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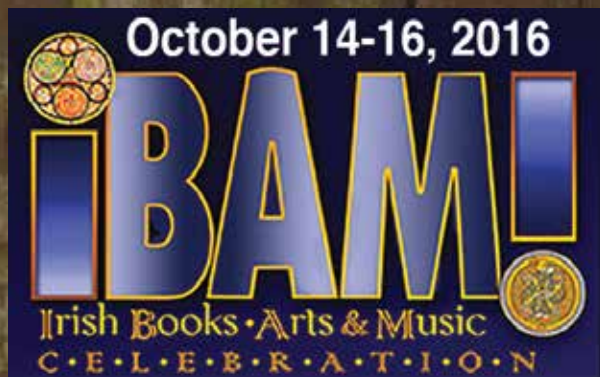
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in Chicago for iBAM!

October 14 Gala Awards Dinner

October 15-16 Program

Story page 10



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Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



We have the feeling we have been listening to the Instrumental Album of the Year—as we hear it for the third time, straight through. It is entitled, *Living Roots* and is from Northern Ireland's Brendan Hendry and Jonny Toman. Brendan was Male Musician of the Year here in 2012, and this is a stunning return for the gifted fiddler. Toman plays banjo, guitar, mandolin, bouzouki, dobro, piano and bass! And, by the way, Jonny also produced the album! However, it is an obviously, closely planned thing between the



two. Clearly sympatico musically, the two are offering a deep, richly textured set of nine tune sets and one song. The song is the beautifully crafted, *Where Is My Sailor Boy?* (also entitled, *What Does the Deep Sea Say?*) It is an old, old American song that has obviously crossed back and forth between America and Ireland repeatedly over the years, changing each time. Brendan Hendry does a lovely, controlled bit of singing on it, also. (Who knew he sang?) But, it is in the tunes where the duo really shines and lays it all out for the ear. The arrangements are intricate-yet easily accessible and fun to follow as they dip and swirl from tempo to tempo and instrument to instrument. This is not an album that has ANY tunes to thump out at a session. This is an album to listen to closely and love. There is GREAT up-tempo stuff here, to be sure. Each deserves a close listening to, as they morph constantly in all sorts of ways. A favorite of many Northern musicians particularly, *The Boyne Hunt Set* shows this perfectly. Great fun, but really thoughtfully and knowledgeably arranged. The album carries on with the current trend to mixing bluegrass, Americana and Irish—but it does it better than almost anyone else. It also has a full list of great Irish trad tunes, AND seven individual pieces by the lads (five by Brendan, two by Jonny). This fusion in the hands of these two masters is so wonderful in so many ways—well, it must be heard. Plain and simple? This is terrific music, beautifully played and lov-

ingly crafted. Find it! *Living Roots*. Most likely, you'll be holding The Instrumental Album of the Year.

Right on our deadline comes this album from The Hydes, called *Green & Blue*. The brother and sister (Iain and Joanna) are based out of Denver. We have not thought of Denver as a Celtic hotspot—but we are reconsidering.

Iain (pr. Ian) and Joanna (pr. "Jo") are big talents. Big Iain on guitar/

mandolin and Joanna on fiddle are at the epicenter of this 10-track cd, of course. Four of the tunes were written by them. They are assisted by several talented side musicians, including Colm Phelan of Goitse on bodhran, Christina Dolphin on flute, Tadhg o Meachair on piano (with piano accordion), and some terrific bass work from Eric Thorin. Where to start?

Both are excellent musicians of the first water. Joanna has her M.A. from the Limerick School of Irish Music, and has, in fact, taught there. Still does, on occasion. She is also a gifted singer. A steady, mature voice stays perfectly in the essence of the songs, ably backed up by Iain on harmonies. Another example of that "sibling blend" theory that says family members make the best harmonies for several reasons. Think of The Everly Brothers or the Mills Brothers and The Andrews Sisters. Joanna's fiddle work can be blazing, but is always beautifully controlled and tasteful. She is a fiddle star already—and brother Iain is part of the new guitarist movement in Irish music taking the whole field to a new

level. Just like Joanna, his guitar is VERY current, hip, fab chords and runs—but all very tasteful and intuitively grasping how to support the fireworks being brought by the fiddle. We cannot wait to see these two in live performance, and the early word is that their show is great, also!

There is a true musicality here. Intricately planned arrangements still come across as simple and accessible. That's the point, we suppose. Easy to come in on and love. You have to be good to do this, and they are really, really good. There is wonderful variety in the tunes and songs. And, how can you NOT love an Irish album that ends with Sam Cooke's, *Nothing Can Change This Love?* Complexity,

directness and a deep love for Irish traditional music and its history, The Hydes bring it all. We have a sure feeling that this album is the start of something very big—and we hope it lasts a long time! Find this album!

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TV Meteorologist Earns Praise from MWRD Commissioners

In planning for rain events to combat flooding and operate the Chicago Area Waterways System (CAWS), the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) relies heavily on forecasts and weather projections. Few provide that outlook better to the public than iconic Chicago Meteorologist Tom Skilling.

In honor of Skilling's 38 years of educating the public on weather activity in the Chicago region, the MWRD Board of Commissioners presented Skilling with a resolution during their meeting recently.

"Anyone who has grown up or worked in the Chicago region and tuned into WGN or the Chicago Tribune for a weather forecast appreciates the value Tom Skilling provides to our daily lives," said MWRD Commissioner Cynthia Santos.

Santos added, "Because of his intelligent, well-researched and endearing forecasts, many of us Chicagoans have turned to him and benefited from his knowledge. It's that wisdom we at the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago try to impart each day when preparing to provide around-the-clock flood control and protection of Cook County's waterways."



*Tom Skilling and
Commissioner Cynthia Santos*



Irish Senator Billy Lawless' family attended a luncheon for former President of Ireland Mary Robinson in September. from left: Julie Lawless, Clodagh Lawless, Cynthia Galvan, President Mary Robinson, Amy Lawless.

All Star Irish Concert for Bethel Hospital

Cross Countries is a club made up of 10 OLCHS students who are striving to make a difference in our world. Over the course of two years, they will raise \$50,000 in order to travel on a humanitarian mission to build Bethel Hospital in Amachuma, Bolivia. They will head out on their journey during the summer of 2017. Their goal is to improve quality of life for those that live in a poverty-stricken part of South America.

What Is The Event?

The All-Star Irish Concert will be an event held at Gaelic Park in Oak Forest Illinois. Laurence Nugent, father of a Cross Countries member, is a renowned Irish musician, and will be playing alongside other all-star Irish performers on November 4th 2016. Traditional Irish music will echo throughout Gaelic Park, driving Cross Countries one step closer toward their goal of finishing the construction of Bethel Hospital.

What Is The Sponsorship?

For a \$200 donation, a television inside of the venue will proudly display your company's logo and information on a continuous slideshow. In clear view of the estimated 400+ attendees from the Chicagoland area, your company will be advertised to your exact specifications, for all of Gaelic Park to see. Your generosity will also be verbally recognized during the event. A sponsorship table will be available. Here you may provide anything you wish to help further advertise your business, such as business cards or flyers. Company logos will be displayed on the ticket purchase, website for this event as well, allowing all online buyers to see your business's name even before the event. Below is an outline of how your company will be represented in the slideshow. Donations can be made in cash, or as a check made payable to "Cross Countries". All donations should be mailed to Chris Repa, c/o Oak Lawn Community High School, 9400 Southwest Highway, Oak Lawn Illinois 60453.

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LOOK OF THE LASS

by Mary Kay Marmo

Chicago's Maggie McEldowney Wins Ireland's Rose of Tralee

On August 23rd in Tralee, Ireland I sat in the audience holding my breath as Daithi O'Se, after an excruciating long pause finally let out the words.... "CHICAGO!" My daughters were seated to the right of me and you would have thought we had just won the Super Bowl!!!! And everyone around me celebrated with hugs and tears as over three quarters of a million viewers were tuned in to RTE TV that evening. One of the organizers came and took my hand and brought me back to where Maggie was being serenaded by country singer Nathan Carter to the "Rose of Tralee." As she came down the aisle to meet her Mom & Dad and myself I could not stop



crying. I was so proud of Maggie! She won, she did it..... now what?!!

They loaded all of us onto a bus to get ready for the parade! The streets were lined with thousands of people ready

to meet the new International Rose of Tralee. The Garda's sirens were loud and we waved at everyone on our route to the parade, it was electric. And Maggie's Mom Joanne looked at me and said, "Now look what you have done!" We laughed, but in the back of my mind again I am thinking... she won, I can't believe it and I never prepared myself or any of the past Chicago Roses for actually winning the whole thing. I have always said to the Roses, "Just have fun! Be yourself. You have already won in my eyes." I never ever wanted to put pressure on a girl to win, it is not that kind of competition. All of the Roses from all over the world are amazing



young ladies. They are smart, talented and kind. They are doctors, lawyers, executives and students. Winning the International Rose of Tralee is quite amazing because all of the girls are exceptional. I'm not exactly sure how the judges pick just one girl to be the Ambassador for the year.

We left Tralee two days after Maggie won and we all headed to Galway - our Sister City for Chicago. When we got to Galway, Anne Lawless had already planned a Barbecue Celebration party for Maggie the next evening. Now, I'm

enjoy this new honor that was given to Maggie.

So, now we are back in Sweet Home Chicago with the crown! And now what? The thing I was most impressed with on Maggie winning the International Title was the organizers of the Festival. I was so happy that I was with Maggie the day after she won with this group for her first meeting. Maggie was nervous about winning. She told me so. She said she wanted to make sure that she could handle the responsibility, keep her job and stay in Chicago during



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not exactly sure how she pulled this party off so quickly in literally a day, but it was quite the party! Barbecue, Music, Photographers, Mayors and Dignitaries. Maggie, her family and our entire group from Chicago were able to celebrate together in a quiet setting amongst new friends and relax and

her year. The first words out of Anthony O'Gara's mouth, the Executive Chairman of the Festival, were "Maggie, you do not have to move to Ireland, quit your job or feel stressed about your role as the International Rose of Tralee. We want you to enjoy this year and do as little as you want or as much as you



Post Competition barbeque in Galway at the home of Billy and Anne Lawless. from left: The Chicago judges who chose Maggie to represent the city in Ireland: Margaret McGann, 2013 South Side Irish Queen, Anne Lawless, Maggie and Bride Maloney.

want. We will make sure that you are very well taken care of." I turned and looked at Maggie and the look of relief on her face was obvious. She said, "Thank you! I was so worried." And we left the meeting full of excitement for bringing this back home to Chicago. It's been almost 30 years that

Chicago has won the International Title. It could not have happened to a nicer girl. It was quite obvious that all of the Roses, Escorts and the town of Tralee loved Maggie and we are so excited to introduce Maggie to Chicago this coming year and watch her do some very wonderful things for the Irish community here. Thank you Maggie for doing Chicago proud!

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David McDonnell: Our Sports Man on the Irish Street



Heroes Aplenty in Para-Sports

For those of the sporting persuasion, the names of Usain Bolt and Oscar Pretorius are well-known monikers. Of this there is little doubt.

However, I don't know what, if anything, the name Jason Smyth means to sporting people, especially those of you who reside outside of Ireland. If you can't place the name, I'll put you out of your misery.

Jason Smyth is an Irishman and the fastest Paralympian the world has ever seen. Last month he won Gold in the 100m sprint at Paralympics in Rio (T13 Classification), which matched his previous wins in the 100m and 200m at both the Beijing and London Paralympics in 2008 and 2012 respectively. His achievements mirrored Bolt's last three Olympics performances, yet in terms of an equality of recognition the sprinting pair are poles apart.

In a lot of ways, this is a pertinent example of how under-represented para-athletes are in the media and consequentially in our sporting consciousness. In para-sports, there are many of the same sporting dramas and rivalries that exist in able-bodied sports and yet, because of a lighter shade of spotlight, many of these sporting gems barely get a mention. Most people don't know that Jason, who has a severe eye impairment, has competed for many years on the able-bodied Irish sprint teams.

Garreth Greene - If you haven't heard of Jason Smyth, then there

is little chance you will have heard of Garreth Greene, an Irish sports personality of whom most commentators at home would struggle to locate on the sporting spectrum. This is his story.

Garreth is Ireland only wheelchair tennis player. Last year he ranked 367th in the world, but since has climbed steadily to currently occupy the 84th position in the International Tennis



Federation (ITF) rankings. This is significant progress and what makes Garreth's development all the more remarkable is that he has achieved this without any institutional funding from Paralympics Ireland or Tennis Ireland. Four years ago, Garreth played wheelchair tennis as a hobby. However, he then went to the London Paralympics in 2012, the event that went on to dramatically change his life. Garreth's has been in a wheelchair since he was a child after he was diagnosed with chondro dysplasia in his legs. He played wheelchair basketball competitively in his teens and it was much later that he started playing wheelchair tennis.

Garreth went to the London Paralympics as a communications volunteer, where he helped with the social media feeds at

some events. Earlier this year he confided to me that before he went, he felt he had seen everything para-sports had to offer.

However, the Paralympics was para-sport competition at a level Garreth didn't comprehend, and within weeks of coming home he decided to pack in his full time job to become Ireland's only representative on the professional wheelchair tennis circuit. It also became his sporting goal to compete at the Paralympics in Rio.

These days sees Garreth working as a graphic designer at the Irish Wheelchair Association on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays of non-competition weeks.

He trains before and after work at the Westwood Tennis Club in Clontarf. On Tuesdays and Thursdays he spends six hours training on the courts with his tennis coach Natasha, in addition to strength and conditioning work in the gym.

For game practice he doesn't have other wheelchair tennis players to hit with, so sometimes his friend Justin, who is a qualified tennis coach, will sit into a chair and compete. Other times he will take on able-bodied kids at the tennis club as their shots

are more comparable to the trajectory of a shot from a wheelchair tennis player.

Garreth funds all his own competitions, and so far this year, he has played tournaments in Italy, the Czech Republic, Switzerland and in the UK, in the hope of qualifying for Rio. Although reaching the Paralympics in Rio was his long-term goal, this did not come to fruition. However, he has already stated his intention to get inside the top 40 and qualify automatically for the Games in Tokyo in 2020. He also hopes to grow the game in Ireland by setting up camps to introduce younger players to the sport.

Here is a link to a short documentary about Garreth entitled 'A Sporting Parable.' (<http://bit.ly/28WD14Y>)

Continued on next page

Lesson - There is a lesson to be learned. In a time when football stars of various codes compare multi-million dollar contracts and vie for the most economically enriching endorsements, it is refreshing to come across someone who competes at their sport for sporting reasons even at financial cost to themselves.

It is to our shame that somewhere among the television contacts, these pioneers of para-sports get left at the sporting

wayside. I watched more events at the Paralympics this year in Rio than I ever had before, and I enjoyed hearing the narratives from the losing and winning competitors even more so than the Olympics. It was sport at its most untainted and it was soul nourishing to witness.

It is a pity that for two weeks every four years, a little sporting gaze gets briefly cast in the direction of para-sports for so fleeting a time. It is undoubtedly to our loss.

The Irish Musicians Association of America Announces Two Programs

1. The 3rd year of our scholarship program - Three \$250 awards will be given in 3 categories based on years of instruction in Irish music or song. The categories are 0 to 2 years, more than 2 but less than 5 years, and 5 years or more. The recitals will be held at Gaelic Park on 3 consecutive Sundays (Oct. 2, 9, and 16) from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Shamrock Room. To qualify you will need to attend 1 of the 3 dates and either play 2 tunes or sing 2 songs of your choice,

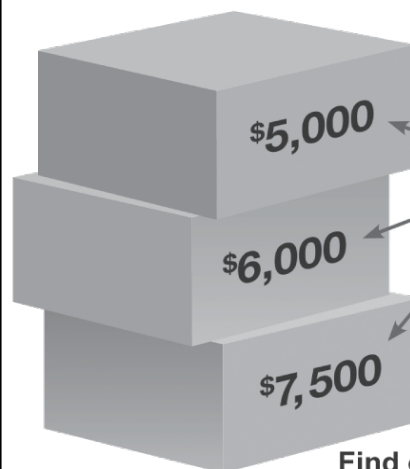
2. Financial assistance programs in 3 categories for the period July 1,2016 -

June 30, 2017: A. Attending Workshops (up to a max. of \$50.) B. Attending music camps (up to a max. of \$100.) and C. Instrument rentals (up to a max. of \$20./mo. for a max. of 6 months). Note: Funds are limited.

For Applications for either program or to receive additional information you may call Mr. Tim McGinness, IMA chairman at (708) 341-0858 (cell) or email Tim at t.mcginness@comcast.net (If you get the answering machine please leave your name and phone number).

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iBAM Chicago 2016 Gala Awards Dinner October 14

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The iBAM! 2016 Awardees:



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Free Parking and Coat Check. There will be a silent auction throughout the evening. Items for auction include week-long cottage stays in Ireland, Sports memorabilia, goodie baskets and much, much more. Dress is black-tie optional (If you don't want to wear a tux, don't worry! Sport jackets are welcome, too)

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**Siobhainn O'Connor
Van Santen**

Ken Bruen Headlines iBAM! Chicago 2016

It is our pleasure to announce that Mystery writer Ken Bruen is our 2016 iBAM! Awardee for Literature, and will be on hand to receive his award at the iBAM! Gala Awards Dinner, October 14th in the Irish American Heritage Center. On Saturday and Sunday, October 15, and 16, Ken will be on hand for the iBAM! program. He will be one of 3 authors at our "Tea With the Literary Titans" in the Shamrock American Room on Saturday at 1:15pm. William Doyle and Turtle Bunbury will join him as they tell the audience about their writing adventures.

At 4pm in the same room, Ken will be on a panel with William Doyle; writer of PT 109, Turtle Bunbury; writer of 1847 and Vanishing Ireland, and Ruan O'Donnell; writer of 16 Lives: Patrick Pearse. They will be discussing, "What does it mean to be an Irish Writer."

After each talk, the authors will cross the hall to the Library where their books will be on sale for autographing.

On Sunday, October 16, Ken will be speaking at 2:30 in the Shamrock American Room and signing books afterwards in the Library.

Ken has written over 50 books and is one of the most prominent Irish crime writers of the last two decades. Born in Galway in 1951, he spent twenty-five years traveling the world before he began writing in the mid 1990s. As an English teacher, Bruen worked in South Africa, Japan, and South America, where he once spent a short time in a Brazilian jail. He has two long-running series: one starring a disgraced former policeman named Jack Taylor, the other a London police detective named Inspector Brant.

Praised for their sharp insight into the darker side of today's prosperous Ireland, Bruen's novels are marked by grim atmosphere and clipped prose. Among the best known are his White Trilogy (1998-2000) and The Guards (2001), the Shamus

award-winning first novel in the Jack Taylor series. The next Jack Taylor novel, Green Hell, will be released by Mysterious Press/Grove Atlantic in July 2015.

Ken's work is reviewed frequently. Here are a few of them.

"NOBODY WRITES LIKE Ken Bruen, with his ear for lilting Irish prose and his taste for the kind of gallows humor heard only at the foot of the gallows. THE EMERALD LIE (Mysterious Press, \$25) is pure Bruen, with its verbal tics, weird typography and unorthodox wordplay. Not to mention the odd bits of logic ("Never judge a dog's pedigree by the kind of books he does not chew") and choice quotations from the literary likes of Tennessee Williams ("If I got rid of my demons, I'd lose my angels"). Although Jack Taylor, Bruen's frequently drunk, violent and maudlin detective hero, is still the main draw, he's rivaled by a serial killer who works himself into a murderous rage over improper grammatical usage"

New York Times Book Review, 9/04/2016 on The Emerald Lie

The Emerald Lie, By Ken Bruen; Mysterious Press, 352 pages, \$28 Review: 9/25/2016

This is the most entertaining of Bruen's Jack Taylor books in a long time. If Taylor, the alcoholic PI in Ireland's County Galway, is allowed to coast for periodic stretches in the book, it's mostly a matter of his advancing age. For much of these pauses in action, poor old Jack is confined to hospital beds recovering from episodes when villains beat the living daylights out of him. In between thrashings, Jack devotes his increasingly addled wits to tracking a variety of bad guys who are either oddball or despicable. The child molester takes first place among the latter, and of the former, it seems impossible to top the intellectually adrift crackpot who is so offended by offences against proper grammar — split infinitives and the like — that he bumps off those who commit them. Text messages

provide major motivational material for this killer (whom the befuddled cops label "The Grammarian"). Jack may be flagging physically and emotionally — a doctor diagnoses him as a sure goner in two months — but his thought processes remain inspired enough to offer laughs and sighs for much of this fresh reading pleasure. *The Toronto Star* 9/2016

Praise for Ken Bruen and the Jack Taylor series:

"The things Jack witnesses these days . . . would cause a saint to go blind. And Jack, whose heroism is fueled by 'plain old-fashioned rage, bile and bitterness,' is no saint. Never was, never will be. Amen." *New York Times Book Review, on Purgatory*

"Bruen is an original, grimly hilarious and gloriously Irish." —*Washington Post, on The Guards*

"Bruen's books are known for their dark, brutal humor laced with a crisp dialogue . . . A favorite in Ireland and the U.K., Bruen is threatening to become a mass cult figure in the U.S. as well as a critical favorite." —*Atlantic, on Headstone*

"A brilliant, lyrical, deeply moving writer. . . If you like Ian Rankin, Dennis Lehane, Pelecanos, and the like, Bruen is definitely a writer to reckon with."

William Doyle

We welcome 2015-2016 Fulbright Scholar, William Doyle as a headline author to iBAMChicago 2016! William served as director of original programming and executive producer during his seven years at HBO. He is the coauthor, with former U.S. Navy SEAL Chris Kyle, of the New York Times bestseller *American Gun: A History of the U.S. in Ten Firearms*. He was selected as a Fulbright Scholar, 2015-2016, specialization: the future of global education and media. Lecturer, University of Eastern Finland.

William managed \$200,000,000 in marketing and programming budgets for media giant Time Warner. Executive, writer and producer for HBO, A&E, PBS.

Co-author, *Secrets of the World's Healthiest Children* (Little Brown UK, 2015), exploration of Japanese healthy longevity.

Author, *JFK'S Moments of Destiny* (HarperCollins, 2015) Author: *The Schools of Tomorrow: Global Visions of the Future of Education* (forthcoming)

William's latest book *PT109, JFK's Moments of Destiny* can be purchased online at Harper/Collins. His other books are available there as well. Turtle Bunbury

Thanks to the Irish Fellowship Club,

Turtle Bunbury will be a headliner at iBAMChicago2016 Saturday and Sunday, October 15, 16. He will be giving two lectures on his books, one on Saturday, October 15 entitled: *1847, A Chronicle of Genius, Generosity and Savagery* and one on Sunday, October 16 entitled: *Vanishing Ireland, A Photographic Record of the Old Ways and the Old Days*.

Turtle Bunbury

Turtle Bunbury is a best-selling author, historian, public speaker and TV presenter based in Ireland. His previous books include "Easter Dawn - The 1916 Rising" (2015), "The Glorious Madness - Tales of the Irish & the Great War" (short-listed for Best Irish-published Book of the Year 2014) and the award-winning *Vanishing Ireland* series.

Dr Ruan O'Donnell

Dr. Ruan O'Donnell is a Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Limerick. A former Visiting Chair of Irish Studies at the Keugh-Naughton Institute, Notre Dame (2010-11), he is the author of numerous publications on the history of Irish republicanism including 'Special Category, The IRA in English Prisons, 1968-1978'. O'Donnell is the founding co-general editor of the acclaimed '16 Lives' series in which new biographies

of all those executed for engagement in the 1916 Rising are being published by O'Brien Press. He is a member of the all-Ireland Universities Ireland Decade of Centenaries Committee, National Union of Journalists and the Irish Manuscripts Commission. Volume Two of 'Special Category' covering the period 1978-1985 will be published in 2015 followed by O'Donnell's biography of Patrick Pearse.

Theatre

Led by our iBAM! 2016 Performing Arts Award Winner, Brad Armacost, enjoy a series of staged readings on Saturday, October 15th at 1:15 pm in room 109.

Hopkins in Ireland, The Poems of Gerard Manley Hopkins read by Fr. Robert Oldershaw, St Nicholas, Evanston with music from the Academy of Irish Music

My Brilliant Divorce performed by Jeff nominee, Barbara Figgins - Irish Theatre of Chicago)

Girls in Silk Kimonos by Miriam Gallagher, selected readings

Polite, Meaningless Words Solo piece by Bradley Armacost with support from the Consulate General of Ireland, Easter Rising, Global Diaspora Project.

See the rest of the schedule pages 24-27 and at www.ibamchicago.com

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Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



Did They Tell Us the Whole Story?

This column has been written because I am convinced that something was left out of our educational preparation for the "real world". Oh yes, we were taught many facts about chemistry, accounting, English, geography, history, art, philosophy and many other subjects. But there didn't seem to be any real courses that focused on how to live our lives. Listed below are several concepts that might have been more emphasized than they were.

Having a positive attitude makes an enormous difference in how you are received versus how a person who is negative and super critical of everything is viewed. There have been serious studies that support this belief. In brief, most people simply prefer to deal with upbeat and energized people.

Set and then meet your goals. The famous author, Zig Ziglar, said that a person without specific goals is a wandering generality. Having goals creates a sense of urgency and direction in our lives. It also provides us with focus on what steps need to be taken next. It defines your target.

Take pride in your job, or leave the job and find another. Not taking pride in what you do is a sure pathway to mediocrity. If you are just coasting in your current job, you are complacent; you are just repeating yesterday, as Bill Murray did in "Groundhog Day."

Do you understand people? You need to develop your ability to assess people. The capability to read people and understand their point of view can be invaluable to all of us. You will not be easily taken in if you have acquired the skill of reading people. If you can discern the motivation behind a person's

point of view you will find it much easier to deal with that individual.

There is a great quote by Thomas Jefferson that addresses a pertinent issue: "In matters of style, swim with the current; in matters of principle, stand like a rock."

Our society seems to have become somewhat divided; many of us do not want to listen to the other person. It seems that many of us have lost the ability to accept people wherever they are. We feel the need to belabor them with our point of view; because clearly we see ourselves as having all the answers.

As I have become more mature, I find it easier to let the other person state his or her position and then move on to another subject. If the other person is obviously smitten with a perspective different than mine, it is not likely that they are going to change their mind.

Develop your communication skills. Become a disciplined listener. Demonstrate a laid back attitude in conversations; listen to what the other person has to say. Ask enough questions to learn what are the "real" issues that concern the other person. Don't get too focused on talking about or defending your thoughts.

Be receptive to change. Change of almost any sort can be scary. Many people really want the situation to remain the same; they are comfortable with the status quo and see no reason to change. They don't want to rock the boat. In my mind, being receptive to change goes hand in hand with being curious. Many of us are anything but curious; it is so easy to fall into habits or routines. Consider driving to work by a few different routes rather than driving the same way every day. Try that new restaurant. Go someplace new on your next vacation. Sign up for yoga.

Learn to bowl. Take up tennis.

Take a long term view of the other person's motivation. If you want to have an enduring relationship with this person, take your time; don't push the other person too hard. Focus on building a relationship with the other person. Learn some facts about him and his family; see if you can make some connection with the other person. If you can learn some things about his interests, write that info down, it makes it more likely that you will remember it.

Practice making decisions. It can be frustrating to watch people struggle over an easy decision like whether to buy a Milky Way or a Snickers. There is virtually nothing at risk, regardless of which candy bar you choose, yet, you see them sweating out the decision. Condition yourself to making quick informed decisions; begin by practicing on making decisions on minor issues.

Are you a team player? Do you feel that you are the most important person on your team? Many of us confuse the wearing of the same uniform with being a member of a team. Years ago, a reporter asked Larry Bird of the Boston Celtics whether Michael Jordan was going to beat them that night. Bird quickly said Michael is an incredible player but no one man is ever going to beat the Boston Celtics. Basketball is a team sport, so too are many positions within a company. CARPE DIEM.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION: "People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and, if they can't find them, make them." George Bernard Shaw, Irish-born writer.

James F. Fitzgerald is president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville, IL-based senior executive coaching & career transition firm. Jamesfitzgerald.com jamesfitz37@hotmail.com #630-420-0362

More Authors at iBAM!

In addition to the iBAM! headline authors, several more interesting authors will be on hand to meet you at iBAMChicago2016 this year.

Admission to iBAM! is free on both Saturday and Sunday, October 15, and 16.

From Northern Ireland we have Greg McVicker, and Tony Macauley. Other authors include

Catholic, a D-Day survivor and a polio victim. But most of all, Joe Boyle was a gifted writer.

John Sexton's book is called *The Big Yank*, and is a coming of age story that takes place a stone's throw from the border of Northern Ireland in the late 60's and 70's, during the height of "The Troubles. He's coming in from Washington D.C.



(l to r) Greg McVicker, Tony Macauley, Rosemary Coover



(l to r) Sile Post, John Sexton, and Rex Owens

Rosemary Coover, Sile Post, Rex Owens and John Sexton.

Macauley has spent the past 30 years working to build peace and reconciliation at home and abroad, working with hundreds of youth and community groups to break down barriers of mistrust, hatred and division. His books are *Paperboy and Breadboy*. McVicker's books are *Belfast Child*, about growing up during the Troubles in Ireland, and a children's book, *The Adventures of Silly Willy*.

With All My Love by Rosemary Joyce Boyle Coover is a compilation of letters, documents and photos telling the story of her father, Joe Boyle, from the time he entered the army in 1941 until his death in 1950. Joe was the son of an Irish immigrant from Co. Leitrim, a devout

Sile Post has written *Your Own Ones* is about an inheritance with a catch, and a journey back to the land of her ancient ancestors on the Dingle Peninsula. Sile's other book is *The Road to Walden North*, recounts the experiences of first generation, Irish-American, Dr. Kate Brown of Northwestern University, who in landing a teaching position at Harvard, and must navigate the cross currents between British cultural expectations and Irish immigrant values.

Come out to iBAM! and get your Irish blood stirring by taking in all of the creativity that can be found in your Irish heritage of books, music, dance, storytelling, fun and laughter. You will be glad you did!



Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



Wake Up Call

I don't know how many times I've heard the expression, 'I've had a real wake up call'.

Suddenly someone has had that one memorable event that wakes him or her from the slumber they found themselves in. Sometimes the effect is tangible, a change of lifestyle, a change of job or location etc.

At other times, it goes no further than a dead end. Nothing changes, there are no significant differences made, and the slumbering one continues to live in a destructive cycle.

In this year alone, there have been almost 500 killings in Chicago. We have outstripped New York City and Los Angeles when it comes to murder rates. The blame finger is of course pointed in all the usual directions but nothing fundamentally changes. The root cause, the gun laws, remains unchanged. No one wants to deal with how easy it is to get possession of guns.

I've lived in this country for over a decade, and I'm still amazed at the lax laws concerning guns. There is much that I love about this country, and there's much to be proud about, but the 'right to bear arms' is not one of them. It seems that even the continuous racking up of fatalities is not enough to persuade the general public that something needs to be done. We want to sleep in the past, guarding some archaic, outdated second amendment that continues to keep us in an abusive relationship with gun possession.

How many people need to die in order for us to 'wake up'? How long will we continue to read about the killing of innocent people? How long will we shrug our shoulders, and do nothing?

'We the people' have it within our right to make our mark by removing the danger by voting to make it increasingly difficult to own weapons. Do we want to need to hear stories of kids being killed, execution style, by gang members, or innocent school children gunned down by a mentally unstable individual, or home grown terrorists who, with the blessing of Uncle Sam, are provided the means to kill off decent, honourable, citizens?

I have watched what violence can do to a society. People are forced to live in fear of their neighbours. A simply disagreement can easily escalate into a murder, when in a fit of anger a gun is reached for. The easy acquisition of weapons is not a deterrent, it is recipe for disaster.

The second amendment has not guaranteed the freedom of its citizens. It has forced many to fear for their lives. Gang members terrorize their neighbourhoods, teachers fear the wrath of a disgruntled student, and a simple brawl can turn fatal very quickly. The fear factor rules our lives when weapons are so readily available.

Donald Trump claims that he can fix Chicago's problems in a week, which makes me wonder if his solution is to fight fire with fire. Whenever a businessman meddles in affairs that are outside his comprehension, the effect is laughable. Will he approach gang members individually and fire each one respectively? His comments undermine the already struggling law enforcement, and hold no real weight, since he cannot substantiate his claims with any viable solution.

What we need, here in Chicago, and in the country at large, are those politicians who care about causes and not simply their effects. We need people

who work towards dealing with poverty, racism, and political corruption.

We do not need a television personality who is only interested in his ego and his popularity ratings. We need people who listen to those who work tirelessly in these neighbourhoods to help victims of violence. We need politicians who do not sideline the question of the second amendment because they fear the wrath of the NRA.

Donald Trump's clichéd 'let's make America great again' rings hollow when it comes from someone who alienates minorities, and offers a quick fix to problems he cannot even comprehend.

If America is to become great again, then it needs to get rid of the outdated, destructive, and corrosive second amendment. Make the country a safer place, so that we can wake up from the murderous nightmare that has become commonplace, and unacceptable to any civilized society.

It seems we human beings are prone to being destructive, without ever thinking about the consequences. We are caught in a cycle of abusing the very planet that we call home. We have for years heard the calls to change our ways or pay the price, and yet it seems as if the call for change has hardly registered.

We are as loathed to changing our environmental policies as we are gun laws, even though we are in danger of pushing ourselves over the brink. Each year we hear of the ice glaciers melting, rising sea levels, and disaster at our doorstep without blinking an eye. We are slumbering through the apocalypse without realizing it.

Will there ever be a 'wake up call'? Or will we hit the alarm and roll over and go back to sleep?



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In the July issue I gave a brief description and covered some topics about Co. Mayo. I would like to add that Mayo Senior Football team deserves recognition even though they haven't won an all Ireland championship since 1951 they have been in competition several times since. Good luck to the Mayo team also Mayo has produced Ireland's first woman president, Mary Robinson a huge success and has had a phenomenal career.

Onto to Co. Dublin (baile atha cliath) since the city of Dublin is the largest and capital city of Ireland. It has just celebrated the centennial of the Rising of 1916 and most of the events happened in Dublin. Dublin is in the province of Leinster on Ireland's east coast at the mouth of river Liffey. Dublin was built and settled by the Vikings in 857. The city's population is about 1.3 million while Co. Dublin's population is approximately 1.8 million. The

kingdom of Dublin became Ireland's principal city following the Norman invasion in 9th century. The city of Dublin expanded rapidly from the 17th century on and was briefly the 2nd largest city in the British Empire before the acts of the union in the year 1800.

Following the partition of Ireland in 1922 Dublin became the capital of Irish free state. It is a historical and contemporary center for education, the arts, and economy. Dublin celebrated its official millennium in 1988 meaning that the Irish government recognized the year 988 as the year in which the city was settled. Dublin castle became the center for Norman power in 1204. It functioned as a prison and court of law the seat of English administration in Ireland 700 years. Today Dublin castle is used for receptions and presidential inaugurations.

Trinity college is in Dublin founded in the 16th century by Queen Elizabeth I as a college strictly



for protestants. The book of Kells (4 books one for each Gospels, written in Co. Meath) is in Trinity library and a page is turned daily for viewing. My teacher master Tynan studied at Trinity and during that time Patrick Pearse's mother died and Mr. Tynan attended the funeral which was held at Phoenix Park Dublin. The Pearse's are from Dublin. A million people turned out for her funeral. Speaking of Phoenix Park it is the largest park in Europe, its area is about 1800 acres and it attracts huge crowds for special events. The residence of the president, Aras an Uachtaráin, is in the park also. Some famous landmarks in Dublin include: four courts,

custom house, Temple Bar, and Grafton Street. Dublin grew even more impressive during the 18th century with the construction of some famous districts and buildings such as the parliament house, the royal exchange, wide streets and the GPO (General Post Office) and Merrion Square. I visited Merrion Square when I was getting ready to come to USA the first time in 1964. In 1757 the founding of Guinness brewery resulted in a considerable economic gain in the city. For much of the time since its foundation the brewery was Dublin's largest employer. I was driving one sunny afternoon in Dublin city on my way to the Galway/Mayo road. Cars and crowds were everywhere instead of inquiring for directions I followed the sun and I easily found my road. Speaking of directions and signs I stood at a sign post in Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo. One sign pointed to Castlebar, another said Claremorris, the other Kilkenny, and other Ballyhaunis. Then a comedian added his own signs, England this way, USA this way, Australia straight down and the moon straight up. I miss Ireland's humour as so many do. In my opinion, when it comes to hurling and football Dublin, Cork and Galway have something to be proud of as they all qualify many times to play hurling and football in the championship as opposed to other winning counties who qualify for only one of the sports in the all Ireland final. Let's not forget a few famous Dubs that I admire: Theobald Wolfe Tone, James Joyce, Patrick Kavanagh, William Butler Yeats and Gabriel Byrne.

Up Dublin!

If you have any questions or comments please Email me at: Kilkennycat1@yahoo.com
Tom Butler

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Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



This month I would like to highlight some Landmarks in Ireland. This topic came to mind when I inadvertently overheard someone say that Ireland was just a place with a lot of green fields and pubs. In my opinion this couldn't be further from the truth and it's factually inaccurate. Let's first define what a landmark is. It's an object or feature of a landscape or town that is easily seen from a distance. (religious landmarks and archaeological sites will be detailed in future articles) For ex. In America we have Mt. Rushmore in S. Dakota, Greece has the Acropolis, and Russia has St. Basil's Cathedral. Our historical environment is our most precious asset it contributes to our economy, identity and character. Ireland wouldn't be Ireland without these superb landmarks. And Ireland is a place, indeed, a very extraordinary place!

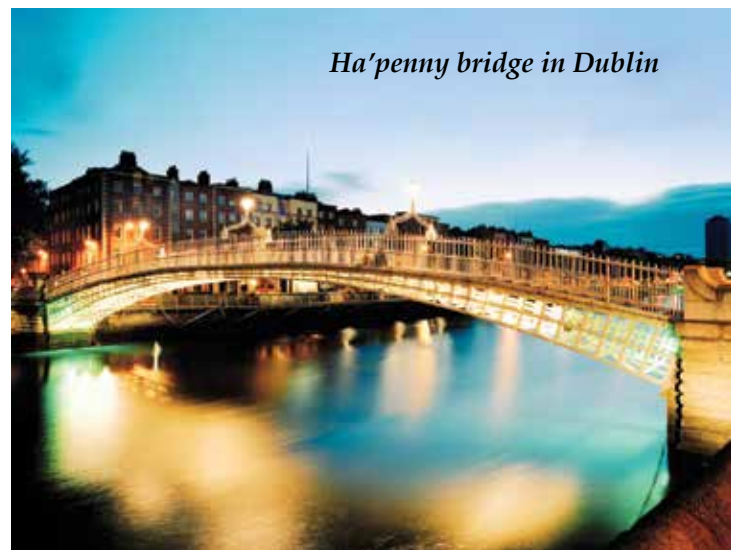
The landmarks I will give a brief description include: Ha'penny bridge in Dublin, Cliffs of Moher, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Blarney Stone, Phoenix Park, and Croke Park.

The Ha'Penny bridge is officially called, Liffey Bridge it is a pedestrian bridge built in 1816 over the Liffey river in Dublin. Before the bridge was built there were 7 ferries operated by William Walsh across the Liffey. They charged people who crossed it (half a penny) but the charge wasn't for the construction but to match the charge levied by ferries it replaced. It's a link from Merchants arch on the edge of the Temple bar to Liffey street on the N. Side.

Next we have the Cliffs of Moher. They are located on the edge of the Burren in Co. Clare. They rise almost 400 feet above the Atlantic Ocean north of O'Brien's Tower. The round stone tower was built in 1835 by Cornelius O'Brien, visitors can see the Aran

Islands from atop the tower. The Cliffs receive one million visitors a year. The Cliffs take their name from an old fort called Moher which once stood on Hag's Head the southern point of the Cliff.

St. Patrick's Cathedral was founded in 1191, it's the largest church in Ireland. Since 1870 the church has designated St. Patrick's as the National Cathedral of Ireland. The dean is the ordinary for the Cathedral, this



Ha'penny bridge in Dublin

office has existed since 1219. The most famous office holder was Jonathan Swift. (poet, Dublin) The Cathedral is used for national ceremonies, students' receive their degrees and it holds remembrance day ceremonies. In 2006 18 Afghan refugees seeking asylum occupied the church for several days.

Next we have the Blarney Stone it is a block of limestone built into the Blarney castle in Co. Cork. The stone was set into the tower in 1446. The legend has it if you kiss the stone you will be blessed with the gift of the gab. An old story says the Goddess Cliodhna helped out the builder/contractor. Cormac McCarthy the contractor was involved in a lawsuit in the 15c and he appealed to the Goddess for assistance. She told McCarthy

to kiss the first stone he found on the way to court, he did and he pleaded his case with great style and he won the case.

Next we have Phoenix Park it is an urban park in Dublin, one of the largest walled city parks in Europe. It includes large areas of grassland and tree lined avenues. The residence of the president, Aras an Uachtarain, built in 1754 is located in the park. Dublin zoo is located in the park, it houses more than 700 animals and tropical birds from around the world and founded in 1830. It is the 3rd oldest zoo in the world.

Lastly we have Croke Park, it is a GAA stadium located in Dublin. It was named in honor

of Archbishop Thomas Croke at times locals fondly call it Croker. It serves both as the principal stadium and headquarters of the GAA. (Gaelic Athletic Association) Since 1884 the park has been used by the GAA to host Gaelic games, most famously the All Ireland finals in football and hurling. Music concerts by major acts have been held at the stadium as well. In 2012 the stadium was used to host the closing ceremony of the 50th International Eucharistic Congress during which Pope Benedict gave an address over video to 80,000 people. During the war of independence in 1920 Croke Park was the scene of a massacre. The British police entered the grounds shooting into the crowd killing 13 spectators and a player named, Michael Hogan.

The Hogan stand was built in his honor. I realize there are many more Landmarks in Ireland, there will be more to come in the next article.

Gaelic for the month:

Monument-seadchomhartha
Special-speisialta
Bridge-droichead

Park-pairc
Landmark-sainchomhartha
Seanfhocal-proverb
May your journey, long or short be a success (go neiri an bothar leat is do chosan congarir)
If you have any questions or comments please Email me at: Molanive@yahoo.com

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From the Executive Director of Chicago Irish Immigrant Support

By Michael Collins

Hope on Executive Action

This past June, the Supreme Court decision on the President's Executive Action on immigration ended in a four – four split. Unfortunately, this tied vote essentially upheld the lower courts earlier injunction halting the program. This decision was a significant setback for the immigrant community and especially those who are undocumented. The President's executive action was the largest major immigration policy change in over a decade. Needless to say, the immigration atmosphere over the past couple of months has not been optimistic.

However recent developments indicate that there is still some reason for hope. On August 25th, an undocumented, 20 year New York resident filed a federal lawsuit alleging that a national injunction that stalled President Obama's Executive Action was too broad to be legal. Martin Vidal, the Queens resident who filed the case, said "I'm filing this lawsuit for myself and the thousands of others like me who have been wronged by this judge's decision". Essentially what Martin is arguing is that the injunction should only apply to the 26 states that were party to the lawsuit (and not the others). It is estimated that of the 3.6 million residents that are eligible for DAPA, 2.2 million of them reside in states that were not party to the lawsuit (including Illinois). If Martin is successful, this could potentially see the executive action implemented in states that were not party to the federal lawsuit and may see a form of relief for the 2.2 million residents of these states.

It is anticipated that this court case will take some time to work its way through the court system. The appointment of a ninth Supreme Court justice could be the deciding factor in this lawsuit. Since Justice Scalia's passing back in February, there has been deadlock in the Senate for his proposed replacement Merrick Garland's appointment. It is looking more and more like this ap-

pointment will take place after the 2016 presidential election. My immigration colleagues and I cannot stress enough the importance of this election. We are constantly hearing the anti-immigrant rhetoric and xenophobic remarks from the Republican nominee. The roughly 12 million total undocumented immigrants and the roughly 55,000 undocumented Irish immigrants in the United States need and deserve better leadership. They, like many others, need someone who has a compassionate approach toward our immigrant brothers and sisters. Many of you reading this article walked in their shoes at some point. To ensure that the 2.2 million DAPA eligible residents receive the relief they

deserve and that Ireland and the United States keep our strong immigrant ties, we must all make it to the ballot on November 8th!

CIIS Update

CIIS will continue to host free legal clinics for anyone who might have immigration questions. These clinics are currently being held monthly by appointment only. Each clinic provides a client with a 30- minute face-to-face consultation with an immigration attorney. Our next legal clinic will be held on Thursday October 13th and November 10th from 5:30 pm-8:30 pm. We host these clinics on the second Thursday of each month. Please call (773) 282-8445 or email mcollins@irishchicago.org to schedule your appointment.

50 Shades of Grayer: Re-define What Intimacy Means to You

A truly honest look into a woman's life and the many different roles she maybe asked to play throughout her lifetime.

What does Intimacy mean to a woman other than her sexuality?

Who: We have four strong Women Entrepreneurs, Speakers and Leaders within their respective field.

Gwendolyn Sterk of the Gwendolyn Sterk and Family Law Group in Orland Park, IL

J. Karre Parker of Arbor Financial Services LLC in Downers Grove, IL

Aishling Dalton-Kelly of Aishling Companion Home Care in Orland Park, IL

Eileen Kerlin-Walsh of Kerlin Walsh Law in Worth, IL

When: Thursday, Oct. 13th, 2016

5:30PM-8:30PM

Where: Chicago Gaelic Park, Tara Room 6119 147th St. Oak Forest, IL

As women, we typically begin our lives realizing we want it all. Some of us know we want a family, a career and the pride that comes along with having both. However, at some point in our journey, life starts happening to us, not directed by us, and we begin to feel out of control. We are the care takers, the cheerleaders, the fixers, the

listeners, the communicators, the negotiators and most of all the ones who compromise the most by putting everyone else's needs above our own.

„ÄúWomen are usually the caretakers in a family.,Äú

Aishling continues, „ÄúMany of my past clients are now widows who sit in loneliness because they have spent a life time taking care of someone else. What,Äôs sad is that they forgot to take care of themselves along the way.,Äú

This Free event is dedicated to empowering women with information to better understand how to get through all the transitions they will come to experience in life while preparing them for the future that lies ahead.

„ÄúWomen have to be in the driver,Äôs seat of their financial future.,Äú Karre further explains, „ÄúQuite often, women do not fully realize that there is an emotional component when it comes to making financial decisions. Once they embrace this concept, they start to build their confidence in managing their financial lives, not only for their families, but also for themselves.,Äú

This evening will be about embracing the natural essence of women and understanding how to fully utilize our talents to help prepare ourselves for the future we face in this journey called Life.



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Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Straight Outta Mayo: Kenny Finds His Mojo

What a week! First of all Dame Edna Kenny gets his mojo back; and then Fianna Fáil makes a complete turn-around on water charges -- which isn't really a U-turn at all, according to no one but Micheál Martin. I swear, between the lot of them, they have my head more bent out of shape than usual -- and that's really saying something.

Whilst the Fine Gael Party were fretting, sweating and wondering what in the name of all that's holy AND unholy they have to do to finally get rid of their Beloved Leader, Kenny somehow slipped off the straightjacket, escaped from his handlers and was let loose to actually come out with something that was unscripted.

And let's be honest, we know that NEVER ends well.

Obviously still suffering from the rush of blood to the head that saw him playing air guitar at a recent Bruce Springsteen concert, the Dame told a bewildered interviewer:

"I'm not interested in history personally at all insofar as myself is concerned. I didn't enjoy the election. I had a reflection on this over the summer. As I say, I've got my mojo back."

Now in fairness, the episode with the air guitar shouldn't really surprise anyone, since Enda has history in seeing things that remain undetected by anyone else.

This is the Taoiseach that (according to him) people call up in the dead of night to ask if he's made a mistake with their wages -- by overpaying them; here is the hero who once spoke to a water protestor who was carrying two pints in each hand; it is

the man who once sat on a bench and shared a heart-to-heart with a homeless person who never existed.

The madness is strong in this one, young Skywalker.

Of course, given the latest theories on Mrs. H. Clinton we must now ask the question: is Enda Kenny using a body double that is letting him down?

Because, Heaven's wept; could this guy really GET more embarrassing? I mean, it's not exactly a surprise to find that Kenny has no interest in history...but 'mojo'?

Admittedly, I'm not even sure what the hell a mojo is; but I'm pretty certain that it's not a word I would want to be using until I'm ready to settle down as the world's most cringe-inducing Uncle-dancing-at-the-wedding. The next thing we know he'll be swinging onto the floor, wearing his baseball cap skewed to the side and telling us that he's getting DOWN with the KIDS. He's speaking STREET, man, and rapping with his homeboys:

"My name is Enda Kenny / Some call me the Dame / The punters tried to vote me out / But I'm staying all the same."

God bless his cotton socks, but it's not difficult to imagine the small spurt of energy jumping from one hemisphere of his brain to the other, encouraging him to think that he had hit on something. His little feet were probably kicking with excitement that morning in bed when he woke up all aglow, feeling like it was Christmas Day, turned to the wife and said:

"Fionnuala, I'm after hitting on a gem of an idea. That shower of ingrates out there in the sticks and up in the Big Smoke might be wanting to see the last of me; but I'll be busy connecting with the young demographic, so I will -- and feck the begrudgers."

Poor oul' Enda. It was a master

plan, so it was; but within a mere few hours that terrible yoke, Micheál Martin had up and stolen his little bit of thunder. Now of course, most of us were still laughing our heads off at Street Enda and his Mojo; but our cough was fairly softened by Martin and the U-turn that is not.

"Sweet sufferin' Jaysus, Fionnuala, what is that divil playing at? Did ye see the head on him, spinning completely around and projectile vomiting pea-green soup all over the place as he came out with that 'abolish the Water Charges' malarkey? Dear Lord in Heaven, when will this water plague be lifted from me?"

And in fairness, it's difficult not to sympathise; sorry... not to sympathise... Apologies again, it's awfully difficult for me to get this down: NOT TO SYMPATHISE with Kenny here. (The hardest words I ever typed.)

After all, this is Micheál Martin, the man who said that we had "an obligation to pay" the water charges and happily confirmed their suspension before going on to announce that "the bottom line is that we're consistent people should uphold the law".

And all that guff didn't come out of him years ago. That was in May. Of this year.

Mind you, look at that wording. Very slippery of you, Clarice. In fact, this guy could nearly be a politician. At least he's consistent in his inconsistency.

Look: the introduction of the currently suspended water charges came with the 2010 bailout deal, which was sealed by the boyos of...Fianna Fáil. Yet there was the bould Martin yesterday, waffling out of him in the second week of September to the tune of:

"It's not a U-turn. [At this point I like think that he started to stamp his tiny feet, screw up his eyes and yell: 'It's not! It's not! It's not! I'll scream and scream until I'm sick!'] We've said from Day 1 prior to the election and our submission is very consistent with our general election position.

"For the lifetime of this government, we want the abolition of water charges as they're currently in existence and we believe that a

combination of funding from the general exchequer on the current side."

Listen, that's what he said. I'm only the messenger.

It was at this point that I tried to remember if we were still at war with Oceania. I knew that we HAD been at war. Or had we? Perhaps we had NEVER been at war. And was Orwell really holding up five fingers? I could only see two but he assured me there were five!

And in another part of the globe Pat Hickey languishes in an apartment in Brazil whilst the police there do the job that the Irish forgot to. And it all gets played right down here, with some news sites even refusing comments because Pat is one of the Golden Circle and what are the peasants at after all, wanting to read about their betters?

And with the dodgy NAMA dealings in Northern Ireland we

say thank goodness for the internet and the BBC because there's a virtual Irish news blackout every time Mick Wallace goes to open his mouth.

And now this morning we have some unelected chancer all the way from Malta lecturing us on the *sigh* water charges again -- and you can be damned sure that Kenny will be tugging his forelock like a mad thing. No better man than Enda, as soon as he hears the word 'Europe' mentioned.

Move along now, nothing to see here.

It's all right, everything is all right; the struggle is finished. I've won the victory over myself.

I love Big Brother.

Now for ye, Enda. Where are you with your mojo after that?

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



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Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



The Emerald Lie— A Jack Taylor Novel

By Ken Bruen

Mysterious Press - Amazon

"When language is corrupted, it is a small step to chaos," says the crazed killer.

Ken Bruen's writing is powerful and bluntly realistic. His novels provide great reading pleasure because they are imaginatively structured and have intriguing plots.

Bruen's work reads like poetry. When I interviewed him, I asked how he works: "I rise early and write from 5am to 7am.

Actually I read into a tape recorder to hear if my writing is musical."

Bruen is a master storyteller with a genius for writing noir fiction. The prose he uses is clear, crisp and riveting.

The main character in Bruen's novels is the fictional detective, Jack Taylor. He is a former (has alcohol problem) member of Ireland's police, the Guards. He is smart, keenly observant, brash and assertive. I'll have a lot more to say about him later.

Ken Bruen was born in Galway in 1951. He attended Dublin's Trinity College. He earned a doctorate in metaphysics. Then he traveled the world and was a teacher of English in South Africa, Japan, and South America. During the mid-1990's, he began writing mysteries. He lives in Galway with his wife and daughter.

Bruen has received many prestigious awards and "is the recipient of two Barry Awards and two Shamus Awards and been twice a finalist for the Edgar Award."

The plot follows the investigation of a serial killer who is stalking the streets of Galway. The police learn that he was educated at the best English schools. He is fixated on using correct grammar. When he hears someone use it incorrectly, he stalks them and kills the person. Or he says: "If you can't speak properly, you should lie with the carcasses."

The police call him the Grammarian. This is how Bruen describes how madness come over him: "grammar began to speak to him again, its rules and structures singing a dark song of transcendence." We follow the investigation of the Grammarian as it leads to his destruction.

Another main character in the book is Emily. She is a former friend of Jack's who reenters his life and complicates it even farther. But he has a soft spot for her and puts up with her odd behavior. She is clever, uncannily observant, and quite willing to murder anyone she feels has defiled the community!



When Jack asks her where she's been, she says: "I worked for a hedge fund in New York; everyone should learn how to steal professionally." Jack replies: "The banks here found it come naturally."

Bruen shows that Taylor is a compassionate figure, but he also "writes with savage ferocity of the evils of society."

Jack Taylor is very much a noir detective and *The Emerald Lie* is noir fiction at its best. What is noir fiction? Webster's Dictionary describes it as "noir writing is crime fiction with hard-boiled, cynical character, bleak, sleazy settings, and a dark almost hopeless view of life."

Taylor lives, and operates in a shadowy "world of petty crime and desperation, where the good sometimes win..." But the result is a pessimistic view of life. It is a world of shadows and fog, and despite cynicism about life, the noir detective continues the struggle against evil.

However, quoting again from my previous reviews: "Noir writing is curiously optimistic. It shows that occasionally, one person can triumph over evil and bring good into the world."

During the interview, Ken Bruen told me several times "Reading is a joy." The book shows this as it is studded with literary allusions and quotes. These are some.

--A character says: "Jack you can run but the road is always a dead end."

--A Guard recalls her father saying: "There are valid reasons almost for poverty but none for ignorance."

--Tennessee Williams: "If I got rid of my demons, I'd live my angels."

--Jack is standing on the shore of Galway Bay and thinks he sees sailing in the mist: "Tall ships...Breaking on the turbulent waves. Could read their names: Albion, The Medora, Elizabeth Hughes, C.H. Appleton, Coldstream, St. George, Valhalla. These were the famine ships, known as the coffin ships. Between 1845 and 1850. These ships had serviced Galway in a desperate bid to save the starving, dying population."

Eugene O'Neill A Life in Four Acts

By: Robert M. Dowling

Yale University Press

Amazon

Eugene O'Neill said of writers about the theatre: "The one thing that explains more than anything about me is the fact that I'm Irish."

This is biography of Eugene O'Neill, the great Irish-American playwright. His plays earned a Nobel Prize and four Pulitzer Prizes. His masterpiece dramas are "Long Day's Journey Into Night" (written 1939-1941), "The Iceman Cometh"-1939 and "A Touch of the Poet"-1942.

This is a fantastic biography: a pleasure to read. The writing is fresh, vital, realistic, and uses words that we use every day. In a word, it "flows."

It is carefully researched, but unlike academic studies, reads well. The footnotes, citations, and references are put at the end of the book.

O'Neill lived from 1888 to 1953. And he really "lived." He had many experiences, and met many, many difference people.

He grew up in a prosperous, but strife-racked family. He was unloved and unwanted. And he knew it.

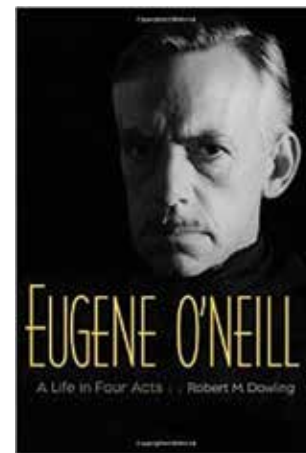
He dropped out of college and became a sailor during the last days of sail. At various times he was a merchant seaman, a prospector for gold, a clerk, a bum, a drunk, married three times, and finally a playwright.

He used those incredible experiences to write 17 major plays and many one-acts. They show his deep understanding of human nature and great compassion for humanity. Several of his plays are essential parts of Western Theatre.

O'Neill's father was a well-known actor in American melodrama. This gave Eugene entry to a major theatre critic, who he asked: "How are plays written?" The critic replied "Write down what you know about the sea, and about the men who sail before

the mast... Keep your eye on life, on life as you have seen it..."

Robert M. Dowling is the author of Eugene O'Neill—A Life in Four Acts. His biography makes



O'Neill come alive. Here is some information about Mr. Dowling.

He was born in 1970, is Professor of English at Central Connecticut State University. He has published articles in "The Irish Times," "The Daily Beast," and "The Eugene O'Neill Review." He serves on

Continued on next page



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We should not let our fears hold us back from pursuing our hopes.
~~ John F. Kennedy

Could Fear be Causing You to Procrastinate?

October is the month of Halloween, ghosts and goblins, so in keeping with a "Spooky" theme, we'll explore how "Fear Of Something" often causes us to procrastinate. Those times when we want with all our heart to:

- * start a business
- * change jobs
- * write a book
- * learn to play bagpipes
- * plan a trip to Africa
- * start an exercise plan, or
- * whatever that dream is you might be putting off because you're afraid of failure or rejection or looking stupid or what others might say or 101 other



fears.

I don't know how to teach people to stop being afraid, so I believe the solution is to just go ahead & "do it scared".

In fact, I used to think that courage meant you don't feel fear. But a fellow who served in Afghanistan told me "No, courage is feeling terror all the way to the bottom of your boots and still doing what you need to do."

And Nelson Mandela said: "I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man

is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear."

They are both right.

Our fears tend to be subconscious and often have the power to immobilize us into a "putting things off" state. But it usually loses its power once we identify that fear, and give it a name.

Some examples of **Fears That Might Cause You To Procrastinate**

- Fear Of Failure
- Fear Of Success
- Fear Of Rejection
- Fear Of Imperfection
- Fear Of The Unknown
- Fear Of Too Much Responsibility
- Fear Of Finishing
- Fear Of Making A Mistake
- Fear Of Not Being "Good Enough"
- Fear Of Change
- Fear Of Imposing
- Fear Of Having To Live Up To A High Standard
- Fear Of Making The Wrong Decision

I believe FEAR is such a big factor in our procrastination; it is covered in deeper detail in Chapter 4 of The Procrastinator's Handbook.

When you simply keep putting off doing something, ask yourself "What am I afraid of?"

If you've been putting off a dream - trying for

a promotion, offering to become a scout leader or coach a team, moving to a new place, going back to school, committing to a relationship, whatever - because "Fear of Something" is holding you back, consider this: "What might be the consequence of doing it scared?"

Sure, you might fail; but what if you succeed? How would you feel? You just might find yourself at a more exciting, exhilarating place in life. Don't let fear cause you to procrastinate. Go ahead. Do it now.

Eugene O'Neill A Life in Four Acts

the editorial board of The Review and on the board of directors of Eugene O'Neill Society.

A drama critic says of O'Neill: "His generation was only yesterday. It was shaped today and will influence tomorrow. His dramas reflect both how he lived and what he saw. Through them we see O'Neill, and through O'Neill..." ourselves.

These quotes show Robert Dowling's skill and writing style.

--When O'Neill became a professional playwright (about 1912-1914): "At that very moment in history, the Irish Players of the Abbey Theatre, the vanguard of the Irish Renaissance, ensured that what had been an abject fantasy in Ireland for eight hundred years would grow into...reality in but one generation."

--The author describes a character: His "quick-witted sense of humor-grounded in laughing-off life's difficulties, rapid-tone reversals, and word play—are all Irish."

--O'Neill said of fate: "Things happen in life, run their course as the inci-

dental, accidental, the fatal, then pause to give their inevitable consequences time to mobilize for the next attack...The curtain falls. Behind it their lives go on."

--O'Neill said about the mystery of life: "Our tragedy is just that we have only ourselves, that there is nothing to be purged except a belief in the guts of man, good or evil, who faces unflinchingly the black mystery of his own soul."

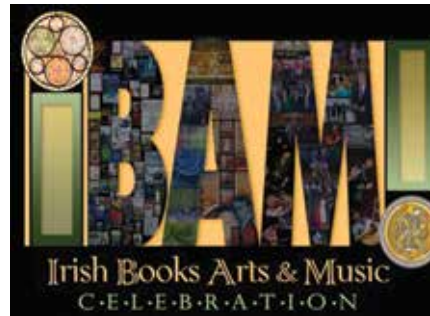
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Annual General Membership Meeting

Sunday Nov. 6th

All IASCW Members are welcome to attend the annual meeting Sunday November 6th 1:00-3:00pm at the Joliet Area Historical Museum, downtown Joliet.

Following a short business agenda snacks and drinks will be available. Committee volunteer opportunities are now open.

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.

2017 Slate of Officers & Directors

The following have been slated for consideration by the membership for election to the board:

President: Chris Schaal

Vice President: Tim Brophy

Secretary: Sharon Houk

Treasurer: Bettie Komar

Membership: Mike McHugh

Directors:

Brian Conroy, Coley O'Connell, & Danny Maher



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October 15th: Aways vs Chicago Sirens
October 22nd: Home vs Minnesota Menagerie
October 29th: Away vs Fox Valley Vixens
November 12th: Home vs Fort Wayne

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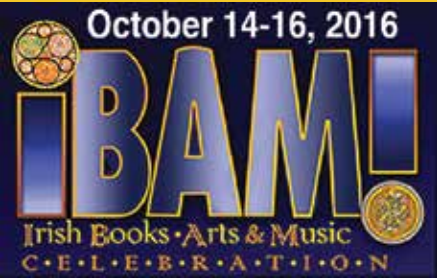
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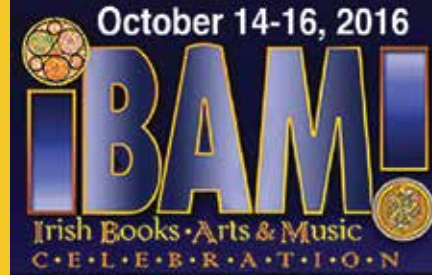
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iBAM! Chicago Gala Awards Dinner 10-14

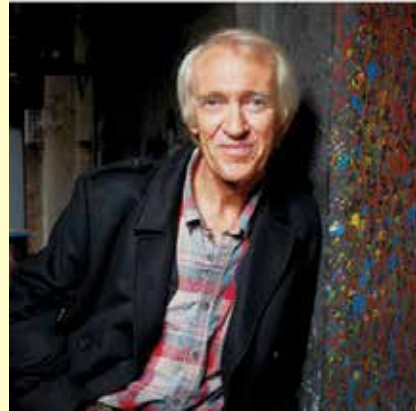


Honoring the Irish for Their Outstanding Contributions in:

**Performing Arts:
Peter Bradley Armacost**



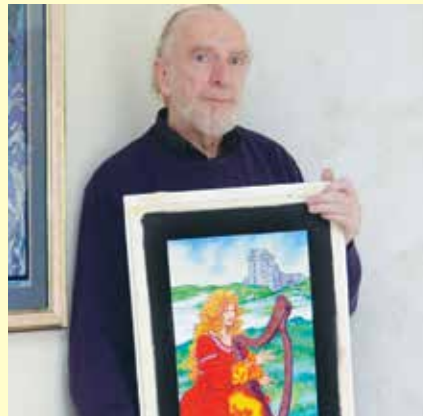
**Literature:
Ken Bruen**



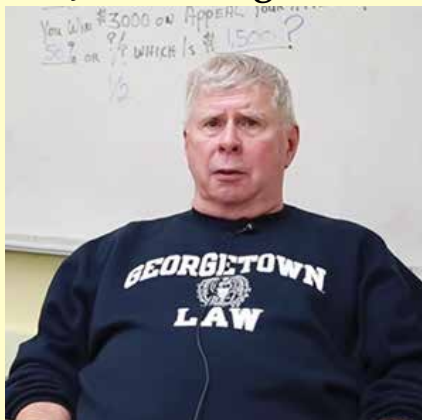
**Music:
Tommy Fleming**



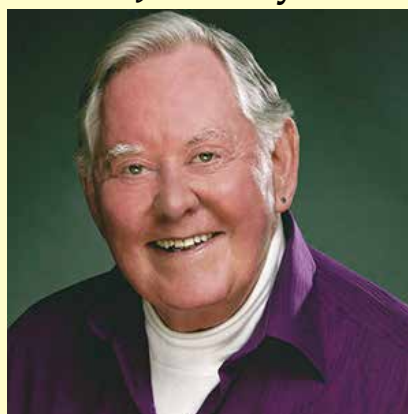
**Visual Arts:
Jim Fitzpatrick**



**Person of the Year:
James Fitzgerald**



**Media/Journalism:
Joel Daly**



Seats Still Available!

Celebrate and honor the outstanding contributions of the Irish this year at the iBAM! Gala Awards Dinner. iBAM! opens with a Cocktail Party at 7pm in the beautiful Erin Ballroom at the Irish American Heritage Center. It is a fun and lively evening with great food catered by Unforgettable Edibles.

The Gala Awards Dinner is from 8pm to 10pm. Dinner check-in is on the first floor hallway, along with coat check, which is complimentary. There is plenty of free parking in our North and South Lots. There will be a silent auction, during the evening.

Auction items include week-long cottage stays in Ireland, sports memorabilia, gift baskets, concert and theatre tickets and more. Dress is black-tie optional

If you don't want to wear a tux, don't worry! Sport jackets are welcome, too.

Tickets are \$150, or \$125 for any member of an Irish organization.

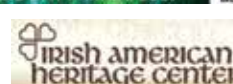
Tables of 10 available

- \$2000 - Bard Table
- \$2500 - Druid Tble
- \$3500 - Chieftain Table
- \$5000 - High King Table

Master of Ceremonies

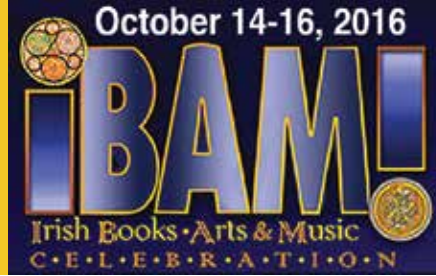


Irish radio personality **Siobhainn O'Connor Van Santen** who hosts the O'Connor Irish Radio Show each Saturday morning at 11am to 1pm is this year's Emcee.





iBAM! Chicago



Events on Saturday Only

SATURDAY

GUEST APPEARANCES ALPHABETICALLY

1:15 2nd Flr Shamrock Am Rm
Tea with our Literary Titans
Ken Bruen, William Doyle, Turtle Bunbury

3:30 2nd Flr Library
Special Guest Mags Riordan
tells us about the Billy Riordan Memorial Clinic in Malawi

1:15 Room 109
Theatre: Stage Readings
Lead by Brad Armacost

4:00 2nd Flr Shamrock Am Rm
PANEL: What Does it Mean to be an Irish Writer

2:30 Room 109
Author Sile Post Talk

Ken Bruen, William Doyle, Turtle Bunbury, & Ruan O'Donnell

2:45 2nd Flr Shamrock Am Rm
Dr. Ruan O'Donnell Talk

4:30 Room 111
Open Mike Readings
With Mary Pat Kelly

3:15 Room 109
Author John Sexton Talk

3:15 2nd Flr Art Gallery
Frank Crowley Talks about Jim Fitzpatrick's Artwork

5:00 Room 109
Author Rex Owens Talk

Armacost	Brad	Sat 1:15	109
Bruen	Ken	Sat 1:15	Shamrock Rm
Bruen	Ken	Sat 4:00	Shamrock Rm
Bunbry	Turtle	Sat 12:15	Shamrock Rm
Bunbury	Turtle	Sat 1:00	Shamrock Rm
Bunbury	Turtle	Sat 4:00	Shamrock Rm
Cleland	Sean	Sat 1:00	5th Prov
Conneely	Pauline	Sat 3:00	5th Prov
Connolly	Maureen	Sat 12:00	111
Craven	Josephine	Sat 1:15	109
Doyle	William	Sat 1:00	Shamrock Rm
Doyle	William	Sat 4:00	Shamrock Rm
Emmett	Rita	Sat 1:30	302
Figgins	Barbara	Sat 1:15	109
Geneology	Brian Donovan	Sat 1-5	Library
Gleeson	Frank	Sat 1:15	109
Kelly	Mary Pat	Sat 4:00	111
Kelly	Mary Pat	Sat 4:30	111
Kunert	Mary	Sat 12:30	111
Maslakowski	Katya	Sat 1:30	111
Mcshanes	Joe And Declan	Sat 3:30	302
O'Donnell	Ruan	Sat 2:45	Shamrock Rm
O'Donnell	Ruan	Sat 4:00	Shamrock Rm
O'Reilly	Jamie	Sat 2:30	111
Oldershaw	Robert	Sat 1:15	109
Open Mic	w/Mary Pat Kelly	Sat 4:30	111
Owens	Rex	Sat 5:00	109
Pirate Queen	Brynn Emmett	Sat 2:00	302
Post	Sile	Sat 2:30	109
Riordan	Mags	Sat 3:30	Library
Roppolo	Jeanne	Sat 2:00	111
Roppolo	Jeanne	Sat 3:00	302
Ryan	Amie	Sat 1:00	302
Sexton	John	Sat 3:15	109
Smith	Maureen	Sat 1:00	111

Events on Sunday Only

12:30 Room 109
Author Rosemary Coover
With All My Love Joe

3:30 2nd Flr Art Gallery
Frank Crowley
Talks about Book of Kells

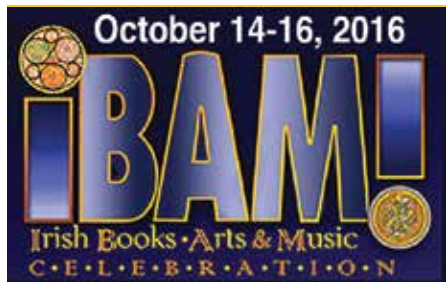
2:30 Room 109
Author Greg McVicker
Through the Eyes of a Belfast Child, Silly Billy & An Irish Heart: Poetic memoirs of a Belfast Child

3:30 Room 303
Brigid's cross workshop with Teresa.
Make your own cross!

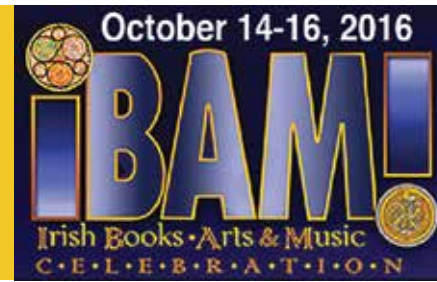
3:15 Room 109
Author Tony Macauley
Paperboy, Breadboy & the "Troubles" in Northern Ireland as well as his mission of peace.

Artwork	Jim Fitzpatrick	Sat 3:15	Art Gallery
Card Game 25	Instruction	Sat 1:30	303
Card Game 25	Competition	Sat 3:00	303
Concert	I Am Ireland	Sat 7:00	Auditorium
Movie	Cumann Na Reiabhloide	Sat 5:30	111
Movie	Older Than Ireland	Sat 5:30	Shamrock Rm





iBAM! Chicago



iBAM Chicago Movie Highlight: *Older Than Ireland*

Free Admission Both Days!

Older Than Ireland is a landmark documentary that tells the story of a hundred years of a life as seen through the eyes of thirty Irish centenarians. Directed by Alex Fegan, the movie explores each centenarian's journey, from birth at the dawn of Irish independence to their life as a centenarian in modern day Ireland. Reflecting on such key events as the day they got their first pair of shoes, the thrill of their first kiss, from the magic of their wedding day to the tragic loss of their loved ones, these centenarians have lived through it all. Having witnessed a century of immense social, political and technological change each one has a unique perspective on life and its true meaning. They are our living history and these are their extraordinary stories.

"Delightful" - The New York Times



OLDER THAN IRELAND

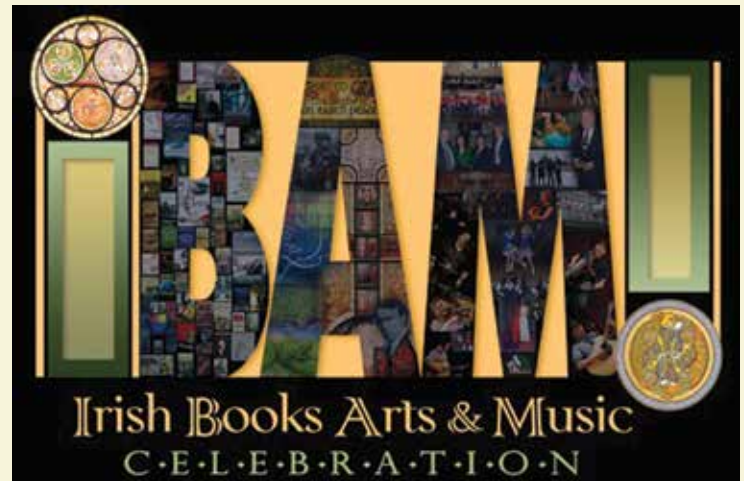


Showing 5:30 pm Saturday and 3:30 pm Sunday in the 2nd floor Shamrock American Room

SUNDAY

GUEST APPEARANCES ALPHABETICALLY

Bruen	Ken	Sun 2:30	Shamrock Rm
Bunbury	Turtle	Sun 1:45	Shamrock Rm
Card Game 25	Instruction	Sun 1:30	303
Card Game 25	Competition	Sun 3:00	303
Choske	Theresa	Sun 1:30	111
Cleland	Sean	Sun 1:00	5th prov
Concert	Tommy Fleming	Sun 5:00	Auditorium
Conneely	Pauline	Sun 3:00	5th prov
Coover	Rosemary	Sun 12:30	109
Doyle	William	Sun 1:00	Shamrock Rm
Emmett	Rita	Sun 3:30	111
Emmett	Rita	Sun 1:00	302
English	Bridget	Sun 12:30	111
Flannery	Maureen Tolman	Sun 3:00	111
Geneology	Brian Donovan	Sun 1-5	Library
Judge	Cynthia	Sun 2:00	111
Macauley	Tony	Sun 3:15	109
Mass	Gaelic	Sun 10:30	Aud
McCain	Mary	Sun 2:30	111
McVicker	Greg	Sun 2:30	109
Movie	Older Than Ireland	Sun 3:30	Shamrock Rm
O'Donnell	Ruan	Sun 12:15	Shamrock Rm
O'Neill	Kathy	Sun 4:30	111
Piekarz	Mark	Sun 4:00	111
Pirate Queen	Brynn Emmett	Sun 2:00	302
Roppolo	Jeanne	Sun 3:00	302
Ruprecht	Teresa	Sun 3:30	302
Shaw	Pat	Sun 1:00	111



SATURDAY OCTOBER 15th

Subject to Change
Without Notice

Free Admission

Free Parking

Elevator on each floor
by center stairwell

For more information on all of our honored guests, please go to ibamchicago.com

Floor 1
Room
109

1:15 pm
Theater

Hopkins in Ireland, The Poems of Gerard Manley Hopkins read by Fr. Robert Oldershaw, St Nicholas, Evanston
with music from the Academy of Irish Music
My Brilliant Divorce performed by Jeff nominee, Barbara Figgins - Irish Theatre of Chicago)
Girls in Silk Kimonos by Miriam Gallagher, selected readings performed by Josephine Craven and Frank Gleeson
Polite, Meaningless Words Solo piece by Bradley Armacost
with support from the Consulate General of Ireland, Easter Rising, Global Diaspora Project

Floor 1
Room
111
Literary
Salon

12 pm
Maureen Connolly
Poet

12:30 pm
Mary Kunert
Book of Celtic Saints

1 pm
Maureen Smith
*Missing Feet:
Elizabeth O'Farrell
& the Surrender*

1:30 pm
Katya Maslakowski
*Espionage, Romance and
the History of the Cork IRA
1919-1921*

2 pm
Jeanne Roppolo
*It's Never Too
Late to Eat or Pray*

Floor 1 Fifth Province Pub

Music All day

Food and Drink may be purchased here

1pm - 2:30
Sean Cleland and the
Irish School of Music

Floor 1
Hallway North

VENDORS: Anne's Irish Knits, Ballyrea Jewelry, Cathy Cunningham Designs , Celtic & More,
Galway Bakers, Indie Celt, Rampant Lion Music, Teahan Antique Belleek & old Irish coin collection
AUTHORS: Sile Post, Rex Owens, Greg McVicker, Tony Macauley, Rosemary Coover, John Sexton

Floor 2 (North)
Art Gallery

2016 iBAM! Awardee for Visual Arts, Ireland's Jim Fitzpatrick artwork on display.
3:15 pm Frank Crowley discusses the Artist's work

Floor 2
Shamrock
American
Room

12:15 pm
Turtle Bunbury
Speaks about his book:
*1847, A Chronicle of Genius,
Generosity and Savagery*

1:15 pm Tea With our **Literary Titans**
(Free Admission - tea and coffee available)
Join iBAMChicago2016 Literature Awardee,
Ken Bruen, along with William Doyle, and Turtle Bun-
bury as they talk about their latest
books and writing adventures!

2:45 pm
Dr. Ruan O'Donnell
speaks on his new book,
*16 Lives: Patrick Pearse
and other subjects*

Books for Sale and Autographing Available After Each Author Speaks in the Library across the hall

Floor 2
Library

1:00 to 5:00 Genealogy Advice: Brian Donovan and friends

3:30 pm: Special Guest Mags Riordan, a Kerry woman who runs the Billy Riordan Memorial Clinic in Malawi

Floor 2
Hallway

**Irish American Hall
of Fame Exhibit**
Sponsored by Irish American News

Peruse the 61 Inductees to date!
Nominate someone for consideration and enter the free drawing
for a deck of Hall of Fame Playing Cards!

Floor 3
Room 302

Kids Corner

1pm
Amie Ryan reads
"Reds Road to Green"

1:30pm
Rita Emmett Reads
"Farkle and Sharkle!"

2pm
Brynn Emmett as
Pirate Queen
Grace O'Malley

Floor 3
Room 303

Learn and/or Play the Irish Card Game "25" with Mike and Cathy Boyle

1:30- 2:30 pm Irish Card game 25 Instruction

3:00 pm Irish Card game 25 Challenge (prizes!)

SATURDAY OCTOBER 15th

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Free Admission

Free Parking

Elevator on each floor
by center stairwell

For more information on all of our honored guests, please go to ibamchicago.com

Floor 1
Room
109

2:30 pm
Author Sile Post discusses her
books, *Your Own Ones*, and
The Road to Walden North

3:15 pm
Author
John Sexton
discusses his book:
The Big Yank

5 pm
Author Rex Owens discusses
*History in
Historical Fiction*

Floor 1
Room
111
Literary
Salon

2:30 pm
Jamie O'Reilly
and Daughters
Singing
"Harvest Song"

4:00 pm
Mary Pat Kelly
*The Irish and
Chicago Politics*

4:30 pm
3rd annual iBAM
Open Mike Readings
Host: Mary Pat Kelly

5:30
Movie (50 min)
Cumann na mBan - Mnaí na Reilabhloide
by Colm Bairéad

Floor 1 Fifth Province Pub
Music All day

Food and Drink may be purchased here

3:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Pauline Conneely and Friends including:
Gerry Carey, Devin Shepard,
Sean Gavin, and Jonathon Whitall

Floor 1
Hallway North

VENDORS: Anne's Irish Knits, Ballyrea Jewelry, Cathy Cunningham Designs,
Celtic & More, Galway Bakers, Indie Celt, Rampant Lion Music,
Teahan Antique Belleek & old Irish coin collection
AUTHORS: Sile Post, Rex Owens, Greg McVicker,
Tony Macauley, Rosemary Coover, John Sexton

Floor 2 (North)
Art Gallery

2016 iBAM! Awardee for Visual Arts, Ireland's Jim Fitzpatrick artwork on display.
3:15 pm Frank Crowley discusses the Artist's work

Floor 2
Shamrock
American
Room

4:00 pm
Panel: *What Does It Mean To Be An Irish Writer?*
Moderator; Terence Boyle
Ken Bruen, William Doyle,
Turtle Bunbury and Ruan O'Donnell

5:30 pm
Movie
Older Than Ireland
(1 hr 21 min)

Books for Sale and Autographing Available After Each Author Speaks in the Library across the hall

Floor 2
Library

1:00 to 5:00 Genealogy Advice: Brian Donovan and friends

3:30 pm: Special Guest Mags Riordan, a Kerry woman who runs the Billy Riordan Memorial Clinic in Malawi

Floor 2
Hallway

**Irish American Hall
of Fame Exhibit**
Sponsored by Irish American News

Peruse the 61 Inductees to date!
Nominate someone for consideration and enter the free drawing
for a deck of Hall of Fame Playing Cards!

Floor 3
Room 302

Kids Corner

3pm
Author Jeanne Roppolo talks
about *"Living in the Arctic"*

3:30 pm to 5pm
Singer/Storyteller Joe McShane
and his son Declan

Floor 3
Room 303

Learn and/or Play the Irish Card Game "25" with Mike and Cathy Boyle

1:30- 2:30 pm Irish Card game 25 Instruction

3:00 pm Irish Card game 25 Challenge (prizes!)

SUNDAY OCTOBER 16th

Subject to Change
Without Notice

Free Admission

Free Parking

Elevator on each floor
by center stairwell

For more information on all of our honored guests, please go to ibamchicago.com

Floor 1 Room 109	12:30 pm Author Rosemary Coover discusses her book: <i>With All My Love Joe</i>	2:30 pm Author Greg McVicker discusses life in the North of Ireland and his books: <i>Through the Eyes of a Belfast Child, Silly Billy & An Irish Heart: Poetic memoirs of a Belfast Child</i>
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Floor 1 Room 111 Literary Salon	11:30 am Movie <i>Cumannna mBan - Mnai na Reabhloide</i> by Colm Bairéad 50 min.	12:30 pm Bridget English <i>To Awake or Deny: Irish Wake in American Pop Culture</i>	1 pm Pat Shaw <i>Project: Amazon Riverboat Exploration</i>	1:30 pm Theresa Choske <i>Wild Irish Women</i>	2 pm Cynthia Judge <i>Lady Wilde</i>
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Floor 1 Fifth Province Pub
Music All day
Food and Drink may be purchased here

1:00 pm - 2:30pm
Sean Cleland and his Irish Music School

Floor 1
Hallway North

VENDORS: Anne's Irish Knits, Ballyrea Jewelry, Cathy Cunningham Designs, Celtic & More, Galway Bakers, Indie Celt, Rampant Lion Music, Teahan Antique Belleek & old Irish coin collection
AUTHORS: Sile Post, Rex Owens, Greg McVicker, Tony Macauley, Rosemary Coover, John Sexton

Floor 2 (North)
Art Gallery

2016 iBAM! Awardee for Visual Arts, Ireland's Jim Fitzpatrick artwork on display.
3:15 pm Frank Crowley discusses the *Book of Kells*

Floor 2 Shamrock American Room	12:15 pm Dr. Ruan O'Donnell speaks about his latest book, <i>16 Lives: Patrick Pearse</i>	1 pm William Doyle	1:45 pm Turtle Bunbury Speaks about his book vanishing Ireland, <i>A Photographic Record of the Old Ways and the Old Days.</i>
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Books for Sale and Autographing Available After Each Author Speaks in the Library across the hall

Floor 2
Library

1:00 to 5:00 Genealogy Advice: Brian Donovan and friends
Books can be purchased for Ken Bruen, Turtle Bunbury, William Doyle

Floor 2 Hallway	Irish American Hall of Fame Exhibit <i>Sponsored by Irish American News</i>	Peruse the 61 Inductees to date! Nominate someone for consideration and enter the free drawing for a deck of Hall of Fame Playing Cards!
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Floor 3 Room 302	Kids Corner	1pm Author Rita Emmett reads from her book: <i>Farle Sharke</i>	2pm Brynn Emmett as Pirate Queen Grace O'Malley.
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Floor 3
Room 303

Learn and/or Play the Irish Card Game "25" with Mike and Cathy Boyle

1:30- 2:30 pm Irish Card game 25 Instruction 3:00 pm Irish Card game 25 Challenge (prizes!)

SUNDAY OCTOBER 16th

Subject to Change
Without Notice

Free Admission

Free Parking

Elevator on each floor
by center stairwell

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Floor 1
Room
109

3:15pm
Author Tony Macauley discusses his books
Paperboy, Breadboy & the "Troubles" in Northern Ireland
as well as his mission of peace.

Floor 1
Room
111
Literary
Salon

2:30 pm
Mary McCain
*Mary Robinson:
A Path -Breaking
President*

3:00 pm
Maureen
Tolman Flannery
*Poems of Cowboy
Country*

3:30 pm
Rita Emmett
*Mission Impossible:
Three Weeks of Touring Ireland
with 4 Teenagers*

4:00 pm
Mark Piekarz
*Songs & Ballads
from the Irish Tradition*

4:30 pm
Kathy O'Neill
*Contemporary
Poetry*

Floor 1 Fifth Province Pub
Music All day

Food and Drink may be purchased here

3:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Pauline Conneely and Friends including:
Gerry Carey, Devin Shepard,
Sean Gavin, and Jonathon Whitall

7pm
CEILI MOR
with Chicago Reel

Floor 1
Hallway North

VENDORS: Anne's Irish Knits, Ballyrea Jewelry, Cathy Cunningham Designs,
Celtic & More, Galway Bakers, Indie Celt, Rampant Lion Music,
Teahan Antique Belleek & old Irish coin collection
AUTHORS: Silé Post, Rex Owens, Greg McVicker,
Tony Macauley, Rosemary Coover, John Sexton

Floor 2 (North)
Art Gallery

2016 iBAM! Awardee for Visual Arts, Ireland's Jim Fitzpatrick artwork on display.
3:15 pm Frank Crowley discusses the *Book of Kells*

Floor 2
Shamrock
American
Room

2:30 pm
Ken Bruen
Speaks about his books and life. Ken has written over 50 books and is
one of the most prominent Irish crime writers of the last two decades.

3:30 pm
Movie
Older Than Ireland
81 min

Books for Sale and Autographing Available After Each Author Speaks in the Library across the hall

Floor 2
Library

1:00 to 5:00 Genealogy Advice: Brian Donovan and friends

Books can be purchased for Ken Bruen, Turtle Bunbury, William Doyle

Floor 2
Hallway

**Irish American Hall
of Fame Exhibit**
Sponsored by Irish American News

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for a deck of Hall of Fame Playing Cards!

Floor 3
Room 302

Kids Corner

3 pm
Author Jeanne Roppolo
reads from her book:
Living in the Arctic

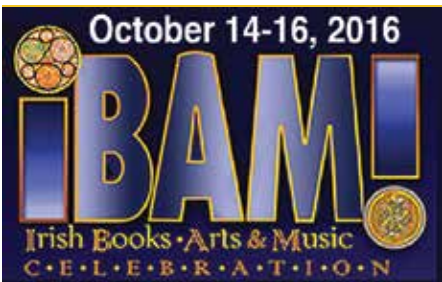
3:30 pm
Brigid's cross workshop with
Teresa. Makes your own cross!

Floor 3
Room 303

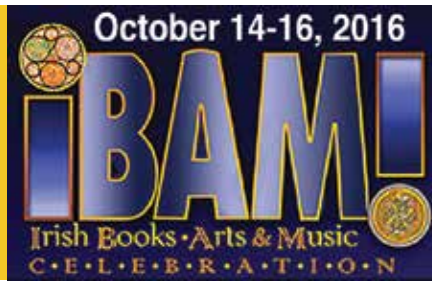
Learn and/or Play the Irish Card Game "25" with Mike and Cathy Boyle

1:30- 2:30 pm Irish Card game 25 Instruction

3:00 pm Irish Card game 25 Challenge (prizes!)

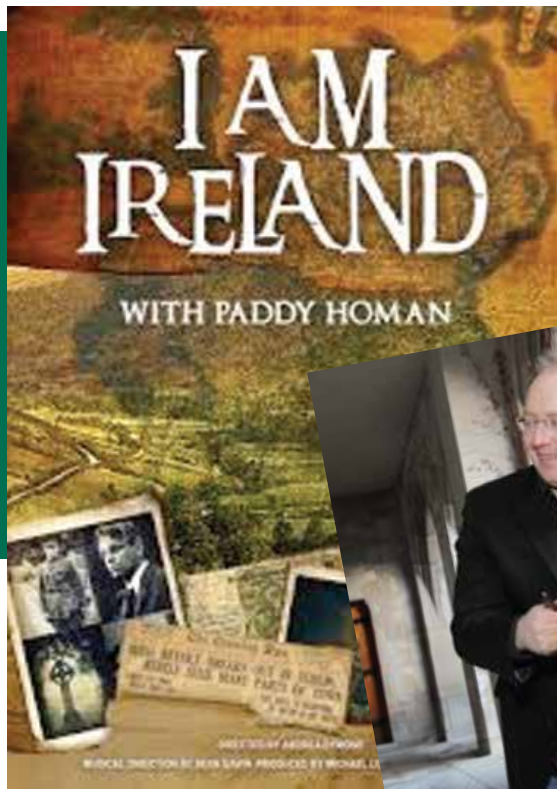


iBAM! Chicago



to order tickets for both concerts go to www.ibamchicago.com

iBAMChicago Proudly Presents TWO Great Concerts



I Am IRELAND *With Paddy Homan*

Saturday October 15

7pm

tickets \$25 & \$30

Irish American Heritage Center 4626 N Knox Chicago

Direct from Ireland
iBAM Chicago 2016 Music Awardee

Tommy Fleming

Sunday October 16 5pm

tickets \$25 & \$33

Irish American Heritage Center 4626 N Knox Chicago



***Congratulations to the iBAM! 2016 Honorees:
Ken Bruen, Joel Daly, Brad Armacost,
Tommy Fleming, Jim Fitzpatrick, and Jim Fitzgerald***



Martin Healy, Jr.
John P. Scanlon
David P. Huber
Kevin T. Veugeler

Jack Cannon
Dennis Lynch
Pat Anderson
Matt Gannon

Of Counsel
Terry Geoghegan
Terry Sullivan
Matthew Healy

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Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling



Senior Group Meetings

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

Going to the Movies – IAHC on Wednesday 5th October 2016
Join us as we go to the movies

– Irish style! This week we will be discovering more about Irish culture, history and heritage by highlighting a little known but fascinating surprise figure from Ireland's past. At this meeting we will watch a movie which may run a little longer than our usual meetings.

Leaving Lightly - Gaelic Park on Wednesday 12th October & IAHC on Wednesday 19th October

Janet Kraft will be presenting Leaving Lightly, an educational program to guide you through the process of putting your af-

fairs in order so all you leave behind is love. Organizing your affairs while still actively engaged in living is the kindest thing you can do for yourself and your family. The program concentrates on four areas: recording personal and financial information, creating health care and legal documents, deciding postmortem care, and digitally recording personal stories and family history. Leaving Lightly is about empowerment, designed to replace fear and uncertainty with bold, decisive action.

Connecting with and Assisting Irish Emigrants

Last week I was contacted by an Irish based social services organization that I had known about for some time. In the past, I had even contacted them once or twice. The organization has recently undergone a branding change and is reaching out to organizations like Chicago Irish Immigrant Support to let Irish communities throughout the world know about the services that it offers. The organization in question is an emigrant support service called Safe Home

Ireland (SHI), and as explained on its website, it seeks to support those that have left Ireland in four ways.

1) Advice and Information

SHI provides information and advisory services to anyone (regardless of age or circumstances) who may be contemplating returning or moving to Ireland. The SHI website has an excellent Frequently Asked Questions section that helps you to address common concerns such as:

•Is coming home the right option for me?

•Can I apply for Council Housing in Ireland?

•Would I get help with my rent if I come back and rent privately in Ireland?

•Am I entitled to free healthcare in Ireland?

•What benefits/entitlements might I qualify for?

•I was born in Ireland, am I automatically entitled to welfare on return home?

•Where do I go to apply for housing / healthcare/benefits & entitlements?

•What documentation do I need to bring home with me?

•Will my current income transfer to Ireland?

2) Outreach Visits

Where feasible, SHI carries out home visits with Safe Home housing applicants throughout the UK. They meet with them in their own homes, go through the application process with them in detail, answer any questions they may have and assess their situation. Where relevant, they can refer them to local support services in the area to improve their situations (financial/housing/support), as they wait to return home to Ireland.

3) Housing Assistance

Safe Home Ireland assists qualifying older Irish born emigrants to return to secure accommodation in Ireland. They liaise with Housing Associations in Ireland to explore appropriate secure housing options for qualifying older Irish emigrants seeking to return to social housing. To be eligible to participate in SHI housing assistance program you must be an Irish born emigrant 57 years of age or older, living in rented accommodation and capable of living independently, and be unable to provide accommodation for yourself if you returned to Ireland.

4) Connect

Lastly, SHI acts as a link to home for those emigrants Safe Home Ireland acts as a link with home for those emigrants who decide to remain on in their host countries. They do this primarily through their monthly Newsletter, which is disseminated globally. You can sign up to receive their electronic monthly newsletter and download back issues on their website.

To contact Safe Home Ireland for additional information you can call them on 011 353 98 36036, or visit their detailed website at safe-homeireland.com.

Mary Ellen Considine



Office 773.935.4466

Voice Mail: 773.687.5181

Cell: 773.704.4250

Efax: 781.609.9527

Email: maryellen.considine@cbexchange.com

Lakeview

1457 W Belmont

Chicago IL 60657



Wedding Traditions are Special



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Chicago Gaelic Park

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A Cháirde

Congratulations to our 2016 Heritage & Harvest Day Brown Bread Baking Contest winner, Peggy Barrett-Kerrigan, and congratulations to all the field game winners. We were delighted to see the generations come together and enjoy the day with us. I'd like to thank everybody who came.

And thank you to all of our volunteers and staff members who made the event so enjoyable.

Congratulations also to former President of Ireland, Mary Robinson, who received the City of Chicago's highest honor in September. The Medal of Merit is rarely bestowed, and the City Council was wise to present the Medal to

such a well-deserving and accomplished champion of human rights.

Our fall events return and we hope you can join us for Monthly Mass and Breakfast, Pub Trivia, Set Dancing, Ceili Dancing, and Music Sessions. The children's Halloween Party will be held on October 28th. Irish language classes have resumed and will run through December 6th with beginner through advanced classes available. Looking forward past October, the Gaelic Park Players are having fun working on *St. Patrick's Gift*, its November play, and tickets are now on sale for Andy Cooney's December 4th Christmas Show.

**Slán go fóil,
Bill O'Sullivan, President**

2016 CGP Calendar of Events 2016 OCTOBER

10/5 **Monthly Musical Luncheon*** with Kara & Gerry Eadie

10/12 **Ladies Auxiliary** 7:30pm

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

*Reservations Required 708.687.9323

Pub Trivia will resume on Tuesday evenings in October

Monday Evenings Set Dancing 7:30pm

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

Sunday Evening CGP Radio Live WCEV 1450 AM 7:05-9pm



CGP Office 708.687.9323 www.chicagogaelicpark.org

Visit the CGP Library in the Shamrock Room

Congratulations to Irish Heritage & Harvest Day's Brown Bread Baking Contest Winner: Peggy Barrett-Kerrigan



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

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Sat	Oct 1	Larry Nugent & Bill O'Donahue	9:00pm
Fri	Oct 7	Joe Cullen	7:30pm
Sat	Oct 8	Brian Thoma & Nick Gonzalez	8:30pm
Wed	Oct 12	Frank Rossi	6:00pm
		BBQ RIB NIGHT	
Fri	Oct 14	Bernie Glim	7:30pm
Sat	Oct 15	Kara & Gerry Eadie	8:30pm
Fri	Oct 21	Gerry Haughey	7:30pm
Sat	Oct 22	Eathan Kinsella Band	9:00pm
Fri	Oct 28	Green Meadow Boys	7:30pm
Sat	Oct 29	Halloween Party 80's Night	8:00 pm

Chicago Gaelic Park

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NO COVER CHARGE

Congratulations to International Rose of Tralee Maggie McEldowney

Maggie McEldowney, a board member of the Young Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago and Director of Development at Marist High School, was crowned the Chicago Rose at Chicago Gaelic Park on May 15th. In August she became the International Rose of Tralee.

CGP Board member, Barney Farrelly, congratulated her at the Mary Robinson Centre Luncheon at the Hilton Hotel on September 15th.



(L-R) Maggie McEldowney and Barney Farrelly



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The Gaelic Park Players are pleased to announce the cast of our fall show, *St. Patrick's*

Gift, a comedy written by our very own Lynnea Mangan. Playing Liam McLaughlin is Bill Gleason (*The Shadow of a Gunman*), Renata Allejuka (*The Maiden Aunt*) as his wife Anna, Myra McWilliams as Maimeo, Tom Kearney (*Troubled Bachelors*) as Mick McLaughlin, Kate McKirdie (*The Shadow of a Gunman*) as his wife Minnie, Pete Simon (*The Shadow of a Gunman*) as Father O'Reilly, Colleen Winters (her debut on our stage!) as Colleen Sullivan, Jacqueline Canty (Assistant Director for *Troubled Bachelors* and the first time on our stage!) as Katrina McLaughlin, Mike Kelliher (*The Shadow of a Gunman*) as Patrick McLaughlin and Barney Farrelly (*Troubled Bachelors*) as Marty McLaughlin, Bridget Christianson (*The Shadow of a Gunman*) as the neighbor Eileen, and Duncaan Guild as O'Connor/detective in his premiere on our stage.

St. Patrick's Gift is a comedy set in the present in an Irish Catholic section of Chicago in the McLaughlin family home in anticipation of their annual St. Patrick's Day party. While they are preparing for the party, family misunderstandings abound and comedy ensues! It is sure to delight our fall audience. The world premiere will be our opening night November 4 at 8pm. The show will

Gaelic Park's **Halloween Party!** **Friday October 28, 2016 6:00pm** **for kids!**

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play three consecutive weekends, Fridays and Saturdays, November 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19 at 8pm and Sundays, November 6, 13, 20 at 3pm.

The Pub Grub Special will be offered again for our Friday and Saturday performances at the Carrraig Pub. The tickets for Pub Grub will be \$22, which include your theatre admission along with dinner. The pub dinner will be one item from the Pub Grub menu along with one pint or glass of wine. For Sunday's performances, there will be a Classic Carvery, which will immediately follow the performance in one of the banquet halls. The Classic Carvery ticket will include

your theatre admission and your meal for \$27. The Carvery is a buffet which consists of your choice of soup, salad bar, meat selection, potato, vegetables, coffee, tea and dessert. All individual play tickets are \$12 and can be purchased at Gaelic Park's main office. Please contact Gaelic Park to reserve your tickets at (708) 687-9323.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Gaelic Park Players, we meet the second Wednesday of every month

at Gaelic Park at 7:30pm. Visit us at gaelicparkplayers.org or on facebook. facebook.com/groups/gaelicparkplayers.

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Chicago Gaelic Park

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



Gaelic Park's Heritage & Harvest Day was Fun for the Whole Family!



Debates To Decide Who Wins 2016

It is the considered opinion of a few commentators that the upcoming debates between Clinton and Trump will have a major influence on who will win the race for the White House next month.

Trump's loyal supporters are convinced that he will be able to repeat what he did in the primaries and get the better of Hillary

on stage. My own opinion is that he can't beat Clinton by using the same tactics that he did against the other Republicans. He got away with repeating sound bites and making outrageous points about his opponents in the primaries. He will not get away with that sort of thing this round. Hillary, whether you like her or not, is a very accomplished debater. She has vast experience and to my mind has a much greater grasp of the broad range of topics that will be covered in a presidential debate.

In the primaries, Trump showed that he seriously lacked a depth of understanding of the debate points. His approach of making broad statements about jobs, immigration and foreign policy etc. Lacked any detail and his follow-up left the viewer more confused than anything else.

The debates between Hillary and Bernie, on the other hand, left the viewer in no doubt about their ability to go into detail and dig beneath the surface on their follow-up responses.

But beyond the debates, the race for president, if history is a good guide, will most likely be won by the candidate that has the best ground game in place. As I go to press, it is very clear that Clinton is outspending Trump in the battleground states and that nationally the Democratic candidate has more offices doing

An Immigrant's Musings

Michael Leonard



the crucial outreach work than her Republican opponent.

One final point, we have often stated that the candidate who wins the presidency needs to have the lion's share of the Hispanic vote. Following his trip to Mexico and his anti-immigrant rhetoric, it is very hard to see Trump winning that crucial segment of the population.

The Alphabet

A-accept accept others for

friends with whom you can share your hopes, dreams, sorrows and happiness.

D-decide decide that you'll be successful and happy come what may, and good things will find you. The roadblocks are only minor obstacles along the way.

E-explore explore and experiment. The world has much to offer and you have much to give. And every time you try something new, you'll learn something new about yourself.

F-forgive forgive and forget. Grudges only way you down and inspire unhappiness and grief. Soar above it and remember that everyone makes mistakes.

G-grow leave childhood monsters behind. They can no longer hurt you or stand in your way.

H-hope hope for the best and never forget that anything is possible as long as you remain dedicated to the task.

I-ignore ignore the negative voice inside your head. Focus instead on your goals and remember your accomplishments. Your past success is only an inkling of what the future holds.

J-journey journey to new worlds, new possibilities, by remaining open-minded. Try to learn something new every day, and you'll grow.

K-know know that no matter how bad things seem, they'll always get better. The warmth of spring always follows the harshest winter.

L-love let love fill your heart instead of hate. When hate is in your heart, there's room for nothing else, but when love is in your heart, there's room for endless happiness.

M-manage manage your time and expenses wisely, and you'll

suffer less stress and worry. Then you'll be able to focus on the important things in life.

N-notice never ignore the poor, infirm, helpless, weak or suffering. Offer your assistance when possible and always your kindness and understanding.

O-open open your eyes and take in all the beauty around you. Even during the worst of times, there's much to be thankful for.

P-play never forget to have fun along the way. Success means nothing without happiness.

Q-question ask many questions, because you're here to learn.

R-relax refuse to let worry and stress rule your life, and remember that things always have a way of working out in the end.

S-share share your talent, skills, knowledge and time with others. Everything that you invest in others will return to you many times over.

T-try try even when your dreams seem impossible to achieve, try anyway. You'll be amazed at what you can accomplish.

U-use use your gifts to the best of your ability. Talent that's wasted has no value. Talent that's used will bring unexpected rewards.

V-value value the friends and family members who've supported and encouraged you, and be there for them as well.

W-work work hard every day to be the best person you can be, but never feel guilty if you fall short of your goals. Every sunrise offers a second chance.

X-ray look deep inside the hearts of those around you and you'll see the goodness and beauty within.

Y-yield yield to commitment. If you stay on track and remain dedicated, you'll find success at the end of the road.

Z-zoom zoom to a happy place when bad memories or sorrow rears its ugly head. Let nothing interfere with your goals. Instead, focus on your abilities, and dreams and a brighter tomorrow.

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



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who they are and for the choices they've made even if you have difficulty understanding their beliefs, motives or actions.

B-break away break away from everything that stands in the way of what you hope to accomplish with your life.

C-create create a family of

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You do a sound check. The lighting crew is busily turning lights on and off to get the needed effect. The director runs through several numbers. It's all part of getting ready to perform. You walk on stage; your heart is beating a little faster. And then it happens. I remember when we did a show called FINNEGAN'S WAKE. We had the son of choir members onstage as the corpse. We all filed past him and paid our respect. Our director at the time and Paddy Homan were singing a duet. I was standing next to the deceased and Peg Murphy was at the foot of the coffin. Suddenly we heard a familiar sound. Oh Lord Finnegan had fallen asleep and had started snoring! I'm thinking to myself we can't startle him and have him sit up now. I looked at Peg and knew by the look on her face that she was about to do the right thing. She gently woke him up

and gave him a look that only an Irish woman can give. He did not fall asleep again.

There were sweet moments that I remember so well. I remember the cranky baby who was not a happy camper. Kathy Werning started singing Caledonia. He stopped and focused on her. He watched her and listened to her until he fell asleep. His mother is my niece and we still talk about Caledonia.

And then there was the choir member who grabbed another choir member's slacks instead of his own—but they were a ladies pair! He put them on in the dressing room and couldn't figure out what was wrong. He fidgeted and squirmed all night; in the meantime, the owner of those pants—who was also a member of the choir, couldn't find her slacks! I don't know if there was a happy ending to the story...

Michael Griffin shared one of the best stories with me. The choir competed in Sligo. One night the choirs were gathered in the hotel lobby and bar. A member of the German choir who sang gospel music in English stood up and started singing "Minnie the Moocher". When he sang "Hidi Hidi Hidi Hi" the entire group of 300 singers responded in unison and I guess it was magical.

Consider trying out for the choir. Come on a Thursday at 7:30. We would love a few tenors perhaps an alto or two.

The annual concert is Sunday November 20 at 3:00 in the Erin Room. The theme is "Good People All – From Dublin to Wexford and Beyond the Emerald Isle." Mark your calendar now. Our program book is also our ad book. We'd appreciate an ad, a greeting, your good wishes to the choir. John Mahal is the Marketing Director and can be reached at IrishHeritageSingers@irishahc.org We've added a sing along section with the words to the songs in the program. Please join us. It's going to be a fun afternoon. We'll miss you if you aren't there.



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Patrick Boyle Resigns as Executive Director of Milwaukee Irish Fest

CelticMKE's board of directors announced today that Patrick Boyle has resigned as executive director. He is stepping down to pursue interests outside the organization.

"We are very thankful for Patrick's leadership to this organization over the past four years," said Linda Clark Klibowitz, president of the board of directors for CelticMKE. "We wish him nothing but success as he enters the next chapter of his career."

A board selection committee will be established to recruit, screen and recommend a new executive director to succeed Boyle. Information about the national search will be posted on CelticMKE.com in the coming days. The post will include a detailed job de-



scription, skill requirements and contact information for potential applicants.

During the search process, board members will be assigned to key areas of the organization to provide leadership and guidance.

"We are very fortunate to have an amazing staff in place with more than 150 volun-

teers who help fulfill the mission of the organization on a daily basis," Clark Klibowitz stated. "We also have an incredible 4,000 volunteers who support our signature event each summer, Milwaukee Irish Fest."

About CelticMKE

Through original programming and events, CelticMKE aims to preserve, promote and celebrate all aspects of Irish, Irish American and Celtic cultures, and to instill an appreciation of these cultures in current and future generations. CelticMKE produces the world-renowned Milwaukee Irish Fest, August 17-20, 2017, along with a variety of Celtic-themed classes, lectures, concerts and cultural heritage projects.

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Piping It In

Jack Baker



over the strings. Her work with the Chicago Reel band was wonderful to watch and hear, creating, as it did, one of the finest ceili bands ever. It wasn't until Pauline released her new CD "All Because"

Three Gems To Make You Smile

It comes as no surprise to anyone who has ever heard her play, that Pauline Conneely is an absolute wizard of a musician, making even the most resolute banjo-haters into fans with a wave of her hands

that I learned to appreciate what a great talent she truly is. On her CD she is joined by other great musicians like Liz Carroll, John Blake, Jonathan Whitall, Marty Fahey and others but make no mistake, it's Pauline's finesse on banjo and guitar that we came to see and were not disappointed. I have listened to this recording over and over again since it found it's way to my hands and I have tired of it at all. It's fresh and invigorating every time and never fails to move my feet. Customers who aren't even big banjo fans have bought it after hearing it in the shop and, in some cases, have come back to buy more copies for friends. For my money this is a classic, "Must have" recording and one of the best solo recordings of the year.

Socks in the Frying Pan (www.socksinthefryingpan.com) have come a long way in three short years. From an unknown Irish trio from Clare, they've become one of the hottest acts at Irish festivals in the



US with a huge following of fans and now they've released their third CD in three years and it's a winner. "Without a Paddle" follows their previous recordings in demonstrating their musical prowess and their ingratiating sense of humor. These guys are a hoot to watch perform and a joy to listen to. They continue to blend just the right amount of bluegrass into their traditional Irish sound to create the "socks" sound that's all their own. They have worked hard on their vocals, creating some lovely harmonies and just solid enjoyable songs. Shane Hayes continues to be the unflappable iron man of the group working his button box for all it's worth, his brother Fiachra keeps us

laughing while performing flawlessly on fiddle and banjo and some very lovely vocals and Aodán Coyne works his guitar and belts out superb vocals. Their on stage antics never distract from the beauty of the music. Socks in the Frying Pan continue to be a delightful group to watch and listen to, definitely the highlight of any festival at which they perform.

It has been my distinct pleasure over the past few years to see a group from Dayton Ohio called Dulahan. I have written about them before and I always enjoy their performances and CDs. They have a distinctive sound in the vocal stylings of Kyle Aughe, who also writes all their songs. His songs are always strong and well-written and, invariably, there's always one or two on each CD that knock me out of my shoes. The new CD, "Sultana" does not disappoint and includes a

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couple tunes that are the best Kyle ever wrote. The album starts out with a tune based on a true story called "Aunt Bridie", it concerns a maiden aunt who passes and afterward, in going thru her things, turns out to have taken a very active role in the Easter rising of 1916. It frankly brought both a smile and a tear. The title tune concerns to sinking of the Sultana in the closing days of the Civil War. The Sultana was a steamboat carrying Union soldiers, who had been prisoners in the Confederacy, back home when it exploded. The news of the sinking and resultant loss of life was overshadowed by the news of Lincoln's assassination, so many people were unaware it had ever happened. A healthy helping of history and good music always serves to keep my interest.

Hope to see a good many of you at IBAM this month, always a great event for books and music.

If not there, catch me in the store, 630-834-8108 or online, store@rampantlion.com

Slainté

It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane



Hello Everyone,

Every now and then I sit down and think how blessed I am. To get to play music, write songs and write for this newspaper, family and friends etc. There are so many things to be thankful for. I also like to observe people and things that happen and I notice there are an awful lot of people that just do things and don't realize what impact it has on a community. One of them is a man I'm sure a lot of you are familiar with, especially parents. That man is Mickey Brady. I'm pretty sure Mickey isn't aware of what he does and that's why I mention him. I have watched him training the children for Gaelic Football over the years. And there is something very special about him, the kids all love him and he just has that magic touch with them. So, just so you know Mickey, and I'm sure I speak for a lot of people. Chicago is very blessed to have you my friend.

A few years ago we had a man from Connemara living here in Chicago. Him and I became very good friends. I could sit and chat with him for hours and often did. He is a man of great wisdom and talent. I speak of the legendary John Beag from Lettermullen, Galway. He will go down in history no doubt, for what he has done for the Gaelic language and his unique brand of Irish folk music. John's wife, Anne became very ill, so they went back to Ireland, with their son Liam. Sadly Anne passed away. John and Liam still live back in Connemara and he can be heard singing around the area that he loves. I remember one evening here in Chicago, he was putting his equipment up for a nights entertainment. There was a few guys having a sing song at a table and eventually these fellows start to taunt John. Saying to him "Ah you can't sing without your speakers" John never said a word. I went over to John and said "why don't you sing one and show them how wrong they are. He said I don't rise to that Joe. Then I said to him, "well will you sing a song for me with your acoustic guitar"? John said "I will certainly sing one for you". He sat on a stool and played his guitar and sang a beautiful Irish ballad. His voice rang through the whole bar with that great deep tone full of

great resonance. I got a great kick out of watching these bully type guys be silenced. There was also a tint of embarrassment among

them. Although I'm not vindictive by nature, I have to say I enjoyed watching their faces. They listened to not only a great talented singer/songwriter/musician but also a gentleman who I miss very much here in Chicago. If you get to read this John, I hope you and Liam are keeping well and I miss the craic with you.

This October will be the 8th year of iBam. If you haven't been to this, you are missing a real treat. There will be amazing music, authors, artists and just so much happening. It is on the weekend October 14 thru 16 at the Irish American Heritage Center. You can check it out here www.ibamchicago.com. You will get to meet the writers/musicians/artists/actors etc, in person. My son Declan and I will be doing a singalong with the children on the afternoon of Saturday of the 15th. We did it last year and really enjoyed it. We will bring along some percussion instruments i.e. tambourines ect and it's amazing how the kids enjoy themselves and learn a little Irish culture into the bargain.

If you are looking for somewhere to go to see the fall colors in October, I'll be back at the Irish Cottage in Galena. I will be there quite a lot of the midweek evenings. So if you want to come along and look out at the beautiful scenery and listen to some Irish folk songs, come on out to the Irish Cottage. I look forward to seeing you and hanging out. You can find the dates at www.joemcshane.net

There is going to be a very worthy

benefit coming up on November 4th. I would have loved to perform at it but, I will be playing in Detroit, the same night. I wish them great success. Here are some details about it -

All-Star Irish Concert For Bethel Hospital

Who Are We?

Cross Countries is a club made up of 10 OLCCHS students who are striving to make a difference in our world. Over the course of two years, they will raise \$50,000 in order to travel on a humanitarian mission to build Bethel Hospital in Amachuma, Bolivia. They will head out on their journey during the summer of 2017. Their goal is to improve quality of life for those that live in a poverty-stricken part of South America.

What Is The Event?

The All-Star Irish Concert will be an event held at Gaelic Park in Oak Forest Illinois. Laurence Nugent, father of a Cross Countries member, is a renowned Irish musician, and will be playing alongside other all-star Irish performers on November 4th, 2016. Traditional Irish music will echo throughout Gaelic Park, driving Cross Countries on step closer toward their goal of finishing the construction of Bethel Hospital.

We have had two wonderful folks at our house for eight days and the time has just flown by. They are from Shetland, which is way up in the North Sea between Scotland and Norway. I used to play in Shetland at least twice every year, before I came to America. The people there are one of a kind. It's almost like going back in time there. Although they have all the modern things and maybe more than we have. But one thing didn't change there and that is the nature of the people. So we were having breakfast on the deck here one day and I was on the phone to my

songwriting friend Jordan Moge and my brother Nicky James (who also spent a lot of time performing in the Shetland Isles). We started talking about our visits there and in about 20 minutes we had written a song. The song is call - 'The Wonder Of The Shetland Isles'. So thank you Ivor and Melanie Jarmson (on their honeymoon) for helping to inspire this song. I love it and I think we should use it for this month's song.

As always, be good to one another,
Joe

'The Wonder Of The Shetland Isles'

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Verse 1

Did you ever see the northern lights

Just look up on a starry night

I remember as a child

The wonder of the Shetland isles

Verse 2

I hear a whispering northern breeze

As the boat pulls out of Aberdeen

I'm going home where I belong

Tonight I'll hear familiar songs

Chorus

As the misty morning breaks you're in my view

I've been longing for this day to be with you

And although I know I've been away awhile

Again I'll see the wonder, of the Shetland isles

Verse 3

The seagulls soaring through the air

As if in answer to a prayer

I thank God and clasp my hands

In the distance of the land

Verse 4

I can almost hear the fiddle play

In that special Shetland way

Amidst my tears I feel a smile

The wonder of the Shetland isles

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View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



A Fast Unto Death

Hardly eight years have passed since Steven McQueen gave the world in his film, *Hunger*, an inescapable depiction of one of the core plot points of the Northern Irish struggle: the decision by incarcerated Republicans to fast unto death, if necessary, in Long Kesh Prison. As galling as a portrait of such an act is, there nevertheless persists a restless curiosity to understand the motives and the drive behind it. With Brendan Byrne's recently released film, *Bobby Sands: 66 Days*, we now have a feature documentary that forms an intriguing companion to McQueen's drama.

The film benefits hugely from the BBC's wealth of archive. Much of the archive used will be unfamiliar to even the most inveterate documentary viewer; its vividness and pervasiveness in this documentary helps to compensate for the fact that Sands was a relatively unknown figure when he entered Long Kesh—very little archive of Sands himself is extant.

Visually, this documentary is at times wondrous: presented almost from beginning to end with a grainy, filmic finish; the mixture of animation with photography and archive is superbly well achieved. Solid media research complements the beautiful images: that the British and US media covered Sands' protest so extensively is unsurprising, but it was news to me that, for example, Russian newspapers gave such coverage to Sands' protest and death.

The rostrum of participants is unconventional. Granted, a slew of Sinn Féin and IRA comrades appear as do a predictable retinue of writers and journalists. But the presence of so many American contributors is quite surprising, given that they had only the most tangential connection (or none) to Sands' Hunger Strike. They are a fresh alternative to a tiresome reaching for phoney "balance" and

on the other handism in documentaries. Journalist Fintan O'Toole is so extensive in this documentary that one is tempted to describe him as its protagonist. While O'Toole had a role as analyst in the Hunger Strikes period, his inclusion as the front man was a peculiar decision but an occasionally invigorating one. Not everything works so well. In textual side-glances we are told rather self-evident factoids like Ireland was for a long time governed by Britain. As a history lesson is that not rather feeble? Also, Father Seán McManus' acerbic tones are countervailed by Irish Ambassador Seán Donlon—two people whose missions in Washington DC during the Hunger Strikes were in direct opposition to each other. But the pressure exerted on US Congressmen who represented heavily Irish constituencies is unexplored, despite the fact that the politicisation of the grassroots in the US was a big consequence of the Hunger Strikes.

As is evident from Sands' *Prison Diary* and his poem, "The Rhythm Of Time", Sands embodied dihard resilience. We learn early in this documentary that that resilience sprang in part from the will of his parents to encourage violent resistance against the occupying British Army's barbaric harassment of Belfast Catholics at the outbreak of the Troubles. Scenes here of the Strikers' families, principally their sisters and mothers, is harrowing. Yet in searing footage filmed in the closing days of his life, Sands' mother made the simple plea that her son's death should not beget more violence.

Byrne and his collaborator Trevor Birney have in the past made films (witness *The Docklands Bomb: Executing Peace*) using the device of a countdown. This device, applied to the case of Sands, is problematic: his fate is so widely known that surely placing a greater emphasis on his legacy would be more intriguing?

In a historical documentary made thirty-five years after the Strikes why was a more rigorous investigation of the consequences of the Hunger Strikes not undertaken? True, there is scant support today for dihardism but the fact remains that the ultimate political objective of the Hunger Strikers, a United Ireland, was not achieved, and that fact is the great unmentioned here.

Sands' election in absentia to Westminster Parliament during his hunger strike was a coup for and a central milestone in, the rise of Sinn Féin. But a little less party politics and more deeper political enquiry would have been welcome. Sands and his cohorts' extraordinary courage in facing death signified an absolute determination to achieve rights. The Strikers demanded political status rights in prison and their right to assert a United Ireland of all the people on the island of Ireland. Sands and the other nine Strikers who fasted unto death had a clear goal, and the IRA leadership settled for less. Yeats' famous lines from 'Easter 1916', "was it needless death after all?" come to mind in recalling their sacrifice.

At the same time as the Hunger Strikes a newly formed theatre company based in Derry, Field Day, headed by Brian Friel and Stephen Rea, determined that they would insert themselves into the political crisis in the North of Ireland. Tellingly, they produced a version of Sophocles' timeless masterpiece *Antigone*, partly in response to the scenes of Long Kesh—its walls pasted with excrement, its naked and starving protestors' descent into hell found in an Ancient Greek play an almost perfect parallel. The point being: Irish-speaking poetry-writing, story-telling, history-reading prisoners created a climate of self-examination and enlightenment, and it was that mindset that enabled an end to the vicious conflict in Northern Ireland. The Hunger Strikes, like so much else that occurred in the North, seems now to have been a process towards that central discovery. But was it needless death after all?

Brendan Byrne's *Bobby Sands: 66 Days* is on general release in Ireland.

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A Word With Monsignor Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Reverend Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



On October 27 Archbishop Cupich will convene the 99th Annual Meeting of the Catholic Charities Board of Advisors. When Catholic Charities was established in 1917, it was an effort to coordinate and organize the many charitable works of the faithful that were already happening around the Archdiocese. Needs were far outpacing the resources of religious orders and parish-based ministries, and then-Archbishop George Mundelein knew that a united effort would be far more effective in helping the thousands of poor and needy who were seeking help.

Over the years, Catholic Charities has grown and evolved, but it remains the collective charitable response of the faithful in the Archdiocese. Catholic Charities works with parishes, religious orders, the Society of St. Vincent De Paul, dedicated board members, loyal volunteers, and generous donors who come together to fulfill the Gospel mission to serve the poor.

Our 99th year has partially taken place under the glow of the Jubilee Year of Mercy. When Pope Francis declared this the Jubilee Year of Mercy, he did so with great hope that the power of God's mercy could transform our world. He humbly called on each one of us to reach out, embrace, and heal those who are deeply wounded by poverty, burdened by sorrow, or surrounded by violence. The Year of Mercy truly embodies the spirit of Catholic Charities because it highlights the importance of all of us working together to help our brothers and sisters in need. It is because of the support of the faithful throughout the Archdiocese that Catholic Charities has become a place of mercy—a place where people receive the love, compassion, and concrete help they need to transform their lives.

Our 99th year has also taken place under the shadow of one of

the most violent years on record for the City of Chicago. We desperately need the light of God's mercy to enlighten this darkness. Catholic Charities programs are intentionally located in the most troubled neighborhoods, and are specifically designed to address the root causes of violence, poverty, and social problems that take root in beleaguered areas. New this year, Catholic Charities worked with Catholic colleague organizations to save two important anti-violence programs whose funding was in jeopardy. We were very pleased to bring the House of the Good Shepherd domestic violence shelter, and Peace Corner youth center under the Catholic Charities umbrella. These vital programs not only remain open, but by working in partnership, their services have been greatly expanded and enhanced.

Another challenge facing Catholic Charities during its 99th year has been the state budget impasse and the detrimental effect it has had on the safety net for poor Illinois residents. Alarming, two-thirds of United Way member social service agencies have made service, budget and operations cuts due to lack of payment on state contracts, with 91 percent of those forced to make direct cuts to the number of clients served. Thousands of people are without help, or are looking for assistance from other providers. A ray of hope in this state budget crisis has been the unified support Catholic Charities has received from the faithful. To-date Catholic Charities has been able to weather the budget storm without cutting vital programs to fragile populations. Your prayers, advocacy, enhanced volunteer hours, and contributions to our special Keeping Hope Alive fundraising campaign have been a powerful demonstration of what can be achieved by working together under the strength

of God's mercy. Going forward, however, a state budget must be passed, and we continue to ask for your support and prayers.

As we close our 99th year, Cath-

olic Charities will officially begin celebrating our centennial year of service to those in need, and mark an important milestone in the rich history of charitable care

in the Archdiocese of Chicago. We are tremendously blessed to work together with you to fulfill the Gospel mission to love and serve the poor.

Donegal Imports: Not Your Average Import Store

By: Cliodhna Joyce-Daly

Being away from Ireland can be nostalgic, whether it's the relaxed lifestyle, luscious green fields, or even the fresh Irish breeze—it can be tough to say goodbye to the Emerald Isle.

While you may have to say farewell to the climate—you don't have to give up on your comforts of Ireland just yet.

McGrath knew he had to bring a little taste of Ireland to Chicago.

Despite its name, Donegal Imports, located on Devon Ave, offers much more than your typical Irish produce.

"I wanted a shop that was different from all the traditional stores," McGrath said. "I wanted something that was a bit more unique."

For 38 years, Donegal Imports, has been one of the leading Irish Import stores in Chicago—with products ranging from authentic jams and



Donegal Imports Owner, Alex McGrath

cookies to bog-side turf and real Irish wool. Boxes of Tayto potato crisps are stacked along the wall, with an entire shelf dedicated to your favorite afternoon tea biscuits.

He carries an abundance of Irish products that are difficult to find.

"One big sale item we have is the newspapers," McGrath

said. "We are the only shop that carries them."

While authenticity and hard to find products are the staple of the business, the operation's success has also hinged upon McGrath's extensive business acumen.

Before establishing Donegal Imports, McGrath managed Jewel-Osco supermarkets around the Chicago area.

"I learned the ins and outs of the business," McGrath said. "I kept track of the employees, produce, profits, etc."

From the experience he gained, McGrath thought it would be best to step back to his Irish roots and open his own business up.

With the help of his wife, Sheila and other prominent Chicago figures like radio personality, Wally Phillips, McGrath attracted enough publicity and money to establish Donegal Imports.

While the locations have changed (from south side to Edgebrook), his business has not wavered.

"Most of our customers have been with us for years," McGrath said as he greets a customer by name.

His relationship with customers is very hands on, a trait that is difficult to find in the marketplace these days.

But all of this still begs one question: What is with the name, Donegal Imports?

"It was Sheila's idea," McGrath said. "She came up with the name. She is the boss."





Mick
Mike Morley



Illegal Catholics

In August this column pointed out that immigration to the US increased more than 400% in the 5 years after the 1965 passage of Celler/Hart/Kennedy Immigration and Naturalization Act. By the '90's the percentage of Europeans in the US population had dropped down to 16% (from 50% in the 1950's). By 2012 not one of the top ten countries of origin was European. In 1990 Ted Kennedy introduced yet another Immigration Act which boosted legal immigration to 700,000 and increased "diversity" by favoring "underrepresented" countries. By Obama's election in 2008 the US population was 1/3 minority.

Notably, legal immigration from Ireland (the whole island) one of the countries that "made America great", was just 96 people in 2016.

Illegal Irish immigrants? Yes, there are some; outnumbered a whopping 240 to 1 by illegals from other regions of the globe. This year 4501 legal immigrants entered from Iran. The most favored South American countries were Communist Cuba and Socialist Venezuela (2526).

In 2004 'Educator Sexual Misconduct: A Synthesis of Existing Literature 2004' was published. It is a detailed and shocking scientific study by the US government of sexual abuse in schools. Its author, Charol Shakeshaft concluded: "the physical sexual abuse of students in (public) schools is

likely more than 100 times the abuse by priests". The study was studiously ignored; not only by the US Department of Education that commissioned it, but by the entire US press corps, along with the entire US educational establishment. A traditional Anglo witch hunt was already in full swing, and no scientific studies pointing to clear but unwelcome conclusions that the witches are rampant in ALL institutions which contact and care for children was going to deflect the hunters from their traditional quarry: Catholics and their Church.

Meanwhile the mighty Catholic school system, begun at the height of Know-Nothing persecution in America, is dying. Funding is denied by a failed and discredited public education system that cannot educate American children no matter how much wealth is poured into it. Yet that system rebuffs competition from successful private and religious schools by denying them any and all public

funding, waving the bogus red flag of "church and state"- a valid stance in the UK, and valid at one time here, when the Episcopal Church was a true state religion. Ironically, suppression of religious freedom is the reason Catholic schools were founded in the first place.

Other factors are also working against traditional Catholic schools. In that year 1965, more than 13,000 Catholic elementary and secondary schools enrolled twelve percent of U.S. school children. The decline from that peak has been precipitous. By 2012 less than 7,000 Catholic schools enrolled about five percent of U.S. school-aged children. At a time when Hispanic population is rising, Catholic education would be especially important. But traditional Catholic instructors, the nuns, are gone. At the 1965 peak more than 100,000 sisters worked in schools. Only about 6,500 are now at work; less than one per remaining Catholic school. And new staffers who replace them, though paid far less than teachers in public schools, have driven up costs dramatically, since nuns seldom required additional salaries or benefits. By 2010 average tuition for the traditionally poor families served by the Church was about \$4000 at a Catholic elementary school and around \$8000 for a high school. Today elementary education averages about \$5,500.

Since the 1965 peak, fully half of US Catholic elementary schools have closed, and the number of students attending the schools remaining has dropped by nearly 70% percent. Much of the Catholic population has left neighborhoods where the Catholic schools were built and the schools are increasingly educating children of non-parishioners. Yet the Church educates their children in the tradition that "though they are not Catholic, we are".

Serious maintenance issues are also a big drag on the budget of Catholic schools in older cities. And though the U.S. Catholic population has grown by 44 percent since 1965, Catholic marriages have decreased by 52 percent over those 50 years, paced by a drop of

46% in infant baptisms.

But studies demonstrate that parents will use vouchers at relatively less expensive Catholic schools, rather than pony up more at more costly private schools.

Knowing these facts, it's hard to fathom the "Solid South" type mentality of many in the Irish community who cling to a fossilized Democratic philosophy when offered a candidate who stands not only on a platform of immigration reform, but one that promises school vouchers for educational "choice".

There's an insightful, tongue-in-cheek Jewish tale about a schlemiel. This is a person so inept even inanimate objects pick on them. "Don't let that schlemiel touch anything. If it doesn't break he will hurt himself, or both."

So Schlomo the schlemiel is at shul one day and amazes all the other students when while having a snack of bread and butter. He naturally drops it; but it hits the floor butter side up! Schlomo simply dusts it off and proceeds to eat it while his companions wonder: 'How could this be?'

For a long while they debated, speculated and argued before finally taking the question to the chief Rabbi. He was also puzzled, but promised to take the problem under consideration. And after a long period of deep thought, he assembled the students and addressed them. The rabbi declared that the only reason the bread dropped by Schlomo the schlemiel could have landed buttered side up must be that: Schlomo had buttered his bread on the wrong side.

Catholics might want to spend some time thinking on which side of their bread to spread their butter.

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From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell



in successfully attracting and keeping foreign industrial investment here. And, while other factors making Ireland attractive can be cited, few doubt the importance of the low tax rate. It had its origins half a century ago when Ireland was struggling to establish a manufacturing export oriented industrial base and was attempting to attract inward industrial investment.

We have come a long way since then but the tax rate continues to matter. Any doubts on that score can be dispelled quickly by viewing the various attempts and pressures put on Ireland by the Commission and individual EU states to force a change. Under sustained pressure from the Commission the Government increased the rate to 12.5% some decades ago amid allegations from several EU states that Ireland was poaching jobs and investment. When we were on our uppers several years ago, requiring a bail out from Europe, concerted and determined pressure to change was again exerted by the Commission and several member States, including France. We held firm on the grounds that national taxation was a matter for member states and not within Commission competency.

We were supported back then by several smaller member states which themselves were applying low rates, again to encourage inward investment. I recall in 2002 Estonian Prime Minister Kallas discussing Estonia's low tax rate and asking me, rhetorically, what else a small country on Europe's periphery had to offer. Indeed. The peripherality argument is one that has never been teased out fully within the EU, where there are massive cost savings and advantages to companies (and countries) close to the EU's centre. And, very importantly, one of the EU's heavy hitters, Britain, was firmly and resolutely opposed to any encroachment by the Commission into the area of national taxation.

Cue August 30, Apple, and the European Commission, which found under the EU's "state aid" rules, that Apple, one of the world's major corporations, had paid little or no tax on billions of earnings through channelling huge sums in complicated fashion through Ireland. There is no doubt that this took place and the Commission called the Irish government complicit in facilitating Apple's arrangements, instructing it to claw back €13 billion plus interest in taxes dodged by Apple since 2003. The government is appealing the ruling and the matter is likely to drag on for several years.

There are a number of dogs in this particular complicated fight. There is the multi-layered issue of EU - US trade relations, affecting both sides, and involving the relationships between both tax systems and multinational companies, with agreement for once between the USA and Europe that the multinationals need to have their wings clipped - and their profits taxed. There is, internally in Europe, the complicated issue of what constitutes state aids. There is the separate issue of whether the Commission is trying by subterfuge to extend its competence into national tax policy. Despite Commission denials, given the history on this one, there cannot but be suspicions that this ruling, if left unchallenged, could prove to be the thin end of a long term wedge.

Then there is the domestic Irish dimension. For decades the long suffering Irish taxpayer has put up with

a Faustian -type pact under which it was accepted that multinationals paid less tax in exchange for bringing the jobs, and certainly they have. But this episode has revealed that Apple - and probably other multinationals - has been paying substantially less than the accepted 12.5% rate; indeed creative accounting on a worldwide basis has involved Apple "paying" at less than 1%. The Irish left has been shouting for years that something like this was the case and has constructed marvellous economic plans factoring in missing billions which they allege should be due.

For a cash-strapped economy and taxpayers punch drunk after years of austerity, the prospect of a windfall infusion of up to €19 billion with interest, was, briefly, tempting. But enthusiasm faded quickly as it became clear that other countries could well demand a share. And who, after all, would want to rock the boat of Ireland's relationship with the multinational sector? Factor in that this could well have been a glowing and gilded Trojan Horse planted by the Commission and surely the government was right to reject the money and appeal. "Timeo Daneos" indeed.

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Rotten To The Core

In recent weeks the ordinary Irish punter has received a crash course in corporate taxation courtesy of the European Commission and the Apple Corporation.

This lesson has underlined the reality that taxes, like death, may be inevitable, but who pays them and how much varies greatly. In Ireland, as in every country, a complicated structure of rates, allowances and exemptions provides lucrative careers for armies of accountants, tax specialists and lawyers employed expressly to minimise the amount of tax paid. And the general conclusion, here as elsewhere, is that the wealthier the client, the better help can be hired and the smaller the resultant tax bill.

There's nothing fair or equitable about the Irish tax system, notwithstanding official claims that it is among the most "progressive" tax regimes in Europe. Possibly it is, in the narrow sense that once an individual's income for tax purposes has been determined, taxation at a rapidly increasing rate is applied, so the more you "earn" the more you pay. The devil however is very much in the detail of determining just what you "earn" for tax purposes, with the legislation a mishmash covering personal and company tax law as it has evolved over the last century. The lines between tax avoidance - permissible - and tax evasion - illegal - can be blurred, and tax defaulters rarely if ever face jail, which hardly encourages compliance.

The elements parcelled together in Irish tax law reflect a mixture of government policy and the fruits of special interest lobbying over decades. Inter alia there are provisions governing non residence, policies of disregarding certain income entirely and others favouring certain groups of taxpayers. Much of the legislation and provisions (or exemptions!) were drafted initially in tandem with and with an eye on other government laws and policy objectives.

The result, on the personal tax side, has been something to annoy everybody. Why should certain people receive a \$50,000 plus exemption on income received for writing a book or selling a painting? Why should people receiving one payment from the state pay tax on it while people receiving a different payment do not? Why should some people charge the cost for travelling to work while others cannot? Why should those caught in the PAYE net alone have tax deducted right away? And why should persons - invariably wealthy - pay no tax in Ireland if they are deemed "non-resident for tax purposes" which is liberally interpreted to apply to anyone not proven to reside here for 184 days in any one year?

One question rarely asked is about Ireland's low rate of corporation tax. At 12.5% - much lower than that on individuals - the CPT rate has become one of Ireland's sacred cows, to be defended as fiercely as the level of the Old Age Pension. The reason is simple. That low rate has been identified as one of the major factors

For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



Irish-America knows the Good Friday Agreement (GFA) did NOT bring peace. Homicides peaked in 1972 (at 472) and had dropped to small numbers by 1984, fourteen years prior to the GFA. Exhibit A of the GFA's results is Britain's continued use of juryless Diplock Courts. Such official crime produced the 1981 Hunger-Strike in which ten of Ireland's best died.

For six years people have watched in growing dismay at the imprisonments of John Paul Wootton and Brendan McConville (the Craigavon Two) for the 2009 murder of PSNI Constable Steven Carroll in Craigavon, Co. Armagh. (Mary and I visited both in Maghaberry Prison last year.)

Gerry Conlon (R.I.P.) of the Guildford 4 was a leading supporter of Brendan and John Paul. Britain imprisoned Conlon for sixteen years in one of history's worst examples of judicial corruption. Regarding the Craigavon Two, Conlon said:

"We can't have innocent people going to jail and 15 years down the line, them being released and their lives ruined. Not only that, the lives of their families being ruined. But you have to have the courage of your convictions to stand up for what you believe in and I believe a miscarriage of justice took place here on the basis of all the evidence I have read."

THE CASE against Brendan and John Paul is based exclusively upon the testimony of Witness "M." "M" identifies, though a well-known "Walter Mitty" character around Craigavon/Lurgan, was concealed by the court; thus obstructing the defense team from exposing his nature.

Some of the flaws in the case against the two are:

- "Witness M" did not come forward for eleven months.

- "M" was intoxicated when he contacted the PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland).

- "M" benefited financially from his involvement in the case

- "M" repeatedly lied under oath.

- "M" partner failed to corroborate his story.

Some of "M"'s statements contradicted his earlier statements.

One of "M"'s statements was proven to be medically impossible.

"M"'s identity was concealed from Mr. Wootton's and Mr. McConville's legal defense team to prevent cross-examination.

A covert British army unit tampered with case evidence. (Say what you will about U.S. justice, but when the FBI similarly fabricated evidence while trying to imprison us in Case US91CR911, the prosecutor, unlike in Occupied Ireland, lost the case. He was forced to abandon all charges against all four of us.)

A gov't tracking device attached to Wootton's car shows that the car was nowhere near the location of the AK47 murder weapon.

Tracking device results were erased while in possession

of army personnel, with no explanation as to why they were erased.

Upon forensic inspection of the AK47 a partial fingerprint was found on the clip's internal spring mechanism. This fingerprint did not match those of Brendan McConville or John Paul Wootton.

That is the "justice" the GFA has produced for the Occupied Irish.

ABETTING CRIMES. The PSNI sabotaged the appeal by arresting a key defense witness and surveilling Brendan McConville's defense team. Those actions not only obstructed the right to a fair appeal hearing but prompted human rights organizations to ask the UN Special Rapporteur to safeguard Brendan and John Paul's legal teams. Calls have also been made in the appeals court for removing the PSNI from further contact with the key defense witness.

Mr. Macdonald also alleged that police had forced their way into the home of the man who contradicted "M"'s evidence on April 22 and warned him that he would be discredited if he gave evidence at the appeal. "Two police officers called at the house of this witness on whose fresh evidence we rely," he said. "On my instructions it appears they forced their way into the house and proceeded to warn him that if he went to court he would be discredited." The court was told the man was then arrested the following day and questioned for 48 hours before being released without charge. Mr. Macdonald said that a formal complaint had now been made to the Police Ombudsman about the alleged intimidation of this potential witness and the use of secret surveillance against him and a defense solicitor.

Both men have consistently maintained their innocence. Despite the fact that the State legal team, charged with handling this case, has failed to prove the charges against Mr. Wootton and Mr. McConville, these men remain prisoners. Their arrest 6 years ago and continued imprisonment was based on the word of a very dubious witness, which was proven contradictory and finally discredited by forensic evidence.

Had the Wootton/McConville case been tried anywhere on earth except Occupied Ireland, both men would have been acquitted.

These are just some of the facts of this case. McConville was sentenced to 25 years, while Wootton (17 years of age when arrested) was sentenced to 14 years. The continued imprisonment of these men, despite the failure of the state and its legal team to prove their case against them, is an ongoing miscarriage of justice.

John Paul Wootton and Brendan McConville are Britain's Irish targets today. Irish-America is honor-bound to stand up for justice and force their releases. We have work to do; as we had for the B-6, Guildford 4, and MacBride Principles. None of us welcome this moral burden to uphold justice; but stand we must. Contact your Congressman, Senator, or the Irish Consulate. Tell THEM to act for Wootton and McConville.

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Irish Olympian Paddy Barnes Signs New Management Team

MGM, Macklin's Gym Maranella, are delighted to announce the signing of Olympian, Paddy Barnes, on a management contract. The signing of Paddy Barnes has everyone at MGM very excited. An impressive amateur career has produced one of Ireland's most popular Olympians. Three appearances at the Olympic Games produced consecutive bronze medals in 2008 and 2012. This led to Paddy being given the honour of being Ireland's flag bearer at the most recent Olympics in Brazil.

Paddy has an extensive list of accolades also includes Commonwealth Gold on two occasions, Delhi 2010 and Captain of Ireland in Glasgow 2014, WSB appearances and a host of national titles. However, now is the time to begin a new chapter in his boxing career and Paddy cannot wait to get started.

He says "I've enjoyed every minute of my time as an amateur and my achievements are something I am very proud of. Representing Ireland has always been my ambition and now I hope to emulate that success as a professional,

Paddy had many options when making the decision to turn professional and believes MGM are the perfect choice. After



excites the MGM Management: Paddy is a special talent.

To represent your country with such distinction is a reflection of the ability he possesses. We anticipate Paddy will feature prominently on the world stage and we look forward to many great nights for Irish boxing moving forward,

Details of Paddy's debut will be announced in the near future.

the Olympics there was many offers on the table but being part of Team MGM was the natural choice and one I am delighted with. I honestly believe I have the ideal team to guide me to world title opportunities, he said. The signing of Paddy is a move that

American to Monitor Brexit Impact on Ireland

On September 21 Attorney John Dearie hosted a meeting of Irish-American activists to discuss British BREXIT plans which might harm Ireland's economy and the full implementation of the Belfast Agreement.

Said Dearie: "It is premature to speculate on just what course the British will be taking over the next two years. It is also unclear why Britain, with the world's 6th largest economy, requires any special consideration from the U.S. responding to the democratic mandate of the British people. But there are those in Washington who need to be reminded that Ireland also has a special relationship with the U.S.,

Former National AOH President Brendan Moore explained: "The goal is to insure that Ireland as a whole is not harmed by BREXIT and for Irish Americans to be prepared, if necessary, to disagree with the Irish and British governments on the form of any US ini-

tiative to assist." Stated Peter Kissel Esq. from D.C. representing the IAUC: "It is imperative that dialogue begin now with the Dept. of State and Congress on potential BREXIT impact on the whole of Ireland and in particular the Belfast Agreement obligations." The President of the NYC Brehon Law Society, Sean Downes, emphasized the importance of listening to the voices of those most likely to be negatively impacted by BREXIT and to give due recognition to the democratic vote in NI to remain in the EU.,

Dearie concluded: "If it is deemed in America's interest to assist the UK with new trade deals, American, need to be prepared to present our concerns to the White House and to key Members of Congress involved in foreign policy. This meeting was a first step." Billy Traghese was included by conference call representing Representative Richard Neal.

Bikers Ride Route 66 for Charity

Close to 100 motorcyclists, including 66 from all across Ireland, set off from Chicago in September on their annual Route 66 ride, a fundraiser for the Temple Street Children's University Hospital in Dublin.

The bikers were due to arrive in Los Angeles in Oct. 4 following the 2,444 drive through eight states. Los Angeles Police Department officers planned to accompany the bikers, many of them on hired Harley Davidsons, on the last leg through the city of angels and into Venice Beach, California.

Since the biennial Route 66 Motorcycle Challenge along one of the most iconic routes in the country began in 2002, more than \$3 million has been raised for sick children in Ireland.

Mark Keating, executive director of the Whitewater Foundation, a fund raising organization, will be riding along for the first time, accompanied by four of his colleagues.

"It gives me a sense of pride to be involved with the Route 66 Motorcycle Challenge for Temple Street, and I am proud that Whitewater are represented by five of its employees this year on the fundraising challenge," Keating said.

"We are delighted to go the extra mile for Temple Street Children's University Hospital. I see first-hand the wonderful work they do at the hospital. I am in and out on a regular basis. We are delighted to be involved and making a difference".

The bikers left Chicago Sept. 23 after picking up their bikes at O'Hare Airport. The bikes were hired from Eagle Rider Motorcycle Rental in Schiller Park.

In total, 96 people are taking part this year, riding in separate groups, likely so as not to scare the locals too much along the now much less traveled but still storied road.

The Irish 66ers will travel through eight states, Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and finally arriving in California Oct. 5. The bikers planned to end their ride with a parade down Sunset Boulevard, one that will include the LAPD officers.

Angi McNulty, Temple Street Foundation special events manager, said the Irish

66er team challenge fills her with a huge sense of pride.

"We have wonderful support throughout America, especially in Chicago where we are hugely supported by Chicago Emerald Society's Tom Cody, Cook County Sheriff's Department and Chicago Police Department," McNulty.

"We have made wonderful friends for



life who have journeyed with us for the past 16 years. Temple Street Children's University Hospital's Route 66 Challenge is truly a unique experience.

"Thank you so much to each and every one of our bikers who have made such a difference to our little biker buddies in the hospital."

This year, the bikers hope to raise more than \$60,000, helping to pay for redeveloping wards and purchasing equipment. The Whitewater Foundation led by Keating has been a long term supporter of Route 66 Challenge.

Keating said, "The people, the land and the scenery all lend to the mixture that makes this wonderful road so beautifully addictive. And what better way to see it than on a motorcycle."

He added, "As we ride this wonderful road, always on their minds are the brave little patients in Temple Street that urgently need the best possible care that can be given to them."



THE HERITAGE LINE

Irish American Heritage Center

Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

Social Scene

Fall is filled with concerts, programs and cultural activities. See below to learn about how you can get in on the action this month and enjoy all we have to offer.

Breakfast with the Board

Join your 2016-2017 Irish American Heritage Center Board of Directors on Sunday, October 9 for Mass, Irish breakfast and the Chicago Bears game in the Fifth Province.

Mass is at 10am in the Auditorium, followed by a full Irish breakfast from Harrington's Catering and Deli at 11am. Stay

for the noon match up of the Chicago Bears vs. Indianapolis Colts and stop by the IAHC Membership table to join the Center or renew your membership.

Tickets for the breakfast are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children 12 and under.

Paints and Pints

Back by popular demand, Paints and Pints returns this fall. Channel your inner Picasso this with an evening of art, food and drinks in our Fifth Province.

The program features a painting session, where aspiring artists can create a painting of their choice, and bring home their canvas creation.



Paints and Pints is October 14 from 7pm to 9pm and tickets are \$45 for IAHC members or \$50 for general admission. The cost features art materials, canvas and a choice of one soft drink, glass of house wine or domestic beer.

Cultural Corner

iBAM!

The 8th annual iBAM! Irish Books, Arts and Music Celebration is October

14 through 16. See piece on next page and in the special pull out section in this issue.

Shining City Staged Reading

Shapeshifters Theatre presents a staged reading of Conor McPherson's haunting *Shining City* this fall, just in time for Halloween. Elizabeth Ellis directs.

Shining City tells the mysterious tale of two men: John, who believes his deceased wife is haunting their home, and Ian, a renounced priest and new therapist who suffers from a loss of faith. John visits Ian as a client, and both men struggle with their new lives.

The reading is Monday, October 24. The Pub opens at 6pm and the reading begins at 7pm. Tickets are \$10.

Tea with Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Have tea with Elizabeth Cady Stanton at our upcoming Saturday Morning Tea.

Stanton was an American suffragist, social activist and leading figure of the early women's rights movement. Actress and historian Eileen Vorbath portrays Stanton and discuss her life and work.

The tea is Saturday, November 12 at 11am. Tickets are \$25 and \$8 for children 12 and under. Reservations are necessary and must be made by November 8.

To purchase tickets for all Center programs, visit www.irish-american.org, call 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or buy at the door.

Concert Corner

Thursday Night Irish Music Sessions

Traditional Irish music sessions continue this October in the Fifth Province every Thursday night. Join such session leaders as John Williams, Larry Nugent, Katie Grennan and Dennis Cahill for evenings of live music and dance with some of Chicago's finest Irish musicians. The Fifth Province opens at 6pm for the taping of the IAHC radio show, The Craic and the sessions run from 7pm to 9pm.

An Afternoon of Literature and Harp Music featuring Aislinn Gagliardi

This October, enjoy an afternoon of Irish culture in the Library's Lecture and Performance Room.

The afternoon starts at 1pm with the Great Irish Books Club Discussion, where the group



Aislinn Gagliardi

and at 3:30pm, listen to a harp concert featuring Aislinn Gagliardi.

Aislinn Gagliardi is a Chicago based Irish harper, composer, teacher and recording artist, whose compositions and arrangements offer a fresh perspective to the Irish music tradition.

The program is Sunday, October 9 from 1pm to 4:30pm. Suggested donation is \$10 at the door.

Jimmy Keane: Irish Labor and Irish Music in Chicago

The Illinois Labor History Society and the Center present a program as part of the Art of Labor Series, sponsored by the

discusses *Spill Simmer Falter Wither* by Sara Baume. At 3pm, break for tea,

National Endowment for the Arts and Company of Folk.

Join traditional Irish musician Jimmy Keane, and performer and scholar, Bucky Halker to learn about Keane, his South Side ironworker family, his roots in the labor movement and to hear Irish tunes from "the savior of the piano accordion."

The program is Saturday, October 22 at 6pm. Donations will be accepted at the door.

Music, Stories and Folklore to Celebrate the Celtic New Year

Learn about the traditions of the Irish New Year with a program of music and storytelling this November.

Four Shillings Short perform traditional and original Celtic and World Music on more than 30 instruments including Hammered and



Jimmy Keane

Mountain Dulcimer, Mandolin, Bouzouki, Banjo, Bodhran, Guitar, Ukelele and vocals. The concert showcases Celtic harvest rituals, which cross over with Halloween.

The concert is Sunday, November 6 at 2pm. Tickets are \$10 for IAHC Members and \$15 for general admission. Children 15 and under are free.

Gavin/McCarthy/Costello Salon Concert

Salon Concerts Chicago presents Galway fiddle and flute legend Frankie Gavin in concert with Tommy McCarthy and Louise Costello.

Frankie Gavin has been playing fiddle and flute since he was a teen and is a two time All-Ireland champion. He was influenced by the great Irish and Irish American fiddle players, James Morrison and Michael Coleman. He has performed with the Rolling Stones, Earl Scruggs and Elvis Costello, as well as the great contemporary players and singers of traditional Irish music. In the mid 1970's, he founded DeDannan.



Frankie Gavin

Costello display an intuitive, sympathetic approach to duet playing, blending the musical styles of West Clare and North Galway.

The Gavin/McCarthy/Costello Salon Concert is Saturday, November 12 at 8pm in Room 109. Tickets are \$20 for adults, and children 18 and under are free.



THE HERITAGE LINE

Irish American Heritage Center

Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

President's Message

Now is the time for all good members to come to the aid of their Center. I am hoping you received my letter for the 2016 Annual Appeal. It is, and always has been such an important fundraiser for us. Here I go again asking for donations, but unfortunately it is a duty of the President. I feel like a parish pastor asking his congregation to fill the collection basket. Or worse, it sounds like I'm running for public office. But in all honesty, this way of asking for your help is needed. It is important that we use these funds not only to pay for the upkeep of this building, but it helps us in our mission of promoting, preserving and providing all the diverse cultural programs we offer.



people back into this wonderful, meaningful building. So many volunteers have worked so hard over the decades to make it possible. You would really make my day by participating in the many programs we offer. Take a date to the Fifth Province and enjoy live music, a bite to eat and a few libations. Do yourselves

a favor and take in a concert, as we have many in the works. Join me and our other Board Members on October 9 at our annual Breakfast with the Board. There is nothing like starting your Sunday with the morning Mass followed by an authentic Irish breakfast served by board members. At noon the Bears are playing, and I am personally guaranteeing a victory.

Come to the Center and enjoy its enchantment. Your presence is your present to me. I'll see you in the Fifth. I'm buying.

Eugene M. Cooney, President

If this is not your cup of tea, then you can get some bang for your buck and join or renew your membership. You will not be disappointed. My goal from the very beginning was to bring

Ireland vs New Zealand Rugby Raffle

Want to see Ireland take on the New Zealand All Blacks in rugby in Chicago on Saturday, November 5? Buy a \$50 raffle ticket for a chance to win tickets to the match at Soldier Field. One lucky winner gets 8 tickets

to the match and a fully stocked party bus to and from the match. The bus picks up and drops off at the IAHC. Only 1000 tickets will be sold.

To purchase, visit www.irish-american.org or call 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

iBAM!

The eighth annual Irish Books Arts and Music celebration; iBAM! returns to the Center on October 14 through 16. A fundraiser for the IAHC, iBAM! is a comprehensive weekend of Celtic culture in all its flavors and variations.

Highlights include a gala awards dinner on Friday night, and concerts with Paddy Homan and Tommy Fleming. On Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 6pm, iBAM! features Irish authors reading from their books, lectures, panel discussions, poetry readings, a literary salon and children's activities.

On Friday, October 14, attend the Gala Awards Dinner and Cocktail Party in the Erin Room to celebrate the outstanding contributions of the Irish in the categories listed below. Cocktails are at 7pm in the Erin Room, followed by dinner at 8pm. Dress is black-tie optional. Dinner tickets are \$125 for IAHC

Members and \$150 for general admission. The 2016 iBAM! awardees are:

- Literature: Ken Bruen
- Music: Tommy Fleming
- Performing Arts: Brad Armacost
- Person of the Year: James Fitzgerald
- Visual Arts: Jim Fitzpatrick
- Media Award: Joel Daly

On Saturday, October 15, at 7pm, celebrated Irish tenor Paddy Homan presents *I Am Ireland* to honor the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Rising in Ireland. Tickets for the concert are \$25 and \$30.

On Sunday evening, world renowned Irish singer Tommy Fleming performs at 5pm. Tickets for the concert are \$25 and \$35.

Admission to iBAM! is free each day and patrons who make a voluntary donation will be entered into a raffle. To purchase tickets, visit www.ibamchicago.com or call 847-872-0700. For the full schedule, see the pull out section in this issue.

The Heritage Line Staff Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

Contributors: Meg Buchanan, Patrick Cannady, Theresa Choske, Karen Cook, Gene Cooney, Elizabeth Ellis, Ellen Folan, Catherine Kelly, Mary Morris, Peggy Murphy, Sheila Murphy, Becky Tatz

No Cover

Free Parking



the fifth Province

Irish American Heritage Center

OCTOBER ENTERTAINMENT

- 10/1 Francis O'Neill Ceili Workshop Band
- 10/7 Larry Nugent and Billy O'Donoghue
- 10/8 St. Patrick Fathers Social
- 10/14 Francis O'Neill Ceili Mor
- 10/15 The Dooley Brothers
- 10/21 David Dunne
- 10/22 TBA
- 10/28 St. Stephen's Green
- 10/29 The Dirty Wellies



Thursday Night Irish Music Sessions: Oct. 6, 13, 20 and 27; 7pm-9pm

October 2016

Oct 1	Shamrock American Club Social	ShamAm Room	8pm
Oct 2	50 Minute <i>Hamlet</i>	Library	2pm
Oct 5	Tara Club Senior Meeting	Room 304	10am
Oct 7	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili Mor	Fifth Province	8pm
Oct 8	St. Patrick Fathers Social	Fifth Province	8pm
Oct 9	Breakfast with the Board Mass	Auditorium	10am
	Breakfast with the Board	Fifth Province	11am
	Library Great Books Club		
	<i>Spill Simmer Falter Wither</i> by Sara Baume	Library	1pm
	An Afternoon of Irish Literature and Music		
	Featuring Aislinn Gagliardi	Library	1pm-4:30pm
Oct 14	Paints and Pints	Fifth Province	7pm
	iBAM! Gala Awards Dinner	Erin Room	7pm
Oct 15	iBAM!	Whole Building	Noon
	Paddy Homan iBAM! Concert	Auditorium	7pm
Oct 16	iBAM! Mass	Auditorium	10:30am
	iBAM!	Whole Building	Noon
	Tommy Fleming iBAM! Concert	Auditorium	5pm
Oct 19	Tara Club Senior Meeting	Room 304	10am
Oct 21	Quiz Night	Room 109	8pm
	Shamrock American Club Meeting	ShamAm Room	8pm
Oct 22	Jimmy Keane: Irish Labor and Irish Music in Chicago	Fifth Province	6pm
Oct 23	Galway Fellowship Mass and Breakfast	Fifth Province	11am
Oct 24	<i>Shining City</i> Staged Reading	Fifth Province	7pm
Oct 26	Tara Club Senior Trip	Room 304	10am
Oct 30	Genealogy Workshop	Library	1pm

Regularly Scheduled Events

Mon-Fri	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	4pm-8pm
Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
	Memoir and Creative Writing Class (thru 10/25)	Library	4pm
	Traditional Art Class	Art Gallery	7pm
	Set Dancing	Room 111	7:30-9:30pm
Wed	Traditional Irish Music Session	Room 311	7pm
	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7-10pm
	Na Gaeil Irish Language Class	Library	7pm
	Watercolor Class	Room 310	6:45pm
Thurs	Taping of The Craic Radio Show	Fifth Province	6pm
	Thursday Night Irish Music Session	Fifth Province	7pm
	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsals	Room 306	7pm
	Memoir and Creative Writing Class (thru 10/27)	Library	7pm
Fri	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili	Room 111	8pm
Sat	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	10am-8pm
	Na Gaeil Irish Language Class	Library	11am

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

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The Irish Rover

By James McClure



Radio to the Rescue

I've always had a lifelong love of listening to radio. It began as a child when I would tuck a small transistor radio under my pillow and listen to the Top 40 music after bedtime, convinced that the Beatles were playing live in the radio studio just as they did on The Ed Sullivan Show.

My view of the world hadn't expanded enough to realize that the Fab Four would have more pressing engagements than to stop by the studios of WKMI-AM 1360 in Kalamazoo, Michigan and play the same song once every two or three hours for weeks on end. I also thought chocolate milk came from brown cows. Either way I was tasting something good.

By high school I had a couple friends at Loyola Academy in Wilmette that wanted to be DJ's when they grew up. Thanks to them I started hanging around radio stations and thrilled to see the music leap through the air after being input from tape cartridges. One of the first was Mark Miller at WVVX-FM in Highland Park. Mark was very kind and let me watch him spin "oldies" which in the late 1970's meant 50's, 60's and perhaps a ballad or two from the early 70's.

Driving with my father always meant listening along to WBBM-AM Newsradio, usually to and from Wisconsin.

During college at night I would listen to WBBM as I ran around the lakes of Notre Dame, usually timing it to listen to radio dramas at 10:30. By senior year I was get-

ting my own start in broadcasting, beginning with newscasts on the student radio station. On my first day I heard an alert on the bells of the bulky clanking press wire machine in the studio at WSND-AM/FM. I broke the news to our small group of listeners that Anwar Sadat had been assassinated.

Later my professional break came just before graduation, doing hourly newscasts to Top 40 on "U-93" in South Bend, WNDU-FM. I also did alternating newscasts on our country sister station, not only giving the latest local news off the wires but also punching the button that sent us back in regular rotation and airing the Saturday edition of Paul Harvey. To this day I can't hear any of the several hits of Hall and Oates from 1981 and 1982 without instantly being transformed back to the thrill of being on-air myself for the first time.

For the next 30 years I would move on to careers in television news and public relations, yet each day would be marked by listening to radio music, each night, tuning in to either Christian radio stations like Moody's WMBI in Chicago or on my first television job in Green Bay, listening to Wisconsin Public Radio for news and classical music as the day grew to an end.

Christian radio and public radio, an interesting combination.

And unbelievably, exactly where I find myself today.

God wasn't kidding in all those scriptures about fulfilling the dreams of your heart, wiping away tears and preserving a hope and a future.

Two years ago, sensing my post-Recession lifeboat of security work was not only insecure but a boat full of holes (low wages and consolidation have destroyed most of the family-owned security firms creating a death spiral only equal to that of broadcasting and public relations),

I contacted the general manager of a public radio station I loved to listen to in Kenosha.

Owned by the local community college system, the station had wonderful news personnel including longtime industry vet Dave McGrath, a stringy Irishman who when not running marathons in Ireland or Wisconsin is anchoring the morning and midday news for Wisconsin Public Radio listeners between Milwaukee and Chicago and out to Lake Geneva as well.

The station needed a presence in Walworth County, Wisconsin, where they transmit on two frequencies to both Lake Geneva and Elkhorn, the county seat. The general manager was kind enough to offer me the opportunity to host a monthly public affairs program, followed in short order by a weekly astronomy show I do from the University of Chicago's Yerkes Observatory and a weekday gig as the county news



correspondent.

At night when not listening to Chicago's Peter Van de Graaff playing classical music (his WMFT all-night show also plays on my classical station in Wisconsin...WGTD), I often listen to a wonderful Christian program called Music Til Dawn, a therapeutic and inspiring collection of psalms, songs and verse that brings hope and the healing love of Christ nationwide on the VC America Network.

The host of that show and founder of that network, took time to meet with me back in 2014 when I felt a calling that I might work there one day.

That dream too has come true, on weekend overnights I work in the network's master control center monitoring 23 radio stations, including its flagship TV and radio stations in Milwaukee. I pinch myself sometimes there at night....listening to the gospel music, editing hourly newscasts, previewing radio dramas and checking the sound quality of TV programs and taking hourly transmitter readings to make sure signals are clear and tower lights are bright to be seen by passing aircraft.

I pause and smile when one song in particular comes on...a ballad written to the Irish tune of "Danny Boy". Titled Amazing Grace in place of Oh Danny Boy, imagine my smile and perhaps a knowing tear when I hear that familiar Irish song with the new chorus:

I shall forever lift mine eyes to Calvary
To view the cross where Jesus died for me
How marvelous the grace that caught my falling soul
He looked beyond my fault and saw my need.



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Boyle the Kettle

We'll Have A Sup Of Tea

Tom Boyle



minutes instructions? To MacArthur from Truman. "Congratulations, job well done, but you

in the ear lobes, tatoos, piercings, etc., are a pathway to nowhere unless you happen to be a superior athlete. Who is going to hire anyone for a job looking like you do?

I salute you Colin. It's the one finger salute.

Chicago Irish

Our city of Chicago is blessed with two Irish organizations, the Irish American Heritage Center and Gaelic Park. The question is, where are the major donors? There are alot of wealthy Irish in this "toddlin town" who have yet to discover the value these cultural organizations bring. A place where children can learn traditional music and dance, where adults can participate in cultural events and Celtic football and hurling programs.

Yet, Daddy Warbucks is willing to buy a table for a dinner supporting an Irish Fund for \$25,000, and doesn't even know there are similar opportunities where you can buy tables for as little as \$1500 such as supporting iBAM!, the Irish Books Arts and Music Celebration Gala Dinner, Friday, October 14, 2016, and the Irish-American Hall of Fame Dinner in April of 2017.

Election Day

Which mask will you where on Halloween? Better yet, on election day? Will you wear a Hillary mask or a Trump mask?

There is no doubt the Hillary mask is much scarier than the Trump mask. If you wear the Hillary mask you must also wear a pants suit. Or, you could also dress up like Slick Willie, and he could wail on his saxophone while you go trick or treating.

The prospects are frightening.

Halloween

The Eve of all Hallows in ancient Ireland, and the festival of Samhain were celebrated on October 31st, the last day of the Celtic year. The crops were all harvested and stored, livestock was brought in from the fields.

The last day of the year was the time that the souls of the departed would return to their former homes. The evil spirits were released from the other-world and became visible. Spirits from the other-world were able to get into the human world so that the Puka, Banshees, and Fairies would come and go freely. There were also "Shapeshifters" at large. To ward off the evil spirits, huge bonfires were lit and ugly masks were worn to confuse the spirits that might not had liked you in their lifetime.

Pope Boniface, in the 7th Century declared November 1st to be All Saints Day to take away the emphasis from the pagan rituals.

To this day many of the Irish still practice the ancient beliefs, the custom of leaving the lights on in the house, the door open, and food on the table along with empty chairs at the table.

Politically Correct

Prior to the surrender of Japan General Douglas A. MacArthur, and Chester H. Nimitz both requested instructions on how to handle the signing of the surrender documents. MacArthur said, "Tomorrow we meet with those yellow-bellied bastards and sign the surrender documents, any last

must tone down your obvious dislike of the Japanese when discussing the terms of the surrender with the press, because some of your remarks are fundamentally not politically correct!

To Truman from MacArthur and Nimitz. "Wilco sir, but both Chester and I are somewhat confused, exactly what does the term politically correct mean.

To MacArthur and Nimitz from Truman, "Political Correctness is a doctrine, recently fostered by a delusional, illogical minority and promotyed by a sick mainstream media, which holds forth the proposition that it is entirely possible to pick up a piece of shit by the clean end!

Colin Kaepernick

Colin! Too bad you didn't decide to set a better example for the young black men who are often involved in police shootings. When I look at the culture of dreadlocks, bling, large diamonds



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ALL-STAR IRISH CONCERT



To aid in the construction of Bethel Hospital for the poor of Bolivia. Sponsored by the Cross Countries group at Oak Lawn Community High School.



Gaelic Park Friday, Nov. 4th

Laurence Nugent

Paddy Homan

Tom Dahill & Friends

Pauline Conneely & Chicago Reel

Brian Cunningham-sean nos dancer

Kevin Henry, Rory Makem, The Craic=

(John McDonagh-Larry Nugent-Billy O'Donoghue)

Damien McCarthy, Marta Cook & Devon Shepard,

Sean Gavin, Frank Quinn, Leandra Baker,

Irish Dancers, Tim Sullivan and many more.....



Tickets \$25
Options to Buy:

7:30 pm Concert
Doors Open 6:30 pm

- 1) Online at www.picatic.com/musicforbethel
- 2) From a Cross Countries member
- 3) At the Gaelic Park box office
- 4) At the door the night of the show

Cash Bar
Raffle Prizes
Much More!

Gaelic Park, 6119 147th St, Oak Forest, IL 60452 (708) 687-9323