

TIMOTHY EGAN

**New York Times Columnist,
Award Winning Author, and
2017 iBAM! Literature Awardee
Attending iBAM! Oct 27-28**

page 5

Photo by Berry Wong

**Tim will be on hand to accept the iBAM! Literature Award, Friday, Oct., 27 at the
iBAM! Gala Awards Dinner. Tickets Available at 847-872-0700**



IBAM CHICAGO 2017

IRISH BOOKS | ARTS | MUSIC CELEBRATION

A triumph of Irish culture featuring author appearances, art exhibits, live music, dance performances, film screenings and panel discussions

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 7pm

Gala Awards Dinner

In the IAHC Erin Room

This Year's Honorees



MUSIC: Daniel O'Donnell



LITERATURE: Timothy Egan



CULINARY ARTS: Kevin Dundon



MEDIA/JOURNALISM: Frank Mathie



VISUAL ARTS: Philip Gray



PERFORMING ARTS: Jim Sheridan

**PERSON OF THE YEAR: Joan Freeman,
Founder of *Darkness into Light***



For Gala tickets call 847-872-0700, or visit www.ibamchicago.com



Irish American Heritage Center

4626 North Knox Avenue | Chicago, IL 60630 | (773) 282-7035



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OCTOBER 28-29



**AUTHOR
AND LITERATURE AWARDEE**

Timothy Egan

New York Times
Columnist
Timothy Egan
and will sign
his latest book.

Other authors
include
Michael Hogan.



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The Celtic Women International Literary Salon
offers a continuous schedule of
short cultural programs.



For the full iBAM! lineup, visit www.ibamchicago.com

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

4626 North Knox Avenue | Chicago, IL 60630 | (773) 282-7035

Saturday schedule on pages 8 and Sunday Schedule on page 9

iBAM2017! Free Program October 28-29

Free Admission - Free Parking - All Welcome!

Irish Books, Arts, and Music Celebration is held on the 4 Floors of the Irish American Heritage Center, Featuring:

- **Authors** Timothy Egan, Michael Hogan, Brenna Briggs, Monica Dougherty, Marybeth Sammons, Michael McCarthy, Greg McVicker, Terence O'Leary, Sinead Tyrone, J. Lee Burke
- **Artist** Ireland's Philip Gray
- **Chef** Ireland's Celebrity Chef, Kevin Dundon
- **Dance** Beginner's Classes both days
- **Music** Live music both days in the 5th Province beginning at 12:30
- **Films** In the Name of Peace; John Hume in America, (90 min)
Fís na Fuisseige / The Lark's View, (60 min)
Life is Short (16 min)
Mother Jones: America's Most Dangerous Woman, (24 min)
Mother Jones and Her Children, (52 min)
(Special Mother Jones Panels on exhibit in the Film area)
- **Theatre** Saturday: 'Lured' by Terence Boyle (approx 40 minutes)
Sunday: Sketch on Mother Jones by Bridget Gerace in film room
- **Kids Rooms** Lots of things to do in the expanded Kids area on 3rd floor

MORE DETAILS: Saturday schedule page 8, Sunday Schedule page 9

- **Literature Salon** Special guest, Dr. Micheline Sheehy Skeffington will speak both days, and many others over the weekend in the action-packed room 111
- **Special Exhibits** Dan McLaughlin presents: History as Art. Dan tells the stories of historical figures and events with authentic ephemera and collectables in an eye catching collection where a picture is worth a thousand words.
- **Special Presentation** Irish Senator Joan Freeman speaks about Pieta House and her role in suicide prevention in Ireland and the USA
- **Music all Day** Listen to some great Irish music both days in the 5th Province from Noon to 6pm on Saturday and Sunday.
- **Vendors** Galway Bakers, Rampant Lion, Anne's Irish Knits, iaHC Gift Shop
Bring Your Family and Enjoy the Friendship All Weekend!

iBAM! Benefits the Irish American Heritage Center

Attend one or more of the ticketed events listed below

and enjoy yourself while helping the Heritage Center Pay it's Bills!

- **October 26 - Daniel O'Donnell and Band in Concert** (Auditorium)
- **October 27 - Gala Awards Dinner** (Erin Room on 4th Floor)
- **October 29 - Derek Warfield & the Young Wolfe Tones** (Erin Room)



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Derek Warfield & the Young Wolfe Tones to Perform at iBAM! October 29th

By Cliff Carlson

Derek Warfield has been performing since he was 6 or 7 years old. "My mother taught me over 50 songs by the time I was 7 years old. Songs and music were a big part of my early life because of my mother's love for singing and learning songs. My father played piano and mandolin. My grandmother gave me my first mandolin, so I was surrounded by music.

In 1961 or so, Derek formed a group called the Wolfe Tones which lasted over 40 years. "After the Wolfe Tones broke up, I founded the Young Wolfe Tones and we have been on the road over 12 years now. It's been a long fun journey.

The most rewarding part of my job is the appreciation shown for, and the response to our songs and music as we traveled around the world. I was unaware of the value placed on our tradition and our music outside of Ireland, and that was a real treasure of immeasurable proportions that we can have this audience and appreciation, not just in Ireland but in Canada and Australia - anywhere the Irish people settled they brought their music with them. It's a great tribute to the Irish race that they place such a high value on our music and song.

Derek has had his health and been able to perform and sing over the years all around the world. "Retirement doesn't fit the model of a performing artist. If you enjoy it and it rewards you and the people you are performing for, why give it up.

Damaris Woods has played the banjo in the Young Wolfe Tones since the beginning. Paeder Hickey has been in the band the last five or six years. I have a kind of a football team around me. If I do a festival I always bring a big band of five or six people. Garry Gormley, and Colm McGuinness do most of the shows with me. Piper, Dan O'Sullivan, plays with us a lot.

Damaris Woods, Paeder Hickey, Garry Gormley, Colm McGuinness, and Derek will be playing in Chicago on October, 29, 2017 at the Irish American Heritage Center on the last day of iBAM! 2017 starting at 5 pm.

Derek likes to talk about the music of the Diaspora. Irish people didn't stop writing songs when they left Ireland. They wrote them in America, Australia, Canada, Argentina, and in all the far away places they settled. The Irish are prolific when it comes to recording their feelings. I've focused on that over the last 10 years. I recorded a CD on the American Civil War, and on



the American Revolution, on the Irish in Australia and on the Irish Diaspora all over the world.

I get a lot of tributes from people for recording these songs so they don't get lost as the generations change. It's very satisfying for a performer to bring that music to an audience and show them the wonderful talent that was there amongst the early emigrants.

Derek will have plenty of CD's on hand when he performs here. "The music business has changed. The record shop is mostly a thing of the past, so all of your sales are in person or downloaded from the internet." Last year I did a CD especially for 1916 and I focused on the songs and music of the participants of 1916 like James Connolly, Padraic Pearse, and the songs that they wrote and the music that they performed. Sometimes the meaning of songs and music can be lost over time. The music that I record, I research it, and I always include liner notes with my music. People like to know the meaning of the songs.

"The Irish and our many friends in Chicago have been very supportive of our band. I hope to see many of them at our concert. Chicago has always been a great town for the support of Irish music and tradition. It's a while since I've been in the Heritage Center and I urge everyone to come out and hear our band. They are great musicians I have three teachers in the band and it adds a new dimension to the music!"

Great credit goes to the Irish-American community because they have created through their pride and love of their heritage and song and dance a massive market for Irish music around the world. America allowed the emigrants to express themselves freely, so in many ways we owe a debt of gratitude to the people in the States. It's now a worldwide heritage for Ireland.

2017 iBAM! Literature Awardee Timothy Egan

It's not many authors that have a quote on one of their books by none other than Walter Cronkite!

It is our pleasure to announce that Timothy Egan is our 2017 iBAM! Awardee for Literature, and will be on hand to receive his award at the iBAM! Gala Awards Dinner, October 27th in the Irish American Heritage Center in the Erin Room. Come out and honor him if you can!



Timothy Egan comes from a family of nine, from a mother who loved books and a father with the Irish gift of finding joy in small things. He worked on a farm, in a factory, and at a fast-food outlet while muddling through nearly seven on-and-off years of college.

He is the author of eight books. His most recent book, *The Immortal Irishman*, was a New York Times bestseller. His book on Edward Curtis, *Short Nights Of The Shadow Catcher*, was awarded the Carnegie

Award for best nonfiction. His account of the Dust Bowl, *The Worst Hard Time*, won the 2006 National Book Award, considered one of the nation's highest literary honors, and he was featured prominently in the 2012 Ken Burns film on the Dust Bowl.

A lifelong journalist, Mr. Egan now writes an online opinion column for *The New York Times*. Prior to that, Mr. Egan worked as a national correspondent for the Times, roaming the West. As a Times correspondent, he shared a *Pulitzer Prize* in 2001 with a team of reporters for its series, "How Race is Lived in America."

A graduate of the University of Washington, Mr. Egan also holds honorary doctorates from Whitman College, Willamette University, Lewis and Clark College, and Western Washington University. A third-generation Westerner and father of two, Mr. Egan lives in Seattle, which honored him once with the Keys to the City.



Honoring the outstanding contributions of the Irish in the fields of

MUSIC: Daniel O'Donnell

LITERATURE: Timothy Egan

CULINARY ARTS: Kevin Dundon

MEDIA/JOURNALISM: Frank Mathie

VISUAL ARTS: Philip Gray

PERFORMING ARTS: Jim Sheridan

PERSON OF THE YEAR:
Joan Freeman, Founder of *Darkness into Light*

Gala Awards Dinner

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2017

Call 847-872-0700 to Reserve Your Seats

Cocktail Reception: 7pm | Dinner: 8pm

The Erin Ballroom

The Irish American Heritage Center
4626 North Knox Avenue | Chicago, IL 60630

Black Tie optional



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OCTOBER 28-29

ARTS



VISUAL ARTS AWARDEE

Philip Gray

NEW DOCUMENTARY

In the Name of Peace: John Hume in America



CULINARY ARTS AWARDEE

Kevin Dundon



For the full iBAM! lineup, visit www.ibamchicago.com

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OCTOBER 28-29

Daniel O'Donnell
MUSIC AWARDEE



IN CONCERT

Thursday, October 26, 6:30pm



DEREK WARFIELD and
THE YOUNG WOLFE TONES
IN CONCERT

Sunday
October 29 • 5pm

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For the full iBAM! lineup, visit www.ibamchicago.com

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**Subject to Change
Without Notice**

SATURDAY OCTOBER 28th
SCHEDULE • iBAM! Chicago 2017

**Elevator on each floor
by center stairwell**

Floor 1 Room 109

1pm - 2pm

Author Timothy Egan

How the Irish Became American
The Thomas Francis Meagher
story.

2pm - 2:45pm

Irish Senator Joan Freeman

Presents: Ireland's Pieta
House, and her Darkness into
Light Walk/Run in Ireland and
USA to help prevent suicide.

3 pm

Theatre Reading

Reading by the
Right Brain Project from
Terrence Boyle's play, "Lured"

BOTH DAYS!

4 pm Part 1 Sat, Part 2 Sun!

Irish Reels: A Century of Irish Cinema

Presented by **John Gleeson**

The first film shot and shown in
Ireland was made in 1897. Since
then Irish film making has pro-
gressed in waves from lean times
(including David Lean !) to the
present, rather prolific, period.
Using clips from what I consider
seminal works of Irish Cinema
we will explore themes, tropes,
ideas and genres that inhabit that
world. I consider the "Man Trio"
that is "Man of Aran", "Odd Man
Out" and "The Quiet Man" to be
the most influential. Is that the
case? "Michael Collins" is the
most successful film in Ireland to
date. Let's discuss why this might
be, and while we're at it let's turn
our minds to the history of Ireland
on film and the future of small
national film culture in the age of
globalization.

5 pm Panel Discussion

**Brexit: How will Britain's exit
from the EU affect Ireland/USA**
Moderator: Mary McCain,
Panelists: Terence Boyle, Joan
Freeman, Timothy Egan, Michael
Hogan.

Floor 2 Hallway

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

Peruse the beautiful 7 foot ban-
ners of the **71 Inductees** to date!
Nominate someone for consid-
eration and enter the free drawing
for a brand new deck of Hall of
Fame Playing Cards!

Floor 1 Room 111

Literary Salon

12 pm

Joan Kramer

St. Brigid's Celtic Meditation

12:30 pm

Sinead Tyrone

A Song of Ireland: Poetry Reading

1 pm

Rosemary Feurer

Mother Jones/James Connolly

1:30 pm **Claudia Anderson**

Words of a Wise Woman: Readings
from Patricia Monaghan

2 pm

Theresa Choske

Women in the Arts: Susan and
Elizabeth Yeats

2:30 pm

Katya Maslakowski

Espionage, Romance and the His-
tory of the Cork IRA 1919-1921

3:00 pm

Mary Pat Kelly

The Irish & Chicago Politics

3:30 pm

Maureen Smith

Intersection of Interests: Early
20th Century
Active Irish Women

4 pm

Micheline Sheehy Skeffington

The role of Hanna and Francis
Sheehy Skeffington in early 20th
century Irish politics

5 pm

Reception

All are welcome to grab a drink
from the bar and then join us
in the "Literary Salon" to mix
and mingle.

Floor 1 Fifth Province

Free Music All Day

12:30 pm - 2 pm

Tunes of Erin with Tim Mc-
Ginness and Jim Thornton of the
Irish Musician's Association of
America and guitarist and vocal-
ist Tony Janacek

2:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Pauline Conneely & Friends

(pictured)

Pauline Conneely
Gerry Carey
Vidar

Look for more
music in the 5th
Province Pub
after 6 pm



Floor 2 (Northeast Corner)

Art Gallery

Watch 2017 iBAM! Awardee for
Visual Arts, Ireland's **Philip Gray**
painting live!

2:30 pm Both Days: Philip will
give a talk on his extreme art ex-
ploits and answer questions.

Floor 2 Library

Both Days 1 to 5 pm
Genealogy Advice:
Brian Donovan &
friends - New and
used books for Sale

Floor 2

Special Exhibit

In the Shamrock American
Room Across from the Library

History As Art

by **Dan McLaughlin**

Stories in a frame of historical figures
or events with authentic ephemera
and collectables in an eye catching
collection is its own form of art. Tell-
ing a story like the proverbial photo
that's worth a thousand words: The
1912 election, one of histories more
interesting elections or the 1896 elec-
tion, one of the more complex are
favorites but every story in history
is unique. While these can be pur-
chased, custom frames of your favor-
ite figures or events can be produced
as well. Dan, researched his projects,
collected signatures and memorabilia
to produce these very interesting
framed stories within a story. Fea-
turing exhibits on historic villains:
Bin Laden, John Wilkes Booth, and
many more. Most of what you will
see in this fascinating collection will
be for sale and available after the
iBAM! weekend

Both Days

Free Beginners Dance Class

1 pm Room 304

Kids Corner

Floor 3 Rooms 302 /303

12:30 Storyteller, Margaret Burk,
with stories on fairies, leprechauns
and Halloween, **1 pm Wooden**
Mask decorating with Teresa
1:30 Music with Joe McShane
and his son Declan, **2 pm Make**
and learn the history of St Brigid's
Crosses with Teresa,
3 pm Storyteller, Margaret
Burk, weaving her stories!, **4 pm**
Halloween Costume Contest

Chef KEVIN DUNTON

BOTH SATURDAY & SUNDAY

2 pm each day: 2017 iBAM! Culinary Arts Awardee speaks in the
Shamrock American Room 2nd Floor across from Library

FILMS

BOTH SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

Films Floor 3 Room 309

Special Mother Jones Panels on exhibit in the Film area

12:15 pm (24 min)

Mother Jones:

America's Most

Dangerous Woman

A new documentary about the amaz-
ing labor heroine, Mary Harris Jones,
known as "Mother" Jones. Mother
Jones mobilized thousands of work-
ers in struggles for justice in the early
20th century.

The documentary shows how Mother
Jones' organizing career influ-
enced the history of early 20th centu-
ry United States. Featuring historian
Elliott Gorn, leading biographer of
Mother Jones, it shows how Mother
Jones transformed personal and po-
litical grief and rage into an effective
persona that led workers into battles
that changed the course of history.

1 pm (52 minute)

Mother Jones

and Her Children

Multiple perspectives on the history
and legacy of Mother Jones. Scenes
from her birthplace and comments
from those in Cork add a special di-
mension to this film. Filmed at several
locations in Illinois and the USA.
This film premiered at the Cork
Mother Jones Festival in 2014 and
the Mother Jones Foundation festi-
val to rounds of applause and ap-
preciation. The most in-depth film
exploration of Mother Jones to date.
Features scenes from Cork, the birth-
place of Mother Jones, Chicago, New
York, Mt. Olive, Illinois. Produced
by Frameworks Films and the Cork
Mother Jones Commemorative
Committee, 2014
Emma Bowell and Eddie Noonan,
Producers You can also order this
film directly from Ireland at [http://
frameworksfilms.com](http://frameworksfilms.com).

2 pm (16 minute)

Life is Short

Film by Colleen Grace Herlihy
in Dingle, Ireland

On a pilgrimage to Ireland to
scatter her recently deceased
grandmother's ashes, a young
American woman realizes her
own life is at a crossroads as she
discovers a secret in her grand-
mother's past.

2:30 pm (60 minutes)

Fis na Fuisgeoige /

The Lark's View

Irish with English subtitles

Following a sell-out world pre-
miere at the 2016 Dublin In-
ternational Film Festival and at

Galway's International Festival of
Literature, Cúirt, Fis na Fuisgeoige
/ The Lark's View, is directed by
Aodh Ó Coileáin and produced
by Counterpoint Films.

Sense of place has helped shape
the Irish identity and Irish literary
imagination from earliest times. It
has helped create riches rather than
wealth. Fis na Fuisgeoige is a visual
exploration of the landscape of Ire-
land, and a story of the close rela-
tionship between the Irish people
and the land. It explores how the
concepts of space and place con-
struct Irish identity and, in turn,
produce poetry and local lore.
The focus of the film is the Irish
love for the home-place as re-
flected in poetry and local stories.
Landscape is not just geography
here, but a mnemonic for literature
and poetry. 100 years after the
Easter Rising, the poets' revolu-
tion, Fis na Fuisgeoige gives voice
to modern Irish poets and af-
firms the Irish connection to the
land and how this has informed
our sensibility, sense of self and
imagination.

3:15pm **Midwest Premiere** 90 min

In the Name of Peace;

John Hume in America

Direct from Ireland, a new feature
documentary by author and film-
maker, Maurice Fitzpatrick, Mau-
rice will be on hand to introduce
the film, and to take questions after
the film is shown.

Including wide-ranging and in-
sightful interviews with **President**
Bill Clinton, President Jimmy
Carter, as well as Irish leaders,
Bono and **Prime Ministers John**
Major and **Tony Blair** among
others, who helped to wrest peace
from war in Northern Ireland.
Voiced by **Liam Neeson** with orig-
inal composition by **Bill Whelan**.
This is the story of the extraordi-
nary work of **Nobel Prize win-
ning John Hume** to harness and
leverage US support to help to
secure peace in Northern Ireland.
Through the relationships he cul-
tivated with The White House and
US Congress, John Hume created
the framework for peace in North-
ern Ireland. Director/Producer/
Script Maurice Fitzpatrick
Photography Basil Al-Rawi Edi-
tor David Fox, Music Bill Whelan
Irish Locations Dublin, Derry, An-
trim, Cork, Donegal Production
Company: Creeney Films

Auditorium 10:30 am MASS

Concert: Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones 5 pm (tickets \$20)

Floor 1 Room 109
1 pm - 1:30 **Author**
Michael McCarthy speaks about the Peter Robinson Settlement Project of 1823 and 1825
1:45 pm **Author**
Greg McVicker discusses life in the North of Ireland and his books: *Through the Eyes of a Belfast Child*, *Silly Billy* & *An Irish Heart: Poetic memoirs of a Belfast Child*
2:30 pm **Author**
Terence O'Leary
Bringing Your Irish Ancestors to Life
A Christmastime dinner conversation about his ancestors led author Terence O'Leary on a two year journey to recreate the heartbreak of the Irish Potato Famine and the triumph of the Irish who survived the journey across the Atlantic on the infamous famine ships.

BOTH DAYS!

4 pm Part 1 Sat, Part 2 Sun!
Irish Reels: A Century of Irish Cinema
Presented by John Gleeson (see Saturday schedule page 8)

3 pm - 4 pm **Author**
Michael Hogan Ph.D.
Why Mexico Loves Abraham Lincoln and the Irish
When the US declared war on Mexico in 1846 and invaded that country based on false information, Abraham Lincoln, then a young Representative from Illinois, stood up in Congress and called the war "un-constitutional and unnecessary." He called the president a fabricator and war monger. He risked his political career by doing so. Ulysses S. Grant said it was "a wicked war" and "the most unjust ever waged by a stronger nation against a weaker." Hundreds of Irish, who had recently arrived to the New World fleeing the famine, agreed. They joined the Mexicans to repel what they considered an unprovoked invasion of a Catholic country.

Floor 1 Fifth Province
Free Music All Day
12:30 pm - 2 pm
Tunes of Erin with Tim McGinness and Jim Thornton of the Irish Musician's Association of America and guitarist and vocalist Tony Janacek

2:30 pm to 5:30 pm
Pauline Conneely & Friends
(pictured) Pauline Conneely, Gerry Carey and Vidar
More music in the 5th Province Pub after 6 pm



Floor 1 (south) 5th Province -food/drink from 11:30 am
Literary Salon
Floor 1 Room 111

Noon **Kathy Cunningham**
Telling Your Story with Art
12:30 pm
Brenna Briggs
MAIDS (Mothers Addicted to Irish Dancing) & the Evolution of the Liffey Rivers Stories

1 pm
Micheline Sheehy Skeffington
Three generations of activism: the Sheehy Skeffingtons' fight for women's equality in Ireland 1900-2017
2 pm

Bridget English
More Dead Than Alive: Mourning and Memory in Glasnevin Cemetery

2:30 pm
Mary Wagner
When the Shoe Fits, Wear It!

3 pm **Mary McCain**
N. Ireland's Next Generation: Comments from Millennials

3:30 pm **Monica Dougherty and Marybeth Sammons**
Your Family Story to Go - A how-to guide for connecting your past, present and future through story.

4 pm
Mark Piekarz
Songs & Ballads from the Irish Tradition

4:30 pm
Kathy O'Neill
Your Hair is on Fire
Kathy will read her original stories and poems about growing up Irish Catholic in the 70's and 80's in New Jersey.

Floor 2 - Northeast Corner
Art Gallery

Watch 2017 iBAM! Awardee for Visual Arts, Ireland's **Philip Gray** painting live!

2:30 pm **Both Days:** Philip will give a talk on his extreme art exploits and answer questions.

Floor 1 Hallway North

Vendors
Rampant Lion - Galway Bakers
Anne's Irish Knits - HC Gift Shop
Nimble Thimbles

Authors
Timothy Egan - Michael Hogan
Brenna Briggs - Sinead Tyrone
Greg McVicker - Mike McCarthy
Terence O'Leary - J. Lee Burke
Monica Dougherty
Marybeth Sammons

Floor 2
Special Exhibit
In the Shamrock American Room Across from the Library
History As Art

by Dan McLaughlin
Stories in a frame of historical figures or events with authentic ephemera and collectables in an eye catching collection is its own form of art. Telling a story like the proverbial photo that's worth a thousand words: The 1912 election, one of histories more interesting elections or the 1896 election, one of the more complex are favorites but every story in history is unique. While these can be purchased, custom frames of your favorite figures or events can be produced as well. Dan, researched his projects, collected signatures and memorabilia to produce these very interesting framed stories within a story. Featuring exhibits on historic villains: Bin Laden, John Wilkes Booth, and many more. Most of what you will see in this fascinating collection will be for sale and available after the iBAM! weekend

Floor 2 Library

Both Days 1 to 5 pm
Genealogy Advice:
Brian Donovan & friends - New and used books for Sale

Kids Corner

Floor 3 Rooms 302 /303
12 to 5 pm Bring the kids for drawing, music, and storytelling!

12:30 pm **Brynn Emmett as Pirate Queen Grace O'Malley** will wow the kids with her shenanigans.

1 pm **Grace O'Malley and Theresa** will show the kids how to make the Brigid's Cross

1:30 Music with **Joe McShane** and his son Declan

2 pm **Susan Witek, M.A., Puppeteer**, with the 3 Goats That Go to Ireland, and **Finn McCool** too!

3 pm **Brynn Emmett** as **Grace O'Malley**, along with **Wooden Mask Decorating** about 3:30 with **Grace and Theresa**, 4 pm **Costume Contest** and **Parade of Costumes**.

Both Days
Free Beginners
Dance Class
1 pm Room 304

Peruse the beautiful 7 foot banners of the **71 Inductees** to date!

Nominate someone for consideration and enter the free drawing for a brand new deck of **Hall of Fame Playing Cards!**

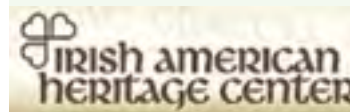
Chef KEVIN DUNDON
BOTH SATURDAY & SUNDAY
2 pm each day: 2017 iBAM! Culinary Arts Awardee speaks in the Shamrock American Room 2nd Floor across from Library

iBAM! 2017 Culinary Arts Awardee Kevin Dundon will speak both days on his Dublin restaurant and cooking school, life as a celebrity chef in Ireland, and his show on the Food Network.

One of Ireland's best-loved chefs, Kevin Dundon can usually be found busy at work in the Dunbrody House kitchens and cookery school. You will also often find him gracing the TV screens and chatting on Irish radio covering all things to do with food. A chef with a love of locally-sourced indigenous produce Kevin considers himself spoilt with the positive bounty of fresh seafood and fantastic fruit and vegetables literally on his doorstep.



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Dave Maher: 3rd Generation Will County Irish and Honored Chicago Honor Flight Assistant

By *Ryanne Gallagher Johnson*

In recent years, especially in this age of widespread social media coverage, the men and women of our U.S. military have become celebrity-like, in that they're almost universally celebrated for their service to our country. However you feel about the current political climates, most agree that those who fight for our rights and freedoms, both domestically and overseas, are to be honored and respected, and many often receive hero's welcomes as they complete their terms of service.

Websites like Youtube and Instagram have thousands of videos and compilations that show how our current and ex-military men and women are celebrated, from parades and parties to award ceremonies and televised surprise returns for the major life events of their loved ones. Whole television series and movies have centered around branches of our military, telling stories to enlighten the masses on what life is like for both those serving and their families at home. If seen in uniform, these people are often approached and thanked for all they do for us. They're our modern day super-heroes, defenders of our country.

Currently in the U.S., there are around 22 million military veterans. While the last three decades have seen their fair share of those in service, nearly half of our ex-military are age 65 or older.

Unfortunately, for those who fought in wars from decades past, the Vietnam, Korean War, and World War II veterans, the celebrations and gratefulness of a nation were often not in abundance during their homecomings. This lack of recognition, and in some cases, outright opposition, to our country's old-war fighters is a tragedy on many levels, not the least of which because it often times leaves our seasoned veterans without a feeling of closure surrounding their military service during some of the worst and most heinous wars our country has ever seen.

This is where the very special program Honor Flight comes in, to give those veterans the respect and celebration they've deserved for so many years.

Conducted by nonprofit organizations, Honor Flight is a project dedicated to transporting as many United States military veterans as possible to see the memorials of their respectively fought wars in Washington D.C., at no cost to the veterans. Top priority is given to the senior veterans- World War II survivors, along with those who are terminally ill. The program was started in Ohio in 2005, by physician assistant and Retired Air Force Captain Earl Morse, and has since transported nearly 200,000 veterans to and from Washington D.C. since that inaugural flight. It now has 131 hubs throughout 45 states.

Dave Maher, owner of Brown's Chicken in Joliet, was able to participate in an Honor Flight with his Korean War veteran father, Dan Maher Sr., back in June. Dave, who is a third generation member of the Irish American Society of County Will, was kind enough to sit down with us to speak about the Honor Flight experience, and give us a more in-depth look at what happens during one of these incredible trips for our veterans.

"Out of Chicago, Honor Flight is taking all the World War II Veterans and Korean War veterans to D.C. for a day... We were on the 80th flight, and they've taken just over 8,000 Veterans. It's run by a woman named Mary Pettinato. She took her father on the initial flight. He was a World War II veteran. He passed away four months after they'd gone, and it became her calling," Dave explains of the Chicago branch of the program. "It's a very well run organization. She has about 1400 volunteers on both sides, in Chicago and D.C.."

While the Honor Flight program in Chicago is currently only doing World War II and Korean War Veterans, they'll be adding Vietnam War to the rotation

very soon. "They want to get the WWII guys and the Korean (War) guys, based on their age, out there first."

So, what is an Honor Flight like?

First, each prospective Flight recipient has to apply. In Dan's case, it was two years between his application and his Honor Flight trip. Along with each flight of veterans, there are 12 assistant positions also offered up, and also only attainable by applying. "The only offer 12 assistant positions because they already have their own medical staff and their own team of assistants that are



there, both here in Chicago and in D.C.... There's a waiting list you get on to be an assistant."

In Dave's lucky case, he was given one of these assistant spots, and was able to attend the Flight with his father.

Honor Flight is given their own plane, which allows them to fully immerse in the experience. In the Chicagoland area, they take off and return out of Midway airport, where attendees are expected to arrive by 4 a.m. for their journey. Our veterans receive dog tags, food, and coffee, all while being serenaded by singing CSO girls. There are 12 photographers at each end of the trip, and ones that fly with the group on the plane, to take as many photos as possible of the entire day.

All the veterans on Honor Flight are transported in wheel-

chairs, no matter their health or ability. "They do this so that they can get carte blanche in D.C.," Dave says.

Upon arrival in D.C., the Flight is met by members of the fire department, police, and military, who salute the arriving guests amid shooting water cannons. Walking through the airport to load the buses, thousands of volunteers and others not affiliated with the program, who have come specifically for this event, are there to see and honor our veterans. Once to the buses, the honored guests are given drinks and snacks, while a police escort

given to participants in packets when they get home.

Throughout the day, in between monuments and events, there are always people approaching the group to shake the veterans' hands and thank them for their service.

On the flight home, the veterans receive mail call. Loved ones are asked to write and send in letters to the Flight participants, and each veteran is given a package of letters from their friends and family, much as they would have received on their return journeys from their war tours.

The entire experience is over by that same night, and the flight returns to Midway by 9 p.m. Back in Chicago, there's another group awaiting their arrival, this time with local visitors and volunteers, and the friends and family of the Flight's veterans.

60 members of Dan and Dave's own family were there to greet them at the airport.

"The first person he saw was my mom, and he jumped out of the wheelchair and greeted her... they've been married 63 years."

And, as expected, emotions are running a little high by this point in the trip. "(My dad) was fine with it all day long," Dave says. "He'd actually been to the Korean Memorial the weekend it opened. But to see all the things, to run into people he hadn't seen (in years) and experience that. Initially during the day, I think they were all okay. This is really a great thing. But, at the end, when you're tired and you've had such a long day... I think it was very overwhelming. He couldn't fall asleep that night after everything. None of (the veterans) had experienced what they got to experience with this Flight."

There are currently 27,272 veterans on the waiting list for this trip. The Honor Flight Network is made possible mostly through donations. You can find donation information, Flight information, and applications for the program at their website www.honorflight.org.

leads them through the city, in their own lane, the whole way. They are able to miss early morning traffic this way, expediting their one-day trip.

"Everywhere you go is a hero's welcome."

The groups then visits the World War II and Korean War Memorials, where they can see and reflect on their years of service. "Then they do a thing at the Air Force memorial there, where the guys come out and do revelry, you got jets flying over, you got people just walking up to you and taking pictures with you. It's really a great moment... All the while, they're bringing you through, and they're taking pictures, and they get group pictures and pictures throughout the day."

Photos from the experience are downloaded onto discs and

The Coronas: New Music and a Tour

By *Ryanne Gallagher Johnson*

It's been a slow, successful rise for Dublin-based band The Coronas in the decade since their debut, and with their fifth album having dropped in the States in September and an upcoming world tour, it looks like they're slated to continue getting bigger.

"That's the funny thing. I think a lot of bands have a hit and it happens for them over the course of a few months. (But) with us, it was always a gradual progression," Frontman Danny O'Reilly explains their crockpot-esque rise to success. "I think we're definitely a band of the people. We've built it up through the venues, and we got little bits of radio play, and little things happened for us here and there. So it was a very gradual thing. Our first album came out ten years ago this year. Every year, we've built on it, and it took us that time to get up here... It's been a great ten years

Their first big sell-out gig was at Whalens in Dublin, a venue that boasts a capacity of 300. However, their most notable show to date was perhaps when they played at the 3Arena, formerly known as the Point, a place well known in the Irish music world, where great bands have played great shows for the masses. "That was a huge moment for us last year. We grew up here... I remember my mother actually brought me to see the Cranberries there, and I remember going to see Oasis there back in the day, thinking 'wow, this venue is so, so huge', and we got to play there last year, and it sold out. So that was pretty special."

Next month, they'll be returning to Chicago, to Lincoln Hall, where they've previously played a St. Paddy's Day show. "We can't wait. We love Chicago. We've all been there, we've all played there. It's probably our favorite city in the States... We did our J-1 there, so a lot of our first album was written there... we can't wait to get back."

With the release of their latest album, *Trust the Wire*, O'Reilly says the secret to getting a new record made is a lot of quiet time together as a band and making sure they have a team of really good people. "We always find we work best when we kind of lock ourselves away. For our last album, we moved down to this little part of Ireland, Dingle, into a house there for about a month or two, and sort of locked ourselves away and wrote the album... We have a good team around us. Our manager is very good, he's

a very talented man... We have a good group of people who work together really well and get on together. It's probably our most successful album to date. It's gotten the most radio play, so we're really excited for it to come to the States."

Although the windy city is their only scheduled Midwestern stop this time around, on November 14, they're hoping to make it back in the late winter, early spring. Their world tour includes Europe the U.S., and Australia.

"There's been a conveyor belt of Irish music over the years, and we're happy to be on it. It's a really great time for it!"

For tour dates, concert tickets, and the latest information and news for The Coronas, you can visit their website at thecoronas.net.



The Coronas (l to r): Dave McPhillips, Danny O'Reilly, Graham Knox, Conor Egan
and we still love it."

Having formed their group while in school at University College Dublin, O'Reilly and his band mates Conor Egan, Graham Knox, and Dave McPhillips started their musical careers together by playing college nights and small venues around the city.

"(Then) we finished our degrees and sort of said 'we're doing okay, let's see what happens. Let's give it a year'. That was nine years ago, and we haven't had to get a real job since," says O'Reilly of their beginning. "Each year, we've played at bigger venues. We're very blessed that we have our dream job, and we've had some successful moments along the way. We still love it and we still enjoy it. We're still making music that we're very proud of. It's been a great ride."

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ICHC Wisconsin Fall Concerts

The Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, has announced its fall Hallamór Concert Series. The start time for each concert is 7:30 p.m.

The season opens with Skipper's Alley on Friday, Oct. 20. A modern Irish folk band with an old-school approach, the six-piece ensemble has drawn praise

in-demand musicians John Mock and Ed Boyd.

Internationally renowned performer, arranger and recording artist, harpist Kim Robertson will present an intimate, warm and joyful celebration of a traditional Celtic Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 16. A Wisconsinite, Robertson will be joined by musicians from the Milwaukee area as well



Skipper's Alley

for their gritty, high-octane Irish tunes and occasional detours into the dark, somber melodies of the Irish song tradition.

Performing on Friday, Nov. 10 are Maura O'Connell and Karan Casey, two of Irish music's most revered singers known for the depth, beauty and joy in their exploration and interpretation of songs. They will be joined by

as Irish dancers.

Tickets for the Skipper's Alley and Kim Robertson concerts are \$21 in advance and \$25 on concert day. Tickets for O'Connell and Casey are \$29 in advance and \$33 at the door. Tickets for students are \$10 and free for children 12 and under. For tickets and more information, go to www.ichc.net.



Changing Your Colours

We will soon be experiencing the wonderful manifestations of the autumn season once again, a time when nature changes in a myriad of colours. It can also be a time for personal reflection and stepping beyond our normal boundaries of operation and familiarity.

The Renaissance proper is a French word meaning 'rebirth'. After the fall of the Roman Empire, Europe was overrun by Barbarian tribes which led to the historical time frame that we now refer to as 'The Dark Ages'. After many centuries of this, there was a major push to renew science, literature, travel and culture and this gave rise to the Renaissance period in the Middle Ages. This fostering of culture and learning would eventually spawn scientists such as Galileo and Newton, sea travelers like Columbus and Da Gama and artists of the caliber of Michael Angelo and Da Vinci. It was a time of great change, spiritual renewal, and it was a

massive kick start for civilization in general.

In this present age we should also look beyond our normal boundaries and at our own potential 'renaissance'. The human being is a very adaptive animal but we have bound ourselves so much to particular careers that we do not have the confidence to break out of them or try other avenues of work. There was a statistic published a few years ago that said only 10% of people were in the careers they should be in. The vast majority of us stumble into boxes and get trapped inside them.

Many people are reluctant to try new ventures if they do not have previous experience of the new function they are now entering into. This attitude has changed over the past few years to now bring our experience, wisdom and work ethic to the new position and learn the elements of the new job afterwards as a secondary consideration. We are capable of making abrupt career changes and adapting to them successfully if we need to. The

main thing is not to get boxed in, take the time to look around and put your plans in place to make that transitional change if you feel that you need to achieve more.

As we navigate the early years of the 21st century, new tools are demanding new rules. It is important that we take a 'leap of faith' and follow our intuitions. It is a time to start challenging the traditional assumptions and to find new prisms in order to look at a changing world. It is also vitally important that we respect the inputs from another people's point of view.

From a business perspective, we are living in two worlds at the same time. The transition from the factory focused, mass production way of operating to the digitally based knowledge economy is a road full of bad corners and detours. However, many successful companies today are balancing both of these worlds and using the best of the old practices to bring into the new. It is time to stop paving the cow paths and build a new route instead. As we progress onwards we must be able to step back, adjust the vision, and emerge stronger and more confident to a world that demands greater expectations. The main thing in this world is not so much where we stand but in what direction we are moving.

Irish Cultural and Heritage Center Announces Fall Concerts

Skipper's Alley
Friday, Oct. 20
\$21 in advance
\$25 day of



**Maura O'Connell
and
Karan Casey**

Friday, Nov. 10
\$29 in advance \$33 day of

Kim Robertson
Celtic Christmas
Saturday, Dec. 16
\$21 in advance - \$25 day of



Tickets for students are \$10 and free for children 12 and under. For tickets and information www.ichc.net



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A Cháirde

The GAA Season has come to an end, with an historic All Ireland hurling win by Galway, a very close Dublin All Ireland football victory over a proud, tough Mayo team, and with Erin's Rovers bringing home the North American football title.

Congratulations to all the champions.

Fall events are here, which include our set and ceili dancing, the Monthly Mass and Breakfast, and Tuesday night Pub Trivia. We also look forward to our family Halloween party this month, and we know you'll be glad if you visit us this fall. And remember, even when the nights are too cold to enjoy Wednesday barbequed rib nights on the patio, Wednesday is still barbequed rib night

in the Carraig Pub.

With recent visits from Minister Ciaran Cannon and Ambassador Dan Mulhall, and the recent arrival of new Chicago Vice-Consul Justin Dolan (Welcome, Justin!), I'm reminded of common themes from my conversations with Irish visitors to our city. All seem very impressed with the depth, breadth and vibrancy of our Chicago Irish organizations, and the passion with which we support and promote Irish culture. We can all be proud of that, and I think we can also be proud of the openness and friendliness of the warm Chicago welcome that our visitors all appreciate so much.

Slán go fóil,
Bill O'Sullivan

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Wed	Oct 11	Frank Rossi	6:00pm
Fri	Oct 13	Ray Gavin	7:30pm
Sat	Oct 14	Larry Nugent & Billy O'Donahue	8:30pm
Fri	Oct 20	Bernie Glim	7:30pm
Sat	Oct 21	Mulligan Stew	8:30pm
Fri	Oct 27	St. James Gate	7:30pm
Sat	Oct 28	Jerry & Kara	8:30pm

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www.chicagogaelicpark.org

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2017 CGP Calendar of Events 2017

OCTOBER

Oct 3	Pub Trivia	
Oct 4	Monthly Musical Luncheon*	
	Music: Kara & Jerry Eadie	
Oct 8	IMA Ceili	
Oct 11	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting	7:30pm
Oct 14	Mayo Dinner Dance	
Oct 22	Kerry Association Luncheon	

*Reservations Required 708.687.9323

Save the Date

Nov 5	Classic Carvery
Nov 10	Vera Kelly Quiz
Nov 12	Vera Kelly Card Game
Nov 12	Galway Convention

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

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

Gaelic Park's **Thursday October 26, 2017 6:00pm**

HALLOWEEN PARTY!

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The Carraig Pub Trivia Night!



Tuesday Nights at 7:30pm SHARP!

Beginning Tuesday October 3rd

So find some people who actually paid attention in school and bring them along with you for Trivia Night.

5 People Per Team - \$5.00 per person, per night

Proceeds go to a charity
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A delicious all-you-can-eat buffet dinner with freshly carved meats, complete with a choice of soups, an extensive salad bar, additional hot entrees, a selection of vegetables, a potato bar with choice of potato and toppings, and a dessert station. Served from 3pm to 6pm, with musical entertainment continuing to 8pm.

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(Holidays excluded)
Admission includes dinner and entertainment - Cash Bar



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Recent Gaelic Park Memories...



Hurling Fans Enjoy the Telecast of the All Ireland Final



Chef Charlie and the Carraig Pub Irregulars/Rib Night Quality Control Team





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2017 Chicago Finals Men's and Women's Jr Games



Celebrate Thanksgiving at Gaelic Park

Thursday November 23, 2017

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Reservations are required and must be paid in advance
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If you are interested in becoming a member of the Gaelic Park Players, the meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 pm at Gaelic Park. Visit us at gaelicparkplayers.org or on Facebook. [Facebook.com/groups/gaelicparkplayers](https://www.facebook.com/groups/gaelicparkplayers).



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Minister Cieran Cannon's Visit to Gaelic Park, August 16, 2017



Minister Cieran Cannon and Bill O'Sullivan, President of Gaelic Park



Minister Cieran Cannon and Consul General Brian O'Brien with a group at our Great Hunger Memorial



Minister Cannon and Colm Egan



Paddy Homan and the Noble Call
Christmas Show

Paddy Homan & his band, The Noble Call, takes audiences back to the 'hearth' of an Irish Christmas, filled with songs, stories, rousing music and traditional Irish dancing.

Joining Homan for this special holiday evening is Mick Broderick on Bodhran and Dave Curley on Guitar, Banjo and Vocals, from the Band, SLIDE. There will be many special guests and dancers for what promises to be an incredible night of music, song and dance.

Appearing at:

Chicago Gaelic Park
Friday December 15, 2017 - 8:00pm
Tickets \$25
Call 708-687-9323 to make reservations
Chicago Gaelic Park - 6119 W 147th Street - Oak Forest

A Word With Monsignor Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Rev. Monsignor Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



On October 2nd Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago hosted the 100th Annual Meeting of our Board of Advisors. This was truly an historic occasion as our board members joined together to celebrate their common commitment to serving the poor for the 100th time, just as they have done each year for the past century.

Catholic Charities is calling our anniversary celebration "A Century of Hope," because hope is exactly what we strive to bring each person who walks through our doors. For Catholic Charities, charity is not just about providing material assistance, but acting with the same love and mercy that Jesus showed to restore people's dignity and give them hope for the future. We compassionately and passionately feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, welcome the stranger, comfort the afflicted, and ensure that each person is treated with the utmost respect and dignity. We assess a person's short-term and long-term needs, providing immediate relief and helping develop a holistic plan for a better life.

It is our goal that Catholic Charities 100th anniversary is viewed as a celebration for the entire community because Catholic Charities is truly a product of the collective efforts of Good Samaritans from all parts of the city and suburbs. Parishes, religious men and women, individual donors and volunteers, philanthropic organizations, businesses, and government entities have come together throughout the years in our shared concern for those living at the furthest margins of society. From caring for widows and orphans during World War I and the spread of the deadly influenza virus, to providing critical aid during the Great Depression, expanding housing and senior services as baby boomers have aged, providing relief during the Great Recession, and now being an important part of anti-violence initiatives in the most troubled neighborhoods, Catholic Charities has been made strong by Good Samaritans who have refused to pass by the one abandoned by the side of the road.

Because of this faithful and faith-filled support, I am pleased to say that Catholic Charities is stronger than ever. I am particularly thankful for all those who supported us during the recent Illinois state budget crisis, allowing Catholic Charities to be one

of the few social service providers that did not have to cut services to vulnerable populations. Catholic Charities' board members and supporters stepped up and helped the agency by meeting with lawmakers, giving financial support, facilitating critical partnerships, volunteering even more hours, and praying diligently. This mission-driven support is what has enabled Catholic Charities to respond steadfastly to community needs for the past century, and it is what will sustain us into the future.

One of the ways Catholic Charities has celebrated our centennial anniversary is with a media campaign. Whether it's been a radio spot, billboard, banner, or social media post, many of you may have seen the fruits of this campaign which was developed by a team of our talented and dedicated board members. They felt that, especially during this centennial anniversary year, it was important to draw attention not just to Catholic Charities, but to the idea of getting involved and being Good Samaritans who help anyone in need. We have been honored that some of our city's top sports figures and business leaders have appeared in these promotions, and we hope that they have sparked an interest in working together to serve our neediest neighbors.

Catholic Charities is extraordinarily blessed to carry out the Gospel mission to love and serve the poor in the Archdiocese of Chicago. As we celebrate "A Century of Hope," let's continue to work together to fulfill Jesus' command to "Go and do likewise," emulating the Good Samaritan and helping our brothers and sisters achieve lives worthy of their God-given dignity.

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Just in Time

To follow on from where I left off last time (pun intended), whenever it comes to Samuel Beckett and his preoccupation with the tyranny of time, I find myself wondering, as everyone does at some point or other, 'is that all there is?' Are we simply subject to the aging process with no real purpose, apart from procreating and evolving?

Must we simply watch time write itself across our bodies; drawing lines on our faces, and dragging us deeper into an awareness of the time that is lost to us? In other words, are we 'just in time'?

Time, is a part of our existence that we do not like to consider when there's too much of it, and something obsessed over when there's too little. Whatever state of being we find ourselves in, we usually experience the passing of time, consciously or unconsciously, as a fact of life.

In the last article, I framed this awareness of time, as posed by Beckett, as a thing to be feared. It's easy to see how you can be depressed contemplating the ravishes of time. Time draws us nearer to our inevitable end, and with it the dreadful prospect that there is nothing else beyond this life.

Such thinking can invigorate the living process. We can indulge ourselves in the carpe diem philosophy; follow on the heels of Bacchus, reveling in the libations that cure the soul by dulling the senses. However we look at it, life is troublesome whether you believe in something or nothing.

Personally, I believe that there something outside of time, something beyond what we can see and feel?

Time is relative to our experience. In physics, time is experienced in ways that, while they are rational, still amaze us. For example, the light from stars allows us to glimpse into the past that, because of distance and the speed



Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



of light, is experienced by us in the present.

This is something that we can explain quite rationally. There is no mystery to this phenomenon. But when it comes to the metaphysical realm, and I know that merely using this word requires 'a leap of faith', we are less certain of what we understand to be true.

There are many things we don't fully comprehend in life that baffle and perplex us. We can rationalize these things to ignorance, or we can see it as beyond our present understanding. Science, it could be argued, has taken the mystery out of life and left us nothing.

However, I would argue that science, like religion, finds itself unwrapping one sort of mystery only to discover a whole new layer of unknowns that cannot be demythologized without simplifying and compromising the truth. The very foundation of logic has been reasoned out of its lofty realm of infallibility with the advent of nuclear physics. So that the more we scrutinize a thing; the less we know about it. Uncertainty and doubt have become the hallmarks of real knowledge, whether religious or scientific.

We all see things, as St. Paul puts it, through a 'glass darkly'. I'm not advocating, nor supporting, anecdotal testimonies of things that cannot be explained. There is enough evidence to show that mysteries surround us are sometimes inexplicable to science and religion.

Science may take the approach of rationalizing to the point of infinity, only to discover that there is more than one infinity and so forth, until it becomes such a murky trail: then they rush back to the safer

route of the known; the familiar. Religion tends to use the metaphysical card too early in the game to make the scientist comfortable.

The miraculous can be easily dismissed when put under the microscope. However, there are some things that science and religion struggle to explain. For the religious mind this wrestling with the unknown indicates an active engagement with the process of belief; whereas the scientist sees and discredits this interpretation of the event in favour of a more logical approach. And, so the blind lead the blind down whatever path they stumble upon in the hope of an answer.

I find myself somewhere in-between these two polarized positions. Mystery is a welcome visitor to my mind, and reason, a frequent guest. What I want to believe must stand up to the rigor of intellectual inquiry, or it collapses into mere superstition.

Conversely, what I find rewarding and mentally stimulating is the intricacies of the scientific perspective to what is purely physical, organic, and knowable. To quote Eugene O'Neill's character, Larry Slade, in *The Iceman Cometh*, I see both sides of the question.

I'm moved by mystery as much as I'm persuaded by how much we can know through scientific reasoning. My mind longs to occupy both camps, but at different times.

When I pray, and I do pray, it's an act of faith, but I equally feel this action is also a human desire to want to believe that there is more to life than materialism. I'm not hedging my bets by choosing to skeptically believe. It is my contention that the material world is not all there is, and we are not simply 'just in time'.

Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Shearing the Sheep and the Blood Sacrifice

It's probably just another sad example of my irredeemably perverse sense of humour, but one of the most amusing images I've come across recently is in a comic book where a panel depicts the Big Fella getting a kick in the goolies.

I'll get back to Michael Collins in a moment, though.

As amusing as that is, I've been deriving almost as much enjoyment from the weasel-like behaviour of those who are rubbing their hands at the thought of getting back the money that they docilely and cravenly handed over to the now thoroughly discredited Irish Water. Those of us who fought long and hard against the lunatic idea of paying for water more than once – and in a setup that would lead to the ultimate privatization of our water resources – can only smile as we watch those who denigrated us now falling over each other to be the first with the hand out.

I'm not talking about people who were blackmailed into paying because they were in the process of selling their house; or the elderly who were terrified by threats from a swinish and unscrupulous government. One example of that, by the by, was the contemptible (and unworkable) threat that their water supply would be 'reduced to a trickle', this being delivered by that thuggish lout, Phil Hogan – remember Phil, the minister for the environment who gave the managing director's job to John Tierney? And this of course would be the very same John Tierney who last year was paid a total of €655,000 in salary, severance and pension.

As always with politicians and their cronies it's damned nice work if you can get it.

Anyway... I'm speaking of people like an acquaintance of mine – to accentuate his blushes, let's use his real name of Paddy -- who told me time after time over the past few years that paying these gougers was the correct thing to do, the right thing to do; that the money was needed to repair the water infrastructure.

Of course, this was ignoring the point that the money that should have been going to just such work has been getting willfully misdirected for decades.

I pretended shock when he said how much he was looking forward to getting his loot refunded. Surely, I asked, if handing the money over to our chancers was the correct thing to do for the country in the first place, then the right thing to do now would be to let those same chancers hold onto it? To help out the poor auld infrastructure, like.

Not a bit of it. In fact, with a bewilderingly smug look, he said: "Ye'll be paying for it one way or another." Baffling.

Paddy will actually be happy to see the government continue with its goal of attempting to privatize water so long as he doesn't have to say a great big THANKS to those of us who are responsible for getting him his money back! And, by the by, we had better get used to stories from our tame media on how we have to cough up if we don't want to see parts of the country being left without their water, which is beginning to happen with a very suspicious regularity.

With people like Paddy around, no wonder the government continues to take us for complete saps. Some folk just enjoy being sheep. And sheep

always get sheared.

....

Sometimes you come across things that halt you in your tracks; and they are just hiding in the oddest places.

Now, I believe that the comic book is a legitimate art form, so no apologies there. In fact, a few months ago I merrily recommended a wonderful graphic novel called 'Woody Guthrie and the Dust Bowl Ballads' by Nick Hayes. I might do the same for Jack Jackson's story of Juan Seguin and the Texas-Mexicans in 'Los Tejanos'.

I wouldn't dare to do the same for 'Preacher' by writer Garth Ennis and artist Steve Dillon. This is one of those that you'll either like or utterly hate. And I'm behind the times, anyway: these collections hark back to the 90s and I didn't even know that there was a TV series adapted from them. They are incredibly violent; foul-mouthed; sexually explicit...oh yeah, and blasphemous in the bargain. They're also weirdly funny and addictive.

Even so, I had decided that the two volumes I had borrowed (thanks, Shane) were enough...and then I read the last two chapters of Book 2. And it just got even weirder.

They give you the backstory to Cassidy, one of the main characters; and lo and behold, I'll be damned if he doesn't have his origin with the 1916 Easter Rising.

This is a hell of an interesting take on it, though.

Cassidy and his brother Billy overhear a Republican officer telling Pearse not to be quoting his own plays whilst shelling and mayhem go on around them; but Pearse tells him that he is missing the point:

"The blood sacrifice I have spoken of again and again... that is us. Because of our glorious deaths, Easter week 1916 will live forever in the minds of the Irish people. It will be the beginning of the end for English tyranny. In the words of W. B. Yeats, who foresaw all of this: a terrible beauty is born."

Well, I've on several occasions also mentioned this Celtic love of the Blood Sacrifice...but, well, when you see it put like that....

One swift kick in the nuts to Collins later and the boys are deserters, with Billy obviously not having been too impressed with it all at any rate:

"Years from now they can look back at this mess from a safe distance, an' start putting words like revolution an' tyranny an' glory in the history books..."

"Since when was yer man Pearse in charge've the Irish Volunteers? I thought it was Eoin MacNeill... An' I thought the point was in case the English went back on promisin' home rule, not to have a war in the middle've Dublin."

As to Pearse in front of the Post Office, reading the Proclamation – again, not impressed:

"That should tell you somethin' straight away. Wasn't he great, wearin' his important uniform an' makin' his big speech? Just cryin' out for his place in history. People like that are dangerous. They get yeh killed. Fellas like Pearse, who go on about blood sacrifices, an' glory an' beauty in fighting...? Well, they're the ones yeh ***** shoot first."

Of course, this is a responsible column that would never advocate such drastic measures. I pass this on only to satisfy those out there who may not have found something to be offended by today. We aim to please.

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Chicago Irish Immigrant Support

By Michael Collins,
Executive Director

DACA, and Irish Policy on non-EU Partners of Irish Citizens

On September 5th, President Trump announced that he would phase out the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. The DACA program was designed to provide a form of relief to undocumented young people who were brought to the United States as children. This relief came in the form of temporary protection from deportation, the ability to obtain a social security number, the ability to obtain a work permit, and in some states the ability to obtain a full driver's license. This program has been very successful with more than 800,000 young people registering for DACA since it was introduced in 2012. The administration's decision to end DACA came after 10 states threatened legal action

against the program and gave the administration a September 5th deadline before filing their case. The Trump administration has put a six-month delay on the phase out process to give Congress time to find an alternative. If Congress does not find an alternative, the phase out process will begin on March 5th. It is expected that as many as 983 people could lose their DACA protections each day. On September 13th, the Democratic leadership announced that a tentative deal had been reached with President Trump. Representative Nancy Pelosi and Senator Chuck Schumer stated that President Trump had agreed to support putting DACA protections into law. On September 14th, President Trump seemed to be pushing back denying that a deal had been reached. Hopefully, both sides will soon agree and Congress will find a permanent solution that will not only grant these young people DACA protections but also offer them a route to become permanent residents and citizens.

Upon announcing the decision to phase out DACA, Attorney General Jeff Sessions

laid out the specific details of the phase out process. The administration put a six-month delay on the phase out process. If your status is expiring within this six-month period between September 5th and March 5th, you will be allowed to renew your DACA status for another two years as long as your renewal paperwork is submitted by October 5th. If your DACA status expires after March 5th 2018, you will no longer be able to renew. If this is the case, your DACA status will remain valid until it expires. If you are eligible for DACA but have not applied as of September 5th you will no longer be able to apply as the administration announced that no new applications will be considered after the announcement date. If you, or someone you know, could be affected by this decision, we advise them to get in touch with our office or an immigration attorney.

On September 1st, 2017, the Irish Naturalization & Immigration Service announced that they have changed their policy for

how long de facto non-EU partners need to have lived together (co-habited) before applying for permission to remain in Ireland. This policy is being changed from a one year co-habitation requirement to a two year co-habitation requirement. For more information on this policy change or for information on returning or moving to Ireland, please contact our office. Alternatively, Crosscare Migrant Project offers great information and advice for those looking to return to Ireland.

CIIS Update CIIS is continuing to host free legal clinics for anyone who has immigration questions. These clinics are held two to three times per month by appointment only. We host legal clinics on both the north and south side of the city. Each clinic provides a client with a 30-minute face-to-face consultation with an immigration attorney. Call today to reserve your place! Please call (773) 282-8445 or email mcollins@irishchicago.org to schedule your appointment.

The Rembrandt

By Jessica Dickey

Reviewed by Frank West

The superb and dynamic performance, led by John Mahoney and Francis Guinan, (pictured) shows the subtle focus of this play. That focus asks the questions: Why

The play also seeks the motivations for the human urge to create art.

The play begins "When a museum guard decides to touch a famous Rembrandt painting, a remarkable journey across the ages ensues."

The play is arresting and hilarious as it asks fundamental questions about life. It



do humans make art? Why do we need it? And, how does art encourage us to live good lives?

The Rembrandt is life affirming. As Rembrandt said, "art communicates the essence of life." The play "movingly explores the power of creative expression and the sacrifices we make in the pursuit of love and beauty."

Director Hallie Gordon says, "The Rembrandt asks you to step into the painting. What we find is beauty and meaning. Art allows us to unravel the mysteries of being."

has heart and charm and the performance is mesmerizing.

The show, by Jessica Dickey, will be presented at Steppenwolf Theatre Company, 1650 N Halsted St. in Chicago now through the 5th of November. The director is Hallie Gordon.

Performance times are: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 7:30

Saturday and Sunday at 3pm

Ticket range: \$20 - \$104. Tickets are at audience services, 312-335-1650 or at steppenwolf.org.

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Co. Offaly Uibh fhaili is a county in Leinster. It is named after the ancient kingdom of Ui Failghe and was formerly known as the Kings County. (faithful county) The population is about 78,000. Tullamore is the county town and it is the largest in the county. Offaly has more neighboring counties than any of Ireland's 32. The counties highest point is Arderin in the Slieve blooms at 527 meters or 1,729 feet. The Slieve bloom mountains contain the highest point including Stillbrook Hillard Wolftrap Mountain which are the counties second and third highest peaks. The River Camcor runs through the town of Birr and they have a wild trout conservation area. The county largely comprises a flat landscape and is known for its extensive bog and peat lands. There are many large bogs, including, the Bog of Allen it extends into four other counties.

break our journey from Kilkenny to Mayo, where we enjoyed tea & cake. The national museum of Ireland houses a collection bronze
Continued on next page



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There is a big turf fire power plant in Offaly. The largest power station in Shannonbridge. The station is capable of generating up to 150 units of power, ranking as the largest peat-fired power station in the country. Gaelic games are popular in the county. Offaly won the McCarthy cup 4 times and the Sam McGuire cup three times. The football team is best known for the famous Seamus Darby goal in the dying minutes of the 1982 football final when Offaly took the title by one point denying Kerry an historic five all Ireland titles in a row. Mayo gets another crack at Dublin in the words of Ron Santo this is the year and I mean Mayo.



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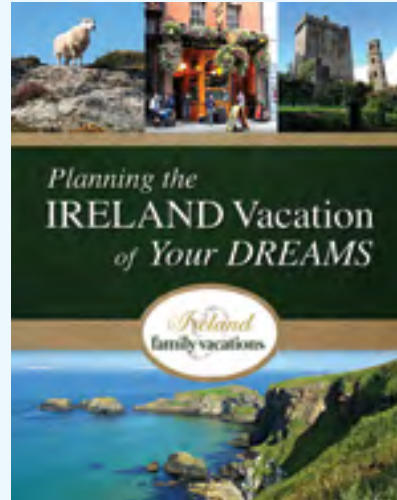
age objects of which many were found in and around Offaly. Clonmacnoise once one of the most influential monasteries in Europe, is near Shannonbridge now in ruins but it's still a significant tourist attraction. Pope John Paul visited Clonmacnoise on his visit in 1979. For anyone interested in science George Stoney from Burr introduced the term electron in 1891, a term in the field of electricity. The newspapers in Offal include: The Midland, Glamored Tribune and Offaly. The Irish newspaper I like to read is the Kilkenny People. A few notable people that were born in Offal include: Neil Delamere (comedian), Shane Lowry (golfer) and Brian Cowen former Taoiseach. An important person in our family also from Offaly is my sister in law Mary Grumley, she's from Tullamore. I will wrap up this month with a story from childhood. This is a typical story of what kids can get up to when unsupervised. As I stated before my parish Muckalee was famous for handball. They built a ball alley in Muckalee to honor the winning team. After school some classmates and I tried to show off and climb and straddle the wall. As we were all walking across the 30 foot high wall half way through everyone got scared and held onto each other. Now we are all 30 feet high and there

is a concrete floor below us. Some students started to cry and I said stop, relax and pretend your on a horse and slowly ease your way down. I said we are never doing



this reckless act again. I think back to that day and I'm happy I diffused the situation that could have been deadly. Congrats to Galway on winning the 2017 Hurling All Ireland championship title there 29th year drought is over. Up Offaly
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From Ireland to Chicagoland

Hailing originally from Arranmore Island, off the Donegal coast, Caroleann has been living and practicing law in Chicago for over ten years now. Her practice has been concentrated in representing labor and union workers and their families, in all types of personal injury and work related accidents; including, construction site accidents, automobile accidents and premises liability claims. Her father and three brothers all worked as tunnel miners so she has a deep rooted affinity for the working man and their families



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Growing up, Caroleann has directly experienced the devastating impact on a family when the primary breadwinner suffers an injury. she recently joined a nationally renowned law firm concentrating in all types of personal injury, medical malpractice, nursing home abuse and neglect, workers compensation law, and wrongful death litigation. Caroleann is committed to protecting and vindicating the rights of people who are injured by the negligence of others



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Clutter Buster

By Rita Emmett

Procrastinate No More!

*Lost, yesterday,
somewhere between sunrise
and sunset,
two golden hours,
each set with sixty diamond
minutes.*

*No reward is offered
for they are gone forever. ~
Horace Mann*

More On Hypocritical Procrastination

Last month this column described "Hypocritical Procrastination" – that is, putting off something important that you need to do (but don't want to do), by doing something noble or at least equally important.

It didn't offer solutions and left you hanging, but promised solutions this month.

If you want to read last month's column, go to the Irish American News website (very cleverly named irishamericannews.com/) and click the "IAN Back Issues" tab at the top.

Click September 2017 and scroll to the Clutter Buster column on page 12

A few variations of Hypocritical Procrastination are:

Over-Preparer – many things do call for preparation. But become aware of when you're overdoing it instead of what you need to be doing.

Socializer – of course socializing is important, but when you suddenly decide to call your former neighbor who you haven't heard from since he moved 12 years ago... you might be putting something off.

Straightener – again, it's important to straighten. God forbid I should ever discourage anyone from clutter-busting. But have you ever needed to do some work BUT FIRST you make up your mind that ya gotta tackle

clutter that's been sitting around for years?

The Happy Helper. Have you ever put aside work you should do -- but you don't want to do -- in order to help someone ... whether he needed that help or not?

When your help is actually necessary, it isn't procrastination. But sometimes "Happy Helpers" are being manipulated by people whose needs are not valid. Beware of people who are experts at convincing you that YOU are in charge of THEIR problems, such as if you don't join their committee, you will cause the whole project to fail.

I'm not advocating that you stop helping others. But when others put you in charge of their problems, your help could be preventing them from growing and becoming more responsible AND prevent you from accomplishing what you've been putting off.

If you have regrets because helping others means that you are neglecting your family or

yourself, or putting your goals and dreams on hold; then it's time to set healthy boundaries on the help you give. Do you really think it's helpful to say yes to requests that can lead to hostility or resentment toward the person you're helping? Understand this -- you can say no and still remain a kind, loving, polite human being, and get your work done, too.

The key to eliminating Hypocritical Procrastination is first of all to RECOGNIZE that you are doing it. Watch for it - those times that you find yourself:

*spending time on the computer when something important is being pushed aside

*rearranging the linen closet when you promised yourself you'd exercise or straighten out your paperwork

*cleaning out desk drawers when you planned on calling and expressing your sympathy to an acquaintance

Next, MAKE A DECISION that you are going to do that job or project. One key component of Hypocritical Procrastination is lack of focus. Once you SET A DEADLINE for a task or WRITE A TO-DO-LIST, the "other important things to do" which generate this style of procrastination tend to melt away.

If you're still struggling, use

some REWARD SYSTEM – such as no coffee, or social media, computer games or TV till you put in at least one hour on that project.

Once you break this habit, the sky's the limit. And heck, you don't really like being a hypocrite, do you??

Rita Emmett is a "Recovering

Procrastinator", Professional Speaker, and author of *The Procrastinator's Handbook*.

To subscribe to her free monthly "Anticrastination Tip Sheet", go to her website www.RitaEmmett.com

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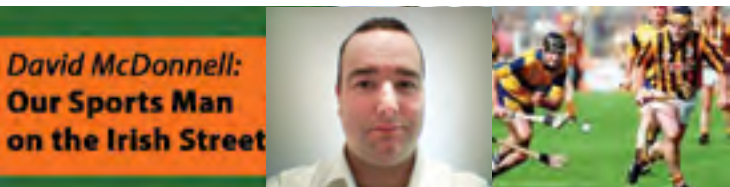


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David McDonnell: Our Sports Man on the Irish Street

Mayo Grit Not Enough to Shock the Dubs

The joke over the last number of years is that this year is going to be Mayo's year. What has become the Mayo story for a generation is a team that play terrific football and a team that has

brought an inordinate amount of excitement to the game, and yet, they are a team remembered for never winning the big one, the All-Ireland Final.

With the advent of social

media there has long been an amusing online campaign in support for #MayoForSam with contributions from every corner of the world, yet they are still waiting for the Sam Maguire to be brought back to Castlebar since they last triumphed in 1951.

player on the pitch. The following year they under-performed, only to be beaten by Kerry, who won their first title in over a decade.

Twice Mayo got to the show-piece against Kerry and again completely underperformed to

and quite unfairly come to embody the Mayo narrative within the Irish sporting media.

Yet in the last six years, every team that have knocked them out of the championship has gone on to win the All-Ireland, and in the last three years that winner



In the 90s, they reached two All-Ireland finals, losing to Meath a replay in 1996, which is best remembered for a big first half brawl involving most every

such a degree that both finals were over as a contest before half time. In many ways, over the last five years this current set of Mayo players have erroneously

has needed a replay to do so. In 2012, Mayo lost the final against Jim McGuinness's Donegal side, who scored two early goals in the final.

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In 2013, Mayo lost the final to Dublin by a point. In 2014, Mayo looked to have beaten Kerry in the semi-final only for Kieran Donaghy and James O'Donoghue to combine to score a goal in the dying seconds to bring the game to a replay, which Kerry won after extra time after an epic encounter at the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick.

In 2015, Mayo were leading Dublin by four points in the semi-final with 10 minutes remaining, only again for the match to finish in a draw and Dublin to win the replay. Last year Mayo met Dublin again, this time in the final, and a rollercoaster game once again ended in a draw. Dublin edged the replay by a point.

The story of this Mayo team has been close but no cigar. This has been the stick to beat them with and there has been no shortage of people queuing up to take a swing. The football analysts reasoning as to why Mayo have not been champions has ranged from a lack of manliness to a lack of belief, from tactics to personal character and from naivety to blunder.

Sticking the boot into Mayo has be-

come fashionable and this year, there is something very clichéd about how Mayo football has been viewed within Ireland. Earlier in the league, former Meath forward Bernard Flynn had a go at Aiden O'Shea's lack of focus on winning the All-Ireland and a lack of team togetherness when the midfielder signed autographs for kids on the field after a loss, a task no player enjoys when beaten when the team were warming down.

When Mayo drew with Kerry in the All-Ireland semi-final at the end of August, the Mayo management, led by Stephan Rochefort, were labelled 'donkeys' for putting O'Shea into full back to mark Kieran Donaghy by a respected sports writer. Six days later Mayo won convincingly using the same tactic to reach another final.

Dublin - The following day, Dublin destroyed Ulster champions Tyrone in a very one-sided semi-final affair at Croke Park. The Dubs, who have won the last two All-Ireland finals, are playing outstanding football and a final victory would be a three-in-a-row of All-Irelands and four titles within five years.

Already people are talking about this

side doing five-in-a-row, such has been their dominance on the footballing landscape. Their best player this year has been the young Con O'Callaghan, who starred in the Leinster final and scored 1-3 from play in the first half against Tyrone. Dublin are bolstered by the return of Jack McCaffery at wing back after he took a year away, while Brain Fenton is the outstanding midfielder in the country.

One thing that makes this Dublin team special is the strength in depth of their forwards. On the bench in the semi-final they had Paul Flynn, Kevin McMenamin, Ronan O'Gara, Cormac Costello, Bernard Brogan and the infamous Diarmuid Connolly, a supreme footballer who is just back from suspension after he was banned for two months for pushing a linesman earlier in the summer.

Dublin also have shown a capability to change their game plan to suit the opposition. There are some analysts calling this perhaps the greatest team to ever play Gaelic football and they are overwhelming favourites for victory on the third Sunday in September.

And yet, there is something about this Mayo team that seems different this year. Call me a convert, but what I like about this side is the leadership they possess right throughout the field from Keith Higgins in the full back line, Lee Keegan and Colm Boyle in the half-back line, Aiden O'Shea in midfield and Andy Moran and Cillian O'Connor close to goal.

Their movement and especially their kick passing into their inside forwards has been so crisp this year, and they are very experienced playing against the sweeper system the Dublin deployed in their semi-final triumph.

They have rarely played better yet they have never been given less hope in the final. I think most everyone not born in the capital will be hoping that this indeed will be the year Mayo finish on top of the mountain. And should it come, the silence from all the naysayers and begrudger's will in contrast to the party that will follow for days, weeks and months out west.

[Editor's Note: David's Column was sent in prior to the Sept 17 Final. Dublin won, by 1 point.]



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The Gala dinner is like Irish butter on a warm loaf of freshly baked brown bread. Eat it up, drink it up, taste it, enjoy it! The honorees are presented their awards and there is an aura in the room of the essence of the inner Irish soul, and the desire to know from whence we came!

DACA

Predictably, demonstrators were ready and waiting to condemn Donald Trump. Instead they should have been demonstrating against Barack Obama who put



DACA together by executive order which everybody knows would be dissolved by the next

administration. Congress needs to pass legislation to make DACA the law of the land. These people should be welcome here, and given a pathway to citizenship.

Famine 175

This year marks the 175th anniversary of Black 47, the worst year of the Irish famine. Never forget.

Hillary's Pizza

Regio's Pizza in Park Ridge closed August 27, 2017 after 65 years in business. Thank God. Hillary's pants suit was getting snug.

Charity

Every charity is sending out 2018 calendars, and many of them offer to send out tote bags. They all feel as though they have to send gifts as an enticement for people to donate. The ad specialty sales people are doing a great job. Guess what. It's a real nuisance and a turn off. I recently sent a load of crap back telling that charity if they send me any more gifts there will be

no donation.

Harvard

Chelsea Manning, nee Bradley Edward Manning, one time army intelligence analyst, convicted of a 2010 leak revealing the U.S. Military and Intelligence activities around the world to Wiki Leaks. He was sentenced to 35 years in Fort Leavenworth Men's Military prison. After 10 years in prison, Chelsea was worried about her safety as a transgender. President Obama, a compulsive liberal, then pardoned her. There's nothing like pardoning a traitor!

Harvard University was going to make her a visiting fellow in the John F. Kennedy School of Government. What would or could he/she bring to that program? My God! The braintrust at Harvard is on the down slope.

Children of Priests

Another good reason to end celibacy and to allow priests to marry. Cardinal O'Malley said, "the first responsibility is to the child." A man by the name of Jim Graham who wondered why his father didn't like him, found out that his real father might be the Reverend Thomas Sullivan. There is no way to prove paternity other than the fact that he looked a lot like Sullivan.

Physical attraction doesn't stop when a man takes the vow of celibacy and puts on a Roman collar. A friend of my oldest sister had a three year affair with a priest between the ages of fifteen and eighteen. She was a volunteer at the rectory. Their names are withheld as the woman is still alive in her mid 80's.

Kenneka

Nineteen year old Kenneka Jenkins was found dead in a freezer at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Rosemont, IL. Her mother called the hotel in the early morning and told them that her daughter was missing and asked that they look at the film from the security tapes. She was told it would take too much time to do that or words to that effect. Meanwhile, a mob of black demonstrators descended on the hotel after Ken-

neka's body was discovered frozen solid in a freezer in the basement area of the hotel. Now they are blaming the hotel for her death. Kenneka left home about 11:30 pm for the party. She lived near the United Center. After she turned up missing it was discovered that whoever held the party paid the hotel bill with a fraudulent credit card. The question should be, who ran this party? Who was there? And that's where the Rosemont police should begin to look for answers. The autopsy and toxicology tests will tell the tale. Maybe she was intoxicated or given a date rape drug as the footage on the security tape showed her staggering around the hallway in the basement, literally bouncing off the walls.

Dentists

Next time you are in the dentist chair look deep into the dentist's eyes. You'll be able to see the dollar signs.

LGBTQIA

This is an all inclusive acronym for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transexual, queer, intersex, asexual.

Entitlement

You are only entitled to what you pay for. Your race, gender, or sexual preference are not part of the equation.

Soda Pop Tax

Cook County Board President, Toni Preckwinkle cautions that we would have to lay off doctors, nurses, and Cook County jail guards if this tax is overturned. If we had to harken back to Todd Stroger and his cronies holding county jobs with big salaries, and nothing to do. They were a bunch of empty suits. How many empty suits are on the Cook County payroll now? One only has to look at the Forest Preserve District to see how poorly it is maintained.

Orwellian

I read George Orwell's book, 1984 long, long ago. This is a passage from the book that is making the rounds on the internet.

"Every record has been destroyed or falsified, every book rewritten, every picture has been repainted, every statue and street building has been renamed, every date has been altered. And the process is continuing day by day and minute by minute. History has stopped. Nothing exists except an endless present in which the party is always right."

Congratulations

Jim and Michelle Coyne who will be honored at the Shannon Rovers Dinner on October 14th for their outstanding work in the Irish community. Their innovative ideas have taken the St. Patrick's Day Parade to new heights. The recognition by the Shannon Rovers is well deserved. Once again, congratulations.



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It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane



Hello everyone,

Hope everyone had a great summer. I am looking back on my summer with a smile. I got to spend some real quality time with my son Declan, and my family across the ocean (or the shuck as we often refer to it). I have one uncle left now and we got to spend some memorable times together, mostly in my local pub 'Donnelly's' in Silverbridge. Thank God, times haven't changed too much in our little townland and it was so easy to settle back into the rhythm of life. People genuinely show their hearts. Digressing a little here, I was saddened by the news about the way some old people were treated at a nursing home in Florida during the hurricane. It brought to mind a time years ago that I went to visit an old lady in hospital, in England. I remember a nurse coming around the ward with diners and I overheard her say to another old lady across the ward from where I was visiting "Mrs. X you're not hungry again today". Something about it seemed strange and as the nurse was walking away with the old lady's dinner, I stopped her and said: "I'll try her with a little bit if you like". The nurse distorted her face and reluctantly gave me the dinner. There was soup, a hot dinner and apple pie with custard and the old girl eat every bit of it. My fears came true, the lady had very bad arthritis and couldn't hold the silverware. She was so grateful and I could see it in her eyes. I'll never forget that smile of gratitude. I often wondered how that old lady fair'd out after that. It has bothered me ever since. So I gave orders to my wife, if and when I get to a stage in my life like that, stick me on an Aer Lingus and I will spend my days in a nursing home around Silverbridge looked after by neighbors and friends.

On a lighter note, when I was doing the outside broadcast BBC radio show with Hugo Duncan, in the summer, I was sitting having a chat in the back room

with Foster and Allen. Two really nice gentlemen by the way. Mick Foster said to me, "There's a fella in Chicago you might know, his name is Jimmy Keane and he's a great accordion player". I laughed and said, "I know him very well and he is a great musician for sure, he played on some of my recordings". I said "one of the songs

he played on is a song I wrote along with Jim Thacker and Margo called 'Dan and Molly's'. They said they'd like to hear it, especially because it's a song about a pub in Ballyboy, County Offaly. So you never know, maybe they will consider recording it (fingers crossed) and it would be thanks to you, Jimmy Keane.

What a fantastic night we had listening to Nathan Carter, Chloe Agnew, and Nathan's outstanding band on September 15th. They received a great Chicago welcome, that was well deserved. My son Declan got to play Nathan's piano before the show and played a piece of music that he wrote and maybe between Nathan, Declan and myself, we'll get a new song. Declan got to sit in the front row and he so much reminded me of myself, years ago. He was in awe watching Nathan performing. The following day, Declan, picked up my piano accordion and he's been practicing ever since. So much so that he used it at our gig in the Curragh, Edison Park, after the All Ireland, football final. He was walking around the house with the accordion strapped on him the whole weekend. I'm surprised he didn't take in into bed with him Ha!Ha!

This month is one of the most magical months of the year in Chicago. Because it is the month when iBam is celebrated from 27th thru 29th. Although, really it starts on the 26th this year, with a concert from Daniel O'Donnell and his band. Followed by a full weekend of Irish culture, including prominent writers and poets, and lots of music. The weekend will finish on the Sunday with Derek Warfield and Young Wolfe Tones. So the whole Irish American Hereitage Center will be filled with all kinds of culture and lots of entertainment, throughout the whole building. My son Declan and I will be playing some music and having fun with the children. We'll be handing out some percussion instruments, so the they take part and join in with us. So bring your kids along

for a taste of Irish culture and fun and don't forget Mom and Dads, it's very educational with some fun for good measure. If you are around Galena, this month, please stop in and say Hi. I'll be in the Irish Cottage, Galena for most of the month. From Sunday, right through till Thursday, every week. If you haven't been there, it's a piece of Ireland in Illinois, and highly recommended. And it doesn't interfere with iBam. See you there!

This months song is one written by Jordan Mogeys and myself. I was telling Jordan about a priest, who did shows, to raise money for cancer-related illnesses. Anyway, the priest was talking about one of his parishioners who always told him that he didn't believe in God. And the priest says, I was at the man's wake and I couldn't help but smile because the dead man was in his best suit and lovely shirt and tie. He said I was just thinking "He's all dress up and no place to go". So it triggered the idea for this song.

As always be good to one another. P.S. The clocks go back in Ireland on the 29th of this month.

Joe

All Dressed Up (With Nowhere To Go)

© Copyright Joe McShane

© Copyright Jordan Mogeys

V1

If you don't believe in him
Then why have you come here?
To talk of scientific things
You claim to be so clear
Yet you have no answers
To the questions, you ask me
There's so much more around you
Than the human eye can see

V2

The nonbeliever left the church
No wiser than before
And thought about the preacher's words
And they just confused him more
He sadly went to sleep that night
To never wake again
It's just a shame he never found
the lord before the end

Chorus

Now he's all dressed up with nowhere to go
He could've gone to heaven but he didn't wanna know

No, he's not going to hell he'll just be six feet below

He's all dressed up with nowhere to go

Bridge

He said you people got it wrong

There's no afterlife at all

When you're gone you're gone

And when you fall you fall

Chorus

Now he's all dressed up with nowhere to go
He could've gone to heaven but he didn't wanna know

No, he's not going to hell he'll just be six feet below

He's all dressed up with nowhere to go

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President's Message

As the weather cools, I want to remind you to visit the Fifth Province and enjoy live music by the warm fireplace on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. On Thursdays, we tape The Craic Radio Show and host our weekly music sessions, hosted by John Williams. His special guests each week are some of the finest Irish musicians in Chicago or anywhere.



We had a busy month in September with many events that brought out our members, volunteers and community, including Lúnasa at the World Music Festival, the Halfway to St. Patrick's Day Party, An Afternoon with Mark Twain and Breakfast with the Board. More than 400 people came out on a Thursday night to see Lúnasa for our first-ever partnership with the City of Chicago and our debut at the World Music Festival. Dan Mulhall, the Irish Ambassador to the U.S. joined us for the concert, straight from his trip to the White House.

Next up, we host the 9th annual iBAM! Irish Books, Arts and Music Celebration

on October 27-29 with authors, musicians, artists, dancers, actors, storytellers and scholars filling the building with a full weekend of Irish culture. Most events are free, so check out the full lineup at www.ibamchicago.com. I highly recommend and encourage all of

you to take advantage of iBAM! and all of our upcoming programs.

Please continue to keep the victims of the recent hurricanes in your prayers. The residents of these regions showed the world how to respect others with the help of first responders and neighbors with their relief effort. We collected cash donations at Breakfast With the Board for the Houston Food Bank and Feeding South Florida; two worthy charities.

Next up, we turn our efforts to our yearly IAHC Holiday Food Drive in support of the Greater Chicago Food Depository. In the past 2 years, we have collected 2221 lbs. of food, providing 1851 meals for this worthwhile cause. Our holiday drive starts on 11/24 and this year's goal is 1200 lbs.

Eugene M. Cooney
President

October 2017

10/1	Francis O'Neill Ceili Weekend	Various Rooms	All Day
10/4	Tara Club Senior Meeting	Room 306	10am
10/6	Francis O'Neill Ceili Mor	Fifth Province	8pm
10/7	Shamrock American Club Social	Sham Am Room	8pm
10/8	IAHC Book Club <i>The Worst Hard Time</i> by Timothy Egan	Library	1pm
	<i>Escape From Nigeria</i> Book Signing	Library	3:30pm
10/14	Tea with Hedda Hopper	Fifth Province	11am
10/17	Celtic Women International Meeting	Room 304	7pm
10/18	Tara Club Monthly Musical Gathering	Room 306	11am
10/20	That Belongs in a Museum	Fifth Province	7pm
	Shamrock American Club Meeting	Sham Am Room	8pm
	Quiz Night	Room 109	8pm
10/21	St. Patrick Fathers Social	Room 109	8pm
	Good Morning Ireland Fundraiser	Fifth Province	7pm
10/26	Daniel O'Donnell in Concert	Auditorium	6:30pm
10/27-29	iBAM! Celebration	Whole Building	
10/27	iBAM! Gala Dinner	Erin Room	7pm
10/29	iBAM! Mass	Auditorium	10:30am
	Genealogy Workshop	Library	1pm
	Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones	Auditorium	5pm

Regularly Scheduled Events

Mon-Fri	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	4pm-8pm
Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
	Memoir Class	Library	4pm
	Set Dancing	Room 111	7:30-9:30pm
Wed	Watercolor Class (starts 10/18)	Room 309	6:45pm
	Traditional Irish Music Session	Room 311	7pm
	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7-10pm
	Na Gaeil Language Class	Library and Room 304	6:45pm
Thurs	Taping of the Craic Radio Show	Fifth Province	6:30pm
	Thursday Night Irish Music Session	Fifth Province	7pm
	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsal	Room 306	7pm
	Memoir Class	Library	7pm
Fri	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili	Room 111	8pm
Sat	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	10am-8pm
	Na Gaeil Language Class	Library	10:45am

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- 10/7 Party Music
- 10/13 Party Music
- 10/14 Party Music
- 10/20 Liam Durkin
- 10/21 Good Morning Ireland Benefit (ticketed event)
- 10/27 The Kilgubbin Brothers
- 10/28 Sean Cleland Band



Thursday Night Irish Music Sessions: October 5, 12, 19 and 26; 7pm



Kevin Crawford of Lúnasa joins fans at World Music Festival Concert in September.

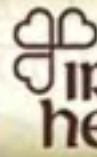


Irish Ambassador to the U.S. Dan Mulhall and wife Greta at the Lúnasa concert.

The Heritage Line Staff Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

Contributors: Meg Buchanan, Karen Cannady, Theresa Choske, Gene Cooney, Laura Coyle, Ellen Folan, Catherine Kelly, Kathy Kelly, Sheila Murphy, Mike Shevlin, Becky Tatz

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UPCOMING CONCERTS AND PROGRAMS



Escape From Nigeria: A Memoir of Faith, Love and War

Chicago Sun-Times reporter Maudlyne Ihejirika reads from and discusses her book, *Escape From Nigeria: A Memoir of Faith, Love and War*. The story chronicles Ihejirika's mother's struggles to protect her six children during the Nigerian-Biafran War and the assistance of an Irish missionary nun to help the family escape to the U.S. **Sunday, October 8, 3:30pm, free**



Tea with Hedda Hopper

Have tea with Gossip's Queen of Hollywood at another in our Saturday Morning Tea Series. Enjoy tea, sandwiches and scones while learning about the columnist, notorious for her influence during Hollywood's Golden Age. **Saturday, October 14, 11am, \$25**



Watercolor Class

Learn the art of watercolor painting in this six-week class designed for all levels. The course focuses on the principles of creating a solid painting, learning to draw, paint color interpretation, composition and watercolor techniques. **October 18-November 29 (no class on 11/22) Wednesdays at 6:45pm Tuition: \$130 for IAHC members and \$140 for non-members**



That Belongs in a Museum

Enjoy a show-and-tell program infused with Irish and Mexican music with the Chicago Cultural Alliance, Casa Michoacan and Casa Italia as part of the of the Inherit Chicago series. Tell your own story by bringing a special object that represents your culture. **Friday, October 20, 6:30pm, free**



Quiz Night

Show off your skills at one of Chicago's longest running Quiz Nights. There are prizes for the top 3 teams and proceeds from the evening benefit a local charity each month. **Friday, October 20, 8pm, \$60 per team**



Galway Fellowship Club Mass and Breakfast

Join the Galway Fellowship Club to celebrate Mass at 11am, followed by a full Irish breakfast. **Sunday, October 22, \$12 and children 10 and under, free. For reservations, call Barbara Glynn at 773-685-9289**



iBAM! Irish Books, Arts and Music Celebration: See sidebar



Moya Brennan and Her Band Salon Concert

Salon Concerts Chicago presents Moya Brennan, the voice of Clannad and First Lady of Celtic music in concert. Brennan's effortless vocals and timeless music pay homage to her vibrant traditional Irish heritage and her grasp of contemporary forms. She is joined by her children; Aisling and Paul and Irish harp and violin virtuosos, Cormac De Barra and Lia Wright. **Sunday, November 5, 5pm, \$25 for adults and teens and children 18 and under, free**



Hall of Fame Trivia Night

Put your knowledge to test at the annual Trivia Night Fundraiser in support of the Irish American Hall of Fame and the IAHC. Trivia questions cover the Irish American Hall of Fame categories: Arts & Humanities, Public Service, Business & Industry, Sports, Education, Religion, Science, as well as pop culture and current events. **Saturday, November 11, 7pm, \$150 per team. Register at iahof.org**



Letters from Ireland: The Irish Heritage Singers in Concert

The annual concert features traditional and contemporary Irish songs and traditional Irish Christmas carols **Sunday, November 19, 3pm, Adults \$20, children \$5 and children under 5, free**



The Noble Call Christmas Show

Paddy Homan & The Noble Call takes audiences back to the 'hearth' of an Irish Christmas, filled with songs, stories, rousing music and traditional Irish dancing. **Saturday, December 16, 7:30pm, \$20 IAHC Members, \$22 Non-members**



iBAM! Irish Books, Arts and Music Celebration

The ninth annual Irish Books Arts and Music celebration; iBAM! returns to the Center on October 27-29. From Noon to 6pm on Saturday and Sunday, iBAM! features more than 30 Irish authors signing and reading from their books, theatre and dance performances, film screenings, storytelling and children's activities; all under one roof! Admission to iBAM! is free each day. Special iBAM! programs include a gala awards dinner on Friday night and concerts with Daniel O'Donnell and Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones.



Highlights include a reading and talk with New York Times columnist Timothy Egan, a documentary on John Hume; *In The Name of Peace: John Hume in America* and Irish artist Philip Gray, painting in the Art Gallery all weekend.

Gala Awards Dinner and Cocktail Party FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

celebrates the contribution of Irish and Irish Americans in the arts. 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 2017 iBAM! awardees are:

Music:
Daniel O'Donnell

Media/Journalism:
Chicago's Frank Mathie



Literature:
Timothy Egan

Visual Arts:
Philip Gray



Culinary Arts:
Kevin Dundon

Performing Arts:
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Person of the Year:
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From the Kitchen to the Stage

By Jeremy D. Bonfiglio

Each Thursday for nearly two decades, John Kennedy has invited his fellow musicians into his South Bend, Indiana home.

He cooks. They eat. Then the instruments come out.

If it sounds more like a dinner

play. ... In the end you could cancel all our shows and I would still be hosting dinner and music every Thursday night."

Fortunately for the rest of us there's six other nights in a week, which is when the Kennedy-led ensemble of nephew Liam Ladewski (whistles and flute), Chris O'Brien (fiddle, mandolin and banjo), Rob Weber (bass), Jacob Turner (bodhran)

just a remarkable player. I knew she was a good musician because I had been her first teacher but I wasn't ready for the level of creativity in her playing. She's recomposing tunes in real time and that's something not many players can do. I couldn't feel luckier as a band leader."

While Kennedy – the 2004 All-Ireland Fleadh Silver Medalist in Accompaniment – wasn't



party with cherished friends than a band rehearsal, that's because Kennedy, the frontman and namesake of Kennedy's Kitchen, has shaped it that way.

"If someone has written a tune or in their own exploration discovered a tune, we just go at it and have some fun," he says. "In the end, this is community music. This is social music. You don't learn this music to perform it on stage. ... You learn rock 'n' roll to play it on stage. You learn jazz to play it on stage. You learn classical music to play in the orchestra. That's not what Irish music and any traditionally based music is for. You learn Irish music to hang out in the kitchen with your family and

and newest member Theresa Kubiak (whistle and flute) usually step out of the kitchen and onto a stage.

Kubiak stepped into the lineup in September 2016 to fill the gap left after Kennedy's other nephew, and Liam's brother, Nolan Ladewski, moved to Virginia and joined the Washington, D.C.-based Americana outfit Scythian.

"This is what would be described in baseball as a good trade," Kennedy says. "Nolan is the kind of talent that he takes up some of the air in the room with the combination of his charisma and just the fact that he's older, but Liam was more than ready for the spotlight. And Theresa is

seeking to form a band, Kennedy's Kitchen formed around him anyway through a series of solo shows and sessions, most notably at South Bend's Irish haven, Fiddler's Hearth, which Kennedy refers to as "the best pub in these United States." The band thrives on exploring a mix of traditional tunes, reels and pub songs as well as originals, and has recorded five CDs – and are working on a sixth due Nov. 1. Kennedy's Kitchen has made regular appearances at The Irish American Heritage Center's annual Irish Fest, Milwaukee Irish Fest, Peoria Illinois Irish Fest, Michigan Irish Fest, Dayton Irish Fest and The Great American

Continued on next page

From the Kitchen to the Stage

Irish Fest among others. And the band's music has more than 2 million streams on Spotify.

"I grew up singing in the Irish tradition as a family, which is the traditional way to do it," Kennedy says. "As you get interested in music, you just start listening." "The Birds Upon the Trees," the title track of Kennedy's Kitchen's latest CD, for example, came from an old field recording that Kennedy stumbled upon. "I fell in love with it the first time I heard it," he says. "It was written here in America in the 1870s and somebody in County Clare on the West Coast of Ireland kept singing it and obviously handed it down a couple of generations because it was recorded in somebody's kitchen in the 1950s. I've never heard anybody else do a recording of it. I sing that at every show because it's just a beautiful, simple little song."

The sixth as-yet-untitled album from Kennedy's Kitchen will continue the band's long-cherished formula of instrumentals and songs; traditionals and originals.

"Maybe one third of it will be songs," Kennedy says. "The difference this time is that it will be all me singing and I admit I'm looking forward to that. I do miss having Nolan's voice and his harmonies but I love being able to sing more."

Which is why Kennedy will finally record his fan-favorite version of the cherished ballad, "Danny Boy," for this album.

"It's something fans have been asking me to do for a long time, particularly in concert," he says. "I'll do 'Danny Boy' and someone will come up to me and say 'Please, please put that on a record.' So it was time."

Kennedy's Kitchen has already released two video sets of new instrumental material on their YouTube channel. Both were recorded at UpState Media for its "Sessions" series.

"One is 'Colonel Fraser' and it's a duet by Liam and Jacob," Kennedy says. "It's a little bit of the pure drop, just a whistle and a bodhran. That's all there is but there's a lot going on with those two guys. It's a lovely set. The other one is what we call 'The Umbrella Reel Set.' Two of these were composed by Nolan, so he is still finding ways to contribute. 'The Umbrella Reel' he composed over in England when they had what was record rain even for English standards. The last

tune on that set is called 'Whiskey of Truth,' which he composed with his other brother Eamon Ladewski after an epic evening that the title partially explains."

The band also has picked up a few humorous vocal songs recently that have become staples in the live show.

"There's one called 'It's The Little Things in Life That Will Kill You,'" Kennedy says. "You kind of have it right there in the title. Another one is a tongue twister called 'Sarah, Sarah' and I've been singing that a lot lately and having the audience join in. It's the type of song that if you trip over your tongue the wrong way you end up saying words you are not supposed to say, which, of course, is the fun of the song."

Those are the moments Kennedy cherishes most.

"For me, the music is what binds us together," he says. "That's how you get a room full of people who don't know each other to act like they do know each other. That's what it's all about."

Jeremy D. Bonfiglio is a South Bend, Ind.-based freelance writer whose work has appeared in No Depression, The Writer, Notre Dame Magazine, The Chicago Tribune, and The Indianapolis Star, among others. He is the staff features writer for The Herald-Palladium newspaper in Saint Joseph and Benton Harbor, Mich

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Irish Fests have drawn to a close, and while there is a bit of relief in looking for some more relaxed time and catching up at home, there is also sadness knowing it will be quite awhile before we get to see our favorite bands again.

Every few years, a new young band shows up and becomes the talk of the summer. This year, we had two—one, CONNLA, I wrote about last month. The other was CUIG, and WOW the crowds, they did!

CUIG, Irish for five, is another Northern Ireland quintet who call Armagh and Tyrone home. Miceal Mullen plays banjo and mandolin, Ronan Stewart



On the Upbeat

By Maryann
McTeague Keifer

amazes us playing the fiddle and then quickly strapping on the Uilleann Pipes. Cathal Murphy, the youngest, is their percussionist and plays a mean bodhran as well as being the lead singer. Brother Eoin Murphy plays button accordion and Ruari Stewart, the guitar.

I first saw them in 2015 in Ireland opening for GOITSE. At first glance, I remember thinking that they were so cute, they didn't need to be that good to be a popular "Boy Band", then they started to play. I nearly fell out of my seat—so young and so talented! Add two years and they have reached spectacular.

Cuig asked Colm Phelan of GOITSE, to be their manager/mentor. Colm loved the idea of helping a younger band. He and Aine McGeeney have become their music Dad and Mam, and the rest of GOITSE, and their sound engineer Darren Cahill are proud and doting uncles! Ranging from 17 to 21 years of age, Cuig's talent and creativity are stellar.

Their music is heavily rooted in Tradition, but their arrangements give the music a freshness and energy that got people to their feet all summer. They are exciting, energetic and have a stage presence that seems to

come naturally. Add the fact that they are truly very fine young men, and you have quite a package. Make sure you treat yourself to their album, *New Landscapes*, as well as, their newly released song video "Chances" which you can view on Spotify. It is brilliant!

CUIG couldn't have chosen a better band to look up to than GOITSE. Together since their college days at UL, Colm Phelan on bodhran, Aine McGeeney on fiddle and vocals, Tadhg O'Meachair on piano accordion and keyboards, Conal O'Kane on guitar, and James Harvey on banjo and mandolin, all award winning and beyond talented have, from the onset, had goals and a professionalism that take most many more years to develop. Their music is

deadly good, their standards high, and they are tributes to their families—really good people! I count them as treasures in my life!

This spring, James decided to hang up the touring and devote his time to teaching music. It was a very emotional time for the entire band having been together as a band family for so long. A classmate of theirs, Alan Reid of Kiltargue, County Leitrim had filled in for James in Monaghan a few years back and impressed them. They enjoy his playing with the innovative and experimental band ARUM, as well as, his recent album *A Quare Yield* with well known and respected fiddler, Rachel Conlan of Blessington, County Wicklow. This album features music from old manuscripts many of which have never been recorded. The diversity of his musical interests and talented playing drew them to him when the opening occurred. Alan knew the opportunity to play with musicians he respects and enjoys was nothing to pass on. The band laughs onstage about how he plays so many instruments, he could replace all of them, except Tadhg. It seems Alan hasn't picked up on the

piano accordion—yet...

Colm and his bandmates are excited to see how Alan's influence will affect their sound, and hope to record a new album sometime in 2018 which will make all of us very happy! For those of you new to this truly remarkable band, they have four albums, *Goitse*, *Transformed*, *Tall Tales And Misadventures*, and *Inspired By Chance*.

There were so many other beyond good bands at the fests this summer. WE BANJO 3, just when you think you couldn't see them perform any better, kept upping their game. A swinging



brass trio, a new song honoring those who suffer from mental illness, and Fergal's "Tune of the Day" were spectacular.

Gaelic Storm added talented fiddler Katie Grennan who sparkled on the stage. SKIPPERS ALLEY (Chief O'Neill's 10/18) brought us lovely singing and beautifully played trad music. We hope to see much more of them! Jig Jam, with their new CD LIVE IN TULLAMORE, brought an energy to the stage that was infectious—you'll know where they are, just look for the trail of ladies.... SOCKS IN THE FRYING PAN provided their great craic, lively music, arrangements, and songs. DROWSY LADS were everything but! LUNASA, Pauline and Mick Conneely with Liz Carroll, and Troy MacGillvray, Paddy Keenan...and I've not come close to naming those deserving note! How blessed we are with all these musicians so willing to share their music and hard work! Now we can look forward to next season.

Tune in to IRELAND TONIGHT Monday evenings at 9PM Central time on WDCB.org, or 90.9FM where I feature the music of all these musicians and more.

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Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



Smile

By: Roddy Doyle

Viking Books: Amazon

This novel is fiction. But most novels are autobiographical and Roddy Doyle bravely explores that.

The famed Irish novelist writes with great emotion, originality, and imagination. He creates a world—an intimately personal world. Then he permits, encour-

The main character of Smile is Victor Forde. He went to a high school run by Christian Brothers. The Head Brother, using the pretext of teaching Victor wrestling and defense, forces the teen to this office floor and grabs the boy's genitals.

In the information sheet, Doyle says, "I wasn't molested, but I knew boys who were..." The reason he writes about this: "the historical abuse at the hands of

that could startle and seem true—a novel, a story, as opposed to a report."

It is a timeless story that he tells gently, but powerfully.

The Gospel of Mary

By: Paul Freeman

Pegasus Books

This is a generous-spirited, gracefully written book. Sure it is a page-turning mystery story, but it is also a warm hearted look at what people need from religion. It is also a compelling, critical look at the structures and hierarchies that surround religion. The setting is the Ireland of the 500's A.D. The "detective" is Sister Deirdre.

She is a member of an Irish royal family and was educated as a Druid to be a bard at royal court.

Christianity was just coming into Ireland and she realized there was no conflict between the beliefs of Druids and those of Christians. Both believed in the dignity of persons, in charity, and in the equality of the sexes.

So Sister Deirdre maintained her status as a Druid while becoming a nun in a Christian monastery.

The mystery concerns Sister Deirdre's travels around Ireland to escape the ruthless churchman sent by the pope to find and destroy the ancient scroll of the Gospel of Mary.

The quotes from the book: "in all of the centuries it has been in existence, the church at Rome has been trying to find and destroy The Gospel of Mary."

A nun asks, "But why?"

The monasteries abbess answers: "the leaders of the church fear it because they don't know what it says. Power is always threatened by the unknown."

The author of this captivating book is Philip Freeman. His age is approximately early 50's. He earned a PhD from Harvard in Classical and

Celtic Languages and Literature. He was recently appointed Chair of Western Culture at California's Pepperdine University.

Freeman's many books have been reviewed in the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, and other national publications.

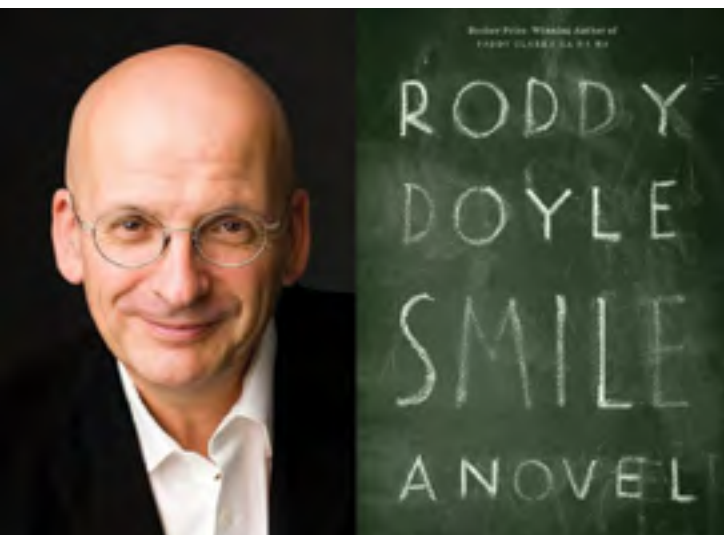
About the equality that Jesus preached: "Mary Magdalene and her female companions would often accompany Jesus and his friends. They weren't servants, but partners helping to organize the gatherings...bringing people to hear my son, and teaching among women of the towns."

The scroll of the gospel powerfully shows us Mary's pain, caused by the birth of Jesus, watching him grow to adulthood, the cruel death of her husband Joseph, and especially for suffering at seeing



the death of her son on the cross."

Mary describes the ideals Jesus taught: kindness for others, respect and dignity for all people, and love for others. Simple things that were as hard to do two thousand years ago, as they are today.



ages us even, to enter that world.

It is mostly how his main character "sees" himself. When we are children and then as teens, we develop our self-image, our self-esteem.

Ancient peoples—Greeks, Celts, etc. constantly refer to this in legends, folk-tales, and religious stories. Today, psychologists understand the vital importance of self-esteem.

The narrative, or story of Smile, is almost like a psychological mystery story. In fact, an author of mystery books, in the context of criminal motive, writes: "pain in childhood is never forgotten and seldom forgiven."

Forgiven? The person who suffers sexual abuse can never forget that happened. It can be driven deep into our sub-conscious, or the person can live in a world of denial with a make-believe image of oneself and their surroundings.

priests, nuns, and Brothers with the collusion of the state is rarely off the front pages." Doyle wrote that THIS year, not during the many sex tribunals of the 1990's.

Frequently, people who have been abused blame themselves. They feel that somehow they brought it on—it is their fault. The person Victor believes he sees say, "I am you."

Quoting the Author Biography: "Doyle was born in Dublin in 1958, He is the author of ten acclaimed novels, including The Commitments, The Van, Paddy Clarke Ha, Ha, Ha, A Star Called Henry, and recently The Guts. Doyle has also written two collections of stories and several works for children and young adults. He lives in Dublin."

Sexual abuse is a sad factor of life. Roddy Doyle's writing skills shows us the long-term impact on an abused person. He wrote Smile to tell "the story in a way

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A Fashion Show That Makes A Difference, Benefits St. Patrick Fathers

**Sunday, November 5
at 11 AM - 3 PM
Manzo's Banquets in
Des Plaines**

Across the globe in Lagos, Nigeria, one of the world's biggest floating slums, a young woman named Chidozia was found barely alive by a group of aid workers. Wrapped in tarpaulin and abandoned on the side of the street, the 22-year-old was brought by ambulance to a medical clinic and diagnosed with HIV. Like many of the growing number of women migrating from rural areas, she had come to the city looking for a better life, only to become a victim of sex-trafficking, exploitation and abuse.

The good news is that today she is safe and on a journey toward a better life thanks in large part to the missionary work of the St. Patrick Fathers, which rescued her and treated her at the clinic they help run. Also known as St. Patrick's Missionary Society, the international nonprofit organization is devoted to bringing lifesaving hope to people like Chidozia in ten African countries, and in Brazil and Grenada, areas plagued by poverty, disease, crime, injustice and illiteracy.

Here in Chicago, almost 6,000 miles from Lagos, St. Patrick Fathers

run their U.S. headquarters and fundraising for their missions on the Northwest side at 8422 W. Windsor Ave. It is here, that they also have established themselves as the spiritual hub for Chicago's Irish immigrants and the greater Irish-American community.

On Sunday, November 5, 2017, Chicago area supporters of St. Patrick Fathers will hold a fashion show in Des Plaines to help fund their global missions. The monies raised at the event, which will be held from 11

a.m. to 3 p.m. at Manzo's Banquets in Des Plaines, will go toward their missionary work worldwide where they run programs like the medical clinic and a women's training center in Lagos where Chidozia spent three years following her rescue, healing physically and emotionally and learning craft work, dressmaking, cooking, human development and social skills, the tools to escape chronic pover-

ty. Today, Chidozia runs her own small business and is healthy.

While their main focus continues to be the promotion of

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Tickets available by contacting Fr. Mick Madigan at 773-887-4741 or stpatrickfathers@gmail.com

their international missionary work, their service and impact is widespread among Chicago's Irish community.

"The St. Patrick Fathers have been a staple of the Irish Community in Chicago for many years," said Michael Collins is the Executive Director of Chicago Irish Immigrant Support. "Their impact can be easily seen through the amount of support they give to everyday families."

"The St. Patrick Fathers conduct countless weddings, funerals, baptisms, hospice visitation, prison support, and many more services to the community that would not otherwise be available," added Collins.

The Chicago office of St. Patrick Fathers is run by Fathers Michael Moore and Michael "Mick" Madigan. "Father Mick" is a native of Limerick, Ireland and is the chaplain and board president for the Chicago Irish Immigrant Support, a not-for-profit immigration and social services provider, serving the Irish community of Chicago and the 19

states represented by the Consulate General of Ireland, Chicago. He was assigned to Chicago in 2012 as Director of Mission Awareness and Promotion for the U.S. Since coming to Chicago, he has become increasingly involved with the Irish community.

"The St. Patrick Fathers, and Fr. Mick in particular, has been a massive help to me and CIIS by providing support and a willingness to take on an extra workload

regardless of the circumstances," said Collins.

Creating a sense of community among Chicago's Irish is also an important part of what the St. Patrick Fathers do here. The St. Patrick Fathers have also been a lifeline for so many elderly community members through their regular events that encourage socialization and friendship. "Many visitors to the Irish American Heritage Center, know the St. Patrick Fathers for the dances they sponsor as well.

"Whenever someone has an illness or death in the family, they can pick up the phone and Father Mick will be there to minister to them," said Monica McGuane, an Irish immigrant in Chicago who volunteers for the St. Patrick Fathers. "That happened to me when my brother was very ill and we couldn't find a priest to say the last rites. Father Mick came and stayed for two hours with my family. Whenever I know of anyone who needs a priest to care and come pray, I call the St. Patrick Fathers and they are always there."

Collins added that St. Patrick Fathers are filling a strong pastoral role in the Chicago area.

"There is a real service gap developing in the pastoral and visitation services," said Collins. "We are extremely lucky to have them in Chicago to call upon when needed. Fr. Mick has also been extremely influential in bringing in new people to our group events."

St. Patrick's Missionary Society first came to the U.S. 1954 for the purpose of mission awareness and promotion of our missionary work in Africa, South America and the Caribbean. Our first house was located in Camden town, New Jersey. They relocated to Chicago where they have been since 1968

For more information, contact St. Patrick Fathers at: (773) 887-4741 www.stpatrickfathers.com 8422 West Windsor Avenue Chicago, Illinois



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(right) Shown are young Murphy Roche musicians playing in the Wednesday youth sessions at Clancys in Oak Lawn, Illinois



(Bottom right) A few young Murphy Roche Musicians recently interviewed on the "Skinny & Houli" Radio Show in Chicago.

- Fiddler:
Delainey Schwarz
- Banjo:
Naimh Larson
- Concertina & Vocalist:
Imogen Kiley



(Left) Cathryn Cowell & Lexia Kennedy on Claire FM Radio while in Ennis, Ireland attending the Fleadh

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Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



On August 19th I joined my husband in our first dance as Mr. & Mrs, it was a beautiful occasion that led me to this article. What is Irish Dance? It is a group of dance forms that developed in Ireland including both solo (step dancing) and group dances collectively known as ceilidhs. Irish dance is used for social, wakes (at one time the mourners followed each other in a circle around the coffin to bagpipe music) competitive and performance purposes. Recently, I discovered Irish dance is used as a work out today called "eierobics". They're mixing Bollywood Indian dance for work outs with zumba so why not our traditional dance? Irish dancing is hard work, people train for years and years and enter competitions. As you know most countries have their own form of dance some include: Brazil-Samba, Russia-Ballet, Argentina-Tango, Middle East-Bellydance, Croatia-Kolo, Germany-Schuhplattler, Spain-Flamenco and Japan-Kabuki. Irish dance developed

from various influences such as french square dance and English country dancing. Irish dance became a significant part of Irish culture especially for Irish nationalist movements. Traveling dance masters taught across the country, the places they used to teach were small so the dances were demonstrated on tabletops and tops of barrels. Solo Irish dance is called Step dance which became popularized from shows such as Riverdance. Dancers have to hold their arms stiff to their sides, some say it could be a political statement to England. Solo step dances fall into two broad categories based on the shoes worn: hard shoe or soft shoe. There are four soft shoe dances: reel, slip jig, light jig, single jig. The hard shoe (like tap shoes except the tip/heel are made of fiberglass instead of metal) include: hornpipe, treble jig, treble reel and traditional sets. There is an organized dance competition called a "Feis" it means festival. Feis can be a competition for music or dance. Feile is

just for the dance competition but the terms are used interchangeably. The competitions are divided by age and level of experience. An annual regional championship competition is known as an Oireachtas. An Coimisiun world Championships are the biggest with over 6,000 dancers competing in over 30 countries. The Aisling (meaning dream) is awarded to the highest placing dancer in each category. Oireachtas Rince Na Cruinne The World Championships first took place in Dublin in 1970. Years ago step dancing had a more natural look and today there is some pressure to be pretty glamorous and doll-like. Dancers are expected to have perfect curls, (wigs) fake tans, make up eyelashes, etc...I'm of the camp that would rather look at the talent and style of a dancer than see heavy make up on a 13 year old. There was a make up ban put on girls under 10 years old, tg. I asked a nine year old girl last march at Gaelic Park what was the best advice a dance teacher gave her, she said, "practice like your in last perform like you've already won".

Another solo dance is called sean-nos (old style) dance a more relaxed version of step dance, some say it's the original Irish dance style. The root of step dance is sean-nos dancing, arms are loose, more free style, footwork is low to the ground in comparison to step dancing. You might have heard of the famous sean nos dancer Emma O'Sullivan (Galway). She is bringing sean nos dancing to Russia, with love, I'm sure...There is an Irish dance magazine out of Elmhurst, "Irish dancing & Culture". There was a movie made about Irish dance, "Jig" in 2011. Thankfully there are plenty of Irish organizations that continue to support Irish dancing some of them include: An Coimisiun le Rinci Gaelacha, An Comhdhail muinteora rinne Gaelacha and World of Irish dance Association. Some Irish dance schools include: Trinity dancers, Cassidy, and The Dennehy school. In February we're going to see, "Riverdance" it's

showing at the Rosemont. My dear friend Virginia Gibbons book this month will be, "The Worst Hard Time", by Tim Egan. (it's about those who survived during the dust bowl during the depression) This article is a to be continued one... because there is another segment of Irish dance



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I will cover, called, "Ceilis" and I didn't want to cut either short...stay with me Donna.

Gaelic for the month:

dance-damhsa / rince
pride-brod
passion-paisean
practice-cleachtadh
competition-comortais

Seanfhocail for the month:

nuair a bhionn an cat amuigh, bionn an luch ag rince-When the cat is outside the mouse dose be dancing.

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

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An Immigrant's Musings

Michael Leonard



DACA

President Trump's decision to end the DACA program that was introduced by President Obama in June of 2012 has rightly been criticized by faith leaders as well as members of both political parties. I strongly support the US Catholic Bishop's statement on DACA and I quote:

"The cancellation of the DACA program is reprehensible. It causes unnecessary fear for DACA youth and their families. These youth entered the U.S. as minors and often know America as their only home. The Catholic Church has long watched with pride and admiration as DACA youth live out their daily lives with hope and a determination to flourish and contribute to society: continuing to work and provide for their

families, continuing to serve in the military, and continuing to receive an education. Now, after months of anxiety and fear about their futures, these brave young people face deportation. This decision is unacceptable and does not reflect who we are as Americans.

The Church has recognized and proclaimed the need to welcome young people: 'Whoever welcomes one of these children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me' (Mark 9:37). Today, our nation has done the opposite of how Scripture calls us to respond. It is a step back from the progress that we need to make as a country. Today's actions represent a heartbreaking moment in our history that shows the absence of mercy and good will, and a short-sighted vision for the future. DACA youth are woven into the fabric of our country and of our Church, and are, by every social and human measure, American youth.

We strongly urge Congress to act and immediately resume work toward a legislative solution. We pledge our support to work on finding an expeditious means of protection for DACA youth.

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following statement, "My purpose is to ... today."

- Live with the 3 E's: Energy, Enthusiasm, Empathy, and the 3 F's: Faith, Family, Friends.
- Spend more time with people over the age of 70 and under the age of 6.
- Dream more while you are awake.
- Try to make at least three people smile each day.
- Realize that life is a school and you are here to learn, pass all your tests. Problems are simply part of the curriculum that appear and fade away like algebra class but the lessons you learn will last a lifetime.
- Smile and laugh more. It will keep the energy vampires away.
- Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
- Life is too short to waste time hating anyone.
- Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
- You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagreements.
- Make peace with your past, so it won't mess up the present.
- Don't compare your life with others'. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
- Burn the candles, use the nice sheets. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.
- No one is in charge of your happiness except you.
- Forgive everyone for everything.
- What other people think of you is none of your business.
- Time heals almost everything. Give time, time.
- However good or bad a situation is, it will change.

•Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends will stay in touch.

- Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful, or joyful.
- The best is yet to come... Believe.
- No matter how you feel, get up, dress up, and show up.
- Do the right thing!
- Call your family often.
- Each night before you go to bed complete the

following statements: "I am thankful for..." – "Today I accomplished..."

- Remember that you are too blessed to be stressed.
- Enjoy the ride. Remember that this is not Disney World and you certainly don't want a fast pass. Make the most of it and enjoy the ride.

Author Unknown

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

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Gallagher's Advice

By Caroleann Gallagher



Ten Do's and Don'ts if You are Involved in a Car Accident

1. Take Pictures. Take lots of pictures. Take pictures of all cars involved in the accident. Take the pictures from multiple angles and multiple distances. Take pictures of the roadway, any skid marks, and any debris on the roadway. Take pictures of applicable street signs such as stop signs, no-turn signs, etc. If you have bruising, cuts, scrapes, or abrasions, take pictures of them every day until they go away.

2. Get the Names of Witnesses. Independent witnesses could be your only way of proving who was at fault for the car accident. The insurance company will almost always claim that you were at fault, or at least partially at fault. Get the witnesses' name, address, and telephone number, at the scene if possible.

3. Hire the Right Lawyer, Right Away. "Choosing the right lawyer is no accident." Just because a law firm has lots of billboards and television commercials, does not mean they are the right lawyer for your claim. You have the right to know your lawyer's education, training, and experience. You have the right to have a lawyer acting for your best interests. Remember that as soon as an accident happens,

insurance companies start working on the claim. You should too. Also lawyers have the ability to serve notices on insurance companies and their clients to preserve evidence from the vehicles involved in an accident. Many vehicles today have computers that record speed and other data which can be crucial evidence in car accident cases. If you retain a lawyer right

away the chances of securing this evidence is increased. Do not get behind the eight ball because the insurance company will not be.

4. Go to the Right Doctor, Right Away. Don't delay. Timely documentation of your injuries is critical. Not all doctors are created equal. Most doctors are excellent clinicians and do wonderful work for their patients. However, not all doctors know how to properly handle and document treatment arising from a car accident. Many primary care physicians who routinely handle colds, checkups, cholesterol monitoring, and other general medical treatment, in my experience are often are ill-equipped to handle car accident injuries. There are many doctors who specialize in treating people who have been injured in car accidents. Those doctors include chiropractors, orthopedics, neurologists, and pain management specialists. It is preferable if you have suffered injuries as a result of a car accident that you have a doctor whose practice is a blend of car accident injuries and managed care.

5. File a Police Report. Sometimes the at-fault driver will ask you not to call the police. Do

not listen to them; call the police, always call the police! Insurance companies treat car accidents without a police report as minor, and thus not worthy of a reasonable settlement. Protect yourself not the person who hit you.

6. Take Notes. As a lawyer I love note takers. Take notes often and regularly. Document your injury and how it affects you. Note the things you cannot do or that you have to do differently because of your injury. Note the medication you are taking for pain and how often. Keep a diary and a track on your injury as it progresses. Time causes everyone's memory to fade, if you keep notes as things happen it will be easier to refer to those later, when it is necessary to recall important events and circumstances. In addition, if the person who caused the car accident apologizes or admits his wrongdoing, write it down, there and then. It's best if you can take down his exact words. A person's apology or admission of fault can be used against him or her in the future. Write it down as close to the event as possible.

Car Accident Don'ts:

1. Don't Give a Recorded Statement to the Insurance Company. Many insurance companies will try to get you to give them a recorded statement about the car accident. Do not do it! Do not do it ever. They will initially appear genuinely concerned for your wellbeing. They are not! What you say in a recorded statement in the days and weeks after a car

accident will be forever written down. The insurance company will use your own words against you in the future. Insurance adjusters are highly skilled and trained to ask questions that will benefit them, not you. My best advice when you get that call, is to be polite, refrain from giving a statement and refer them to your lawyer. Once you have a lawyer, insurance companies are not allowed to contact you directly.

2. Don't Settle without Consulting a Lawyer. Many insurance companies will offer you a few hundred dollars for the "inconvenience" you were caused by their insured. They will try to do this early. Often times before your injury has even been treated fully. Do not take it! If you agree to take such an offer - the insurance company will require you to sign a release that will prevent you from recovering money for your injuries in the future- even if those injuries worsen or turn out to be something other than was initially thought. What if you settle and three months later your doctor tells you, your injury is going to necessitate a surgery and three months off work. You've already settled your claim and you cannot now go back to the insurance company asking for compensation for this unexpected surgery and lost wages. Releases are worded carefully by trained lawyers acting for the insurance companies. They will never benefit you. Insurance companies have lawyers working to protect them - you should too.

3. Don't Stop Going to the Doctor. You should continue going to the doctor as long as your doctor recommends that you continue treating. Significant gaps in treatment, missing doctor's appointments, failing to undergo recommend-

ed procedures, and failing to take prescribed medications will reduce the value of your claim. Life gets in the way and we all have responsibilities and obligations and going to physical therapy three times a week, is certainly frustrating and a burden, but it is necessary to follow all of your doctor's recommendations to the very best of your abilities. A negligent defendant is not obligated to pay damages to you, if the damages were caused or made worse, by your failure to follow the doctor's recommendations.

4. Social Media Posts. Don't post things about your car accident on your Facebook page, Instagram or Twitter feed. Also, don't post pictures of yourself until you have consulted with a lawyer. I've seen relatively innocent pictures come back to haunt my clients' claims. For example, I once had a client signed off work by her doctor for a knee injury. During her time off work - she posted a photo of her beautiful garden filled with colorful flowers. The picture was accompanied by her post claiming that this masterpiece - took her "hours of hard work on my knees to perfect". My best advice for social media and your car accident is that their paths should never cross, ever!

Navigating the waters of a car accident claim can be very stressful and difficult, especially when you are dealing with an unexpected injury. Insurance companies are not and never will be your friend. They are not there to protect you. They have specialists working the claim from the very moment it happens. You should too.

• Caroleann Gallagher is an Irish born Attorney practicing all types of personal injury law - including medical malpractice law, nursing home litigation, wrongful death claims, transportation injuries, premises liability claims, defective produce claims, construction site injuries and Workers Compensation. She can be contacted at cgallagher@dwyercoogan.com or at 312-543-4642.

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Mick

Mike
Morley

Statuary Rape

"Look out for hirelings, King George of England, search every kingdom where breathes a slave." That line from 'Boo-lavogue' came to me the other day while reading accounts of unknown "heroes of American democracy" who in the dead of night defaced a memorial to the composer of America's national anthem.

Boo-lavogue recalls that small County Wexford town and its parish priest "brave Father Murphy" who, during the Irish Rebellion of 1798, first exhorted his flock to turn in their arms (mostly pikes) to superior English forces and sign an oath of allegiance to the British Crown. But when the English and their Protestant planter allies burned parishioner's homes, he led the resistance. Following initial victories, Fr. John Murphy was captured by crown forces and stripped, flogged, hanged, decapitated; his corpse burnt in a barrel of tar and his head impaled and displayed on a spike as a warning to rebellious Irish.

Here at home, demwits fancying themselves enlightened, attack American memorials, while fellow imbeciles blessed with multi-million dollar contracts sit on their hands expressing active disrespect for America's anthem. Their thin excuse for such seditious boorishness is these lines in verse three of our national anthem: "No refuge could save the hireling and slave \ From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave." Rather than interpret "slave" as a colonial dupe of British rule, they instead insist it's a reference to the British Corps of Colonial Marines- ex-American slaves conscripted by Britain to kill Americans.

There's no doubt "slave" in Boo-lavogue does not refer to Africans in 1798 Ireland. But even if that term in Key's poem referred to actual slaves dedicated to returning British rule to America 38 years after its founding, why would any American object?

Similar excuses are offered for removing memorials to other American notables, including President Jackson, who at New Orleans, in that same war of 1812 recounted in the anthem, routed the British Army, mightiest in the world, after it had easily burned the US capitol at Washington to the ground and advanced on the Mississippi intending to cut America in half.

That achievement of Jackson, duelist, slave owner and hero whose parents had emigrated from Carrickfergus, Co. Antrim, is given slhobby recognition. And now, by executive order of Barack Obama, Jackson's image now will be erased from American

currency, replaced by Harriet Tubman, a slave dedicated to helping other slaves flee north from the plantation system. Her deeds are truly worthy, yet a far cry from having saved the American continent from foreign rule.

It's hard not to compare the destruction of the past, the trashing and rewriting of history, to destruction by the Taliban and ISIS of monuments from earlier times. Some say this ruination is a conscious agenda of 'The New World Order', erasing history to "purify" future generations. If that's the agenda, it's not being freely discussed. I do know that an agenda promoting a welfare state coupled with open borders is unsustainable, and an invitation to social collapse. I'm hoping this asininity doesn't spread to Ireland, leading to the trashing of monuments to the likes of Father Murphy in the name of "progress".

Here in Chicago, African-American pastor Bishop James Dukes, claiming support from other leaders of his community, called for removing statues in Chicago's Washington and Jackson parks and renaming the parks for more "acceptable" leaders like former Mayor Harold Washington and Jesse or Michael Jackson. Can DC and Washington's Monument be far behind?

In August the Washington Post had a feature describing America's "anarchist community" that "organized thousands of people to protest the Inauguration by blocking security checkpoints and marching in the streets. Hundreds of them, clad in black clothes and masks, rioted through the downtown, smashing storefronts and injuring six police officers... However, Trump is not perceived as the anarchist's ultimate target... In their minds, the entire U.S. government should be



abolished..."

Democrats and their media supporters have been hesitant to deplore these tactics strongly, so long as they

are directed against the party currently responsible for governing America.

Of that Inauguration Day riot on (which many news outlets labeled a "protest") Muslim immigrant Muhammad Ashraf says: "I still want to know, did that accomplish anything?" One scene played repeatedly on TV screens worldwide showed Muhammad's super-stretch Lincoln limo in flames, defaced with a triumphal, sneering spray-painted slogan under ANTIFA's logo: the first three words of our Constitution, "WE, the people".

Did the press blanket the airwaves with outrage that insurance did not entirely cover the loss of Muhammad's custom vehicle; or that he had to dig up an additional \$70,000 out-of-pocket to replace his means of making a living in a "democratic" society?

But anarchy needn't make sense. The aim of the anarchist is to destroy society by any means necessary. Ongoing leftist disorder parallels Communist China's Cultural Revolution fifty years ago when iconoclast students styling themselves as "Red Guards" burned libraries full of historical texts, and temples, churches, mosques, monasteries, and cemeteries were looted and closed. Communist Party Chairman Mao Zedong himself set that chaos in motion to solidify his power over China.

Hillary Clinton wrote her senior college thesis on Saul David Alinsky, founder of modern community organizing and author of "Rules for Radicals". David Brock, in his 1996 biography, "The Seduction of Hillary Rodham," called her "Alinsky's daughter."

Alinsky's famous rules for radicals boil down to "the end justifies the means", all is permitted, winning is everything.

Alinsky Rule #4: "Make the enemy live up to its own book of rules.' Discourage people from having principles by using those principles against them." (The flip side of this tactic is the question of why should people with no standards be in charge of setting standards for all?)

#5: "Ridicule is man's most powerful weapon". A mild example from Bezos' Washington Post: "Yes, Donald Trump's hands are actually pretty small".

#6: "A good tactic is one your people enjoy". Smashing windows, beating people, defacing monuments is definitely fun and cathartic.

#11: "If you push a negative hard and deep enough it will break through to its counterside... every positive has its negative." By forcing police into violence it makes your group appear as sympathetic underdogs.

The key to success of these "rules" is a sympathetic, cooperative press to support and spread the agenda.

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From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell



Forty-Five

This time last year I wrote a piece for an Irish union magazine assessing the prospects and what we might expect in the pending US Presidential Election. Like most observers I was fairly confident that Hilary would win, though I did hedge my bets by pointing out that at the time (September 25) the opinion polls were too close to call and that in a number of crucial states Trump was either ahead or closing fast. Nevertheless waking up on November 9 to discover that Trump had won was dumbfounding.

Looking back it is clear that if Trump could successfully shrug off as "locker room talk" the outrageous sexually offensive "grabbing" remarks made to Billy Bush, his core support was unshakeable. And so it proved. Most voters for both main parties in US elections do not normally change and if they do there are particular underlying reasons. In 2016 a long festering mood of alienation and frustration among a certain sector of the electorate found expression in support for a different candidate, one outside the mainstream who could tap into their atavism. Enough of them voted in key states to deliver the election.

Now here we are, a year on and almost ten months into the Trump Presidency. What are we to make of him, particularly from this side of the Atlantic? There follow a few thoughts, preliminary and tentative, since these are still early days, with the very real prospect that his Presidency has another seven years to run. As I write there hasn't yet been a defining moment. Defeats and setbacks yes, but he hasn't been seriously tested. North Korea might do it but right now all he's done with the Koreans and everyone else has been to strut and shadow box, insulting allies

and foes alike while also blowing hot and cold on substantive international issues. What will he ultimately do about the Paris Agreement, NAFTA, relations with China and Russia, and the Middle East? His inauguration speech evinced a dismal weltanschauung. If anything his recent UNGA address, bellicose, nationalistic and devoid of idealism has fortified this.

If there is a characteristic Trumpian style it is his use of Twitter, his habit of delivering usually half-baked, half thought-through instant reactions to events and developments. Like most, I expected that in office he would desist or curb this habit. He hasn't. Whatever else may be said about him, he is not slow to get his message across and to hell with the consequences. No one can fail to grasp how he feels on an issue, however uneasy that sits with the observer. This after all is not some know-all troll, with an itchy texting finger, but the US President, with access to and power over the nuclear trigger. There is a real, if not present, danger to this.

We now pore over the occasions where there is no tweet but just a silence. Is he being reined in, or reining himself in on issues where he had best tread warily? The vacillation on the Paris Agreement, the equivocation on handling the Dreamers, the cutting loose of the likes of Bannon, suggests that Trump is indeed on a learning curve, but with so much required to learn on so many issues, there must be doubt whether he will ever adequately do so. Who can forget his wide eyed comment that the Health Care issue was complicated? So are most issues in the POTUS in-tray, Mr. President.

A year in, one thing that strikes is how totally Trump dominates the US political scene – some-

thing that does not bode well for either major party. I cannot remember this domination by a previous US President since the Sixties, when the nation was wracked by Vietnam. Even then there were loud, powerful and articulate voices opposed to LBJ, who was eventually forced out of the 1968 race. Today there seems no one to oppose Trump, with the only constraints the Constitutional safeguards, which so far have held, and his own propensity for inflicting self-damage. The Republican Party is in shreds, weakened by the Tea Party over a decade and savaged by the Trump seizure of the nomination. The Democrats are leaderless, holed below the waterline by Hillary's defeat and still licking wounds. Meanwhile Trump proceeds with giving effect to his election undertakings, distractions such as the Russia factor and staff changes notwithstanding. Unless a smoking gun appears the Russia dimension, though an irritant, is unlikely to be his undoing, while previous Presidents have also had staff upheavals.

Given the radical platform on which he campaigned, interest here has focused on how successful he has been in putting those policies into effect. And while there has been considerable gloating over the failures to

repeal Obamacare, the setbacks over his plans for immigration controls and deportations and the stalled Wall, none of these have affected or seem likely to affect his core support. Even the equivocation over the racist right has not done it, with the media focus having shifted to the hurricanes, where he handled the PR astutely, and the sudden apparent cosy up to the Democrats over the budget ceiling and the Dreamers. On this last, remember that Populism is a broad church and that, faced with a sluggish or non-performing Republican dominated Congress, Trump will try out other options.

While Trump has withdrawn from the Trans Pacific Partnership (whither goes it now?), the other big ticket items such as Tax Reform, NAFTA, and what to do about the Paris Agreement have yet to be reached. He is meanwhile ticking off his list of campaign promises, circumventing for the moment the need to introduce new or amending legislation in Congress by using the available weapons of unilateral Executive Orders (45 to date), Presidential Memoranda (32) and Determinations (6). Numbers of these have together rolled back or reversed significantly progressive measures and legislation in a number of areas, while business has been favoured by

cutting a swathe through regulations. The outcome has been a depressing roll call of measures affecting adversely a number of areas of American life from the Environment to personal freedoms. The mantra has been "America First," with an emphasis on freeing up business to create jobs. We shall see how that one pans out.

Very few Presidents succeed in giving effect to their programmes in entirety. Trump will be no different. But when the process is at an end, rather than decry his failures, Trump will defend his record, point to his successes, attack the media and his opponents and declare that the Swamp was far worse than he had imagined and that he will need a second term to drain it thoroughly. His core support will buy it.

A second term? Right now Trump seems poised to run again in 2020. What Republican, after all, would dare oppose him, to face the bluster, the demagoguery, against those back-ground, quasi-fascist, chants of "Trump Trump Trump" at rallies. Trump routed his rivals last year. As the incumbent he is fireproof. To defeat him will require a military fiasco, a mega scandal or a Democratic champion on a white horse. Don't hold your breath.

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New Plumbers 130 Training Center to Train Students for High-Tech Careers in Plumbing

Fifty thousand square feet of building space surrounded by glass, copper, concrete and cast iron — all overlooking a beautiful view of the Chicago skyline. It's unlike any training center the city has seen before. Opened in September of this year, the new Plumbers Local 130 Training Center has everything needed to train tomorrow's plumbers with real-world scenarios.

Apprentices learn how har-

vesting rain water saves precious water. Harvesting tanks monitor how much water is being used within the building and how much water is being saved. The water is then recycled throughout the building as a responsible water conservation technique. Harvesting rain water teaches apprentices this green technology that will help solve the world's water shortages.

"Greywater" is also harvested from drinking fountains, showers and wash sinks, and used throughout the building as one more water conservation technique, while teaching apprentices methods of installation.

But the environmental consciousness doesn't stop there. The green roof and multi-purpose room overlook an incredible view of the Chicago skyline, but also contain solar

panels for students to learn solar technologies. Every room, nook and cranny of the training center is designed with a specific purpose. IT closets line the hallways. Labs with exposed piping and mirrors show students what goes on behind the walls.

A large underground pit filled with stone will teach apprentices how to dig through rock beds to install pipe, just like they would do on a jobsite. Three-story ceilings allow space for a three-ton crane so apprentices can learn how to rig properly. There's space for 40 people to work with lifts at the same time, and 20 welding booths to accommodate the 20-student welding, soldering and brazing classes.

Local 130 Business Manager, James Coyne, commented that the Joint Apprenticeship Committee trustees worked with Gensler Architects to create the building that will prepare plumbing apprentices for high tech careers well into the future. "They really listened to our needs," said Coyne. "Our building isn't just beautiful; it's also practical and flexible for the future. Our students, as well as our journeymen, are using technology for diagnostics and measurement. And, of course, they're being taught AutoCAD and new software programs. Plumbing isn't what it used to be so it's fantastic that our building is adaptable and able to keep up with ongoing technology

and equipment upgrades."

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics the plumbing industry is growing at a rate of 12% per year, with average salaries for experienced journeymen at \$50+ per hour in the Chicago market. Apprentices make \$16.75 an hour their first year, rising to \$36.95 an hour in their fifth year of training. Apprenticeships have increased by 400 students at the Local 130 JAC Training Center over the past three years, with 20 women currently enrolled in the program. Three new instructors have been hired to keep up with the dramatic increases in apprenticeship enrollment.

"These students have the opportunity to become the best plumbers in the Chicagoland area," said Craig Thomas, vice president of the West Suburban Association of Plumbing Contractors (WSA) and Co-Chairman of the JAC. "The contractor members of WSA need the best and brightest young people in order to maintain our edge in the industry. With this state-of-the-art facility, these apprentices will graduate with more knowledge of technology than any other students of plumbing."

Students are in the classroom one day per week for three years. They read about plumbing processes, then walk across the hall to a wet lab and practice what they've learned. When they get to the jobsite, where they work with a contractor,



Some of the students already in classes in the new facility



Simulated conditions for many types of plumbing situations are available at the school

More of the future plumbers of America on hand to witness the training center's ribbon cutting





(l to r): Geraldine, Jim and James J. Coyne

they have had the experience of performing the skills they need, hands on.

Today's plumbers work with the latest technology, like augmented reality and virtual reality, relying on mobile devices for updated information and fleet management. It's a very different career than in the past. And it all starts with the union's five-year training program — unmatched

by any other and taught in a facility that matches the new, high-tech plumbing industry.

"This industry is becoming more and more desirable for young people or those entering a second career," Coyne said. "Not only are they working with the latest technologies, but they can graduate making the same as someone with a four-year degree, but without any debt. We find that a lot of students and their par-

ents are still unaware they can get paid while learning a valuable trade. Plus, the students in our program not only become licensed plumbers upon completion of their training, they also become State of Illinois licensed plumbers."

They get paid while they attend school. They work with computers, virtual reality and mobile devices. And they get to do it all in the largest and most state-of-the-art facilities in the Chicagoland area.



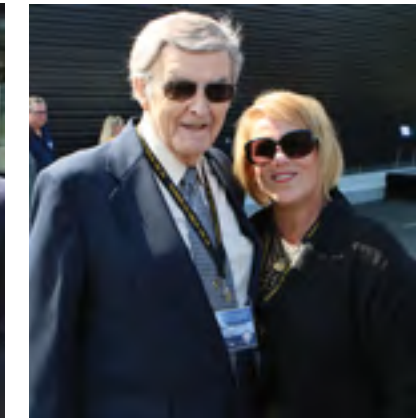
Dan McLaughlin, Ald. Patrick O'Connor



Kristy Mau and James Watson



Jim Coyne, Mark McManus (General President, United Association) and Michael J. Madigan, Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives



Former Business Manager Gerald Sullivan and Michele Scaccia-Coyne



Ribbon cutting photo, Craig Thomas, Mark McManus, Judy Frydland, Walter Burnett Jr., Elder Kevin Ford, Amy Rule, Jim Coyne, John D'Amico, John Russell, Michael Madigan and James Majerowicz.

Just some of the audience on hand to witness the grand opening of the UA Local 130 JAC Training Center.



View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



Shane Connaughton's Married Quarters

Shane Connaughton: playwright, script writer, actor, filmmaker and two times Oscar winner—for the screenplay of *My Left Foot* and for a 1980 short film, *The Dollar Bottom*—has also written beautiful collections of short stories set in his place of origin, Redhills in Co. Cavan. The first contribution, *A Border Station*, published in 1989, details the lives of his parents in fictional form. The book is autobiographical and the writer is a young boy looking up, observing. The setting is a border station, where his father is a Garda sergeant. Now, *Married Quarters*, which has just issued, provides a most welcome sequel.

In both collections of stories, Connaughton exhibits particular skill in describing the perspective of women. In a story from the first collection entitled 'Beatrice', the eponymous landed woman who lives cocooned in an Anglo-Irish fantasy largely sealed off from the locals, nevertheless remains sympathetic and human. That story's drama centres on a willful defiance of Beatrice on the part of the Garda sergeant. The sergeant awaits his moment, when she is away, to cut down one of her prized trees for firewood and gleefully awaits her response. She needs the sergeant to remain an ally and he exploits that fact, thereby exposing momentarily the fragility of her class's power. In another story, 'Topping', a gypsy woman, whose husband is being bullied by the sergeant, plots her



revenge by attempting to lure the boy into joining the gypsies.

As Brian Friel did in his dramas, so Connaughton's stories at once depict the chronic desperation and the lyricism of rural life in Ireland in the 1950s. The early stories are often tremendously sad. Women flock to see a Garda, newly posted to the town, flaunt his wares on the football field in the hope that he might provide a real husband to escape the stale existence of being married to a neighbour. The lives of the denizens of the town are constrained and the boy is displaced from where he had been familiar, Kingscourt in east Cavan. Butlershill, a fictional name given to Redhills (the word is an amalgam of two villages that would otherwise never rub up beside

each other) is a discontented place. Overshadowing all of this, from the boy's perspective, is his parents' dysfunctional marriage as well as disturbing glimpses of his father forcing himself upon his mother.

In *Married Quarters*, while clearly a development of *A Border Station*, Connaughton's humour and zest for life flourishes. While still confronting the awfulness of Irish life in the 1950s, a new awareness of modernity is emerging. People have been to England, others have fought back against brutal school teachers and other figures of authority. Independence is starting to grow in the people. The two books also represent the journey from innocence to experience: the boy's ability to perceive and analyse his environment grows and so too

does his ability to defend himself. In the process, his father becomes less a source of fear and much more human, and admirable for his backbone. His mother remains a fount of sensuality and grace, and of sophistication in her dealings with people.

Nearby Belturbet features too and, as a Belturbet man, it was wonderful to read of the vitality of my hometown as it was then: brimful of activity at the creamery, a hive of markets and a municipal centre too with the courthouse; a place of tourism, fishing, dances, cinema, circuses and festivals. Above all, Connaughton captured the language of the place. In dialogue Connaughton eschews conventions to attempt to capture the cadence and verve of local accents. He thoroughly succeeds. Connaughton marries his skill as actor and as a writer in sounding the dialect words and phrases of North Cavan. Those words form part of a language being lost, which has been rendered by Connaughton in the most authentic way possible in these stories.

Politics—you saw this coming—edges onto nearly every page too. The Garda Síochána has been and (if it survives the current scandal of 'elevated' breathalyser results) will continue to be the Republic of Ireland's police force. No arm of the State more symbolised the 'Free State' than the Gardaí since it was they who were charged with repulsing the threat of 'Irregulars' who repudiated partition. The border continues to dominate, restrict and delimit life in *Married Quarters*. In Butlershill, the criss-crossing of the border for marriage, trade and even for paramilitary activities is commonplace. The Protestant community in Butlershill are encircled and politically neutered in the South; one such, Bobby Roberts, acts out his fantasies of wielding power over Catholics by crossing the border twice a week to harass Catholics as a B-Special officer. The full-blown Troubles has yet to happen but the division between people is smoldering underneath. On the border road the son of the sergeant witnesses the forces of the Free State face-off against the

Northern Irish State.

Connaughton's characters in *Married Quarters* are vivid and real. The premise of the book—that there is a constant change of Gardaí through a combination of youthful flightiness, a bullying superintendent and the natural course of transfers—provides a steady stream of newcomers who enliven the little place and leave

their stamp on the community. So, too, has Connaughton left his mark, yet again, on the Irish literary landscape through his mining the considerable riches of the Ireland's border region. Here's wagering that there is a trilogy in this subject.

Married Quarters is published by Doubleday and *A Border Station* has been reissued.

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Senior Groups and Events

Chicago Irish Immigrant Support hosts a number of events throughout the month for seniors. Take a look below at what we have coming up in October and be sure to come see at an event that takes your

fancy!

Wednesday 4th October – Tara Club @ Irish American Heritage Center - 12pm

What you need to know about Nursing Home Care

Caroleann Gallagher is an Irish attorney based in Chicago

for several years. She is part of a firm that works to protect and support residents in nursing homes who have received poor quality care or have been the victims of exploitation and abuse. Caroleann will be joining us to share some of her expertise about how to determine the quality of a nursing home and what to do when abuse occurs.

Wednesday 11th October – Emerald Club @ Chicago Gaelic Park - 10am- 12pm

Movie: A Doctor's Sword

A Doctor's Sword tells the remarkable story of Aidan MacCarthy, a doctor from Castletownbere in West Cork, who fought in World War 2, was evacuated from Dunkirk, and volunteered for service in Asia where he was captured and survived almost 4 years of brutal captivity as a prisoner of war.

Wednesday 18th October – Monthly Musical Gathering @ Irish MAmerican Heritage Center- 11am- 1pm

This month we will enjoy the musical talents of Ray Gavin! Join us for what promises to be a great time!

Wednesday 25th October – Emerald Club @ Chicago Gaelic Park - 10am- 12pm

Keeping Your Teeth Healthy

Keeping a great set of choppers is undoubtedly important, but it's not always easy. As we age we can encounter a host of problems with our teeth and making sure that we're doing everything possible to protect our pearly whites becomes increasingly important. Join us today to learn more about what you can do to protect and preserve your winning smile!

Wednesday 27th October – Irish Cultural Hour - Mount Greenwood Public Library - 11am-1pm

At this month's Irish Cultural Hour we will explore one Ireland's greatest and best known cultural treasures – the Book of Kells. This ancient manuscript details the four gospels and is richly embellished with intricate designs. Join us as we

Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling



L-R Henrietta Gallagher (RIP), Former Taoiseach Enda Kenny, Ellen Casey

explore its fascinating pages.

Some Visitors from Ireland

In terms of special guests from Ireland, it's been a very busy couple of months for Chicago and Chicago Irish Immigrant Support. Back in June we welcomed the then Taoiseach (Prime Minister) of Ireland, Enda Kenny. Wrapping up a six-year stint as the leader of Ireland's government, Mr. Kenny decided to make Chicago one of his last official visits before stepping down as Taoiseach. A large swath of the local Irish community turned out at the Drake Hotel in downtown Chicago to meet with the Mayo native. Not only was the staff of Chicago Irish Immigrant Support able to finagle an invite to the swanky event, but the Irish consulate here in Chicago also extended invitations to our social work students from Ireland and some of the local Irish seniors. We were delighted to have people there who represented the diversity of Chicago's Irish community.

On his appointment as Taoiseach, Enda Kenny's replacement Mr. Leo Varadkar made some changes to the line-up of government ministers. After the shuffle we found ourselves

with a new Minister for the Diaspora – Ciaran Cannon. The Minister for the Diaspora is charged with assisting the Government of Ireland to support and engage Irish people and communities living outside of Ireland. Just weeks after his appointment, Minister Cannon, a native of Co. Galway, made a trip to see us here in Chicago. During his visit Chicago Irish Immigrant co-hosted a reception at the Irish American Heritage Centre so the new Minister could meet with many of the seniors that make up an important and charismatic part of the local Irish community.

Our most recent visitor from Ireland was the newly appointed Irish Ambassador to the US, Mr. Dan Mulhall. Fresh from a post as the Ambassador to the UK, Mr. Mulhall officially took up residence in Washington last month. Mr. Mulhall was in Chicago in mid-September to take part in the annual national meeting of the Ireland Network. While he was in town he stopped by a senior group we held at the Gaelic Park, where he met with many of the older folks who make the Southside a vibrant and active Irish community.



L-R Therese Mulcahy, Enda Kenny, Jenny Earley, Clara O'Shea-Collins

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pH Factor

By Pat Hickey



Pi R Fasano; Pi R Great!

"Noli Tubare Circulos Meos!"

– Harm not my circles!

Archimedes 212 B.C.

1966 – Holland Michigan:

Father Schiebel, OSA -

Mathematician:

"Gentlemen, Pi r squared"

Sophomore Pat Hickey- Eedjit:

"No! Pie are round, cake are square!"

You do the math. I received Gentleman D's in all high school Math and Science classes by dint of some extra work, shamelessly slathering layers of lick-spittle on the rumps of instructors and many Memorares.

Archimedes would never have invented the Archimedean Screw, Claw or worked out Pi, had he not a bellyful of pie. Pie was invented by the Greeks three hundred years before old Archimedes held off the Romans at Syracuse. Archimedes tells us that fat, flour and water made paste that when baked could be filled with fruit, meats and nuts. Pies!

I love pie – rather pies, tarts, flans, pasties, pastillas, bougatsas and bridies; sweet, tart and savory; hot, cold or indifferent.

Pie is God's message that things will be OK. They are the hoary and noble fore-runners to the sandwich. How many of us took a generous beat-down from Sister Dorales, RSM, only to find pie on kitchen table after the crucible of grammar school and rubbed away the welts with a Peach pie from Fasano and tall cold glass of milk from Hamilton Dairy?

Here in Chicago the Fasano Pie has satisfied the population with pies that are "As good as Mother's and better than others" since 1946.

Pie wagons delivered delicious apple, berry, cherry, cream and pumpkin pies to grocers and restaurants. Chicagoans reused the Fasano pie-tins for their own

imitations.

Fasano Pies had a set-back, but Peter Fasano, a south side guy, kick-started the ovens and rolled out the dough again.

Fasano made things OK again for Chicago.

Peter Fasano exemplifies Old Chicago. He never forgets and always gives back. In 20012, after re-



starting the family pie operations,

In 2012, Pete Fasano met Brother Rice President Kevin Burns in the parking lot of the now shuttered Borders Books on 95th Street in Beverly. Pete was selling pies from his truck just as he grandfather had done and President Burns remembered the quality of the brand. Not only did Kevin Burns buy the pies that were as good as his mother's and better than the others, but struck a deal with Pete Fasano.

Every Saturday morning in the north parking lot of Brother Rice High School, Pete Fasano sells pies. I met Pete, when I parked for a freshman football game (4-0 at time of publishing) and like Kevin Burns bought some great Fasano pies. We talked about our common culture and love of tradition.

Pete Fasano and Kevin Burns also partnered to help people and

programs at Brother Rice. The November pie drive has been wildly successful for the students and their parents.

I asked Pete about the reception of this return to quality pies from Chicagoans and he told me that while things are looking good, he can never be complacent – he must get out and show the flag and let people know that Fasano Pie is back by dint of hard work.

That resonates with south sides and most Chicagoans. While Pete Fasano will be out hustling pies at 10001 South Pulaski on Saturday mornings, he will also

be finding placement in stores. You can avail yourself of Fasano Pies at Mariano's Market all over Chicagoland and pick up a few tasty pasties at Casey's Market.

Sometime around All Saints Day, Fasano Pies shoots to open a retail pie store in La Grange at 74 South LaGrange Road.

Marketing depends upon product, price, placement and promotion. Fasano's product is wonderful, the price more than fair (large pies @ \$16 and individual pies @ 3 for \$10), placement is convenient with Marianno's Markets popping up all over Chicago and the promotion is heroic. Pete Fasano and his truck will go anywhere to keep faith with family, friends and our blue-collar culture.

I hope this helped a bit.

Telling the Fasano story is much easier than math.

Harm not our circles!



Irish Fellowship Club Meets Irish Ambassador Mulhall

Members of the Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago recently met with Dan Mulhall, the new Irish Ambassador to the United States at a luncheon hosted by the Irish Consulate General of Chicago. Consul General Brian O'Brien welcomed Mr. Mulhall and all in attendance. He also introduced the new Vice Consul General, Justin Dolan.

Irish Fellowship Club president, Chris Kozicki, welcomed Ambassador Mulhall to Chicago. Chris emphasized the Club's long standing commitment to working with the Irish government to promote the relationship between Ireland and the United States in general and Chicago in particular. Before he introduced the Waterford born Mulhall, Chris briefly told the group about the ambassador's impressive civil service credentials which started in 1978, and included his recently completed four year assignment as Irish Ambassador to Britain. Finally, Chris wished a warm welcome to Mrs. Greta Mulhall who accompanied the Ambassador.

Ambassador Mulhall complimented the Irish Fellowship Club on all of its accomplishments since its founding in 1901. He emphasized the close ties between Ireland and the United States, and the importance of the Irish diaspora throughout the world.

With regard to Ireland, he discussed the strength of the Irish economy and ties to the State of Illinois. With regard to June's Brexit vote, Mr. Mulhall said Dublin will work closely with the British government and the Northern Ireland Executive as co-guarantors of the peace process.

He finished by saying that this was the first of many trips to Chicago and the Midwest. Ambassador Mulhall said he considers being available to the Irish diaspora a top priority.



Irish Ambassador Dan Mulhall and Peggy Lombardo



IFC President; Chris Kozicki with Irish Ambassador Dan Mulhall



Ambassador Dan Mulhall and Kathy Taylor



Judge John Griffin and Irish Ambassador Dan Mulhall

Irish Ambassador Dan Mulhall meets with members of the Irish Fellowship Club in downtown Chicago recently



Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



Season Of Possible Change?

As the saying goes, everything has its season. Perhaps the fall of the year is a great time to reassess your career. Summer has come to a close and the severe winter weather is still in the offing. So take some time to decide on the scope and direction of your career. Where do you want to be in 2018?

Some of us erroneously believe that our employers will see to our development. Why? Because many companies espouse that well-worn phrase about people being their most important asset. CEOs frequently speak about the depth and strength of their people. Unfortunately, simply put, most corporations do not work at significantly enhancing the careers/skill sets of their employees. If you are not in charge of developing your own career, nobody is in charge.

You owe it to yourself to regularly review the status of your career within your organization. Let's assume that you have decided to stay with your current organization for the next 12-18 months. What do you want from your employer during that time? How are they going to help to expand your work skills? Ideally you will be a more competent employee 18 months from now.

Needs Assessment

To accomplish this you should conduct a needs assessment to start the process. What needs do you anticipate surfacing as you look to the future in your career? This step will require some research and analysis on your part. What are the major issues that scholars and researchers anticipate in the next decade? What are the major challenges facing each of us?

Ask yourself, to be a successful person in my field, what are the essential skill sets that you will need? Perhaps the list below will help you focus on the challenge.

- The ability to think critically.

- The competency to synthesize thoughts and reduce them to writing.
- The ability to speak confidently in front of a group.
- A leadership style. Have you developed your replacement?
- Competent social skills including a sense of humor.
- Develop Visionary skills.
- Enhance your Global orientation/World View.
- Attain High energy.

You need to move beyond generalities and decide on the specific skills that you want to improve. If you'll accept the concept that certain skills or traits are critical to success in your job, then you should determine your proficiency in each. Ask colleagues, peers and superiors how you should go about improving your overall competency, assure them that you want their most candid thoughts. A 360 degree assessment could be invaluable to you.

Then with the assistance of a hardnosed colleague/mentor or possibly a human resources specialist develop a program to address the inadequacies that have surfaced.

Expand Your Horizons

Setting specific objectives and priorities is an equally daunting task; often people are haunted by the possibility of their failure. You also must find the processes or methodologies that are available. Some ideas may require course work. These courses could help you to expand your horizons.

Consider taking a sabbatical of several weeks or months after you have been in your job or profession for a number of years, it could prove to be very helpful. You say that you are too busy to do that. That's understandable. However, that may be the exact reason to do it. Do you need to recharge your batteries? If you had a triple bypass and your doctor instructed you to stay home for six weeks, would you really argue?

Another option might include rotating assignments. You may have become myopic if you have had the same job for a long time. You may fail to see there are many other dimensions in the broader world around us.

You could expand your outside reading interests. Do you ever read materials that deal with countries in which your company or clients do business? Could you describe any such country beyond a few obvious facts? Do you have any sense of the geography or history of the area? If at all possible, take vacations in some of the countries where you see your business developing. A week or two in Malaysia will NOT make you an expert on the Pacific Rim, but it will give you some insight.

Get A Mentor

Mentors are invaluable in the development of our skills. They have a chance to observe you time and time again in a variety of circumstances. They can help you find those blind spots in your developmental needs much more quickly. The focus of their attention likely will be directed toward your "soft" skills not your highly technical skills.

Decide How To Get It Done

Decide now which of the above program possibilities (or others) fit your time constraints and budget limitations. You should design a program of self improvement. Commit it to writing. Enlist the support of superiors; get them to buy into it.

Do It

Simply stated: Do it. Virtually any program you develop will be superior to waiting for your company's development program.

Taking Stock

Select a couple of dates during the next year to review your progress. These reviews will help you to continue moving in the right direction. Take control of your career: you will do better and have more fun. CARPE DIEM.

For Your Consideration

Make no little plans. They have no magic to stir men's blood and probably will not themselves be realized. Daniel Burnham, American Architect and Urban Planner.

James F. Fitzgerald is the

Dancing Mike Doyle Passes at 94

By Sharon English

If you are a regular at the Irish American Heritage Center you have likely heard of Mike Doyle. He recently passed away at the age of 94. Mike had the energy of a teenager and his dancing was legendary. He will be missed by those who knew him and got to see him dance



for the first time. Mike was from County Wexford, Ireland, where he was a self-employed excavator. He owned his own equipment and

president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville, IL-based senior executive outplacement and executive coaching firm. Phone 630-420-0362. Jamesffitzgerald.com jamesffit37@hotmail.com

was quite successful. When he was in his late 20's he decided to move to the U.S. He sold everything and came to Chicago. According to his cousin, Mary Mahoney, he wanted to chase the "American" dream, believing this was the land of opportunity. Shortly after moving here he landed a job working for the city of Chicago. He only worked for the city a short time until he could purchase his own equipment and once again became a self-employed excavator.

Life was not all about work for Mike. He met and married the love of his life Molly (Mary Agnes) from County Clare. She was a widow with grown children. He and Molly lived together in the same house throughout their married life and Mike continued to live in that house after she passed

away in 2000. I asked him once if he would ever remarry and he said emphatically "no". Mike generously donated his wife's Belleek china to the IAHC.

Ask anyone that knew Mike and the first words that come out of their mouth is "he loved to dance." Every Friday night he would attend the ceili held at the IAHC. His fellow dancers say that sometimes he would start dancing and just take over the floor. Besides his love of dancing

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Piping It In

Jack Baker



Harps & Orphans & Dogs &....Chanceys?

The festival season is nearly over as I sit to write this and I'm dragging. However, I think I have heard more fine music this year than ever before. Festivals have been booking better acts and local spots like the Irish American Heritage Center and Chief O'Neill's have been bringing in some of the best bands ever. I have been happy with the music.

There have been a number of fine recordings released lately that have crossed my desk and given me a lot of joy. I've got 4 to tell you about this month that are particularly fun.

First off, the recording "Kaleidoscope" by harper Floriane Blancke, features her outstanding musical prowess, her lovely voice and the musical talents of a number of her friends in the Irish music scene, combined to create one of the most lovely collections I've heard. In addition to the harp, she also plays fiddle, piano and I've already mentioned her voice which deserves more than one mention. There are a number of excellent tunes written by Ms Blancke on this cd, so we have to add composer to her list of accomplishments. An overall outstanding recording that will please the ear in so many ways. Originally from Paris, Floriane now lives in Ireland and has become a well respected member of the musical community.

The second cd is the latest from the band of sisters from Donegal, the Screaming Orphans, www.screamingorphans.com. "Taproom" is the latest in a long list of popular recordings performed by these multi-talented siblings. Angela plays bass and fiddle, Gráinne plays guitar and piano, Marie Thérèse plays accordion, piano and keyboards, and Joan plays drums. While Joan has been lead vocal, with a gorgeous voice, the other three are singing more on this recording and blending their voices into some lovely harmonies. As on most of their recent albums the perform a mix of popular trad fare, like "Follow Me Up To Carlow", "The Humour Is On Me Now" and "Paddy's Lamentation", along side some original pieces, "Home", and American songs like "Oh Shenandoah",

in which the ladies make good use of their voices. The Screaming Orphans have developed a huge fan base and this album shows the extent of their musicality. Don't miss a chance to see them live,

they put on a great show and you never know what they'll say on stage.

Old Blind Dogs (www.oldblinddogs.co.uk) have been a tremendously popular band from Scotland for more years than I care to remember and have put out more enjoyable recordings than I can keep track of. They've done it again with their latest release "Room With a View". The current lineup consists of Jonny Hardie, fiddle and vocals, Aaron Jones, bouzouki, cittern, guitar and vocals, Ali Hutton, pipes, whistle and vocals and Donald Hay, percussion and vocals. Their sound, as always, is vibrant, ener-



getic, and impossible to ignore. The band was embroiled in visa hell for awhile and, as a result, was unable to tour at full strength. Luckily for us, those problems has been straightened out and the Dogs have been let out to tour the US. All four members of the band have good, clear and strong voices and you couldn't ask for better musicians. The new album is full of strong and interesting songs, my favorite is "Sawney Bean" a song about one of Scotland's more colorful celebrities. I have never heard a bad OBD album and the new one is just as attention grabbing as any of their previous stuff. You will enjoy.

My last recording this month is one that I especially enjoy. It's done by a local band, the Chancey Brothers, and it is a true work of love. It's called "Patriots & Immigrants" and contains songs that have special meaning to the members of the band, all of whom come from good Irish immigrant stock and some who had

relatives who fought for Ireland's freedom. The songs are mostly traditional, "Men Behind the Wire" is very well done and one song "Fighting Chicago's Fires" was written by Bob McNamara and is probably my favorite on the album. I have to admit that I tend to not pay as much attention to local bands as I should and it is a lesson to myself, delivered by this cd, that I need to keep a closer watch. This is a collection of fine music performed by a band who takes their music seriously.

Now to finish packing for the next festival. Listen to my partner Shay and myself on wdcb 90.0 FM or online at wdcb.org, Mondays at 8 PM.



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- * 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.

ANNUAL MEETING

All paid IASCW Members are invited to the Annual General Meeting.

Sunday, Nov. 5, 2017

Chicago Street Pub, 75 N. Chicago St.

Joliet, IL 60432 1pm - 5pm.

Short business meeting for elections at 2 p.m.

Food and first beverage included.

2018 SLATE OF OFFICERS ANNOUNCED

The IASCW announces the 2018 Officers and Directors. They include:

Chris Schaal, Chairman

Tim Brophy, President

Sharon Houk, Vice President

Bettie Komar, Treasurer

Brian Conroy, Secretary

Directors: Laurie Malloy, James Lawler, Daniel J. Maher

This slate will be presented at the annual meeting for membership consideration. Please plan to attend.

RUGBY NEWS

The County Will Morrigan took on a new challenge this fall season. For four consecutive years the Morrigan have come out on top in their conference. With playoff competition looking stronger than typical in-season play, the Morrigan decided as a club to challenge themselves by joining a different conference. It has been an uphill battle playing more experienced and (let's be

honest) physically larger teams from Minnesota, Quad Cities, and Wisconsin. This hasn't deterred the heart of the Morrigan. Coach Dave has some assistance with Coach Milo and Coach Mike taking on the pack. This team of true stars practice inside a horse barn, with a slight resemblance to something you might have seen in Rocky IV. They also use weekly fitness challenges to stay in shape and continue to form stronger relationships both

on and off the pitch. Due to player growth, the Morrigan have also been able to play some "B-side" matches as well. The Morrigan are looking to finish up the second half of the season strong. They would also like to remind all of their fans that the score is always 0-0. Oh...and they always win the after party. For more information, please visit www.morriganrugby.com or visit their Facebook page.

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Malika Ameen's first memory of food is her mother's biryani. As an adult living far from home, the aroma of braised beef, basmati rice and spices cooking together would bring tears to Ameen's eyes because it reminded her so powerfully of home and her mother.

"I can envision my parent's house and me in my parent's house and all of these happy memories and moments in my life. It's like every good memory with my family. The smell equates love to me," she said.

Ameen's Mom prepared dinner daily, but her parents cooked side-by-side on the weekends. While her parents were cooking, her interest in baking grew. She would stay up, late into the night paging through Martha Stewart's first cookbook. "The one of her standing in front of a copper kitchen," Ameen remembers. Growing up, her home was always filled with family and friends, perfect test subjects for nearly every single recipe in that cookbook, from cookies to flans to tarts.

"I made everything but the wedding cake." She grins and then knowingly laughs at herself. Her exuberance for baking vibrates across the table from me, as she sits comfortably in a white tunic over jeans, with her dark hair pulled back from her face, her eyes telling me almost as much as her lips.

In second grade, she had to write an autobiography. Ameen found it years later while cleaning up her Mom's house. It was a booklet, bound with fabric. Inside she had blank pages to fill. One of the pages was an illustration of Ameen by a stove saying, 'I'm a really good baker and I love to bake.' She serendipitously found this booklet just before starting culinary school in New York City at the Institute of Culinary Education in 1997.

While in school, she enjoyed the two-week pastry arts program the most. Her first internship was with a French pastry chef who didn't like to speak English in the kitchen, even though he could. And, he really didn't like women in the kitchens.

"It was all French men under him. I didn't speak French, I was a woman and I was brown. He was very difficult and made it clear that I was not welcome in his kitchen. The internship was set for two weeks, so I did not leave early. I had the choice to extend, but did not. He was horrific," remembers Ameen. Although the experience



was negative, Ameen contends that, "Difficult chefs and difficult kitchens really do mold you. It builds a certain character in you."

She asked to be placed in a different restaurant and worked under Gina DePalma at the Cub Room in Soho. Under DePalma, Ameen's love for pastry deepened.

Not long after, Ameen met her now ex-husband in New York. He was also a chef. They had a son and then were both offered positions at Chateau Marmont in Los Angeles, California.

One of Ameen's most memo-

orable experiences was appearing on Martha Stewart's show. They picked one of her cookies for the holiday baking week. She took the tattered cookbook from her childhood with her and showed it to Stewart and said, "I would have never imagined in my life that I would become a chef and end up on a show with you."

In 2009, her marriage ended, her Dad had a massive heart attack and the restaurant she'd opened with her ex in Chicago only a few years before, closed. "It was time to reinvent myself," said Ameen who was suddenly a single Mom of three small children.

So, she created custom catering and desserts, primarily focused on cookies and granola. "There's this alone time in the process that's exciting, because you're connecting with your food and ingredients. But, I missed interacting with customers and getting feedback in person," she said. Which is the part of cooking Ameen loves most of all.

That's when she considered creating a baking book focused on spices. "The books are always very ethnic or encyclopedic," she said. "I wanted to share my passion for baking with spices."

Today, Ameen has her own book of recipes, "Sweet Sugar Sultry Spice", inspired by the traditional American deserts she first made as a child. While I write this, her take on Peach Cobbler is baking in my oven, the smells of peaches and blueberries waft into the living room with a hint of nutmeg, vanilla and cinnamon.

She advises home bakers to buy spices in bulk and whole, grind them with a mortar and pestle. "Don't get stressed about spices, if they are a bit old, try them." But if you've inherited spices from a relative who has long since passed away, "It's time to throw them away."

Even for a chef and baker who regularly experiments with flavors and spices – sumac, saffron and cardamom to name a few – Ameen appreciates the grocery store basics: A bag of Cape Cod Salt and Vinegar potato chips.

Knowing this about Ameen

made me want to pick up her cookbook even more. I secretly love salt and vinegar chips too. Their sharp vinegary jolt to my taste

buds reminds me to appreciate the more subtle flavors in my life. That reminds me, I better check on that peach cobbler baking in my oven.

From *Sweet Sugar, Sultry Spice* by Malika Ameen, ©2016 by Malika Ameen. Reprinted by arrangement with Roost Books, an imprint of Shambhala Publications, Inc. Boulder, CO. www.roostbooks.com

CRUNCHY TOP PEACH COBBLER

Roasting or baking makes summer peaches even sweeter and caramelizes the natural sugars, deepening the fruit's flavor. Roasted peaches are one of the most sublime things you will ever taste. These magnificent peaches star in a simple cobbler made with nutty brown butter and crunchy nutmeg sugar. This is an easy dessert that comes together quickly but tastes like it took ages.

Active time: 20 minutes. Total time: 1 hour, 20 minutes

Serves 6 to 8

1 pound peaches, pitted and cut into ½-inch slices, with skins on
 ¾ cup granulated sugar, divided
 1 teaspoon freshly squeezed lemon juice
 Seeds from ½ vanilla bean
 1½ teaspoons tapioca flour
 4 tablespoons (2 ounces) unsalted butter
 ¾ cup all-purpose flour
 1½ teaspoons baking powder
 ½ teaspoon ground Vietnamese cinnamon
 ¼ teaspoon kosher salt
 ¾ cup buttermilk, at room temperature
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 1 cup blueberries
 2 tablespoons turbinado sugar
 ¼ teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
 Vanilla ice cream, to serve

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Line a baking tray with parchment paper to catch any drips and place a 9-inch pan on it.

In a large saucepan over medium heat, combine the peaches, 3 tablespoons of the granulated sugar, the lemon juice, and vanilla bean seeds. Bring to a simmer and cook for 1 minute. Remove from the heat and allow to cool. In a small bowl, whisk together 1 tablespoon of the granulated sugar and the tapioca flour.

In a small saucepan, melt the butter over medium-high heat and continue to cook until it begins to smell nutty, about 2 minutes. Swirl the pan and continue to cook until the butter is golden and dark brown flecks begin to appear, about 3 more minutes. Pour the browned butter into the 9-inch round pan.

In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, the remaining ½ cup of granulated sugar, the baking powder, cinnamon, and salt. Add the buttermilk and vanilla extract and whisk just until batter forms. Using an ice cream scoop, deposit dollops of the batter in the round pan. You don't want to mix the dough with the brown butter, but it's okay if some butter seeps through. Add the tapioca-sugar mixture to the peaches in the saucepan and toss to coat. Scatter the peaches and juices over the dough. Scatter the blueberries on top of the peaches.

Bake for 25 minutes. While the cobbler is baking, mix together the turbinado sugar and nutmeg in a small bowl. Remove the pan from the oven and sprinkle the cobbler with the nutmeg sugar. Return the pan to the oven and bake for another 25 to 30 minutes, until golden brown. Serve warm or at room temperature with vanilla ice cream.

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