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# *Sharon Shannon*

*In Concert  
October 10 at the  
Irish American  
Heritage Center  
Story on page 31*

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Isabelle McKee, Annie Newell, Sarah Egan, Mackenzie O'Malley, Orla Joyce, Theresa Cunningham, Adileen Fox. Coached by Colm Egan. What a great excuse to visit San Francisco. This year the Continental youth games were hosted in Treasure Island San Francisco. The GAA games encourage future generations to continue in the sport. Chicago amalgamated under one team, with girls and boys in each category. The clubs included, Chicago Youth Celtic Club, Windy City Gaels from the Northside and Jarlaths from the Southside. A lot of work goes into the organizing this event including coaching, fund-raising, and planning. Thank you to all involved.

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## Branigan To Run For Cook County BOR

Small business owner and former candidate for United States Congress (3rd v. Lipinski), Sharon Marie Brannigan will challenge Dan Patlak for the 1st district, Cook County Board of Review republican nomination at the next primary election in April 2016.

Brannigan currently serves as Palos Township trustee and is a successful small business owner and mother of three concerned about skyrocketing



property taxes forcing more and more homeowners to leave their lifetime residences and seek homes outside the State of Illinois.

If elected, Brannigan's goals are to run an efficient, well-trained staff that will serve the public in a manner beyond reproach while also serving as a voice for the over-taxed families and small businesses of Cook County as reforms to the current property tax structure are debated and implemented.

## Maureen O'Looney at Home in Bohola

August 20th marked the one year anniversary of the passing of Maureen O'Looney, long-time Irish store owner and philanthropist.

Her good friends, John and Mary Gorski, were instrumental in helping her during her final years. Recently, John and Mary took Maureen's ashes to Bohola, Co. Mayo, Ireland, purchased a headstone, and were on hand at the ceremony when the headstone was placed.

John and Mary received the below email from someone in Ireland who attended a Mass in Maureen's honor.

"Hi Mary, We had the graveyard Mass in Bohola today and there must have been almost 300 people at it. Relatives come from all over the country for the annual Mass and we had a lovely fine morning for it. I just thought I would tell you this story. I was standing quite close to the Staunton grave and there were people standing around it. Of course as it happens during Mass on those occasions, people get easily

distracted, the priest was forgotten for a minute and a discussion started on the carton of cranberry juice which still sits on the corner of the grave even though the writing is faded, you can make out what it is. So the story is told about John putting the cranberry juice in on top of Maureens ashes and needless to say it had grown legs, it obviously was being told third hand. I had to smile and then later a discussion was held on Maureen and on the Stauntons in general. So just in case you wondered if you did the right thing bringing her to Bohola, I think that says it all as I am sure that the story about John putting cranberry juice in the grave will go on for many years. John was described as 'a big American fella' who took off his jacket and hung it on the headstone and he was going to help Johnny Brennan fill in the grave. 'Did you ever hear anything like that', they said. I could imagine Maureen laughing at the idea of it all."



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## 20th Annual Indy Irish Fest

Indy's Irish Fest returns to Military Park Sept. 17-20 for its 20th annual celebration of the state's Celtic heritage. More than 30,000 people are expected over the four-day festival, which features live Irish music and step dancing on four stages, as well as shopping, food, cultural and children's activities, sporting events and more.

New and unique to this year is the addition of Barry "Jazz" Finnegan, an award-winning artist from Dublin, who specializes in large-scale charcoal portraits. Finnegan will be creating a commemorative piece to celebrate the anniversary onsite the weekend of the fest.

The festival includes an Irish Market with over 25 vendors selling Irish wares; a cultural area with demonstrations & exhibitions, and the Indianapolis Gaelic Athletic Association will be doing onsite demos. A Kilted Mile takes place on Sunday with great fun promised whether you're running or just watching.

Don't miss Celtic Mass on Sunday, celebrated by Archbishop of Indianapolis, Joseph W. Tobin.

Returning this year after a crowd-pleasing debut last year will be a presentation and hands-on activities by Silly Safari, bringing animals and animal education to the event Saturday and Sunday.

[www.indyirishfest.com](http://www.indyirishfest.com)



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Come join Katie Grennan and special guests on Sept. 4 in the Fifth Province Pub at the Irish American Heritage Center for the release of her Irish Dance album "Between Worlds". Admission is FREE for all attendees, and CDs will be available for purchase for \$20. Special guests include:

- John Williams, multi-instrumentalist and founding member of world-renowned band Solas,
- Aislinn Gagliardi, one of Chicago's finest Irish traditional harp players and featured on Katie's album,
- Max Dunne, hailing from the South-

side, who just returned from Portugal as a member of the band with Katie supporting the Trinity Irish Dancers, -and The Trinity Irish Dancers.

Dancers of all ages are encouraged to get up and dance throughout the evening to the music, and musicians should bring their instruments for a session after the concert is over.

Doors open at 7, event starts at 7:30, and the concert will last until around 9:30. Session and chats to follow until the Fifth Province closes!

Please spread the word and feel free to invite friends and family!!

## You Too Will Enjoy UZoo

By: Maureen Callahan

This summer's U2 concert was interesting. As usual, they put on a great show. I've managed to catch all of them since I could drive myself and pay for tickets. That started me out at the 1992 Zoo TV tour. It's late compared to veterans who have been

as people and as a band- to where they currently stand on the world stage.

Great show, but I wish they had played more of their classics. I know I wasn't the only fan to feel this way. Which brings me to UZoo, a U2 tribute band I saw at Hard Rock Café in their Chicago debut the same weekend U2 was playing. The band was born of Chris Simeone's desire to form a U2 cover band. A Craig's List ad led to the audi-

Together they create a timeless representation of U2. They definitely have the look down, but the sound is what really sold me. For the past 6 years, the band, most of whom hail from Nashville, have spent long weekends bringing a very U2ish sound to smaller venues across the country.

They give a great show with an extensive playlist-over 25 songs. The set included a varied mix from oldies such as The Electric Company and I Will Follow right up through Invisible, with a great representation of the middle decades. This group has the live versions of Bad, With or Without You and Sunday Bloody Sunday down cold-you'll think you're watching U2. It's clear that the foursome emulates the Irish rockers. You'll surely be seeing them around much more in the future. "We revere U2," drummer Davin McLaird told me. "Many other different bands and styles of music have affected our music, but U2 is at our forefront." It shows.

Check out their website at: [u2act.com](http://u2act.com). Book them by contacting Chris Simeon: [booking@u2act.com](mailto:booking@u2act.com).



tracking them since their first concert at The Dandelion Market in Dublin in 1979. But I've still seen a lot of their shows. Innocence + Experience did just as the title suggests - linked memories of their coming up- both

tions and acceptance of Matthew Chapman, Davin McLaird and Chris Ray. Each has a great love of music and his own wheelhouse of previous experience ranging from garage bands to bands shopping for record deals.



## Pull up a Front Row Seat for Fall Center Programs

Back to school means back to great cultural programming at the Center.

All programs take place at the Center. Tickets can be purchased at [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org), by calling 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or at the door.

### **Blood Runs Green Book Discussion**



*Dr. Gillian O'Brien*

Dr. Gillian O'Brien will read from and discuss her new book at the Center in September; *Blood Runs Green: The Murder That Transfixed Gilded Age Chicago*.

The book follows the murder of Patrick Henry Cronin, one of the most notorious crimes in 19th century Chicago. Cronin was a beloved doctor, but also privately feuding with members of Clan na Gael, an American political organization formed to promote Irish independence from British rule. He vanished on May 4, 1889, and 18 days later his body was found. His murder uncovered a web of secrecy and corruption that stretched across the United States, and far beyond.

O'Brien will discuss the background and research for her book, look at Cronin's murder and the conflict that led to his killing.

The *Blood Runs Green* Discussion

and book signing is Saturday, September 12 at 7pm in the IAHC Library and is free. Books will be available for purchase.

### **Shapeshifters Staged Readings Series**



Shapeshifters Theatre presents the first of its new Staged Readings Series this fall. Readings will be the first Monday of most months.

Kicking off the series on Monday, September 14 is the black comedy, *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, the first in the Leenane Trilogy by Tony Award nominee and Academy Award-winning writer Martin McDonagh. The Fifth Province opens at 6pm, and the reading begins at 7pm. The audience is invited to stay after the reading for a talkback 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 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 reading are \$10.

### **Listen to An Evening of Irish Radio in a Pub Setting**

THIRD COAST  
 INTERNATIONAL  
 AUDIO  
 FESTIVAL



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 in the Fifth Province.

Based in Chicago, the Third Coast International Audio Festival curates sound-rich audio stories from around the world and shares them on the radio, online and at public events. Third Coast offers listeners a multitude of ways to celebrate audio storytelling through weekly broadcasts, a radio show on WBEZ-FM, 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. Irish musicians Patrick and Karen Cannady will play Irish tunes before and after the program.

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.

### **Anam Cara Brings Stories to Life**

Enjoy an encore performance of storytelling this fall in the Library.

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, for an evening of unforgettable original stories.

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

### **Fall Classes**

Art, language and writing classes resume this fall at the Center. Beginning and returning students can study Celtic art, learn the Irish language or put their stories to paper in our memoir workshops.

### **Art Classes**

Art lovers can learn basic knot work techniques on Tuesday nights from 7pm to 9pm from October 13 to December 15. Tuition is \$130 for members and \$140 for non members. Returning students receive 10% off and the first five new students to register by September 30 receive 10% off. For more information, contact Gallery Director Frank Crowley at 773-612-6584.

### **Memoir and Creative Writing Classes**

Put your story to paper at this ongoing workshop taught by Virginia Gibbons. Classes are Tuesdays from September 22 through October 27 from 4pm to 6pm, Tuesdays from September 22 through October 27 from 7pm to 9pm, and Thursdays from September 24 through October 29 from 7pm to 9pm. Tuition is \$60. To register, call Theresa Choske at 773-545-8057.

### **Irish Language Classes**

Beginning, intermediate, and advanced students can take Irish language classes on Saturday mornings from 11:00am to 1:30pm or Wednesday evenings from 7:00pm to 9:30pm. The fall semester begins on Wednesday, September 16 or Saturday, September 19. Tuition is \$125 for new students and \$100 for returning students. To register, contact Kelly Doherty at [kellysdoherty@gmail.com](mailto:kellysdoherty@gmail.com).



# THE HERITAGE LINE

## IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

### President's Message

As I enter my second month as President, I am slowly learning the state of the Center. I look forward to working with the board, and together we will do our best to direct and steer this ship to prosperous times, after a rough stretch of detours and untimely reparations to this aging building that we call home.

And this home called the Irish American Heritage Center is where we want you to be. Join us in our quest to make this the finest cultural center in the area. We need members who will continue to support the Center, and if I know you well, are an acquaintance of mine, if I worked with you, or saw you at our Fest or one of our Center events, or even if you have red hair and freckles, I will ask you to join or re-join the IAHC.

There is no better building in the area with the facilities that we have, that offers as many types and sizes of rental rooms as we do. Cater your next event here. We have one of the most beautiful and acoustically designed Auditoriums around. Our Erin Room is perfect for weddings and large galas. Hey, I got married there in 1988 and I still went back to the Center! It is one of

my greatest memories among the many that I have at the Center.

Do you see that form on the bottom of this page? It is a membership application. Fill it out and join, or re-join for we have some exciting ideas planned. If you are a member, cut it out and give it to a friend or a neighbor and have them join. Or you can join simply by visiting [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org). If you are a member with an idea to help me, please let me know. We have such creative Irish people in our grasp and I'm trying to reach out to you. Playwrights can fill the theater with comedy, drama and tragedy. Musicians can fill our hearts and soothe our ears to the wonderful Irish music. I've kept the bartenders at the Fifth Province busy recently by having them work on pouring the perfect pint. Come taste for yourself.

I have been very pleased and honored to get phone calls from many distinguished members of the Irish community with thoughts and ideas to help. I received a nice email from outgoing Consul General



of Ireland, Aidan Cronin, and I look forward to working with the new Consul, Orla McBreen. I had the privilege of being a guest on the *O'Connor Show*, *Windy City Irish Radio* and the *Skinny and Houli Show* with Mike Houlihan and Skinny Sheahan. Mike is thinking of having a radio show for the IAHC with me as a host.

I said, "How about a TV program?" And everybody at his show agreed that I have a face for the radio, so we will see what the future holds.

On Thursday, October 22, we're sponsoring a boxing tournament in the Erin Room, with youth boxers from the Chicago Park District versus youth boxers from various counties in Ireland, who are travelling overseas for the event. It is fully sanctioned by the Chicago Park District under the direction of Jimmy Rey and the Chicago Park District's Youth

Boxing Program. Don't miss this exciting chance to grab a ringside seat and witness the future Jack Dempsey or Barry McGuigan. Admission is \$10 for adults and children 12 and under are free, and food and drinks will be available for purchase.

It is with great sadness we mourn the passing of Mary McDonagh; a true giant in Irish music. We also mourn the loss of Alan Duggan who passed away suddenly at home in Yorkville. For decades Alan was a dedicated and tireless volunteer who ran the annual Golf Open. Our condolences to his wife Pauline and their daughter, Sarah. A memorial service and visitation will be on Tuesday, September 8 from 6pm to 9pm at the Center.

Please look around these pages and on our website for upcoming events at the Center, and please support our events.

Eugene M. Cooney  
President

### BECOME A MEMBER

Chicago boasts one of the finest Irish Centers in the world. Become a part of it. Running, maintaining and upgrading the Center is a big job that takes big commitment. Your membership helps make the Center happen.

To join call 773-282-7035 x10, visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org), or fill out the form below. Send payment to:

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### IAHC Youth Boxing Tournament

Grab a ringside seat for a night of youth boxing at the Center this fall. Young athletes from the Chicago Park District will square off with youth boxers from Ireland for an exciting night of sports and camaraderie. Don't miss the chance to see the next Jack Dempsey or Muhammad Ali in action.

The young pugilists from Ireland, aged 12 to 16 years old, hail from counties across Ireland.

They will be matched up against boxing clubs from across Chicago, who are part of the Chicago Park District's

Youth Boxing Program.

The evening features nine to twelve bouts in the Center's Erin

Room. Food and drink will be available for purchase.

The IAHC Youth Boxing Tournament is Thursday, October 22 at 7:30pm.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under, and can be purchased by visiting [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org), calling 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or at the door. Reservations are strongly suggested.



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# THE HERITAGE LINE

## IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

Chicago, Illinois



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### September/Early October 2015

September 4	Katie Grennan CD Release Party	Fifth Province	7pm
	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili Mor	Room 111	8pm
September 5	Shamrock American Club Social	ShamAm Room	8pm
September 7	Labor Day	Building Closed	
September 12	St. Patrick Fathers Social	Fifth Province	8pm
	<i>Blood Runs Green</i> Book Discussion	Library	7pm
September 14	Staged Reading: <i>Beauty Queen of Leenane</i>	Fifth Province	7pm
September 15	Celtic Women International	Room 304	7pm
September 17	An Evening of Irish Radio	Fifth Province	7pm
September 18	Shamrock American Club Meeting	ShamAm Room	8pm
September 19	Anam Cara Storytelling	Library	6:30pm
	St. Patrick Fathers Social	Fifth Province	8pm
September 27	Genealogy Meeting	Library	1pm
	St. Patricks Fathers	Fifth Province	8pm
	Great Irish Books Club	Library	1pm
	<i>Blood Runs Green</i> by Gillian O'Brien		
October 5	Staged Reading: <i>A Skull in Connemara</i>	Fifth Province	7pm
October 9	iBAM! Gala Dinner	Erin Room	7pm
October 10	iBAM! Celebration	Whole Building	noon
	Sharon Shannon in Concert	Auditorium	8pm
October 11	iBAM! Celebration	Whole Building	noon
	High Kings in Concert	Auditorium	5pm

### Regularly Scheduled Events

Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
Tues (9/22-10/27)	Memoir and Creative Writing Classes	Library	4-6pm
Tues	Set Dancing	Room 111	7:30-9:30pm
Tues (9/22-10/27)	Memoir and Creative Writing Classes	Library	7-9pm
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
Thurs (9/24-10/29)	Memoir and Creative Writing Classes	Library	7-9pm
Fri	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili	Room 111	8pm

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## the fifth province

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

### SEPTEMBER ENTERTAINMENT

- 9/4 Katie Grennan CD Release Party 7pm
- 9/5 In Spite of Ourselves
- 9/11 Salon Concert, 8pm, Adults \$15 and Children 18 and under free
- 9/12 St. Patrick Fathers
- 9/18 Mayfair Music Club, 7pm
- 9/19 St. Patrick Fathers
- 9/25 Joe McShane
- 9/26 The Dooley Brothers



### September Drink Special

Irish Eyes Cocktail (Dingle Gin and Green River) \$5

Valid for the month of September 2015 only.

### 7th Annual iBAM! Celebration

The seventh annual Irish books, arts and music celebration; iBAM! returns to the Center this October. iBAM! presents the 100th Anniversary Commemoration of the 1916 Easter Rising, and is a comprehensive weekend of Celtic culture in all its flavors and variations. A fundraiser for the IAHC, iBAM! is Friday, October 9 through Sunday, October 11.

Highlights include a gala awards dinner on Friday night, and concerts with Sharon Shannon and the High Kings. On Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 6pm, iBAM! features more than 30 Irish authors signing books and making presentations, a special exhibit from Ireland on James Connolly, art exhibits, panel discussions, film screenings, poetry readings, a literary salon with author readings and music, theatre, dance performances, and plenty of children's activities; all under one roof!

The 2015 iBAM! Gala awardees are:

- Literature: Desmond Egan
- Music: Sharon Shannon
- Performing Arts: Liam Neeson
- Person of the Year: Jim Sloan
- Culinary Arts: Darina Allen
- Visual Arts: Michael Carroll
- Media Award: Mary Ann Ahern

All honorees have confirmed their attendance at the gala, except Neeson.

On Saturday, October 10, enjoy Sharon Shannon in concert at 8pm. Tickets are \$30-\$40. On Sunday, October 11 at 5pm, the High Kings return after a sold out concert in 2014. Tickets are \$30-\$40. Admission to iBAM! is free each day and voluntary donations will be accepted.

For tickets and information, call 847-872-0700 or visit [www.ibamchicago.com](http://www.ibamchicago.com).

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

**Contributors:** Shelby Baron, Theresa Choske, Gene Cooney, Laura Coyle, Frank Crowley, Elizabeth Ellis, Catherine Kelly, Natalie Miller, Mary Morris, Sheila Murphy, Pam Marshall Taylor



### 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 the following areas:

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#### Eligibility Criteria:

- Must have either parent of Irish heritage
- Must be a U.S. citizen or have been a full-time resident of the U.S. for an extended period.
- Most associated as being an Irish American
- Must have distinguished him/herself in one or more of the award categories.

**Anybody can nominate!**

**Who do you feel is a worthy candidate?**

Visit [www.iahof.org](http://www.iahof.org) for details and past inductees

**Nomination Deadline: September 15, 2015**

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**Gala Awards Dinner is April 23, 2016**

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## **Direct from Ireland and Northern Ireland**

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**2015 Culinary Arts Awardee - Darina Allen**

**Derry Chef/Author - Emmett McCourt**

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*James Connolly Exhibit*

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*(Direct from Ireland)*

*Irish American Hall of Fame*



## **2015 Gala Awards Dinner**

*Friday October 9 at 7:00 pm in the Erin Ballroom at the IAHC*

**The iBAM! 2015 Awardees are:**

**Literature: Desmond Egan    Music: Sharon Shannon    Culinary Arts: Darina Allen**

**Performing Arts: Liam Neeson    Person of the Year: James B. Sloan**

**Visual Arts: Michael Carroll    Media: Mary Ann Ahern**

*For more information and to order Concert and Gala Dinner Tickets please visit*

**ibamchicago.com**

**or call Cathy at 847-872-0700**



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*Donations are tax deductible. Proceeds to the Irish American Heritage Center and  
future programming for Irish Books, Arts and Music Celebration NPO*



**Admission: Voluntary Donation Suggested**

## Maher Family Business

The Maher Clan is delighted to announce that the renovations to the Old Tinley Park Library are complete and that the Maher Funeral Home is now open.

Maher Funeral Home was renovated with the partnership of union labor located at 17101 71st Ave (7051 W. 171st Ave) Tinley Park.

Phillip A. Maher, director trained for 24 years under his late mentor Andrew J. McGann Sr. prior to a corporate ownership change after his passing, will oversee funeral operations. John, an attorney will

provide elder care and other legal related services. Julia Maher Dombrowski will handle public relations.

The Maher's felt the time was right to return to family owned, community based funeral service. Maher Funeral Home is Veteran (John, Army, Phillip, Navy) and Union owned continuing Phillip's 24 year relationship with Teamsters 727.

Maher Funeral Home will concentrate on remembering, celebrating and honoring a life well lived.

Should you have any questions, feel free to contact them at anytime at (708) 781-9212



John, Julia and Phillip Maher

## An Immigrant's Musings

Michael Leonard



is an "inconvenient truth" (which we have often pointed out) these hard working people are providing

### Labor Day Immigrant Labourers

Here we go again, America has had the fireworks and all that goes with the celebration of one of the biggest holidays of the year. We who are citizens and lawful permanent residents, have done so safe in the knowledge that as long as we remain fit, healthy, active and productive we do not need to concern ourselves too much with what the labor market looks like.

Alas, the same is not true for our undocumented neighbors, they are still in limbo and unable to make any permanent plans. This should be of concern to our policy makers and any elected official who is interested in maintaining a good supply for the present and future needs of the US economy.

Let's just look at an important figure from the 2010 US Census. Here we see that in the ten years from 2000-2010, the number of people in the over 65 age group increased by 15.1%. This combined with the steady decrease in the birth rate truly needs to be addressed by our elected leaders in D.C.

I was also reminded by someone who works in the health care/home help sector that with the large increase in the "baby boomers" retiring and the overall population living longer, we are already seeing signs of a shortage of nurses and care givers in the workforce. What all this means, gentle reader, is it is high time for our elected officials to pay attention to these trends and urgently move to remedy the situation.

Meanwhile, the 2010 census also pointed out that 5.2% of the US labor market is filled by members of the undocumented community. Here

vital services in our country without any of the protections afforded to the rest of the population. So as we remember Labor Day let us once again spare a thought for the undocumented members of the community. Here is a final thought: some years ago many of us saw a documentary called: "A day without a Mexican". We can imagine what a mess that would make, can we begin to think of what a crazy situation would ensue should the 5.2 % of the workforce fail to come to work for one week!

### \$20.00 Worth

Sometimes we just need to be reminded! A well-known speaker started off his seminar by holding up a \$20.00 bill. In the room of 200, he asked, "Who would like this \$20 bill?" Hands started going up. He said, "I am going to give this \$20 to one of you but first, let me do this." He proceeded to crumple up the \$20 dollar bill. He then asked, "Who still wants it?" Still the hands were up in the air.

"Well", he continued, "What if I do this?" And he dropped it on the ground and started to grind it into the floor with his shoe. He picked it up, now crumpled and dirty.

"Now, who still wants it?" Still the hands went into the air.

"My friends, we have all learned a very valuable lesson. No matter what I did to the money, you still wanted it because it did not decrease in value. It was still worth \$20.00.

Many times in our lives, we are dropped, crumpled, and ground into the dirt by the decisions we make and the circumstances that come our way.

We feel as though we are worthless. But no matter what has happened or what will happen, you will never lose your value.

Dirty or clean, crumpled or finely creased, you are still priceless to those who love you.

The worth of our lives comes not in what we do or who we know, but by WHO WE ARE.

You are special- Don't EVER forget it. Count your blessings, not your problems.

And remember: amateurs built the Ark .. professionals built the Titanic."

Should you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at: [sliabhanoir@gmail.com](mailto:sliabhanoir@gmail.com)

J



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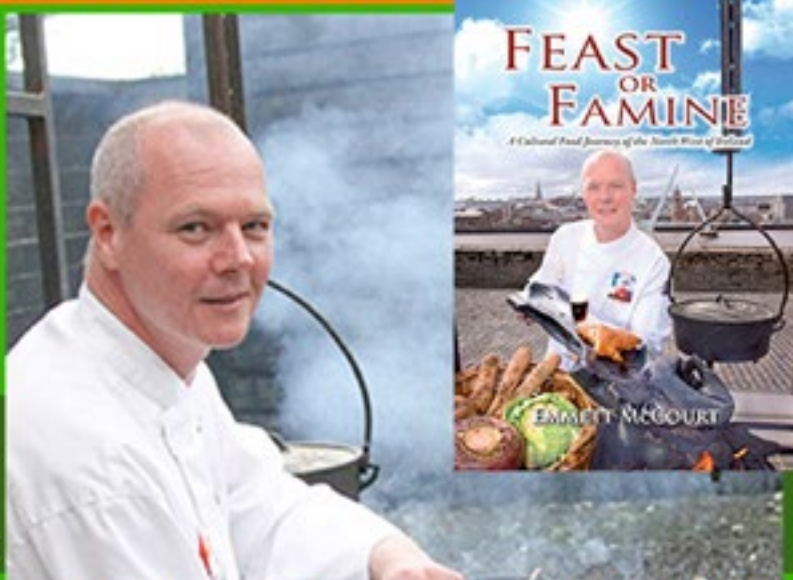


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## Whistle Breakthrough Strengthens Music's Future

Tin whistle breakthrough promises to strengthen the future of Irish music

Jerry Freeman is the world's only full time, professional penny whistle tweaker. He takes those ubiquitous, mass produced whistles and reworks them into professional quality instruments. One at a time. In ten years, he's tweaked over 20,000 whistles. (You can see and hear them online at [www.freemanwhistles.com](http://www.freemanwhistles.com).)

Iarla McMahon, age 10, of County Down, won the 2014 All-Ireland under 12 whistle championship playing a Freeman tweaked whistle, a key of D "Bluebird." His mother, Tracey Conway, said, "The adjudicators commented how sweet the whistle sounded."

Keegan Loesel, age 15, of Pennsylvania, USA has qualified for the All Ireland competition three consecutive years playing Freeman whistles. In 2014, he went to Sligo and competed in seven categories on whistle and Uilleann pipes.

He said, "The difference when I got the Freeman whistle is that the pressure didn't affect the tuning nearly as much. You get nice clear notes where you want them. If I had the Freeman whistle from

Drs. Richard Bass (music theory) and Sina Shahbazmohamadi (engineering) of the University of Connecticut Digital Musicology Group. They, together with Dr. Robert Howe, are famous for using advanced CT imaging to create exact replicas of rare historic instruments, including saxophone mouthpieces made by Adolphe Sax himself. UConn is the only place in North America doing this.

The campaign is titled, "The world needs an affordable, GREAT penny whistle." The first goal, of \$4,400, was reached in just three weeks. That will fund the UConn project to scan Freeman's whistle-head designs and purchase a used CAD workstation and 3D modeling software so the designs can be refined and prototyped in preparation for mass production.

Advanced 3D production technology is reaching such a level of sophistication, it will soon be possible to mass produce high quality parts in a wide range of materials without the complicated tooling required for conventional injection molded plastic.

Because the designs go directly to production from computer modeling files, using the most advanced 3D production methodology will save tens of thousands of dollars and massive time and labor. It will also allow for geometries that were impossible to produce in a one piece, injection molded plastic part, correcting the defects that have plagued mass produced whistles.

Freeman has developed his own punch and die system to produce the tonebodies, but the tubing will have to be made to order by an outside supplier. "For the first time," he says, "high quality, widely available, affordable whistles can be the way most people first begin to play Irish traditional music, whether they are children starting out or adults who come to the music later on."

That, according to Freeman, will change the world. "It will strengthen Irish music everywhere, it will put more music in the world and it will give more people the joy of making their own music. What could be better than that?"

[jerry@freemanwhistles.com](mailto:jerry@freemanwhistles.com)  
860-498-0014

500 Flanders Road Coventry, CT 06238



*Jerry Freeman at the Pipers' Gathering, Killington, Vermont, USA in 2010*

the beginning, I could have spent more time on tunes and technique and less time worrying about getting each note to sound good."

According to Freeman, "Whistle is the entry instrument into Irish music. But sadly, instead of a doorway opening in, the poor quality of available whistles is a roadblock that holds many people back. After starting to learn on the whistle, players decide whether to continue to other instruments. If they've struggled with a less quality whistle, they may give up. Then a lifetime of music making is lost and Irish music is that much poorer as a result."

For better or for worse, there's no way Freeman can ever tweak enough whistles to solve the problem.

On December 23, 2013, a couple of last minute shoppers visited his residence to pick up a whistle for their daughter's Christmas present. As they were getting ready to leave, the mother asked, "Did you hear about the work they're doing at the University of Connecticut? They're CT scanning old saxophone mouthpieces."

"No," he said, and the conversation went on for another half hour. As it happens, the University of Connecticut campus where the work is being done is seven miles from his house.

On January 23, 2015, Freeman met with

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**Friday October 9, 2015 6:30pm**

**Awardees for Outstanding Contributions in**



**Performing Arts  
Liam Neeson**



**Culinary Arts  
Darina Allen**



**Literature  
Desmond Egan**



**Music  
Sharon Shannon**



**Media  
Mary Ann Ahern**



**Visual Arts  
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**Person of  
the Year  
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Last month's column examined Britain's success in frustrating enquiries into British government collusion in loyalist atrocities in Northern Ireland throughout the Troubles, and the ramifications of this policy for the criminal justice system in Northern Ireland then and now. This column will examine a response to a similar scandal through reference to a recent television documentary.

The Torture Files, an investigative documentary made by Rita O'Reilly and screened on RTE in June, presented a strong case challenging the legality of Operation Demetrius, or Internment Without Trial, introduced in Northern Ireland on August 9th 1971, in which 342 Catholics

## View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



### Lies, Damn Lies and Documentaries: Part Two

were "lifted" by the security forces, so called, and brought to internment camps where they were unaccountably held for weeks and, in some cases, months. On the streets, 21 deaths resulted from this action, 17 at the hands of the British Army.

As part of the documentary, O'Reilly sifted through standing

orders of Interrogation Centres for "UK Eyes Only" housed in London and found incriminating evidence against the British Army command and British government ministers documenting that torture had been sanctioned at governmental level. Besides such documentation, photography of internees—victims of unspeakable bruising and beatings—constitutes sufficient evidence of torture from any reasonable standpoint.

What the documents reveal is that during "deep interrogation" there were "regrettable lapses." One survivor quipped that those who wish to describe torture thus should undergo one hour of it and see how they would describe it afterwards. Ridicule is the right tone to strike in this case given that the documents also assert that prisoners "volunteered" to be hooded and the then British Prime Minister Heath faulted prisoners for wanting a minimum of three star hotel accommodation. Today victims still live with the physical and mental scars of having been tortured (others died soon after their release from cancer and other diseases).

Rita O'Reilly argues in this documentary that torture was "sanctioned at high level" despite the impulse to "confine the blame to lower ranks and not to politicians and senior civil servants." This is her documentary's strongest claim and her central source to support it is a document uncovered in London that states "the decision to use torture in Northern Ireland... was taken by ministers, in particular Lord Carrington, the Secretary of State for Defence." (Carrington is still alive, after

an illustrious political career; he did not have any comment to make for the documentary). Moreover, the policy was formulated by the British government in March 1971, to be enforced that autumn, proves malice aforethought of governmental sanctioned torture in Northern Ireland. It is high time that that much was upheld in court—such a ruling would constitute a symbolic vindication of innocent victims on a par with the Bloody Sunday Saville Tribunal's findings.

The pathway to Bloody Sunday, as Bernadette Devlin-McAliskey argues in this documentary, was clear when torture went unpunished; there was "a continuum of killing up to Bloody Sunday" because the security forces knew "they could get away with it." The seemingly irreversible spiral of violence which ensued after Bloody Sunday was sparked to a significant extent by enabling torturers.

One of the ideals of The European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg is to prevent the type of crimes perpetuated in WWII, including torture, from ever occurring again in Europe. Unsurprisingly, the British government is very anxious to distance itself from any suggestion that it might have sanctioned torture, lest it be answerable to the wider European community for such violations.

It is clear that during the Troubles the British government mandated torture and murder. Not every British leader, not every Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, not every Army chief did so; but some of them did; it is time that the British government admitted this. To do so would bring important changes in the way in which Northern Ireland's past can be examined. For example, Thomas Hennessy, the author of probably the best work of history on the lead up to the Northern Irish Troubles, *The Origins of the Troubles*, disputes the appropriateness of the word "oppressed" to describe the condition of the Catholic minority in Northern

Ireland before the Troubles erupted. Hennessy argues that describing Catholics as having been oppressed diminishes the suffering of others who have lived under tyrannical regimes.

Yet the deprivation of civil rights and the subsequent treatment of citizens who wished to reform the State was indisputably oppressive. Those who seek to prescribe softer vocabulary to describe security forces' activities, or reduce the level of criminality ascribed to them, might also consider the integrity of British administrations, past and present. The five types of sensory deprivations deployed against those illegally tortured in Northern Ireland in 1971 were also to be adopted by the British Army during the British invasion of Iraq. Four decades after the disgrace that a so-called professional army in Northern Ireland (and, decades earlier, in Kenya too) brought upon itself, it was still doing the very same thing in the Middle East. Such is progress.

But the tendency to gloss over the crimes of the British security forces in Northern Ireland may be eventually undermined from an unexpected source: film-makers. Rita O'Reilly's admirable documentary deserves to be mentioned in the same breath as the films of two British directors who have done great work in the past decade to confront the horror of the British administration of Northern Ireland. I am thinking of Steve McQueen's classic film, *Hunger*, set in the "H-Block" Maze prison, which depicts the infectious damage of state power, and the work of Ken Loach, who knows well what it is to be hounded by the British secret service over his depiction of collusion in the Northern Ireland conflict. As Loach said in his Palm D'Or acceptance speech for *The Wind That Shakes the Barley* at Cannes in 2006, "If we tell the truth about the past, maybe we tell the truth about the present... Our film is a little, a very little step in the British confronting their imperialist history." More power to his elbow.

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*The Inimitable*

# Sharon Shannon

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Photo by Steve Rogers @ Sligo

**David McDonnell:  
Our Sports Man  
on the Irish Street**



## Ireland Hopes to Pass History Lesson

Back in 2007 we got ahead of ourselves.

By 'we,' I mean the Irish rugby team, the Irish rugby supporters and truth be told the whole Emerald Isle.

In the final day of the Six Nations that year, Ireland played some scintillating rugby, scoring 50 odd points and demolishing Italy in Rome on St Patrick's Day. We were on the cusp of winning the competition, only for a last minute French try against Scotland to deny us on point's difference.

The 2007 World Cup was looming and this time it was going to be different. We believed with great surety that we were centimeters if not millimeters short of becoming the best side in Europe. We were

in a group without any of the top three southern hemisphere sides, New Zealand, Australia or South Africa.

Our pack was backboned by a Munster side who had won Europe's premier club competition the year before. Our centers and outside backs were comprised of the best players that Leinster had to offer. We had a lauded coach in Eddie O'Sullivan and we had the best player on the planet in Brian O'Driscoll.

We had long been the nearly men of rugby, but that year it felt different.

### A Lesson

In the lead up to the tournament the players acted differently too, talking up their chances in a very un-Irish way

about winning the World Cup and about how reaching the semi-finals was the nadir of their ambitions. This team was Ireland's golden generation and it was going to be 'our' World Cup. And in its own way it was, for it is still vividly remembered albeit for the wrong reasons.

A poor opening performance against minnows Namibia was followed by Ireland surviving to win by the skin of their teeth after a late onslaught from underdogs Georgia. Heavy losses to France and Argentina saw the Irish team return home with their proverbial tails between their legs.

The public found it hard to comprehend how and why the team had under performed so badly. Accusations and blame were the order of the day, most of which were vitriolic in nature and aimed directly at manager Eddie O'Sullivan, who was roundly booed by a large section of Irish supporters at the next home international

the following spring. Eddie was ushered out the door soon after and became a manage-

most important rugby tournament every four years.

The second major blunder



rial pariah on the professional rugby scene in Ireland. When the dust finally settled and the postmortems completed, it became clear that the Irish management had made two serious errors of judgment.

The first was that the team had done too much physical work at the training camp in Poland. It was work more conducive to preseason training than sharpening their skills to hit the ground running at the

by Eddie was making known his preferred starting 15 months out from the tournament. In the 2007 summer tour of Argentina, O'Sullivan left those 15 players at home to rest after a long season. It meant some of those earmarked for the starting 15 consciously or subconsciously took their place for granted, while others who were playing well in camp weren't rewarded with team selection.

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**A New Exam**  
 This year the Rugby World Cup starts on September 18 and in some ways we are in similar territory to 2007. The team is riding high after winning successive Six Nations titles in the last two years. We are again in a group without the three southern hemisphere powerhouses. We have an excellent captain in Paul O'Connell and we have a much lauded coach in kiwi Joe Schmidt; the public is once again expecting Ireland to deliver at the very least a semi-final berth.

From the outside there seems to be no complacency from any of the players. We are told by the experts that the depth of the squad has greatly improved. I like Joe Schmidt. He is very affable and gen-

erous in his dealings with the media. He displays no semblance of arrogance or self-importance. He respects all his peers and opponents and does so with an abundance of compassion and class. Yet inside the dressing room he has a reputation for demanding the highest of professional standards and adherence to his game plan. He is regarded in some quarters as the best coach in the world.

Ireland failing to perform on the biggest stage seems just as remote as it did all those years ago.

Ireland begin their campaign against an unfancied Canada and minnows Romania, before they are widely expected to beat Italy in their third match.

Ireland's best chance in

reaching the last four rests on overcoming France in the final group game. Win and they will likely play Argentina for a place in the final four. Lose and it is a quarter final date with the best team in the world, the New Zealand All-Blacks.

France, for so long the jewel in the crown of northern hemisphere rugby, has been awful this year.

In the Six Nations, they lost convincingly to Ireland and Wales before getting a hiding from England in the final game of the tournament. Their coach, Philippe Saint-Andre, has been pilloried nationally and internationally as being inept at this level. His replacement, Guy Noves, has been lined up to take over in November. Although losing the final narrowly four years ago, bookmakers have them at odds of 20-1 to succeed this time around.

And yet rugby history tells us that any French team called underdogs bites worse than it barks. On their day they can beat any side in the world; one thing that is not in doubt is the caliber of their players. Any team with Morgan Parra, Thierry Dusautoir, and Wesley Fofana needs to be given the highest of respect.

Let's hope when France line up to face the men in green, the Irish players and management will be able to perform at their maximum on the biggest stage when it is most needed.

This time I believe they will. This time the whole country believes we'll triumph.

We have been wrong before.



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago recently held a ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the opening of the Calumet Disinfection Facility, designed to improve the treatment facility that serves the South Side of Chicago and surrounding south suburbs. The Calumet Water Reclamation Plant is located at 400 E. 130th St., Chicago.

MWRD Vice President Barbara McGowan stated "it was an honor to have Senator Dick Durbin participate in the cutting of the ribbon at the Disinfection Facility."

*Pictured are MWRD Vice President Barbara McGowan and Senator Durbin.*

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# Chicago Gaelic Park

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



## A Cháirde

Thanks to all the parents who sent their children to the Irish Cultural Camp in August, and thanks to all the volunteers and the talented and enthusiastic teachers that made the Camp a great experience for our campers. I'm always glad to see young people enjoying Gaelic Park.

Speaking of the young, I hope they all return with their extended families on September 13th for a day of free fun at Irish Heritage and Harvest Day. The tractor displays, games, demonstrations, music, dance and more make the day fun for people of all ages. Families and sports fans will also enjoy the NACB Finals, September 4th through 6th. The best of the USA, Canada and the Cayman Islands will

compete in Gaelic football, hurling and camogie. Throngs of spectators will cheer over 100 games on Gaelic Park's pitches through the weekend.

Best of luck to the counties that are still in the hunt for All Ireland hurling and football finals. The games will be televised and Irish Breakfast will be available both mornings (9/6 and 9/20). The broadcast company charges an admission fee for the telecasts.

As I write this, there are still openings for the Carraig Pub Golf Outing. Please join us on September 18th for some friendly competition, great camaraderie and craic.

Slán go fóil,

**Bill O'Sullivan, President**

## 2015 CGP Calendar of Events 2015

### SEPTEMBER

9/2	<b>Monthly Musical Luncheon - Joe Cullen *RR</b>	NOON
9/2	<b>BarBQ on the Patio - Rhonda Lee &amp; Jimmy O</b>	6:00pm
9/9	<b>BarBQ on the Patio - Frank Rossi</b>	6:00pm
9/9	<b>Gaelic Park LADIES AUXILIARY meeting and Mass</b>	7:30pm
9/16	<b>BarBQ on the Patio - Ray Gavin</b>	6:00pm
9/23	<b>BarBQ on the Patio - Joe McShane (weather permitting)</b>	6:00pm
9/30	<b>BarBQ on the Patio - Kieran Byrne (weather permitting)</b>	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. *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](http://www.chicagogaelicpark.org)**  
**Visit the CGP Library in the Shamrock Room**

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- Every Thursday Traditional Music with Pat Finnegan & The Irish Musicians

## the CARRAIG IRISH PUB

### Live Music in the Pub

<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sept 4</b>	<b>Bernie Glim</b>	<b>7:30pm</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>Sept 5</b>	<b>The Rockets</b>	<b>9:00pm</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sept 11</b>	<b>Rhonda &amp; Jimmy</b>	<b>8:30pm</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>Sept 12</b>	<b>DJ John Gill</b>	<b>9:00pm</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sept 18</b>	<b>Kieran Byrne</b>	<b>8:30pm</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>Sept 19</b>	<b>Mulligan Stew</b>	<b>9:00pm</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sept 25</b>	<b>Joe Cullen</b>	<b>8:30pm</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>Sept 26</b>	<b>Wild Colonial Bhoys</b>	<b>9:00pm</b>

**Chicago Gaelic Park**  
6119 W. 147th Street • Oak Forest, IL  
708.687.9323  
[www.chicagogaelicpark.org](http://www.chicagogaelicpark.org)

NO COVER CHARGE



The Gaelic Park Player's fall play is *The Troubled Bachelor's*, written by A.J. Stanley, and will be directed by the wonderful Phyllis Bierdz. The last play Phyllis directed was *The Two Loves of Gabriel Foley*, which was two years ago. The auditions were held on Wednesday, August 19th and Thursday Thursday, August 20th, both days from 7pm-9pm. It was a great turn-out, so thank you to those who auditioned! Congratulations to Phyllis and the cast.

The players are looking forward to opening night, which will be on Friday, November 6th. *Troubled Bachelors* will run for three consecutive weekends in the Celtic Room at Gaelic Park, from November 6th-8th, November 13th-15th, and November 20th-22nd.

The Gaelic Park Players will be hosting a "Meet and Greet" on Sunday, September 20th, from 2 pm - 5 pm in the Celtic Room at Gaelic Park. This is the first time the Players are hosting a "Meet and Greet" get together for all members, old and new. This is a great way to get involved with community theatre and to meet new friendly faces. If you or someone you know is interested in acting, learning the tech side of the theatre, or volunteering, please encourage them to join us at the "Meet and Greet." Appetizers and desserts will be provided and there will be a cash bar at this event. The Players asked each member to bring a guest to this event. Please join the players for an afternoon filled with laughter.

Also, congratulations to the talented Vera Kelly, a Gaelic Park Player and member of the Magpie Theatre Group who will be performing *The Cheek* for one night only, before they take it on the road to Ireland. Gaelic Park will be hosting *The Cheek* and it will be performed on Saturday, September 26th at 8pm in The Celtic Room. Tickets for this one night only performance will be \$20 and can be purchased at Gaelic Park which is located at: 6119 West 147th St., Oak Forest, IL 60452. Please contact Gaelic Park's Main Office Number at 708-687-9323.

Please check out the players on their Facebook page @ Gaelic Park Players or go to [www.gaelicparkplayers.org](http://www.gaelicparkplayers.org) to see their upcoming events.



# Chicago Gaelic Park

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Chicago Gaelic Park's

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Straw Pillow Fight

Youth hurling and football will start at 11am Threshing will start at 12:00pm

Food and refreshments will be sold throughout the day

Games for ALL AGES including ADULTS to start at 12:30pm include:

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



Chicago Gaelic Park - 6119 W. 147<sup>th</sup> Street - Oak Forest, IL 60452  
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# Chicago Gaelic Park

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Pat Finnegan and members of the  
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Annual Fundraiser

Sunday, September 27, 2015, 2- 7 PM



Gaelic Park - Emerald West

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Raffle Prizes • 50/50 Split the Pot

Admission \$20 - Cash Bar

For information, please contact Mary Carmody at 708-424-3035.

## The County Connection Corner



The Clare Association will host its Golf Outing on Saturday, September 26th at Silver Lakes Country Club.

Please RSVP to Mary Reilly  
(708.499.2474) by September 13th.

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

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

call the Gaelic Park Office or email your news to [dunmaynor12@yahoo.com](mailto:dunmaynor12@yahoo.com).



**Our Lady  
of Knock  
Feast Day  
Celebration**

**August 17th**

## CUTURAL CAMP 2015 Moments



# A Nation and Not a Rabble

With the hundred-year anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising approaching, acclaimed Irish historian Diarmaid Ferriter presents a novel new account

of the time for Irish America. Drawing on a wealth of newly released witness statements, archival mate-

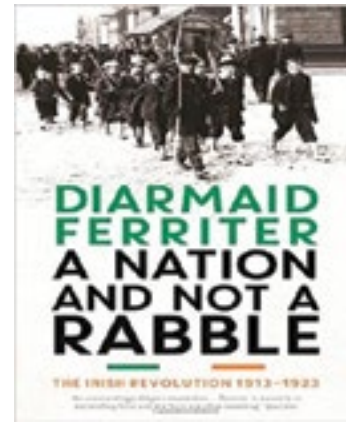


Author Diarmaid Ferriter

rials, and testimonies, Ferriter highlights the revolution,Âs legacy in his book ANATION AND NOT A RABBLE. Packed with drama, bloodshed, and cul-

tural upheaval, the years 1913 to 1923 encapsulate the hostility and tragedy of the Irish Civil War. Ferriter highlights the revolution,Âs legacy and how it has been honored, remembered, falsified, and commemorated.

Diarmaid Ferriter is Professor of Modern Irish History at



University College, Dublin. He has written a number of books on Irish history, including The Transformation of Ireland (Overlook), Occasions of Sin: Sex & Society in Modern Ireland, and Ambiguous Republic: Ireland in the 1970s. In 2010 he hosted the RTE TV series The Limits of Liberty.



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# Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan



Never let it be said that I don't know how to throw a party.

Case in point-Back in the eighties I was living in New York City, visiting Chicago, and dropped by my late brother Danny's

law office. He introduced me to the office manager Monica Dwyer Fox. (She was already a fox before she married one.)

Monica looks at me incredulously and says to Dan, "This is your brother?"

Dan starts giving me the stink eye, "Yeah?"

Monica laughs and says, "I didn't know you were related, this is the first guy I ever saw naked!"

Former seminarian Dan turned fifty shades of red and stared daggers at me.

Seems my folks were away one night back in the sixties and word around the neighborhood was that "Houli is having a party". Monica and her girlfriends come in the front door and yours truly is streaking around the party buck-naked and no it was not my

birthday. The nude hello was a little stunt, (literally,) which I used to pull in my teenage years to break the ice and loosen up the crowd sometimes at parties.

Now remember this was fifty years ago and shenanigans like that were considered just harmless hooliganism then. Today of course I'd be arrested and sent to jail much like that Duggar kid was for coppin' a feel from his sleeping sister.

My birthday suit now is very wrinkled and quite a bit larger to accommodate the several watermelons and barrels of beer I've consumed over the last fifty years, so it's probably not the best ice breaker, but lemme tell ya back when I was a teenager I was an Adonis!

Lately I've been forced to learn some new tricks to entertain at parties and I'm throwing a party later this month that promises to be a doozy!

It's the First Annual Irish American Movie Hooley on September 25-26-and 27th at The Gene Siskel Film Center on State Street in Chicago. Please join us for the only Irish American film festival in the world. We're out to discover the next John Ford, Grace Kelly, Jimmy Cagney, or John Huston.



We'll be premiering three terrific films with Irish American themes and this is our first year so come on out to the Hooley. After each screening we'll all be heading around the corner over to The Emerald Loop on Wabash to celebrate the "hooley".

You can read all about the films we've chosen elsewhere in this issue of The Irish American News or online or at <http://hiberniantransmedia.org/movie-hooley/>.

Please say hello when you get to the theatre, I'll be there Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. I won't be naked and you'll be glad I'm not! But we'll still have plenty of laughs. So. Don't miss the Hooley!

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## Boyle the Kettle

We'll Have A Sup Of Tea  
Tom Boyle



## Pope Francis Divorce

Pope Francis declared remarried Catholics are not excommunicated, but the Churches rules says that they may not accept communion. People who remarry after a divorce, need to have annulled their first marriage before remarrying. Regardless, Francis said, "they always belong to the church."

The issue will come before the Catholic Churches Synod of Bishops in October. The hurdle will be the insolubility of marriage.

Pope Francis has asked the Bishops to "exercise a wise and realistic pastoral discernment."

In Ireland the Church employs A MENSA ET THORO (legal separation). This does not dissolve the marriage or entitle either party to remarry. It simply relieves the petitioner from the obligation to co-habitate with the respondent. The decree may be granted on three grounds, adultery, cruelty, and unnatural practices. (the grounds of unnatural practices wouldn't apply to same sex marriages). It's doubtful that divorce has kept too many disenfranchised Catholics from receiving communion. Catholic guilt is a thing of the past.

### Politically Correct

Presidential candidates are questioning the constraints of being politically correct. Most Americans are proud of their heritage, like Irish-Americans, my parents were Irish immigrants, yet nobody refers to me as an Irish-American, so, why do we refer to Black people as African-Americans? Isn't that stereotyping? We don't call Mexicans Mexican-Americans, sometimes we refer to them as Hispanics or Latinos. How about the other ethnicities? Polish? Chinese? Where are they at on the scale of political correct-

ness? Then we are faced with gender specific correctness. You can no longer be man or woman of the year, rather, it's person of the year. Still we have a Miss America, and Mrs. America to deal with. Are beauty contests politically correct? What about the Miss World contest? Then we have to navigate the perils of the LGBTQ community, it's getting more difficult to sort out all of the different sexual preferences . . . I'm a yankee doodle dandy! Thank you Mr. Cohan.

### Michael Brown Jr.

As we mark the first anniversary of his death in Ferguson, Missouri I wonder why the media always shows his picture with him wearing his earphones, and not show the video of the strong-arm robbery he committed against an Asian shopkeeper, shortly before his confrontation with police. Is he a martyr or just a thug who pushed his tactics of intimidation too far. Why did his father utter the words, "burn it?" When we had a Black Attorney General, namely Eric Holder in office why were their complaints about the imbalance of policing in Ferguson expressed by looting, riots, and arson instead of taking the matter to the United States Attorney General?

### Iranian A-Bomb

Ironically, on the 70th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, and Nagasaki in 1945, we are considering an agreement with Iran that could have highly questionable consequences. More than likely we would have another player in the nuclear weapons game. President Obama's track record on diplomacy is less than dismal. Remember the line in the old Kingston Trio song, "we shall be tranquil, and thankful and proud that man has been endowed with a mushroom shaped cloud, and we know for certain some lovely

day someone will set the spark off, and we will all be blown away."

### Christian Taylor

Another young Black man, 19, died at the hands of a White police officer, Jeffrey Bradley Miller. Why? The whole affair began with criminal behavior when Christian Taylor vandalized an automobile dealership in Arlington, Texas. Could he possibly believe that the police wouldn't respond? When you deliberately crash your car into the front entrance of an auto dealership, you can bet your bottom dollar the police are going to respond. Why did Officer Miller choose to use his gun instead of a taser or mace? Only he knows, he was facing a very athletic young man who could possibly overpower him physically.

This situation again begs the question, why deadly force?

### Hillary

Why has the media conceded the Democratic nomination to Hillary? How do you become the champion of the "working people" when you and your husband made roughly 25 million dollars last year giving speeches?

We have all listened to Hillary's wistful reminisces about the hard life her mother had . . . Hillary has always enjoyed a life of privilege. The generations that came before her, were the people who had survived the Depression and World War II. They were used to hardships and they knew how to survive.

### Trump

Trump is the bull elephant leading the Republican field of candidates for the office of President. Conservatives who are tired of paying the taxes to support the socialist agenda, i.e. the welfare programs. The Democratic leftists are well aware of the lack of unison of Republican Elites who are running for the office of President. Why can't they huddle up and decide on exactly what our immigration policy should consist of.

### Hanlon's Razor

"Never attribute to malice that which is adequately explained by stupidity . . ."

## Moving On

In the month of August we lost three of our best volunteers at the Irish American Heritage Center. Patrick O'Donnell from Aranmore Island, Alan Duggan,

originally from Boston, and Liz Martin. All of these people were dedicated volunteers and did everything they could to make the Center a success. Please remember them in your prayers.

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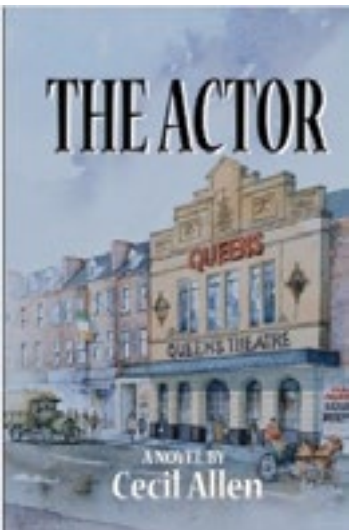
# Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



## The Actor: A Novel

by Cecil Allen  
Paperback and e-book from Amazon.com  
Reviewed by Frank West



This is a grand epic of a novel. It is a great sweeping story of how a young man became a professional actor, like his actor and playwright idol, the great Ira Allen. But it also gives us an amazing view of the Ireland of the early 1900's.

Cedric Allen, the grandson of the actor and playwright, writes so well that I became completely absorbed in the novel. The dialogue is never stilted or forced. I came to feel deeply about the characters and felt that I knew them as friends. As you can see, I greatly enjoyed reading this intimate, positive and inspirational novel.

The Wall Street Journal was referring to another novel, but this could be said also of THE ACTOR - A NOVEL. It has "the ability to make you feel and think simultaneously; this is one of the marks of a great novel."

The many scenes are unusually vivid and colorful. Cecil has this flair for the vivid and

memorable, probably because he was a professional actor, holds an MFA in theatre Arts, and was a broadcaster for RTE for twenty years.

Cecil Allen is the father of two sons and lives with his wife Julie in Malahide, near Dublin.

These quotes from THE ACTOR are illuminating and often deeply poignant.

In 1901 Dublin "was the second city of the British Empire. Union Jacks flew from public buildings, post boxes were painted red and Edward VII's reign had just begun. But Dublin was really two cities; a prosperous city of plenty and a tenement city of slums."

When the future actor was a boy he was deeply impressed by the theatre and began a life-long love with it. In the audience, before the production began, he loved the

"feeling of anticipation and excitement... the buzz in the huge auditorium, the elegance of the enormous red curtain... his excitement soared to almost

unbearable heights."

I believe this is why the Irish soldiers of 1916 fought so bravely. During early 1916, the young actor traveling in the

countryside observes: "...the cart passed a derelict thatched farmhouse with five emaciated children... staring out of

*Continued on page 30*



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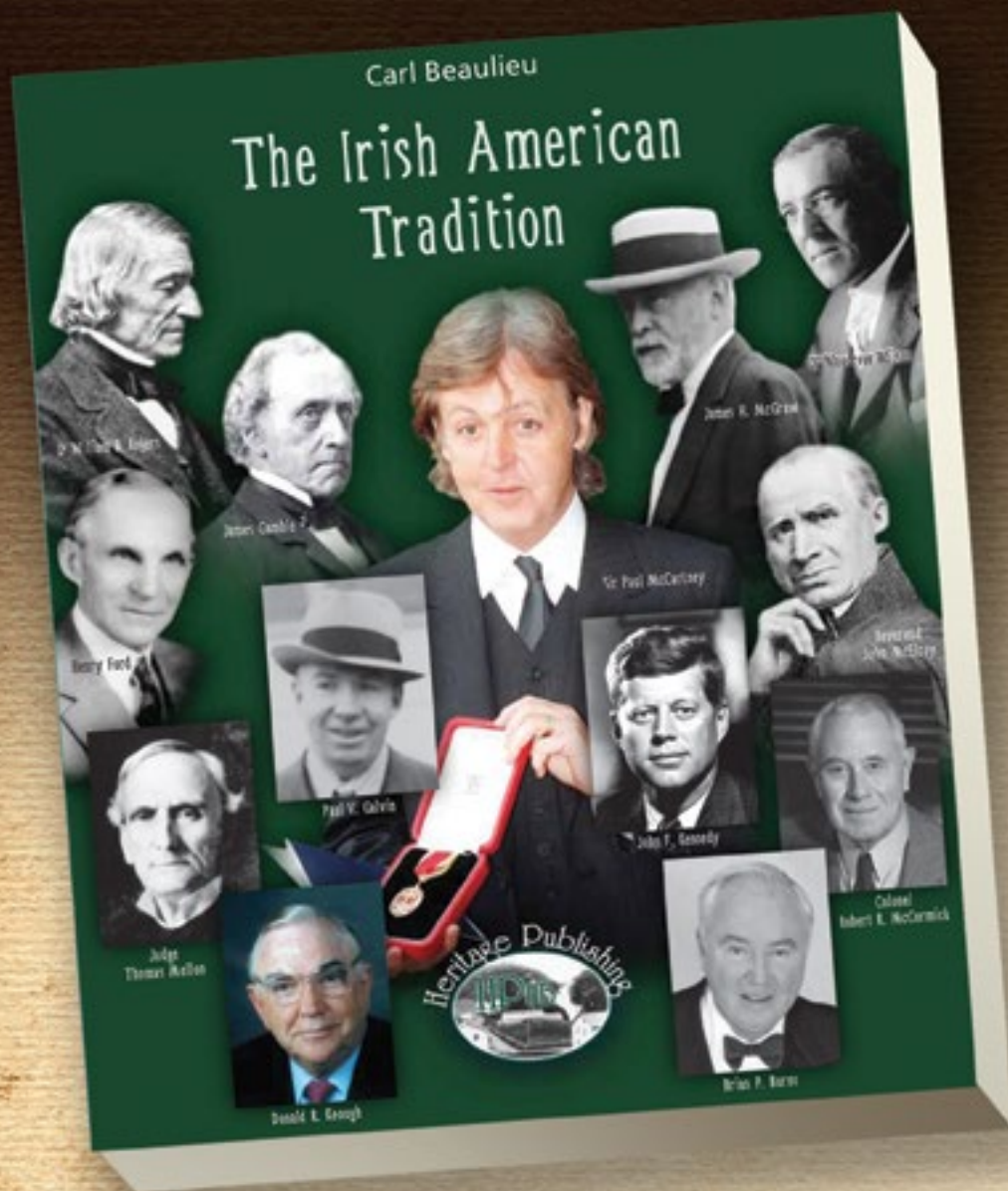
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New release September 24th 2015  
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 The Irish American Tradition  
 from two prominent Irish American  
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*Brad Simmons  
 Director, Office of the Executive Chairman  
 Ford Motor Company  
 Dearborn, Michigan, September 5 2013*

*«I commend and congratulate you on this vast undertaking. I look forward to reading it»*

*Seward Prosser Mellon  
 President  
 Richard K. Mellon and Sons  
 Ligonier, Pennsylvania, September 4, 2013*

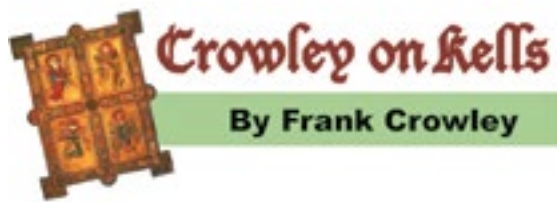
**Foreword by The Ambassador  
 of Ireland, Her Excellency  
 Anne Anderson**



**Thursday, September 24th 2015 will be a very special day of celebrations for Irish Americans. Over time and continuing today, Irish Americans are among the founders and builders of America.**

**The Irish American Tradition is a book which recognizes and celebrates the achievements of Irish immigrants since the earliest days of settlement.**

**You are most welcome to attend the event at The Irish American Heritage Center, 4626, North Knox Avenue, Chicago, on thursday, September 24th, 2015 at 4p.m. Please RSVP on or before September 10th by email at [heritagepub.irish@gmail.com](mailto:heritagepub.irish@gmail.com), or by phone at (418) 698-4554.**



## The Chi-Rho Page and Old St Pats

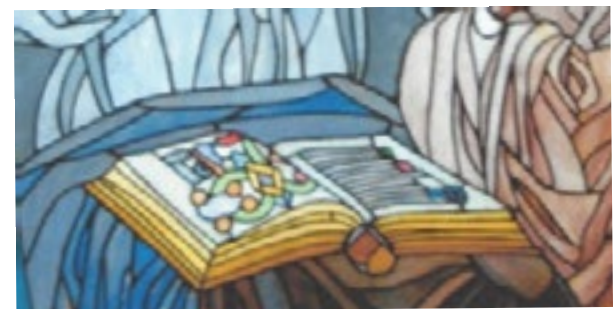
Last February I led a seminar on the "History and Art of the Book of Kells" at the Newberry Library. Among the participants was John McLaughlin, a volunteer at Old St. Pat's Church in Chicago. He graciously provided me with photos of the stained glass windows. These are the windows, designed and crafted by Thomas Augustus O'Shaughnessy, that are considered the finest examples of Celtic Revival art in the United States.

During the time when Fr. William McNamee was Pastor of St. Pat's he decided that his church needed an inspiring renewal to welcome back parishioners to a shrinking congregation. Pastor McNamee hired Mr. O'Shaughnessy to redesign the interior of the church. O'Shaughnessy spent 10 years during 1912 to 1922 designing, fabricating and installing the 15 windows and decorating the walls with Celtic interlacing.

Among his windows are two that feature images of the Chi-Rho



page from the Book of Kells. One is called the St. Bridget window. This window depicts a seated St. Bridget, the Book of Kells on her lap opened to the Chi-Rho page. She is reading to a kneeling girl at her side. To viewers the Book is upside down. The background behind St. Bridget is colorful Celtic interlacing.



(See detail of window showing the Book reversed)

On a personal note, Rose, the sister of Mr. O'Shaughnessy's wife Bridget, was the model for the face of St. Bridget. Both Irish-born women were the nieces of Pastor McNamee.

The second window depicts an angel with very elaborate and colorful wings presenting the Book of Kells open to the Chi-Rho page for viewers to see.

Clearly when viewing these windows and walls you see a major source of inspiration for the designs, the Book of Kells. Focusing on the Chi-Rho page perhaps indicates Mr. O'Shaughnessy's recognition that the Chi-Rho page is the most magnificent design in the Book.

One more thing. What is most surprising and delightful is Mr. O'Shaughnessy's ability to make an image of one of the most intricate and detailed illuminated images from the Book of Kells, the Chi-Rho page, and create a recognizable pattern with pieces of cut colored glass.



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## Farragher Pours A Devilish Pint

Earlier this year, Mike Farragher stepped away after 18 years from a job any Irish American would envy: writing the music column for IrishCentral.com.

"Writing a whole page each week provided fantastic discipline necessary to write my novels on the side," he reasons. "On the flip side, the steady paycheck makes you a bit comfortable and that familiarity can be the kiss of death for the creative process. I felt it was a good time to take some risks."

Those risks jump off the page in this provocative collection of short works of fiction and personal essays entitled *A Devilish Pint*. The title story is a long conversation between a struggling writer and an otherworldly devilish

character who appears in the church parking lot following Sunday Mass and offers a round of drinks at the nearest pub. They begin a conversation about how life really works, which encourages the reader to mea-

sure their beliefs while laughing along with the characters at the same time.

"I had read Neale Donald Walsch's *Conversations with God* on a transcontinental flight and in the haze of jetlag, I had this dream about sitting at a barstool with a devilish character who challenged everything I had just read in that book," Farragher explains. "I woke up in the middle of the dream laughing, which is a good sign and told me I might be onto something! I scribbled a few notes with the pad and paper the hotel gives guests and went back to bed. I understand Keith Richards wrote 'Satisfaction' while half-asleep in a hotel, so I am in good company!"

Mike Farragher's first book, *Collared*, was published in 2004 and is a suspense novel set in the church sex scandals. In the essay from the new book entitled "The Collared One," he reveals



the truth that is stranger than his fiction. "The release of *Collared* started some dialogue amongst the alumni in our high school about a bad apple that preyed on the students, including me," he reveals. "There was an investigation into what happened last year and it opened up some old wounds that had to be healed. It was a tough process but immensely rewarding all the same. I'm proud that *Collared* was the linchpin for the truth to be revealed."

In "Waking Mammy," Farragher tells a hilarious tale of a siblings coming to death with their mother's death under the wheels of the church bus while fuming over a brother's decision to cremate the body to save money. "I used Facebook Messenger to trade lines with some very funny people in my life and the dialogue from those exchanges inspired this story," Farragher says. "It was a fun way to work!" The writers had so much fun that there are plans to develop the story into a one-act play sometime for off-Broadway in 2016.

Farragher will embark on a nationwide "rock and read" book tour this Fall with some of the musicians he's covered as a music writer over the last two decades. "Pubs have always been a cultural mecca in Ireland and we will be bringing literature and music to those pubs willing to turn off the big screen TVs for a few hours," he jokes. "It's been fun sharing our audiences with one another. It makes for a much more lively discussion that what you see on C-SPAN's Book TV programming!"

## Irish American Movie Hooley September 25

*When a party gets rowdy, the Irish call it a "hooley."*

The Gene Siskel Film Center of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Hibernian Transmedia, (dedicated to preserving and promoting Irish-American culture), announce the lineup for their first annual "Irish American Movie Hooley" at the Gene Siskel Film Center from September 25 through September 27, 2015. The Irish American Movie Hooley is dedicated to discovering talented filmmakers whose films celebrate the passion, humor, and swagger of The Irish Diaspora.

We at the Gene Siskel Film Center are excited to initiate this new community partnership with Hibernian Transmedia in order to create a showcase for Irish American films and directors. Discovering and promoting emerging talent is an important function of our cultural mission," said Gene Siskel Film Center Director of Programming Barbara Scharres.

Personal appearances by directors highlight a weekend of Chicago premieres. The Hooley opens on Friday, September 25 at 8:00 pm with the documentary *NAME YOUR POISON*. Writer/director Paddy Hayes will be present for discussion following the screening of this rip-roaring yarn of a Depression-era murder plot to kill "the Rasputin of the Bronx," the legendary Mike Malloy.

Writer/director Dave McLaughlin will be present on Saturday, September 26 at 8:00 pm, to screen his semi-autobiographical comedy *ON BROADWAY*. Inspired at his uncle's wake, a Boston carpenter deals with death in the family by writing a play, with a little help from the local pub, his savvy priest brother, a stage-struck undertaker, and assorted drinking buddies as he embarks on a comically rocky road to show

biz. The film includes memorable cameos by Will Arnett and Amy Poehler.

On Sunday September 27 at 3:00 pm, celebrated documentary filmmaker Daisy Asquith and her mother Pat track the mystery of Pat's unknown birth father from County Clare to Manhattan and back again in *AFTER THE DANCE*.

Sponsors of the First Annual Irish American Movie Hooley include Irish American News, The Hilton Chicago, 2 Gingers Irish Whiskey, and The Emerald Loop Irish bar and grill around the corner from the Siskel Center at 216 North Wabash.

For more information about the Movie Hooley, visit: <http://hiberniantransmedia.org/movie-hooley/>

All screenings and events are at the Gene Siskel Film Center of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, located at 164 N. State St.

Tickets are available through the Gene Siskel Film Center's website [www.siskelfilmcenter.org](http://www.siskelfilmcenter.org).



[www.siskelfilmcenter.org/content/tickets](http://www.siskelfilmcenter.org/content/tickets) or through the individual films' weblinks on [www.siskelfilmcenter.org](http://www.siskelfilmcenter.org).

Discounted parking is available for \$18 for 10 hours at the InterPark SELF-PARK at 20 E. Randolph St. A rebate ticket can be obtained from the Film Center Box Office.

The Film Center is located near CTA trains and buses. Nearest CTA L stations are Lake (Red line); State/Lake (Brown, Green, Orange, Pink, Purple lines); and Washington (Blue line). CTA bus lines serving State St.: 2, 6, 10, 29, 36, 62, 144, and 146.

For more information about the Film Center, call 312-846-2800 (24-hour movie hotline) or 312-846-2600 (general information, 9:00 am-5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday), or visit [www.siskelfilmcenter.org](http://www.siskelfilmcenter.org).

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## Amazon New Sponsor for Irish Fest?

Yeah...No! Just joking, kinda. See I'm writing this the week after Milwaukee Irish Fest and I'm still in a little bit of shock from the whole affair. Not the good kind of shock like we used to get from all the sales we made there as vendors, this is bad shock from the few sales we made and the actions of some of our customers. First though, I must say that the Irish Fest management did nothing wrong. It is still the biggest festival with the finest lineup of talent, best organization and management of vendors, best communication, etc., etc., the list of superlatives about Milwaukee Irish Fest is endless. It simply is the best.

What shook me this year was the number of folks who took pictures of our products but didn't buy anything. It was explained to me later that there is a service online that will take a picture and

find the product at the cheapest price. This, I felt was at the least rude and, to some degree, insulting. The kicker though was when I observed a couple of people pawing thru my music books (which are copyrighted, by the way), taking photos with their phones of the tunes they wanted to learn, but not, of course, buy.

We always get people who think that they're at a flea market offering ridiculous prices or trying to get a discount for their age, hair color, amount of Irish relatives, cuteness or number of freckles. I suppose people think that we find our products lying along the road someplace and that hotels and gas stations give us discounts for our freckles. If you won't ask for a discount from Walmart, why ask me for one? Walmart is in a better financial condition to give you one frankly. Suffice it to say that our sales were down over 20% from last year and if this trend continues I expect to see even fewer purveyors of Irish goods at festivals in the future.

Time to crawl down off my soapbox and report on some of the finest CDs that have come to me this year. Despite lagging CD sales, artists continue to produce some very fine recordings that epitomize the best in Irish music.

First on my list this month is "The Return of Spring" from Buttons and Bows ([www.buttonsandbowsmusic.ie](http://www.buttonsandbowsmusic.ie)), a band we haven't heard from in quite awhile. To refresh our collective memory, this group consists of Jackie Daly on accordion, Séamus McGuire on fiddle and viola, Manus McGuire on fiddle and Garry O'Briain on guitar, mandocello and piano. A finer gathering of talent would be hard to imagine. This album is, without reservation, the most thoroughly beautiful collection of music I've ever heard. I realize that that is a lot to say but you've got to hear this! The first tune, "Oyster Island" is so beautiful that it brings tears to my eyes every time I listen to it, gorgeous, simply gorgeous. The rest of the tunes continue in lovely traditional style to weave a musical web that will draw you



## Piping It In

Jack Baker



away from whatever you're doing and pull you into the beauty these four master musicians have created. I'm listening to it as I type and have to keep stopping to give my full attention to the music even though I've listened



to it dozens of times already. There is music and then there is magic. These boys have touched the magic, resulting in a rare and extremely lovely recording.

At the Dublin Ohio Irish Fest this year I had the good fortune to be set up next to the Shamrock stage. Performing there were a pair of sisters from Nova Scotia, Cassie & Maggie MacDonald ([www.cassieandmaggie.com](http://www.cassieandmaggie.com)) who set the audience on its ear with their fantastic performance. Cassie plays fiddle with a talent and style that is seldom heard while her sister, Maggie, plays guitar, keyboards and piano. Maggie sings lead and Cassie sings harmony. What a pair of performers. They had the whole tent on their feet dancing. They dropped off a copy of their new CD, "Sterling Road", and it's a gem as well, full of original pieces and superb rendering of classic songs. I especially liked their version of "The King's Shilling" and the harmonies they worked into it. The best for me though was their instrumentals, when these two get going it takes a physical effort to hold your feet still. Cassie & Maggie know their

music, they love their music and by golly, they share their music in the best way. I, and the rest of the audience, was transfixed by their performance. If you like to move your feet to fiery fiddle, this CD is for you. I hope we can get some performances for these two lovely ladies in the Chicago area just give them space and they'll bring the fire with them to heat it.

Milwaukee Wisconsin, aside from being the home of the biggest and best Irish Music festival is also the home to a burgeoning Irish music community. One of my favorite groups in this community is a band called áthas ([www.athasmusic.com](http://www.athasmusic.com)). The band consists of Heather Lewin on fiddle, Amy Richter on bodhran and Jeff Ksiazek on guitar. They have finally released their second CD, long overdue, called "10 for 10, Live Tracks & Rarities" and it was well worth the wait. These three play traditional Irish music in a tight and lively manner that catches the attention of the hearer and makes you remember why you fell in love with this music in the first place. This year, 2015, marks their tenth year together as a band, no small accomplishment in itself, and the music on their new CD is taken from several years of recording, though mostly this year. Heather's fiddle is sweet and sure, Jeff is that rare musician that knows what to do with a guitar and Amy's work on the bodhran is solid and impressive. A great trio that labors away making the music that feeds our collective soul.

Still have a pile of CDs to review, but must save them for next month, including the new Open the Door for Three which I still look forward to hearing. Catch me in the store at 630-834-8108 or online at [store@rampanthlion.com](mailto:store@rampanthlion.com)  
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## West Point Boxing Team Clinic, Exhibition at Leo Catholic High School

The United States Military Academy, West Point Men's Boxing Team will hold a Youth Clinic at:

Leo Catholic High School  
7901 S. Sangamon St  
Chicago, IL 60620  
September 19 at 1:30-4:00

Includes welcome by community leaders and an Introduction by USMA Coach Barone discussing USMA. The boxers will share their individual stories, and the fundamentals of boxing.

There will be a West Point Leo High School Exhibition at the South Side's legendary Beverly Woods With Cocktails and Food: 6:00-8:30 Boxing Exhibition—8 Bouts at the Beverly Woods Conf Ctr. 11532 S. Western Ave Chicago, IL 60643

Ray "Coach" Barone retired honorably as a Lieutenant Colonel from the US Army after 21 years of service as a combat arms Officer. In August 1999, he was employed as

the Director of Boxing at the United States Military Academy, West Point. Since his arrival, Coach Barone has worked to make the Fourth Class Boxing Program a valuable, safe experience for cadets. In November 2004, he completed a doctorate in education from Columbia Teacher's College and soon thereafter became a certified Level IV USA Boxing Coach. Under his tutelage as head coach, the West Point boxing team has produced numerous All-Americans, individual collegiate boxing champions, and has won the team National Collegiate Boxing Champion-

ships in 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011. Coach Barone served as an assistant coach when



*A West Point boxer is coached by Coach Barone*

Team USA boxed Ireland in August 2002 and England in November 2004. Coach has completed the Master Teacher's program at West Point, won the Brigadier General Anderson Award for Excellence in Teaching, was selected as the 2009 West Point Club Coach recipient of the Mike Krzyzewski 'Teaching Character Through Sport Award', and has received Coaching Certification from the Champions of Character Program. Recently, he was selected to coach the USA Youth Boxing team in the inaugural Youth Olympics held in Singapore in August 2010. In 2011,

Coach Barone was chosen as the first collegiate Boxing Coach to receive the American Association for the Improvement of Boxing (AAIB) Coach's award for excellence. Additionally, he has worked with the Special Olympics, mentored cadets in the Honor Mentorship Program, Served on the USMA Teaching Committee, taught Professional Military Ethics (PME) to cadets, and has served as a member of the Board of Education for the Tuxedo School District for the past eight years.

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**U.S. JUSTICE?** WHILE THE FBI MURDERS WITH IMPUNITY? The news media are concealing the following shocker: The Justice Department and FBI have formally acknowledged that nearly every examiner in an elite FBI forensic unit gave flawed testimony in almost all trials in which they offered

## The Actor - A Novel

*Continued from page 24*

the window were two adult faces; their crushed despondent expressions frightened..." him. He asks the driver "Why do they look like that?" "They look like that because they're waiting on the bailiff." He sees "A family of half-starved children and their parents encamped on the roadside. When the man raised his head, he had the same broken expressions... as the people... in the farmhouse." "Why are they living on the roadside?" "Because the bailiff put them there, they have lost their land and have nowhere to go..."

"During 1917 and 1918 Ireland experienced great food and fuel shortages; meat, eggs, potatoes, vegetables, bread, milk... were in poor supply. In an attempt to feed their families, thousands of men enlisted in the British Armed Forces and quickly found themselves... in the trenches."

After the Revolution, the country suffered civil war, then the deValera government of the 1930's, dominated by the backward-looking Catholic Church, hadn't any vision of the nation Ireland could become, so the "Ireland of the 1930's was a bleak place to live. Most country dwellers depended on subsistence farming while the mass of people in the cities lived with great unemployment... The government paid little attention to emigration and the general welfare of the people. The battle against typhoid and diphtheria showed some success but the number of infant deaths increased."

Throughout this powerful novel much advice is given

evidence against criminal defendants over more than a two-decade period before 2000. **AT THAT TIME** I reported it here as covered-up crimes. I got to know FBI Agent Frederic Whitehurst, L.D., Ph.D. and Ex-Supervisor at the FBI's national forensic laboratory. He tried to stop its routine skewing of test findings. These wrongfully favor

about acting. These are examples.

The young man, working to become an actor like his idol, Ira Allen, asks an experienced actor "how he went about building a character?" "First, I read the play and I think about the character. I find the man's body, how he carries himself and how he walks... When you find a man's walk you know what the character thinks of himself."

A great actor advises: "A performance should only be finished after a relentless examination of the text and of your own imagination. Only when you have found your character's soul can you reveal it to the audience."

The new actor watches how the greatly experienced actor creates a character: "He listened to the actor play with the pitch and timbre of the voice and observed how he used pauses and facial expressions to convey his character's thinking and changing moods."

The magic of the theatre enthralled the young man, and he devoted himself to becoming a professional actor.

A fellow actor shows him the enormous value and power of the theatre. "...an actor on a stage can communicate more wisdom and truth in one hour than a university professor can do in a term."

Throughout his life, he was faithful to the acting advice and to the great human advice given to him by a fellow actor: "Acting is about finding the truth of the character within yourself."

**THE ACTOR** presents an intimate look at what it means to be an actor, and it is also an inspiring look at what it means to be a human being.

## For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



the prosecution and often result in lengthy prison sentences of innocent defendants; sometimes their executions. Soon thereafter the State of Illinois' new criminal forensics laboratory on Roosevelt Road opened. The person hired by the State as head of that lab was one of the FBI's evidence fabricators removed by Dr. Whitehurst.

**THE FBI FIRED** Whitehurst and his wife who sued and won a few \$millions. It funds their efforts to end law enforcement's evidence fabrications. Six persons in D.C. alone were proven framed, but many remain in prison while the DOJ and FBI continue to delay and lie about it, falsely claiming that no convictions were overturned.

### SOME FBI MURDERS.

Convictions based upon FBI "doctored" evidence have resulted in sixteen wrongfully executed. Eight more died in prison while awaiting justice. On July 22, 2014, DOJ's Deputy Inspector General Cynthia Schnedar, confirmed this on Federal News Radio. She attributed it to DOJ's failure to adequately review convictions based upon FBI Lab test results. Doesn't this willful failure constitute criminal conspiracy to murder? What about the many hundreds if not thousands still imprisoned based upon FBI lab evidence?

**PATRIOTS!** The following FBI crimes are occasionally reported here in the hope that someone will uphold the U.S. Constitution against them. Whitehurst immediately grasped that the FBI evidentiary audiotape used against us in US Case 91CR911 was a criminal fabrication upon reading the report on it by Applied Forensics Technologies Inc. The FBI and DOJ MUST, by law, disclose exculpatory evidence; but in US 91CR911 the FBI EXCISED from its

evidentiary audiotape nearly all of the business portion of our Friends of Irish Freedom meeting – the evidence exonerating us. They were so brazen as to not only cut some 40 minutes from the middle of the tape but inserted words onto the spliced tape to conceal their excision. Upon reading the Langert murder investigation report that framed me, Whitehurst agreed that the words (about different-type bullets used) attributed to me couldn't be known by anyone but the murderer and the crime scene investigators (who had kept that info secret).

### OMAGH; AN MI5/FBI JOB?

**MI5/FBI** Agent Patrick "Ed" Buckley and David Rupert were in Ireland from late 1993 or 1994 until their "mission accomplished" demobilization on 15Aug98. Why don't Irish and British law enforcement want to know what they were doing? Rupert is a life-long criminal according to a NY State Police Affidavit. He boasted to his MI5 handlers of his work for them; his participation in a rehearsal of the car-bomb delivery. The murder of twenty-nine innocents in Omagh evidently achieved its purpose. By blaming it on the IRA it drove home the Good Friday Agreement's surrender to Britain of the contested Six-Counties. This pattern was already established in Chicago when MI5/FBI. Agent Buckley and mole Jerome Boyle persuaded TV Reporter Carol Marin to "break the news" that the IRA had murdered the Langert family. That lie would have prevailed had Murderer Biro not blabbed through his FBI cover into Life Without Parole. So would the Murder Investigation Report by which MI5/FBI framed me for it **WHILE TESTI-LYING** during the 2003 Dublin frame-up of Michael McKeivitt, Rupert

volunteered that Agent Buckley once left him alone in Ireland to fly to the Atlanta Olympics bombing murder site (1996). There Buckley and his FBI colleagues performed Buckley's specialty – they framed Richard Jewell, the innocent Security Guard. Jewell was eventually compensated, but died, young. **MI5'S INVOLVEMENT** is known only because honest FBI Agent Joseph Doyle alerted my Mary and me that crimes were being planned against us to "silence" us. His warning of MI5-bribed FBI agents committing crimes against Americans for a foreign kingdom seemed beyond belief. Our work; enactment of the MacBride Principles in Illinois and Chicago's City Council, and pursuit of justice for the framed and imprisoned Birmingham Six, Guildford Four, the Federally-imprisoned-without-charge-for-eight-years Joe Doherty, exposing Ireland's Holocaust, and our political scorecard, evidently enraged the Crown. Weeks after Doyle's warning the FBI's crime spree began. **MI5/FBI CRIMES** in Chicago and Omagh were, it turns out, merely preparation for vast Crimes Against Humanity in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, etc. On page 450 of "Voices From the Grave" UVF leader David Ervine quotes the State Dept's head of the Britain desk who explains it all.

**MY BOOK'S** second printing, in Dublin, is being distributed. Half of the proceeds of its first printing goes toward monuments over Ireland's hundreds of 1845-1850 Holocaust mass graves, while all of the proceeds from its third printing, in eBook form, are dedicated to the same. We seek an attorney to acquire 501.c.3 status for the monuments' costs. If Jewish-Americans can get IRS tax exemption for a training-school for snipers to continue killing Palestinians there must be at least one Irish-American attorney willing to acquire tax exemption for monuments over mass graves. Contact fogartyc@att.net or 312/664-7651

## Who's the New Guy? Meet and Greet the New IAHC Board of Directors

This is an open invitation from newly elected Irish American Heritage Center President Gene Cooney, who will be wearing his newly purchased kilt from the Milwaukee Irish Fest.

On Sunday October 4th at 11 a.m., the IAHC will have an open house in the Fifth Province so our members can meet the



new Board of Directors.

A traditional Irish breakfast followed by the Chicago Bear and the Oakland Raiders game. There will be door prizes and most importantly a membership booth for our new members. Beverages will be served. More news to follow at the Center

## Sharon Shannon in Concert October 10

To say that Sharon Shannon is popular is a bit of an understatement! As of August, 2015 Sharon had an enviable 47,542 followers on Facebook!

Sharon, a youthful 46, received a Lifetime Achievement Award at the age of 40! How does she follow that? She'll be in Chicago on October 9, 2015 to receive the iBAM! Music Award for her "Outstanding Contributions to Irish Music." She will follow that up with a live Concert at 8pm, October 10th in the 650 seat auditorium of the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave in Chicago!

The public is welcome to the iBAM! Gala Awards Dinner on October 9th (tickets Here) and of course, to the Concert on Saturday night at 8pm. (Tickets Here)

Born in County Clare, Sharon plays the accordion, fiddle, tin whistle, and melodeon.

Her 1991 album, Sharon Shannon, is the best selling album of traditional Irish music ever released in Ireland.

She played in the band, The Waterboys and then went out on her own. Her long time producer, John Dunford started working with her in 1989, and is heavily involved in Sharon's world touring schedule.

Other albums include Spellbound, Libertango, and The Sharon Shannon Collection.

We believe Sharon is a musical genius, and knows how to pair her musical skills with others to make great music. She was part of A Woman's Heart compilation album, and her second album, Out The Gap included Donal Lunny, Sinead O'Connor, Elvis Costello, Kate Bush and Bono. Her album, The Diamond Mountain



Sessions earned triple platinum honors and her recording with Steve Earle on the song, "Galway Girl," was a huge hit in Ireland and around the world. A live recording of "Galway Girl" with Mundy won the most downloaded track in 2009.

She won the Meteor Music Award in 2009 for Lifetime Achievement.

She has played with Jackson Browne, Donal Lunny, Moya Brennan, Kirsty MacColl, Christy Moore, Sinead O'Connor, Liam O'Maoniai, and the great John Prine. Frankie Gavin, Michael McGoldrick and Jim Murray also figure into the mix.

We are fortunate to have Sharon grace the stage at iBAMChicago2015.

Come out and welcome her to our great city!

Numbered Seating- click here to order. Tickets: \$40, \$30 Questions? Call Cathy at Irish American News, 847-872-0700



## iBAMChicago, and Steve Bertrand present A Literary Journey to Ireland A Private Group Journey – May 2016

*If you have a love of books and Ireland, iBAMChicago (Irish Books, Arts, and Music Celebration) produced by Irish American News, and Steve Bertrand have combined efforts to bring you a literary trip to Ireland second to none!*

### Package Includes

- Round-trip air from Chicago to Dublin
- Dublin – 1 night, 4-Star Davenport Hotel
- Killarney – 2 nights, 4-Star Malton Hotel
- Galway – 1 night, 4-Star Hotel Meyrick
- Sligo – 1 night, 4-Star Sligo Park Hotel
- Dublin – 2 nights, 4-Star Davenport Hotel
- Breakfast each morning, except day of arrival
- 5, three-course dinners including dinner at a special Yeats Experience, & an evening of Irish folklore and storytelling in The Brazen Hea
- Luxury motorcoach with services of a professional Irish driver/guide
- Dublin's Writers Museum
- Trinity College and the Book of Kells
- Rock of Cashel
- Old Middleton Distillery
- The Ring of Kerry
- The Cliffs of Moher
- Kylemore Abbey
- James Joyce Centre
- Special meet with local authors event in Dublin
- Portfolio of travel documents
- Porterage of one suitcase per person

**\$2,829.00**

Please Note: The above rate is air and land inclusive of all taxes, surcharges and government fees. Rates are per person sharing twin/double room. The above tour is a Private Group departure based on a minimum of 25 passengers to operate. Single supplement additional \$589.00.

**For complete itinerary and information contact:**

**Steve Bertrand: 847-606-6065**

**Email: [stevebertrandonbooks@gmail.com](mailto:stevebertrandonbooks@gmail.com)**  
Please book early as space is subject to availability

# Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



## Ireland: The Frog in the Pan of Cold Water

*"I do believe in Justice; I believe in a man's word. And we must have some form of Law. So when it's broken, I have a tendency to stand up and fight."* Film director Sam Peckinpah, 1976

Little by little, Ireland is being sold off. One day – not too long from now – we will come groggily awake from our collective coma and discover that our country is gone. Some time ago we stirred in our sleep, dreams disturbed by a feeling – just a feeling, mind – that our oil had been given away. It wasn't even sold in any way that we could really understand. One moment it was there and the next it was gone; evaporated; lost in a puff of smoke and sleight-of-hand; and we would never benefit from a happy accident of geography in a way that other, more savvy countries had.

But that was all right. Because surely our government was looking out for our best interests in the long run. Everything was OK.

This past week we blinked open one bleary eye to discover that a Canadian company now owned our national lottery and there was nothing that we could do about them skyrocketing the price of playing, whilst simultaneously diminishing by enormous odds our chances of ever being one of the lucky winners.

Well, that's only a game and it's your choice whether you buy a ticket or not. But for many it is a dream of having the endless burden of wondering how they're going to pay for whatever tax is invented next, eased just a bit. Just a little bit.

It's nice to have dreams. But dreams only put more money in the pockets of the already- rich

for a short while; and our masters are taking the long view.

They don't just want some of your money. They want all of it.

You could do without that pint at the end of a long working day. You could do without that trip to the cinema. Give that money to us, say our masters. We need it to fund the endless pensions of those who already earn obscene amounts of money.

But it's our government. We put them there because we know that they're smarter than us and will look out for our welfare. Yes, some people still believe this.

Little by little, Ireland is being sold off. And when we do eventually waken from that coma we'll discover that what has been sold off is the best part of us. In many ways, it may be the most frivolous part – the part that likes to tell tall tales in the pub.

In other ways, it is more serious. They want to take away the part of our nature that likes to help out our neighbours. But once again that doesn't put more money into the endless, all-devouring pockets of our masters. And anyway, who has time to watch out for their neighbours any more in this increasingly cold country?

900 house repossessions in the first six months of this year alone? Call them what they are --- evictions. Well, sorry; not my problem yet. If I can just keep my head down and protect my own little space then maybe they won't notice me. Maybe I'll continue to be given as much freedom as they allow me to have.

People have their own problems, their own growing families to watch out for. And anyway, it's the government. It doesn't matter that they openly admit that they lied their way to power

and never intended to keep even one of the empty promises they made. They're too big; you can't take them on.

At least, that is what they want you to think. In as much as they want you to think at all.

Little by little they are crushing us and sucking the joy out of our existence. And we are letting them do it.

In Tim Robbins's brilliant political satire Bob Roberts, the character played by Gore Vidal tells the parable of the Frog in the Pan of Cold Water. He says that if you throw a frog into a pan of boiling water then its survival instincts will have it out of there in double-quick time.

However, if you place it gently in a pan of cold water then it will sit there docilely whilst you gradually heat the water until it is scalding, leaving the frog to just quietly die a horrible death.

That's what we have become: the frog in the pan of cold water. We are being slowly roasted alive and we don't even notice it.

For the past couple of years I have helped out in a tiny way with the children's cancer charity Hand in Hand. And it has been a privilege.

They need around €250,000 a year to keep going. In the past two years the number of counties that the charity assists has jumped from eight to twenty; and now for the first time this charity has to turn families away.

When families who have had a child diagnosed with cancer turn to Hand in Hand... they have to turn them away.

Think about that for a moment.

Hand in Hand, which has struggled on for the past eight years solely in order to help families who have had a child diagnosed with cancer, and now does so throughout twenty counties, has finally ran out of options.

Their fundraisers have been tremendous. The good will of those who have organised events has been nothing less than extraordinary. Yet it seems that these people have finally reached the end of the line.

And this is only one story that could be told by many in the same

position throughout Ireland. One local politician (who—guess what?—didn't want to be named) told me yesterday that 'the country simply cannot afford...'

Cannot afford what, for Christ's sake? Cannot afford to assist in any way a charity that is doing real work for real people whilst they CAN afford to sanction endless pensions and Golden Parachute kiss-offs to chancers that have proved time and time again to be totally incompetent at what they do?

Hand in Hand Service Manager Jennifer Carpenter told me this morning:

"I know that you're aware that things are tough right now but we've simply reached a level where we are unable to accept any further referrals. I was awake at 4am, fretting about it. There is money due in; but it's not coming quick enough and it won't last long enough. We will launch an urgent appeal next week in the faint hope of keeping going.

"It breaks my heart to think that this service – a service that is bloody vital, may be coming to an end. And there is absolutely nothing out there to replace what we do."

When Jennifer told me that this morning I didn't know whether to cry or punch something. A little of both, perhaps. When you hear a tough lady like Jen saying that her heart is broken, it means something.

By Christ, I break out in a cold rage when I think how infinitesimal the figure we need is, when compared to the billions – literally billions – which our leaders have thrown wastefully away or just channeled off in order to keep funding the bottomless trough at which they feed.

Certainly, Hand in Hand receives nothing from our government. A few soundbites is the best they ever hope for.

When you are faced with people who felt no remorse at removing medical cards from children who have cancer, it would be unrealistic to expect anything even remotely approaching compassion.

I have tried this past year – re-

ally tried – to behave as a Christian would. But when I see decent people like Jennifer or the main fundraiser, Aine, with their backs to the wall no matter how many hours of every single day of every single week that they put in, then I'm afraid that I feel nothing but pure anger towards this uncaring government. And I'm not apologizing for that to anyone.

When you are faced with the likes of Bertie Ahern saying that it would be 'too complicated' to hand back the €2,000 a year rise on his pension, then you know that we are on a hiding to nothing.

Yeah, it's complicated all right. Here's how complicated it is, Ahern: give this charity the €2,000 that you don't need and we will make sure that life is made easier for several families who have just been hit with the worst news they will ever get in their lives.

When you are faced with a government that thinks it more important to imprison water charge protestors than to help those of their tiniest, most vulnerable citizens who are ill in the most awful way – this is the moment when you despair. Or in the words of Gore Vidal: "This is the moment when you feel that you have gone completely mad."

I'm too tired this morning to argue this. Too tired and too sick at seeing a country I love being ridden into the ground by traitors and money-grubbers who are intent on selling us out just to keep the money endlessly pouring into their greedy pockets.

I will tell you this: I've had enough. Enough of their empty, self-serving platitudes. Enough of their lies. Enough of watching them stick their pig-faces into that bottomless trough.

It's well past time to take ourselves out of the simmering pan of water.

It's well past time we took our country back.

You can email me at [chasbrady7@eircom.net](mailto:chasbrady7@eircom.net) or visit my blogs on [www.charleybrady.com](http://www.charleybrady.com) or [www.cbsays.com](http://www.cbsays.com) You can read up on the charity at [www.handinhand.ie](http://www.handinhand.ie)





## Daly Investor

By John P. Daly



to investments or product sales. In occasional instances, charging commissions may actually be more cost-effective for you, but may not be

### Do You Need a Financial Planner?

What does a financial planner do? Well, that depends. Many individuals refer to themselves as "financial planners", but not all perform true multidisciplinary financial planning. Investment, insurance and tax professionals sometimes specialize in certain areas of financial planning (such as retirement planning, estate planning, tax planning, or investment management).

A **Certified Financial Planner™** practitioner is qualified to give you comprehensive financial advice, as a result of examination, continuing education, board certification and accumulated experience.

In general, individuals who call themselves "financial planners" aim to help you plan for your goals and needs and improve your unique financial situation.

What doesn't a financial planner do? A financial planner cannot make you a thrifter shopper, a better saver, or help you earn more money. Ideally, he or she will look at your financial "big picture" and help you work to enhance it via money management. Depending on their credentials, they may recommend specific investments, long-run investing strategies, insurance options, retirement planning, risk management methods and more.

Who needs a financial planner? If you have some significant assets built up (a home, a retirement fund, savings, etc.) and are wondering about how to protect and/or grow those assets, you're probably ready for a financial planner. If you currently live paycheck to paycheck or have less than \$10,000 combined in your savings and/or any retirement accounts, then you're probably not yet in need of a financial planner. What you should do is research savings strategies and take a good look at your spending habits so you can begin to build your wealth at a faster pace.

How much does it cost? That is a tricky question to answer. The cost of hiring a financial planner can vary depending on who you hire, where they are located and what type of "fee structure" they use. A fee-only financial planner earns a flat fee, hourly or otherwise, for their services. A fee-based planner generally prefers to charge advisory fees (often .50% to 2.00% annually of the assets under management) for his or her services, rather than commissions linked

as beneficial. A commission-based planner typically receives the total percentage of his or her income in upfront commissions and therefore some may feel they have little incentive to service you on an ongoing basis.

In most cases, your initial meeting with one of these professionals will be free of charge (be sure to ask in advance about this), and you can discuss fee schedules and compensation arrangements at that time.

**What is a "Certified Financial Planner"?** If you see the designation "CFP®" after a planner's name, you have found a **Certified Financial Planner™** practitioner (alternately called a **Certified Financial Planner™** professional). A CFP® has passed a comprehensive examination, amassed three or more years of qualifying full-time work experience, and enrolled in continuing education courses. A CFP® practitioner must also adhere to a strict code of ethics as set forth by the CFP® board.

Can you claim to be a financial planner without being a CFP®? Yes. Although it's important to point out that the field of financial planning remains vastly unregulated – meaning almost anyone can call themselves a "financial planner". Does that mean a planner without their "CFP®" designation is unqualified? Not necessarily. But if they aren't certified, you may want to inquire about their experience and training.

How do I choose a planner? In two words ... ask questions. Ask trusted friends or colleagues for referrals. Sit down with any planner you're considering and find out how long they've been in business, what their credentials are, how they operate, etc. Most importantly, make sure if and when you hire a planner that your personalities will mesh. This is someone you may well be working with for the rest of your life, so you should choose someone you feel comfortable with.

John P. Daly is a **Certified Financial Planner™** and President of Daly Investment Management, LLC a fee only Registered Investment Advisor specializing in financial planning and wealth management. 180 N LaSalle St Suite 3700 Chicago, IL 60601. Phone: 312-239-1317 Email: [john@dalyinvestment.com](mailto:john@dalyinvestment.com) Readers are encouraged to call or email John with questions regarding Investments or Financial Planning.

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*Margaret Says:*

## Get Out & Enjoy the Fall!

*Fri. Oct. 5-9 Mackinac Island*  
*Sat. Oct. 10 Sharon Shannon at iBAM!\**  
*Sun. Oct. 11 The High Kings at iBAM!\**

Leave the driving to us!

Enjoy a day or weekend away this fall.

Make your reservations early as space is limited.

A minimum of 25 reservations is needed per event to make the cost of the buses reasonable.

Contact Margaret Coyle 708-634-2277

E-mail [mcoyle17@hotmail.com](mailto:mcoyle17@hotmail.com)

\* Reservation for iBAM!

Concerts deadline is September 20th



## From the Executive Director of Chicago Irish Immigrant Support

By Michael Collins

### Aidan Cronin Farewell

Aidan Cronin has been the Consulate General of Ireland in Chicago since 2011. Aidan departed his post as Consul General on Thursday, August 13th. Aidan became a leader of the Irish community in Chicago and across the Midwest over the past four years. It was a privilege for CIIS and the other Irish organizations in the 19 state consular areas to have such a dynamic and involved Consul General. Aidan has been extremely involved with CIIS over the past four years. The support that he has given our organization is extremely appreciated.

Throughout Aidan's time as Consul General he has had many accomplishments. Aidan welcomed many government ministers and notable dignitaries to Chicago. Aidan welcomed President Michael D. Higgins and Taoiseach Enda Kenny when they came to Chicago. Aidan is a well-traveled and well-respected Irish diplomat. Aidan has had previous posts in China, Aus-

tralia, Iran, Dublin, and Chicago. His experience has served him well during his time in Chicago. The entire Irish community has benefitted from his knowledge and passion.

CIIS thanks Aidan for all of the work he has done for our organization as well as the Irish immigrants in the Midwest. Without Aidan, CIIS would not have been able to grow and progress to what it is today. Aidan has always been available whenever we needed him throughout the years. As a result of Aidan's unwavering support, CIIS has been able to serve thousands of clients and become a national leader amongst Irish immigration centers throughout the US. Aidan will be sorely missed. Everyone at CIIS wishes Aidan and his family well in all of their future endeavors. Thank you Aidan for all that you have done for CIIS and the Irish community!

CIIS welcomes our new Consul General Orla Mc Breen. Orla brings a wealth of experience to her new post and CIIS is very excited to work with her on many

upcoming projects. We will introduce Consul General McBreen in more detail next month.

### 2016 Global and Diaspora Programme

CIIS joins our colleagues worldwide in excitement regarding the launch of the 2016 Global and Diaspora Programme. This will commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the Easter rising. The rising was a key moment in Ireland's push for independence; the 100 year anniversary is a chance to celebrate and explore the origins of Ireland as well as the Irish people, arts, and culture. With a diaspora of almost 70 million globally, this will be a very memorable year to celebrate Irish culture and heritage. The programme outlines that there will be over 1000 events in over 100 locations outside of Ireland to remember such an important moment in Irish history. CIIS will be working with many different groups within the Irish community to make Chicago's celebrations truly special. The 1916 Rebellion made front page news worldwide. CIIS and our partners are working hard to make sure that Irish culture and heritage is on full display in Chicago in 2016. Please contact us if you would like to get involved with the planning of the 100 year anniversary.

## Trinity Blog: Rare First Hand Accounts of 1916 Rising

Rare photographs documenting the havoc wreaked on Dublin city centre buildings in Easter 1916 and a first-hand account of a St John's Ambulance stretcher bearer in Dublin Castle are among compelling stories recounted in a new blog, which aims to showcase the breadth of Trinity Library's collections relating to the 1916 Rising and to act as a catalyst for research ahead of the centenary in April 2016.

The 'Changed Utterly' blog, inspired by the W.B. Yeats poem 'Easter 1916', will explore the Library's rich and diverse collections of 1916-related material originating from before, during and after the Rising, from all

sides of the political spectrum.

The weekly blog will highlight one extraordinary item or collection each week, including diaries, letters, pamphlets, photographs, objects and even items of clothing. Each post is complemented with relevant images by Digital Resources and Imaging Service.

"The 'Changed Utterly' blog provides a free online platform to explore Trinity's rich and diverse collections of 1916 material. So varied are the collections that it will take a year of weekly blog posts to cover even a portion of the holdings. The site showcases as yet unpublished records written by ordinary people, from dramatic 'as-it-happened' accounts

to carefully amassed scrapbooks, and is especially rich in women's voices," explains Estelle Gittins, Assistant Librarian, Trinity College Dublin.

The blog, written by Library staff, with contributions from Trinity academics and other experts, will draw on the rich collections of 1916 material held in Trinity's Manuscripts & Archives Research Library, the Department of Early Printed Books and Special Collections, the Glucksman Map Library and the Music Library.

This week's blog: <http://www.tcd.ie/Library/1916/the-ruins-of-dublin-1916/>

Blog home page: <http://www.tcd.ie/Library/1916/>

## Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling



### This Month's Senior Group Meetings

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

### Welcome Back Mass

Welcome back! We are so excited to resume our senior group meetings after the long summer break! To help us celebrate and officially get the new year of group programs under way we will have an old fashioned Latin mass with Fr Mick Madigan. Mass will take place at the Irish American Heritage Center on Wednesday 2nd September and at Chicago Gaelic Park on Wednesday 9th September.

### Making Technology Work for You

Technology moves so fast that it can seem almost impossible to keep up-to-date on all the latest developments. However, understanding how to use smart phones and tablets can open up new worlds of information and convenience for you. Today we are joined by representative from AT&T who will provide hands-on training on how to use phones and tablets. Bring your own devices and your questions to this interactive sessions taking place at the Irish American Heritage Center on Wednesday 16th September at Chicago Gaelic Park on Wednesday 23rd September.

### Greying of the American Work Force

Last summer US News - citing a report by the US Census Bureau - stated that since 1985 there has been a very significant increase in those aged 65 and over participating in the work force. The figures for older adults working are now some of the highest since the mid 1960's. The article pointed to a

number of factors that have given rise to more seniors remaining in and re-entering the workforce including changes to private pensions, an increase in the social security retirement age to 67 for those born in or after 1960, better health and longer life expectancies, and of course, economic necessity.

For many older people re-entering an already competitive jobs market can be overwhelming and very challenging. However, there are some supports available to give seniors a better chance at securing employment and allow them to capitalize on the skills and experience acquired over a lifetime. The Senior Services Employment Program (SCSEP) is one such resource. SCSEP is a community services and work-based training program for older workers aged over 55 years old and have a low income. This training program is available to anyone who meets the above criteria and is currently unemployed with poor employment prospects. The program is federally funded through the Older Americans Act.

The program works by enrolling participants (usually for 20 hours a week) into minimum wage paying jobs at not-for-profit agencies such as schools, hospitals, senior centers, day care facilities, and conservation projects. Through this work the older person has opportunities to gain new skills and enhance existing ones. Participants will also receive personal and employment-related counseling, and assistance transitioning into mainstream employment which is the ultimate goal of the program. The result is a senior that is gainfully employed, better able to support themselves financially, and participating socially and economically to their community. For more information about the Senior Community Service Employment Program call the Illinois Department on Aging Senior Helpline on 1-800-252-8966.

# Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



## Bingo Wings

I remember several years ago seeing a sign for Late Nite Catechism with its cartoonish logo of a nun and wondering just what the hell a show like that was about? Was it scathing satire of the church, or perhaps a lewd parody of the clergy, or may be even the American equivalent to the British Father Ted. Certainly my interest was piqued. But like everything else that catches my attention for a moment, it was filed away somewhere in my head for another time. However, advertisements for this show are rampant, or they seemed to be, and I would find myself on the L or at a coffee shop reading a local rag only to find the cartoon nun looking back at me, inviting me to re-live those formative years under the strict regime of the nuns.

It was with these thoughts in mind that I interviewed one of the writers and creators of Late Nite Catechism Vicki Quade. Having seen this show and Bible Bingo my interest in the origins, and motivations behind these shows was more than cursory curiosity. Vicki is an affable conversationalist whose background in journalism, particularly as Q&A contributor, perfectly matches the interactive improvisational style of her shows. She understands the need to establish a humorous rapport with an audience and the success of her shows demonstrates this fact.

To date, Late Nite Catechism is in its 22nd year. It has toured nationally and internationally to great acclaim. The New York Times calls it, "An uproarious piece of interactive theater....inspired, well-written, hilarious." The Chicago Reader says it's "Gloriously funny." And no one could be more surprised by its success than Vicki. Since it is not a satire, nor a scathing critique of the church, or a parody of the clergy (as I had previously thought) the show resonates with anyone who

has grown up in a religious background. People of all religious faith have attended and enjoyed this universal experience.

Originally, the show was to be performed twice a week for 6 weeks at 11 o'clock, hence the 'late nite' part of the title, but he play, to quote Vicki, 'caught on like wildfire', and has become synonymous with Chicago's theatrical scene, much like long playing Agatha Christie's Mousetrap in London.

In discussing with Vicki the success of her show she



shared a couple of personal experiences that give us insight into the particular ethos of the play. In her childhood she remembers that they had a spare car that was regularly used by a local order of nuns. Her experience, as a Catholic, was a positive one. The strictness of the nuns was not, and is not, interpreted as abusive but rather commanding of respect. Her family's charitable gesture towards the nuns was later rewarded when Vicki, as a young 17 year old, found herself at a lighted bus stop in a not so safe environment, decided to walk to the next bus stop, which was unlighted. While, she was waiting in fear and trepidation for the bus a car of 4 women pulled up beside her and asked her where she was going. When she told them she was going home,

they offered her a lift. The women were of course nuns.

It is obvious from both these experiences that Vicki's relationship to these women of faith is untainted by cynicism, but neither is it colored by blind faith. The play walks the tightrope of honest recollection of the strict behavior of these nuns, and a respectful attitude, whilst maintaining a great deal of levity. The lighthearted humor is celebratory rather than beating the church or the audience with a big stick, and it works.

Vicki's shows are not without their own unique awareness of social injustice. At the end of each show, audiences are asked to make a donation. The money raised is divided between the different orders of nuns. Why? Well, to my shock, and I was appalled by learning that the Catholic Church, at one point, opted out of contributing towards Social Security for these nuns. This of course means that their pension funds are virtually non-existent. In the 22 years that Late Nite Catechism and the others shows have run, they have raised well over 3 million dollars for these nuns who would otherwise grow old and impoverished. Vicki is not only a talented writer and performer; she is also a decent human being who strongly cares about the rights of those nuns who have been unjustly treated.

The longevity of her shows speaks for themselves, but it was nice to hear the human voice behind the talent.

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## Martin Hogan Remembered and Honored With Headstone in Mount Olivett Cemetery Oct. 10

Prior to iBAMChicago2015 officially opening at the Irish American Heritage Center on Saturday at noon, Fenian Martin Hogan who was rescued by Fenians almost seven years after he was jailed in Australia, will be remembered and a headstone will be placed at his gravesite in Mount Olivett Cemetery, 2755 W 111th St. Chicago IL 60655. Martin was a Chicago resident until his death in 1901.

Guest speakers include, Ruan O'Donnell, and George McLaughlin, of Providence Rhode Island. Ruan is coming from Ireland, and George is traveling from Providence Rhode Island for this special event.

Here's the story: On a cool fall Chicago day in 2010, I stood at the grave and lowered my head. "Impossible," I thought. "How did he never receive a grave marker?" I had travelled to Chicago, in part to pay tribute to Martin Hogan, one of the Fremantle Six—Fenians who had escaped the English prison by that name in Western Australia. They had been part of the greatest rescue of the 19th century and had sailed half way round the world on the whaling vessel the Catalpa and, with the help of many Irish Americans, settled in different places in the USA.

My own journey had begun with the rediscovery of

James McNally Wilson, another member of the Fremantle Six, who is buried in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. After years of research, culminating in the setting of a memorial plaque at McNally Wilson's grave, I set out to find the

other five men. The absence of a grave-stone at Hogan's burial site was so disturbing; I swore that I would see the day that he got his just reward. Five years later, the Irish American community in Rhode Island had given enough so that Martin Hogan's stone will be laid on October 10, 2015. — George Thomas McLaughlin, Providence, RI

"What a death is staring us in the face," wrote James Wilson in 1873, "the death of a felon in a British dungeon, and a grave amongst Britain's ruffians. I am not ashamed to speak the truth, that it is a disgrace to have us in prison today.

"A little money judiciously expended would release every man that is now in West Australia. Think that we have been nearly nine years in this living tomb since our first arrest, and that it is impossible for mind or body to withstand the continual strain that is upon us. One or the other must give way." Fenian James Wilson, was imprisoned with other Irish political prisoners half a world away, in the dreaded Fremantle penal colony in Western Australia.

To underline this message Wilson added, "Remember this is a voice from the tomb. For is this not a living tomb? In the tomb it is only a man's body that is good for worms, but in this living tomb the canker worm of care enters the very soul."

Wilson's powerful words moved Irish-Americans and they resolved to help him. In Ireland in the early 1860s Wilson had joined the 5th Dragoon (British Army) Guards. But in secret he also became a Fenian, taking an oath to be obedient to his leaders and to do his utmost to secure a democratic independent Irish Republic.

To that end, he deserted with fellow Fenian Martin Hogan in November 1865 after they had secretly enrolled many other Irish soldiers in the organization. But then, as is so often noted in Irish history, local informers gave away the details of renewed Fenian activities to the British forces and Wilson was quickly arrested.

Wilson was court-martialed in Dublin on February 10, 1866, where he was found guilty of mutinous conduct

and received a sentence of death, which was later commuted to life imprisonment in Fremantle prison. It was, in a real sense, a kind of death in life.

Help finally arrived in the shape of the Catalpa, an American whaling ship hired by another Fenian, John Devoy, from secret donations made by Irish independence organizations across the United States. Amazingly, informers did not foil the daring rescue plan and the ship reached Australia without mishap.

On April 17, 1876 the rescuers rowed to shore to collect the six waiting Irish convicts who had left their posts while working outside the secured area. Their Irish-American rescuers were waiting with wagons and weapons. But like all good rescue dramas, complications clouded their flight. When the freed prisoners began to row back to the Catalpa a sudden unexpected storm meant they could not reach the ship for another

day, by which time the alarm had been raised and British police ships were launched.

The British commandeered a gunboat, the Georgette, which they pulled alongside the Catalpa, demanding that the prisoners be handed over. Captain Anthony, the ship's celebrated American captain, defiantly refused to comply and raised the American flag, warning his pursuers that the Catalpa was in international waters and could not be boarded. If they fired on the Catalpa, they would be firing on the United States. This parry enraged the Georgette's British captain, who reluctantly conceded.

Eventually the Georgette was forced to give up the chase, although all on board were convinced they had seen the missing men. As John Devoy predicted, the Catalpa rescue bolstered Irish morale across the globe and spurred the fight for Irish independence, which was finally won in 1922.

None of the Catalpa Six ever returned to Ireland. All remained in America until their deaths, including the two old comrades, James McNally Wilson who lived out his life in Central Falls and Pawtucket, Rhode Island, where he is buried, and Martin Hogan, who spent the remainder of his life in Chicago, Illinois. Martin Hogan is buried in Mount Olivett Cemetery in Chicago, without a tombstone or grave marker.

For information contact: Deirdre Fennessy, 312-560-9311, Niall Fennessy, 773-799-4137 or

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# It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane  
and Margo O'Donnell



we are very sorry for the foreign objects in the last packet you purchased.

The teacher asked a boy at school one day "If you had 2

pennies in one pocket and 3 pennies in your other pocket, what would you have"? The boy replied "I'd have the wrong pair of trousers on sir" I'll be looking into the past again next month. Until then, love as always Margo x

## Joe

Thank you Margo,

I really enjoyed visiting with you and we had some great laughs. Every time I visit Margo's house for lunch and a chat, I would arrive around noontime. Next thing, I look at the clock and its 11 pm that night. Just great craic!

I mentioned some of the fine musicians I met while I was home in Ireland, in our last months column. It would be almost impossible to mention all of the talent that I met during my visit. But as time goes on I will get around to mention some more.

My brother Nick was promoting Merle Haggard's eldest son Marty Haggard in Scotland and Ireland. When they arrived in Ireland I got to meet up and have a pint of Guinness with them. I was so overwhelmed at meeting up and chatting with him. The following night I went to his show in Moate, Co Westmeath. Marty Haggard was a breath of fresh country music air. Backed by the Sheerin family band plus Raymond McLoughlin and John Pettifer it was an amazing night. The Sheerin's are one of the most musical families on this earth. The opening singer was Matt Leavey from Co Offaly. Matt is yet another one of the finest Irish singer/musicians. He also did the after party at The Well Hotel Moate. Where we stayed up most of the night singing and just having a rare old time. If you like Irish country music and dancing or just a hotel with great atmosphere, visit the Well Hotel Moate.

I did some new places in Donegal, the Lighthouse Tavern in Fanad. (A breath taking view and such a friendly atmosphere. Also played The Travellers Inn in Milford and Early's bar on Arranmore, where I knew half the people there. It was nice to meet Mike and Cathy Boyle who where very instrumental in my meeting Margo as a friend back in 2010. Also a wonderful surprise was to meet an Arranmore girl, who I have been a fan of ever since I first heard her sing. That lady is the great Theresa Rodgers. I

would just love to write at least a whole page on each of the places I played. Ma Kearney's Crossmaglen Co Armagh. Ti Chulainn, Mullaghbane, (Please put the Ti Chulainn area on your to do list, you will not regret it)

My last night was was spent in my local pub Donnelly's in Silverbridge. I got a shock when I walked in the bar. There was Nathan Carter, who brought along his accordion. Also his brother Jacob came along, who is another great up and coming singer and can pick a mean guitar. Their Nan and friends, my brother Nick and a bunch of my wonderful Silverbridge family and neighbors came along. There was also another young man who has been in the music business for quite a few years and his name is Ben Troy from Carrickmacross, Co Monaghan. Ben is 17 years old and what another great talent (Look out for him on YouTube). John Pettifer (World class guitarist) from Nathan's band was also there and the list goes on. Oh, what a night! I was a sorry looking sight heading for the airport the next day.

On the Sunday night my last official gig was in Raymond Watters place called the Coachmans Inn. Castleblayney. I shared the stage that night with the Ryan Turner band. You may have seen them on TV on the Phil Mac Show. They are another of the great Irish talents and Ryan is from Donegal and a real gentleman. They are the band that back most of the artistes that appear on the show. Margo very kindly came along and sang and as usual got a standing ovation for her rendition of James Connolly.

Among all the joy that I experienced on my stay in Ireland. On this night about 1 am I recieved a text from Joe Cullen in Chicago and it read our dear friend John Dillon has just passed away. Although the show had to go on (John Dillon would be a man that as done that for such a long time, through all the pain he had been through) my heart sunk and a lump came to my throat. And all I could see for the rest of the night was John's smile. I was just back in Chicago in time to be able to attend John's wake and funeral. His guitar was on a stand by the side of his casket at the wake. The first thought that came to my mind was I'm going to miss that smile. So I just wrote these few words down.

## I'm Going To Miss That Smile

I'm going to miss that smile you shared so many times

I feel so blessed to have known one so brave as you

I know you spent many days that were long and deeply pained

It never stopped your loving smile from shining through

Rest easy our dear friend now your pain is at an end

I believe its true we all meet again someday

In our hearts you left a song and in our thoughts you will live on

I like to think you're smiling down from heavens stairway

But for now here on earth we are side by side in church

We listen so closely to the tender words of your loving son

A eulogy poured from his heart, to help your soul depart

And makes us all realize why you where loved by everyone

Rest In Peace John Dillon...



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We Know the Roads

## Meet Author Maryrose Carroll at iBAM Chicago

Maryrose Carroll's new book, *Beats Me* is written in a simple, direct, at times poetic, and with an artist's eye and ear for the moment, Maryrose Carroll's conversations with her late husband Paul Carroll during his final year of life lead the reader through a seminal period in the history of modern American literature. Poet himself and poetry editor of the "Chicago Review" in the late 1950s Carroll and fellow editors published selections of the writings of William Burroughs, Jack Kerouac, and Allen Ginsberg, who as pioneering figures in the "Beat" literary movement influenced the character of contemporary American literature. Controversy led to censorship; Paul resigned and with others founded "Big Table." Its five issues featured these and other



contemporaries. When the US Post Office in Chicago impounded 400 copies of the first issue as "obscene," Paul went to court and won. In Maryrose's narrative Ginsberg (prominently), Kerouac, Lawrence Ferlingetti, Paul Corso, Robert Duncan, Pablo Neruda, John Updike, Norman Mailer and others appear. There is a delightful reminis-

cence of a conversation between Studs Terkel, Pete Seeger and Paul about their experiences with censorship and threats of jail time. Maryrose's story ends with a poignant account of Paul's dying moments. "It's a love story," she says, and that it is, lovingly told. A selection of Paul Carroll's poetry introduced by Ferlingetti's "Preface to Paul" follows, as well as a bibliography. There is an appreciative introduction by Joseph Bathanti, North Carolina's seventh Poet Laureate.

Ms. Carroll will be appearing at iBAM Chicago on October 10 & 11th. You can also catch her on the Rick Kogan Show WGN-720 radio, October 4th, 9 to 11 p.m. and at Chicago's Cultural Center for The Poetry Center of Chicago, October 8th, 7 p.m.

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golfer includes, Continental Breakfast, Lunch, 18 holes of golf, cart, and Dinner!

MMM Educational Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 to provide children an avenue to pursue a quality education. To play, please feel free to contact our Event

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In the event, you are unable to golf but would like to contribute all gifts and donations can be sent directly to MMM Educational Scholarship Fund.

# Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



Who was Dr. Douglas Hyde? He was the first president of the Republic of Ireland. He was born (1860) in Castlerea, Co. Roscommon, to Arthur and Elizabeth Hyde, they were Protestant family. He had 3 siblings, Arthur, John and Hugh. Douglas Hyde was home schooled by his father due to a childhood illness. He went on to study at Trinity University, he studied languages including: Hebrew, Greek, French, German and Irish. Hyde achieved a great and memorable accomplishment by becoming the first president of Ireland. Firsts are the exciting beginnings of whatever is to come next... He was in a position to shape the office of the presidency, he opted for a quiet, conservative interpretation of it.

We tend to remember the first of things in our lives. For ex. I'm sure you remember who the first president of America was. But do you remember the second? Do you remember your first kiss, first job, first anniversary?

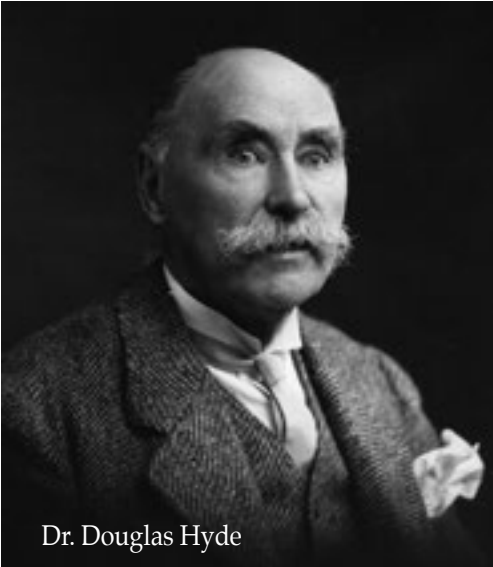
Also, people love to know what is new. That's why the news is big business, when something is new it gets our attention. Hyde had to make his mark and pave the way for future leaders. The 2nd president of the U.S. by the way was John Adams. The second president of Ireland was Sean T. O'Kelly.

Before Hyde was president he was a professor of Irish at UCD. (University College Dublin) He founded the Gaelic League in 1893, he wanted to preserve the traditions, culture and language of Ireland. In 1893, Hyde married Lucy Kurtz, an Englishwoman, they had 2 daughters, Nuala and Una.

Hyde had a warm personality, he was a popular president. During his term the President of U.S.A. was

Franklin D. Roosevelt, he called Hyde a "fine and scholarly old gentleman", similarly Hyde was corresponding with King George V of England about stamp collecting. Hyde became president at the experienced age of 78. Hyde's age reminds us that we can achieve great things at any time of our lives. For ex, Nelson Mandela became president of S. Africa at 75, Ben Franklin signed the Declaration of Independence at age 70, and Grandma Moses started painting at age 78.

Hyde published more than 100 works in Irish under the pseudonym, (pen name) "An Craoibhin Aoibhinn", (the pleasant little branch). Hyde states,



Dr. Douglas Hyde

"The Gaelic league is founded not upon hatred of England but a love of Ireland. Hatred is a negative passion it's a powerful destroyer but it is useless for building up, love on the other hand is like faith it can move mountains and faith we have mountains to move." Hyde died in 1949 at the age of 89. His funeral took place in Dublin's Church of Ireland, rules of the Catholic church at the time, prohibited Catholics

from attending services in non-catholic churches as a result all but one member of the Catholic cabinet remained outside while Hyde's funeral took place. They joined the procession when the coffin left the cathedral.

In honor of Hyde: Dr. Hyde Park, a GAA stadium in Co. Roscommon, Douglas Hyde Art Gallery in Trinity College, Dublin, and there was a 50.00 pound note with a picture of Hyde on it (1995-1999)

**Gaelic for the month:** President: Uachtaran, Roscommon: Ros Comain, first: ar dtus

**Seanfhocail (proverb) for the month:**

Is tus maith leath na hoibre (a good start is half the work) If you have any suggestions/comments please email me at: [Molanive@yahoo.com](mailto:Molanive@yahoo.com)

## Stone Hearth Theatre 5th Season

Hosted by Chief O'Neill's Restaurant, the popular Stone Hearth Theatre presents "Melody" by Deirdre Kinahan on Saturday, September 26th at 2pm and 4pm.

A wise, disarming, funny, quirky love story. On Saturday, October 17th, Anton Chekhov's "The Bear" will play at 2pm and again at 4pm. An ungentlemanly farmer and a winsome widow get more than they bargained for.

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## Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



### Where Do You Go Now?

We are more than half way through 2015, are you where

you want to be career wise? The current thinking seems to imply that a very high percentage of people in the work force don't like their jobs or their

bosses. Maybe it is a good time to spend a couple of hours considering your future in your current position.

For those who are gainfully employed, set aside time to seriously consider your situation. Can you reasonably expect that your job is secure for another year or two? Many of us just look at the "future" of our job as the next month or two. You need to think beyond that short time frame. For example, should you expect to be promoted in the next year? If not, why not? What is holding you back from a move upwards in the organization? If you see others in your same circumstances being promoted, why them and not you?

Engage your boss in a conversation about your future. Ask for specific feedback. Ask for concrete suggestions. Don't be surprised if your superior is somewhat evasive. In my experience, being asked for such information is not all that common. But again persistence will pay off. Once your boss realizes that you are serious, he is far more likely to respond to your request.

Typically, bosses like to have motivated and enthusiastic personnel working for them. But the reality is that many people do the least amount of work that they can get away with. Why? I would speculate that they don't see any value in performing at a higher level. In fact, a dear friend of mine was recently fired; I am guessing his commitment

and enthusiasm was not appreciated by his fellow employees. What you need to do is assure your boss that you are serious about your job and you have goals for your future. Most bosses, but not all, will be quite willing to help.

If your boss dismisses your interests, maybe it is time to look elsewhere, whether inside your company or outside of it. An internal transfer might be a better option than a change of employers. But if you conclude another company could be better for you, there is an excellent chance that you are right. Sometimes you simply need a more nurturing environment. But you need a plan.

What sort of a company are you looking for? A bigger or a smaller company? One closer to home could have appeal; you are tired of a long commute. Do your research on your potential employer perhaps using Glassdoor as a source. What do their former employees say about the company? Determine whether or not you know someone who works for that company, or used to work for them. As long as you are changing employers, why not join one who is more likely to meet your expectations. As my colleague, Dr. Thomas Murray says, everyone can find a job. Start your search with that statement as your motto. Persistence is essential. You need a specific goal and target date to shoot for or you will simply fumble away a great deal of time and effort.

Assess your abilities, perhaps you should also ask your co-workers. They have seen you in "action". Their input could be very valuable. Talk to your friends, acquaintances, neighbors, and anyone else you know. Tell everyone of them four things about yourself: what have you been doing for a living, what would you like to do for a living, where would you like to work geographically and finally about how much you think you should be paid. The last item is clearly the toughest for most of us. But you can do some research on the internet, what does a person with your type of job make? That puts you in the position to indicate to your potential employer that you have done your homework and that you have a good idea of what jobs like yours pay. As a dear friend of mine, Carol Wall says, many

people she interviewed simply had not done their homework. They didn't know much about her organization or its mission, even though that information was readily available.

What has always surprised me is why people continue to work at jobs that they hate. I suspect it is inertia at its worst. Can't quit now, bonuses come out in a couple of months. Can't quit now, I am going on vacation in a month or two. Can't quit now, we are looking for a house and I want to show that I am gainfully employed at the same company for a long time, that I am a good financial risk for a mortgage. Perhaps you can add to this list of "can't quit now" reasons.

My suggestion for you is to take a couple of hours out of your busy life and consider your future employment situation. If you conclude that your current employer is not the place for you, you might wish to consider the suggestions that I have proposed above.

However, if you are happily and gainfully employed, you have another worthwhile chore to face—namely, you need to set some goals for your success and then work hard at achieving those goals. People who have goals that they are striving to achieve tend to be happier and more fulfilled.

The choice is yours: stay at a job that is boring and tedious or move on to a more fulfilling job. And your choice is?

#### CARPE DIEM.

"When an archer misses the mark, he turns and looks for the fault within himself. Failure to hit the bull's eye is never the fault of the target. To improve your aim—improve yourself." Gilbert Arland. Widely quoted author.

*James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville, IL-based senior executive coaching and outplacement firm. Jamesffitz37@hotmail.com Web: jamesffitzgerald.com #630-420-0362*

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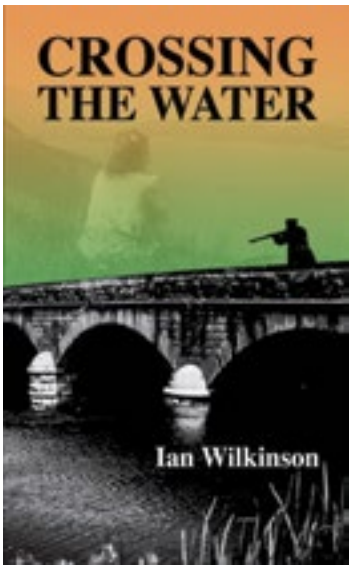
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boy strolled across a bridge over the River Blackwater leading into the town of Fermoy, County Cork. Suddenly, all hell broke loose around him as he was caught in the middle of one of the very first cross-fires between the Irish Volunteers and the British army. That boy was the author's father-in-law, Paddy Ryan.

The story of his life inspired the author so much that he blended it with other true stories into a novel that celebrates the lives of the children of Irish independence: titled 'Crossing the Water'.

[www.scribblingian.com](http://www.scribblingian.com)

One fine September morning 95 years ago, a small



Joseph P. Fitzgerald, age 79, of Peotone, passed away on Monday, August 24, 2015 at his home.

He was born on September 24, 1935 in Chicago, the son of the late Edward and Mary (Sullivan) Fitzgerald. He was a US Air Force Veteran and a retired teacher at Bogan High School in Chicago. Joseph was a member of St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Peotone where he was

a member of the Knight's of Columbus. He was an avid runner, had a great sense of humor, loved to read, and was a lifelong Chicago White Sox fan. He was also a former trustee with the Peotone Library District Board.

He is survived by his wife, Beverly (Buerkley) Fitzgerald who he married on October 15, 1955 in Chicago. He is also survived by four children; Daniel (Toni) Fitzgerald of Oak Lawn, Da-



vid (Barbara) Fitzgerald of Tinley Park, Donald (Karen) Fitzgerald of Tinley Park, and Denise Fitzgerald of Peotone; seven grandchildren, Brandon, Sean, Tara, Christopher, Kelsey, Molly, and Cailey; and two brothers, John Fitzgerald of Evergreen Park and

James (Santee) Fitzgerald of Naperville. He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Thomas, Edward and Richard; and one sister, Mary.

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## From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell



### The Fastest Growing Economy in Europe?

According to economist David McWilliams "Breakfast Roll Man" won the 2007 election for Fianna Fail. The epithet described the pragmatic, usually suburban, heavily mortgaged individual during the final years of the Celtic Tiger, who sought continuity in the rising curve of property prices on which his own (paper) prosperity depended.

A different era. Today, with an election in six months, a new notional person has emerged – "Ashbourne Annie" – which Labour party strategists hope will bolster its flagging electoral prospects. Annie, the result of "months of intensive market research" (!), is a young, stay-at-home mother in Dublin's commuter belt, heavily mortgaged, in negative equity, struggling but seeing at last some light in the tunnel and hoping that October's budget will provide tax cuts and welfare increases to improve further her lot. She represents the strategists' vision of the classic floating voter whose support can be bought.

There is certainly a pitch for her vote with newly introduced universal free doctor's visits for those under six and hints of increases in non means-tested child benefits come next January. Factor in flagged reductions in tax rates and perhaps a pay

rise for her husband and Annie may feel well-done-by enough to be swayed by what's on the table next election rather than the vague uncoded promises of the opposition. While some social media comment has derided the "Annie" concept, it's a catch all with appeal for swathes of the electorate.

If the carrots don't work, what promised to be a tough election for Labour – with heavy losses already anticipated – could morph into a disaster. The opinion polls, after some improvement, show Labour support now well below the critical 10% level, roughly half its 2011 result, with only the potential budget "bounce" to come. It's not just Labour. Any hopes of being lifted by clutching onto Fine Gael's coattails are also in the doldrums. A poll in early August showed Fine Gael becalmed in the mid-twenties, stalled after several promising months and well short of the magical minimum of 30%.

Ironically this has occurred just as the latest economic figures show Ireland set to become Europe's fastest growing economy for a second year, with 2014 growth now revised upwards to over 5% and the prospects looking good. There is more money around. Unemployment

is down. People are spending. New car sales are up 30% in the first seven months – the best figures since the slump began in 2008. Ireland's debt to GDP ratio is down to 110% and falling (for reference Greek debt is 175% plus and rising).

How to explain it all? Ashbourne, Annie's "home," offers a clue, though hardly what Labour's thinkers had in mind. A pleasant dormitory town about twelve miles from Dublin city centre, Ashbourne's population has grown rapidly in the last decade to about 15,000. Most of the new mortgage holders are in serious negative equity, kept afloat by historically low interest rates. Families are struggling with reduced income, unemployment, shorter working hours and increased taxes and charges. In short a community typical of many across Ireland.

Ashbourne is well provided with shops. Branches of Ireland's five major supermarket chains are located within several hundred yards of each other. The street between two of them is lined with shops – all vacant except for several charity shops. There are well established businesses in other streets, but vacant shopfronts there also. Ashbourne Annie may be experiencing an upturn in her economic fortunes but so far it's slight and, taking a cue from her town, recovery is unevenly spread and far from general. Again, a community typical of many across Ireland. Put simply the economic recovery at macro level has yet to trickle down to the micro level and opinion polls show an electorate far from grunted.

2015 seemed to be going well. The Government had avoided obvious banana skins. It was helped also by the outcome of the Greek saga and the continued disarray and fragmentation of the opposition. A flurry of (paper) activity and announcements during June and July gave the impression of progress towards fulfilment of some of the 2014 Programme of Government Priorities. Pronouncements that there would be no going back to the profligate policies and overspending of the past were counterbalanced with hints dropped about giveaways in October's Budget.

In early July doctors were faced down over the Under Sixes issue – a handsome vote inducement to the 1.7 million aged twenty to forty five – those most likely to have young children; cancer victims apart, nothing for those with really sick children over six without medical cards. A media campaign – ongoing as I write, solemnly announced that over -70s would henceforth – like the Under Sixes – be eligible for free GP visits cards.

The subterfuge here is breath-taking. Prior to 2008 ALL over 70s had been entitled to FULL medical cards, covering free visits to GPs and involving, additionally, crucially, access to a wide range of free medicines and treatments, plus additional benefits. Means-testing after 2008 substantially reduced those qualifying – the number dropping by 16,356 last year despite an increase in the population over 70. The net effect is that fewer of those most likely to require expensive medicines and treatment – the elderly – qualify, the savings used to subsidise the predominantly healthy under-sixes.

But also in July the fiasco that keeps on giving – Irish Water – re-emerged. With public protest having largely subsided, the Government had thought the issue settled. It put on a brave face when the shock returns for those paying the first water bills – 46% – were revealed at the end of June. Worse was to come when the EU found that Irish Water's borrowings must remain on the State's balance sheet. In short it will cost – not next year but thereafter, reducing the amount available for other expenditure or tax cuts.

The issue has once again become the lightning rod for public dissatisfaction, with Irish Water perceived to be wholly the creature of the current Government, not a Fianna Fail legacy. Many eyes will now be focussed after September on the numbers paying the second bill. With no immediate penalties for non-payment, more may decide not to pay to see what happens. The Government's dilemma is that ostensibly it has nothing further to give on the issue, short of root and branch overhaul. If the "can't pay, won't pay" numbers rise, it could have no option. Its re-electability in any combination may hinge on this.

There has been considerable haruspication over the latest opinion poll results. The general conclusion is that, short of a miracle, the current coalition will not be returned without – at the very least – considerable additional support. Even a mooted possible voting pact, with folk memories of the (successful) 1973 joint Fine Gael and Labour government programme, is unlikely to suffice. The three on – paper viable coalitions are Fine Gael – Fianna Fail, Fine Gael – Sinn Fein and Fianna Fail – Sinn Fein, all strenuously ruled out by the principals – on principle. Interestingly, the ubiquitous bookie, Paddy Power, is strongly favouring a Fine Gael – Fianna Fail coalition (at five-to-four, with seven-to-two the field).

Does he know something we don't?

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## Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



As most of you know, IrishFest in Milwaukee is the largest Festival of its type in the world. There are 16 stages blasting away, and this year there was a record turnout of traditional music for the real Irish/Scottish music fan. Friday night of the Fest saw a truly stunning storm. Big time. I talked to a woman who said, "I've lived in Milwaukee all my life and I've never seen anything like it." Open air stages were closed for roughly an hour, while the tempest of a storm went through. Wow! Great crowds for the rest, even though Saturday and Sunday had really hot weather underneath a blazer of a sun. However, it was lovely in the many venues under roof, with a breeze blowing through the open sides.

Any big news this year? YES. Dallahan! Every year, an act sweeps the Fest. Dallahan was there last year, but I, along with many, missed them. This year theirs was the "new" concert to be at. This wondrous Scottish quintet is Jack Badcock: Guitar/Vocals, Jani Lang: Fiddle, Vocals, Ciarán Ryan: Banjo/Mandolin/ Fiddle, Paddy Callaghan: button box and Balázs Hermann: Double-Bass. There is nothing more fun than discovering the new and fantastic. I can tell you this. I've been going to Fest for 32 years, (this was their 35th!), and I have not enjoyed a group this much at the Fest since Barachois from Prince Edward Island, Canada and the original La Bottine Souriante. Dallahan is like a world music festival in one group. It is all trad, all Scots, all world and all totally, completely new. These young guys are already virtual masters of their instruments, blazing away in extremely rich and complex arrangements. The music nonetheless maintains a driving beat, and the vocals are perfect. Two standing ovations from the crowd of over a thousand, and a long line at the cd sales table, showed that Fest-goers agreed. This is a stunning development. Let's hope the group stays together for a good while. Formed in 2013, they are almost done with a new album, so we have our fingers crossed for their future!!

What do the groups of Moloney, O'Connell and Keane and John Carty, Matt Molloy and Arty McGlynn share with Liz Carroll? They were all at Fest and they were all superb. They are trad legends. Rightly. No, they're not new to the scene, as is Dallahan. They are the top of the trad mountain and have

been for decades. What you get with Dallahan is a stunner of something new and wonderful. What you get with these two groups, and Liz, is perfection. You go, and you love them because they never, ever disappoint. They are, literally, perfect musicians playing traditional Irish music perfectly. They are like your favorite blanket. You wrap yourself in their music and all is well with the world. Truly. Perfection.

Lunasa said they were there for the first time in 14 years. That does not seem possible. But--we think it is true. Lunasa is also perfect. Lunasa's traditional music means incredible world tunes like selections from Brittainy and France. Lunasa has been on the scene for years, yet they remain fresh and new every time. They are arguably the best instrumental group in the business. We have seen them several times in person. Never go to one of their shows and think you know what you are going to see or hear. Quintet spokesman and incredible flautist, Kevin Crawford sees to that! Radio co-host, Imelda Bhroga and I were yet again submerged in their lovely playing and their own great brand of perfection.

Another shocker, and it should not have been, was Brendan Power. Saying this former Riverdance star is Ireland's greatest harmonica player is not sufficient. He ranks with the likes of Toots Thielemans, Charlie McCoy and Larry Adler as supreme artists and real masters of their instrument. He was set for the Fest with one of our favorite guitarists, Tim Edey. Unfortunately, Tim had to stay home due to a very serious family illness. On the night Imelda and our music associate, Dominique Genereaux caught him, Jack Babcock on guitar and Balázs Hermann on bass—both from Dallahan, sat in with Brendan for either the first time ever, or the second. (Unsure on this number!) Unbelievable. It was a little later in the evening in the pub tent with a small crowd, everyone there agreed they had seen something truly special. Imelda says it tied Dallahan for the musical moment of discovery at the Fest. We won't argue. We had known of Brendan Power and heard him over the years on cd's. Nothing prepared us for the live show. A true, honest-to-God master. And, we got to hear a song from Jack Badcock that was simply more perfection. Magic!

We couldn't see everyone we wanted to during the time parameters of our stay. What we did catch was the best Fest trad in years. Big audiences for these fantastic acts

also showed there is a large and substantial audience for trad, thank God. You don't need footpads and drum kits bangin' away to bring in a big crowd. Those tools have their place, but thank heavens the center of it all remains real acoustic music played by brilliant musicians.

Best ever? Hard to say. Answer? Yes-if you love and live in trad!!

\*Speaking of Moloney, O'Connell and Keane, the lads are set for Friday night, October 16 at Chief O'Neill's in Chicago. Here is the link to the group--<http://www.moloneyoconnellkeane.com/> and here is the link where to get tickets in advance. We'll be

## The Rising: An Inspector Devlin Thriller

Reviewed by Frank West

By Brian McGilloway, HarperCollins/Witness Impulse

Detective Benedict Devlin's wife tells him: "Things happen that are no one's fault and you can't do anything about them."

But Devlin feels that there are many things that can be done - especially where a crime has been committed. He then works relentlessly, and with great imagination to solve it.

That is the focus of this magnetic and thrilling 'police procedural' that features Inspector Devlin. He is a police, or Garda, detective working in Ireland's borderlands. The novel is set in this area between Ireland's County Donegal and Northern Ireland's Counties Tyrone, and Derry.

Brian McGilloway is the author of this immensely popular series of novels that began with Borderlands. It captivated me.

McGilloway was born in 1974 in Derry. He studied English at Belfast's Queens University and became a teacher at St. Columb's College in Derry. He is now head of the English department there and lives near the Irish borderlands with his wife and four children.

The writing in *The Rising* is graceful and uses plain words in well formed sentences. No one here is trying to impress you with obscure or hard to pronounce words. The dialogue is realistic, and the way I hear people talk and how I speak too.

Inspector Devlin is intensely observant. This quote is from when he knocks on the door of a person he wants to talk with. He learns a lot about the woman who answers even before he or she say a word. "The girl who answered looked around eighteen. She

there, and you should, too! Just one of the great acts in our music.

\*Radio Review: Imelda Bhroga and I hold forth on House Party, Mondays at 10:00 p.m. following Maryann Keifer's Ireland Tonight at 9:00. Maryann features Irish trad, mostly and we feature bluegrass. Musical crossovers on both shows, of course! Both on WDCB, 90.9fm and [wdcb.org](http://wdcb.org). You can also catch Imelda and me every Sunday at noon on [liveireland.com](http://liveireland.com). Our two-hour program is now the world's most listened to Irish music show!! (Hard to believe, but they tell us it is true!!!!)

was soft-featured with a rounded face, framed by brown hair, cut in a long bob. Her eyes were clear and bright green,

her nose thin and her full lips parted, as if she was expecting someone else."

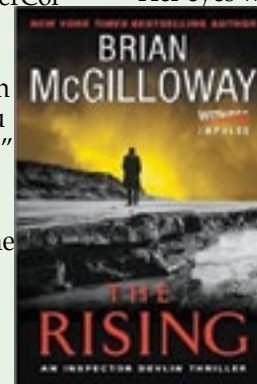
Or this acute observation of a suspects yard that tells him much about the person he is there to meet. "The backyard of the house was as overgrown as the front. A rusting barbecue collecting rain, lump of charcoal floating in the bowl. A plastic table had blown over against

the garden shed which lay open; the door thudding against the wooden side in the wind." McGilloway has the detective often describe the sky and the light of this land that is so near to the sea. We would expect that from McGilloway who won a much respected award for theatre lighting while he was involved with theatre at Queens University.

*The Rising* contains many word-pictures of the animals, plants and the sky in the borderlands. But all these observations of beauty do not prevent the Inspector from being suspicious of people. A guard is talking to him at the campsite where a teenage boy has gone missing. "I've been looking through the bins." "What did you find?" "Thirteen cans, sir, all the same brand and same bags. The fourteenth is being used as an ashtray by the suspect."

Another guard says "So they were drinking." "It's not the drinking so much as the lying about it. What else is he lying about?" This after the teen had told the Inspector that they had only had two each and there were only three teens.

Frank is a retired teacher and has written book and play reviews since this paper's inception in 1977.





## A Slice of Ireland

By Cathy Cooney-Millar

### Blarney Island

Do you enjoy lakes? Do you like to have fun in the sun? Do you have a boat? If you answered yes to the first two questions, you are going to have the time of your life at Blarney Island!

You have probably heard of Blarney Island and wondered; how do I get there? It's easy! Located in the middle of Grass Lake on the Chain of Lakes, it's accessible only by boat. Don't worry if you don't have a boat or a friend with a boat. You can take the Blarney Island ferry from the Port of Blarney located on Grass Lake Road in Antioch, IL. The ferry goes back and forth daily every half hour from 12:00 PM- 2:00AM.

Now entering its 36th season, Blarney Island has been voted the Best Boating Bar in the World!

There is a lot of history around Blarney Island. Going back to the early 1900's the story goes that 2 neighboring bar owners had a wager over a poker game. Jack O'Connor and Shorty Showbin were competitive business owners. Their poker game escalated to a final card hand that would determine who would lose their bar business. Jack ended up winning the poker hand. However, he won by bluffing. Jack decided to name his new bar Blarney Island since it was his Irish luck that he won the poker game!

There have been a couple different owners until Rob Hardman had the opportunity presented to him to be a partner. The funny thing about that is when Rob was growing up in Chicago; he had been to Blarney Island as a young teenager. He remembers saying at that young age, he would one day own Blarney Island!

Since Rob has been an owner and partner of Blarney Island the work to improve the island has been a labor of love. It needed a complete renovation. They have put in 160 feet of steel pilings and added more square footage. They have a helipad where you can take rides around the Chain of Lakes in the helicopter right off the island! The Island is 2 inches above the flood plain so it is truly an Island!

Rob's heritage is a mixture of Irish, Scottish and English. His father was in the British Navy in WW II. His parents were

born in Liverpool, England. He has 4 siblings and he is the fourth of five kids. He and his wife Heather have a beautiful 2 year old son names Colt

Jameson. When they are not on the Island, they are busy with their horse farm in Salem, WI.

Rob is motivated by challenges. He wants to do what others say cannot be done. He finds challenges exciting. That shows in the success of Blarney Island. He has a dedicated staff and full schedule of

You will hear today's hottest country hits Their dance floor is filled with energetic and crazy dancers. They offer an array of great tasting food in a full operating kitchen. All their food is made from scratch. You can't go wrong with their delicious and hearty Shepherd's pie.

When it comes to drinks, they proudly offer all Miller and Coors products. Jameson is the popular whiskey but don't forget to get your whiskey shot with a pickle juice chaser. Yes, pickle juice is what I said! They have daily specials that include Pina Colada, Bloody Marys and flavored Daiquiris.

The Labor Day weekend which in-

boat races bring people from all over the world. This has been a tradition for many years. Get your seat on the Island and enjoy watching the fastest boats race each other until the sun goes down. It is the only location in the world where high performance drag boat racing takes place every Thursday Evening, from Memorial Day to Labor Day. This is bare-knuckles, heads-up, 'race-what-you-brung' drag racing. The racecourse length is approximately 800 feet and it is located on an open lake. The notoriously choppy waters have given Blarney Island racers a reputation for being both fast and fearless. All Thursday night racing is run by the Northern Illinois Drag Boat Association. Want to Race on Thursday nights? The NIDBA is happy to be a resource in assisting you with becoming a member, learning the racing rules and other boating regulations. Please contact NIDBA if you have any questions or are interested in being a part of the NIDBA.

There is space to dock up to 300 boats. They also accommodate private parties and celebrations and corporate events. If you live in the city and don't want to mess with the traffic going north, there is a simple and inexpensive solution to get you to Blarney Island. Hop on the Metra train and take it to Fox Lake, IL. Call the Port of Blarney and let them know you are on the train and their shuttle bus will pick you up and drop you off at the station.

I strongly recommend you get a big group of friends together and make that happen soon as Blarney Island is not opened in the winter. The Port of Blarney is opened all year long, which is close substitute as it is dubbed the Key West Caribbean of Lake County.

One more bit of fun trivia is, since 2000, Blarney Island has provided the Rescue Boat for the Chicago Plumbers Union every St. Patrick's Day for the dying of the river green.

You only have a couple months to get to your Blarney on! Once you go, it will be a regular summer stop of fun and memories. Take time to meet Rob as he loves to meet all his new customers that he calls friends.

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*Blarney Island  
partner Rob Hardman*

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Every Thursday the Blarney Island

# A Word With Father Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

## Reverend Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



The Papal visit is almost upon us and we all wait with great excitement to have Pope Francis on U.S. soil. His visit was planned around a very special gathering in Philadelphia: the 8th World Meeting of Families. The triennial meeting was started in 1994 by Saint John Paul II. Families gather from all over the world to celebrate and strengthen the critical role the family plays in society.

As Saint John Paul II often said, the future of humanity passes through the family, the cradle of life and love. From the care of the innocent babe to the tenderness shown to the sick and aged, the family is where God's mercy blooms. The love and affection that unites the family is how children learn to give and receive love; it is how they learn of the Lord's love for them; and it is how they learn to be a person of truth and goodness. Families are every country's greatest treasure, and the purpose of the World Meeting is to determine how we can nourish them effectively.

One week after the World Meeting of Families, the World Synod of Bishops on

the Family will meet at the Vatican. The Synod will also explore how the Church can best accompany and support families, especially those most in need, as they live with the challenges and blessings of everyday life.

It is my hope that these two meetings will shine a positive light on families, and focus our attention on how important it is to support families in distress. As Pope Francis succinctly stated, "the number of broken and troubled families is on the rise, not simply because of the weakening sense of belonging so typical of today's world, but also because of the adverse conditions in which many families are forced to live, even to the point where they lack basic means of subsistence."

At Catholic Charities, we see thousands of families coping with a great deal of stress, and it is our mission to help them overcome challenges on their journey through life. Whether it's providing maternity and adoption services, quality child care and early education, job training, counseling for addiction or mental health issues, tem-

porary housing for families who have become homeless, emergency food and nutrition programs, or respite and in-home care for an elderly parent, sometimes all it takes is a helping hand to put the family back on solid ground so they can flourish.

Catholic Charities also sees the stress of thousands of people who face life without a family to support them. I think of children without parents, refugees and immigrants starting over in a strange land, homeless men and women who have lost their way, or the elderly whose relatives and friends can no longer visit or care for them. In these situations, Catholic Charities becomes a surrogate family for people who would otherwise be alone. We help them meet basic needs, navigate life, create new relationships, and never let them feel isolated or abandoned. Through the hands of our compassionate staff and those of our volunteers,

they know that God has not forgotten them.

We as the Church and followers of Jesus are committed to lifting up all families and all people so they can thrive and live with dignity. No family should live at the margins of society, and no one should be

abandoned or live without feeling the love of God's family. I pray that Pope Francis will inspire each one of us to shower God's love and mercy on all of our brothers and sisters who need our help. After all, we are one family in Christ.



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## A Filmmaker's Dilemma

I have spent many years telling stories through the medium of Television and sometimes the big screen. Once it hits the screen however you tend to 'file it away' and move on to the next project. When I made *A Terrible Beauty* in 2012 with my two sons Keith and Colin, I had the inescapably feeling this was one I was not going to be able to 'file away'. Set during the Rising in Dublin in 1916 the 93 minute docudrama tells the story of ordinary men and women, Rebel, British soldier and civilian caught up in those pivotal events in Dublin during Easter week 1916. By mixing archive footage with dramatic reconstructions and first-hand accounts *A Terrible Beauty* takes the viewer on a journey to the very heart of the conflict, giving them an up close and personal view of the often brutal and bloody fight which affected the lives of the men and women caught up in the chaos. The film is centred on the two linked battles of Mount Street and North King Street culminating in the massacre which took place there. When we had finished we felt we had produced something different from what had gone before in dramatisation's of the



Rising in Dublin in 1916 and this proved to be the case when we started to screen at film festivals.

We used the statements of ordinary people to drive the narrative and the action for the film, deliberately avoiding the stories of the leaders of the rebellion. Whilst working on the film, we realised that there was a wealth of individual accounts about the Rising that have never seen the light of day. Men and women, who played a vital role, not just in 1916 but also in the War of Independence that followed, have never had their stories told. This proved to be the case. After screenings of the film we had people coming to us asking if we could tell their family stories and boy did we get some great stories!

Bringing stories to the TV or big screen is an incredible expensive business and the competition for space on those screens is enormous. We were hooked on the stories but where to take them? The answer lay in the somewhat smaller screen of the desktop computer, laptop and smart phone and so "Stories from 1916" was born.

We decided to setup an online digital portal [storiesfrom1916.com](http://www.storiesfrom1916.com). an interactive

multimedia project which uses a wealth of contemporary techniques to enhance the storytelling process. By working closely with families we are seamlessly mixing family held archive material, much of which has never been seen by the general public, with photographs, video, audio and text to build a complete picture of who these brave men and women were.

By using a mixture of video, photography, audio, and text, alongside original archive and source material, the viewer is drawn into the world of the 'ordinary' participants of the 1916 Rising like never before. Audiences, both young and old, can enjoy learning these previously unknown tales at their own pace, choosing to view the stories in one sitting or to come back at their own leisure. With the increasing ease of access that mobile technologies bring, followers of the project can pick when and where they would

like to explore these fascinating pieces of our shared history. Through the prism of those who were a part of this transformative event in Irish history, audiences have the opportunity to explore the conflict, reflect on past traumas and discover the lessons to be learned from this pivotal mo-

ment in history.

What has also emerged out of the project is the huge part that Irish America played in 1916 and the War of Independence that followed. Our journey has taken us across much of the USA researching, meeting and video and audio recording the families of those who left for America before and after 1916. The challenge for us is how to keep going with our not for profit project. Our goal is to create and maintain a resource for all. We have a team of five dedicated people working to maintain and build on the storytelling already completed. We have very limited resources. 'Stories from 1916' is a 501(c)(3) non-profit multimedia educational project run in partnership with the Chicago Irish Brotherhood. If you would like to support our work donations can be made through:

Wintrust Community Bank Account Name: C.I.B 1916 Account #: 0450186156

Routing#: 071026356 EIN#: 36-4277267

The film *A Terrible Beauty* can be purchased online at [www.1916film.com](http://www.1916film.com). You can follow what is happening with the project at <http://www.facebook.com/Storiesfrom1916> or on twitter at Twitter - @1916film or <https://twitter.com/storiesfrom1916>

## Echoes in the Gangway - Memories of My Family and St. Leo Parish

Reviewed by Frank West

By Joe Murphy, iuniverse and Amazon "The innocent fifties were good times for raising kids. Life was optimistic." "Life had a zest that I miss today."

This is a book of recollections, often humorous of growing up in the 1950's on Chicago's South-side. The Murphy family lived near 79th and Halsted in the Auburn-Gresham neighborhood. The Murphy children attended St. Leo Catholic grammar school.

The recollections are intimate to me because relatives lived in several of the areas mentioned in the book. The remembrances are well written because Joe Murphy, the author, spent his adult life as a professional writer. He wrote scripts, advertising copy and commercials for radio.

He was a "media producer for Chicago companies and ad agencies."

These stories show the boys and girls of the Murphy family as they explore and learn about the world. Some of the stories are about the friendships they developed and the people they observed.

The human skills they developed would remain with them for life. The values we learned in our family, school and neighborhood are important today. Values of personal honesty, caring for our families and community, learning to respect the dignity of people are critical to having a happy life today.

We learned, also, to try to be the best we can be at whatever we choose to do. Times are different now - not better or worse, just different, and we have to take the world the way it is.

Of the many, many possible quotes, I have room in this review only for these. They effectively highlight the book. Murphy describes the excitement kids felt at the movies when "the Looney Tunes music started. "The cartoons were predictable - "Elmer Fudd, Yosemite Sam and Sylvester the Cat always got clobbered. Safes fell on them and cannons blasted them at point-blank range, but they bounced right back a second later,

fully recovered and ready for more!"

\* Clorets allegedly fought bad breath. One of their early TV spots struck me as hilarious. The voiceover boasted that clinical tests supported Clorets claims. The screen showed a woman on one side of a partition blowing into a tube. On the other side, a man in a white lab coat sniffed her breath. He looked very serious as he jotted down his findings on a pad of paper."

Sounds crazy to me too, but I just saw a TV commercial advertising a pill that the company promised would remove belly fat!

\*He describes a visit to Riverview. "Once we got past Riverview's front it was total sensory overload - colorful flags and calliope music; kids with balloons and cotton candy; folks toting big stuffed animals on their backs; the sounds

of giant gears clicking and steel wheels screeching against rails."

\* "Sex was almost never mentioned at home or in the classroom. Still, I picked up Jansenistic notions. "An Irish grandmother of his even called sex "rotten." "And when I was dating, his mother told him never to feel "passion" for a girl" as if passion were something disgusting."

\*All the adults at the parish church I attended paid "pew rents." Murphy says "as a kid attending mass I wondered about those money men near the entrance. They stood behind a counter tending neat little stacks of coins. All the men entering were paying to attend mass.

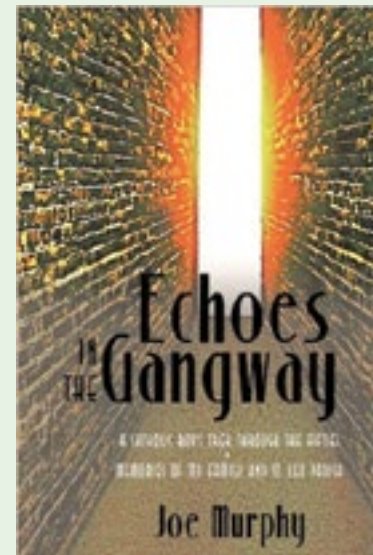
Tis was known as 'seat money.' This little mas tax was one of our pastor's revenue builders."

\* Another cleric describes Fr. Molloy, the pastor of St. Leo's. He was "a rough and tumble boxer, friend of mobsters, foe of integration, hard-working, friend of Archbishop O'Brien and Mayor Daley."

"On the fortieth anniversary of his ordination Fr. Molloy as made a monsignor. From then on Patrick J. Molloy did whatever he wanted."

Memories, memories!

How powerful they are!



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