. Quite simply Greece cannot – ever – repay what it owes – roughly \$350 billion. It may

hope to repay, or make some gesture by having portion of any third bailout loan earmarked for “debt repayment” – as is being proposed - but that is only to deny the political and economic reality. Adding an extra \$90 billion to the amount owing, bringing it to more than twice annual GDP, merely compounds the issue.

One solution would be to write off permanently a large proportion of the debt. This would involve Greece's partners writing off monies already lent (in Ireland's case around \$400 million). Whether that will prove palatable remains to be seen. A write-off has been tried once before, in 2012. There is talk of finessing somehow the terms of “repayment” by lengthening the period allowed or giving extended holidays from interest – “Extend and Pretend.” (Ireland got some finessing of its bailout terms but our case was simple compared to that of Greece.) This has also been tried before. And the sum owing would remain. A malign scenario would be a Greek exit from the Eurozone, possibly temporarily, with a devalued Drachma and more short term grief for the Greek people. That would presumably also involve some debt restructuring and write off. Some choice!

The fundamental flaw in the Eurozone from the start was its political nature - a monetary union not underpinned by a fiscal union and with insufficient fiscal controls and sanctions. Eurozone members were theoretically limited to annual national budget deficits of 3% of GDP. When Germany and France became first

to break this limit in 2005 and were not punished it became clear that political considerations were paramount and that a softly softly approach would apply.

All was fine as long as economies were expanding. The lower interest rates which Germany enjoyed were suddenly available to other countries. Cheap credit led to a surge in government and private borrowing and spending in countries like Ireland and Greece. Germany benefitted from the Euro's exchange rate, more favourable than the old Deutschmark. Then came the international financial crisis and recession, which began in the USA and spread rapidly to the EU in 2008.

The peripheral PIGS, which had benefitted greatly from cheap money, were hit hardest (and with them the Baltics, particularly Latvia). All four eventually required bailouts, though for different reasons. In Ireland a property bubble collapsed in 2008, ending a boom period during which the revenues the bubble generated had paid for tax cuts and generous increases in welfare benefits. The banks which had financed the boom collapsed and required state

recapitalisation. The consequential yawning budget deficit precipitated a downward fiscal and economic spiral which ended when Ireland could no longer borrow money internationally. In November 2010 Ireland secured an €85 billion rescue package from the EU, the ECB and the IMF (the Troika).

The package required spending cuts and tax increases to restore the tax base, but, once adhered to, the harsh medicine worked and Ireland exited the Troika programme after three years. While a legacy of austerity remains, and the recovery is far from complete, the Irish economy has picked up dramatically over the past eighteen months, with all indicators positive. Another PIG, Portugal, has also exited its Troika programme.

Greece was different. Its economy, which grew strongly before 2007, was heavily dependent on tourism and shipping – industries sensitive to economic downturn. Economic growth and the cheap credit available from Europe saw government expenditure grow sharply during the decade, outstripping tax revenue, the money financing public sector jobs, welfare benefits, pensions and military expenditure. Tax evasion, traditionally a scourge - put simply the well-off didn't pay tax, and much of the economy was cash based - remained chronic. The National Debt, historically

high, mounted, pushing, then exceeding 100% of GDP. Official statistics, always doubtful, were massaged to cover. Government revenue actually fell by 15% in 2009. Borrowing costs rose.

Revelations that the previous government had falsified the figures, disguising the true extent of annual borrowing, proved the final straw for international lenders. The vital factor of investor confidence was lost. The Greek government, like Ireland's later, proved unable to borrow internationally and, in April 2010, was forced to seek EU and IMF assistance. A loan of €110 billion was agreed, contingent on the introduction of severe austerity measures. These were greeted with widespread street protests throughout Greece, including several fatalities, with banners and slogans proclaiming the Greeks were not like the Irish!

A year later delays in implementing reforms, together with a worsening recession, saw the Troika agree to an easing of the bailout terms. Nothing worked and in March 2012, a second bailout, this time of €130 billion, was agreed, contingent on further austerity measures. The bailout was accompanied by the largest sovereign debt restructuring in history with Greece's debts reduced by €100 billion. Private bondholders were “burned” - losing over 50% of their holdings. More street protests followed.

Since then there has been political and social turmoil over the further austerity measures needed to ensure tranches of the second bailout were paid. This culminated in the government's overthrow last January and its replacement by the far left Syriza government with a mandate to reject austerity and the second bailout. Ironically, Syriza's success came just as the Greek economy seemed to be turning the corner. Since January Syriza has postured and refused to engage in serious negotiations even as Greece's economy worsened. Its intransigence has exasperated and alienated its Eurozone partners. Trust and sympathy has been lost. Eventually as the money ran out, Syriza ran out of wiggle room and, at the last moment, folded when its bluff was called.

Some may feel schadenfreude at Syriza's come-uppance. A cynic might observe that only a party as left wing as Syriza can now deliver Greece. But without sorting out or side-lining somehow the debt mess there will be no definitive solution.

Hard pounding, Gentlemen.

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Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



some acts out and we're going to screw up and not include others we should. Nevertheless, we promise you can't go wrong

with these gems. And, they are gems.

In no priority order, let's recommend Liz Carroll, and Maloney, O'Connell & Keane. There you have the Male and Female Musicians of the Decade, according to this newspaper, Liz and Jimmy, and your chance to see them. We are taken with the new quintet from Scotland, Dallahan. We have checked them out and they are smokin'. Sure to be a crowd fav.

For the last three or four years, we have been huge fans of FullSet and Goitse. In the true trad world, they don't come any hotter than these two groups, along with a great show. We can't wait. We also love John Whelan. He is a triple threat, a fabulous box player, tremendous composer and always a great show.

Our old pals Lunasa are going to be there. You know Lunasa, and many of you know that my radio partner Imelda Bhroga tried to kill them in a curtain rod accident at Chicago's, WDCB several years ago! Well. They are alive and still fab. A "must-see," by all means. This is unbelievable. We're also going to get a chance to see Matt Molloy (he of The Chieftains, and whom many consider the best flute player in traditional music). The wonderful John Carty on fiddle, and one of the iconic guitar players in the music, Arty McGlynn. Rest assured, all the other musicians and trad fans in the know will be seen at one of their shows. We can't wait!

We have to mention Scythian. Our music pal Maryann Keifer told us if we didn't, she'd break our arm. So here. See Scythian. An unbelievable show is going to be Timmy Edey and Brendan Power. Brendan is considered the greatest Irish harmonica player in the world and no guitarist has been busier the last few years than Tim Edey, Stunning. BTW, Brendan is so good on harmonica that he was the featured soloist instead of a piper or fiddle player in Riverdance at the height of its power. Virtuoso in full flight. Good heavens.

Of course, it seems as if the Festival would not be complete lately without We Banjo 3 and Socks in the Frying Pan. These two bands are just about the most popular groups in Irish/Americana/Bluegrass/Folk/Everything else, as they should be. These are two groups of abso-

lutely superior musicians and performers. Their concerts will be packed, again as they should be.

Because Imelda and I have to get back on Sundays for our radio show out of Dublin, Ireland (noon on LiveIreland.com) we can never stay on Sunday of Irish Fest. So we have to join those of you who are coming in for one day, or a day and a half, as are we. There is simply no way to see all of this in this time frame. Therefore, we highly recommend that you do whatever you can to perhaps add Thursday night to the regular Friday-Saturday-Sunday schedule, as the Festival has added that night for the last several years. That extra night has never been more necessary than this year.

Another great thing about this amount of incredible musicians is that they will all be running between stages to play with their friends and fellow masters of the form. Irish Fest is the greatest event of the year, and it has never been greater—especially when the artists show up in surprise visits for each other.

Be sure to join Imelda and me for the most popular Irish music program in the world, The Bill & Imelda Show, on Sundays as we mentioned above. And, make no mistake. Maryann Keifer is right about Scythian. They have a great niche and do a great show. Find Imelda and me when you are in Milwaukee, and be sure to say HI! Trust us on these recommendations. This is unbelievable.

We are simply out of space because of Nazi editor, Cliff Carlson's rules, so we cannot tell you about what is surely going to be Instrumental Album of the Year, The Return of Spring by Buttons and Bows. We will do so next month. Master fiddlers of the east Galway style, Manus and Seamus McGuire, have teamed up again with the iconic Jackie Daly on button box and uber fab Garry O'Briain on guitar. We want to give this a whole column, and will next time. It is the best instrumental Irish Album that we have heard in years. And it is sweeping the boards in Europe as we write this. Get it!!

See you in Milwaukee!



Barry Stapleton and Milwaukee Irish Fest Founder Ed Ward

haven't done this before. They've had the very best Festival there is, but they have never amassed this kind of talent. We are gobsmacked. If you love Irish music, there's no excuse for you not to be there.

OK, of whom do we speak? This list of must-see acts is not going to include everybody, and some people won't be happy that they're left off the list. We have to keep in mind that you have a certain amount of hours to see all of this. Here are our quick recommendations for whom to see. We used to do a whole thing about stages and times. We haven't done that for years. Too much unnecessary work. You can go to the website to see the schedules and the stages. We are going to intentionally leave



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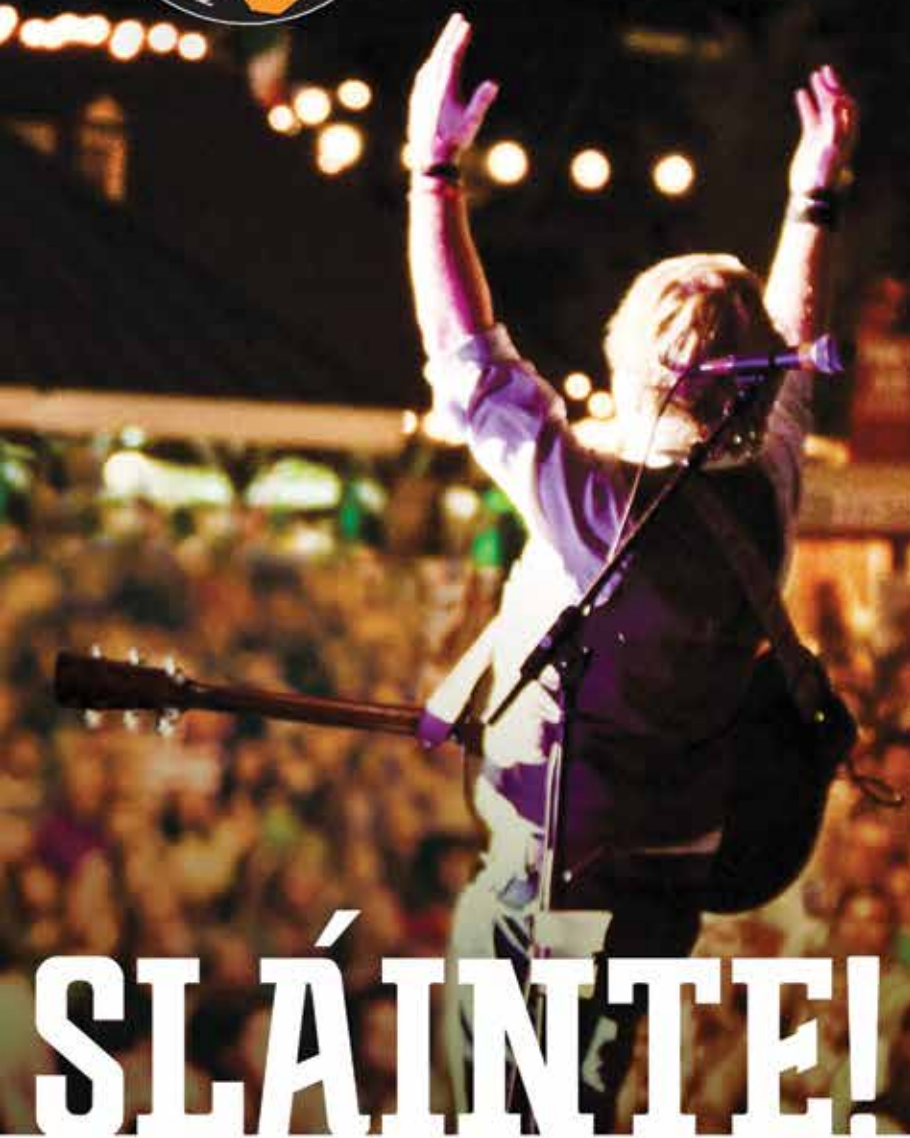
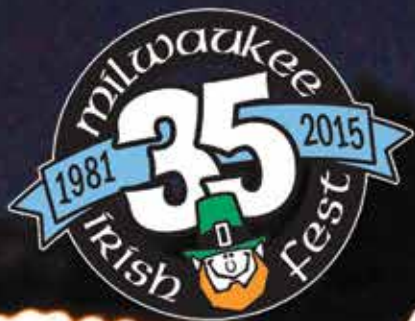
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