


Gaelic Park Floats a Winner Commemorating the 1916 Easter Rising



On lower level William Mangan,
on upper left to right John Devitt,
Jack Stewart, Tom Dolan, Noel Murphy,
Sabrina Mangan, John Murphy,
Lynnea Mangan and Barney Farrelly.
Photo by Dan McSweeney
Story on page 24



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Lead support has been provided by the Estate of Jacquet McConville. Major support has been generously provided by Caryn and King Harris, The Harris Family Foundation; the Gilchrist Foundation; The Morris and Dolores Kohl Kaplan Funds; and Evonne and John Yonover. Additional funding has been contributed by Constance and David Coolidge, the Mason Foundation, Charlene and Mark Novak, and the Comer Family Foundation. Annual support for Art Institute exhibitions is provided by the Exhibitions Trust: Kenneth Griffin, Robert M. and Diane v.S. Levy, Thomas and Margot Pritzker, Betsy Bergman Rosenfield and Andrew M. Rosenfield, the Earl and Brenda Shapiro Foundation, and the Woman's Board. The exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

Vincent van Gogh. *The Bedroom* (detail), 1889. Helen Birch Bartlett Memorial Collection.

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Martin J. Healy, Jr.

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

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

One of the great innovations of the last century is the people mover as it is used in buildings and multi-level areas. Elevators made easy and efficient the vertical movement of people and enabled the construction of today's high rise buildings. Elevators, like all machines, must be designed and maintained so that they are reasonably safe, or they can cause a serious hazard to users. For that reasons, various strict regulations and safety rules exist for them.

Elevators are Common Carriers

Elevators, open to the public are, under the law, like buses, taxicabs, trains and planes, considered common carriers. As such, the owner/operator owes the highest duty of care to its users. Failure to fulfil the duty is negligence. The highest duty of care extends to the owner/operator of the building, but not to those who inspect and maintain the elevators. They are governed by the ordinary standard of care.

Defective sliding doors

One claim that has frequently been seen by our office in both commercial and construction sites is defective sliding doors. Doors which close too fast, or with too much force, or which do not have an adequate safeguard if a passenger is in the threshold and could come in contact with the door, can cause injury. Elevators doors may be required to be equipped with a sensor panel or "cat's eye" to prevent someone from being injured if they are in the threshold. Alternatively, elevator doors

which close very slowly and with very little force may be able to safely operate without any sensor, as there is adequate warning that the doors are closing and a much lesser chance of injury.

In some older buildings, swing type doors which may be prone to crush injuries or pinching injuries of the fingers and hand may also be common. While building owners should attempt to remedy any hazard, users must also be careful around such swinging doors.

Mis-leveling

Another common cause of elevator injuries is mis-leveling - where the floor of the elevator does not come to rest flush with the floor of the building. This can cause a serious tripping hazard if the passenger does not notice the difference in height. If this is a recurring problem and the building is on notice, liability may flow from a failure to properly maintain the elevator. Depending on the composition and design of the elevator floor and the building floor, the height difference may not be immediately apparent. A safety strip may be necessary to draw attention to the end of the elevator platform.

Elevator drops

A particularly frightening situation exists if an elevator descends at too rapid a speed. This can result from a counterweight malfunction or improper control input. If the elevator falls too fast, a passenger may be thrown to the floor or against the elevator walls. In one extreme example, an elevator in a New York high rise fell from the 46th floor to the basement impacting at 1,000 feet per minute. The impact caused significant, but fortunately non-fatal, leg and knee injuries.

Elevator stalls

Sometimes, elevators can become trapped between floors. Most elevators are equipped with emergency communication capabilities. If a stall occurs, do not attempt to exit the elevator on your own. Stay calm and wait for emergency personnel or trained elevator maintenance personnel to arrive and assist you.

Elevator regulations and safety rules

Because of the danger that can occur from elevator accidents, strict governmental regulations and industry safety standards exist to try to ensure safety during

their use. For instance, elevators are supposed to be inspected by a governmental inspector at least once a year; in some jurisdictions, twice a year. Some buildings will also hire an independent outside vendor to inspect the elevator. Rules also exist as to closing speeds of the doors, amount of force exerted by the door, and the speed of the elevator ascending and descending. Freight elevators or elevators used during construction may have additional safety rules - such as an audible signal before the doors close or even the necessity of an elevator operator to assist and make sure

workmen are not caught in the elevator.

Elevator accidents are, of course, the exception and not the rule - so you should not hesitate to ride elevators throughout your day. However, if an injury occurs and you believe something may have gone wrong with your elevator, you should early on discuss the matter with an attorney.

Dennis M. Lynch



Pictured below and right: Contestants at Dancing with the Stars Contest at Gaelic Park photos by Brenda McShane



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irish american news

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(ISSN #1085-4053) USPS #013454
March 2016 Vol. XL #3

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Co-Publisher Cathy Curry Carlson
Advertising Sales Cliff Carlson
Photographer Cathy Curry Carlson
Editorial Assistant-Ryanne Gallagher Johnson

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

SUBSCRIPTION

1 year \$30 • 2 year \$55 • 3 year \$75
Canada 1year \$45 • 2 year \$65
International: 1 year \$85
(Periodicals Postage Paid at Palatine, IL, and other mailing offices)

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

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

Distribution 15,013

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Ireland: Crossroads of Art and Design, 1690-1840 The Music

Compiled by Marty Fahey

The Art Institute of Chicago worked on the preparation for the exhibit, IRELAND: Crossroads of Art and Design, 1690-1840 for over four and a half years. Together with 85 private and public (museum) lenders they created the first ever show of its kind, which featured items (furniture, paintings, etchings, silver, glass, ceramics, bookbindings, textiles, musical instruments, etc) that, for the most part (90%) were created in Ireland between 1690-1840 by (mostly) Irish craftsmen and women of superior skills.

These items had to exist in North American collections to be considered for the exhibit. The exhibit which was quite large (330 objects) which, by volume, eclipsed the typical Picasso or Monet exhibit by a factor of 10x... so it was very thorough. The intent of the exhibit was primarily

to show that the level of artistry that was alive and flourishing in Ireland at that time, on par with or superior to what was considered to be the gold standard level of accomplishment in England, on the Continent or in America. (<http://www.artic.edu/ireland-crossroads-art-and-design-1690-1840>)

The CD

Because the family for whom I work (O'Briens) were lenders and contributors to the exhibition, I was drafted to sit on a committee at the museum a little over two years ago relating to this exhibit. About a year ago, when I became aware of the full scope and depth of the exhibit, it occurred to me that the only thing missing was the one ingredient with which people are most familiar--the music. After making the suggestion to the committee about the desirability of having a CD-- with music drawn from collections of the period alongside new compositions crafted around the themes of the exhibit--I was swiftly given the task of making that happen. Then after



Left to Right: Catriona McKay, Triona Ní Dhomhnaill, Marty Fahey, Jackie Moran, Kieran O'Hare, Liz Knowles, Liz Carroll. Not pictured: Mick O'Brien, Emer Mayock, Aoife Ní Bhriain, Trevor Hutchinson

fifteen minutes of pure panic I called my friend Liz Carroll to help with the task and then our mutual friend Liz Knowles to add further depth to the "team." Together we set about uncovering interesting and relevant melodies that could tell the musical side of this story; in this part of the project we were led chiefly by Liz Knowles. At the same time, Liz Carroll set about composing pieces sympathetic to the seven major themes of the exhibition. Liz Carroll also assembled the rest of the musical team and together, "the Lizes" worked out the musical arrangements and plans with the

rest of the group--Kieran O'Hare, Catriona McKay, Triona Ní Dhomhnaill, Trevor Hutchinson and Jackie Moran. We also invited in Mick O'Brien, Emer Mayock and Aoife Ní Bhriain via a piece of music that they recorded from the Goodman Collection for the Irish tv station, TG4. I set to work on the notes and the packaging along with the Art Institute staff ...and, so that's the basics of the story. (I must say that "the Lizes" and the other musicians did a superb job!)

The Results

It has been a 'revelation' on several levels both for us and the museum to juxtapose the music alongside these wonderful objects. Certainly the music and the art/artifacts each stood on their own merit but placing them side by side and seeing the effect of that, I have to say, has been quite a wonderful learning experience. The music helped to make many of these wonderful objects more "approachable" and in return they also gave great context to the music.

As well, there were a couple of "firsts" in this effort for the museum: they had never before commissioned an album to accompany an exhibit nor had they had ever allowed music to be played within the confines of the galleries either. They were quite pleased with the results of both efforts!

The Power of Philanthropy

The CD was originally meant to be available as a 'Limited Edition', only available at the Art Institute during the run of the exhibit. So, after the exhibit closed, the availability of the CD went away with it--as that was always the plan. In August of last year, however, a couple of friends of mine, Bruce and Deborah Pfaff-- who were big fans of the exhibit, the CD, etc., and also neighbors who have been

to my house for Sessions--came to me with an idea to extend the life of the project. As it involved getting the permission of over nineteen institutional and private lenders whose images appeared in the booklet/CD packaging, I set to work over the Fall soliciting those permissions. By late-November, everyone "gave it the nod", so to speak, and so the Pfaffs donated all of the costs for the reprint of the CD, some funds for marketing it as well as all future proceeds from its sales to the musicians on it.

I share this story because I think it is noteworthy on many levels: the exhibit and the desire to commission the CD was wonderful in its own right; for the project to have benefitted from so much financial goodwill, both at the outset and now, adds to its rarity these days. In an age where institutional and governmental support for the arts is so difficult to come by, this happens to be a wonderful and selfless example of such from the private sector. Neither the O'Brien Family nor the Pfaff Family (nor the American-Ireland Fund, Johnston Antiques or O'Sullivan Antiques, for that matter) could ever have hoped to benefit directly from the project themselves--certainly not in any proportion to their degree of support--and yet they stood by this project and the artists connected to it.

The Launch

The project has been filled with many wonderful moments, musical, personal and artistic...and we are all looking forward to its next chapter. As such, the CD, which launched officially on February 15th on www.tradconnect.com is available on www.cdbaby.com, www.claddaghrecords.com and www.ossianusa.com as well as from the artists directly at their own concerts/gigs. Since there may future developments with the project, we have created a "digital home" for it-- www.irelandcrossroads.com.

Marty Fahey and the rest of the "Crossroads team"--

Liz Carroll, Liz Knowles, Kieran O'Hare, Catriona McKay, Triona Ní Dhomhnaill,

Trevor Hutchinson, Jackie Moran, Emer Mayock, Mick O'Brien and Aoife Ní Bhriain www.irelandcrossroads.com





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Judge Reilly is excitedly surrounded by her supporters, friends, and family during the Edison Park Turkey Trot 2015.

"May your home always be too small to hold your friends." Irish Proverb

Vote for Judge Eve Marie Reilly who is running in the 10th Judicial Sub Circuit this March 15th.

Judge Reilly was appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court in 2014 and is the ONLY Judge in her race, as well as the ONLY candidate endorsed by the Democratic Party of Cook County for the 10th Judicial Sub Circuit. Judge Reilly is endorsed by the Chicago Federation of Labor and its 300 affiliated unions, Chicago Firefighters Union Local 2 and the Chicago Plumbers Union Local 130 UA, to name just a few of her endorsements!

**Vote
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on March 15**

Judge Eve Marie Reilly feels lucky to represent the wonderful residents of the 10th Judicial Sub Circuit, which includes: Albany Park, Edgebrook, Edison Park, Des Plaines, Forest Glen, Glenview, Harwood Heights, Irving Park/ Old Irving Park, Jefferson Park, Lincoln Square, Lakeview, Morton Grove, Niles, North Center, North Park, Norwood Park, Norridge, Park Ridge, Peterson Park, Portage Park, Ravenswood, Sauganash, Uptown and Wildwood.



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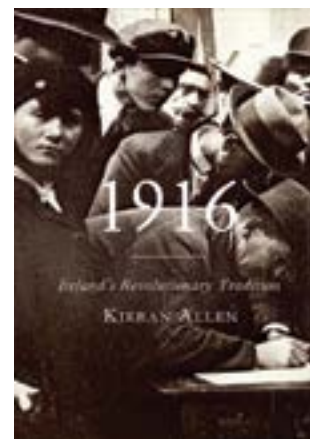
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1916: Ireland's Revolutionary Tradition

By Kieran Allen
 Distributed for Pluto Press
 224 pages | 5 x 7 3/4 |
 © 2016

The Easter Rising of 1916, in which just over a thousand Irish rebels seized key locations in Dublin and proclaimed the independence of the Irish Republic before being brutally suppressed by the vastly larger and better-equipped British Army, is an event whose meaning remains contested to this day. For some it represents a blood sacrifice without the hope—or even the intention—of success. For others, it was the first act in a tumultuous political drama played out in Dublin streets and London cabinet rooms that led to the eventual formation of an independent Irish state.

In 1916, Kieran Allen argues that this pivotal moment in Irish history has been obscured by those who see it only as a prelude for a war of independence. Emphasizing an often ignored social and political



radicalism at the heart of the rebellion, he shows that it gave birth to a revolutionary tradition that continues to haunt the Irish elite. Socialist aspirations mixed, and sometimes clashed, with the republican current, but both were crushed in a counterrevolution that accompanied the Anglo-Irish treaty of 1921. The result today is a partitioned Ireland that acts as a neoliberal tax haven for multinational corporations—a state of affairs quite alien to both Connolly's and

Pearse's vision.

Published to coincide with the Rising's centennial, 1916: Ireland's Revolutionary Tradition re-establishes the political role of socialist republican figures, offers a highly accessible history of the Easter Rising, and explores the militancy and radicalism that continues to haunt the Irish elite one hundred years later.

<http://press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/distributed/Other/bo23466754.html>



Pictured: Joe Cook with his wife, Jenny Callahan, and their three daughters, Courtney, Quinn and Callie.

JOSEPH DANIEL COOK

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Pictured: Joe Cook with his daughters, Callie and Courtney.

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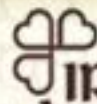
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St. Patrick's Day Celebrations

Celebrate all things Irish with the Center at the annual St. Patrick's Day celebrations this March 2016. This year, we expect more than 10,000 visitors to the IAHC during March.



On Saturday, March 12, join us for the St. Patrick's Festival following the downtown Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade. The festivities begin at 1pm and end at midnight and this large-scale, family-oriented celebration features traditional and contemporary Irish music, dance, food and drink for purchase, children's activities and an Arts and Craft Fair, with vendors selling Irish gifts. Visit the Library, Art Gallery and Museum for programming and exhibits, such as films, Irish language lessons, an Irish art exhibit,

films, genealogy workshops and a book sale.

Attendees can park near the building or be directed to a remote lot and take a free shuttle to the IAHC from 2pm to mid-

night. Tickets are \$15 for adults, or \$12 for advance purchase if bought by the

end of the day on March 10. Children 12 and under are free.

Return for more fun with the St. Patrick's Day Celebration on Thursday, March 17. The day-long celebration in the Fifth Province includes music, Irish dance and face painting for children and food and drink for purchase. The party is from noon to 10pm and tickets are \$10. Children 12 and under are free. There will be a mass at 11am.

Tickets can be purchased by visiting www.irish-american.org, calling 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or at the door.



Schedules

March 12, St. Patrick's Festival

Fifth Province

- 1pm-Joe McShane
- 3pm-Shannon Rovers Irish Pipe Band
- 3:30pm-Dooley Brothers
- 6pm-Finbarr Fagan Band
- 9pm-Chancey Brothers

Auditorium

- 1:30pm-Irish Heritage Singers
- 2:30pm-Trinity Irish Dancers
- 3:30pm-Mullane Healy Godley Academy of Irish Dance
- 4:30pm-O'Hare School of Irish Dance
- 5:30pm-Identity Irish Dancers
- 6:30pm-Mulhern School of Irish Dance

Room 109

Food by Harrington's Catering

Room 111

1pm-8pm-Arts and Crafts Fair

Museum, Art Gallery and Library

1pm-6pm programs and exhibits

Room 304

- 4pm Film: *A Terrible Beauty*
- 6pm Film: *A Terrible Beauty*

Room 310

- Food by Harrington's Catering
- 2pm-Academy of Irish Music
- 3:30pm-Patrick and Karen Cannady and Friends

Erin Room

- 1pm to 6pm-Children's Area
- 5pm-Bill O'Donoghue and Larry Nugent
- 7:30pm-In Spite of Ourselves

March 17, St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Auditorium

Mass 11am

Fifth Province

- 1pm-Kathleen Keane and Peter Brady
- 3pm-O'Hare School of Irish Dance
- 4pm-Chancey Brothers
- 6:30pm-Trinity Irish Dancers
- 7pm-Without U2

Social Scene

Paints and Pints

Channel your inner Picasso this winter with an evening of painting, food and drinks in the Fifth Province.

Paints and Pints features a painting session with instructor Kathy Kelly, where aspiring artists can create a painting of their choice and bring home their canvas creation.

Paints and Pints is Friday, April 8 from 7pm to 9pm and tickets are \$45 for IAHC members or \$50

for general admission. The cost features art materials and canvas and a choice of one soda, glass of house wine or domes-



tic beer and live Irish music at 8pm. The Fifth Province will be open at 6pm and feature food and drinks for purchase.

Quiz Night

Test your trivia knowledge with Quiz Night at the Center.

The cost is \$30 per team, with a limit of six players per team. There are prizes for the top three teams, and food and drinks are available from the Fifth Province Pub. Remaining 2016 Quiz Nights are March 11, April 15 and May 20 at 8pm.



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Culture Corner

Staged Reading Series

Shapeshifters Theatre continues its monthly staged readings this March in the Fifth Province with Sean O'Casey's *The Plough and the Stars*.

O'Casey's classic play contrasts events in a Dublin tenement with the 1916 Rising outside the door.

The reading is Monday, March 7. The Fifth Province opens at 6 pm, for live music with Patrick and Karen Cannady. The reading begins at 7 pm. The audience is invited to stay for a post-show discussion with director Elizabeth Ellis and the cast.

Tickets for the reading are \$10.

St. Patrick's Day Art Exhibit

The Art Gallery hosts an art exhibit this March.

The St. Patrick's Day Art Exhibit runs from Saturday, March 12 through Sunday, March 20 from 1pm to 4pm, except Saturday, March 12 for the St. Patrick's Festival. St. Patrick's Festival hours are from 1pm to 6pm and fest admission fees apply.

The exhibit features paintings and drawings by Chicago artists Michael Carroll, Laura Coyle, Kathy Cunningham, Jim Kingston and Kathy Kelly.

Traditional Celtic Art Class

The Center's Traditional Celtic Art Class returns to the IAHC Art Gallery this March.

Beginning and intermediate



level students can study techniques for knot work, interlacing and color theory. Students can also complete a project of their choosing in this supportive, creative atmosphere. Classes are Tuesday nights from 7pm to 9pm from March 15 to May 17, and tuition is \$130 for members and \$150 for non-members.

Watercolor Painting Class

Art lovers of every level can learn to paint in our continuing watercolor classes this spring.

Under instructor Kathy Kelly, students learn the principles of creating a solid understanding of the medium. Each lesson includes one-on-one guidance with focus on the principles of creating a solid painting; learning how to draw, valuing relationships, paint color interpretation, composition, watercolor techniques and how to use art supplies.

The class runs from March 30-May 11 on Wednesday evenings from 6:45pm to 8:45pm. Tuition is \$130 for IAHC members and \$140 for non-members. A supply list will be provided when registering.

Revolutionary Irish Women Series

Celtic Women presents its 9th Annual Revolutionary Irish Women Series Program, *Unmanageable Revolutionary Women* on Saturday, April 2, at 1pm. The program features an introduction to the women's efforts, videos and a documentary that includes interviews

with some of the foremost Irish historians on the subject of women in the Rising. Tickets are \$10 for CWI or IAHC members and \$15 for general admission.

Tea with Jane Addams

Enjoy tea, sandwiches and scones with Jane Addams at another of our Saturday Morning Tea Series. Annette Baldwin portrays the Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and fascinating woman in history.

In 1889 in the parlor of an old mansion on Chicago's near Westside, Jane Addams and Ellen Gates Starr founded Hull House, an internationally-acclaimed center for social change. Chicago's first settlement house fostered multi-cultural understanding and fought tirelessly for immigrants' rights, juvenile justice, industrial safety, improved living conditions for the city's poor, and protective legislation for women and children. Addams also worked tirelessly for the rights of women to vote. In 1931, she became the first woman to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Tea with Jane Addams is Saturday, April 2 at 11am. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$15 for young adults from 12-18 and children under 12 are free. Reservations are required and must be made by March 28.

For tickets to all cultural programs, visit www.irish-american.org or call 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

Spring Concerts

Comedy and Crooning Starring Artie Fitzgerald and Gene Cooney

Enjoy a night of comedy and music for a good cause this spring. Comedy and Crooning Starring Artie Fitzgerald and Gene Cooney is a salute to Irish comic Hal Roach, and a celebration of the 100th birthday of Frank Sinatra.

IAHC President Gene Cooney will perform a comedy set by beloved Irish comedian, Hal Roach. Local entertainer Artie Fitzgerald will perform the classic hits and standards of Old Blue Eyes. This fundraiser benefits the IAHC Library.

The concert is Saturday, March 26 at 7pm. Tickets \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door.

Byrne and Kelly in Concert

Byrne and Kelly, international stars of Irish group Celtic

Thunder come to the Center for one night only this April.

Driven by vocal harmonies, the duo seamlessly dives into combining genres like traditional Irish and Americana to create a fresh, Celtic folk sound. Joined by musicians Nicole Hudson on fiddle and Peter Sheridan on mandolin and keyboard, the foursome are currently writing and recording original music for their third album which will be released in 2016.

The concert is Saturday, April 9 at 7:30pm and tickets are \$35.

For tickets to the Center spring concerts, visit www.irish-american.org or call 773-282-7035, ext. 10.



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President's Message

Dust off your green shoes. Iron your green shirt and slacks and get that green coat back from the cleaners. The Center wants to be your hub of activities for the month of March. Please feast your eyes on these pages at all the doings at the Center.

Join Kathleen Keane and me for a live taping of our radio show which is immediately followed by our weekly session each Thursday night. Some of the best local musicians are on hand for all the craic. Don't miss out. We air our show on Saturday evenings from 8-9 pm on WSBC 1240AM.

If you think yoga is relaxing, you should try the Watercolor class given by art instructor Kathy Kelly here at the Center. You turn your phone off and let your mind draw the prettiest of pictures. It is amazing what you can do with a little water, a bright white canvas, Roy G. Biv and a little imagination. I signed up for this class with eleven other students and the time flies. Kathy will also offer a spring session. See these pages for details.

Monica Dougherty and Kathy Kane have offered to help with the Center's Kiddie Committee.



Bring your family to the Center on Palm Sunday on Sunday, March 20 for Mass, breakfast and activities for the kids, such as coloring Easter eggs and perhaps a visit from the Easter Bunny himself. If you want to help, email me at gooney@irishahc.org.

On Saturday, March 26, a few friends and I are going to put on a classy little show. I will do my best at honoring the famous "King of Irish Comedy," Hal Roach; without the brogue, of course. Artie Fitzgerald does a smashing imitation of Frank Sinatra

who would be all of 100 years old this year. Hey, Frank had an Irish bodyguard, and Irish mother-in-law. I asked him to do-be-do-be-do a few Bing Crosby songs, such as *Toora Looora Looora*. It will be a very entertaining night. Tickets are on sale for \$25 or \$30 at the door, if there are any left. All proceeds will benefit the Center Library. Our hard working librarians need to get connected with the outside world and they need to update their computers. If you can't make the show, you can still donate for the library improvements. But, try and make the show, as it will be a night to remember.

I am inviting all Irish taverns and clubs to field a team of eight scrapping young men and join us for the first annual Tug-Of-War Challenge, on the South Lawn at the Center on Saturday, August 6 at noon. Food and drink will be available for purchase. The cost to enter a team is \$125. The rules are pretty simple; no spikes, no gloves and no sitting. The winning team can display their trophy in their establishment for a year. I will be looking for sponsors and some bright people to help design the trophy. The winning team's name will be engraved on the trophy forever. If you want to join the Committee, send me an email.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of Jack Hever and Jim Kelly; two long time volunteers who gave much of their time and talent to perfect the Library and the whole Center, as well.

Happy March and I hope to see you soon.
Sláinte!
Eugene M. Cooney
President



Annual Palm Sunday Mass and Irish Breakfast

Join The Irish American Heritage Center for its Annual Palm Sunday Mass and Irish Breakfast, Sunday, March 20, 2016.

Join us for Mass at 10:30 a.m. followed by breakfast.

Tickets are Adults . . . \$15.00
Children . . . \$8.00

Reservations must be made by March 15. The form below can be used to mail in checks.

For more information, call 773-282-7035.

Annual Palm Sunday Mass and Irish Breakfast March 20, 2016

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ Number of Tickets: _____
Adults: _____ Children: _____



Annual Appeal Continues

Our Annual Appeal campaign continues this March. We have received many generous donations from our members and friends and will continue this campaign into Spring 2016. Each year, Pat and Peggy Burke pledge to match up to \$25,000 for the

Appeal. We thank you for your anticipated generosity and will list donors through April 2016.

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The Heritage Line Staff Kathleen O'Neill, **Editor**
Contributors: Gene Cooney, Elizabeth Ellis, Michael Gibbons, Catherine Kelly, Kathy Kelly, Peggy Murphy, Sheila Murphy

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IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

MARCH ENTERTAINMENT

- 3/4 The Boils
- 3/5 Joe Cullen
- 3/11 Sullivan Brothers
- 3/12* St. Patrick's Festival-1pm
- 3/17* St. Patrick's Day Celebration-Noon
- 3/18 Paul McHugh
- 3/19 St. Patrick Fathers
- 3/25 Seamus O'Kane
- 3/26 Jeff Ward

* cover charge

All bands perform at 8pm.



Thursday Night Irish Music Sessions: March 3, 10, 24 and 31, 7pm-9pm

March Drink Special

Irish Eyes Cocktail - Green River Soda and Dingle Gin \$6

Valid for the month of March 2016 only.

March 2016

March 2	Tara Club Meeting	Room 304	10am
March 3	IAHC Queen Contest	Fifth Province	6pm
March 4	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili Mor	Fifth Province	8pm
March 5	Tea: The Mist, Longing, Laughter of Irish Music, Song, Poetry	Fifth Province	11am
	Shamrock American Club Dance	Sham Am Room	8pm
March 6	The Imortal Irishman Book Discussion	Library	2pm
	Wearing of the Green Dinner Dance	Erin Room	4pm
March 7	The Plough and the Stars Staged Reading	Fifth Province	Music 6pm/Reading 7pm
March 11	Quiz Night	Room 109	8pm
March 12	St. Patrick's Festival	Whole Bldg.	1pm
March 15	Celtic Art Class	Art Gallery	7pm
March 16	Tara Club Meeting	Room 304	10am
March 17	St. Patrick's Day Mass	Auditorium	11am
	St. Patrick's Day Celebration	Fifth Province	Noon
March 19	St. Patrick's Day Art Exhibit	Art Gallery	1-4pm
	St. Patrick Fathers Social	Fifth Province	8pm
March 20	Palm Sunday Mass	Auditorium	10:30am
	Palm Sunday Breakfast	Fifth Province	11:30am
	St. Patrick's Day Art Exhibit	Art Gallery	1-4pm
March 25	Shamrock American Club Meeting	Sham Am Room	8pm
March 26	Clan na Gael Dinner	Erin Room	6:30pm
	Comedy and Crooning Starring Artie Fitzgerald and Gene Cooney	Auditorium	7pm
March 27	Easter Rising Mass	Auditorium	10:30am
March 29	Celtic Art Class	Art Gallery	7pm
March 30	Watercolor Painting Class	Room 309	6:45pm

Regularly Scheduled Events

Mon-Fri	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	4pm-8pm
Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
Tues	Memoir and Creative Writing Workshop	Library	4pm
Tues	Set Dancing	Room 111	7:30-9:30pm
Tues, Thurs, Fri, & Sat	Golden Diners Lunch Program	Kitchen	12:30pm-2pm
Wed	Watercolor Painting Class	Room 310	6:45pm
Wed	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7-10pm
Thurs	The Craic with Cooney and Keane Radio Show	Fifth Province	6pm
Thurs	Thursday Night Irish Music Sessions	Fifth Province	tune workshop 6:30pm session 7pm
Thurs	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsals	Room 304	7pm
Thurs	Memoir and Creative Writing Workshop	Library	7pm
Fri	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili	Room 111	8pm
Fri	Friday Night Fish Fry	Fifth Province	6:30pm
Sat	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	10am-8pm

Library Hours | Tuesday and Thursday 10am to 2pm | Wednesday 4pm to 8pm | Saturday 10am to 2pm

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pH Factor
By Pat Hickey



Uncle Sam's Big Bowl of Breakfast Meats

Fawcett Publishing was founded by Capt. Wilford Hamilton Fawcett – Capt. Billy, a Spanish American War and WWI veteran. It began with a magazine dedicated to humor, snappy stories, cute girls, gadgets and games. Capt. Billy's Whiz Bang took its title from a shrapnel shell that would blow-up over the heads of troops. Rather ghoulish that was, considering that Capt. Billy's audience happened to be veterans of the Great War who endured the horrors of head wounds. Imagine a veteran of Iraq, or Afghanistan putting out a magazine entitled Laughs from an Improvised Explosive Device (IED).

As a dedicated and devout craven, my sense of irony tends toward the more wholesome and manly pursuits of the heaping board – a table loaded with eats. Patriotism and ripping yarns often meet over platters of meat. Nothing makes an American whose forebears left the hunger and despair of Lebanon, Poland, Norway, Liberia, Latvia, Lithuania, or the Philippines more Teddy Roosevelt than a good porterhouse or rack of lamb. At LaLumiere School, alma mater of Chief Justice John Roberts and comic actor Jim Gaffigan, I once asked my students to write an essay about which bird other than the American Eagle might best represent America.

One of those students was Patrick Costello of Evanston, IL who argued and wrote that America's iconic bird should be a Turkey – not the feathered living idiot who drowns himself during rainstorms, but the cooked, whole roasted feast. A+, my Boy! Uncle Sam would be proud. Uncle Sam - the founder of the Feast.

I would like to publish a monthly periodical dedicated to Uncle Sam's America – if, to parallel to the movies of recent but popular culture, you're in any way of the mind-set and character of Apollo Creed from Rocky; Bill the Butcher from Gangs of New York, Wes Studi in anything, or Gloves Donahue from All Through The Night YOU are on my team.

Let's have a wildly patriotic – nay jingoistic - magazine published by a draft-dodging coward for combat vets, lumberjacks and jills, and Guys and Dolls who pour gravy on everything without a second thought. I want to call this magazine –Uncle Sam's Big Bowl of Breakfast Meats – that should give you some idea of the direction that our literary musings should take.

Paul Bunyan Portions for Thought: My Dream Team and topics (maximum 600 words per month) – all articles, poems and features must make a flattering reference to our country, our history, our people, our way of life, our cuisine, and, or Uncle Sam would all be managed and edited by the likes of Dan McGrath, John Hector and Kristen McQueary. Cartoons by Pulitzer Prize winner Jack Higgins.

- Luggage, Safety and Packing Tips from the White House –Larry Lynch U.S. Secret Service (retired) and Desiree Rogers
- Visual Arts - Sister Wendy Beckett and Chicago Artist Tim McCarthy
- Religion - Father Tony Brankin of St. Odilo's Parish
- Nutrition and Health with AFL/NFL Football Hall of Famers and Legends Art ala the late Art Donovan, or Chicago icon, Dick Butkus
- Dance – Tough one - gotta find a real hoofer – like the elate Dan Daily. Or George Murphy
- Poetry – Chicago's J.J. Tindall and the guy who did CarX ads

- Media and Pop Culture – Mr. Cool Breeze and Mr. Light Green Smith

- Law –Tamara Holder and Chief Justice of Illinois and Tony Rezko

- Theatre - Robert Falls, Tony Moskus and Kara Zediker

- Your Dollars, Investments Gold, Guns, and Ammo – Ms. Terry Savage and Mr. Ted Nugent

- Medical & Neurological Breakthroughs – Jay Cutler Chicago Bears and Dr. Tom Origitano M.D. Loyola University

- Education K-20 – Ben Stein
- Humor – Joseph Epstein

- Film – Mike Houlihan & Michael Moriarty

- B&Bs -Dave Sambler of Bridgeport B & B

- Butcher Chat – Mike Benson of County Fair Foods – Limerick Man!

- Travel – Any Retired Stewardess with at least 25 years on the job with United/American/Southwest and Steve Jordan, former VP of Bank of Singapore

- Inner City Life – Any Chicago Police Officer, or Fireman

- Weather for the Month – That cute little weather broad from Channel 7 and Boz O'Brien of Reilly's Daughter Pub over by Midway Airport

- Politics and Government – John Kass and Leo Boxing Coach Mike Joyce

- Chicago and National Night-life –Pub Owners Nick Novich(northside) and Bernard Callaghan (south side)

- Sports with Dr. Camille Paglia, PhD and White Sox Pitching Great Bart Johnson

America is no where near past its prime and glory, Let's drop the texting and get in some eating, bowling, travelling, reading and writing.

Margaret Coyle Trips for 2016

Margaret is planning several trips for 2016 including Ireland! Any interested parties call 708-870-0579 or email her at mcoyle17@hotmail.com

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RJ Balson & Son has been practicing butchery since the year 1515, an incredible 500 years. The family butchers from Southwest England are the oldest in Europe. Since 2007, the Balson family has made their award winning English/Irish specialty meats available in the USA through their online store (www.buybangers.com) and through specialty shops across the country.

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

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



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Author's Debut Novel Brings Slavery Alive

Newly published author Dennis Lee Hague is familiar with two American institutions, having grown up near the University of Notre Dame and served in the Marines in Vietnam. Now he's bent on making America familiar with what was known as The Peculiar Institution, taking readers alongside slavery as it progresses from the 1830's during the growth of abolitionism.

Seen through the eyes of a main character, a slave named Reggie who eventually becomes free, the work is sub-labeled as An American Slave Odyssey and A Controversial Historical Novel.

"Any time that you set out to tell the truth, you're stepping in a controversial area." Hague was determined to capture both the accents and the vernacular of the period, including the common slur for blacks begging with the letter "N".

"A lot of people condemned Mark Twain and Huckleberry Finn for that very reason."

The novel moves from Virginia around the Williamsburg and Richmond area to Charleston and outside of Savannah and then up to Boston.

"It's not that I have a rich imagination, the facts are that I did my



homework. I did an immense amount of research so all of this emanates from fact, not just imagination."

Hague invested over 10 years in research and writing "The Eyes of the Comet." He lives in Bloomfield Township in Walworth County near the border town of Genoa City.

The title of the book is basically a metaphor...Halley's Comet appeared in 1835 and then another comet appeared in 1843. The storyline is sandwiched between those two comets.

"The title is God's eyes watching over us to see that in his world, we all are one. That's a basic theme of the entire novel."

At age 67 Hague was "no spring chicken" as he describes himself, when he completed the novel. He had entered Ball Street University in Muncie, Indiana at the age of 18 and received a bachelor's degree in social science. After serving in Vietnam he returned to Ball State as a teaching assistant and

completed his master's degree in world history. During his next thirty-two years Dennis taught United States history and future studies at Wheeling High School in Wheeling, Illinois near Chicago.

Hague's first run of novels arrived in late September.

"I opened the box and I pulled a book out and I was just excited. The immediate feeling was humbled. I was humbled by the book," says Hague. "I realized that the book actual-

ly guided me rather than me guiding the book. I found the characters were helping me write the book and I was only conveying what they want me to say. I feel like they're with me all the time."

Reggie, the main character, is a slave for 12 years before becoming free. He and his wife Anastasia are 7/8ths white known at the time as Octaroons. "That element might be controversial as well."

Every time he started writing, he felt himself transported back to that period. But the main character travels not only around the country but through time, with dream sequences that take Reggie to see Lincoln give the Gettysburg address, Martin Luther King give the "I have a dream" speech a hundred years later, and even back to the Crucifixion of Christ.

Through the journey Hague aimed for complete authenticity and to not varnish the past.

"History affords you the opportunity to see what went wrong in the past," he says with conviction. Now Hague is bringing others across the country that vision.

The Eyes of the Comet from Rawhide Book Publishing, Lake Geneva, is available from Amazon.com and from other online and retail outlets nationwide. E-mail: IrishRoverJim@aol.com



Photo by Roy Iwatake

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- > Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of Chicago

CONLON Education:

- > Duke University School of Law (J.D.)
- > Georgetown University (M.A.)
- > Yale University (B.A.)



From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell



However You Look, the Figures Don't Add Up

By the time you read this the results of Ireland's General Election will be known.

As of now, with just over a week before polling the outcome is unclear. What IS clear is that, so far at least, the Government's main strategy of stressing the need for continuity to maintain stability is not impressing voters. This may yet change – there was a major late surge to Fianna Fail in 2007, which sufficed to see them returned, and many in government are hoping that Enda Kenny can replicate David Cameron's late and unexpected victory in Britain last year.

The problem for the Government parties is that their combined support, while not slipping, remains stubbornly below the required levels. Fine Gael has been stalled around the 30% mark for several months, and Labour cannot even maintain half its 2011 level of 19.4%. Different polls pundits and analysts agree on only one thing – that the Coalition will fall short. By how much is unclear. It could be by fifteen seats or more, it could be by less. Local issues, locally popular candidates and the fact that three quarters of the constituencies have been revised add to the mix and make

any forecasting an art rather than a science.

Barring a late surge, Independents or smaller parties will hold the balance, with the left threatening a significant breakthrough. Unless of course the hitherto unthinkable happens and Fine Gael and Fianna Fail were to go into government together. This remains the bookies' favourite at eleven to eight, with (a lengthening) five to one against for the Coalition.

It may not be a case of snatching defeat from the jaws of victory but there are precedents for incumbents losing when they thought they were a shoe-in. Fianna Fail in 1973 thought a grateful electorate would return them for taking a hard line on security. The Coalition in 1977 thought (hoped) they would be rewarded for weathering a serious economic and energy crisis. They repeated their mistake in 1987, after another economic crisis.

In 1997, with the economy buoyant, the Rainbow Coalition lost out, chiefly because of a sharp decline in support for Labour, which saw its seats – and votes – halved. Labour's surge in 1992 (to levels replicated in 2011) was seen as the public's desire to get rid of Fianna Fail; instead Labour kept them in power, and paid the price five years later – proof that in some areas the Irish electorate have long memories. There seems every likelihood that February 26 will see Labour's cold shower repeated, with the hapless junior partner being blamed for broken election pledges.

So far the election campaigns of both government parties have failed to ignite. Having attempted to garner credit for restoring the country's economic fortunes, they are discovering that there is very little to attract in promising to continue steady as she goes. Having been told there is economic

recovery, the public want some of it – now. Fiscal rectitude was o.k. (indeed obligatory) when the Troika were dictating economic policy. Once those shackles were removed, it has been back, all too soon, to auction politics, with the political parties, in the words of one eminent commentator, vying to buy public support with the public's own money.

Or indeed, with borrowed money. For, despite the recovery, despite 2015's impressive economic growth rate and booming tax receipts, Ireland continues to spend more than it earns. When the Government did a smoke and mirrors job in the last budget, conjuring up funding for tax cuts and some benefit increases, Bertie Ahern was derided for pointing out that this was done with borrowed money, not, as his government did, with large budget surpluses. Over-simplistic, but true. Pent up demand and the dynamics of the electoral cycle prompted the Government to offer modest sweeteners last October, after which there was no going back. The damage was done. The result: with the election pending, with a balanced budget in sight, the government let the egg fall off the spoon, and have been frantically trying to pick it up since.

It is not so much that the hard economic lessons of the last seven years have been forgotten, more that politicians on all sides are again encouraging a sense of entitlement by painting the picture rosier than it is. The recovery is real, but drilling down reveals that it is far from universal, with some parts of the country and some sections of the community hardly touched, and legacy issues remaining. What's more there's clearly a way to go before it is complete and before individual finances are back to even approximately where

Continued on next page

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However You Look, the Figures Don't Add Up

Continued from previous page

they were.

The current election manifestos overall make sorry reading, with promises of increased spending and, more worryingly, of cuts in taxation (except for those designated "rich" on gross incomes over €100,000), in particular the hated – but lucrative - Universal Social Charge. The tax cuts, if implemented, would erode the tax base. Déjà vu anyone? The Fianna Fail Celtic Tiger budgets were applauded for removing hundreds of thousands from the direct tax net. When revenue collapsed in the Crash, the resulting fiscal crisis saw the country mired in a downward borrowing spiral.

The odious bank bailout - €64 billion – greatly increased

our indebtedness and the annual interest payments on that bailout have been a heavy burden. We could have done much with that money. However, even more was required to cover the interest on the annual borrowings to keep the country afloat and pay welfare and wages when tax receipts collapsed (in one year the figure was close to €20 billion). Eventually Ireland's credit ran out and nobody would lend to us on the open market.

Hence the much maligned Troika which came in and kept the country afloat. The Troika programme - though politically unpopular – was successfully implemented and helped the country back on its feet and the tax base to recover. The danger now is that this hard won improvement will again be dissipated for short term electoral results. Better services and benefits cannot be financed while simultaneously exempting a large proportion of those working from paying tax.

A generation ago, the Government, usually Fianna Fail, balanced the books by inserting an item "fiscal buoyancy" in the budget to cover embarrassing shortfalls. The main parties now are justifying their election promises by reference to a new buzz phrase, "fiscal space" - a euphemism for the wiggle room available to a government to increase spending and/or lower taxes without jeopardising the sustainability and stability of the country's economy. Not surprisingly, in the hands of the parties' spin doctors, fiscal space has been massaged to the point where credibility becomes an issue.

For Ireland, which has so recently had the wolf at the door (some

would say inside) this could rebound – big time. We are still borrowing, yet the main parties are kiting figures of up to € twelve billion in fiscal space "available" over the next few years to underwrite election pledges, cut taxes and expand services. All predicated on the current favourable international economic climate continuing. Let's hope, for all our sakes, they get the weather they're expecting.



Rocking 'Round the Clock at Dancing with the Stars in Gaelic Park. Photos by Brenda McShane



After a two year break Roscommon reclaimed the title of All-Ireland Trivia Champions at Gaelic Park in Oak Forest. Only 1 point separated the top 3 teams with a gallant Down team beating out Kerry Griffins for second place.

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Women of Ireland at the Athenaeum Theatre

Celtic music lovers in Chicago are in for a special treat when the Ireland-based act Women of Ireland takes to the Athenaeum Theatre Main Stage on March 15th at 7:30 pm.

The name Women of Ireland refers to a beautiful piece of music bearing the same name and is known in the Irish language as "Mná na hÉireann". The 20-member touring company comprises some of the best women performers within the Irish musical tradition, along with other world-class musicians, singers, and dancers. The Irish Examiner described the full-scale production "mesmerizing", and the Sarasota Herald Tribune called the talent of the cast "superhuman at times... gripping". The gifted performers will showcase traditional Irish music (Danny Boy, Carrickfergus) in a contemporary setting, while other popular songs (Let It Be, God Bless America) will be given a



stirring Celtic interpretation. The show's special guest performer will be four-time World Champion and longtime lead dancer with Riverdance, Anthony Fallon.

Women of Ireland is also the only Irish and Celtic show in the world that incorporates an aerial artist (Taylor Rowland). Taylor's daring and awe-inspiring feats are woven to the beautiful strains of

the show's Celtic music, and provide a unique aspect within the genre. Three stunning Irish vocalists (Karen Tynan, Sarah Vaughan,

and Una Pedreschi) will perform alongside other principal artists Kelly McDonnell (Irish dance) and Lotta Virkkunen (Fiddler).

The creative force behind Women of Ireland is creator and producer Eric Cunningham, in association with Celtic Entertainments (Ireland). Eric and his team have entertained heads of state in Ireland, China and Europe, as well as performed in venues across the United States and Australia. They have worked with such diverse artists as One Direction, Van Morrison, Michael Buble, and many others.

Women of Ireland
Presented by Athenaeum Theatre Productions
March 15th at 7:30 pm
Athenaeum Theatre Main Stage
2936 N. Southport
Box Office: 773-935-6875, or visit athenaeumtheatre.org
For more information;

Jeff DeLong, Director of Marketing and Development
Athenaeum Theatre Productions 773-935-6860, ext. 304

Jeff@athenaeumtheatre.org
About the Athenaeum Theatre
Athenaeum Theatre Productions is firmly committed to providing the Chicago non-profit performing arts community a welcoming shared space to incubate new projects and collaborations by providing high quality and low cost performance, rehearsal, office, and reception space supported by a staff of theatre professionals. Founded in 1911, the Athenaeum Theatre is Chicago's oldest continuously operating Off-Loop theatre. We are home to 17 not-for-profit performing arts groups and four stages, including our magnificent 984-seat opera house. Athenaeum Theatre Productions is a not-for-profit 501c3 arts organization.



We Get Letters...

Dear Editor:
I realize these may be minor issues, however with St.Patrick's Day coming I feel they should be raised. Before their sale Hostess ran a line of green snowballs for St.Patrick's Day. Since their sale

Also, Jewel ran last year a line of Devil's Food Pistachio Cupcakes to go along with their already delicious cake put out



Hostess has not run them in stores I feel they should be continued since they continued Pink Snowballs for Easter and Orange for Halloween. Hostess 1-800-483-7253,

by Heinemann's. I realize these may be minor concerns however I hope you consider a story about this before St.Patrick's Day.

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Happy St. Patrick's Day!
MARIYANA SPYROPOULOS



Commissioner
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
Vote Democratic - Punch #133

Happy St. Patrick's Day and all that. This, as you know, is the 100th Anniversary of The Rising in Dublin in April, 1916. Big plans on the go to remember it all. Our Chicago-Cork Connection, Paddy Homan has a series of shows all about The Rising set for venues around Chicago. It is called, I Am Ireland. Space denies us the opportunity to go into it all. It is set as a musical journey through the great songs of that era. A full night of moving music, great stories and special meaning. Just Google Paddy Homan and check the schedule. He is our Male Vocalist of the Decade here at the paper, and with good reason. This show will be special.

Speaking of special, we are only going to do one review this month. The album is Notes From The Millpond by the east coast group, Fodhla (Foe-lah). It is a trio of musicians including Ellery Klein on fiddle, flutist Nicole Rabata and Bethany Waickman on guitar. Oddly, in today's market, there are only six tunes on it. This is our introduction to Rabata and Waickman, but we well remember Ellery from her wonderful 2001 recording, Salt and Pepper. I am fighting many ways to describe this album. Let's put it this way: It is a totally lovely piece of work. This is pure Irish traditional music, lovingly and beautifully played. There is no flash here. (We love flash.) There are no thundering bodhrans and banjos (we love them, too.) This is a collection of beautiful Irish music presented as it really should be in the purest sense. The melodies are allowed to shine. The musicianship is impeccable. To be vital, the music must remain broad based and inclusive. We must have We Banjo 3 and Socks in the Frying Pan—then working back through the thousands of singers and groups who inhabit the general field of "Irish music". Most importantly of all, there must always be space for a group like this. In so many ways, like a Bobby Casey, Paddy Killoran, Michael Coleman or Seamus Ennis, this is where much begins. As the traditions so evident every March, and especially this one, are remembered and cherished, so must this approach to Irish music be. Three gifted musicians giving us the tunes. Simply, straight forwardly and movingly. This is a wonderful album. Find it. You will love it. We suspect this album will not be a big commercial success. We strongly suspect that is not what these three women are after. It SHOULD be a big commercial success. It is most important, in any case, that albums like this are out there. Available. Played by young musicians of taste and talent. The future of the music is, as always, safe. Musicians such as these three are the reason why.

My radio co-host, Imelda Bhroga and I had a great lunch in February with Nova Scotian musical legends Dave Gunning and J.P. Cormier. They were on their way through the city to perform at the annual artists gathering/showcase by the Kansas City Folk Alliance. Hundreds of festivals, performance centers, theaters and other venue bookers, agents, media people all gathering together to check the showcase



Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



concerts of a ton of different acts for possible hiring. We know of a similar soiree in Ney York, and we THINK there may be one in Los Angeles. Folks DO come in from all over the continent. We were the first to tell you here about the fabulous Dublin group, The Jeremiahs, who will be there, too. Back to Cormier and Gunning, J.P. has a fantastic new album out called, The Chance. Dave is currently promoting his latest, The Lift. Dave is one of Imelda's favorite singers/guitarists. So is J.P. who plays every instrument ever made, and plays them all beautifully. (Best version of Angeline the Baker we ever heard.) He is also a terrific singer. Their albums always have Irish tunes/songs in them, and a lot more. Coolest thing of all was that J.P. pulled out what looked like a file stick on a pretty chain, with a lovely silver case with J.P.'s name beautifully engraved on it. This is something new, at least to us. He gave Imelda and me the last one he had. He was sold out. It contains all 14 of Cormier's albums!! Wow! Wow!! \$60 for everything of his on one file. Unbelievable, and an incredible bargain. The day is soon coming, if not already here, when you can buy the latest album by, say, The Brock-McGuire Band—or buy everything they have ever recorded, all in one unbelievably user-friendly format. Different numbers of albums and prices, obviously, but if you look at J.P.'s deal, it works out to a little over \$4 an album. Say hello to the future. Wrapping it up, Dave and J.P. are currently working on an album together. Can't wait for THAT!

Here are three quick plugs. Mary Ann Keifer has her terrific program on Monday nights at 9:00 p.m. on WDCB. Ireland Tonight. Irish music down to the core. Then, at 10:00 Imelda and I are on each Monday with Chicago's only regular Bluegrass program, House Party. (We DO sneak in the occasional Irish piece, Cajun and Americana. You know, like a party!!) Then there is what they still tell us is the most popular Irish music program in the world by numbers of listeners, the cleverly titled, Bill & Imelda Show on Sundays at noon Chicago time, 18:00 GMT. Live from Dublin. Go to LiveIreland.com, and you'll see how to hear it worldwide. Easy. Fun. Always interesting to see and hear what type of candy Imelda is eating during these shows. Mercy!!



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The Irish American Society of County Will is a proud sponsor of the County Will Morigans Women's Rugby Team. Home games are held at Manhattan Central Park 1 Park Rd. Manhattan, IL 60442. Practices are Thursdays 7:30 p.m. at Nova Quarter Horses, 10129 187th St., Mokena, IL 60448. If interested in joining please come out or contact us on Facebook or email at JoinTheMorigans@yahoo.com.

Spring Schedule:

- March 5
HOME vs Mizzou
- March 6
Volunteer at Manhattan IrishFest
- March 26
HOME vs Vixens
- April 2
HOME vs Palmer
- April 9
AWAY Wayne, NE Tournament
- April 23
AWAY vs North Shore
- April 30
HOME playoffs
- May 21
AWAY CARFU ball tournament

Manhattan Irish Fest

Clean-Up

Sunday March 7th
join us at Fritz in
Manhattan at 10am to
clean up after the fest!
We know this is not
the most fun event but
it is all just a part of
what we do!

Celtic Celebration Annual Dinner

Members and Public welcome
Saturday March 12th, 2-6 p.m.
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The Irish American Society of County Will hereby pledges itself to the following ideals:

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

Irish American Society is a proud sponsor of the Shamrock Rugby team. The 2016 Spring Schedule and Important events: (all games start at 1pm). Home games are held at Central Park, Manhattan, IL. New players welcome. For more information contact: Josh Runge; 708-856-1203

- March 5-6 Irish Fest Mahnattan
- March 19 Springfield (Away)
- April 2 Lewis (Home)
- April 23 B&B Milwaukee (Away)
- May 7 Oshkosh (Away)
- May 14 Bellville (Away)
- May 21 Misfits (Home)
- June 11 Jailbreak 7's
- June 30 Golf Outing (TBD)



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April 2nd After Party:

"The Church" 1103 Waverly Pl., Joliet, IL 60435
The after party will be immediately after the game!-Ends 6pm\$30 food, beer & raffle ticket (only 75 tickets will be sold to win the 55 gal. drum)
\$20 food and beer only
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Inaugural Shamrock Rugby Golf Outing

Tentatively June 30th More details to come!

Jailbreak 7's Tournament

June 11 More details to come!

View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



What's the Debate?

In the run up to the general election on February 26th in Ireland the following issues have not formed part of the pre-election debate, but should:

1. Ireland today prides itself on openness and liberality: last May we became the first country in the world to adopt homosexual marriage by national plebiscite. If such liberality is to be cultivated, free debate must be jealously guarded, above all in our universities. Instead, it is being thrown overboard like a useless commodity. Consider, for example, that at University College Galway the speech of a guest speaker, Professor Alan Johnson, editor of Fathom, who questioned the policy of Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions against Israel, was downed out in verbal abuse in March 2014. And from this September, students who live in residence at Trinity College Dublin will be given no choice in attending "sexual consent workshops". Learning about consent is mandatory? At the Trinity College Dublin that I remember such an Orwellian stricture would have been laughed at rather than obeyed. Last April Queen's University Belfast shut down a conference about the massacre of the Charlie Hebdo journalists, stating that students' security was at risk. (The decision was reversed after a vigorous protest). In all of the above instances, students and staff on our

campuses, which should inspire free speech rather than root it out, might remember Benjamin Franklin's dictum: "Those who would give up essential liberty, to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety".

2. Brexit (British exit from the European Union) is now a real prospect, with the British electorate tilting towards a "yes" vote. The referendum in Britain will probably be held on June 23rd of this year and if Britons opt to leave the EU, that would have considerable impact on Scotland and Northern Ireland, other parts of the UK's jurisdiction. The debate on the re-integration of the North of Ireland with the South is saliently absent in Ireland just now, despite the potential tectonic shift in Britain.

3. In an almost unprecedented move late last year, Taoiseach Enda Kenny invited the Irish abroad, presumably the newly emigrated ones in particular, to repatriate. One of the motions tabled at the time, which is still a far cry from becoming legislation, is that returnees would be awarded a tax incentive to move back. How divisive would such legislation be and when might it be implemented?

4. Earlier this month, the President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, asserted the need for a genuine examination of the social "floor" beneath which no

citizen of the Republic should be forced to live. Nothing new there: President Higgins has repeatedly spoken of the debilitating effect of inequality as a travesty of truly republican values. This time, however, he went further. He juxtaposed the emphasis on tax cuts for the rich on offer in the electioneering campaign with the rising inequality in our society, since tax cuts form the main carrot on offer to voters for the present government. Little debate on the subject ensued, except on Tonight with Vincent Browne.

5. On Saturday February 6th a group of protesters were violently repulsed by the Garda Síochána on O'Connell Street in Dublin. They were protesting a new Irish manifestation of PEGIDA (an acronym from the German which translates as "Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamisation of the West"). Some of the protesters were obstreperous and provoked the police, but not all. The Garda Síochána batoned an RTE television cameraman and RTE has lodged an official complaint to the Garda Commissioner. Resistance to PEGIDA has not had a good start in Ireland. We have much to learn from the way in which PEGIDA marches are handled in German cities. Given that the German example is there already, we could do with some analysis of it.

6. This election may well return the largest number of Independent TDs in our history; they may even hold the balance of power in the government. Their attempts to coalesce into groups have been flailing so far (and, in any case, that is dilution of independence). But the Independents' policies are occasionally

novel and merit proper attention.

7. And finally: "You have to mark an event like this", said Lenny Abrahamson wielding a Magnum bottle of champagne, before letting a trajectory of the bubbly rip. He was right. And many more of us should join in marking what could well become an epochal moment in Irish cinema. Abrahamson was referring to the fact that his film, Room, has been nominated for four Oscars at the Academy Awards this month. Abrahamson has called for more governmental investment in Irish film. With the flow of films of this calibre thickening, his point is incontrovertible (and it links to a broader argument about the need to reverse disinvestment in Irish Arts). The debate that Abrahamson sought to trigger is important and it deserves a wide response.

Whatever happens between now and election day, and whatever the outcome of the subsequent coalition negotiations will be, we do know this. Whoever will be Taoiseach at the first meeting of the 32nd Dáil Éireann on March 10th will be in an infinitely better position to govern than the Taoiseach appointed in the last general election of 2011. Back then, the country was vassal state of the International Monetary Fund and the most cogent option available to swathes of young people was to emigrate. Things have improved considerably and, though you will seldom hear it from media commentators, the glass is definitely half full.

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Don't Miss The Irish Heritage Singers



The Irish Heritage Singers, led by Paul Matijevic, are the resident choir of the Irish American Heritage Center. They perform at the Center, as well as throughout the Chicagoland community. They have a very busy March and you can catch them at the below performances.

Highlight-Thursday, March 17, National Anthem, Chicago Bulls Game, 7pm

Friday, March 4, Luther Village, 7pm Concert for the residents and guests of the Luther Village retirement community

Sunday, March 6, Skokie Theatre, 3pm, Encore performance at this downtown Skokie landmark built in 1912 and renovated into an acoustically perfect concert hall in 2006. <http://www.skokietheatre.com/irish-heritage-singers.html> 847-677-7761

Tuesday, March 8, 7:30pm, Mount Prospect Public Library

Thursday, March 10, 7:30pm, Poplar Creek Library

Saturday, March 12, 1:30pm, St. Patrick's Festival, IAHC-The Singers will perform as part of the St. Patrick's Festival at the Irish American Heritage Center

Sunday, March 13, 2pm, Avenues to Independence Irish Fest

Celebrate Avenue's annual Irish Fest. This is a ticketed fundraiser to help support the efforts of Avenues to Independence in Park Ridge. www.avenuestoindependence.org, 847-292-0870

Friday, March 18, 7:30pm, Leela Arts Center, Des Plaines. This is the Singer's first appearance at this historic performing arts center on Lee Street in Des Plaines. www.leelaartscenter.com, 800-838-3006

If you are interested in the Irish Heritage Singers performing at a function, would like a CD sampler of our music or have other questions, contact Marketing Director, John Mahal, at 847-989-5233 or jmahal846@gmail.com

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Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



Prometheus Unbound

In Greek mythology, Prometheus is punished by the gods when he gives the power to make fire to human beings. The transference of power, as it is symbolized in fire, makes Prometheus a friend of humankind, and an enemy of the gods. His action diminishes the power of the gods, and empowers humanity, and for this he is duly punished.

However, his action signals a new beginning for mortals, and a fundamental shift in power. Throughout the many centuries since this myth came into being, Prometheus has symbolized the collapse of the monopolizing of power by the elite.

We see this most acutely in Ireland in the waning power of religious institutions. Ireland's allegiance to Catholicism in particular has undergone a tremendous unmasking, and repurposing of the church. What Protestants in the north feared in the 19th Century; 'Home Rule equals Rome Rule' has been, in part, dispelled by the exposure of clerical abuses. The monolith of every parish has found itself under legal scrutiny.

The fire of democracy has been turned against the religious hierarchy with every new discovery of collusion between church and state. Victims, young and old, no

longer shunned as isolated cases, have banded together to demonstrate their injustice despite the Church's efforts to silence them.

The old pagan gods has been replaced by a new religious elite who are equally opposed to the empowering those under its care. As Ireland struggles to assert itself from a position of overdependence on the Church, we are seeing signs of significant changes realized in the legislation. Legislators are no longer bound and shackled by the old religious guard since they too have come under fire for obstructing justice for those who have been victimized. The state must distance itself from the Church if it is to remain impartial.

In this period of disassembling and separation between Church and state there is much to be gained in terms of democracy. The absence of fear and guilt induced politics must surely be a good thing when the Church is forced to listen to its people. The top down approach enshrined in the hierarchal system is never effective when it comes to making pronouncements that are at odds with its people. The warning of eternal punishment has been used and abused to the point that the 'big stick' philosophy has been whittled down to an empty threat. A new relationship is evolving in which the people are determining what is right for them, and this has inevitably meant a change in the Church's role.

The spiritual guidance of the Church should be confined to pastoral care, and not become, as it has in the past, a political power broker. As Ireland becomes more multi-cultural and diverse, the religious aspirations, and those who choose voice them, should be seen as a part of the whole, and not the whole itself. Centers of power are shifting as people become empowered, and

when these shifts occur there is a tremendous sense of insecurity. Before, when we allowed ourselves to be guided, and coerced into certain ways of thinking, we were allowing ourselves to become children; ascribing our responsibility to those we thought better than ourselves.

Maturity comes when you refuse to blindly submit to an authority structure. The passivity of this sort of allegiance is also noticeable here in Chicago when it comes to politics. It surprises me, though less and less, how many people expect their political representative to be corrupt. After all, it's how things get done in city.

One doesn't blink an eye when it comes to the blatant she-nanigans of those elected by the people, for the people. No one is surprised when one governor is prosecuted, only to be replaced by another equally dubious character. Somehow the fire of democracy has burned out the optimism of the voter who expects that 'there all as bad as each other'. The spin doctors and media moguls further compound this passivity by exaggerating the right and wrongs of politicians without any accountability.

Gaelic Park Builds Easter Rising Float to Commemorate Irish Freedom

Chicago Gaelic Park has been entering floats and participating in St. Patrick Day Parades for over 25 years and has received many awards and much recognition for their colorful and active presentations.

In the Fall of 2015, a gathering of Gaelic Park Directors hatched an idea that a special float would be a wonderful way to commemorate The Easter Rising of 1916 and to celebrate 100 Years of Irish Freedom.

They all agreed that the General Post Office or GPO is

The ordinary person has been handed a match, otherwise known as a vote, and made to feel that it's powerless against an indomitable force that is perpetuated by a political or media elite. This, however, is changing. Social media has equalized the playing field. Bloggers, vloggers and the world of viral activity has provided us with real power, and fire to confront and expose corruption at the highest level. Before the news moguls get to the story, we see images on social media of those institutions of power we formerly trusted shamed into change.

While not everything we read or see on the internet is true, this is also same with politics and the news. But what we are seeing with the rise of social media is desire by the individual to gain autonomy from those who believe they can wield power over the individual without culpability. The gods have every right to fear the fire that can spread throughout world within seconds and their only way to maintain control is to belittle, or confuse us by using misinformation as a distraction from the truth.

the most synonymous building associated with the Easter Rising of 1916, and were excited

at the prospect of creating a float that even the most distant American cousins could recognize and associate with.

You can get full details on the float with photos from the organizer and director John Devitt. He can be contacted via

email at devittj62@yahoo.com
In photo lower level William Mangan, on upper left to right John Devitt, Jack Stewart, Tom Dolan, Noel Murphy, Sabrina Mangan, John Murphy, Lynnea Mangan and Barney Farrelly.



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25th Annual Luncheon to Benefit Share Foundation

Share Foundation is a not for profit 503(c)(3) organization that serves the residential, vocational, spiritual and social needs of mentally challenged adults. Share is developing the 185 acre community of Sharing Meadows to provide a tranquil place where other abled people can live, work and relax in peace and dignity. At Sharing Meadows their unique gifts are recognized and appreciated as they focus on what they are able to do.

The Service League would like to extend a personal invitation to anyone interested in showing support of Share Foundation's mission to attend the 25th Spring Luncheon on Wednesday, March 16th at 10:30 a.m. in Schererville's Halls of

St. George.

Last year close to 800 people enjoyed this 'return of spring' event with family and friends. A donation of \$35 per person entitles you to a delicious meal, an array of fabulous door prizes, entertainment and the great company of many Share Foundation supporters. The Luncheon will benefit the Share Foundation's residential and camp programs. Seating is limited with a required reservation deadline date of Monday, March 6th so please make your reservation by calling Share Foundation at 219-778-2585; Emogene Grant, Chairperson, at 219-663-5271 or by emailing the foundation directly at share@sharefoundation.org. As always, we thank you for your support!

If you cannot take time out of your busy schedule to enjoy this event, please consider supporting Sharing Meadows with a donation of an item for the auction, a door prize or money.

Celebrate with We Banjo 3 and Benefit Mercy Home!



This exclusive one-night-only engagement launches March 16, 2016 at 7PM, when We Banjo 3 will return to Chief O'Neill's Pub & Restaurant and kickstart the St. Patrick's festivities by benefiting a great cause.

Mercy Home for Boys and Girls is a Chicago charity that has broken the cycle of neglect and abuse for over 30,000 kids since 1887. We Banjo 3 is an award-winning quartet from Galway, Ireland, that is considered the gold standard in Irish and American Roots music, and

should not be missed - when this band of brothers take flight in a wave of virtuosity and verve, feet tap and pulses race!

All proceeds from the concert will benefit Mercy Home, so please join us for a night of great music, food, drinks, and fun all in support of their work for the kids of Chicago!

Tickets @ <http://wb34mh.bpt.me/>

Chief O'Neill's Irish Pub
3471 N Elston Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60618

Immersive and Interactive An Post GPO Witness History Opening for Easter 2016

While the centre is in its final stages of construction, the exciting elements that will be part of this immersive and interactive permanent visitor centre were unveiled at a presentation today by Mr Barney Whelan, Director of Communications and Corporate Affairs for An Post, and Aline FitzGerald, General Manager of the centre.

An Post GPO Witness History is an immersive, interactive visitor attraction bringing history to life through technology, video, sound and authentic artefacts on loan from various donors. Its special effects, soundscapes and heartfelt stories of real people in extraordinary circumstances will captivate all age-groups - from the curious, young international

visitor to the well-informed history buff - there's plenty to interest and engage individuals, families and touring groups.

The centerpiece of the visitor



attraction will be an immersive semicircular audiovisual space which will put visitors right inside the GPO during the five days in which it was both the military command centre, and the seat of the Provisional Irish Government.

The centre will be opened by An Taoiseach on the 25th March and officially opened to the pub-

lic on the 29th March.

Speaking about the visitor attraction, Mr Whelan said, "this centre has been the brainchild of An Post for almost 5 years now and we are delighted that we are now in a position to outline some of the exciting elements we have in place. Shannon Heritage will manage the visitor centre for us and it will add to its very successful prestigious portfolio of visitor centres that the company operates around Ireland".

Aline FitzGerald, General Manager on behalf of Shannon Heritage added, "The aim of the centre is to give visitors a real sense of what it was like

to be in the GPO and Dublin at that time and to reflect on how those days shaped Ireland in the 100 years since. We are looking forward to welcoming our domestic and overseas visitors to this wonderful new visitor centre and pre-bookings are very strong at this point."

www.gpowitnesshistory.ie

St. Patrick's Story for Children

With colourful child friendly illustrations by the award winning Kerry artist Deborah O'Keeffe to specifically capture the young imagination and narrations by our much cherished Irish American screen legend, Maureen O'Hara, the first book is published and is already in school shops and libraries in Ireland. As there is a very large Irish population in America, the Irish American market is where we need to focus on next.

Phaisti is available now through Irish Folklore Publications at a cost of 7 Euro plus postage. (10% of the cost of each book/cd is donated to the Jack and Jill Foundation, an Irish government sponsored charity based in Kildare, Ireland. The Jack and Jill Foundation supply professional home nursing for very seriously ill children. This is Maureen O'Hara's legacy and gift to children everywhere who love stories.

The integrity of telling these stories, originally told and passed down through the generations in Irish is important as is the faithful translation of them to English. Gabrielle believes that bi-lingual (soon to be multilingual) narrated and illustrated folktales are the way to preserve and present the



Book 1, St. Patrick's Story for Children/Sceal Phadraig Naofa Do

unique Irish story-telling tradition
gpmcdonald@eircom.net



Chicago Gaelic Park

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



A Cháirde

March is the busiest month. Each year there seems to be more St. Patrick's parades, parties, sessions, dances, shows and other events than the year before. We in the Irish community have no one to blame but ourselves. We wouldn't have it any other way. By the time the Big Day comes (March 17th-my wife Tricia's birthday), all seem tired and happy. We're even happy at work in the CPA business we made it through another corporate mid-March deadline.

This year we add the commemoration of the 1916 Easter Rising to our own Irish version of March Madness, and there will be less time spent at home for us all. We hope you can march with us in the parades, and if not, please look for us and give us a wave. We also hope to see you at the Park whether for Ireland on Parade,

the Queen Contest, St. Baldrick's, South Side Sunday Celebration, Paddy Homan's I am Ireland, St. Patrick's Day Luncheon, or in the pub for a perfect pint.

While we are celebrating, let's not forget the man himself, Saint Patrick, who wrote; "God, who has granted me such great grace, that many people through me should be reborn to God". When he wrote these words, he had no idea how truly strong his influence would be and how long his legacy would last. And I want to congratulate Ann Marie, Martin, and all the talented St. Jarlath dancers. The Dancing for our Stars fundraising event on February 13th was a great one. And thanks to all who were involved with our parade float this year, including Cliff Carlson for giving us a mention.

Slán go fóil,
Bill O'Sullivan, President

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

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

- Daily Drink and Food Specials
- Expanded Pub Food and Appetizer Menu - Available Daily
- Pub Trivia every Tuesday, October-May starting at 7:30pm
- Every Thursday Traditional Music with Pat Finnegan & The Irish Musicians

the CARRAIG IRISH PUB

Live Music in the Pub

Fri	Mar 4	Jimmy O & Rhonda Lee	7:30pm
Sat	Mar 5	Kieran Byrne	8:00pm
Fri	Mar 11	Joe McShane	7:30pm
Sat	Mar 12	Billy O'Donahue and Larry Nugent	8:00pm
Fri	Mar 18	Bernie Glim & Country Roads	8:00pm
Sat	Mar 19	Ray Gavin	8:00pm
Fri	Mar 25	Gerry Haughey	7:30pm
Sat	Mar 26	Vocal Illusion	8:30pm

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

NO COVER CHARGE



2016 CGP Calendar of Events 2016

MARCH

3/2	Monthly Musical Luncheon* with Kara Eadie & Jerry Eadie	
3/6	Classic Carvery - Jerry Eadie	3pm
3/13	Monthly Mass & Breakfast	9am
3/20	Classic Carvery - Joe Cullen	3pm
3/27	Classic Carvery - TBA	3pm

Ladies Auxiliary... Next Meeting April 12th (No Meeting in March)

Monthly Musical Luncheon - Doors open at noon, hot lunch served at 1pm for just \$15 per person

*RR - Reservations Required 708.687.9323

Set Dancing Monday Evenings 7:30pm

Ceili Dancing Tuesday Evenings Lessons 7pm/Ceili 7:30pm

Pub Trivia will resume on Tuesday evenings in October

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



CGP Office 708.687.9323 www.chicagogaelicpark.org
Visit the CGP Library in the Shamrock Room

Save The Date

Clare Association 50th Anniversary Dinner Dance
April 9th, 2016 at Gaelic Park

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

Membership

NEW RENEWAL Family \$50 Individual \$30

Name _____ last _____ first _____ initial _____

Spouse (if joining) last _____ first _____ initial _____

Address _____ street _____ apt/unit # _____

_____ city _____ state _____ zip _____

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

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

phone: 708.687.9323 fax: 708.687.0120

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Chicago Gaelic Park

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



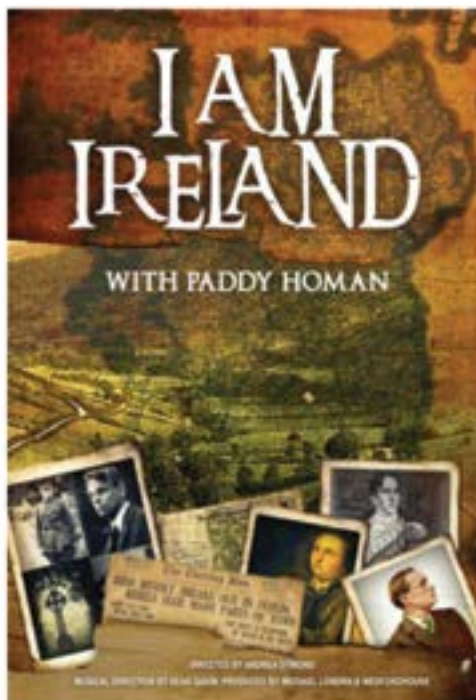
We would like to thank everyone for the wonderful turnout to our All Ireland Trivia Night. Fun was had by all! It was great seeing familiar faces as

well as new ones. We look forward to hosting the All Ireland Trivia event again next year.

The players would like to welcome and congratulate all of the returning Players and three newcomers to the stage for our Spring 2016 show *The Shadow of a Gunman*. Bob Reidy will take the stage, after last being seen as Mossy Plunkett in *The Muesli Belt*, cast as Seamus Shields, a peddler living in a tenement in Hilljoy Square. Sabrina Mangan, who was last seen in the fall play, *Troubled Bachelors* will be playing the brave role of Minnie Powell. The players are happy to welcome back Katie McKirdie who directed *The Muesli Belt* and will be playing Mrs. Henderson, taking the stage after last appearing as Maureen Folan in the *Beauty Queen of Leenane*. Mike (Meek) Azarkiewicz was last seen on stage with the Players in *Philadelphia, Here I Come*. And how could anyone forget Pete Simon, who showed his farmer and feminine side in *Two Loves of Gabriel Foley*, and Bridget Christianson, who showed off her assets in her pink track suit in *The Maiden Aunt*. They will be starring as husband and wife as Mr. Adolphus Grigson and Mrs. Grigson. Marty Donovan returns with the Players after showing off his pearly white teeth as debonair Clive Cartright in *Trying Anything Twice*. Mr. Mulligan, the landlord of the tenement, will be played by Liam Brick, who played Mr. Flanigan in *Troubled Bachelors*. The Player's are thrilled to have three newcomers to the group this spring. These men have had quite a bit of experience in improv on the Northside and other local theatre groups. Please join us in welcoming Mike Keliher who will play Donal Davoren, Bill Gleason as Mr. Maguire, and Andrew Harrigan as the Auxiliary! We look forward to seeing you in April!



save the date



St. Patrick's Concert

Saturday March 12, 2016

Celebrated Chicago Based Irish Tenor, **Paddy Homan** in a theatrically staged show to remember the upcoming 100th anniversary of the '1916 Rising' in Ireland. "I AM IRELAND" will take you on a journey through the songs, speeches and images honoring and celebrating the Irish road to freedom.

Tickets \$25

Doors open 7:00pm / Concert at 8:00pm

Chicago Gaelic Park's
6119 West 147th Street • Oak Forest, IL • 708-687-9323

St. Patrick's Day Luncheon

Traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage
Entertainment by Joe Cullen and Cross Keys Irish Dancers

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Doors Open 12:00 P.M.
Lunch Served at 1:00 P.M.

Admission \$25.00
No Refunds



Chicago Gaelic Park

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



Irish Festival 2016 Queen Contest

Saturday March 5, 2016

Crowning at 7:00pm



Entertainment by D.J. Bernie

Sponsored by

Chicago Gaelic Park

708-687-9323

www.ChicagoGaelicPark.org



Sunday, March 20, 2016

Gaelic Park's Annual Easter Egg Hunt!

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Chicago Gaelic Park - 6119 W. 147th Street
Oak Forest, IL 708-687-9323

www.chicagogaelicpark.org

Sunday March 27, 2016



Easter Sunday

Classic Carvery

A Delicious all you can eat buffet

Served from 3:00pm to 6:00pm - Entertainment continues to 8:00pm

Reservations are required and must be paid in advance

Adults \$26.00 Children 4 to 12 \$12.00

Admission includes dinner and entertainment

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

708-687-9323 / www.chicagogaelicpark.org

Michael Cusack's Leprechaun 5K Dash

When: Saturday, March 19, 2016

Where: Chicago Gaelic Park

6119 W. 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL 60452

Kid's 1 mile dash starts at 10:00 am

Leprechaun 5K run/walk starts at 10:30 am



Registration Information



You can register at:

<http://cusacksleprechaundash.itsyourrace.com>

Entry Fee: Adults \$35.00 (\$40.00 on race day; shirts can not be guaranteed on race day)

Kids \$15.00 (\$15.00 on race day; shirts can not be guaranteed on race day)

All participants will receive a dry fit shirt,

ONE FREE BEVERAGE at the Gaelic Park bar after the race.

A portion of the race registration fees will be donated to a local

charity called **Anthony Avengers**

Awards ceremony will follow right after the race!



Need a Birthday gift or just want to treat yourself, we have Gaelic Park O'Neills' Jerseys available in the Gaelic Park Front Office for \$60.00





Chicago Gaelic Park

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



49TH EDITION OF IRELAND ON PARADE TO BE HELD AT GAELIC PARK

Ireland on Parade, the wonderful exhibition of the music and dance of Ireland, celebrates its 49th Anniversary at Chicago Gaelic Park on March 4, 9, 10, 11, 13 & 16 2016. Ireland on Parade under the direction of the late Martin Fahey, began in 1967 at Ford City and after eleven years moved to the Glendora House where it stayed for 13 seasons before moving to Gaelic Park.

Gaelic Park is proud to continue to host this multi-generational tradition which is part of the celebrations in honor of Ireland's patron Saint, Patrick. Participating in Ireland on Parade this year are McNamara School of Irish Dancing, Trinity Irish Dancers & Cross Keys School of Irish Dancing on Friday March 4th, Weber School of Dancing and Foy School of Irish Dance

on Wednesday March 9th, Tooromeen School of Irish Dancing and Blackbird School of Dancing on Thursday March 10th, Eilish Sullivan School Irish Dance, McCormack Fay School of Irish Dancing and Lavin Cassidy School of Irish Dance on Friday March 11th, Dennehy School of Irish Dance on Sunday March 13th, Mullane Healy Godley, Maiden Street Dancers and Mulhern School of Irish Dance on Wednesday March 16th. The doors open each night at 5:30pm and there is FREE ADMISSION. Delicious hot food is available for purchase each evening at 5.30pm.

In addition Sean O'Donnell is featured on accordion and additional musical entertainment provided by the Irish Musicians; an organization which consists of local artists who are dedicated to the perpetuation of

traditional Irish music.

Along with Ireland on Parade, there will be many more activities going on at Gaelic Park during the month of March. The annual Irish Fest Queen Contest will take place on Saturday March 5th, and, the St. Baldrick's Head Shaving fundraiser where all donations benefit the fight against children's cancer will also take place on Saturday March 5th. The St. Patrick's Concert I am Ireland featuring Paddy Homan will take place on Saturday March 12th and the largest and most popular celebration is on south side Irish Sunday March 13th.

For starting times and all the details regarding the St. Patrick's season, call Gaelic Park at 708-687-9323 or visit the website at www.chicagogaelicpark.org.

SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH SOUTH SIDE IRISH SUNDAY

EMERALD ROOM

Mass & Irish Breakfast 9:00am

Admission \$9.00

Doors Re-Open 1:00pm

Admission \$5.00 • Kids 12 & under \$3.00

Four Stages of Continuous Entertainment

Delicious Hot Food Buffet in Tara Room

Available from 1:00pm

EMERALD ROOM

1:30pm Larkin & Moran Brothers

5:30pm Arranmore

7:30pm The Dennehy School of Irish Dance

TARA ROOM

1:30pm The Ploughboys

6:00pm The Dirty Wellies

Delicious Hot Food Buffet All Day

THE CARRAIG PUB

1:30pm The Ray Gavin Band

6:00pm Kieran Byrne

CELTIC ROOM

Children's Stage

1:30pm Dublin Deceptions

3:30pm A Bit O' the Magic

5:00pm Shamrock Shenanigans

THURSDAY, MARCH 17TH ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

THE EMERALD ROOM

Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon

Featuring

Corned Beef & Cabbage Luncheon

Doors open 12:00pm Lunch Served 1:00pm

Reservations Required - Adults Only

Entertainment Provided by Joe Cullen

And a show by

The Cross Keys School of Irish Dancing

6:30pm Ray Gavin on Stage

THE TARA ROOM

4:00pm Jans Clans Puppet Show

4:30pm Gerard Haughey on Stage

5:30pm Magic Matt

7:00pm Lavin Cassidy Irish Dancers

7:15 The Dirty Wellies

THE CARRAIG PUB

Pub Food 11:00am - 10:00pm

3:00pm The Gerry Carey Band

6:30pm Gerard Haughey

IRELAND ON PARADE

DANCE SCHOOL SCHEDULE

EMERALD ROOM

Doors Open Each Evening 5:30pm

No Cover Charge

Music by Sean O'Donnell &
The Irish Musicians

Hot Food Buffet Available in Tara Room

Friday March 4th

7:00pm The McNamara School of Irish Dance

7:30pm Trinity Irish Dancers

8:00pm Cross Keys School of Irish Dancing

Wednesday March 9th

7:00pm Weber School of Irish Dancing

7:30pm Foy School of Irish Dancing

Thursday March 10th

7:00pm Tooromeen School of Irish Dancing

7:30pm Blackbird Academy of Irish Dance

8:00pm Irish Music Session

Friday March 11th

7:00pm Eilish Sullivan School of Irish Dance

7:30pm McCormack Fay School of Irish Dance

8:00pm Lavin-Cassidy School of Irish Dancing

Sunday March 13th

7:30pm Dennehy School of Irish Dance

(in conjunction with South Side Irish Sunday)

Wednesday March 16th

7:00pm Mullane, Healy, Godley School of Dance

7:30pm Maiden Street Dancers

8:00pm Mulhern School of Irish Dancing

Thursday March 17th

7:00pm Lavin-Cassidy School of Irish Dancing

**Happy
St. Patrick's
Day!**

**"Our Irish Eyes Are Smiling on O'Briens,
especially on Parade Day! !"**

(312) 787-3131

Erin Mulcahy, 2016 St. Patrick's Day Parade Queen

Maura Connors, Mary Claire Reidy Madeline Mitchell & Katherine Schuetzner.



Irish Lunch Buffets

Live Music 3:12 & 3:17

Oh Danny Boy Singing

Contest on 3.17

O'Brien's Restaurant & Bar

1528 N Wells St Chicago IL 60610

312.787.3131 www.obriensrestaurant.com

Milwaukee Irish Fest Announces 2016 Entertainment

Milwaukee Irish Fest, the world's largest celebration of Celtic music and culture, announces the festival's 2016 entertainment lineup. This year's festival, August 18 – 21, will feature the Celtic World Showcase, bringing musicians from six Celtic nations who will be performing in their native languages to Milwaukee.

"We travel the world in search of the best and brightest in Celtic music and culture," said Patrick Boyle, executive director of Milwaukee Irish Fest. "We've had the great opportunity to connect with many amazing performers and look forward to welcoming them to Milwaukee Irish Fest."

2016 entertainment highlights include:

Celtic World Showcase

This year's festival will feature the Celtic World Showcase, highlighting artists who continue centuries-old musical traditions while shaping modern global music.

It is estimated that there are over 100 million people across the world who claim they have descended from the Celts, the Iron Age people who inhabited large areas of Western Europe.

Sharing languages and cultural similarities, the folk and traditional music of these Celts evolved over time and became integral to their communities. The music of these territories has traveled around the globe, and Milwaukee Irish Fest is thrilled to bring them to Milwaukee in August.

Celtic World Showcase performers will include: Barrule, Calan, Celtic Fiddle Festival, Dallahan, Dardanelles, De Barra with special guest Moyà Brennan, Myserk, Ten Strings and a Goatskin, and the Wrigley Sisters.

New to Milwaukee Irish Fest

From international festivals to village pubs, Milwaukee Irish Fest travels the globe in search of new and exciting artists. This year the festival is excited to welcome the following acts for the first time:

Barrule (Isle of Man) – Traditional Manx
Calan (Wales) – Traditional Welsh
Celtic Fiddle Festival (Ireland, Brittany - France, Scotland) - Celtic Fiddlers
The Dardanelles (Canada) – Newfoundland Traditional Music
De Barra (Ireland) – Irish

Traditional

Donal Clancy (Ireland) – Irish Traditional

Drowsy Lads (Ohio) – Irish Traditional

JigJam (Ireland) – Celtgrass
Next Generation Leahy (Canada) – Celtic

Runa (Ireland, United States, Canada) – Irish Folk Music

The Wrigley Sisters (Orkney Islands) – Celtic

Emerging Artists

Having caught the eyes and ears of festivalgoers in recent years, Milwaukee Irish Fest will welcome back the following emerging artists: Dallahan, Kilkennys, Socks in the Frying Pan, Ten Strings and a Goatskin, and Wild Colonial Bhoys.

Returning Favorites

Over the last 36 years, many of the bands who have performed at Milwaukee Irish Fest have developed a loyal fan base, both locally in Milwaukee as well as internationally. Returning fan favorites this year include: Gaelic Storm, Seamus Kennedy, High Kings, McPeake, Red Hot Chilli Pipers, Skerryvore, Slide, Solas, and We Banjo 3.

Special shows will include:

Solas – All These Years 20th Anniversary Tour with special guest, Karan Casey

Moyà Brennan – born Máire Ní Bhraonáin, also known as Máire Brennan, is an Irish folk singer, songwriter, harpist, and philanthropist. Prior to going solo in 1992 she was the lead singer of the Irish family group, Clannad.

Trinity Irish Dance Company (TIDC) – TIDC is an American, non-profit, performing arts company that was the birthplace of progressive Irish dance. Trinity will dazzle audiences with hard-driving percussive power, lightning-fast agility, aerial grace, and the awe-inspiring precision of its dancers.

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

For Congress August (O'Neill) Deuser



Primary Election March 15, 2016

Pro 2nd Amendment Pro Life

Bills he would sponsor:

- Education Bill
- Pension Bill
- No Foreign Aid Bill
- Transparency Bill
- Vets Bill

An Irish Blessing

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
the rains fall soft upon your fields and,
until we meet again may God hold you in
the palm of his hand.

About August

- ✚ Married 35 years to Cynthia with two adult children
- ✚ Retired teacher
- ✚ Graduate of the University of Illinois at Chicago
- ✚ Masters in Educational Administration from Lewis University
- ✚ 35 year resident of Chicago
- ✚ 20 year resident of Lockport
- ✚ 5 year resident of Mokena
- ✚ Grandson and son of Chicago Police Officers
- ✚ NRA member
- ✚ Union representative
- ✚ Member of IEA / NEA and AFT Local 604

www.deuser.us

Paid for by Citizens for August (O'Neill) Deuser

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Once Upon a Time in the North West

Garbhan Downey's transatlantic newsroom thriller characterises the resilient role of Derry through some of the last century's darkest days

Garbhan Downey's latest novel, *Once Upon a Time in the North West* is, according to the press release, an historical

novel-cum-21st century mystery, which charts the fortunes of a family-run Derry newspaper, from the founding of the paper in 1912 until the Queen's meeting with former IRA leaders in 2012. And it certainly is all of that. It is also a history of the newspaper industry, and of the thinly disguised role played by the Derry Journal during turbulent times.

It begins with the passing of

Sean Madden, the publisher of the North West Chronicle. During his life he kept a private diary and, unlike the sanitised official record, his is a warts and all account of what really happened. Because of family connections in America old Sean had lots of dealings with various influential people in Washington, people who would prefer if the contents of that private diary remained exactly that – private. And so a top Irish American diplomat/security service type is sent over to Derry to get it before the Brits or the Irish can lay their paws on it and discover what the Yanks had really been up to.

This is more than rollicking good yarn. Garbhan Downey knows his people, his city and its history and if anyone is serious about reading up on what happened in Derry, particularly in the lead up to and during the Troubles, this is the book for them. A lot of very serious research has gone into the writing of it.

Indeed while reading *Once Upon a Time* the thought strikes me that maybe some readers might feel inclined to suggest Downey is 'bigging up' Derry,

that such a small city couldn't have such big secrets or such a big role in Irish history. That would be wrong. It's still a matter of some amazement to many – often myself included – that such a small Irish city, in the rural backwater that was the north west of the country, took

et cetera. These were people with international name recognition.

And there were others, people behind the scenes, who played significant roles over the years, particularly those who helped in bringing the Troubles to a close, sometimes at considerable cost to their personal and psychological



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centre stage in world events for so much of the last century.

Derry was the cradle of the Troubles and for years journalists, politicians, social scientists, military strategists and so many others from across the globe found their way to the city because they found an urban war being fought on its streets fascinating. It was an anachronism, out of place in a modern European democratic society, or so they thought until the Balkans war came about.

- See more at: <http://www.culturenorthernireland.org/reviews/literature/once-upon-time-north-west#sthash.pm9OQ3DL.CMot2d3g.dpuf>

During my time as editor of the Derry Journal I had, quite literally, hundreds of journalists from many lands cross the threshold of my office wanting to know what it was all about. And the Americans were particularly involved, visits from 'diplomats' - most were really CIA - being pretty regular occurrences too.

The fact that there were so many influential personalities around the city over the years played a massive role in increasing its stature and influence. There was John Hume, Martin McGuinness, Bishop Edward Daly, Seamus Heaney, Brian Friel

health. Believe me, they are there.

Downey's narrative examines all this – the social, economic, political and religious developments surrounding the events that led to the outbreak of the Troubles and the events that followed.

But this book is about more than this, much more. It is also a celebration of the character, the humour, the never say die spirit of a city, of a people who never gave in even in the darkest days. Downey gets that. *Once Upon a Time in the North West* celebrates that Derry, the one that so few writers ever relate. Derry is, was, a city of great people, of great character, great resilience.

Garbhan Downey began his journalistic career in the Derry Journal. He subsequently moved on to the Irish News and, later, the BBC before becoming founding editor of the Derry News. With seven books already published and his own experiences in journalism there was no one better placed to write such a novel. It deserves to be widely read and widely acclaimed.

- See more at: <http://www.culturenorthernireland.org/reviews/literature/once-upon-time-north-west#sthash.pm9OQ3DL.CMot2d3g.dpuf>



windy city gaels

youth Irish football
& hurling club

The Windy City Gaels is a youth Irish sports club featuring Irish football and hurling for children aged 6 to 18. Serving Chicago's north side, we practice at Peterson Park starting May 6. Indoor training sessions will be held in March for new and returning players. No prior experience necessary. GAA Certified Coaches. All children welcome.

The SUPER-BOWL is over!

It's time for some REAL FOOTBALL! PLAY IRISH FOOTBALL!
The Windy City Gaels youth Irish football club are getting ready to kick off our 2016 season with our annual indoor training sessions to be held at the Windy City Fieldhouse at 2367 W. Logan BLVD

April 3rd 10:00-11:30 April 17th 10:00-11:30

These sessions are great for beginners!

Our out-door begins in early May at Peterson Park 5801 N Pulaski. ALL kids, ages 6 to 18 (we've had some as young as 4!) are welcome

Contact: Jerry Kealy 773.718.2847

Email: windycitygaelschicago@gmail.com

Facebook: Windy City Gaels

Irish American Hall of Fame to Honor Ed McElroy as the Hometown Hero

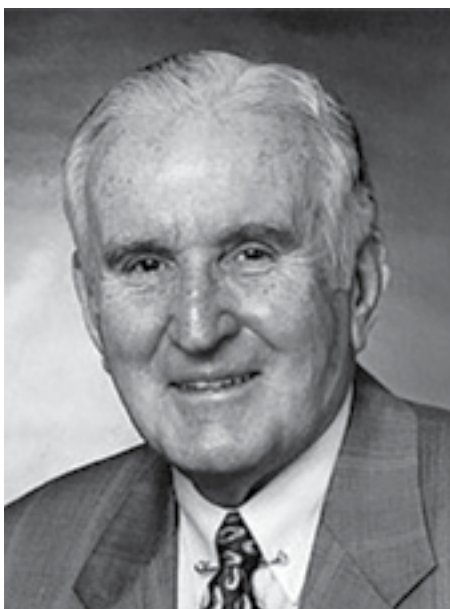
On April 23rd the Irish American Hall of Fame will honor Ed McElroy as its Hometown Hero. The Hometown Hero award recognizes individual contributions and honors outstanding efforts to preserve and strengthen Irish heritage in local communities throughout the United States.

There are few people in the Irish or Irish American community in Chicago who don't know Ed! Ed is truly a "man about town," comfortable in the presence of mayors, U.S. presidents, major league baseball players or the guys from the old neighborhood. Ed celebrated his 90th birthday in 2015 and is still going strong.

Ed was born in 1925 on the south side of Chicago. He grew up in Visitation Parish where he attended grammar school. He then went on to attend high school at St. Joseph's Academy in Indiana. Graduating from high school in the early 1940s, Ed then joined the Army Air Corps (now the U.S. Air Force). After the war, Ed found one of his passions in life, helping veterans. Ed served as State Commander of the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America and in 1962 was became the youngest National Commander for the organization.

In 1955, Ed married his wife Rita and they have three children, Ed, Beth and David.

Ed has been active in the field of news and sports on WJOB, WIND and WJJD radio for over 65 years where he began his career working for former White Sox broadcaster, Bob Elson, in 1946. In 1986, Ed founded Edward F. McElroy & Associates, a public relations firm focused on representing the American Legion, the Chicago Police, various unions and conducting campaigns for Cook County judicial candidates. He currently the host of, "Community in Focus" on



Chicago Comcast Channel 19, and "The Ed McElroy Show," on Comcast Channel 19 in the suburbs.

Ed joins an esteemed group of past Hometown Heroes including Hugh and Josie O'Hara, Maureen O'Looney, Peter O'Brien and Billy Lawless. Ed will be recognized at the Irish American Hall of Fame Gala on April 23rd along with the ten Hall of Fame Inductees: Brian Dennehy, Spencer Tracy, Frank McCourt, Denis J. Healy, Governor Edward F. Dunne, Brigadier General Thomas Francis Meagher, Nolan Ryan, Fr. Andrew Greeley, Anne Sullivan Macy and Captain Emily Hanrahan Warner. Brian Noonan of WGN Radio will be the Master of Ceremonies. Tickets to the Gala can be purchased online at www.iahof.org or by calling the Irish American Heritage Center at (773) 282-7035. For questions about the Irish American Hall of Fame or the Awards Gala, email info@iahof.org.

Pub in Oak Lawn on Saturday, January 23rd featuring 2015 scholarship recipient Luke McGinnis performing with his brother Liam.

Applications are being accepted now through February 15th and can be downloaded at www.eatatclancys.com. For more information, visit the website or contact Clancy's Pizza Pub, 4636 W 103rd St. just east of Cicero in Oak Lawn. 708-422-1110.



Apply for Music Scholarship at Clancy's

Apply thru March 25

Once again, Clancy's Irish Heritage Scholarship is available to students involved in Irish cultural activities such as dance, music, arts or Gaelic sports. A kick off event will be held at Clancy's Pizza

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An Immigrant's Musings

Michael Leonard



The Circus

A friend (who shall remain nameless) claims that no circus line up is complete without a

male and a female clown! I thought about that after Sarah Palin came on board with the Trump circus 2016 bid. This would be funny if



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it wasn't such a serious business. Trump may claim to be a very successful businessman and by many criteria he is. He has indeed succeeded, at least on the pure capitalist level of having amassed a large amount of property and the lifestyle that goes with it. That, however, is not in my opinion, a good indicator of the kind of person that would make a good commander in chief. In fact, there are many of the opinion and I would agree with them, that a person of the personality type of Mr. Trump, who has achieved success in the business world, is not a good candidate for President. They would say, and rightly so, that such success is very often built on a ruthless selfishness that very often tramples on others and their rights as they rush to make it to the top.

This is not the profile of an individual who seeks to lead our country. We need a competent individual, a tested public servant, and one who is truly ready to serve the whole nation, one who is willing to work with both sides of the political spectrum for the common good.

One who yes, wants to make America great or rather one who will work long and hard to inspire the citizens of this great land, to look beyond the small minded narrow issues of the moment and help all of us to work together in building a society that will indeed be "a beacon on a hill", where all are welcome.

As I write this, the circus moves on to the South Carolina primary. As they do, it is my hope that we will see less spin and more substance enter into the debate.

The Three Races

An old time, fable tells the story of the young athletic boy hungry for success, for whom winning was everything and success was measured by such a result.

One day, the boy was preparing himself for a running competition in his small native village, himself and two other young boys to compete. A large crowd had congregated to witness the sporting spectacle and a wise old man, upon hearing of the little boy, had travelled far to bear witness also.

The race commenced, looking

like a level heat at the finishing line, but sure enough the boy dug deep and called on his determination, strength and power... he took the winning line and was first. The crowd was ecstatic and cheered and waved at the boy. The wise man remained still and calm, expressing no sentiment. The little boy, however, felt proud and important.

A second race was called, and two new young, fit, challengers came forward, to run with the little boy. The race was started and sure enough the little boy came through and finished first once again. The crowd was ecstatic again and cheered and waved at the boy. The wise man remained still and calm, again expressing no sentiment. The little boy, however, felt proud and important.

"Another race, another race!" – pleaded the little boy.

The wise old man stepped forward and presented the little boy with two new challengers, an elderly frail lady and a blind man. "What is this?" – quizzed the little boy. "This is no race." – he exclaimed.

"Race!" – said the wise man. The race was started and the boy was the only finisher, the other two challengers left standing at the starting line. The little boy was ecstatic; he raised his arms in delight. The crowd, however,

was silent showing no sentiment toward the little boy.

"What has happened? Why don't the people join in my success?" – he asked the wise old man.

"Race again", replied the wise man, "this time, finish together, all three of you, finish together." – continued the wise man.

The little boy thought a little, stood in the middle of the blind man and the frail old lady, and then took the two challengers by the hand. The race began and the little boy walked slowly, ever so slowly, to the finishing line and crossed it. The crowd was ecstatic and cheered and waved at the boy. The wise man smiled, gently nodding his head. The little boy felt proud and important.

"Old man, I don't understand! Who is the crowd cheering for? Which one of us three?" – asked the little boy?

The wise old man looked into the little boy's eyes, placing his hands on the boy's shoulders, and replied softly, "Little boy, for this race you have won much more than in any race you have ever run before, and for this race the crowd cheer not for any winner!"

By Darren Edwards

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



The Seán Ó Riada Gold Medal 2015 goes to flute player Sean Gavin (left), from Chicago and Detroit via Meelick in Co. Clare. This is the first time the medal has been won by a musician from outside Ireland. Photo by Darragh Kane



Piping It In

Jack Baker



Jack will have finally returned by the time this reaches print, but as I write this, he's still basking away in sunny Florida without reliable access to the internet!

Since we are coming up to St. Patrick's Day, I thought I would share some of my choices for party music.

When celebrating a day like St. Patrick's Day, I prefer to go a bit more traditional with some great background music as well as some fun singalong bits. You can keep the rocked up stuff for, well, your garage!!

Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham have released a number of great CDs over the years that are as varied as they are similar. If it can be played on a fiddle, then Aly Bain can do it and make it sound like it should always have been done that way. Whether it's Scottish, Irish, Quebecois, Cajun or anything else, it always sounds like it belongs. Paired up with Phil Cunningham's accordion and there is a combo that can't be beat. Whether it's the Pearl, the Ruby or any of their others, they are all gems to be put on and kept playing; while cooking, setting the party up or just having a great time with your friends.

Chicago faves Pat Broaders and Jimmy Keane, also known as bohola, always know how to get that party started and keep it moving til the bitter end. With just a couple of vocals to change up the mood, the guys will always bring the talent and never let you down. You can't get any more flavor out of Jimmy's accordion and Pat's guitar than they do and you're better off just to let them have at it. Seeing them live is always better, but if you can't get there from here, then let the CD set you free.

Derek Warfield and the Yong WolfeTones have just recently

been thru town and played a sold out set at Clancy's in Oak Lawn. When you listen to them, you understand why. Let Ye All Be Irish



Seamus Kennedy

Tonight does just that, because on St. Patrick's Day, isn't everyone Irish? Those songs you'll recognize and will sing along to are mixed in with a few that may not be as familiar to you. Just give it up and let them all entertain you with their strong talent. A variety of instrumentalists will keep you listening and wanting more, so watch for them to tour more in the future.

Last but not least, Seamus Kennedy is a party unto himself! Seamus has the songs, the jokes, the timing and best of all, the personality to be your own

party on a disc. I have never hesitated to let my children listen to Seamus while they were growing up because there was never anything inappropriate on his recordings. Here you will find all your singalong favorites like Fields of Athenry, Bold Fenian Men, Danny Boy, Black Velvet Band and the Rattlin' Bog, with Seamus playing and singing his heart out. Most guests to your party will know something he's playing and will enjoy the jokes he tells as well!

On a side note, you will find Jack at the Irish American Heritage Center on March 12, in his booth, helping you find the perfect CD for your own party. Their St. Patrick's Day Fest starts after the parade downtown is over and goes until the wee hours.

He'll be there til 8 pm.

The following Saturday, March 19, he will be at the Northwest Celtic Fest in Hoffman Estates at the Sears Arena. From 10 to 5, there will be all sorts of entertainment, dancers, pipe band, dogs, beer and whisky tasting (extra fee) and kids attractions. Best of all, this is a FREE event with free parking too! Come on out to one or both of these fine events and enjoy yourself!!

Jack is usually in the store at 47 S. Villa, Villa Park, or he can be reached at 630 834 8108 or jack@rampantlion.com



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Cheltenham: A Week of Sporting Leisure

For the Irish sporting punter, every March comes that magical week that is Cheltenham.

For those of you that are uninformed or indeed unacquainted with this annual event, let me enlighten you: Cheltenham is the most popular horse racing festival in Europe.

Every year the best Irish horses make the pilgrimage to the famed English venue to compete against the best equine talent that Britain has to offer over four days of national hunt racing (that being horse racing over fences).

During the cold and wet Irish winters, this racing festival is the beacon of light on the horizon to warm the cockles of the heart and

in the months leading up to this carnival of sporting and betting indulgence, every Grade One or Grade Two race both in Ireland and the UK is viewed with one eye on the road to Cheltenham.

For horse racing aficionados and for the many that like a flutter, every result is scoured in the hope that it may signpost form, ability or potential in the pursuit that one may reap the rewards, financial or otherwise, during the third week in March.

Cheltenham has become a week in the national consciousness where horse racing is routinely at the top of the sporting agenda. It is the festival where the most popular and successful mounts, jockeys and trainers write their names into legend in a wonderful carnival of competition and revelry.

For this week, the bookmakers are packed to the rafters and it

is familiar to see queues outside local betting shops as you drive through even the smallest Irish towns and villages and it is the week when people from all sporting disciplines become overnight experts on everything horsey. It is also the time when many people with no interest in either sports or betting take an odd gamble hoping for an impulse of delight.

Ruby

In this regard, over the last double handful of years, Ruby Walsh has become the punter's friend.

In the last decade Ruby has undoubtedly been the best national hunt jockey and he has won the leading jockey at the festival nine times since 2004. Ruby has become the most successful jockey every at the Cheltenham festival with 45 wins and it is likely he will break 50 at this year's event.

Ruby is the son of Irish trainer and famed racing analyst Ted Walsh and his sister Katie rode the winner at the Irish Grand National in 2015. Even singer Christy Moore penned a song about him entitled 'The Ballad of Ruby Walsh.'



His most famous wins at the festival have included two Gold Cups under Kauto Star, six consecutive Mares' Hurdle with Quevega, two Champion Hurdles on top of Hurricane Fly and four World Hurdles with Big Bucks.

And since 2013, Ruby has been riding almost exclusively for the top Irish national hunt trainer Willie Mullins, whose stable houses the best horses money can buy; most notably from the enigmatic American businessman; the suit-

ably named, Rich Ricci.

At last year's festival this trio of Walsh, Mullins and Ricci had the bookies in a bind after favourites Douvan, Un De Sceaux and Faugheen won the first three races. With Annie Power heavily tipped for the Mares Hurdle, it was estimated that the bookies were set to lose out to a combined tune of 50 million pounds had the favourite not fallen at the final fence without a challenger in contention.

Continue on next page

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Continued from last page

This year expect more of the same for Ruby Walsh.

Faugheen was odds-on to win a second Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham and his form this season was irresistible, winning the Irish Champion Hurdle by 22 lengths. He has been ruled out of the Cheltenham festival through injury in recent weeks. Annie Power and Douvan are tipped to win the Mares hurdle and the Arkle respectively, unless Mullins decides to run Annie Power in the Champion Hurdle in place of Faugheen. While the Walsh, Mullins and Ricci team also have Min, currently favourite to win the Supreme Novices, in the opening race of the festival.

Ruby is likely to win three races on the opening day and this year the bookmakers are giving ample odds on all challengers, as they hope to avoid the position they found themselves during Day One last year.

Gold Cup
The blue ribbon event of the festival, the Cheltenham Gold Cup

takes place at 3.30pm on Friday, March 18.

This is set to be a cracking race with four or five leading contenders of whom any horse could take the spoils.

Don Cossack, trained by Gordon Elliot, is currently the favourite but over Christmas was third before falling at the final fence in the King George, when Cue Card pipped Vatour by a nose at the post. They are two Gold Cup contenders, with the latter currently second favourite to take the prize but might struggle to stay the three and a quarter miles at Cheltenham.

In last year's Gold Cup, Djakadam was well fancied but got edged out at the finish by Coneygree and hasn't looked as impressive this season. Mean-

while Don Poli could just as easily come up trumps for the Giggenstown stud owned by Ryanair's Michael O'Leary.

This will be the most anticipated race of the festival and the

most open Gold Cup for years. I wouldn't rule Valseur Lido at 20-1 being in the mix if he can jump better than he did in the Irish Gold Cup in Leopardstown in early February.

Either way, as the Cheltenham roar will signal the start of the four days of gambling, sport and merriment; be sure to keep enough in the pocket for a drink at the bar and a taxi home



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Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



Some Suggestions on How You Can Get Along

There are days when I find the world complicated and complex. However, on most days, I find that getting along in the world can be easily accomplished if you apply the suggestions in this article. Be forewarned, I see the world in a positive, upbeat fashion, so if some of these suggestions seem

obvious to you it's because they are obvious, we just need to accept that as reality. So here are my Suggestions for getting along with others.

1. Be honest with everybody. Honesty is the most desired characteristic that people look for in their leaders and friends.

When someone has lied to you don't you carry a latent concern about the next time they will lie to you? There's that old expression, "if you lied to me once, won't you lie to me again?" Remember another old expression, "the truth will set you free."

2. Be pleasant. Be courteous and polite. Everyone likes people who are friendly and polite. Aren't you more likely to respond similarly to a courteous person? Don't you feel more comfortable with well-mannered individuals? All those parental admonitions you heard as a child about saying Thank You and Excuse Me apply as much today as they did when you first heard them. Work at trying to find something thought provoking, entertaining or informative to say; look for the silver lining in any situation. Consider the people at work or school you go out of your way to avoid, aren't they typically negative people?

3. Be curious. When you meet someone ask them about themselves; express a genuine interest. We all appreciate being asked about our interests. Have you ever met a golfer who won't regale you about his last round of golf?

4. Be on time. Get to meetings on time; complete the meeting by the scheduled hour. Few things annoy people more than gatherings that don't start punctually. Starting a meeting late frequently drains the energy from the attendees before they have even engaged in the business of the meeting. If the meeting coordinator waits for the tardy attendees to arrive, the earlier attendees feel that their sense of commitment has been violated.

5. Be generous. There are many good reasons for being generous, but what is often overlooked is the positive long term effect of your generosity. There is a law of unexpected consequences; for example, you provide a friend with some help, financial or otherwise, and it helps that person to blossom beyond their own expectations. Besides, being

in a position to be generous does wonders for your own self esteem.

6. Know yourself. Most of us do not have any real clear insight into our strengths and weaknesses. We are not inclined to ask our colleagues or buddies for their assessments of our capacities. If you do ask, you may hear some "bad" comments about how you are perceived, but as they say, it's better to know than not to know. If your inquiries produce some negatives, at least you can modify them in the future.

7. Remember there is always someone smarter/tougher than you are. I am a big believer in having a positive view of myself, but the reality is that someone else has greater capabilities than you do. Try to get such people on your side. Look for opportunities to interact with these people. You are likely to find that they will be helpful to you. Besides, wouldn't it be delightful to have a colleague as insightful and thought-provoking as yourself that you could run ideas by? Regard such a person as a supportive element in your career plan.

8. Learn to be agreeable. I heard a broadcaster say that Supreme Court Justice Scalia (dedicated conservative) and his wife were dear friends with S.C. Justice Ginsburg (devout liberal) and her husband. The two Justices were seen as being diametrically opposed to each other's point of view on many legal issues, yet they went on vacations together. In my mind, that speaks volumes about their abilities to disagree with each other intellectually without being disagreeable.

9. Don't backstab your associates. If you have difficulty with a co-worker, talk to that person directly. It doesn't have to be a major argument, just a conversation to help clarify the matter. Often there's simply a misunderstanding; a memo was not understood correctly or a comment you made was misinterpreted or repeated inaccurately. Even in situations where you strongly disagree with a colleague, state your objections

as dispassionately as possible. Be careful about how you criticize others. Remember the old saying; "praise publicly and critique privately". The person will appreciate your style, even if they don't like what you have to say. These things have a way of surfacing and other co-workers of yours will learn of your discretion and they will appreciate it also.

10. Help others develop. Find ways to encourage others in the organization. Share your knowledge, insights and wisdom as broadly as possible. Be a mentor or coach to the less experienced co-workers. Help them to succeed: you will find yourself energized also. Send a note of congratulations to your colleagues on their achievements. You remember who send you such a note, don't you? So will they.

11. Share the successes. Let your superiors know how your staff and colleagues are making you look good. We all admire the person who shares the limelight. Most of us dislike a person who hogs all the glory. Successful quarterbacks are continuously praising their offensive linemen for keeping them alive. Is your business really so different?

I recognize that these 11 Suggestions all seem like good old common sense. They are! But try them anyway. You may find that your career is enhanced. Because as most of us know, common sense is not all that common. Carpe Diem.

For Your Consideration- The greatest results in life are usually attained by simple means and the exercise of ordinary qualities. These may for the most part be summed in these two: common sense and perseverance. Owen Feltham, author of a popular book of his day entitled *Resolve, divine, moral and political* (c 1620).

James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc. a Naperville-based senior executive coaching and career transition firm. Jamesffitzgerald.com

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by Rita Emmett

When You Dread Doing Something

The opening line of my book The Procrastinator's Handbook is **EMMETT'S LAW: The Dread of Doing a Job Uses Up More Time and Energy Than Doing the Job Itself.**

Isn't that true?

How much time, energy, anxiety, guilt and exhaustion have you ever spent agonizing about something you've put off for weeks or even months? Then when you finally did it, it took you only 23 minutes.

Don't you just want to smack yourself in the face with a trout and say "Why did I procrastinate so long about that?"

And while you were putting it off, that dread was hanging over your head like a dark cloud. Have you ever - just as you're falling asleep at night - thought to yourself "Oh man, I still haven't made that phone call" or you think, "I STILL have that huge pile of paper clutter go sort through because I've GOT to find that infor-

mation" or "I STILL haven't cleared the clutter out of the garage and now it's cold and I can't get the car in it". So you drift off to sleep feeling like a worthless worm.

That dread can just suck the energy out of your bones. I think that dreading a job leaves us as tired as if we were digging a ditch. If you're putting off something important and you CANNOT think of a reason to DO IT NOW, remember the power of the dread that comes with procrastination. It can make you miserable, anxious, guilty, exhausted and sick.

Here's a quote by Charles Buxton that most procrastinators need to memorize and maybe tattoo on their arms: "You will never FIND time for anything. If you want time, you must MAKE it".

And the opposite of procrastination is true, too, isn't it? Have you ever finally done something that you've been putting off for ages? And when

it's complete, don't you want to dance the dance of joy? You get so much energy you just want to run around the block and shout to the world what you've just finished. It's a great feeling, a sensational one.

Think of all this the next time you know you need to do something NOW but you start to talk yourself into putting it off till later. Do you want to spend time with that miserable cloud of exhausting dread hanging over your head?

If you let that dread stay with you, it will suck the energy out of the marrow of your bones. Don't give it that power. Tell yourself "I can do this and I can do it NOW." And then move forward to Destroy that Dread.

Rita Emmett is a "Recovering Procrastinator", a Professional Speaker, and best-selling author of The Procrastinator's Handbook; and The Clutter-Busting Handbook.

Go to www.RitaEmmett.com for info on Stress Management, Procrastination and Clutter. You will find books, CDs, and DVDs.

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Dancers at Dancing with the Stars Contest at Gaelic Park.
Photos by Brenda McShane

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Save the Date: Irish Arts Week

Irish Music School of Chicago presents its' 6th Francis O'Neill Irish Arts Week

The Irish Music School of Chicago's Francis O'Neill Irish Arts Week returns for its sixth big year of live traditional Irish music and education for all ages! The annual event will be held at the Irish American Heritage Center and runs June 25 through July 2.

Francis O'Neill Irish Arts Week offers opportunities for everyone, from those who enjoy Irish singing and dancing to those who are seasoned players on their instruments to those who simply appreciate traditional Irish music and would like to know more. The

week boasts a Kids Day Camp for children ages 4 through 18 which gives children the opportunity to learn Irish music, song and dance, as well as traditional Irish folklore and crafts. The Adult Immersion Program offers adults small class instruction, workshops, concerts and other fun events. All programs are tailored for a variety of skill levels, including absolute beginners, and provide a unique opportunity for children and adults alike to learn from some of the best traditional Irish musicians playing today.

The Arts Week was created by the Irish Music School of Chicago to honor the contributions of Francis O'Neill, a former Chicago Police Chief, who worked tirelessly to document Irish tunes,

an effort which helped preserve this rich music for generations. In recognition of his contributions to traditional Irish music, as well as his role in building a strong Irish music community in Chicago, the week provides an opportunity to learn more about the man and his life in Chicago. For the third year, the Arts Week will include a family-friendly Musical Pilgrimage to the O'Neill mausoleum in Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Participants will join the world-class faculty of Arts Week where tunes, songs and stories will fill this fun afternoon that offers unique insight into the life and times of Chief O'Neill.

More information on the Irish Music School and Francis O'Neill Irish Arts Week 2016 is at irishmusicschool.org.

Women of the 1916 Easter Rising: Songs and Stories

The women who stood on the front lines of the Irish Revolution have too often been forgotten by history. Best-selling author and Chicago native Mary Pat Kelly (Galway Bay, Of Irish Blood), and beloved singer and Winnetka resident Catherine O'Connell, dubbed

the 'Celtic Nightingale' by The Sun-Times, shine new light on these amazing women - many with Chicago connections - with a program of

songs and stories as Mother Ireland's children, 70 million-strong, celebrate the 100th anniversary of the events that led to Irish liberation.

Presented by Mary Pat Kelly and Catherine O'Connell

Wednesday,
March 9th 1 PM at
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Paid for By Committee to Elect Daniel Patrick Duffy

Boyle the Kettle

We'll Have A Sup Of Tea

Tom Boyle



1913-1921
Bureau of Military History
Witness Statement #678
George Joseph Dwyer, 39
Curlew Road,
Drimmagh, Dublin.
Member of "F" Company,
4th Battalion,
Dublin Brigade, 1916
Lieutenant same
company 1920
Activities of "F" Company
Dublin Brigade, 1916-1921

When my friend Louie O'Regan in Cork told me about this document I thought about how timely it was. A chronology of the events in the life of an IRA man from the Easter Rising through the Irish Civil War.

The statement was signed on May 14, 1952.

The statement is too lengthy to publish all at once so we will bring you the essence of the statement in monthly installments and make a copy available to read at the IAHC library and at Gaelic Park.

Here is the first installment:

Statement by George Joseph Dwyer 39 Curlew Road, Drimmagh, Dublin

Immediately after the Rising of 1916 I joined "F" Company of the 4th Battalion, Dublin Brigade.

My Company Officer at that time was Christopher Byrne with Liam Power as Lieutenant. The Company was about 50 strong at the time. Our regular parade grounds were Landesdowne Valley and the Brickworks. We carried out miniature rifle practices at Kavanaghs Banks or The Red Cow.

Our Company Headquarters was located at Miss Flood's, Port Lester House, Bluebells: there were three sisters, Lily, Josephine, and Anne, who resided there. Unfortunately all three are now dead.

We found ten most hospitable always and helpful in every way.

In fact, we had one of our Company dumps there later on.

Procurement of Arms: Parades and Training

When I joined the Company it was very poorly armed. We had a few Mauser rifles, relics of the 1916 Rising, and a few shotguns. We also had one or two miniature rifles. Sometime in 1917 when the 4th Battalion had its Companies fairly well organized, maneuvers were held by the Dublin Brigade out in the Dublin Mountains. We took part in these maneuvers. We were practically all day Sunday and our Company were given, as far as I can recollect, a definite point to defend. I think the Battalion at that time was under the command of Ted Kelly.

The next parade of importance undertaken by my Company was at the funeral of the late Tomas Ashe.

During the years 1918 to April 1919 the Company was actively engaged in raiding for arms to build up the Company armaments. The following places were raided for arms by us: Healy's in which we secured a 38 revolver; Lamb's of Bluebell, a shotgun. In Dobles of the Canal Bank we got a box of cartridges and a shotgun. In Perry's of the Dark Lane we got a shotgun and a box of cartridges. In Blackies of Newlands we got a repeating Winchester.

In addition to guns taken on raids we were able to procure revolvers and ammunition from soldiers in Richmond Barracks, which is now Keogh Barracks. I was instrumental in arranging that source of supply. In fact, we used to meet in Murphy's public house on Emmet Road (Mr. Murphy was father of Con Murphy who later became an International Rugby Player). There we got friendly with soldiers from Richmond Barracks. After some time when I got to know these soldiers better, I approached them as regards to the

possibility of their being able to supply us with guns. They were agreeable at a price. I think the price asked was 50/- for a short Webley. I knew that the Volunteers of the Company would willingly come forward and buy whatever guns I would be able to procure. I mentioned my proposal of dealing with the soldiers to my O/C and he endorsed my actions. I received in short time three Webleys with ammunition. The soldiers just carried them out in their pockets and handed them over to me in the public house. I bought another Long Webley from the son of a policeman who lived at the Launch in Inchicore. I got a parabellum after this and later sold it to Sean Nolan who was then a Volunteer in my Company and is now a Solicitor.

Working side by side with the activities connected with the procurement of arms were special classes for training N.C.O.s which were held at 34 Camden St.

These were conducted by Captain Harry Murray and Vice Commandant Peadar O'Brein. These classes were held twice a week. I was Section Commander at the time was sent down to Camden Street to undergo this special instruction. Our instruction consisted of rifle drill, squad and company drill, with lectures on the rifle and other military matters. When it was decided that I had received sufficient instruction I was returned to my squad to train them in a similar manner.

Our Company played a very prominent part in the Sinn Fein General Election of 1918. We were members of the Con Colbert Cumann of Sinn Fein and we paid a visit to all houses in our Company area and personally canvassed for the Sinn Fein candidate. We were generally received very well at the various places we visited. Even Unionist houses treated us with courtesy.

(Next Installment in April Edition)

William F. Kent

One of our readers reminded me that Black and Tans didn't appear until 1920. They were an arm of the Royal Irish Constabulary.

Autobiography Continued

Perhaps after two bouts with cancer Willie's recollection's were probably out of sync. The Siege of Bruree was most likely the Battle of Kilmallock, Bruree and Bruff, in 1922 a decisive victory for the Freestaters.

I remember very well Easter Monday morning, 1916. The Proclamation by those who would become the martyrs of an Irish Republic was announced by taking over the Four Courts and Trinity College. The Irish flag was raised. Dublin has been divided into six different areas and each one had a regiment led variously by Pearse, Daley and Dermott, O'Reilly, Sean Colbert, Eamon Kent, Plunkett, Houston, and Sean Connolly. They came in by surprise and took over the city. The British were caught with their pants down. The British bombarded everything. They shelled the city with long range guns and the last one to surrender at Boland's Mills on the upper side of the Liffey was de Valera. Everything that was published about the whole affair I read to de Valera's uncle, Mr. Coll. The Rebellion was supposedly a failure. Every single one of those men was captured. But for every one of those men who were captured, there were half a dozen more to take his place. They had issued a Proclamation that they were going to fight until they achieved total freedom. They had dedicated their lives with a sworn oath that they would fight until a Republic was established.

Old man Coll, who lived in our village, Bruree, raised Eamon de Valera. de Valera came from Boston at the age of four and Mr.

and Mrs. Coll sent him to school. He was a brilliant student and got scholarships all the way through. He was a highly qualified mathematician.

Most of those who were caught and tried for treason against the King, were not really revolutionaries - they were teachers and poets. There was no firebrand revolutionary, except for Padraic Pearse who was a delegate to the First Internationale in Paris in 1912 or 1913. Out of the whole bunch there were two who could be considered Communists. All were tried and sentenced to death by firing the British. Still he was sentenced to 199 years of hard labor. He escaped. The British couldn't hand on to him.

With all of the military action, the country seemed to solidify its ranks. The people, who had been so lackadaisical, rallied. Every movement before this one had failed. But, when these men were shot it changed everything. The green and white and gold flag went up in every cottage and in every hamlet. There was complete unity behind the Irish Republican Army. Out of the hills came hundreds of men with rifles, sub-machine guns, Thompson guns. They were a ragtag army; they had no uniforms only gawn boots and leggings - that's how you could identify them. They operated at night. They wanted the British completely out of the country. At the same time there was a war going full blast in Europe with a lot of Irish men involved in it and full blast war going on in Ireland itself. The only people who weren't fighting were old people and the kids.

(Next Installment in April)

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For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



SEN. PHIL ROCK, R.I.P. An indispensable man is gone. Condolences to wife and family. Senator Rock and capable assistant Cathy Roche McDonnell played crucial roles in the State of Illinois 1988,9 campaign to enact the MacBride Principles for Fair Employment in Northern Ireland. He later supported Irish-Illinois's unavailing efforts to free ex-IRA-man Joe Doherty who was federally imprisoned for over eight years without charge or trial.

ST. THOMAS MORE. 2825 W. 81st St. Saturday, March 5. Cocktails 5:30, Dinner 6:30. Let's meet!

WHEELS OF JUSTICE, grinding slowly. The murderers of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper

and her daughter in El Salvador in 1989 are finally facing justice. The murderers are graduates of the US army's SOA/WHINSEC that has taught assassination and torture to Latin-American military personnel for decades. Kudos to North Carolina Magistrate Judge Kimberly Swank for granting Spain's extradition request. Where is US justice? Why must justice await Spanish consciences? What about the American trainers and funders of these Death Squads?

MI5/FBI IN CHICAGO. Last month you read here US Judge George Lindberg's written refusal to notify authorities of the crimes (fabricated evidence, proven perjury, etc.) perpetrated in front of

him in his courtroom by MI5/FBI Agent Patrick "Ed" Buckley in 1991-1993. Agent Buckley had already framed me for murdering the Langert family. He also maliciously incarcerated four of us. Had Judge Lindberg, as my letter demanded, summoned law enforcement to the crimes perpetrated in front of him, perpetrator Buckley would have faced trial and lengthy imprisonment instead of being free to help MI5 arrange the Omagh car-bombing murder of 29, to be blamed, as he did the Langert murders, on the IRA before framing me for them. Murderer David Biro saved my freedom if not my life by blabbing through his FBI cover into Life Without Parole. Biro and his victims were utterly unknown to me.

ATLANTA OLYMPICS BOMBING. Agent Buckley's accomplice David Rupert inadvertently testified that Buckley left him alone in Ireland to fly to "investigate" the Olympics bombing murder. There Buckley and his FBI colleagues performed his specialty; they got the news media to blame innocent Security Guard Richard Jewell for it.

NOTE THE PATTERN: 1. FBI Agent Lewis' gun was used by Biro to murder the Langerts for which Agent Buckley gets the news media to blame the IRA. Buckley protects Biro while framing me for it.

2. Buckley gets the news media to blame the Atlanta Olympics

bombing murder on Jewell.

3. Buckley, while operating for MI5 in Ireland for some four years, helps arrange the Omagh atrocity. He then, fronted by accomplice Rupert, gets Ireland's media to blame it on the IRA prior to framing Michael McKevitt for it.

ONE ANOMALY: Though all three sets of crimes were unprosecuted, proving that the FBI is a criminal organization with impunity, a measure of justice proved available to Richard Jewell. He was compensated some \$2.9 million before dying, young.

WHY COMPENSATION only for Jewell? Legal representation was available to him. No lawyer proved willing to take our compensation cases for far more damaging series of proven FBI crimes against us. Why? Because the Atlanta Olympics murder was not an FBI operation; not part of a grand plan.

THE GRAND PLAN was underway by largely Zionist Neo-Cons years prior to their 1996,7 "Project for a New American Century." It requires wars against Arab nations to grab their oil. Their plans were made to seem to be by "the international community," an image largely fulfilled by Britain's military. Britain had its price; its quid pro quo. This has proven to be the surrender to Britain of Ireland's disputed Six-Counties. What nation would surrender some 20% of its national territory absent catastrophic military de-

feat? Ireland's pols did, arbitrarily, gutting its Constitution's Articles 2 and 3.

ARRANGING SURRENDER involved destruction of the IRA's fine reputation. Its record of avoidance of civilian casualties is excellent. British forces included the UVF that shot dead some eight hundred Catholics, mostly randomly. The Neo-Cons evidently appreciated UVF atrocities. UVF leader David Ervine was brought in triumph to the White House in 1994. But surrender of the Six-Counties required betrayal by IRA leadership and the smearing of its members. Thus America was told (falsely) of IRA involvement in the Langert triple-murder in a Chicago suburb. Chicago newspapers carried cartoons depicting the IRA as a snake and as monstrous. Massacres in Ireland by British forces were reported as IRA crimes.

In early 1998 roadside lamp-posts from Maynooth to Kinnegad were festooned with banners bearing the likeness of Taoiseach Albert Reynolds and VOTE YES FOR PEACE. Some weeks later the Good Friday Agreement (GFA) referendum was voted on, island-wide. On both sides of the partition people voted for the GFA. So did republicans, blindly trusting leaders Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness to surrender the Six-Counties to Britain. That surrender comprised the GFA's enforceable part. Its other sixty-seven pages was comprised of aspirational posturing, mutual contradictions, and baffle-gab.

THE BRITS GOT Ireland's Six-Counties, gratis, along with its offshore hydrocarbon \$billions.

AMERICANS GOT the Neo-Cons' wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, Yemen, Libya, and Syria at a total cost of some 6,700 American lives and some \$4 trillion that will bankrupt the nation. America, once proud and respected, is now the world's most feared and hated. Our billionaires made more billions.

VICTIM NATIONS got Armageddon; millions of violent deaths, destruction of cities, millions of refugees.

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St. Patrick's Day Parade
Downtown Naperville
Saturday, March 12th: 10:00 am sharp

Irish Mass in Honor of St. Patrick
St. Raphael Church
Naperville

Wednesday, March 15th:
Prelude – 6:30 pm, Mass – 7:00 pm
Soda Bread Reception to follow

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Lá Fhéile Pádraig!

(Happy St. Patrick's Day!)



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Sharing a Pint

By Scott Powers



We all have friends who shouldn't run for an elected position.

Not that I hang out with wanted criminals, but some of my friends have a few skeletons in their closets and others just aren't leadership material. I'd love to give you some examples, but that may cost me some friendships. I'll use this column to throw people under the bus at a later date. Let's just leave it at that my high school buddy Nish Vartabedian has a mediocre basketball game and is unelectable.

Which brings me to Joe Cook. When I first heard Joe, someone I've known for 20-plus years, was running for a seat as a Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioner, my initial thought was, "Well, that makes sense."

On a recent evening at The Atlantic in Lincoln Square, I sat down with Joe, shared a pint and asked him questions I'd be curious about with anyone running for a position.

Here's a snippet of our Q&A:
Q: Why the [bleep] do you want to be a politician?

A. I don't know if I want to be a politician, but I work at the Water Reclamation District and really like the place I work at, the people I work with. We have a nine-person board-elected commissioners. I think I have something to offer to serve as a commissioner on our board of commissioners. I don't look it as much as being at a being politician as I do of continuing to serve the Water Reclamation District in a different capacity.

Q. Has this process been what you expected?

A. I didn't know really what to expect going into it because I hadn't any exposure to this political process before. It's definitely been a learning experience, eye-opening. It's been a

little bit challenging in the sense I have a wife, a 6-year-old, a 4-year-old and a 1-year-old. So, that's something Jenny and I talked a lot about before we kind of made this decision to do this. Jenny's been great. She's kind of been the rock at home and really picking up a lot of the slack with the kids. It's been difficult in that sense having to be out a little bit and do different things. Because



Joe Cook

when you're out, you feel like you should be home, and when you're home, you feel like you should be out. It's hard to find that balance of doing what you think you need to do be successful in this endeavor and still be at home for your kids and being a good dad, a good husband.

Q. Without boring me and the readers, why should we care about this position?

A. The Water Reclamation District is not a county agency, but jurisdictionally it's Cook County, so anybody in Cook County is under the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District. We treat the water. We handle wastewater, and we handle stormwater. That's the two main functions of the district. You don't have to look too far recently especially in Colorado earlier this year and in Flint, Michigan two weeks ago to see how important it is to what we do, what our missions is.

It's kind of a behind-the-scenes agency, behind-the-

scenes mission that we do that people don't know too much about. I always equate it to being an offensive lineman in football where until you screw up no one knows you're there. But it is a very important agency, very important mission that we have. It's very important we have people on our board of commissioners that really care about what we do and know about what we do.

(I then grilled him on why he, a star linebacker, and Loyola lost to top-ranked Mount Carmel on a Hail Mary when we were high school seniors. His answers were very diplomatic and not worth being printed.)

Q. What's it like to have a billboard with your name on it?

A. It's kind of weird. You see other people's names on billboards and you see your own, and it kind of takes a second to sink in that it's you. Yeah, you should have pulled a random billboard up when you were 25 year old like, 'Hey, Scott Powers is a cool guy.' No, it's a great opportunity when you're on a main thoroughfare like that for people to see your name and get into people's heads.

Q. Anything else you'd like to add?

A. Being a piece for the Irish American News, I have a lot of pride in my heritage. I'm not 100 percent Irish, but my wife's 100 percent Irish. My family goes back to County Kerry and Castleisland and Tralee on my dad's side. Obviously my wife is a South Sider; both her mother and her father trace their roots back to Ireland. It's always been something that's a big part of my heritage and identity growing up, especially on the Northwest Side of Chicago and St. Mary of the Woods where a lot of our friends and family are proud of that. I've had tons of support of my friends and family who are Irish-Americans. It's something I have a lot of fondness and respect for.

(So, I won't say vote for Joe Cook. That's up to you. I just know he's one of my friends I could vote for.)

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St. Patrick's Festival



**Saturday, March 12
1pm-midnight**

TICKETS: \$15 for adults
\$12 for advance purchase if bought by the end of the day on March 10.
Children 12 and under are free.

FIFTH PROVINCE

- 1pm Joe McShane
- 3pm Shannon Rovers Irish Pipe Band
- 3:30pm Dooley Brothers
- 6pm Finbarr Fagan Band
- 9pm Chancey Brothers



AUDITORIUM

- 1:30pm Irish Heritage Singers
- 2:30pm Trinity Irish Dancers
- 3:30pm Mullane Healy Godley Academy of Irish Dance
- 4:30pm O'Hare School of Irish Dance
- 5:30pm Identity Irish Dancers
- 6:30pm Mulhern School of Irish Dance

ROOM 109

Food by Harrington's Catering

ROOM 111

1pm-8pm: Arts and Crafts Fair

MUSEUM, ART GALLERY and LIBRARY

1pm-6pm: Programs and Exhibits

ROOM 304

- 4pm Film: *A Terrible Beauty*
- 6pm Film: *A Terrible Beauty*

ROOM 310

- 2pm: Academy of Irish Music
- 3:30pm: Pat and Karen Cannady and Friends

ROOM 311

8pm: Francis O'Neill Ceili Mor

ERIN ROOM

- 1pm to 6pm-Children's Area
- 5pm: Laurence Nugent and Bill O'Donoghue
- 7:30pm: In Spite of Ourselves

Attendees can park near the building or be directed to a remote lot and take a free shuttle to the IAHC from 2pm to midnight.

The fun continues at the IAHC with the annual

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

Tickets: \$10

Children: 12 and under are free

The day-long celebration in the Fifth Province pub features live music, dance, food and drink for purchase and face painting for children.

Mass 11am

1pm: Kathleen Keane and Peter Brady

3pm: O'Hare School of Irish Dance

4pm: Chancey Brothers

6:30pm: Trinity Irish Dancers

7pm: Without U2



Palm Sunday Mass and Irish Breakfast

**Sunday
March 20
10:30am
Fifth Province**



Food by Harrington's Deli and Catering

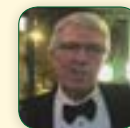
Tickets: \$15 Adults, \$8 Children

Children 3 and under are free.

Families can enjoy games and crafts and dye Easter eggs.

Reservations must be made by March 15.

COMEDY and CROONING



Starring



Artie Fitzgerald and Gene Cooney

Sunday, March 26, 7pm

Tickets: \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door

IAHC President Gene Cooney will perform a comedy set by beloved Irish comedian, Hal Roach. Local entertainer Artie Fitzgerald will perform the classic hits and standards of Old Blue Eyes. The concert is a benefit for the IAHC Library for the purchase of new computers and software.

Irish American Heritage Center

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From the Executive Director of Chicago Irish Immigrant Support

By Michael Collins

US Citizenship & Voting 2016 is a very important year for the United States. This year is an election year and our country will decide both our president for the next four years but also they will decide which party controlled the US House of Representatives & the US Senate. Voting and making your voice heard is one of the most important aspects to our democracy. This year more than ever it is important that everyone make an effort to become a citizen, assist their family members become a citizen, or help with coordination efforts and naturalization workshops. In 2016 the "New American" vote can be the difference in this election.

In the United States there are currently 41.3 million immigrants residing in the United States (or roughly 13% of the total population). Of this 41.3 million immigrants, many have already naturalized, many are under a various types of visas, however about 13.3 million of these are green card holders. Of the 13.3 million green card holders an estimated 8.8 million are currently eligible to naturalize as US citizens. It is very important that CIIS and all members of the community make a special effort to naturalize these 8.8 million eligible green card holders before the Election Day next November. We cannot afford to elect a candidate with such cynical views toward our immigrant neighbors. Below is some information on how to naturalize as a US citizen:

There are three ways to become a U.S. citizen: by birth within the U.S.; by birth outside of the U.S. to a U.S. citizen parent; and through naturalization.

Birth Any person born within the United States or its territories is a U.S. citizen. Birth Outside of the U.S. to a U.S. citizen parent

You may be a U.S. citizen if one or both of your parents was a U.S. citizen at the time of your birth or if one or both of your parents naturalized when you were under 18 years of age. Because the rules of acquisition or derivation of U.S. citizenship are complicated and depend on the year in which you were born, the legal status of your parents, and their marital status at the time of your birth, you should contact an immigration lawyer or accredited representative to discuss whether you could be a U.S. citizen.

Naturalization There are 9 requirements to apply for U.S. citizenship: Be a lawful permanent resident (green card holder) Be at least 18 years old at the time of filing. Have resided in the U.S. as a lawful permanent

resident for at least 5 years; or 3 years in the event you are married to a U.S. citizen, Demonstrate continuous residence in the United States for at least 5 years immediately preceding the date of filing, Been physically present in the United States for at least 30 months out of the 5 years immediately preceding the date of filing,

Be able to read, write, and speak basic English, Be able to pass a U.S. history and government (civics) test, Be a person of good moral character, and Demonstrate an attachment to the principles and ideals of the U.S. Constitution and take an oath of loyalty to the U.S. You will need to file a Form N-400 with the United States Immigration and Citizenship Services. To find the form, visit the USCIS website. Certain crimes and fraud in obtaining your green card may make you deportable. This does not mean that you should not consider naturalization if you have a criminal record, but if you have any concerns you should consult with an attorney or accredited representative before filing any application with the government. 773-282-8445.

CIIS 1916 Event As many people are aware, 2016 is a very important anniversary to one of Ireland's most significant historical events, the 1916 Easter Rising. To honor this anniversary, CIIS is hosting an event on April 28th from 5:30-8:00pm in the Gage Restaurant. This event will be free and open to the public. This event will begin with a short film, followed by key note speakers. This will focus on Chicago's impact on the 1916 Rising and how this event has affected Irish immigration to the US.

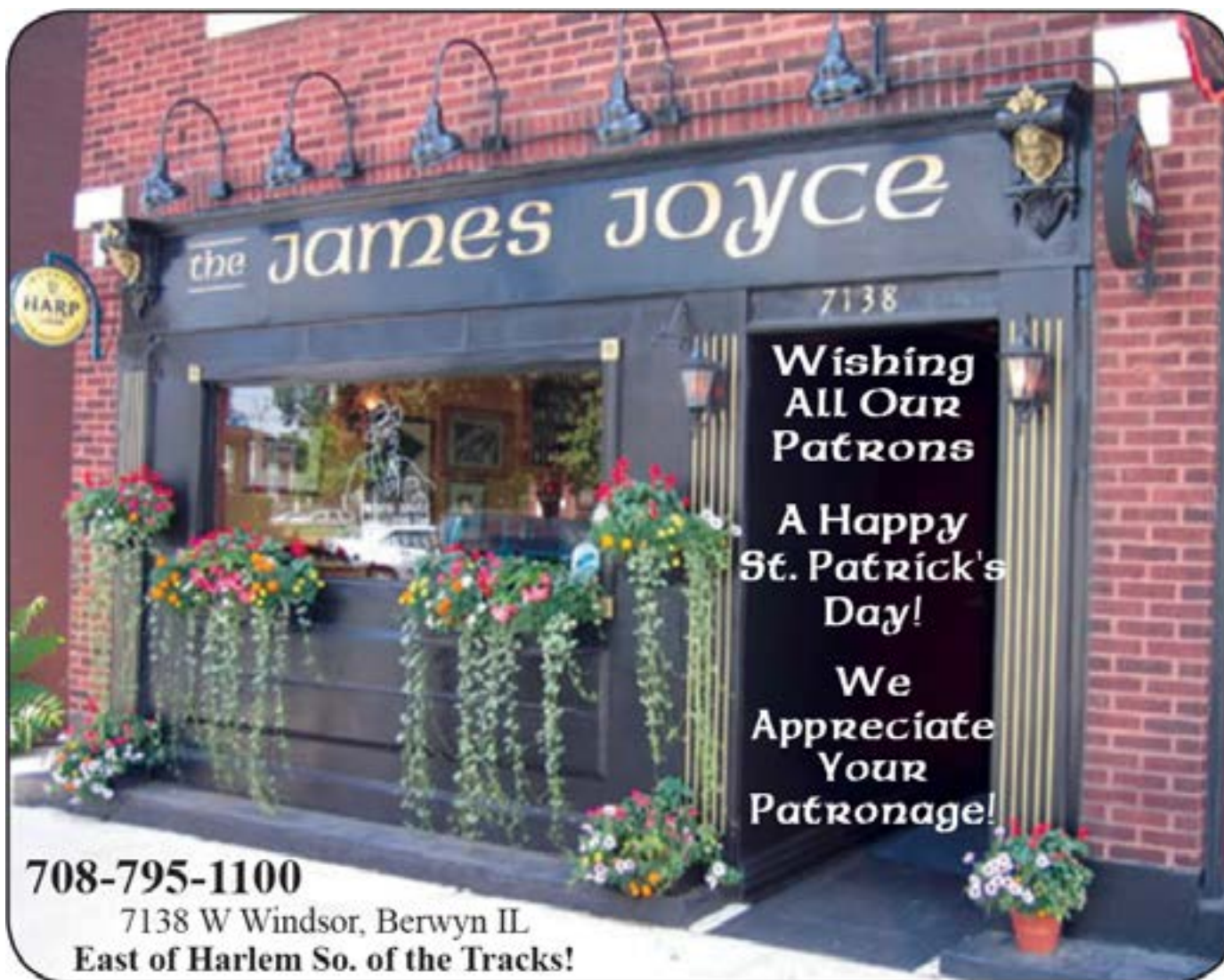
CIIS Update CIIS is continuing to host legal clinics for anyone who might have immigration questions. These clinics are currently being held twice a month by appointment only. Each clinic provides a client with a 30- minute face-to-face consultation with a fully qualified immigration attorney. Our next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

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Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan

He flirted with Marilyn Monroe.
Graced the cover of Time Magazine.
And went to early morning mass every day. John Joseph Lattner. Sure you know him as 1953 Heisman Trophy winner, Johnny Lattner. But of course he was much more than that.

One of the great pleasures of my life was interviewing Johnny for my St. Patrick's Day Diary in the Sun-Times back in 2003. He's also featured in my film, "Our Irish Cousins", leading the parade with the banner of St. Patrick. He'd been leading Chicago's Irish since 1965.

Johnny died February 13th, a few months after his 83rd birthday.

Like everybody who ever met Johnny, I never forgot him. And unbelievably, he never forgot me. He welcomed everybody into his world, like an old friend who knew you when.

Back when I lived in St. Luke parish, I would kneel just a couple pews behind Johnny at 6:30AM mass. He always reached back to put the kneeler down on the

pew behind him, to give his legs room to stretch. I looked forward to shaking his hand for the "sign of peace" and hearing him say "Hiya Mike."



He always seemed glad to see me. Terry Hanson posted news of Johnny's death early that morning. I rummaged around and discovered the old audio tape from our interview. Started listening to it and knew I had struck gold.

My sons Bill and Paddy had both tended bar and waited on Johnny for years at Kevil's in Forest Park. They told me, "He was terrific, a great tipper."

John would know about that, having owned a saloon himself.

Paddy and I went to his wake at Fenwick, lucky to be late because thousands had streamed through before us to pay respects. We ran into Charlie and Linda Carey in the crowd and exchanged Lattner stories. Everybody has one.



Got to the funeral at St. Vincent's and it was packed, not a seat in the church, except for the one Mark Vanecko saved for me. It was a magnificent send-off to a favorite son of Chicago put on by the Friars, Johnny's eight kids, and 26 grandchildren.

And then last night I listened to the tape. Suddenly it was just me and Lattner, just shooting the bull as he unspooled the stories of his life, each one better than the other.

"I was born in Oak Park hospital...my dad wasn't workin'...we lost the apartment in Forest Park and had to move to Chicago...St. Thomas Aquinas parish, in an apartment at Madison and Lavergne...

my brother Bill had a restaurant in Forest Park, called 'Two Bills', it's O'Sullivan's now...met my wife Peg, she went to Trinity, a buddy of mine was dating her girlfriend...I said to him on my 16th birthday, I said, listen I'd like to get a date with that Peggy McAllister...we didn't get married til '58...Two T's in Lattner, it's Renttal spelled backwards...it's German...they think I'm Irish! My mother was Irish, so I'm half Irish...my dad was a machinist and he moved here after World War One, got married to my mother...they

Goodbye

had a little corner grocery store ...right across from Garfield Park...and he used to repair slot machines...in those days the Marlboro Theater at Madison and Karlov used to telecast the Notre Dame games...all the West Side would go to the games, people used to say it was like goin' to the Notre Dame game, it was great...my dad died in freshman year..."

Listening to his voice on the tape, just a kid from the West Side who'd never left really. He spoke with pride of all his kids. Still hanging out with his old pals at Healy's, Doc Ryan's, Kevils, loved the "Has-Been"

luncheons at Hawthorne, and the Como Inn, listening to Ziggy Czarowski sing at the bar.

What's your message for St. Patrick's Day?

"Have a good time, it's legitimately the only time a good Irishman can get a load on without feelin' guilty."

As I was leaving, I asked for his autograph, sign it to my sons Bill and Paddy. He wrote, "To a great set of twins, good luck!"

I wisecracked, that's what I told Jayne Mansfield.

His face lit up. "I should tell ya the story about when I met Marilyn Monroe.

I was a sophomore; we were playing the University of Southern Cal out there.

We went over to RKO Studio after practice, Friday, and we met Marilyn, she was filming this picture called 'Clash by Night', Barbara Stanwyck, Robert Ryan, they were all in it... for two hours we talked to her like I'm talking to you Mike, back and forth bs, she says I'll drive you back, there were six of us, but before that she says do you want my autograph? We all would love it Marilyn. What should I say on it? uh to John, thanks for that wonderful night we had together, love and kisses, with her phone number, ... She was a nice lady, just a nice lady."

Not as nice as you John Lattner. God rest your lovely soul.



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Johnny Lattner (4th from left), with former Irish Consul General and IAN columnist, Sean Farrell (right) and friends.

Johnny

Chicago and Fenwick Mourns Johnny Lattner



A Slice of Ireland

By Cathy Cooney-Millar



Johnny was born and raised in Chicago. He led Fenwick High School to two Prep Bowls and went on to play college football at Notre Dame. He earned the Heisman Trophy for college football's most outstanding player as a Half back, during his senior season in 1953, after running for 651 yards and nine touchdowns along with 14 catches for 204 yards. Johnny Lattner, is the only Chicago native to win the Heisman trophy and was one of Fenwick High School's greatest athletes. He won the Maxwell Award as the best player in college football in both 1952 and 1953; he and Tim Tebow are the only players to win more than one Maxwell in the 80-year history of that award. Johnny played only one season of professional football until being drafted, and, while playing football in the Air Force, suffered a knee injury that ended his career.

Johnny's oldest son, Jack said his "Dad never said no to any person or child that wanted to meet him or shake his hand. He was always a great example for others. He was very generous with his time to his family

and friends and the community." "He would attend every family member's baptism, sporting event or school activity of his kids and Grandchildren." Jack explained when he was a child he did have any aspirations to follow in his dad's footsteps and play football. That did not matter to his Dad. All that mattered to his Dad was that the kids were happy with whatever athletics or activities they chose to be a part of. Johnny helped start a monthly lunch club with a few of his buddies. Once word got out of this lunch group it didn't take long to grow to 50 people. Johnny had a natural popularity because of his friendly, gentle nature and kindness. He was known for his generosity and particularly for lending out his Heisman Trophy for charity events and fundraisers for Fenwick High School.



Lattner's wake was only the fourth to take place inside the school's Lawless Gymnasium, at Fenwick.

Lattner is survived by his wife Peggy, whom he married in 1958, their eight children and 25 grandchildren, many of whom attended Fenwick.

On February 13, 2016, the Fenwick community lost one of their own. Johnny Lattner passed away from mesothelioma. Hundreds of mourners waited for hours at Fenwick High School's Lawless gymnasium to pay their respects, to their 1950 graduate.



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JOHN PLUNKETT
INTERIORS

Herself

By Katheryn Morley

The Woman Behind the Man

It's an easy guess that few reading this newspaper are unaware of the 1916 Easter Rising. We know the story and are familiar with the cast of characters: Patrick Pearse, James Connolly and other prominent Rising heroes. However, a group of fearless feminist nationalists that played a major role in the Rising has long been sidelined. So, as we approach and reflect on the 100th anniversary of the Easter Rising, I thought I'd shed some light on the ladies of Cumann na mBan (Council of Women) and in particular the woman who carried the truce messages, crossing the battleground under a white flag, who left for history just a fleeting glimpse of her cloak and shoes as proof of her contribution that week.

In April 1914, Cumann Na mBan was formed to work alongside the Irish Volunteers. Their constitution stated their aims: to advance the cause of Irish liberty, organize Irish women in the furtherance of that objective, and assist in arming and equipping a body of Irish men for the defense of Ireland, for which they formed the Defence of Ireland Fund. Some feminists viewed Cumann Na mBan as a servile sisterhood to the Volunteers, but joining with the male revolutionaries gave them a great advantage within the nationalist movement.

Nurse Elizabeth O'Farrell joined Cumann Na mBan, immersing herself in the cause of independence, along with many other working-class girls who had: "only willing hearts, earnestness and determination" to contribute. O'Farrell received military and weaponry training and was appointed dispatch carrier by the Irish Military Council.

During the rising, O'Farrell was situated in the General Post Office (GPO) along with Pearse, Connolly, Plunkett, Clarke and McDermott. When the GPO could no longer be held, Nurse O'Farrell was one of three women to remain on the scene. They evacuated the building, which had become entirely engulfed in flames, and rushed past a barricade to safety with bullets raining around them. O'Farrell and the two other nurses treated the injuries of Connolly's and seventeen other men



wounded during the retreat.

Sean McDermott gave O'Farrell the order to carry a message from Commandant Pearse to the Commander of the British Forces saying he wished to treat with him. Elizabeth left the shelter waving a small white flag, prompting the British to cease fire and allow her to cross with her message to the officer in command. She was then held prisoner for an hour before she could speak with General Lowe, who told her



Nurse Elizabeth O'Farrell

other Commandants the next day. Lowe promised her safe passage and freedom when this was accomplished. The next two days Nurse O'Farrell risked her life

all unless he surrenders unconditionally and that Mr. Connolly follows on a stretcher." Pearse then accompanied Nurse O'Farrell to General Lowe and surrendered his sword.

O'Farrell was detained that night and was told by General Lowe to carry Commandant Pearse's orders for surrender around to the

bringing the message to the other posts, armed with nothing but her small white flag. She said later: "This was a very difficult job and I had to take my life in my hands several times. When I came into Westland Row the military were lined across the top, and they were screaming to me to go back, but I kept on waving my white flag and the paper."

At one post Nurse O'Farrell was given £16 worth of gold and silver by two brothers, which she agreed to bring to their families. Elizabeth was taken to spend the night at the Castle Hospital where, on orders from General Lowe, she was to be treated as a guest, not a prisoner. But when she awoke her coat was missing and the money with it. She reported the theft to an officer, but he decided the Volunteers must have stolen it. She was taken prisoner, stripped, inspected and locked up. O'Farrell complained to officers that General Lowe had given his word she

Continued on next page



This sequence shows the original photograph (left) of the moment Padraig Pearse surrendered to General Lowe. Beside Pearse (obscured) is Nurse O'Farrell. In the second photograph the expressions of the British soldiers' faces were changed — and by the third picture Nurse O'Farrell was eliminated from the scene.

Images Courtesy: National Museum of Ireland, Decorative Arts & History / Kilmainham Gool

she was to go back to Mr. Pearse and tell him General Lowe would not treat at all until Mr. Pearse would "surrender unconditionally." A time limit of thirty minutes was placed on her return, and after some deliberation among the rebel leaders, O'Farrell was sent back with a written response from Pearse. She said Lowe "was rather vexed because I was a minute over the half-hour coming, but I really wasn't as I pointed out by my watch — then one of the officers set his watch my mine". Lowe then told her: "go back and tell Mr. Pearse that I will not treat at

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Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling



This month's senior group meetings
Each month Chicago Irish Immigrant Support hosts senior group meetings at IAHC and Gaelic Park. See below for specific details on upcoming events. All senior 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.

Wednesday, 2nd March – IAHC: A Terrible Beauty
'A Terrible Beauty' is a 90 minute feature docudrama which takes a unique look at the events of Easter Week 1916 in Dublin. Focusing on two of the most ferocious battles that week, The Battle of Mount Street Bridge and the engagements around Ned Daly's Four Courts garrison, this is the first film to tell the story from three different perspectives, showing the human cost of the fighting on all sides.

Wednesday, 9th March –

GAELIC PARK: Selling Your Home
Whether downsizing or moving somewhere with better weather, many seniors find themselves thinking about selling their home. This, however, is just the start of what can be a long and trying process. Join us today for some inside information that could make for a much smoother process, as a senior's real estate specialist provides some tips on how to plan a successful sell.

Wednesday, 16th March – IAHC & Wednesday 23rd March – GAELIC PARK – Mass in Honor of St. Patrick

We are joined by our Chaplin Fr. Mick Madigan who will celebrate mass to mark this very special time of year in the Irish Calendar

Let's Talk About Mental Health

Last year Chicago Irish Immigrant Support partnered with an Irish based charity called Pieta House in order to start a conversation among the Irish community of Chicago. We hoped to get

people talking about mental health and suicide which, despite having touched all of our lives in one way or another, are spoken about with troubling infrequency. As part of a community committee, CIIS helped to organize the first ever Darkness into Light 5k walk designed to raise awareness of suicide and self-harm amongst the local Irish population. The walk stepped off in the very early morning when it was still dark outside. However, as participants crossed the finish line dawn was breaking over Chicago. This symbolized the journey of those who are feeling suicidal from the darkness of despair into the bright hope of a new day. CIIS is delighted to once again be involved with organizing Darkness into Light 2016. This year's event will take place in the small hours of Saturday 7th May. Please mark your calendars now and keep an eye out for more details of this exciting and worthwhile event. We are hoping that this year we can create an even more successful event that gets people thinking and talking about the mental health issues that affect us all as individuals and as a community.

This year we are also helping the Irish community become more comfortable

with the issue of suicide by providing two suicide awareness training sessions. We are once again partnering with Pieta House to host the Mind your Buddy program which offers an opportunity for participants to become better able to identify someone who may be feeling suicidal. It is a program designed to educate and equip people to spot the signs when someone is in suicidal crisis. The training takes place over about two hours and will be held on Saturday 19th March. We are hosting the training twice – once at Gaelic Park at 9am and again at the Irish American Heritage Center at 2pm. Both trainings are taking place on the same date and the content of each training session will be identical so there is no need to attend both sessions. We have space for 30 individuals at each session. Please call the CIIS office on 773 828 8445 and speak with Paul Dowling to reserve your place. By participating in this training you can help us to keep our community safe and supported. The training is suited to anyone 16 years of age or older and may be of particular interest to those who come into contact with a large number of people whether socially or through their work.

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DEMOCRAT FOR JUDGE - Vote in the March 15th Primary Election

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The Woman Behind the Man

Continued from last page

would not be made a prisoner, she was laughed at and ignored. Eventually she received an apology from the officers and General Lowe himself. He gave the nurse a letter of passage, and when she told him of the £16 stolen, Lowe ordered the officer to restore the funds.

After Pearse ordered the evacuation of the GPO, he thanked the women there and said that, "when the history of this fight would be written, the foremost page in the annals should be given to the women of Dublin who had taken their place in the fight for the establishment of the republic." He told them that they had inspired the men and that the heroism of great Irish women of the past: "wonderful though it was, paled before the devotion to duty of the women of Cumann Na mBan". But these women did not receive such high honors as Pearse had hoped for them, and their presence in the push for independence was soon forgotten.

The famous photo of Pearse's surrender that circulated in the days after the Rising initially included Nurse O'Farrell, or at least the bottom of her coat and her shoes as she stood next to him. That photo was retouched for the newspapers. Her dress and feet were airbrushed out, and Elizabeth O'Farrell disappeared from that historic moment.

There has been much speculation as to why she was obscured from view, then removed from the photo. Many blamed the newspaper editor. One book released in 2011 claims that O'Farrell "hid" behind Pearse, in her own words, "so as not to give the enemy press any satisfaction".


However, while researching her story, I had the good fortune to contact Elizabeth O'Farrell's grand-nephew, Pat White, a Dublin cabbie, who told me that his great-aunt Elizabeth told her family that while the photographer was setting up, knowing this was an important event, and feeling that Pearse rightly should be the focus, of the moment, she simply decided to step to his other side.

O'Farrell faced fire and firearms in order to do her part for Irish freedom. She remains, quite literally, a great woman behind a great man.

Kmorley20@gmail.com

A Word With Monsignor Boland
The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Reverend Michael M. Boland
Administrator, President and CEO



This month we celebrate the joy of Easter and the tremendous opportunity it brings for rebirth and renewal in our lives.

At Catholic Charities we give thousands of people a chance to "renew" their lives each day. Whether we are helping people overcome an addiction in one of our substance abuse programs, saving families from the depths of homelessness, providing safe refuge for victims of domestic violence, or assisting families in a multitude of different ways, Catholic Charities has the privilege of offering new hope and a new life to more than one million people each year.

When we think of the senior population, the words "rebirth" and "new life" might not immediately come to mind. Yet, that is exactly what Catholic Charities provides to low-income seniors in our affordable

senior apartment buildings.

Over the past 30 years, Catholic Charities has built 1,500 apartments for low-income seniors in 19 buildings spread throughout neighborhoods in the Archdiocese of Chicago. These buildings have been carefully designed to meet the specific needs of seniors, enabling them to enjoy a "new" life free from social isolation, filled with friendly neighbors and a caring environment, where they can maintain as much independence as possible for as long as possible.

Everyday safety is the top priority, and consequently each apartment and all common areas are accessible and adaptable. Dangers that befall seniors in their own homes—such as stairs, trip hazards, or tight and inaccessible bathrooms—have been removed, and clear sightlines, light

colors, bright lights, and distinct floor patterns help seniors navigate their surroundings. A 24-hour front desk provides security and ensures that residents never feel alone.

Each building is more than just a structure with individual apartments, it is a community with a profound sense of neighborliness. Common areas provide space for seniors to congregate for birthdays, holiday celebrations, exercise classes, and a variety of educational programs. Some buildings also house a meal program so seniors have ready access to a hot, nutritious meal enjoyed in the company of others. A service coordinator in each building ensures that resident needs are being met, and determines if they could benefit from in-home services such as home delivered meals or help with self-care. Residents can join in fun planned activities if they chose. For those who enjoy gaming, a "friendly" Wii Bowling competition has even been started between our buildings!

And just as Catholic Charities' has designed the interior of our senior buildings to promote independence and reduce isolation, we have given as much atten-

tion the exterior. Lovely landscaping welcomes residents home, and secured patios invite residents to enjoy the outdoors in a safe environment. Buildings are located near public transportation, giving seniors the option of taking the bus or train to appointments or to visit friends and family. On-site parking is available for seniors who have their own cars, and Catholic Charities' vans take residents to grocery stores, shopping malls, and planned outings.

Catholic Charities' senior buildings are located in some of the most impoverished communities in the Archdiocese. In many cases, our buildings were the first new construction the neighborhoods had seen in years. Catholic Charities maintains these buildings with the utmost care so they remain sparkling beacons of renewed hope and new life in desperate areas.

Over the years, residents have often remarked to me, "this is the nicest place I've ever lived." It is a blessing to bring such renewal and rebirth to our elderly brothers and sisters who might not otherwise have the chance for a new beginning. What a powerful reminder that the Risen Christ never stops working miracles in our lives!

Get Out and Vote!

The following individuals are up for election and have advertised in Irish American News

For Commissioner, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District

Democrat **Joseph Cook Punch #136**

Democrat **Kevin McDevitt Punch #131**

Democrat **Andrew Seo Punch #141**

Democrat **Mariyana Spyropoulos Punch #133**

for Judge

Democrat **Alison Conlon Punch #205**

Democrat **Colleen Reardon Daly Punch #241**

Democrat **Daniel Patrick Duffy Punch #227**

Democrat **Carolyn Joan Gallagher Punch #212**

Democrat **Pat Heneghan Punch 221**

Independent Democrat **Patrick Powers Punch #229**

Democrat **Eve Marie Reilly Punch 242**

Democrat **William "Bill" Wojcik Punch #226**

for Congress

Republican **August Deuser Punch 41**



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She Died for Ireland-Twice

The Irish government is moving forward with 1916 centennial commemorations in an uneasy, watered-down fashion, watched over one shoulder by Britain and its legacy of Penal Laws, starvation and 'transportation', and over the other shoulder by Sinn Féin, with its legacy of armed resistance to both British and Free-State rule and its political eye on the entire island. Keeping still the swirling Vichy-like political waters is a harrowing task.

Dublin first floated the idea that the Royal family could play a role. British Ambassador Chilcott confirmed, saying: "we have a very good, very strong relationship now." But the waters effervesced mightily, and the ships of state reversed course sharply from the plan to share the grandstand, celebrating Ireland's 6-day war. 100 years later, the scars are tender still.

A flurry of research has been unleashed into events long forgotten by chance or by choice. The 'patriot game' is ever a man's domain, and one field long fallow through the years is the role played by women.

Until recently the name Margaret Keogh has not been prominent in accounts of the Rising. Over the years I've researched 1916

for shows and columns, and seen brief references: "only one woman casualty, a civilian", with no name attached. Yet young Margaret was the only woman to die in that short,

sharp conflict.

Perhaps it's because British scribes are inclined to omit a tale of their soldiers shooting to death a woman; a nurse. Likewise, Irish scribes, Free State or Republican, may have been loath to highlight deaths of civilians as opposed to members of Cumann na mBan.

Paul Horan, Assistant Professor of Nursing at Trinity College, Dublin, was researching his own family's role in the Easter Rising and came upon Margaret Keogh's story. He wrote an article for the Irish Mirror last year describing her as a nurse working at the South Dublin Union that Easter Monday who was shot by a British soldier while attending to patients. Horan concluded: "She would have been wearing her uniform so I find it very distasteful... the notion that a nurse in full uni-

form going to attend a casualty was shot, that's cold-blooded murder."

At the time of her death, Éamonn Ceannt, Irish Volunteers commander at the Dublin Union and signer of the Proclamation of Independence, referred to her as "the first martyr" of the rebellion. In 'The Easter Rising', authors Barton and Foy relate that when Ceannt and his men occupied the building, Nurse Kehoe told him that "she was with them heart and soul."

Notably, Margaret's uncle, Captain Myles Keogh, died 40 years earlier in another famous battle between natives and invaders, 4,200 miles from Dublin - a battle fought by a combined force of Lakota, Northern Cheyenne, and Arapaho Native Americans Under Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse and others against a U.S. 7th Cavalry regiment commanded by Lt. Col. George A. Custer, near Montana's Little Big Horn River.

A 1932 publication by Ireland's National Graves Association, mentions Nurse Keogh: "A Volunteer fell wounded outside the door of the hospital. Immediately a nurse rushed out to his assistance and as she bent over the wounded men she herself was fired upon and fell dead."

Most likely, though, she was shot inside the hospital, as related in the eyewitness account of Volunteer Dan McCarthy: "...to our surprise a British military party (most likely of the Royal Irish Regiment) appeared in the corridor and we opened fire on them. ... they seemed to panic, lost their head momentarily because a nurse in full uniform opened the door and came down the stairs. They fired at her and killed her."

A site honoring Margaret's uncle, U.S. Captain Myles, has it that the two British soldiers guarding the corridor both fired at Margaret as she appeared: "...killing her instantly. Her body was placed on a table in the corridor. Shortly afterwards, Irish Volunteer Dan McCarthy, who had been badly wounded in the volley of gunfire that caused Margaret Kehoe to descend, was laid beside her on the table. McCarthy survived, becoming president of the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) from 1921 to 1924."

The matter of her death was raised in Westminster by Laurence Ginnell, Home Rule MP who was told: "it had been definitely ascertained that this most regrettable incident was a pure accident."

Following Margaret's death, Ceannt addressed his men, asking them to remember her sacrifice: "She died for Ireland just as surely as if she'd worn the Volunteer's uniform." Ceannt himself was executed by a British firing squad two weeks later.

Nurse Kehoe was buried on the grounds of the hospital and later

reinterred in Ballinabranney cemetery, near her native parish of Leighlin, Co Cavan.

But however she died, the most remarkable thing is that she is but one of two Margaret's (Kehoe or Keogh) who died in Ireland's fight for freedom- one killed the first day of the rebellion; the other on the last day of the War of Independence.

At the time of her death this other Margaret Keogh, of Irishtown, Dublin was just nineteen years old. She was assassinated by the British military at her Dublin home in 1921. Margaret was a printer's assistant and member of Cumann Na mBan, the women's organization formed to assist the Irish Volunteers. Pádraig Óg O'Ruairc researched her story for the digital publication, "The Irish Story".

Margaret was a suffragette, a fluent Irish speaker and a member of the Irish Clerical

Workers Union. Questioned by the British forces in 1920 while fundraising for Conradh Na Gaeilge, (the Irish Language Association) she was arrested when she insisted on answering their questions in Irish rather than English.

Black and Tans and other British troops had a habit of creeping out at night to murder those they suspected as rebels. Several republicans were abducted and

killed by these British 'murder gangs'.

A truce was announced for noon on July 11, 1921 to end the War of Independence, but the night before, Margaret answered a knock at the door of her family home. She saw no one out in the darkness. A cowardly gunshot then shattered the quiet, and Margaret fell back, mortally wounded. She was the final victim of the British assassins. Margaret was buried three days later at Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin with full military honors, her coffin draped in the republican tricolor and carried by uniformed members of Cumann Na mBan.

The British held an official but private inquiry into her murder - no press allowed. Its results have never been published.

The Irish Civil War soon began, and this second Margaret Keogh was also forgotten.

Her small Grave marker at Glasnevin reads:

'MARGARET KEOGH -
DIED FOR IRELAND'.

©Mike Morley 2016
E-mail: IrishTV@att.net
Website: <http://IRISHTV.US>
[Facebook: Irish Eye and IrishTV.US]



*Nurse Margaret Kehoe,
killed by British forces, 1916*



*Margaret Kehoe, murdered
by British forces, 1921*

The Commemorative 1916/2016 Easter Lily Pin

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13-17. The Rose-Petals are the debutantes of our Chicago Rose Selection and write an essay that is

Roses-Rose-Petals and Rosebuds!

Have you submitted your application yet?! The Chicago Rose Center is looking for all of our Roses! The parades will be coming in a few short weeks and you will not want to miss out marching in the Downtown Parade, Saturday, March 12th and the South Side Irish Parade, Sunday, March 13th with the 2016 Roses! And, we have a special guest this year, the 2015 London Rose, Aisling Hillary, who will also be marching.

Who are we looking for? Of course we are looking for our Roses, ages 18-27.

The Roses are the actual participants that are running for the Chicago Rose of Tralee Selection on May 15, 2016 at Gaelic Park. Please get your applications in as soon as possible so we can have your sash ready for the parades with your sponsor's names. Who knows, you may be the 2016 Chicago Rose to represent our fine city in Tralee, Ireland this August.

Next we are looking for our Rose-Petals. These girls are between the ages of

judged. There is a crowning of a Rose-Petal every year! You won't want to miss competing to become the 2016 Chicago Rose-Petal. And then, our littlest one's of all – the Rosebuds. These little darlings are between the ages of 5-12. They are very important to the Chicago Rose Selection. They are paired up with their very own Chicago



Rose and help escort her on stage during the selection. The Rosebud also has the important job of cheering her Rose on while she is on stage.

How do you become a Rose, Rose-Petal or Rosebud? You can find all the applications and details at www.chicagoroseoftralee.com. And, remember, our Chicago Rose Selection is Sunday, May 15, 2016 at Gaelic Park.

Save the date!



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Prints of this painting by Maura O'Rourke are 12 x 16 inches, **\$40 each unframed** Includes free shipping in USA



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Introducing: The Narrowbacks



If Joe Strummer, Shane MacGowan and Bruce Springsteen survived a drinking session through the five boroughs of New York City, the hangover would be called The Narrowbacks. The brainchild of a future banker and a bartender, The Narrow-

backs are a fresh voice for songs and stories old and new. The band is currently winning over audiences with their high energy set of tunes and over the top performances. They have played gigs at notable venues such as The Stone Pony, Webster Hall and the Bowery Ballroom. They have shared the stage with Flogging Molly, Black 47 and The Dropkick Murphys. But maybe their most note worthy shows have been in support of The Ice Bucket Challenge, performing at many charity events to raise money for the cure of ALS and their dedication to the cause has helped fuel their notoriety and is taking them nationwide.

The band has been brewing on the East coast and developing their own unique style of 'Celtic Rock'. Not to be stuck in that genre the band can rock out with any of the best players out there. Music writer Colleen Taylor of The Irish Echo says of the group, "Their music is literally and figuratively electric and it sounds best live... The Narrowbacks fill the need for a young Irish-America that knows how to rock." They receive constant rotation on radio stations such as WFUV in NYC and Sirius XM on Larry Kirwan's 'Celtic Crush.'

After a few years recording their own versions of traditional Irish and folk songs and anthems, the band will be releasing an album of all original tunes in April. To get a taste of the music they will be premiering a single called 'Shannon' on February 19th on iTunes. Disc Jockey Bruce Swan of WPKN radio says, "The new single 'Shannon' from The Narrowbacks is classic storytelling, genre-bending and non-stop great. If this is the start of what is yet to come, the new cd from The Narrowbacks will kill it."

www.narrowbacks.com

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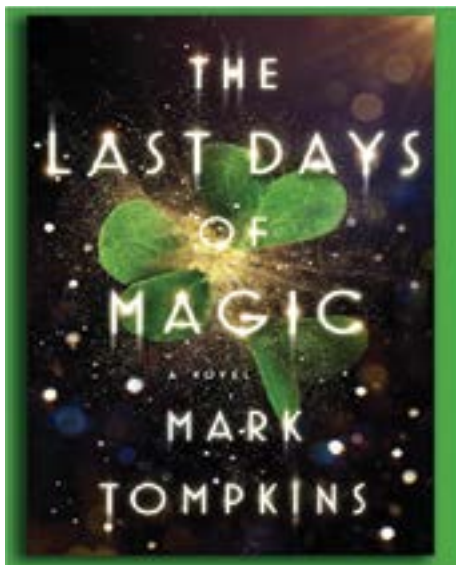
The Last Days of Magic

by Mark Tompkins

Spanning the forests and villages of 14th-century Ireland, the lavish courts of France and England, the Vatican's inner chambers and present-day mysteries, **THE LAST DAYS OF MAGIC** (Viking; On sale: March 1, 2016; ISBN: 9780525429531; \$27) blends historical, fictional, and mythical events to create a richly imagined world and an exhilarating story of adventure and enchantment. Ireland is the last magical outpost on Earth, its Middle Kingdom—home to faeries and otherworldly beings—still strong in the face of the Vatican's ever-expanding influence, its armies, exorcists and mercenaries. But when an ancient treaty between the Celts and faeries is broken,

human Celts and Ireland's faeries, the Sidhe. When one twin is assassinated in an act of defiance by a sect of tree faeries, her sister Aisling, is left weakened and alone, struggling with human desires and a goddess's destiny.

The Vatican, meanwhile, is plotting the eradication of all magic from Europe takes the opportunity to strike. Jordan is a Vatican commander tapped for



leaving them vulnerable to the machinations of the power-hungry Roman Church, the very existence of magic in the world is threatened.

In Ireland, the reincarnated Morrigna twins are goddesses in human form and the chosen rulers charged with keeping the uneasy peace between the

the invasion, but he's plagued with doubts of his own. With budding magical abilities and a growing attachment to the enchantress Najia, he's torn between desire and duty. As the Celts, Sidhe, and Vatican forces prepare for the battle ahead, Jordan must decide who he stands with—a decision that will have

repercussions centuries later, when a graduate student named Sara Hill stumbles unknowingly into the thick of the mystery.

About the Author

Mark Tompkins is the founder of the Aspen Writers' Network and serves on the board of Aspen Words, a program of the Aspen Institute. Born in Texas of Irish ancestry, Tompkins lives in Boston, Houston, and Aspen. **The Last Days of Magic** is his first novel.

"A heady brew of Celtic and Biblical mythology with late medieval political intrigue and warfare. . . . Tompkins combines deft characterization with treachery, battle, magic, and hints of Dan Brown."

—Publishers Weekly

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Irish American Heritage Center
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 Saturday 19th March 2016
 4pm-6pm

To reserve your place or for more information please contact Chicago Irish Immigrant Support

773-282-8445

or visit

irishchicago.org

The official launch of the 2016 **Darkness into Light 5k** – an event taking place in May to raise awareness of suicide in the Irish community- will be held at the Irish American Heritage Center @ 6pm after the training on Saturday 19th March. All are very welcome.

St. Patrick's Day Art Exhibit

The St. Patrick's Day Art Exhibit runs from Saturday, March 12 through Sunday, March 20 from 1pm to 4pm, except Saturday, March 12 for the St. Patrick's Festival. Festival hours are from 1pm to 6pm and fest admission fees apply. The exhibit features paintings and drawings by such Chicago artists as Laura Coyle,

Michael Carroll, Jim Kingston, Kathy Cunningham and Kathy Kelly. For more information, contact IAHC Art Gallery Director Frank Crowley at 773-612-6584

Who was Cearbhall O'Dalaigh?

(Carroll O'Daly) He was a barrister, judge, journalist and the 5th president of Ireland. That's an impressive resume and list of careers.



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He was president from 1974-76. His name in Gaelic means fierce warrior. I think someone with all of those positions has to have serious integrity and fierce persistence in their goal setting. He was born in Bray, Co. Wicklow in 1911. His father was a shopkeeper and not interested in politics, however, he was active in the struggle for Irish independence. Cearbhall had 3 siblings a brother Aonghus and two sisters Una and Nuala. Cearbhall was a very bright student and Gaelic scholar. He went to University College Dublin. He became auditor of An Cumann Gaelach (Irish Society) the editor or the Irish press. He was quite popular among Irish language speakers and Republicans. He was a supporter of Fianna Fail, he served in the party in the 1930's. He became the youngest Attorney General in 1946 and later he became the youngest member of the Supreme Court and became youngest Chief Justice. He met Mairin Bean Uí Dhálaigh, an Irish language scholar, at the Literary Society in Dublin, they were married in 1934. They had no children. Mairin's father was from Co. Dublin her mother was raised in Co. Cork but originally from India.

When Ireland joined the European Economic Community, Jack Lynch appointed O'Dalaigh as Ireland's judge on the European Court of Justice. When President Erskine Childers suddenly died in 1974 all parties agreed to nominate O'Dalaigh for the post.

O'Dalaigh's presidency proved to be controversial one, he had a strained relationship with the coalition government from the start. In 1976 he used his power to refer a bill to the Supreme court to test its constitutionality which brought him conflict with the Fine Gael-Labour Coalition. O'Dalaigh attempted to delay the implementation of legislation that would have given police greater powers in detaining suspected terrorists. And unfortunately, during his presidency there was an assassination of an English Ambassador to Ireland named, Christopher Ewart-Briggs, by the IRA. When the court ruled the bill was constitutional he signed the bill into

Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



law on October 16, 1976. The same day an IRA bomb in Mountmellick, Co. Laois, killed Michael Clerkin, a member of the Garda Síochána. (police force) The government felt and eluded to the media that O'Dalaigh's actions contributed to these murders.

The following day Minister of Defense Paddy Donegan, said disparaging statements about President O'Dalaigh. He said the president is a, "thundering disgrace". Later Donegan offered an apology and even his resignation over the statements but the Taoiseach, Cosgrove, refused to accept it. O'Dalaigh was not happy with all the talk and speculation about his leadership and felt ostracized. Hence, he resigned the day after Donegan's statements. Why do people resign? Most of the time it falls into one of these categories: other opportunities, underpaid, personality conflict, stress or poor management. I think in O'Dalaigh's case he felt he couldn't fully express his ideas and lack of control. I think O'Dalaigh felt the Houses of Oireachtas had all the power. I don't think it was a matter of him not fulfilling his role, or any colossal mistakes. No other president in Ireland has resigned because of disagreement with the government and this episode has long been recognized as the closest Ireland has come to a constitutional crisis. It's been said O'Dalaigh had an obsessive preoccupation with resigning, they found many drafts of unsent letters of resignation to the Taoiseach. Speaking of letters, I'm sure some of you have written some letters you never sent and maybe it's better that way... They say writing is a cathartic exercise. One of O'Dalaigh's drafts went like this, "I have no desire to be president under a system of government which, as it is now authoritatively established, sets so little store by the fundamental rights of the citizen and which is at variance with principles to the

defense of which I believe I have devoted the better principles to resume my duties as an ordinary citizen rather than to retain the shell of the office of president."

Ironically, President Nixon also resigned in 1974 and his resignation letter was much shorter. He resigned before they could impeach him, his situation was far different than President O'Dalaigh. O'Dalaigh chose to leave office. He died in 1978 less than two years after he left office. He was buried in Sneem, Co. Kerry. Interestingly enough, five years after his death, Mairin O'Dalaigh was appointed to the Council of State. She died in 1994 and is buried in Co. Kerry next to her husband)

St. Patrick's Day is upon us, I want to wish everyone a, Happy St. Patrick's Day! Lá Fhéile Pádraig Sona Daoibh!

Every year for St. Patrick's Day, my uncles in Co. Mayo, Tom & John Mellett send us a big packet of shamrocks. Thank you for always sending us shamrocks. (seamroga)

Gaelic for the month:
disagree-aontaíonn
power-cumhacht
quit-scor

Seanfhocail for the month

Is beo duine tar eis a bhuaillte ach ni beo e tar eis a chainte

(A person is alive after being beaten but not after his good name is taken)

Virginia Gibbons next book club at the IAHC will be held on March 27th at 1pm and the book is,

Philomena, by Martin Sixsmith.

I have received emails asking if I will ever write about current events in Ireland. I definitely would like to write about more contemporary news but the purpose of my piece is to remind us of what happened in the past. One of these months I'll get to some current news. Hang in there with me.

If you have any questions or comments please Email me at: Molanive@yahoo.com

Deuser Runs for Congress

August (O'Neill) Deuser is running against Jimmy Tillman in the March 15, 2016 primary for Congress. If we win the primary we will run against Bobby Rush in the 2106 general election in November, 2016. August is Pro-Life and Pro-Second Amendment. August is for Term Limits which means 2-4 year terms and you are done serving. August also believes that the maximum salary for a Congressman should be \$100,000 a year with a pension for the number of years you serve the public.



In other words, if you serve for 8 years you get a pension for 8 years. August also believes the maximum pension should be \$50,000 a year. As a retired teacher August realizes that the state can't pay all the money into the pension fund. The teachers need to

pay 10% of their salaries into the pension funds to offset the costs. Also the maximum for teachers and administrators \$100,000 a year and a \$50,000 pension.

The reality is the general assembly has failed to pay into the pension fund for 40 years.

The teachers contribute to the (TRS) Teacher Retirement Service and that fund is solvent. August was a third generation police officer before going back to school to earn a Masters in education and teach emotionally challenged students. August is pro-police and suggests the public go on the FBI.gov to see the number of police officers killed in the United States each year. August also believes the police officers need to contribute 10% of their salaries into their pension funds.

August believes that schools need to be built in the inner city to improve the educational opportunities of children who live in poverty. The money that Speaker Madigan hid in a Jesse White fund and then built a new school in his ward should have been use for the entire 50 wards in Chicago. Thirty eight

million dollars should have been split between the lowest performing schools in Chicago. Rahm closed 50 schools and Bobby Rush complained. Obama was a south side activist in Chicago. Why didn't they get federal funding to build schools in Gresham and

Englewood? Education will help give children of poverty a better opportunity. Our state and federal government is in a fiscal crisis because of irresponsible spending. I ask for your vote in 2016. Check out my website at www.deuser.us

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Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



And the Winners Are...?

Strange, writing this and being the only one who doesn't know how it all panned out; and whether Dame Enda is still standing or not...

Sunday morning and that's the Valentine's Day cards counted. Which didn't take long. And the one I DID get was actually meant for the good-looking bloke next door. Ah, well; there's always next year.

No doubt Health Minister Leo Varadkar is still counting his. Apparently some poll or other has found that he's the Irish politician that most people want a date with.

Incredible. With all that's going on in the country – you know, gangsters shooting each other in broad daylight whilst the Party for Law and Order shove leaflets through your door telling you to give them five more years – some folks find time to answer a poll as moronic as that one. And to paraphrase Al Pacino in the Godfather sequel when asked what such a

thing tells him – it tells me that Fianna Gael can win. Heaven help us.

Twenty years on from the murder of Veronica Guerin and we're back to having threats made against journalists who report on these creatures. Ireland, 2016.

Incidentally, isn't it strange that we had to watch as over a hundred police stations were closed due to lack of resources, meaning that isolated country people now live in fear; but a gangster is shot dead in Dublin and suddenly the Minister for Justice is able to magic €5 million out of nowhere.

Still, I'll bet Leo didn't get any Valentines from all the patients who are waiting on trolleys in hospital corridors this morning. Even though they will certainly have time on their hands I doubt that they are transmitting thoughts of romance in the direction of Lovely Leo. Lovely Leo, who doesn't think that we need any more hospital beds. An opinion that had a doctor on radio last week pondering what

planet exactly it is that Lovely Leo resides on.

In truth, though, I received my Valentine early when I looked at the warm welcome that Enda Kenny got when he strutted his stuff in Cork, a-riding the Campaign Trail. (Knock back a pint for every time you hear him say: 'After the shambles that we inherited from Fianna Fail', and you'll be legless in no time).

I swear, there were more Gardai protecting him than you would see at the average anti-water charges demonstration. Hell, there was a stronger presence than you'll see at tomorrow's gangland funeral. As the cops surrounded him he swaggered along, doing his usual cringeworthy performance where he pretends to throw punches, whilst a large contingent of pissed-off Cork men and women hurled abuse. You could have been forgiven for thinking that he was the tin pot dictator of a fed-up Third World country.

Wait; let me rethink that one...

And as if the sight of that roasting in Cork (not that you would have known it if you relied on the National Broadcaster, RTE Pravda, for news) wasn't enough to gladden this old heart of mine, then seeing footage of him being torn asunder by RedFM presenter Neil Prendeville – who was in 'take-no-waffle' mode -- really sealed the deal. Check it out if you get the chance.

I really got a kick when he stuck on Kenny about the banks that Our Beloved Leaders have helped out so comprehensively but who now seem to be rounding fully and with such great enthusiasm on the ordinary punter.

It got Kenny started on one of his memorized scripts about how the banks have to be courteous and helpful to us; and considering that I've had two pretty heavy letters from the bank in the space of twenty days because I'm overdrawn to the tune of FIVE EUROS AND FIFTEEN CENTS, I could only give a wry smile.

And talking of bailing out

the banks... Finance Minister and German Bonds holder Michael Noonan, Fine Gael and Labour all added to the gaiety of the nation when their 'fiscal space' figures were out by...oh, a couple of billion. Which, let's face it, makes my FIVE EUROS AND FIFTEEN CENTS look very small indeed.

In fact, it seems that the only ones who actually were able to do their sums correctly were... Sinn Fein! Yes, the same party that routinely gets talked down to because of its supposed loose grasp of economics.

Apologies in order, perhaps? Not a bit of it. 'Prove it' squealed Noonan, with all the dignity of a child in the playground. I'm not apologizing and you can't make me!

However, if you watched the televised Leader's Debate where Kenny actually came out of his bunker to...eh, debate, to use the word at its loosest, then you'll know exactly what I mean by children in the playground. In fact I have to once more give Gerry Adams his due (which I'm not all that good at) because he was quite correct in likening it to a Punch and Judy show. In fact, it was a downright disgrace, with the viewer finding it damned near impossible to hear a word over the bickering and interrupting that went on.

And it has to be said that Labour Banshee Joan 'the Moan' Burton really takes the biscuit. I mean, when she's not busily falling into two feet of water have none of her advisors TOLD her that she sounds like a bloody cat being strangled at the best of times? If so, she hasn't listened to them because she REALLY outdid herself in the wailing, fingernails-down-the-chalkboard stakes this week.

I wouldn't even mind if she had something to contribute. Thank heavens that even though the ghastly Fine Gael parasites will probably survive, this election will without a doubt see Labour being roundly eviscerated, which is only right considering their utter betrayal of anyone who ever voted for them.

But to end on a positive note for a record-breaking second month running...

I watched the Late Late Show this week for the first time in memory (although considering the amount of brain cells I've killed over the years, that's not saying much). It was a *groan* Valentine's Day special and to be honest, when I saw the deeply creepy Chris de Burgh getting wheeled out to do his millionth rendition of 'The Lady in Red' (at least his insufferably smug daughter Rosanna wasn't with him) it almost got the OFF treatment.

As it happened, though, with the audience of singletons obviously half-to-fully cut from an overdose of alcoholic hospitality in the Green Room of Love, it turned out to be extremely entertaining car-crash TV.

And what made it for me were the couple who won a trip to Paris, because if ever two people deserved it then it was Debbie Laffan and her husband Reg Plunkett, who have been together for 22 years after meeting each other at the age of 16.

Over three years ago Reg was diagnosed with stage five renal failure – and this devastating news came only three months after the birth of their third child.

Debbie was tested (against his wishes) to see if she was a candidate for a kidney transplant. Apparently spouses never are; but miraculously she turned out to be a perfect match.

I believe that they said that Reg had just finished six days a week on dialysis at eight hours a day. Whatever it was, this was their first night out in forever.

And it was a story that just sent me to bed happy and not thinking of lying, crooked politicians at all... for just a little while.

There is a pre-election anti-water charges demonstration in Dublin next Saturday as I write and by the time you read this the election will be over. Sweet.

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

ST. STEPHEN'S GREEN



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Irish Musicians Associaton of American presents a benefit concert on Saturday, May 14, 2016 at 8pm for Doctors without Borders and youth student Irish Musicians Assistance Fund.

(All performances donated - 100% of all ticket proceeds to good causes!)
 The event will be held at Chicago Gaelic Park and the MC will be Harry Costello.
 Tickets \$15 at Gaelic Park. 6119 W 147th St, Oak Forest IL 60452. 708-687-9325.

Chicago Theater Works Presents the Hilarious Flanagan's Wake

Just in time for St. Patrick's Day, Chicago Theater Works (1113 W. Belmont), home of the hilarious, interactive dinner theater experience We Gotta Bingo, is happy to announce the Chicago return of Flanagan's Wake. Performances begin Friday, Feb. 26 (preview Thursday, Feb. 25). Tickets are now on sale at ChicagoTheaterWorks.com

"We are excited to expand the offerings at Chicago Theater Works," says We Gotta Bingo creator and producer, Bill Collins. "And we're thrilled to have Jack Bronis, original director, and Bonnie Shadrake, original music director, onboard. Their return ensures the production will have all of the fun and humor that made it a huge hit in Chicago"

Flanagan's Wake transports the audience to the fictional town of Grapplin, County Sligo, Ireland, where local roustabout, Flanagan, has died. Here they meet an eclectic cast of characters including Fiona Finn, Flanagan's spirited fiancée of 22 years, Brian Ballybunion, his best

friend and drinking mate, Father Damon Fitzgerald, the sharp-tongued parish priest, Mayor O'Doul, the town mayor and bartender, the innocent Mother Flanagan and several other colorful citizens. The mourners pay their respects to the deceased in the Irish tradition (with a quick stop at the pub first). Certain performances of Flanagan's Wake will include dinner which features Guinness Beef Stew. Flanagan's Wake will be performed in the irreverent improvisational style that won it rave reviews in Chicago. Much of the play's hilarious detail is created as the cast (to be announced at a later date) and audience interact, each offering anecdotes about Flanagan himself, speculation on the cause of his unfortunate demise, and claims to Flanagan's estate - all employing tall tales and rip-roaring songs. Spontaneous improvisation guarantees that no two shows will ever be the same.

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The crowd has a grand time during Dancing With the Stars at Gaelic Park. Photos by Brenda McShane

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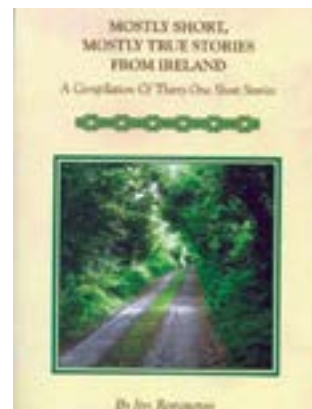
Mostly Short, Mostly True Stories from Ireland

by Mary McWay Seaman
This book is written by Jim Remington (Pineglenn Press, 2015, 110

pages, paperback, \$12.95)
What would life be without stories and storytellers? How would the essential underpinnings of history, culture and language have been transmitted, not just in the far away and long ago, but

also in our own time? Jim Remington's thirty-one tales of his travels across Ireland from 1978 to 2010 underscore the fact that stories have always been a vital source for guidance in matters ranging from personal and tribal issues to international relations. His wanderings are the antithesis of programmed pilgrimages! Remington, "in the spirit of the ancient storytellers," has published this collection of stories "gleaned from my personal travels and experiences in Ireland and the states."

Readers accompany the writer on foot, bicycle, train, and by car through cities and hamlets across the country where his grandmother and aunt were born. In 1978 Remington hitchhiked from Dublin to a Wexford music festival. Along the way, our raconteur visited the early Christian monastic settlement, Glendalough (not yet a premier tourist destination). This tale, "When the Roses Bloom Again," includes a magical pub supper during which an elderly man, "dressed in a farmer's suit



coat," recited "complete poems from Yeats and Joyce and I believe he had some passages of Sean O'Casey and Brendan Behan sprinkled in. This man seemed a literary genius." When Remington asked about the man's background, he learned that "the man was a farmer who read a lot."

"Busted at Michael Coleman's House" concerns that grand traditional Irish fiddler (1891-1945). Happily, recordings have captured much of Coleman's music from the 1920s through the 1940s, and Remington reminds readers that "Coleman's brilliant technical style and his heartfelt and expressive playing make him the benchmark for traditional Irish fiddling." Even at age 23, when the man left Ireland for America, he was a virtuoso in the genre. In 2009, Remington visited the new Coleman Heritage Center in Gurteen, home to music archives, exhibits, a theater and a gift shop, and he ran into friends from Colorado at the Center. (His serendipitous dynamic marches on!)

The tale, "Joe McKenna," features the author's first encounter with the Uilleann pipe player in 1981 when Remington's Greencastle Band opened for the musician during a New England tour. McKenna played the whistle as well as the pipes, while his wife, Antoinette, sang and played the harp. The man was "the wild, on-the-edge genius, and Antoinette the rudder that held the ship on course." Remington was shown the "way that Irish music was meant to be played. Equal parts passion and possession, technique and daring." He caught up with McKenna at Boston College festivals in the 1990s and in 2002 at the Willy Clancy Festival in

County Clare where the musician gave "them a bit of the madness . . . Shaking the chanter over his head and swirling it around as if it was possessed. It was like he was holding a high-pressure fire hose."

Remington recommends public transportation and hitchhiking in Ireland, and one charming tale features a joyous outcome to bus trouble (radiator needed water) between Cork and Killarney. The narrative, "Colonel Farrell and the Teapot," has the driver approaching a farmhouse where the only vessel available for transporting water was a teapot; countless trips between house and bus proceeded apace. No matter, this was Ireland, and "there was no shortage of conversation. But just as if it was written in the script, someone slowly started to sing . . ." An Irish tenor led off the songs, and everyone on the bus sang the choruses, "including the foot stomping and hand clapping."

In the story, "Saint Patrick and the Bowling Balls," our intrepid traveler climbed Croagh Patrick, the pilgrimage mountain where St. Patrick had fasted for forty days: "Not tall by our Colorado Rocky Mountain standards but with a steep rise to the summit that looked challenging. I felt like it would be a good day hike." His B&B hostess recommended the pilgrimage, and our writer responded: "I told her I wasn't so much into the pilgrimage as into the hike." She retorted: "Every journey is a pilgrimage of sorts." Aha! On the trail, Remington observed "Flip-flops . . . street shoes, wellies, a man in cowboy boots and a number of women in high heels." He was told that some individuals climb in bare feet as penance. The trail's horrendous number of rocks were "ankle busters" that became "a thirty-foot-wide mass of moving bowling ball-shaped rocks. No switchbacks, no trail maintenance and no erosion control." Casualties were coming down, but he soldiered on: "One step up and one-half step back. It was the hardest summit approach that I have ever done." Jim Remington's book, chock full of humor and irony, marches on with the engaging tale, "The Aran Islands."

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March Appearances

March 5 **Goldyburgers** 8 pm Forest Park, IL

March 12 **IAHC "St. Patrick's Parade Day"** 3:30pm Chicago, IL

March 12 **FitzGerald's "St. Pat's Celebration"** 7:30pm Berwyn, IL

April 16 **IAHC Fifth Province Pub** 8pm Chicago, IL

April 30 **Mount Prospect Irish Fest** Time TBA

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It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane
and Margo O'Donnell



Hello Everyone,

I hope you are all well and happy. Joe has been doing most of the writing in the past editions because of health issues, I had to deal with. I have also been busy working on a documentary about Ireland's longest missing person - Mary Boyle. Mary was just 6 years and 9 months old when she vanished from a field beside her Grandparent's home on March 18th 1977. She followed her Uncle who was returning a roof ladder to his neighbor just 300 metres across the field. He was the last person to see Mary. No clues or no insight of her was ever found. I have been involved in the search for Mary for nearly thirty nine years.

A documentary is now about to be shown on television here in Ireland, which puts together all the events that led up to her disappearance. With some live information from key people involved in the case. We have watched the American Documentary "Making A Murderer" and it is almost identical to the Mary Boyle story. I will keep you all updated either positive or negative.

This year I have decided to take things easy for health reasons so other than a few charity spots I will only be doing one big show on October 28th in the I.N.E.C., Killarney, Co. Kerry. I always enjoy performing there. The music scene has changed a lot over the years and it does not even resemble the scene that I have been part of for fifty two years. I feel so lucky to have had such a wonderful career and to be able to still sell out shows to this day. I honestly feel blessed.

Life as we have lived has changed for everyone in every walk of life but my fond memories thankfully are mostly precious. Past times are important to plan for our future, but I do believe that respect and love of our fellow man conquer's all.

Stay safe and be kind to one another.
Until the next time over to you Joe.

Love always

Margo x

Thank you Margo,

And thank you for keeping us updated on the Mary Boyle case. I'm sure it will create a lot of prayers from the readers.

I just got back from Cook County courthouse, where I attended the trial of the murderer, who brutally killed a dear

friend of mine, Ray O'Gara. Ray was one of the nicest people I have been blessed to know. A highly intelligent man and an outstanding musician with a warm heart. It was very hard to watch his mother (his father passed away a year ago) and brother have to relive this awful thing again. The man was found guilty of his murder. So hopefully the O'Gara family can start to get on with their lives now.

On another sad note, Ireland lost a great singing star on February 11th. Gene Stuart passed away after suffering with cancer. When Larry Cunningham left the Mighty Avons Showband to go solo, Gene Stewart got the job with the band. Gene shot immediately to fame. His first recording 'Before the next teardrop falls', followed by 'I'm just lucky I guess', 'I'd rather love and lose you' and 'Christmas in Connemara' to name just a few of the songs that kept Gene's name continually in the Irish hit parade. He was a very down to earth man who was loved by anyone that ever knew him. He had one of the finest voices ever heard on any side of the Atlantic. Gene Stewart R.I.P.

Here in Chicago, we're all looking forward to St. Patrick's season. It's always a great time of year and a wonderful family time. Tradition is alive and well, I'm happy to say. The one thing I really miss from home this time of year, is a sprig of Shamrock in my coat. That could be the makings of a song!

Over the last few years on my visits to Ireland, I've always tried to meet up with two wonderful friends of mine. They live in Foxford, Mayo. They are Beverley Stafford and Mitch Commane. Beverley is from Gartan, Donegal and Mitch from Tralee, Kerry. They work side by side at Radio CRC fm (Community Radio Castlebar). The program is presented by Beverley (Who has one of the nicest radio voices ever) and produced by Mitch (Mitch has a vast knowledge of country and Irish music) and it's called "The Country Lounge". It airs Monday thru Thursday between 6 and 8 pm Irish time. You can tune in by going to www.crcfm.ie. The first time I stayed with them, I had my son Declan with me and I was singing that night in Westport. Declan stayed with Beverley and Mitch and they took him to see Duck's, Lamb's, Kitten's and just a whole

bunch of different livestock. Declan, still talks about it, it's a happy memory for him. We were made so welcome and it always feels great to be in their happy home. Beverley and I started to do an interview this evening and we just ended up having the craic and Mitch got a word in here and there. In the midst of our conversation I learned that Beverley will be with CRC fm for 3 years on March 19th this year. She is a Nurse during the day. She did some work with Highland Radio, while still at school. I tried to find out who was her favorite artist from U.S. and Ireland. She said I just love them all. A lot of them have stayed at their house and it is so, so refreshing to know someone who is really this enthusiastic about music. In Beverley's words "music is a universal

language". They have interviewed an enormous amount of Irish and American artists. Right from the very top to local talent and new bands who are just starting off. Well Beverley and Mitch, I'm sure I don't just speak for myself when I say to you "Thank you, for your sincere help and interest in what we as musicians/songwriters etc do. It would be a hard road without you to help us along. And I/we appreciate you very much.

So speaking of good nature and family, this months song has become a sad but favorite of mine. It was written about a month ago by Jordan Moge and myself. It's called "The Mystery Of Love"

Until next month. Be good to one another. Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Joe and Margo

"The Mystery Of Love"

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© Copyright 2015 Jordan Moge

Verse 1

its out there in infinity on a clear and starry night
Its always been around since the dawning of the light
No one can ever touch it, this eternal mystery
Its everywhere around us and yet we never see

Verse 2

A girl who wears a baseball cap, to hide her loss of hair
With her mother in the waiting room, with anguish and despair
Please don't worry mom she says I'm gonna to be just fine
Lets spend more time together, as a tear falls from her eye

Chorus

The richest man on earth can't buy the mystery of love
Maybe its the only thing in life he's lacking of
Once you've had it in your heart you just can't get enough
That's when you bear witness to the mystery of love

Chorus

Verse 3

Time has passed on by and that same little girl
Now a young woman with long and golden curls
In the same waiting room where she held back the tears
She holds the hand of Momma as heaven draws near

Chorus

Bridge

Love is so dimensional
Love is unintentional
Love is sweet obsession when it's true
Love can give direction
Love can make connection

Once you've had it in your heart you just can't get enough
That's when you bear witness to the mystery of love
That's when you bear witness to the mystery of love

Johnny Roche Benefit

"The Chicago Way" Road to Recovery



Johnny Roche, a native of Ballyheigue Co Kerry, sustained serious injuries following a construction accident in Chicago, on August 17, 2015. Since his injuries, Johnny has been out of work resulting in no income and has a long road ahead of him. Family and Friends of Johnny have come together to help him out during his time of need.

On Sunday, April 10, 2016, the Road to Recovery, "The Chicago Way," Benefit Committee will host a benefit party from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Gaelic Park, 6119 W. 147th St., Oak Forest. Donations will be accepted at the door and the benefit will feature continuous entertainment, cash bar, food, raffles, and a silent auction. There will also be a \$100 grand raffle taking place the night of the benefit.

If you would like to help but cannot attend the benefit, please send donations to:

Johnny Roche Road
to Recovery
c/o Mary McNally
Countryside Bank
15980 Parker Road
Homer Glen, IL 60491
Direct Phone #708-485-6290
Follow us on facebook at
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All proceeds from
this event will aid
Johnny Roche
and his recovery.

The planning for this benefit is well under way and we are seeking donations from businesses to aid us in our efforts. We hope that your organization will join us in our efforts by donating an item for the silent auction or one of our raffles. All donations will be recognized the night of the benefit.

Please open your hearts to help Johnny who truly needs our help and support. For details please contact Willie Joe Casey at 773-457-6320 or Tommy Dolan at 708-214-9059.

Beloved Vocalist Jamie O'Reilly Presents 3 Concerts

Chicago vocalist Jamie O'Reilly will sing St. Patrick's Day Concerts on March 10, 12 and 17, 2016, in Evanston, Skokie, Chicago's Lakeview, featuring songs from *I Know Where I'm Going*, her newly remastered solo album of Irish songs. With O'Reilly's lilting soprano, Swenson's lush guitar, and solid accompaniment of bassist Al Ehrlich, these concerts will be reminiscent of days gone by: of songs in the parlor, and memorable family gatherings where ev-



everyone sang. All presented with sincere, oldworld charm for which O'Reilly (a celebrated performer for over 4 decades), is known.

Thursday's concert at the Merion Crystal Lounge in Evanston, will be an intimate gathering with the trio: Jamie and Peter and Al. Saturday's con-

cert is part of a new series at St. Tim's Coffeehouse, at St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Skokie and will also feature actress Belinda Bremner reading Yeats poetry.

St. Patrick's evening, Thursday March 17 at 7 PM, Jamie, Peter and Al are joined by

Michael (the Dutchman) Smith on guitar. They will present an oldstyle celebration at the popular Lakeview Landmark Wishbone Restaurant. Known for its South-

ern reconstructionist cuisine, and boasting an Irish chef, proprietors will feature St. Pat's

menu specials in a dinner theater/listening room atmosphere.

Chicago Chamber Choir Concert Commemorating 1916 Easter Rising

The Chicago Chamber Choir concludes its 20th Anniversary Season with its Spring concert *Be Thou My Vision: All Things Irish* on April 16 and 17, 2016. Under the direction of Doreen Rao, CCC will celebrate Chicago's Irish music heritage and commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising with concerts of traditional, contemporary and popular Irish music. Guest artist Anima-Glen Ellyn Children's Chorus, led by Emily Ellsworth, will join this program, along with the celebrated Irish Soprano, Maire O'Brien!

Be Thou My Vision includes Irish composers Michael McClynnne,

Colin Mawby and Seoirse Bodley and texts by W.B Yeats, Bono and U2. The concert will feature a tribute to Irish composer Charles Villiers Stanford featuring an opera-in-concert revival of the composer's Shakespearean comedy *Much Ado About Nothing*, adapted and arranged by Rao with Francis L. Lynch.

The Choir's Season finale marks the inaugural phase of CCC's Chicago Composers' Project, a three-year initiative designed to showcase local composers and build a body of Chicago-centric choral compositions. This signature project will feature Chicago composers working in

collaboration with CCC in rehearsals and performances. The Choir's first set of Chicago composer premieres will feature emerging composer Ed Frazier Davis - *Yearning to be Free* with Lee Kesselman - *Be Thou My Vision* and Wayland Rogers - *I Know My Love*. Tickets for the spring concert, including student and group rates, are available now at <http://www.chicagochamberchoir.org> <<http://www.chicagochamberchoir.org/#!tickets/c1kj7>> *Be Thou My Vision: All Things Irish* Saturday, April 16, 7:30pm, Old St. Patrick's Church, 700 W. Adams, Chicago (Loop)

Sunday, April 17, 3:00pm, St. James Cathedral, 65 E. Huron St., Chicago (Gold Coast)

Bestow A Gift of A Celtic Cross

A recently hand-sculptured Celtic cross of solid white Italian Carrara marble is being sold to benefit Saint Patrick's Church of South Bend, Indiana. Using material from the original pulpit in the 150-year-old consecrated church, artist Richard Trent has carved this magnificent cross measuring 30.5 inches tall by 11.5 inches wide, with intent for its parishioner to sell the sculpture to the highest bidder. The minimum bid has been set at \$5,000. Parishioner: Its reverence is best suited in a Church

or shrine or in an Irish order's ceremonial setting. It could be that a family purchases the cross and gifts it to their parish Church. Or, a well to do Church can take the Cross in exchange for a perpetual



'twining' financial relationship with South Bend's Saint Patrick. All proceeds go to Saint Patrick's Church. Interested parties should contact Terrance Patrick John Meehan at 574-302-5380.

Located at 309 South Taylor in downtown South Bend, Indiana, Saint Patrick's was built by Irish immigrants as the first Roman Catholic Church in the city, and is on the national registry of historic places. Built with the same bricks used for the Sacred Heart Basilica at the University of Notre Dame and sourced from the campus clay, this stunning edifice has been lovingly restored to its original splendor.

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Do Biases Affect Our Financial Choices?

Investors are routinely warned about allowing their emotions to influence their decisions. They are less routinely cautioned about letting their

preconceptions and biases dictate their financial choices.

In a battle between the facts & our preconceptions, our preconceptions may win. If we

acknowledge this tendency, we may be able to avoid some unexamined choices



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Daly Investor

By John P. Daly



when it comes to personal finance. So it may actually "pay" us to recognize our biases as we invest. Here are some common examples of bias creeping into our financial lives.

An investor thinks, "I got a great return off of that decision" instead of thinking, "that was a good decision because _____." How many investment decisions do we make that have a predictable outcome? Hardly any. In retrospect, it is all too easy to prize the gain from a decision over the wisdom of the decision, and to therefore believe that the decisions with the best outcomes were in fact the best decisions (not necessarily true).

Valuing the latest information most: In the investment world, the latest news is almost always more valuable than old news... but when the latest news is consistently good (or consistently bad), memories of previous market climate(s) may become too distant. If we are not careful, our minds may subconsciously dismiss the eventual emergence of the next bear (or bull) market.

Being overconfident: The more experienced we are at investing, the more confidence we have about our investment choices. When the market is going up and a clear majority of our investment choices work out well, this reinforces our confidence, sometimes to a point where we may start to feel we can do little wrong thanks to the state of the market, our investing acumen or both. This can be dangerous.

The herd mentality: You know how this goes: if everyone is doing something, they must be doing it for sound and logical reasons. If most investors are getting out of equities, or getting back into equities, it follows that you should follow them. The

herd mentality is what leads many investors to buy high (and sell low). It can also promote panic selling. Above all, it encourages market timing – and when investors try to time the market, they frequently realize subpar returns.

Did you know that American retail investors held equity shares for an average of 6.3 years during the 1950s? That duration kept shortening until the 2000s, when it was reduced to roughly six months – which is still the average today. We have exponentially greater media coverage of Wall Street today than we had in the 1950s, and that may be the big factor in that difference – but still, you have to wonder how much better the typical investor's return would be if he or she had the patience of the investors of the past.

Extreme aversion to risk: Some investors want zero risk, or close. What price do they pay in pursuit of that goal? The opportunity cost may be sizable. In building an extremely risk-averse portfolio, they thwart their potential for significant gains when the equity markets advance. Everyone loves to be certain about things. Sometimes, however, we need to ask ourselves what that certainty is based on, and what it reflects about ourselves. Examining our preconceptions may help us as we invest.

John P. Daly is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and President of Daly Investment Management, LLC a fee only Registered Investment Advisor specializing in financial planning and wealth management. Phone: 224-347-2623 Email: john@dalyinvestment.com Readers are encouraged to call or email John with questions regarding Investments or Financial Planning.

Theater Review:
It's a Classic!
 By Terry Boyle

high expectations of such a role. Eliza Stoughton, as the surrogate mother – Lila Green, has an incredible task to accomplish



The Raven, true to its mission of performing American classics, brings to life William Inge's play *A Loss of Roses*. For its time, this play must have disturbed or at least made its audience uncomfortable. The latent Oedipus feelings of son for mother and vice versa are cleverly delivered in this stylish drama. It's easy to see how this play launched the career of Warren Beatty (who I assumed played the role of Kenny the son/lover in the story). One can imagine that the smoldering sexuality of this role needs to be perfectly executed when you consider a 21-year-old man who is in love with his mother. Abigail Boucher, as Helen Baird (the mother), captures the powerful complexity of a woman submerged into her own inner world. Inge's character demands a severing of feelings, yet vulnerability, and Boucher meets the

to capture a failing actress who is prone to psychological downturns. Both Boucher and Stoughton do a fine job of presenting women caught in the wake of their male counterparts.

Irish American Heritage Center Appoints New General Manager

The Irish American Heritage Center is pleased to announce that Meg Buchanan has accepted the role of General Manager, overseeing the Center's staff and daily operations including Fifth Province Lounge, kitchen, building maintenance, Gift Shop, room rentals and events management.

Meg brings a wealth of knowledge and experience from a diverse career which has encompassed corporate operations, non-profit management, restaurant and banquet management and sales and marketing. Meg was most recently the Director of Corporate Operations at Lurie Children's Primary Care - Town & Country Pediatrics. Prior to Lurie - Town & Country, Meg

had a long and successful career in sales and marketing with WLS AM 890 and WXRT FM. She also served as Executive Director of the Metropolitan Chicago Council of the American Youth Hostels.

Meg has been a long-time patron and volunteer of the Center and she raised her two children, now in college, in the Mayfair neighborhood of Chicago. Welcome, Meg! Meg can be reached at the Center after March 12th at (773) 282-7035.



Meg Buchanan



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March 12, 2016

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www.irishmarchingsociety.com

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 Three pub areas serving the finest Irish beverages
 Two Irish themed food service areas
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 Advance ticketing online at www.irishmarchingsociety.com
 \$7 a Single Ticket (children 14 and under are free)
 OR
 \$10 a Single Ticket at the Door

Parade begins at 3:00 p.m.
 Prairie Street Brewhouse doors open at 3:00 p.m.
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 Entertainment and kids area begins at 4:30 p.m.

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Skinny & Houli Show Returns to the Southside for One Night Only at Reilly's Daughter Wednesday 3/9



Radio legends Skinny & Houli, now in their 7th year of broadcasting in Chicagoland, will return to their roots with a special one night only taping of the show at Reilly's Daughter Irish Pub in Oak Lawn on Wednesday March 9th starting at 6PM. The lads are both native Southsiders and look forward to greeting all their old pals from the Southside at Reilly's that night.

"Brendan and Boz invited us, so how could we turn them down?", Houli said the other night as he quaffed a beer in Lizzie McNeill's, where they ordinarily tape their show every Wednesday night. "They are long time sponsors of the show and we've been to Ireland with Brendan twice so we're hoping for plenty of free booze during the show." Also performing that night will be local band St. Stephen's Green, known for their rockin' rebel songs of Ireland and their lead singer, the lovely

Liz Vee.

The Skinny & Houli Show is broadcast weekly on WCEV 1450AM from 3-4PM and features live musical guests, and news of the Irish American community. They also feature comedy and local obituaries of Irish people, often at the same time!

Kick off your high holy days as you start the celebrations of St. Patrick's Day at Reilly's Daughter with The Skinny & Houli Show and St. Stephen's Green on Wednesday March 9th.

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St. Stephen's Green

South Side Irish Parade Announces 2016 Grand Marshal and Parade Honoree

The South Side Irish St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee announces South Siders Fighting Childhood Cancer will serve as the Grand Marshal for the upcoming parade. The 2016 Grand Marshal is a group of community organizations that aim to bring public awareness to the severe and prevalent issue of childhood cancers. The Parade Honoree is the 100 Club of Chicago. The organization provides for the families of first responders who have lost their lives in the line-of-duty in Cook and Lake Counties. The Grand Marshal and Honoree will lead the parade set to step off at noon on Sunday, March 13, from 103rd and Western in the Beverly/Morgan Park neighborhood.

"The South Side St. Patrick's Day Parade is rooted in faith, family, and community," says Pat Coakley," South Side Irish Parade co-chair. "South Siders Fighting Childhood Cancer echos our mission and we are delighted to have local families touched by childhood cancer and now working to improve the lives of others to lead our parade," adds Coakley.

South Siders Fighting Childhood Cancer is comprised of Live Like John, Emily Beazley's Kures for Kids, Pat Mac's Pack, and Maeve McNicholas Memorial Foundation. Collectively, the groups are hoping to shine a spotlight on the need for more research to support childhood cancer. Less than 4% of the national budget

for cancer research goes towards pediatric cancer. Each group is on a mission to eradicate pediatric cancers as well as give support to patients and families. Each group has ties to the southwest side Beverly, Morgan Park, and Mount Greenwood communities and is an example of how neighbors can come together to support other neighbors in need of support while increasing awareness for others who face the battle of childhood cancer.

The 100 Club of Chicago helps families of first responders ease the financial burden associated with losing a loved one in the line of duty, including immediate financial assistance and the ongoing

Continued on next page



Pat Coakley (center), South Side Irish Parade Co-Chair with the 2016 South Side Irish Parade Grand Marshal group, South Siders Fighting Childhood Cancer, a group of community organizations that aim to bring public awareness to the severe and prevalent issue of childhood cancers. South Siders Fighting Childhood Cancer is comprised of Live Like John, Emily Beazley's Kures for Kids, Pat Mac's Pack, and Maeve McNicholas Memorial Foundation. The parade is supported by Eric Vates (far right) and CJ Wilson Mazda Children's Charities. photo by Diego Ivan Martirena

ing cost of higher education. The 100 Club is currently supporting 21 kids in college and has an additional 67 in line for future college scholarships.

"Our parade has a long tradition of honoring first responders and we are pleased to honor the 100 Club for its dedication and aid to the families of those that gave the ultimate sacrifice while serving our community," adds Coakley.

Since its inception 50 years ago, the 100 Club of Chicago has served 260 families with more than \$9 million, of which more than \$4 million was devoted to educational assistance for the dependents of fallen first responders.

WAYS TO SUPPORT PARADE:

To offset the rising cost of producing the annual family-friendly local parade, the South Side Irish St. Patrick's Day Parade will kick off the festivities with a pre-parade fundraiser on Saturday, February 27, 2016. The party will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at 115 Bourbon Street, 3359 West 115th Street, Merrionette Park, IL, 60803. The event will feature raffle prizes, a silent auction, the South Side Irish Parade Queen Selection and much more.

Tickets are \$30 per person and may be purchased online or at the door. Price include draft beer, dinner buffet and live

music from the Larkin & Moran Brothers and Sean & Charlie and for the first time a quieter side featuring traditional Irish music sessions inside The Saloon.

New this year is the South Side Irish Parade Film Fest set for Saturday, March 5 at the Beverly Arts Center. The evening begins at 6 p.m. with a reception and followed by Irish film shorts and a feature presentation of the acclaimed full-length feature, "Brooklyn". The film tells the story of a young Irish woman's immigration to Brooklyn in 1952 and has been nominated for three Academy Awards including Best Picture and Best Actress for Saoirse Ronan. For ticket information visit <http://www.beverlyartcenter.org/>.

A new time and route for the Emerald Isle Mile this year. The one-mile run will begin at 11:30 a.m. on Parade day, March 13 starting at 104th and Western Ave and run the parade route ending at 112th and Western Avenue. Registration for the race will be available at the South Side Irish Parade Pre-Parade Fundraiser. Click here to sign up for the Emerald Isle Mile or contact Running Excels for more information 773-629-8587.

Visit southsideirishparade.org for more information on the South Side Irish Parade Film Fest, the pre-parade fundraiser, and the South Side Irish Parade.

The Fourth Annual



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Saturday March 15th
11 AM - 2 AM
Sunday March 16th
11 AM - 1 AM
Monday March 17th
10 AM - 1 AM

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 Josie Connolly Camp / Chicago

100th Easter Commemoration Dinner and Dance

Saturday, March 26th, 2016 6:30 p.m.

At Irish Heritage Center
 4826 Knox Ave. Chicago, IL
 Tickets: \$50

Cocktails at 6:30
 Guest Speaker
 Sinn Féin
 Sean Conlon

Cash Bar
 Bagpipers
 Live Music by Joe McShane
 Honoree Paul Harkin

REMINDER: Easter Sunday Mass at the Irish American Heritage Center

42-L

THE PROCLAMATION OF
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 THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT
 OF THE

IRISH REPUBLIC



We Banjo 3 in Milwaukee 3/18

Continue the St. Patrick's Day glow with the high-octane Galway, Ireland band We Banjo 3 at the Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee on Friday, March 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Composed of two sets of brothers, David and Martin Howley and Enda and Fergal Scahill have electrified concert halls and festivals across Europe and North America. The band toured Japan in late 2015. They are an Irish Fest favorite described by LiveIreland as the fest's "hottest show" following their first Milwaukee performance in 2012.

Effortlessly combining the best of traditional Irish and bluegrass music along with American old-time traditional in a style the award-winning band calls Celt Grass, We Banjo 3 is "(T)he Irish version of Chris Thile and Punch Brothers," according to Michael Jonathon of National Public Radio's WoodSongs Old-Time Radio Hour

Each member began playing music at a young age and went on to win multiple All-Ireland titles. Tenor banjo/mandolin player Martin was awarded the All-Ireland title seven times on the banjo, and was the first



Irish banjo player to perform at Nashville's Grand Ole Opry. His younger brother David, the band's guitarist and charismatic lead vocalist, has toured Europe with dance bands including Celtic Legends and is known for virtuoso

technical ability as well as creativity and passion.

A banjo wizard, Enda is a leading author on Irish banjo techniques and has guested with the Chieftains and recorded with Ricky Skaggs. Music journalist Bill Margeson commented that, "Enda does things with the banjo that should be impossible." Fergal, is recognized as one of the most renowned Irish fiddlers and a virtuoso bodhrán player whose extended solos and playful onstage presence reflect his enthusiastic personality.

Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$28 on concert day. Tickets for students with ID are \$10. For tickets and more information, go to www.ichc.net or call (414) 345-8800. Special \$99 rate for We Banjo 3 concert-goers at the elegant 1920s Art Deco Ambassador Hotel near the heart of downtown Milwaukee and across from the ICHC - subject to availability. Mention March 18 ICHC concert at 888 322-3326. www.ambassadormilwaukee.com.

Benefit 3-20 at IAHC for Paul Galvin

For more than six and a half years Paul Galvin has been battling one of the most serious forms of brain cancer - glioblastom...a multiforme. Originally told he had 18 months, Paul has valiantly fought through three brain surgeries, countless radiation and chemotherapy sessions, and numerous experimental treatments. And Kathy, his wife, has waged her own battles to make sure he has the very best care, all while working to support Paul and their three daughters Hannah, Cecelia and Caroline. Now that his medical options

are limited, Paul and Kathy have decided to return to Ireland where he will have the 24-hour care he requires.

Paul is a native of Templemore, Co. Tipperary, Ireland. Kathy, a native Chicagoan, is the daughter of Hughie Gallagher (RIP) of Tully, Dungloe, Co. Donegal and Bridget O'Malley Gallagher of Ballycon-neely, Co. Galway.

On top of the emotionally and physically intense six-plus years of medical

procedures and extensive medications, this ordeal has resulted in a sizeable financial burden for them. Over the years, this beautiful, compassionate family has never hesitated when others were in need. Now we have the opportunity to help them. Please join us as we celebrate Paul and Kathy's past kindness to the Chicago Irish community and offer our support.

A benefit will be held on Sunday March 20, 2016 at the Irish American Heritage Center from 3pm to 9pm.

If you would like to help or you need more information call 773.706.5132



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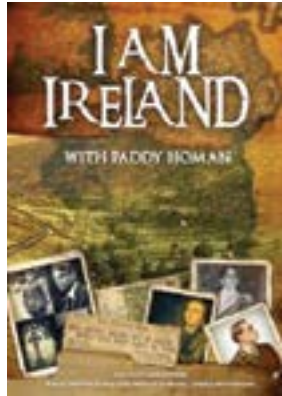
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Ladies' View, Ring of Kerry, near Killarney

Paddy Homan Sings the Story of Ireland's Rising

To mark the centenary of the 1916 Rising, concert halls round the globe will soon reverberate with sounds of historic Irish music and story at commemorations from Chicago's Gaelic Park to Buenos Aires, Hong Kong, Paris, Rome, London and Ireland. Paddy Homan, a Cork native transplanted to Chicago a decade ago, has created an original show, I Am Ireland as Cook County's gift to the centenary celebra-



the ninety minute show with a three-piece band of Chicago's finest traditional Irish musicians. The show is directed by Andrea Dymond of the Columbia College Chicago Theatre. Musical direction is provided by Sean Gavin, multi-instrumentalist (flute, whistle, uilleann pipes), who through his celebrated fiddler father, Mike Gavin, has deep roots in County Clare, the traditional music capital of Ireland.

Rick Kogan of the Chicago Tribune predicted on the eve of the show's world premier at the Beverly Arts Center last October: "There will be all manner of celebrations during next year's centennial, but it is hard - almost impossible - to imagine any will be as moving, entertaining, enlightening or soaring as I AM IRELAND."

Robert Lyons who teaches Irish studies at the University of Southern Maine reflected on the show: "What W.B. Yeats captures in his historic poem, 'Easter 1916' ('All changed, changed utterly / A terrible beauty is born'), Paddy captures in this compelling story through the songs and words of the Irish people. Now and in time to come, 'I Am Ireland' will be the social media of this story, and Paddy Homan, its superb messenger."

Upcoming performances include: Chicago Gaelic Park, March 12; Wentz Concert Hall, Naperville, March 19 and Ocean County College, Toms River, New Jersey, April 8.

The show will be featured at the Irish Books Arts and Music Celebration (IBAM) the weekend of October 15 as part of the Irish American Heritage Center's 100th Anniversary Commemoration of the 1916 Easter Rising.

For a preview and upcoming dates of the centenary show go to www.iamirelandshow.com.

tions. His program of song and history celebrates a seminal event in Irish history which led to the establishment of the Irish Republic.

In addition to numerous engagements in the Chicago area during St. Patrick's week, the Irish debut of Paddy's new show will take place at the Wexford Arts Center near the site of the historic 1798 Boolavogue rebellion. The debut coincides with the tour led by Paddy next October which will visit sites around the country that led to independence. There will be periodic music sessions along the way with some of his musician friends.

Paddy describes the performance: "These songs and speeches present the narrative of Ireland's road to independence during that period between 1798 and 1916 in the lead up to the Easter Rising. As an Irishman, I am only the messenger here. 'History and song are one' as my late friend, Patrick Galvin would put it. But it is my true honor to represent my country in doing this and to walk in the emotional footsteps of those who sacrificed so much for me and our land."

Developed in collaboration with Emmy® nominated producer and singer, Michael Londera and his Wexfordhouse Productions LLC, Homan performs



2016 Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade 2016 Chicago St. Patrick's Day Queen, Erin Mulcahy. Queen's Court left to right, Maura Connors, Madeline Mitchell, Mary Claire Reidy & Katherine Schuetzner
Photos by



A TOUR OF IRELAND THROUGH SONG AND STORY!

SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 8, 2016

Join renowned Traditional Irish Tenor Paddy Homan on this historic and memorable tour of Ireland - an unparalleled opportunity to learn, honor and celebrate the story of Ireland. Enjoy the Irish debut of Paddy's 'I AM IRELAND' show. Hailing from County Cork - now Chicago based - Paddy is a born entertainer with a deep passion for Ireland and for the songs of Ireland which inspired the 1916 Rising and that great journey for Ireland's independence. Visit the places made famous by those traditional songs and experience the history of Ireland through the words and stories of her people.

Tour includes: Airport transfers in Ireland • Transport by luxury motor coach with a professional driver/guide • Superior hotel accommodation for 8 nights • 4 Dinners & 9 Breakfasts including breakfast upon arrival • Walking tours of Wexford & Cork with a local guide • Famine Graveyard Tour with local historian • Scenic cruise on Dingle Bay • 1916 Rebellion Walking Tour of Dublin • I AM IRELAND debut show at Wexford Arts Center • Visits to: Glendalough Visitor Centre, Irish National Heritage Park, Enniscorthy Castle, National 1798 Visitor Centre / Vinegar Hill, Cobh Heritage Visitor Centre, English Market (Cork), Blarney Castle & Woollen Mills, Guinness Storehouse, General Post Office Museum, National Museum 1916 Exhibition, National Gallery Centenary Exhibition & more • Hotel portorage, all service charges, and all local and government taxes • Flight bags, ticket wallets, baggage tags and strap. **No Hidden Extras!**

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 [] Insurance \$189.00 (Insurance can only be purchased with deposit)
 Room Type: [] Twin (2 Beds) [] Double (1 Bed) [] Single (Single Supplement \$545.00) Sharing with: _____
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Please Note: Reservation is for land tour only, which begins in Dublin Airport at 9:00am on Friday, September 30th, 2016. Please ensure your air arrangements are compatible. If you have any questions or need help with your air travel, call us at 866-622-2244. Deposit of \$250 by check is required now to confirm your reservation. Payment in full is due by July 22, 2016. Make checks payable to NACTA Travel. Complete this form and return with your check for \$250 per person or \$439 if you wish to purchase travel insurance (recommended). Mail to: NACTA Travel, 27 Addison Avenue, Rutherford, NJ 07070

Review by Terence Boyle

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strings of every conceivable shade of human experience.

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It's a rare experience, and certainly one that is hard to replicate outside of the bounds of the deepest of friendship. For those who enjoy the raw emotion of human drama, this play is a must.

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Clan na Gael Guards & the Friends of Irish Freedom
Saturday night, April 30th, 2016, at 7pm



Irish Legend Pub
8933 S. Archer Ave
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(708) 330-5264

Please join us for a night of remembering the 1916 Rising and as well as remembering current Republican prisoners in Maghaberry, Hydebank, and Portlaoise. For \$40, we'll have food, drink, and good craic. Music will be provided by Brendan Loughery. A statement from current Republican prisoners at Maghaberry will be read. All proceeds from this event will go towards assisting our prisoners and their families. For more information, please phone (708) 253-7824.

T A L

HAVE A HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

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

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

Dan McLaughlin
Mayor
Orland Park



Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



The Story We Carry In Our Bones Irish History for Americans

By Juilene Osborne-McKnight
Pelican Publishing Company
Amazon

"We are the dreamers of dreams. Our ancestors carried us here; they gave us their dreams and their songs...We owe it to them to carry it on" said poet Arthur O'Shaughnessy.

The Story We Carry In Our Bones is a delightful look at our Irish heritage. It is a very readable presentation of Irish history from ancient times to the present. It presents a rich knowledge of our heritage to the reader.

Dr. McKnight says about her goal: "Books on Irish history are often specific, for example The Potato Famine, Ancient Ireland, or Michael Collins, The Story We Carry In Our Bones, takes a larger view of Irish history, making the stories relevant to Americans."

"Juilene Osborne-McKnight is...Chair of Humanities at De Sales University where she teaches Irish Literature, Celtic Mythology, and Irish Diaspora... She has published four critically acclaimed...novels of Irish history. She lives with her husband in Warrington, Pennsylvania.

This book was such an engrossing read that I took 10 pages of notes!

These quotes are about important aspects of our Irish heritage.

"Our ancestors were sophisticated and spiritual, warlike and loquacious, bound to strict codes of honor, and in love with the spoken word..."

"Unlike the Romans or later medieval societies...ancient Irish society was remarkably nonsexist. It also valued knowledge and its dispersal above almost any other activity."

"In 664 A.D. the Church called a synod or council at Whitby Abbey on the coast of England. The kind, King Osway of Northumbria, liked the humane and compassionate Celtic rules. But, because of great political pressure of those seeking more power, he "ruled in favor of Rome."

"You could say that the Catholic Church of our American Irish childhood was determined in a windy cliff-side abbey in the year 664 A.D."

About The Great Hunger or the Famine of 1845-1850: "Many historians, like the brilliant Time Pat Coogan, now call the Potato Famine a genocide—the deliberate elimination of a race and country of inconvenient people."

"Sadly, there was actually plenty of food..." "All of Ireland could have been fed..." except "that every bit...was exported to England for sale."

Irish people were ashamed to even mention the famine because English officials and bishops in

Theatre Review The Old Friends

By Horton Foote

There are wonderful performances by the Raven Theatre actors is The Old Friends. I have seen so many plays there that I've come to expect a great theatre experience. And it certainly was.

Horton Foote wrote The Old Friends in 1965. The play is a bold and compelling look at the dynamics inside a very wealthy Texas family. They have a lot of money, but are lonely people.

Quoting from the information sheet: Horton Foote (1916-2009) "was the author of nearly 100 plays, teleplays, and screenplays, including The Trip to Bountiful, Tender Mercies, and To Kill a Mockingbird." For this work, he received a Pulitzer Prize, two Academy Awards, and an Oscar for his script-writing work.

The Old Friends is "set in the 1960's in the fictional town of Harrison, Texas." The play "tells of the combative mem-



bers of two longtime old money Texas families...It is a wildly funny play that is uncharacteristically for Foote, brutally satiric in its depiction of small-town people with big money."

The Old Friends is presented at The Raven Theatre now through March 16. The theatre is located

at 6157 N. Clark St. (at Granville) in Chicago. Performance times are: Thursdays-Saturdays at 7:30 and Sundays at 3:00. Tickets range from \$18.00 to \$42.00. There is a discount for seniors. The box office phone number is 773-338-2177 or raven theatre.com.

Ireland blamed the famine on a "visitation from God because of the sins of the Irish." Was it a sin to be a human being?

The English prime minister appointed Charles Trevelyan to administer aid to the Irish. "Trevelyan distained the Irish... and looked upon the Irish starvation as 'suffering from an affliction of God's providence,' perhaps because they were Catholic and this merited God's wrath."

Priests and ministers 'had very high rates of death...because they tried to minister to the starving."

There were many generous, private contributions of relief money, but "The best of the best among the soup kitchen providers were the Quakers. In a spirit of Christian charity that required nothing

in return, "they freely distributed food. We Irish Americans, owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the Society of Friends."

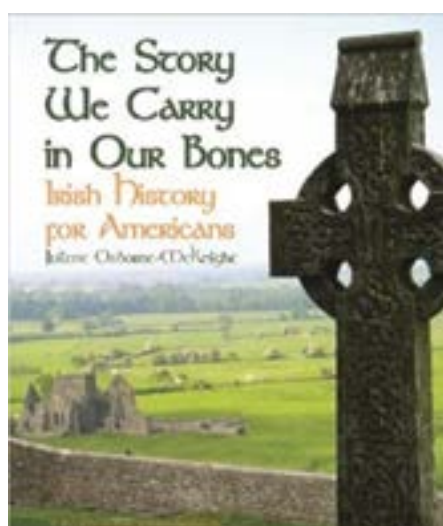
To lower their taxes, many

by two of three times. This meant the little food on the ship had to supply many more people. "Passengers were allowed up on deck in the fresh air once a day and they were permitted to cook over barrels there. The voyage generally took about eight weeks..."

My grandmother was a domestic in the home of the McCormick family. I don't know if she worked for Cyrus or Leader McCormick. A historian "says that Irish domestic servants were largely responsible for Irish assimilation...because once they saw... good manners and high society, they did their best to imitate both before and after they married."

My father was a precinct for the Democratic Party in Chicago. He told me that in the 1930's and 1940's, the ward organization gave food and buckets of coal to the destitute. How times have changed! Today this would have to be discussed for a focus group

continued on next page



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Rockford: We March-We Party-We Give Back!

The Rockford St. Patrick's parade typically takes place just days before the Illinois primary in even-numbered years, and two weeks away from municipal elections in odd-numbered years, it often features political candidates battling for one office or another.

That's fitting, because of all the immigrants who have come to the U.S. in the past two centuries, it's the Irish, historically denied access to political power in their homeland by their British overlords, who have taken to politics here as

ducks to water.

This year's St. Patrick's Day Parade is scheduled for March 12

George H.W. Bush marched in Rockford's March 12, 1988, St. Patrick's Day Parade, according to the Rockford Register Star, "joined by his wife, Barbara; retired Air Force Gen. Chuck Yeager; then-Gov. James R. Thompson; and then-U.S. Rep. Lynn Martin. Thompson was Bush's Illinois honorary presidential campaign chairman, and Martin, a Loves Park Republican, was a national co-chairman of the

vice president's campaign."

Hillary Clinton marched in Rockford's St. Patrick's Day parade in 1992 on behalf of Bill Clinton,



who was making his first run for president. Mrs. Clinton then spoke at a rally in Democratic U.S. Rep. John Cox's campaign headquarters downtown on East State Street. Various governors and wannabe governors and senators have ap-

peared over the years, and the parade always has featured local candidates and officeholders galore, as well as the traditional floats and Irish-American music.

One parade that was particularly fun was in 1981, when Democrat John McNamara and Republican Norm Kearney were both running for mayor of Rockford to succeed Bob McGaw, a Democrat. Kearney's supporters marched under the banner of "Kearney's Clan," while the larger and considerably rowdier McNamara crew proclaimed they were "McNamara's Band." They did have a band of sorts, which tried mightily to play the tune "McNamara's Band." The parade is also fun because it's the first parade of the year. After it's over, everyone goes to a big hall and has a party with Irish-themed musicians.

Story We Carry In Our Bones

continued from previous page
and approved by a highly paid consultant.

New York's "Tammany Hall" often served as a combination of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, the Salvation Army and a job fair. Tammany watched out for its constituents, advancing them money when they were in need and making sure that they received coal or food or clothing for their children. It...assisted the Irish with getting citizenship. In return, the Irish simply had to become Democrats and vote for the candidates that Tammany told them to vote for. "Many of Tammany's ideas became part of FDR's New Deal.

"Many modern American Catholics look back on this period (1940's, 1950's, and 1960's) in our history with great nostalgia. It was an insular world... but one in which there was a sense of belonging, safety, and moral certainty."

After the 1916 Rising: The British executed the leaders, but "the executions made martyrs of men who might otherwise have faded from the history of Irish rebellions, a war for Irish independence began in earnest, led by the Irish Republican Army (IRA) under Michael Collins...

The authors debt to her ancestors that they had courage, that they worked and fought and scabbled, that they sacrificed to get their whole family educated...

When those ancestors arrived: "I have tried to imagine the hunger and the fear and the strangeness of it all. I wonder what it was like to be the lowest of the low in American society...knowing that all the while you were carrying inside you all the stories, all the stubbornness, and all the magic in the world."

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



Emerald Society of Illinois

Irish American Police Association

Annual St. Patrick's Day March and Celebration

Saturday March 12th

Held at Local 399's Hall (Operating Engineers Hall)
2260 South Grove Street Chicago 60616

Located 1 Block NW of Archer Ave and Canal St

Marchers will gather at the 399 Hall by 10:30am
to begin boarding buses provided to the Parade.
Parade steps off at noon

**Commemorating The
1916 Easter Rising**

Dress uniform -The Buses will return marchers to the Hall
(Hall offers accommodations to change after the Parade).

Entertainment

Pipes and Drums of the Emerald Society/Chicago
Police Department

Music by Fast Eddie McAteer

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner
with all the trimmings and adult beverages

Celebration begins when the first busload of marchers returns
to the Hall from the Parade Route and continues until 6pm.

Taxi cabs will be available at the Hall.

The Holiday Inn Mart Plaza is offering a discounted room rate.
Just mention the Emerald Society of Illinois when you are
making your reservation, (312) 836-5000.

Additional Information and Map can be obtained at
www.emeraldsocietyofillinois.org



Taking a turn on the floor at Dancing with the Stars in Gaelic Park. Photos by Brenda McShane

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WOMEN OF IRELAND



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Box Office: 773-935-6875 | www.athenaeumtheatre.org

For Ireland Family, A Harrowing Situation

By Jen Shea

The mosque offered refuge, until they lobbed tear gas at people who hid past its cloud-hued stone walls. Ibrahim Halawa was among them. He was 17 and on summer vacation from Dublin.

Halawa had been a cheerful presence at his suburban high school. He joked with classmates, and applied to Trinity College to study engineering. His family visited Egypt every summer.

That July 3, 2013, the Egyptian military ousted then-president Mohamed Morsi. He left office a year after he was elected, to replace the Secure Council of Armed Forces (SCAF), in June 2012. Morsi stepped aside for his defense secretary, General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi.

On August 16, Halawa's life took a detour. He walked to protests with his three sisters. They couldn't return through the rocks, ammunition and fireworks outside, so they ducked into Al-Fatah mosque. Soldiers blocked streets, where bullets flew at will, and as a sound boom rattled the mosque, he tried to shield his sisters.

His sister Somaia fainted. The next thing she knew, authorities had rounded them up. Halawa has been detained since.

"I was deeply concerned for his well-being," said Lynn Boylan, a member of the European Parliament (MEP) from Dublin who saw Halawa in August 2015. "He struggled to

breathe and was ashen."

On August 14, security forces attacked demonstrators at Rabaa al-Adawiya. They protested at the mosque on the east side of Cairo, near the palace. Human Rights Watch estimated more than 1,000 people died at Rabaa.

Al-Fatah mosque overlooks Ramsis Square, by the Nile River near Tahrir. Civil society groups put the civilian toll from August 16 at 97 to 120 people. Amnesty International said that included a seven-year-old child.

"Police, thugs and army were shooting live bullets randomly from everywhere," Somaia Halawa said. "Ibrahim was shot with a live bullet in his hand and until this day he never received a medical treatment."

Somaia, 30, returned to Ireland after she was freed, and abandoned her postgraduate education.

On December 17, the European Parliament passed a resolution that "strongly condemned" Halawa's detention.

"The resolution was adopted by 511 votes in favour, 11 against and 46 abstentions," EP spokeswoman Kristina Eleferie said. It listed "objections to several issues, such as his detainment, the conditions of his detainment, the delayed trials and the conditions in Egypt."

The text expressed "concern at the deteriorating condition of Ibrahim Halawa due to his hunger strike," and at the "allegations of torture and maltreatment."

Egypt postponed Halawa's trial on December 19. In January,

it postponed it to March 6. It is a mass trial, with 493 defendants. Website Mada Masr said there are 11 minors among them.

The Egypt Foreign Ministry failed to respond to requests for comment. Spokesman Ahmed Abu Zeid said the resolution was "an unacceptable infringement on the independence of the Egyptian judiciary," according to a press release.

"I along with many who knew him are very concerned that his trial has been postponed," said Codie Preston, a high school teacher in Rathfarnham, outside Dublin. Halawa was in his class for four years.

"It is very worrying to hear that he is in danger," he added.

Preston penned a scathing OpEd about Western governments' role January 9, for Dublin newspaper The Journal. He criticized "the same cut and paste response that the Department of Foreign Affairs releases every time his trial is delayed."

Human Rights Watch found Rabaa "probably amounted to crimes against humanity," in a report released August 14. Researchers said the international reaction was distinguished by its "rank impunity."

Last March, the U.S. resumed military sales to Sisi's administration. "Washington and Europe have gone back to business with a government that celebrates rather than investigates what may have been the worst single-day killing of protesters in modern history," HRW deputy Middle East director Joe Stork said.

Ireland consulate officials visited Halawa for the 50th time this February. Ambassador to Egypt Damien Cole attended the December trial.

"The more the Embassy visits Ibrahim the more it shows they have actually failed to release their citizen," Somaia Halawa said.

Her brother is now 20. At Rockbrook High School, "he always had a smile and would always greet you when he saw you," Preston said. "Like most kids he was interested in music

and sports."

Somaia last spoke to Ibrahim in November 2013. Their parents Hussein and Amina immigrated from Egypt. Amina and 35-year-old Nosayba have returned to Cairo.

Irish MEPs have sought an appointment with EU High Commissioner Frederica Mogherini. Mogherini represents the EU to the United Nations (UN). A European Commission spokesperson said the EU is following Halawa's fate.

"This is a consular matter but we are supporting Irish efforts," she said. "The EU is addressing the situation of human rights in Egypt more broadly through its structured bilateral dialogue as well as in bilateral contacts and multilateral fora."

Ireland Mission to the UN coordinator Michael O'Toole said there are "extensive efforts" to release Halawa from Egypt.

"The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has provided an exceptional level of consular assistance in this case," he said. Minister Charles Flanagan discussed it with Mogherini and Egypt Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry, according to O'Toole.

Ireland Taoiseach Enda Kenny mentioned Halawa "directly" to president Sisi, said Foreign Affairs and Trade spokesperson Jennifer Bourkel.

"The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has provided an exceptional level of consular assistance in this case," she said.

Egypt claims Halawa attended illegal protests. For that offense, he was reportedly clubbed with rubber poles and chains and locked in a room with 12 men for 24 hours a day.

"I find the Egyptian authority response to the resolution disappointing but unsurprising," Boylan said. "However I still believe that it sent a very strong message to Sisi that the EU is watching and that he cannot continue to lock dissenters up and pass off circus trials as an independent judicial system."

They sleep on the floor, in a

room without a toilet. Ibrahim has been "electrocuted and tortured," according to Somaia Halawa.

"There is no process," said Darragh Mackin, an attorney at Kevin R. Winters. His team represents Halawa, who he has met once. "Not just by Irish standards but by international standards."

The 493 defendants appear at each postponement. They can't hear in the soundproof cage. Mackin said trials have been postponed without reasons, or if one defendant or witness was absent.

"One couldn't ignore the tense environment," he said. Soldiers were "openly hostile" and shoved visitors. "We had to kick the rubbish from under our feet as we walked."

He said after the Irish embassy verified their passports, guards changed excuses to turn them away. They endured a slow wait, then a soldier "took great delight in summoning all the various family members" and told them to leave without talking to Halawa. They had to return the next day.

Halawa's sisters Fatima, 25, and Khadijah, 28, and brother Ahmed, 33, remain in Dublin, with Nosayba's six-year-old son.

"He waits for my mum until the visits and asks her what happened, so his basic human rights are denied," she said. Halawa and visitors communicate from separate cages across a corridor, according to Mackin.

"He was always proud of his Egyptian heritage," Preston said.

He said the EU parliament statement was useful. Halawa supports a similar motion at the Dail, Ireland's parliament.

She continues to defend her brother in Dublin, where she is many miles removed from the "military campus" they were sent to from protests.

"We were thrown 50 of us in a van that doesn't fit ten and we were denied any water," Halawa said. At Tora, things got worse. "After three months we were released and we were told from the

Continued on next page

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For Ireland Family, A Harrowing Situation

Continued from last page

judge I hope you've learned your lesson." They could have been among the people snuffed out by stray bullets. Death tolls climbed higher weeks later. Since violence there left thousands dead,

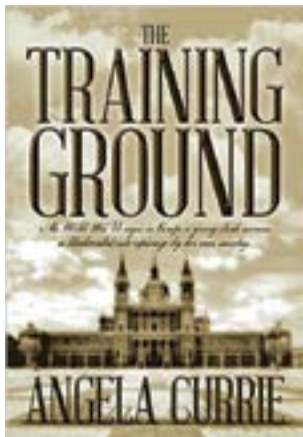
Egyptian authorities have closed Rabaa al-Adawiya. The Al-Fatah mosque was shut for more than a year after protests.

"We still don't know why Ibrahim remains behind bars," Halawa said. "Until this day I don't feel I am released."

"What the Egyptian authorities are doing to Ibrahim is so wrong that it simply will not be tolerated," Lynn Boylan said.

The Training Ground

Ireland 1942. This spy/fiction story sheds light on G2 (Irish Military Intelligence). In Madrid, British Intelligence are at an impasse. They have lost two of their best agents in a bid to retrieve armaments plans from the German embassy in Madrid. Britain realises that something new and unexpected is now needed to aid their desperate effort. They approach G2 (Irish Military Intelligence) with a daring proposal. In return for the use of Irish agents, Britain signs an extremely lucrative economic deal with the Irish government. This fictional story shows three diverse characters who come together for the greater good. Anna Fingal is of Anglo-Irish descent, a gifted linguist working at



the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin. She is blackmailed into aiding the Allied war effort. Seamus Halpin works for G2. He has fought in both the Irish and Spanish Civil Wars. Returning to Madrid is a return to previous horrors and it's a return to the

country where he met the love of his life. Finally, Malcolm Mortimer, a British army officer, wounded in the field of battle, whose remit now is to lead the mission and get the information out of Madrid.

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*Technicolor contestants participate in Dancing with the Stars at Gaelic Park.
Photos by Brenda McShane*

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Just What is "Home Care"

By Aishling Dalton

In recent years, it has come to my attention that consumers don't know much about Home Care. In addition to that, they don't know how or where to get information that can assist them when it comes to making educated decisions about Home Care. Hospitals and facilities don't always know the finer details about Home Care services either. This article is intended to educate and offer assistance to those who find themselves, too often, in difficult situations and hire the wrong establishment.

When accidents happen, mom or dad have fallen on the ice, or have begun the onset of dementia, it's usually time to call in the professionals. Many folks are not allowed to leave the hospital without home care. Upon discharge from the hospital, you, as a consumer, will be handed a long list of providers that can help you get back home and stay home. The hospitals don't always know the licensed agencies, nor are they allowed to select one for you. This is where it gets difficult.

How are you supposed to know who to hire? Your head is spinning as mom/dad needs to be discharged with help and you don't know the first thing about this process. Obtaining a quality Home Care Agency is vital to the continued health and safety of your loved one, so choose wisely.

Some points to remember:

Check to see if the agency is accredited by the Better Business Bureau before doing anything else.

Check if this agency is legal. You may do so by visiting www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/health-care.../home-services.

It is absolutely vital that you verify and check that this agency is licensed to operate in Illinois. Secondly, you need to look at whether the agency is Home Services or Home Placement. There is a vast difference and it's a difference that can hurt you. If they are not on the IDPH website then they are not licensed to do home care in Illinois.

Full service agencies ARE the employer of the professionally trained caregiver, responsible for all the taxes, both state and federal. In addition to the above, Home Services Agencies have liability insurance on the caregivers should anything happen. You always want to be protected. These caregivers are verified, reference checked, supervised on a continual basis, and agencies also oversee that the care plan is being adhered to. We work closely with the families to ensure all is being taken care of in the home. Most especially, if a caregiver is sick, we send a replacement so that the client is not unattended, which so sadly often happens.

Home Placement, on the other hand, does NOT take out taxes, they use independent contractors,



and then the independent contractors are supposed to file their individual taxes. A Placement Agency charges you a FEE to place the caregiver in your home, in addition to charging the caregiver a fee also. Generally these two fees are worlds apart. After the caregiver is placed in your home, the relationship

with the placement agency ends. By law, you now become the employer of that caregiver in your home and as such are liable for all the employment taxes, in addition to having to following the department of labor's new rulings and documentation on live-in caregivers. Caregivers living in 24/7 must now be paid hourly on a live-in job, and in addition to the above, they must get overtime after the first 40 hours. You would also need to take out insurance on this caregiver, as they will and do, have access to many financial and personal items in your home.

I can't tell you the amount of times people get hurt today. I could write a book about the horrible stories I hear from distraught families on what took place because they took the cheaper route and even hired privately. It is our frail elderly that we try so hard to protect. Families don't always know the dangers lurking in the shadows. Most of our baby boomers think Medicare covers Home Care. Well, it's sad to say, it does not. It is all Private Pay. On that note, you need to be able to write some of this off on your taxes, so that's why it's so important to hire a legitimate agency and have the care documented so you can try and get some relief. If you pay cash and don't file taxes on the caregiver, you are on your own. The IRS is clamping down on this now and asking on forms if the caregiver did or did not file a 1099, and if not, why? This leaves a very clear path back to the door of your parents' home and the IRS will, and has, come back to get what they are owed. They have years to do so.

Supervision, communication, and safety are all a part of legal agencies - number one concern. The senior is the one to be protected, both physically, spirituality and financially. Many folks choose the cheaper option thinking this is the way to get a quick fix to the issues they have been thrown into. The reason Home Services agencies are a little more expensive is because they are the employer and are responsible for the training, taxes, insurance, supervision, and communication from all parties to maintain a good working relationship. They take that additional burden away from you so you can focus on your loved one. When the client's situation changes, the agency is right there with you assisting you through the process. Placement agencies are not. It is your moral duty to ensure that the right agency is chosen. In essence, this person's life is in our hands.

If you have any questions on this, please feel free to contact us at

information@aishlingcare.com.

The Proclamation of Irish Freedom

**Commemorate the Anniversary
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Exactly 100 Years to the Day!**

Sunday April 24, 2016 at the
Irish American Heritage Center

The day starts with an **Irish Mass**
followed by a **reading of the
Proclamation of Irish Freedom - 12:04pm**
on the front steps of the Center

4626 N. Knox Ave, Chicago IL 60630
Plenty of Food and Drink and Free Parking

The Program (free except for brunch and Concert)

11am **Irish Mass**

12:04 **Reading of Proclamation**

12:15-1:15 **Books about 1916**

12:15-1:15 **Brunch**

1:20-2:30pm **Film on 1916 tba**

2:35-3:45pm **Poetry of Irish Women and
Irish Song Having to do With the Rising**

3:45-4:30pm **Men of the Rising**

4:45pm ***Remembering the 1916 Easter Rising
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Getting to Know Erin Mulcahy

By Frank West
Enthusiastic for Life

Congratulations to Erin Mulcahy, she is the Queen of the 2016 St. Patrick's Day Parade. I interviewed her after a long workday, yet she was lively and a delight to talk with. Erin impressed me as being confident, generous-of-heart, strong-willed and genuine. She is a vital person, with great strength of will. Qualities very much like our ancestors must have had to endure a long sea voyage and then cope with life in a new land.

Erin has participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade Queens Contest for eight years. She fondly remembers that her aunt, Raelene, drove her to plumbers' hall the first year she entered the contest. Erin has been part of the Queen's Court for five years. And now she is the 2016 Queen. Erin has loved being a part of this tradition. It has built up her confidence and professionalism. Her favorite part has been the lasting friendships that she has made with other contestants and court members.

Erin Mulcahy grew up in Orland Park and has immense south side pride. She proudly remembers how her parents encouraged her at school and in sports. Her parents' only request was that she do her best.

Erin is proud to represent her family as the St. Patrick's Day Parade Queen this year. She is excited that her family will be part of this journey with her. Her father, Thomas, is a union pipefitter and a former Marine. He set a very high standard of achievement for Erin, but she warmly remembers his constant encouragement and that of her mother too. Her mother, Norah, is an RN, but always found time to be Erin's volleyball coach. As Erin says "She was an absolutely perfect mom." No wonder Erin is so passionate about her family.

Her father's roots in Ireland are in Co. Waterford, and her mother's are in Co. Tipperary. Erin proudly told me how she is the first person in her family to return to Ireland for a visit. She enjoyed her trip and loved the country.

After graduating from school in Orland Park, she attended Columbia College, where

she studies Marketing and Communications.

Erin praised Columbia's emphasis on current aspects on the topics studied and being taught by persons actually working in the field. That education well prepared for her work with Human Resources at Leo Burnett Co.

When Erin has time to read, Erin likes to read about history. She has had a life-long fascination with history. There is an Irish proverb about that: "You can't know where you are going if you don't know where you have been."

Erin enjoys the outdoors, especially fishing and hiking in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. She loves the quiet surroundings and the peace that comes with no cellphone reception.

In Chicago, Erin enjoys volleyball and



Erin Mulcahy, Queen of the 2016 St. Patrick's Day Parade, visited City Hall accompanied by members of her court and the Shannon Rovers Pipe Band. Ms. Mulcahy presented Alderman Edward M. Burke with a formal invitation to attend the downtown parade which kicks off at noon on Saturday, March 12th from the corner of Columbus and Balbo.

belongs to a volleyball league. Sometimes she plays at Chicago's North Avenue and Hollywood beaches. She also plays indoor volleyball to stay active year-round.

Congratulations to Plumbers UA Local 130 for sponsoring the 61st St. Patrick's Day Parade. In 1955, Mayor Richard J. Daley asked Stephen Bailey and the Plumbers Union to sponsor the Parade. The Plumbers have faithfully done this ever since.

Best wishes to Business Manager, James Coyne, with building the new school for plumbers to learn about innovations in the field, including inventions and new plumbing techniques.

Tuesdays with Morrie

By Jeffrey Hatcher and Mitch Albom
Reviewed by Frank West

What great acting! What theatre! Just two actors on the stage discussing how to make life meaningful.

The actors are Brad Armacost, as Morrie, and Colin Wasmund, as Mitch, are so convincing that I felt I was being permitted to listen into a very personal conversation.

Theatre in Chicago says: "the autobiographical story of Mitch Albom, an accomplished journalist... learns that an admired and loved college professor from many years

before is battling Lou Gehrig's Disease. What starts as a simple visit into a weekly pilgrimage... flying from Michigan to Massachusetts to visit Morrie and discuss how to lead a full life.

Morrie observes that we touch babies

and dying people. He asks why we don't touch in the years between? Touching itself is an expression of love that we need at all times in life.

Tim Gregory, the visionary artistic director at Provision Theater says: "Once Morrie faced his fate it determined how he was going to live the rest of his life."

We are free to decide how we are going to live life, but we must make that decision.

I complement the production team for making the few stage props simple, subtle, and unobtrusive. This kept the focus on the actors.

Provision Theater is located at 1001 W. Roosevelt Road in Chicago.

Tuesdays with Morrie is presented now through March 20. With performances Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 and Sundays at 3:00. Tickets are \$30.00, with discounts for seniors, students, and military. Free parking. 312-455-0066 or provisiontheater.org



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March For Kids With Mercy Home

Volunteers will be out in force on Chicago area street corners and at St. Patrick's Day parades and celebrations throughout the month of March, collecting donations and raising awareness that help Mercy Home for Boys & Girls save children from abuse.

Mercy Home for Boys & Girls' March for Kids campaign is the public's opportunity to make a lasting difference in the lives of children who come from environments marked by poverty, violence, and especially, abuse.

The campaign will feature teams of volunteers who will collect donations to Mercy Home and hand out Mercy Home Shamrocks as a way of saying thank you. Mercy Home Shamrocks are a great way to show solidarity with abused children while sporting some St. Patrick's Day flair during March.

In addition to donation drives by area businesses, schools and community groups, Mercy Home campaign volunteers will collect contributions at Chicago-area St. Patrick's Day parades and celebrations including:

Forest Park Parade, Saturday, March 5

Tinley Park Parade, Sunday, March 6

Locations throughout Downtown Chicago, Friday, March 11

Chicago Parade, Saturday, March 12

South Side Parade, Sunday, March 13

NW Side Parade, Sunday, March 13

Select Chicago locations on St. Patrick's Day, March 17

Mercy Home is calling on all interested volunteers to help make this effort a success. Anyone can help provide a safe and supportive home for children in need just by signing up to be a Mercy Home March for Kids volunteer and helping spread the word. Individual volunteers or groups can join a Mercy Home March for Kids street team. It's a fun and unique way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, complete a Lenten, school, or family service project, or organize an office team-building initiative. Go to mercyhome.org to sign up, or call (312) 738-7552.

The March doesn't end on the streets. Mercy Home is also urging the public to sign and share its online petition to end child abuse. By committing to learning about and discussing the issue, as well as recognizing the signs of child abuse, anyone can be part of the solution. The petition can be signed at mercyhome.org.

Donors can make a big difference online as well by making a contribution to Mercy Home for Boys & Girls during its March

for Kids campaign. Donations made at mercyhome.org this March will help save young lives year round. Mercy Home relies on private support and donations for 99.9% of its operating resources. Mercy Home President Rev. L. Scott Donahue



cited the impact that supporters and friends have on young people who for 129 years have turned to the Home in times of crisis. "I see children who've endured terrible hardships in their young lives, especially abuse" Fr. Donahue said. "Yet I'm always inspired by their resiliency and by the amazing things they can accomplish when they have the right care and encouragement—the kind they are given by my coworkers at Mercy Home. And it's only possible because of the generosity of people throughout the country who provide us with the tools we need to bring healing and hope to into the lives of these children."

Anyone who wishes to make a donation to the campaign can do so at mercyhome.org. Visitors to mercyhome.org can learn everything they need to know to join the march, and keep up to date on news from the campaign. They can also learn about Mercy Home for Boys & Girls' March for Kids on US99.5 FM and ABC7 Chicago.

About Mercy Home for Boys & Girls

Mercy Home for Boys & Girls (www.mercyhome.org) has been a solution for kids in crisis since 1887. Through its residential, aftercare, and mentoring programs, Mercy Home offers a safe home, emotional healing, education, and life-changing opportunities for more than 600 young people every year. It gives children who have suffered abuse, neglect, poverty and even abandonment the therapeutic, academic and vocational support they need to heal from the traumas of their pasts and build success for their futures. Mercy Home is 99.9% privately funded and operates at three locations in Chicago – a home for boys in the West Loop neighborhood, a home for girls in Beverly, and a home for AfterCare residents in South Shore.



Blarney Castle



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Trinity College



Cliffs of Moher

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 - Welcome Dinner
- DAY 3**
 - Causey Farms' "Country Irish for a Day"
 - Belfast City Tour
 - The Titanic Experience
- DAY 4**
 - Antrim Coast
 - Giant's Causeway
 - Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge
- DAY 5**
 - Belleek Parian China Factory
 - Sligo Tour
 - W.B. Yeats Gravesite at Drumcliffe Cemetery
- DAY 6**
 - County Galway
 - Connemara
 - Killybegs Harbour
 - Kylemore Abbey Tour
- DAY 7**
 - Burren National Park
 - Cliffs of Moher
 - River Shannon Ferry Ride
 - Killarney
- DAY 8**
 - Kissanee Sheep Farm
 - Kenmare Lace Demo with Nora Finnegan
 - Irish Nights at Kate Kearney's Cottage
- DAY 9**
 - Blarney Castle
 - Woolen Mills
 - Ballyowen House Estate Tea
- DAY 10**
 - Ballyknocken Cookery School Lesson
 - Dublin Leisure & Shopping
 - Farewell Feast
- DAY 11**
 - SLÁN LEAT
 - Breakfast & Home

* Highlights only; not all stops, meals and attractions are listed. Stops subject to change.



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Researching Irish Ancestry, Wednesday, 16th March, Fountaindale Public Library, 1300 West Briarcliff Road, Bolingbrook, IL 60440 630-685-4201

ddudek@fountaindale.org

Staff from the Ulster Historical Foundation - Fintan Mullan and Gillian Hunt - will present a seminar on Irish and Scots-Irish genealogy for beginners and active family

historians. Mullan is Executive Director of the Foundation, an educational nonprofit organization which specializes in historical research and publications. Hunt is Research Officer with the Foundation.

This seminar provides very practical and detailed information on how to trace your Irish ancestors. The presenters are from one



of Ireland's foremost genealogy research organisations and publishing houses and they will give advice on what to do and where to go next. These sessions will help the beginner and the seasoned genealogist alike.

With over 55 years' experience of serving Irish people everywhere, let the Ulster Historical Foundation help you discover your family's story. email enquiry@uhf.org.uk

Mrs. Murphy & Sons Marks St. Patrick's Day with 17-Day Celebration

For the second year in a row, Chicago's most authentic Irish restaurant, Mrs. Murphy & Sons Irish Bistro, is taking St. Patrick's Day to another level with 17 full days of exciting activities and events.

Other highlights of the St. Patrick's celebration include a special Guinness glass engraving on March 10th, \$10 Guinness flights all 17 days and much, much more.

You can catch live traditional Irish music each night with some of Chicago's best Irish musicians. Drop in to listen or play along during the regular weekly Irish sessions with hosts Frank Quinn and Larry Nugent on Tuesdays at 7pm and one of the world's top traditional flute and whistle players,



Sean Gavin, on Thursdays at 8pm. Other musical guests include Butterfly Swindlers, Mulligan Stew, Kilmaley and Kathleen Keane & Aiden O'Toole, among many others.

Irish Bistro will get the party started extra early on two of the most popular days - opening its doors at 8am on Saturday, March 12th and 10am on St. Patrick's Day - Thursday, March 17th. To view the full schedule of events, click here.

The North Center-based, family-owned restaurant features two Irish bars, five dining rooms and even a grocery store selling treats from Ireland. Visitors feel like they're stepping into a pub in Ireland, with its bar designed and built in Dublin before being shipped overseas.

The 1916 Easter Rising DVD Available

The 1916 Easter Rising DVD is available for purchase. It comes with or without a 20 page booklet highlighting the important people in the film.

The 1916 Easter Rising was a seminal event in Irish History and it's centenary will be commemorated in 2016. This film - *Ireland Birth of a Nation* traces the key events that led to the 1916 Easter Rising, the Rising itself, and the subsequent War of Independence and Civil War.

The film is an ideal reference guide for anyone interested in this important period of Irish History.

The 1916 Rising was largely planned in secret by a small group of people within the IRB (Irish Republican Brotherhood). It lasted for six days (Easter Monday to Saturday) and it's leaders were subsequently executed by the British authorities.

Women took an active part in the Rising, which was very unusual for the times - Countess Markievicz was a Commander of one Rebel position and Doctor Kathleen Lynn commanded another. A number of women engaged with the enemy alongside their male counterparts.

Although the British Government had granted a limited form of self-rule to Ireland under the Home-Rule Act of 1914, this act was suspended until the end of World War I. Those who planned the Easter Rising, rejected this limited form of self-rule and sought an Independent Irish Republic in-

stead - free from British rule.

From the British point of view, they were actively engaged in World War I and saw the Rising as a stab in the back. Furthermore, allowing Ireland full independence was not an option as it could lead to other countries vying for full Independence from the British Empire.

When the rising initially unfolded, there



appeared to be little public sympathy for the rebels, but after the executions, public opinion shifted dramatically. By the general election of 1918, Sinn Fein became the dominant political party in Ireland.

Shelling by the British Army had left Dublin city centre in ruins, and the damage is dramatically captured in this film, both with footage and photographs from the period. For an army to use artillery in such a fashion in a large urban area was practically unknown at the time.

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NEW - 2 DAYS!



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IRISH FOOD, DRINK, MUSIC & GOODS

FRI., APR. 29

5:30PM: They Might Be Irish

8PM: The Larkin and Moran Brothers

SAT., APR. 30

**1PM Irish Dancers:
Tully - Sullivan - Trinity**

3PM The Dooley Brothers

5:30PM Mulligan Stew

8PM They Might Be Irish

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