

Get Ready for
iBAM! TEN!
October 26, 27, 28
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Shane O'Regan
Star of 'Private Peaceful'
at Greenhouse Theater

**to Perform at
iBAM! TEN
Saturday, Oct 27**

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iBAM! TEN Award Winners



Music:
Maura O'Connell



Literature:
Marian Keyes



Visual Arts:
Mary McSweeney



Performing Arts:
Fionnula Flanagan



Media/Journalism:
Mike Leonard



Person of the Year:
Dolores Connolly



Culinary Arts:
Noel McMeel

iBAM! Turns Ten!

By Rynne Gallagher Johnson
The annual Irish Book, Arts, and Music celebration returns to the Irish American Heritage Center October 26th-28th. This family friendly Irish cultural event kicks off Friday night with a gala awards dinner, continuing through the weekend with more than 30 Irish authors reading from and signing

their books, theatre and dance performances, film screenings, storytelling, and children's activities. iBAM runs from noon to 6pm each day, and admission is free.

Come celebrate the outstanding contributions of the Irish at the **iBAM! Gala Awards Dinner**.

Opening with a Cocktail Party at 7pm in the beautiful Erin Ballroom at the Irish American Heritage Center, the dinner and award cer-

emony will begin at 8pm. Awards will be given in seven categories:

In **Music**, we'll be honoring Grammy-nominated musician **Maura O'Connell**, known for her contemporary interpretations of Irish folk songs, strongly influenced by American country music. Since 1983, O'Connell has released twelve solo albums (her second album, *Western Highway*, came out in 1987, and was re-released

in the States as *Helpless Heart* in 1989), has primarily contributed to six other albums, and has lent her vocals to numerous other recordings. In 2002, she was cast as an Irish migrant street singer in Martin Scorsese's *The Gangs of New York*, the soundtrack for which she also recorded the song "Unconstant Lover".

In **Literature**, **Marian Keyes**, Irish novelist and non-fiction writer, best known for her work in women's literature. An Irish Book Awards winner, over 35 million copies of her twelve novels, preceding her most recent release *The Break* (2017), have been sold and translated into thirty-three languages. She became known worldwide for *Watermelon*, *Lucy Sullivan is Getting Married*, and *This Charming Man*, with themes including alcoholism, depression, addiction, cancer, bereavement, and domestic violence.

In **Culinary Arts**, executive head chef **Noel McMeel** of Lough Erne Resort in Ireland will be honored for his accomplishments in modern Irish cuisine. A true ambassador for local produce, McMeel has dedicated his entire career to finding, preparing, and serving fresh food in season. He's had regular television appearances, and contributes recipes and editorials to leading magazines and publications (including *Bon Appétit*, and *America's Food and Entertainment Guide*).

In **Media/Journalism**, we honor Emmy Award winner and former *Today Show's* **Mike Leonard**, who has traveled across America and around the world in search of stories that define our lives. His stories have appeared on *NBC Nightly News*, *Dateline*, *NBC Sports*, *MSNBC*, *Showtime*, and *PBS*. In 1989, Leonard pioneered

a broadcasting model when he was the first and only television network correspondent to research, produce, write, shoot, and edit all of his own stories. While unprecedented at the time, his independent and innovative style of reporting has now emerged as a valued model in the battle to cover the news in an effective and cost-efficient manner.

In **Visual Arts**, awardee artist **Mary McSweeney** will be honored for her portrayal of Irish people at work and play that has evoked the same memorable nostalgia that made Norman Rockwell's heartwarming scenes of life in America so popular. Her work is highly sought after by Irish and Irish-American companies, and her paintings are acknowledged on both sides of the Atlantic as being authentically "Irish to the core".

In **Performing Arts**, we honor actress **Fionnula Flanagan**, who, in addition to her extensive work in Irish film and television, is also well-known in American television for her performances in *Star Trek* spin-off series *Deep Space Nine*, *The Next Generation*, and *Enterprise*, as well as her roles as recurring character *Eloise Hawking* in *Lost*, and *Nicky* in *Defiance*. She is also recognizable in film for portraying *Gerty MacDowell* in *Ulysses*, *Mrs. Bertha Mills* in *The Others*, *Teensy* in *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*, and *Evelyn Mercer* in *Four Brothers*, among many other productions.

This year's **Person of the Year** award will be given to **Dolores Connolly**,

Dolores has spent her career delivering exceptional results as a CEO, Civic Leader, and advocate for women and humanitarian causes. She is a values-based leader committed to making a difference

FROM MICHAEL MORPURGO,
THE CELEBRATED AUTHOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL HIT
WAR HORSE
COMES THE CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED PRODUCTION

"IT SHOULD NOT
BE MISSED!"
SUNDAY INDEPENDENT

PRIVATE
PEACEFUL.
BY MICHAEL MORPURGO
DIRECTED AND ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE BY SIMON READE

"ASTOUNDINGLY
WONDERFUL!"
THE ARTS REVIEWS

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in the world we live in.

For the past 21-years Connolly has served as CEO of Sterling Engineering, West Chester, a \$47 million engineering services firm with 450 employees serving the project needs of Fortune 500 and mid-sized companies in the food, pharmaceutical, transportation and packaging sectors. Under her leadership, Sterling has become a recognized market leader nationally and internationally.

Born in Longford, Ireland in 1955, the third of 13 children, Dolores was a sunny, even-tempered child prone to testing the limits of authority. A stint at boarding school during the cultural revolution of the '60s provided her with more independence and an opportunity to shape her burgeoning leadership skills. Dolores chose education for her field of study and received an international teacher's certificate from Association Montessori International, London.

Her first job was directing a privately-funded Montessori program to help underprivileged children in Dolphins Barn, a rough area of Dublin's inner city. It was there she learned that early intervention and education were key to breaking the cycle of poverty – a belief she still advocates today.

A summer vacation in the U.S. with her sister, Marian Brady, awakened her sense of adventure and convinced her to build an international career, outside of Ireland. Once home, she combed international newspapers and applied for multiple global opportunities. A postal strike impacted her results and she received only one response – a phone call – from Mary Corbet principal of the Alcuin Montessori School in River Forest, IL. Weeks later when the strike ended Dolores received multiple offers for other jobs but she had already committed to the U.S.

In 1980, Dolores emigrated from Ireland to Chicago and taught at Alcuin Montessori for four years before changing course to a business career that included 16 years at Danka Office Imaging where she rose to Vice President before joining Sterling Engineering as CEO.

Under her guidance, Sterling has expanded its range of support services across all aspects of their customers' production needs. This strategy has fostered significant growth in business as well as provided accelerated career opportunities for employees and the leadership team.

Dolores is a powerhouse in charity circles as well. She is a longstanding member of the Chicago-Galway Sister Cities Committee most recently having accompanied Mayor Rahm Emmanuel as a member of the Chicago delegation on his first trip to Ireland.

But it is her commitment to issues related

to women and children that take priority in her philanthropy. Dolores has been a member of the U.S. Board of Directors for Concern Worldwide, an international humanitarian aid organization that works in 26 of the world's poorest countries tackling extreme poverty. She is a member of the Executive Committee of the Board and has traveled often to the remote regions where Concern works, to see their life-saving programs first hand. Dolores focuses on women and girls because they are the ones most often trapped in the cycle of poverty.

She is a valued member of the International Women's Forum which advances opportunities for women in leadership globally.

She and her husband, Dan Casey, live in Lincoln Park. Both have a strong commitment to social justice and peace initiatives and strive to balance their business and philanthropic interests both locally and globally.

Volunteer of the Year

Mary Moore, iBAM! Volunteer of the Year recipient is a worthy addition to our roster of awardees these past 10 years.

Before she retired in 2005, Mary was a nurse for more than 30 years at hospitals



in the Chicago area. Looking for a way to get more involved at the Center, she joined the ranks of the hard working volunteers of the IAHC Library, assisting Peg Reid in Library duties and programs. During the years where there was no Librarian, Mary filled in as Interim Librarian.

For the past decade or so, Mary has been a constant presence at the IAHC, whose calm demeanor, willingness to jump in and do whatever it takes at the Center has made her an invaluable asset to us. She volunteers at concerts, breakfasts, festivals and programs.

Mary Moore is a worthy, but reluctant recipient of this award, choosing to be behind the scenes, rather than in the spotlight. In fact, she may have even worked a spotlight now and then in our theatre!!

If you see Mary behind a desk, box office or in the Library, thank her for her hard work.

There is free parking and coat check for

the gala. Dress is black-tie optional, although sports jackets are also welcome. Tickets for the gala at ibamchicago.com, where information regarding the rest of the weekend, including a schedule of events, can be found.

Ginger in the City's BAND SLAM

On Saturday, at 4:30pm in the Mayfair Theater, 10 bands will compete for big cash prizes. The top five bands compete again at 8pm. Winners announced at 10pm.

Bands competing this year are The Broken, Declan McShane, Devin Michael, Easy There Tiger, Groovebox, Gyganta, Michael Be, Sam Vicari, Sweet Hudson, and Super King Reza.

BAND SLAM's Emcee is comedian/actor/writer Lee Brophy.

\$10 cover gets you in for both shows, and allows you to VOTE for the winners.

iBAM! Mass

On Sunday, start the final day of iBAM! with Mass, celebrated by Father Mick Madigan, with music by the Irish Heritage Singers. Mass begins at 10:30am in the Auditorium of the Heritage Center.

Presentations by Authors, Artists, Chefs, Musicians, and more will be available on both Saturday and Sunday.

Live music will be available and free for all to enjoy both days!

Times and locations in the IAHC for each can be found at www.ibamchicago.com

Irish Fellowship Club Exhibit

A presentation by Club historian Thomas J O'Gorman will be accompanied by a display of historical photos from the IFC archives exhibited all weekend in Room 304

Literary Salon - Saturday and Sunday!

The Literary Salon is one of the most popular happenings at iBAM!. Almost every half hour both days, the very talented individuals listed below will entertain you. Check out the subject matter of each presentation at www.ibamchicago.com

Debbie O'Grady, Maureen Geary, Kathy Cunningham, Mary Kunert, Theresa Choske, Jeanne Wrenn, Mary Pat Kelly, Sara Goek, Margaret Fulkerson, Rosemary Geurer and Brigid Duffy, Mark Piekarz, Kathy O'Neill, Maureen Smith, Mary McCain, Brenna Briggs, and Jessie Ann Foley.

Library Lineup On Saturday

The Irish American Heritage Center's library is located on the second floor, and will accommodate panels and discussions on both Saturday and Sunday.

Patrick Reardon will be there to discuss *The Writing Life: An Interactive Session for Writers of Every Level*

Christopher Lynch, author of *When Hollywood Landed at Chicago's Midway Airport*, will be discussing *How the Irish*

Saved Aviation in Chicago, and sharing his intimate knowledge of the world's busiest airport until the arrival of O'Hare.

Patrick McBriarty will hold a presentation on Chicago River Bridges. Learn how Chicago emerged as the Drawbridge Capital of the World with stories of floods, fires, politics, and bridge innovations

Author Panel Discussion:

Patrick McBriarty, Christopher Lunch, and Patrick Reardon will discuss ignored, forgotten, and overlooked areas of the city's past

Library Lineup On Sunday

Come see the film **Harry Clarke: Darkness into Light**, a documentary that examines the life of Irish artist Harry Clarke and the controversial nature of his work

Have fun learning basic words and phrases in the **Irish language** with Na Gael's Kelly Doherty and An Irish Language Primer

Theater Events:

On Saturday, at 1pm, **Irish Actor Shane O'Regan** (who is starring in the play *Private Peaceful* thru Nov. 11th at the Greenhouse theatre), will be doing a special reading from that play in room 109. He will also hold a short Q and A before heading to the Greenhouse theater for his 3pm show later in the day!

The Life of Lady Jane Francesca Wilde will be a multimedia presentation with poetry readings by actress Josephine Craven on the Irish poet and nationalist who wrote under the pen name Speranza.

Genealogy Workshops will be offered from 12pm-5pm in the Reception Room both days, and will include tips on tracing your family roots.

For a full lineup, including locations in the IAHC and times throughout the weekend, you can visit www.ibamchicago.com.

A **Special Concert** at 5pm in the Floor 1 Auditorium available on Sunday, featuring Northern Ireland's **Hannah McPhillimy & Amanda St. John**, along with **John Williams** on button accordion and concertina, **Dennis Cahill** on guitar, and **Steve Morrow** on Bodhran. Tickets are \$10

Kids' Corner will run from 1pm-4pm on Saturday and Sunday, and features games, drawing, storytelling, some live music with Joe and Declan McShane, crafts, and trick-or-treats

Trinity Dance will be offering dance lessons for all ages in room 211 from 1pm-4pm both days.

MUCH more will be offered during our iBAM! Weekend! Check the schedule and list of events for the full lineup!

Vendors for the weekend include Rampant Lion, Galway Bakers, Anne's Irish Knits, Joyce Diveley Pottery, and more!

All information at ibamchicago.com

See the Irish Fellowship Club Special Exhibit at iBAM! TEN Oct., 27-28

Achievement, Success and Influence - the Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago



The Irish
Fellowship
Club of
Chicago

By Thomas J. O'Gorman
Stick your nose under the tent. Come examine the swell history and Chicago charm of the city's oldest and friendliest Irish fraternal organization. What were they thinking? Politicians and bankers. Doctors and poets. Judges and lawyers. But, as Butch McGuire used to say, not a saloonkeeper among them.

Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago (IFC) has occupied a leadership position in helping to shape the cultural and political landscape of Irish interests on both sides of the Atlantic. The club, established in 1901, evolved out of the concerns among Irish Americans in Chicago's influential political and social elite.

By the turn of the 20th century,

of the century.

The Irish helped swell those numbers in Chicago, along with vast numbers of Germans and Poles. Because the Irish were English speaking, they had a significant leg up with regard to employment, education and political life.

During this same period, life in Ireland in the post-Famine era was politically complex with struggles concerning parliamentary Home Rule and armed independence from Britain. These many political challenges all had representatives actively pursuing American assistance during the period. With the establishment of the IFC, political awareness and involvement in Ireland's issues became more organized and refined.

The IFC really grew out of the speedy success and advancement of the Irish in Chicago. The men

less achievement. The often low perceptions of Irish immigrant life were a constant caution among those who established the club.

In 1916 the Irish rose in armed revolt against the British government in a struggle for independence. Leaders issued a Proclamation for an independent Republic. The IFC was intimately involved in the details of that struggle and the aftermath.

No one showed greater service to Ireland then than the IFC's founding president, Edward Fitzsimmons Dunne. His efforts on behalf of Ireland during the Peace Conference at Versailles in 1919, were dramatic. He endured the lasting enmity of U.S. President Woodrow Wilson as a result. Wilson went out of his way to ensure that Dunne, a former Mayor of Chicago and Governor of Illinois, would never receive a



Edward Fitzsimmons Dunne was a refined jurist and popular mayor of Chicago and Governor of Illinois. He attended Trinity College Dublin and cherished his role in the IFC.



Mayor Big Bill Thompson wears his best raccoon coat to greet Irish President William T. Cosgrove in the 1920s.



The IFC had powerful political juice as evidenced by the presence of President Taft (sitting in the big chair!) at the 1912 St. Patrick's Dinner

The Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago will present a historical overview of the club's involvement in the politics and cultural traditions of the Irish nation at iBAM, the celebration of Irish Books, Arts and Music at the Irish Heritage Center on Sunday, October 28, 2018 at 4 PM.

Thomas J. O'Gorman, IFC's Historian-in Residence, will chair the event, along with former president, Hon. Daniel McLaughlin, and Judge John C. Griffin, IFC President.

For more than a century the

following fifty years of heavy immigration from Ireland, Chicago life was deeply influenced by the Irish. Chicago was America's fastest growing city from 1850 to 1910. Census records confirm that every ten years the population of the city doubled. With a population of 30,000 people in 1840, those numbers grew to more than 250,000 in 1870, on the eve of the Great Fire. Half a million people by 1880. And a record breaking one million by 1890, just before the opening of the World's Columbian Exhibition of 1893. And two million at the turn

who established the IFC were deeply influential men, with academic, political and economic success. They were heavily active in Chicago's political life. Many refined jurists, journalists, lawyers and leaders in local politics. Especially the Democratic Party. Their achievements were proud accomplishments for the many Irish in Chicago. Concerns for larger public perceptions of the Irish were an important issues in establishing the club. Many of those who had achieved success were concerned for those with

nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court. Dunne, a very popular Chicagoan, and the only man to hold both elective offices, lost Wilson's friendship attempting to get a fair shake for Ireland as an independent nation.

Since Irish independence in 1921, the club has enjoyed a very cordial relationship with those in Irish political leadership. Early leaders in Ireland relied on the influence and goodwill of the club to help bring about a deeper understanding of Irish goals. Visits from Ireland's leading political

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The Irish Rover **James McClure**

View from Ireland **Maurice Fitzpatrick**

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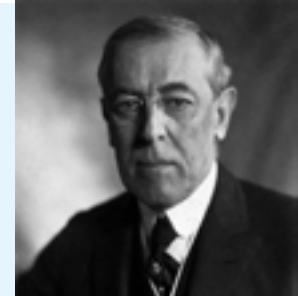
General Michael Collins was Ireland's greatest hero at 30 years of age, directing war on Britain. His brother, Patrick was a Chicago cop and a member of the IFC.



The Irish Fellowship Club presented a "swelligant" Irishman to Chicago life, due to the standards of its founders and later Mayor Richard J. Daley.



Mayor Daley was a powerful "King maker," and no one knew this better than Senator John F. Kennedy. Daley would make him president. Seen here at the IFC dinner.



President Wilson was no friend of the Irish. His enmity was directed at Mayor Dunne.



Mayor Richard J. Daley Led many a parade, but never with more pride than with Dublin's Jewish mayor, the patriot Robert Briscoe.



Sympathies ran strong for the Irish in revolt and the struggle to be free.



President Harry Truman is escorted to the IFC St. Patrick's Day Dinner.

personalities remains an on-going endeavor. None more popular than the visit of Free State President William T. Cosgrove during the tenure of Mayor "Big Bill" Thompson. Support for Ireland's cultural achievements has always been on-going.

Mayor Richard J. Daley was the IFC's 56th president, a position to which the new mayor brought enormous energy and national prominence. He was the fourth mayor of Chicago so honored. Mayor William E. Dever was the club's 20th president and second mayor of Chicago to also serve. Mayor Edward Kelly was the IFC's 27th president and third sitting mayor to hold the position. Kelly had a powerful national political leadership in the Democratic Party. No one could forget his role in President Franklin D. Roosevelt's agreeing to an unprecedented third term.

It was an influence that Daley would emulate, if not surpass. In 1955, Daley would be the fourth Chicago mayor to lead the club. In advance of Senator John Fitzgerald Kennedy's emergence into presidential politics, Mayor Daley brought him to the IFC's St. Patrick's Day Dinner to introduce him to Chicago's dynamic political and business community.

Kennedy lost out on being nominated for vice president. But with Daley's help he would be elected president in 1960. Kennedy's visits remain a high point in the club's history, very much in keeping with the presence of national political leaders for St. Patrick's feast. In 1912, the visit of U.S. President William Howard Taft was a remarkable achievement for the club and showcased the president to local leaders.

Mayor Richard M. Daley was the Club's 100th president and fifth Chicago mayor to serve as president. His brother, Cook County Commissioner John M. Daley, served as the IFC's 103rd president. And 11th Ward Alderman, Patrick Daley Thompson, Mayor Richard J. Daley's grandson, was the IFC's 110th president, demonstrating the long sustaining significance of the IFC in Chicago's political life among the Irish still.

No one would appreciate the Daleys' thread of long service more than the IFC's 1st president, Chicago Mayor Edward Fitzsimons Dunne. The club was created by Dunne and his friends, Chicago's most prominent Irishmen. Businessmen, judges, politicians, lawyers, journalists, doctors and artists. The objectives were simple. Monitor the urban climate

around the issues of Irish affairs. Fashion an organization that was capable of challenging the dominant non-Irish culture often blind to the positive contributions of the Irish. They were also committed by their cultural authority to curtail what some believed were excesses in the lifestyle of the Irish. There was no room in their eyes for the hooliganism which they saw blemish the traditions of the Irish. They were tireless in their willingness to advance both goals, freeing Ireland from their British

captor, and encourage the new Irish immigrant to Chicago from the poor choices of urban life.

The Irish Fellowship Club succeeded, at times, in both those objectives. The record of the IFC is a worthy record of political and sentimental support for the great dream of Irish freedom and a life of immigrant success.

A formal program will be presented on the Irish Fellowship Club's history of involvement in the affairs of the Irish nation on Sunday, October 28th, at 4pm,

by Thomas O'Gorman, with a cocktail party afterwards at 5pm.

Room 304 at the Irish Heritage will be open during the IBAM! Celebration with a historical display of photos and artifacts about the IFC, to which you are all invited. We encourage you to consider joining our membership.

"Out of Ireland have we come. Great hatred, little room, Maimed us at the start. I carry from my mother's womb A fanatic heart."

-William Butler Yeats

Join the Irish Fellowship Club!

New Member Application

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

Sunday, November 4, 2018, 11 AM - 3 PM, Meridian Banquets, 1701 Algonquin Road, Rolling Meadows, IL, \$50

Show support for the St. Patrick Fathers and all their good works here in Chicago and across the globe and join us Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018 for the second annual "Fall into Winter: Fashion Gives Back" at Meridian Banquets in Rolling Meadows. The cost is \$50 per person.

St. Patrick Fathers run their U.S. headquarters and fundraising for their missions on the Northwest side of Chicago 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.

At the upcoming fashion show, Chicago area supporters of St.

NOVEMBER 4, 2018
11am - 3pm | \$50 | *Mimosa Luncheon*

Meridian Banquets
1701 Algonquin Road
Rolling Meadows, IL

TICKETS CALL
ST. PATRICK'S FATHERS
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Patrick Fathers will help raise monies toward their missionary work worldwide.

While their main focus continues to be the promotion of 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" Madi-

gan. "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.

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.

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

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

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Irish Poet, Micheal O'Siadhail at Hank Center 10-17

The Hank Center is honored to welcome internationally-ac-

This brand new collection provides an assessment of the late modern world through the combinative use of the five disciplinary pillars of the times: the arts, economics, politics, science, and theology-philosophy. Between his blending of these five disciplines, his skillful use of the terza rima form, and his subtle nods to Dante and T.S. Eliot, O'Siadhail has crafted a poetic and cultural masterpiece, what one critic calls "the most important work of English-language literature that has been published so far this century." That's really sticking the neck out, but there it is.



Micheal O'Siadhail is an internationally acclaimed Irish poet and Distinguished Poet in Residence at Union Theological Seminary, NYC

On behalf of the Hank Center, I would like to invite you to "An Evening with Micheal O'Siadhail: The Five Quintets," which will take place at 7pm, October 17th, 2018 in McCormick Lounge, on Loyola's Lake Shore Campus. Micheal will read and discuss passages from his collection, after which the floor will be opened up for Q&A. All are welcome.

claimed Irish poet, Micheal O'Siadhail, to Loyola's campus this Fall. A prolific author of sixteen collections of poetry, Micheal will be reading from his latest work, The Five Quintets (Baylor, 2018).

Irish Artist, Groark Dever Philip Prints



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This month I will cover Co. Sligo (sligeach) meaning abounding in shells. It is a coastal seaport, the county town is Sligo. It is in the Western province of Connacht with a population of about 20,000 and is the second largest urban center in the West of Ireland with only Galway being larger. The Sligo borough district constitutes 61%, 38,500 of the counties population of 63,000 people. Sligo's is a historic, cultural, commercial, industrial, retail and service center of importance in the west of Ireland. Served by rail, port and road links. Sligo exerts a significant influence on its picturesque countryside. Sligo is also a popular tourist destination being situated in an area of outstanding natural beauty, with many literary and cultural associations. A river in Sligo called Garavogue/Gharbhog in Irish meaning "little rough one" is listed as one of the 7 royal rivers of Ireland.

The ordnance survey letters of 1836 state that cart loads of shells were found underground in many places within the town where houses now stand. The

whole area from the river estuary at Sligo around the coast to the river at Ballysadare bay is rich in marine resources. They were utilized as far back as the Mesolithic period. The importance of Sligo's location in Prehistory is demonstrated by the abundance of ancient sights close by and even within the town. For example, Sligo towns first roundabout was constructed around a megalithic passage tomb at Abbey quarter north in Garavogue villas. This is an outlier of the large group of monuments at Carrowmore on the Cuil Irra peninsula, the western outskirts of town. The area around Sligo has one of the highest densities of prehistoric archaeological sites in Ireland. It is the only place where all classes of megalithic monuments are to be found together. Knicknarea Mountain capped by the great Cairn of Miosgan Meave dominates the skyline to the west of the town. Carins hill on the southern edge of the town also has two very large stone Cairns. Excavations for the N4 Sligo

inner road revealed a bronze age artifact beside the Carraro roundabout on the southern outskirts of the town and an early Neolithic causeway enclosure 4000BC at Maugheraboy on high ground overlooking the town from the south. This is the oldest causeway enclosure so far discovered in Ireland. It consists of a large area enclosed by a segmented ditch and stake and was perhaps an area of commerce and ritual. These monuments are associated with the coming of agriculture and hence the first farming in Ireland. According to archeologist Edward Danagher who excavated the site Macheraoy indicates a stable and successful population during the final centuries of the 5th millennium. On to a different topic after that heavy historical material. Sligo hosts many festivals including Sligo live occurring every October. Some famous songs of sligo include: Ben bulben, Sligo on my mind & Sally Gardens. A few famous people from Sligo include: Thady Connellan a scholar that published Irish/English dictionary, William Butler Yeats the poet and Pauline McLynn actress from Fr. Ted (Mrs. Doyle). Up Sligo

I will wrap up this month with this bit of news. My dear IAN readers, it gives me great pleasure to announce that august



31st my lovely wife Mary and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary. We were married in 1968 so it was our Golden Anniversary. A special thanks to our wonderful children and son in law, Michael, for a festive day. And as for the 50 years it just flew by, seems like yesterday. love you honey.

For comments/questions please call me, (708) 425-7021

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The Irish Rover

By James McClure



Disaster Experience

As I write this month's column the first days after Hurricane Florence, the largest danger came not from the winds themselves but the surge of water that floods coastal communities - sometimes far inward as the water from the sea pushes up from the coastline, raising water out of river and creek beds beneath a torrent of rain pelting down at a rate of inches per hour.

Over my life of reporting for television, radio and newspaper, I've been blessed (or cursed) with many different kinds of disasters to eyewitness and put into perspective.

Covering a volcano eruption in Alaska gave me a bit of a bragging rights advantage in the usual mix of tornados, floods, snowstorms, thunderstorms and hurricanes. I never got to experience an earthquake and I'll pass on that one, thank you very much! I suppose I've gotten a taste of a quake with a good old Midwestern tremor or two. If you wonder what that's like, the best I can tell you is that it feels like a large truck thumping past you on the highway while you change a tire on the side of the road.

The first hurricane I covered was Hurricane Charlie back in 1984 reporting for the NBC television station in Norfolk, Virginia, aptly named WAVY.

In a military area the first sign of a hurricane is something of an exodus for both the Air Force and the Navy. First to go are the jet fighters which flee to other nearby bases where they can remain both safe and operational. Next go the aircraft carriers as they stand a better chance at sea.

Next comes the second story about human activity. This usually involves commercial interests, starting with the coastal fishermen suspending their voyages to drop nets and traps and instead concentrate on making their boats as secure as possible at dockside to ride out the pending storm.

Then comes the first news conference with the mayor, the governor, the Coast Guard or all three at once. This is the point where residents are urged to evacuate in the next day or so, and of course, they don't.

This juncture is where the video animation and satellite images show the storm tracking to go right through your community or state like a bowling ball strewn by a giant through a falling cascade of bowling pins.

The storm ends up making landfall

influenced by wind direction, tide and time. The waterfront merchants are the first to start boarding up,

as one or two residents prudent board up their cottages and homes, the camera turns to the busy supermarket and its empty shelves.

Head for the water aisle, focus, and grab some protein bars...for the live shots cometh. As does the Hurricane Jackass Phase.

That is the point where you start documenting the incredible frailty of humanity as the storm is about to arise, masked by the remarkable amount of stupidity. People who don't take precautions or leave too late, or as often the case, don't leave at all.

TV reporters in bright matching slickers and ballcaps with station logos ready to impress viewers and the broadcast awards committees the following year. If there's time, you document the police and fire departments trying to finish up the now-mandatory evacuation. If not, it's time to get raw video of the surging tide, the palm tree bending winds and those same two idiots who seemed to have been leaping into the ocean on their surfboards for time immemorial.

The storm itself seems to be over before you know it, especially if the brunt of it comes overnight. At such times I've seen horizons blinking with the cacaphony of green arcs from exploding electrical transformers. I got in a bit of trouble with our news director boss as the photographer and I drove through the streets at night capturing the worst of the storm, ignoring the obvious danger to capture traffic lights suspended sideways in the air as the hurricane force winds buffeted wires and signals alike.

The newest trend in television news seems to be the news anchors, who used to adlib for hours on end about the storms they've covered and dispense important shelter information, instead repeatedly congratulating their on-scene reporters for how well they are doing. It reminds me of the Saturday Night Live newscast parodies which always end unrealistically with the anchor and reporter or expert shaking hands. Cheer leading and congratulating a performance rather than informing and reporting.

My final image is of couples walking the waterfront the day after, a mass of colorful coral sponges swept up from the sea by the undertow the surfers were oblivious to.

A reminder that love conquers all, as does the ability to go on and rebuild under the care of He Who Commands the Winds and the Waves. IrishRoverJim@gmail.com



Generation Next

By Conor O'Connor

Make Your Voice Heard This November

It's that almost that time folks! Election Day 2018 is coming up, and this political science major is hyped. The Midterm elections generally have a much smaller voter turnout rate than the Presidential elections, but Democrats are hoping that they'll be able to break that trend. We have a President in office that's widely disliked, and his party is inevitably going to suffer because of that. The latest projections have the Democrats regaining a majority in the House of Representatives this year, which could mean trouble for Republicans hoping to get more of their platform passed while Trump's in office. In addition, Democrats have a chance to pick up a majority in the US Senate, which would deal a devastating blow to the Republican party.

In Illinois, neither of the U.S. Senators are up for re-election this year, but every U.S. Representative seat is up for grabs and the governor's race is hotly contested. According to FiveThirtyEight, a widely respected pollster organization, Illinois has two toss-up Congressional districts this year: the 6th, with incumbent Peter Roskam(R) facing off against challenger Sean Casten(D), and the 12th, with incumbent Mike Bost(R) facing off against challenger Brendan Kelly(D). The 6th district encompasses most of DuPage county and the northwestern suburbs, while the 12th stretches from East St. Louis down to the southern tip of the state. The governor's race between incumbent Bruce Rauner(R) and challenger J.B. Pritzker(D) is also shaping up to be quite competitive, although recent polls say that Pritzker has a slight edge on Rauner.

Even if you don't live in a competitive district, you should definitely head to the polls to ensure that your views are represented in the vote tallies. Equally important in decision making, Illinois representatives are up for election this year too. To find out who your state representatives are, head over to www.illinoispolicy.org/maps. With 39 State Senate seats and all 118 State House seats up for grabs this year, voting for state government is an easy way to make your voice heard.

If you're not registered to vote, don't worry! There's still time to get enrolled.

The deadline for regular voter registration in Illinois is October 9th, but you'll still be able to register online until October 21st. Head over to vote.org for a quick and easy way to get registered. Even if you miss both deadlines, grace period voter registration (where you have to register in person at a government-designated locations) will be available until Election Day, which is November 6th.

Too busy to vote on Election Day? Hate how crowded polling places can be? Have no fear. Early voting at designated locations (which can be found with a simple Google search) is taking place from September 27th through November 5th, the day before Election Day. Because SLU's spring break didn't line up with the Illinois Primary election, I registered and voted early. The process is simple and painless, and the volunteers staffing early voting polling places are kind and understanding. There's also not usually a line.

Admittedly, it can be really hard to stay involved in local and state politics. For an easy way to receive reminders on when and where elections are being held for your specific area, sign up for reminders from RocktheVote, a nonpartisan organization dedicated to keeping US citizens informed and involved in government. I signed up for alerts through my RA and have already found them extremely useful. Their website is www.rockthevote.org

Regardless of your political views, I highly encourage everyone to vote this November. If every eligible voter routinely voted, American politics would be very, very different. It's quick and easy to get registered, and you'll be able to look at the total vote count numbers and know that one of them represents your political views and aspirations. If one person registers to vote because of this column, writing it was 100% worth it.

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"And all at once, summer collapsed into fall." - Oscar Wilde.

What a beautiful quote. So simple yet so true. At least, that is how I have always felt about this beautiful, delicious season.

Especially here in Chicago. One day it is 80 degrees, then the next morning - BAM! the temperature has fallen into the 50's.. collapsing into fall.

October, to me, has always been the official month of fall. When the air gets cooler and the night gets longer. The time of year that is favorited by little kids and adults alike. Scary movies are on repeat. Ghosts and ghouls come out to play.

This is month of so many of my favorite things. Pumpkins, corn mazes, and sweater weather. Mulled cider and beautiful changing leaves. Gold and auburn colors glisten everywhere. Crisp air and apple tarts. Apple anything, really. Costumes and candy collecting contests. Bonfires and iBAM!

iBAM! weekend has to be my favorite thing that happens in October. Dressing up for the dinner Gala on Friday night. Meeting all of the wonderful authors, artists, and musicians Saturday and Sunday. Mixing and mingling with everyone.

It is always a grand ol' time. I love the Irish culture that floats in the air. I think it pairs well with an ice cold pint of Harp Lager.

Do you know what else pairs well with cold lager? Music!

One of best things about iBAM! are the widely talented music performances! As many of you know, each year,

there is a special concert lined up for Saturday and Sunday...but not this year.

This year we have put together something special for you!

Cathy Carlson and I, along with

an esteemed panel of well sought-after judges, have spent the past few months rounding in bands that will perform all day Saturday (October 27th) for an all out Band Slam. **Ginger in the City's Band Slam** - to be exact.

Kicking off at 4:30pm, this all-out, two round, music showdown will be sure to have you dancing for hours on end. We have a killer lineup of Chicago based artists (all under the age of 35), who will be rocking it mid afternoon into evening.

With your admission ticket (only \$10!) you will receive access to both rounds and will also receive a final round voting ticket.

After the first round, our judges will decided on the top five finalists. Those top five will then go on to our second and final round (starting at 8pm) where YOU, the audience, will get to vote who will take home the Second Place Prize of \$500 and the First Place Grand Prize of \$1,500!

So come out, grab a beer, support local artists, and get ready to shake it to some great tunes all day long!

Here are the top ten finalists, in no particular order. Feel free to look them up, check out their music, and get pumped to watch them perform live!

**Michael Be
Groovebox
Easy There Tiger
Super King Reza
Devin Michael
Sweet Hudson
Gyganta
Sam Vicari
Declan McShane
The Broken**

I am looking forward to seeing you all there! Please come up and say hello! I love meeting you all! I will be the ginger most likely wandering around near the front.

Happy fall everyone!

And, Happy iBAM!

Be sure to follow me on Instagram - @ginginthecity - for healthy recipes, tips, tricks & my every day shenanigans! For comments, questions, or just for a little chat, feel free to email me at catherine@ginginthecity.com .

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From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell



Dublin, An Insider's Guide

Your genial Editor, Cliff Carlson, has tasked me with the impossible – to provide an *Insider's Guide to Places to Go in Dublin* in 1200 words. It simply can't be done, not even in 12,000 words! Obviously I could list the places I like to (re)visit, the restaurants and pubs I frequent, but much of this is personal to me – the memories associated, the people I know, the sports I like to watch and play, the music I like to hear, and wouldn't necessarily translate – and might even disappoint – for someone else. So I'll eschew the task and present instead more of a type of *Outsider's Guide* for the casual or first time visitor.

Dublin is a great city, and as a native I never tire of it. There are parts of it, moreover that I hardly know and I still enjoy exploring. But in this era of Trip Adviser and other on-line forums it would be presumptuous of me to give opinions or to attempt to compete with the Lonely Planet or the many other available guide books. What follows is an attempt to sketch out a template of how to explore Dublin in at least some of the many possible ways. I'm assuming a minimum of a week's stay, with a value-for-money tag. But be warned; there are so many places that are "must see" or "must do" that fitting them in in one week (or even two) cannot realistically be done. So a return visit will be necessary (my pitch on behalf of Dublin tourism!)

Starting with the basics, Dublin is a relatively compact city in that most of the main tourist attractions are centrally located, and can be visited on foot or by public transport, while the coastal suburban attractions are easily accessible by rail. Dubliners may complain about their public transport but for the visitor it is regular, not too pricey, quite efficient, and safe, but

be prepared for crowding at rush hours. The available options are bus, light rail and train. Taxis are plentiful and also quite reasonable to reach places (and at times) that public transport won't. Dublin is a fairly safe and friendly city, with the caveat that there is always some crime and it behoves everybody to take some care.

Dublin pubs are world famous and come in every shape and size. Prices for drink can vary though generally the spread in bars is quite limited (plus or minus 20-30%), even in tourist venues like Temple Bar. The current rate for the ubiquitous pint of Guinness is €5.20 on up, with lager and craft beers about €1-1.50 more per pint. Prices in cocktail lounges and Five Star hotels will be considerably higher. Wine in both pubs and restaurants is generally expensive – an indifferent bottle will set you back €20, a "glass" for €6 up - not surprising, given that taxes on alcohol are among the highest in Europe. Pub grub varies widely in both price and quality but can normally be relied on for a snack at least, with some pub fare rivalling that in restaurants. Word of mouth can be important here.

The inward migration of the last two decades has transformed eating out in Dublin, with every variety of ethnic restaurant and food now available at prices to suit all. Dining out is not cheap but, at the lower and medium end, good value is to be had. Many of the smaller restaurants offer two course lunches for around €10 and many more offer "Early Bird" evening menus (normally before 19.30 or 20.00) for roughly double, with restricted choices at a considerable discount over a la carte. It's worth remembering that prices normally include service, so tipping for good service is very much a matter of choice, though most people round up. Anyone on an expense account or to whom money is no object will

find top class restaurants at top class prices.

So. What to eat? With only a week to explore the culinary options, a different ethnic meal every day is one option. Another is to pursue exclusively good Irish food, now more available than ever. Lamb and fresh fish tend to be excellent, though Irish stew with lamb might be difficult to source – as also corned beef. Steaks are good, ditto burgers but there is a health ukase against serving rare cooked meat. As in other cities, restaurants packed with people are a good guide to quality.

What to see offers a wealth of potential experience. Any first time visitor, and even others, could do worse than take one of the walking or bus tours to get familiar with the city and its layout, as well as the time taken to move between locations. Dublin's climate is mild but it can rain a lot so appropriate precautions should be taken (raincoats and/or umbrellas). Don't try to cram in too much and above all pace yourself. And don't forget to factor in lunch and dinner wherever the fancy takes you.

Begin with the "Must See's." Thirty minutes on the Internet, supplemented by a guide book and a map, will yield around a dozen recommendations from several sources. The list is familiar, with most probably already flagged by relatives or friends. Most cost money and some require advance booking. Next sort out transport modalities and purchase tickets – again there are discounts available. The "Dublin Pass" is worth looking at since it includes free admission to many attractions as well as a bus shuttle between sites. Queries and further information can be got from the nearest Tourist Office (there's one in Andrew Street, 200 m from Trinity College, as good a place as any to start exploring).

When they're out of the way (or pencilled in on the calendar) I suggest spending a Day on the Bay, visiting and exploring the various coastal suburbs on Dublin's North and South coasts. Malahide, Howth, Blackrock, Dun Laoghaire, Dalkey and Greystones are some of the places to be found

along Dublin's rapid transit DART system, which features spectacular scenery as it runs along the coast. My particular favourite is the fishing village of Howth, which could be a holiday destination in itself, with some superb seafood restaurants and pubs with musical entertainment. But all the venues mentioned are interesting in themselves with plenty to see, explore, eat and drink.

A day should be spent visiting Dublin's excellent – and free – Museums and Art Galleries, all user friendly and packed with fine exhibits and art. My favourites are the Hugh Lane Gallery in Parnell Square and the Chester Beatty

Library within Dublin Castle, though the National Gallery, with a Vermeer, a Caravaggio and a fine collection of Irish Art should not be missed. This is not to neglect the other fee-charging venues which also merit attention but may require advance booking. And spend an evening in Temple Bar for the convivial atmosphere and music.

Running out of time? Try visiting the main parks, cemeteries, churches and cathedrals. Try the Ginger Man tour, the James Joyce pub tour, the 1916 Tour, the Brewery and Distillery tours, Moore Street, and more..... Oh, well. there's nothing for it but to plan another visit!

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Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



IBAM! Ten

By: Frank West

There is a whole magical weekend in October devoted to our Irish heritage. The cultural high-point of the year is called IBAM!. And this year, it is on October 26, 27, and 28. Come and meet the authors of several books I have recommended in this column.

Each month I review a mystery novel in this column. Why so many? Mystery novels are attractive for two reasons. First, "The Wall Street Journal" recently said that when Americans read, we mostly read for story. And we want to know what happens on the next page. Second, despite the grim things they investigate, detectives inspire us. The men and women who are detectives

are examples of human determination. The want to find the criminal, bring justice, and make our world a safer place.

This review of *With Our Blessing*, the "Irish Times" Crime Book of the Year, shows us how a detective works and also shows the beauty and power of words.

With Our Blessing

By Jo Spain
Quercus Publishing

A retired Irish policeman reminisces with a young Guard, he was sent to this village. "A place this small is like a microcosm of the world. Every emotion is heightened. Everyone knows your business. What might be a short-lived squabble among

neighbors is a city can turn into a century-long feud here."

Jo Spain, the author, says about the Magdalene Laundries and the Mother and Baby Homes: With Our Blessing is a work of fiction but it visits the sad history of such institutions...The last Magdalene Laundry closed in Dublin in 1996!

The body of an elderly nun, Mother Attracta, is found in a park in Dublin. The National Bureau of Criminal Investigation sends Detective Inspector Tom Reynolds to find who did it and why. He discovers that she was one of the nuns in the notorious Magdalene Laundries.

The laundries were notorious because girls were held in slave-like conditions in them. And for almost a hundred years, hotels and private individuals brought their laundry here. Who got the money??

During the investigation, a detective asks a quiet, peaceable older woman about the convent: "What's the name of the convent?" she asks.

"Sisters of Pity," he says.

"The woman visibly flinches."

"Do you know the convent?" asked the detective.

"I know it. Oh yes, I know it. And may God forgive, but if that woman was a nun there, she deserved to die screaming."

Apparently, many people shared that feeling because With Our Blessing "became a top-ten best seller in Ireland."

The aunt of one detective was sent to the laundries. This is the story. The detective was about 8 years old and her older sister

was 17 when she was raped at a dance.

"The local priest got word of the episode and a few days later turned up at the house...He told my grandparents that the girl had led the boys on, they were good boys, one training to be a teacher, etc. Said she would have to be packed off to the nuns in



case she was pregnant."

The detective says, "Society was so conditioned and cowed by the Church's influence, that many felt they had no choice."

"The priest kept coming back and neighbors were starting to talk, saying that she left the dance...no decent girl would do that...Between the priest and the neighbors, the pressure to send her away would have been unbearable."

"The family was heartbroken. My grandmother kept sending letters to the convent, but received no response. The priest had actively discouraged them from visiting." "My grandpar-

ents drove to the convent, but when they got there, they had to fight with a nun just to see" their child. But when they did, she was, unrecognizable. Her hair was shorn. She was covered in bruises and..."had lost half her weight.

My grandmother "kept going back to the convent, but often "the nuns wouldn't even let her in."

"Grand-dad suspected the families of the boys were pulling strings so she would be kept in the laundry. They didn't want her back, walking about the village..."

The detective says, "I never met Gran, she died two years later, of heartbreak."

The detective's aunt, that beautiful girl, "hanged herself."

The detectives quickly learn that there are plenty of people with plenty of motive. And we haven't even looked at the Mother and Baby Homes.

The mystery is compelling and examines what people can do when they feel morally superior to the rest of us.

Jo Spain, the author, of this outstanding mystery was born in 1979 in Dublin. She graduated from Trinity College Dublin and was a "former political advisor about economics in the Irish parliament." She lives in Dublin with her husband and their four children/

These are some of the many possible quotes:

A witness from the village: I "used to do all the deliveries to the convent...the girls were treated terribly. I saw things that made blood run cold—girls down on bleeding knees scrubbing floors with toothbrushes: girls that had been beaten black and blue. And despite the generous amounts of food I delivered, the girls were skin and bone.

A detective asks the retired policeman, "Why didn't you arrest Mother Attracta for assaulting the girl?"

"Lad, you didn't arrest a nun. You wouldn't understand, the Catholic Church ran this state back then. Even the government was afraid of them."

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Chicago Gaelic Park

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



A Cháirde

The days are a bit shorter, the air is a bit crisper, Wednesday pub rib nights have moved back indoors, and pub trivia and monthly Mass and Breakfast have resumed. There is no denying that Fall is here. I'll mention three October events that you can add to your calendar.

You can learn Irish step dancing from the great dance schools throughout the Chicago area, and you can learn Irish set and ceili dance at regular events on both sides of the city, but the opportunities to Irish social dancing are more limited. Have you ever been at an Irish event and wished you could jive? Or would like to sharpen up your jive footwork before you attend that next wedding here or in Ireland? We welcome all jive beginners and

improvers to our Jive Workshop on Sunday, October 21st.

Our annual celebration of a holiday which has customs rooted in Ireland will be held on Friday, October 26th. The Children's Halloween Party offers free admission, free s'mores and free hayrides. No reservations are needed.

On the evening of the 27th, Sephira (The Irish Rock Violinists) will be here in concert. You've probably seen Ruth and Joyce O'Leary perform on PBS, and we're delighted that they will be appearing in the Tara Room on October 27th. Tickets can be purchased through our website. Please consider joining us and help us support live Irish music.

Is mise le meas,
Bill O'Sullivan

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

the CARRAIG IRISH PUB

Live Music in the Pub

Fri	Oct 5	Joe Cullen	7:30pm
Sat	Oct 6	The Rockets	8:00pm
Wed	Oct 10	Frank Rossi	6:00pm
Fri	Oct 12	Bernie Glim	7:30pm
Sat	Oct 13	Larry Nugent & Billy O'Donahue	8:00pm
Fri	Oct 19	Jerry & Kara Eadie	7:30pm
Sat	Oct 20	Kieran Byrne	8:00pm
Fri	Oct 26	Joe McShane	7:30pm
Sat	Oct 27	Mulligan Stew	8:30pm

NO COVER CHARGE

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



2018 CGP Calendar of Events 2018

OCTOBER

Oct 2	Pub Trivia	
Oct 3	Monthly Musical Luncheon* Music by Joe McShane	Noon
Oct 10	Ladies Auxiliary Next Meeting	
Oct 14	Mass & Breakfast	
Nov 4	Classic Carvery	

.....* RR - Reservations Required 708.687.9323.....

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

Monday Evening Set Dancing 7:30pm

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

Sunday Evening CGP Radio Live WCEV 1450 AM 7:05-9:00pm



CGP Office 708.687.9323 www.chicagogaelicpark.org

Visit the CGP Library in the Shamrock Room

Chicago Gaelic Park presents

Jive Dance Workshop with Mary Kivlehan

Sunday October 21, 2018 4pm

All ages welcome!

Cost \$10

Gaelic Park's HALLOWEEN PARTY!

for kids!

Friday October 26, 2018 6:00pm

We'll have Hayrides, Making S'mores around the fire pit, and Halloween Fun!

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Chicago Gaelic Park

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



CHICAGO GAELIC PARK
PRESENTS
SEPHIRA!



The Irish Rock Violinists

Saturday October 27, 2018 - 8:00pm
at Chicago Gaelic Park
6119 W 147th Street - Oak Forest, IL

Tickets available online for \$25
www.chicagogaelicpark.org
or in the front office 708-687-9323

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The Gaelic Park Junior Players have been hard at work with their rehearsals for the Production of *King Joan's Day* that will be presented on November 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 2018. We are also very pleased to announce that this production will be directed by Bill Gleason with a budding young student director Graine McKirdie also at the helm. This will be a wonderful production and one not to be missed!

The Gaelic Park Players will be presenting *Wigs on the Green* directed by Gail Lauryn. The cast has been chosen and rehearsals are under way. This is sure to be an evening filled with laughter as these talented actors breathe life into the characters to make the story come alive. The



performances will be held on November 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 2018.

As usual there will be "theatre packages" with dinner and a show: delicious pub food on Friday &

Saturday evenings, enjoy a Sunday dinner with the family at the Carvery filled with good food, dancing and always great fun!

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Gaelic Park Players, the meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm at Gaelic Park. Also visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/groups/gaelicparkplayers or our web page gaelicparkplayers.org. We welcome all who wish to be involved in acting, directing or working backstage.

Irish Musicians Association of America
Fall Ceili
Honoring Past President Frank Burke



Sunday, November 25, 2018

Gaelic Park - Tara Room --- 2:00pm - 7:00pm

IMA will play for Ceili and Set Dancers, Performances by The John Shine Family and Shepherd School of Music, Display of Frank Burke's Fiddles, Irish Paintings, Lunch, Raffle, Split the Pot \$20 --- Children under 12 are Free --- Tim McGinness 708-341-0858



Philip Quinlan congratulates Pat Neylon - Man of the Match - Carraig Pub Golf Outing.

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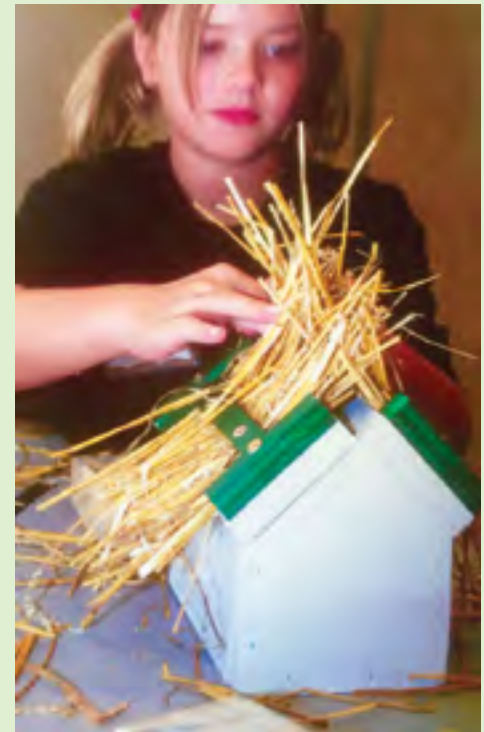
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2018 Heritage and Harvest Day



2018 Cultural Camp



Save the Date

St. Patrick Fathers Social

November 17th

8:00-11:00

Tara Room

Waltzes-Quick Steps-Jives



Positions Available at Gaelic Park

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Line Cook

Chef

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Celebrate Thanksgiving at Gaelic Park

Thursday November 22, 2018

A Traditional Thanksgiving Buffet
With Turkey, Ham, Roast Beef And All
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Choice of Soup, An Extensive Salad Bar,
Vegetables, Potatoes and Dessert

Served from 3:00pm to 6:00pm

Live Music from 4-8pm

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Admission includes Dinner and Entertainment.
Cash Bar

Chicago Gaelic Park - www.chicagogaelicpark.org



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Chicago Gaelic Park

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View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



Civil Rights in Our Time

With perfect synchronicity, the central spur for the civil rights movement in the North exactly fifty years ago—the unjust provision of housing—has come to prominence in Dublin City as an issue that substantially challenges the authority of the state.

As in the North in the 1960s, this has been a long time coming. Since the Celtic Tiger panted its last breath in 2007, the prospect of middle-income young families getting a mortgage in Dublin has been severely limited. Even after house prices in Dublin bottomed out in 2013, banks remained very reluctant to lend. Mortgage lenders' caution endured despite the uptick in the economy after 2013. That was the year Ireland exited the eurozone 'bailout' programme (a form of vassalage that precluded Ireland from exercising sovereignty over its finances). Still, banks were, and are, restrained in their lending practices.

A divergence between the economy and home proprietorship has emerged in the past five years. While house ownership in the bigger cities like Dublin, Cork and Galway remained elusive for most young people, the economy in those urban centres began to recover. The flow of emigration, which nearly reached 100,000 per annum at the height of the Great Recession, thinned; young people gained employment in Irish cities, but could not afford to buy a house in those cities; they were forced either to do long commutes or to pay rent. Landlords, alert to the opportunity that this presented, rack-rented. The situation became most egregious in Dublin City.

Meanwhile, homelessness, our national shame, continued to increase steadily. Today 9,891 Irish people are homeless and, again, the situation is most stark in Dublin. Fr Peter McVerry, a longtime

advocate for the homeless, has predicted that without major governmental intervention 'an avalanche' of people will be seeking emergency accommodation two years from now.

Make no mistake: among the people who find themselves in temporary shelters or sleeping rough are victims of the artificially created housing shortage. Change the housing system and entire families will be saved the risk, the ignominy and the suffering involved in being homeless.

When Leo Varadkar was elected Taoiseach last year he gained some friends, but raised the suspicion of many with a remark that he wanted to lead the country in the interests of 'people who get up early in the morning'. For many, this gave unquestioned validation to lesser intervention on the part of the state in economic affairs, without sparing a thought for those who do not have a bed to go to in the first place.

Fast-forward a year and a Fine Gael councillor Des Cahill in Cork has made it clear that a settlement of tents on the banks of the river Lee in Cork City centre are 'an eyesore' that must be forcibly removed. The implication is clear: the trauma of young people who are forced to live in tents is a lesser concern than blocking Corkonians' view of the lovely Lee. No amount of opprobrium will convince such a person that homelessness is a cause that he should counteract on humane grounds. What needs to happen is something much more determined and concerted.

An umbrella movement has emerged in Dublin in response to the conflict between the realities of people seeking a home and the policies of successive governments. It has fixed on forced occupation as a means to illustrate its grievances. The occupy movement is emboldened by a victory that a group of Trinity College Dublin students ('Take Back Trinity') scored this

March: when the university authorities imposed an extra fee of €450 for repeating exams, students occupied a building on campus; they only departed when TCD capitulated. While this, on the face of it, was a minor victory on a minor issue it politicised a portion of the student body considerably. Students in Dublin are faced with extreme pressure to find any form of living space at an affordable price. If, through occupying a building on campus, they could overturn the fast one that the university was trying to pull, could they apply the same strategy to counter the desperate accommodation shortage in Dublin?

The TCD students' action played a role in inspiring the occupation of a vacant house in Dublin City Centre in August; the occupy movement has since then seized a second house and now a third one in the city. The occupiers get issued with a court order and hold tight until balaclava-wearing police and security guards thunder through the door and remove them, sometimes hospitalising them in the process. Signs in occupied buildings read 'Evict Eoghan Murphy'—the Minister for Housing.

The good news is that rectifying the housing crisis is a doddle: build higher in the cities, instigate government forced purchases of land and mass social housing provisions in city centres (parts of which have had vacant buildings for years) and introduce better tax breaks for young buyers. This would be instituting an Irish ver-

sion of the New Deal—call it An Déil Nua—since the government's Rebuilding Ireland plan of 2017 is not nearly radical enough. Such a Deal would shore up the government's support, which it needs as the prospect of its achieving a majority remains very remote and an election is inevitable in the coming year or two. More good news: the weight of public opinion is with the occupiers, so the Deal would be not only politically achievable but beneficial.

The bad news is that the doctrine of laissez faire sits very firmly in Irish political culture, which is not surprisingly since more than one

in every five TDs (members of the Irish parliament) is a landlord. Instead of giant strides expect baby steps, postponement and promises to look into the matter. Even so, the occupiers have hit upon a mechanism that will shame and pressure the government, and could well achieve striking results. It will require leadership and the willingness to face trial and imprisonment. The government should not be complacent that these elements will be absent; its ideological obsessions and narrow self-interest need to be recast because this problem is not going away without rigorous reform.

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New Book, *Illegal*, Released by Artemis Fowl Author, Eoin Colfer NOËL, A New Musical Written by Colfer, Tours This Fall

By *Ryanne Gallagher Johnson*
Eoin Colfer, bestselling author of the blockbuster series Artemis Fowl, has over forty years of writing and creating under his belt.

At the tender age of ten, the juvenile author got his artistic beginnings by selling homemade stories and drawings that he created with his brother, Paul.

"We'd construct our own comic books and staple them together and sell them outside for a few pennies," he says. "When we analyzed that later, we found out that the materials cost about five pence, so really my dad was covering our losses. But he was an artist himself, so he encouraged any artistic endeavors."

Perhaps the business end of art wasn't in the cards for the writer, but storytelling definitely was.

Now most widely known for the Artemis science fantasy series, which follows the adventures of teenage genius anti-hero Artemis Fowl II, his parents' fostering of

creativity has indeed paid off, in droves. That single series alone has spawned eight books, two graphic novel adaptations, a movie in the works, and coming soon, a spin-off series. Not to mention the critical acclaim it's garnered.



Colfer, whose oft-butchered first name is pronounced "Owen", put himself through Carysfort College in Blackrock, Dublin, continuing

to write in his free time, and eventually became a primary school teacher.

"Like most people then, I had to (take out) a college loan because we didn't qualify for any grants, so I borrowed the fees myself and said I'll pay them back, and I did. But to do that, really, I had to live at home. I couldn't rent a place and pay off (the loan)... as soon as I could, I paid it off. Always, then, I was writing away, and in the background, I was teaching, and writing after school. (I wrote) plays, mostly. I would always write the school Christmas play... that was very satisfying for me, and for years, that was kind of my thing. I didn't really want to do anything else. But slowly, we realized we wanted our own house, (my wife) Jackie and I. We were engaged at that point, and then we got married, and we decided that we'd go and travel and work overseas.

"There was a great scheme, and there still is, called Career Break. As a primary teacher (in Ireland), you can take five years off, and keep your job, at the school's discretion. You can be refused, of course, but I had a very understanding principal, and Jackie and I went to Saudi Arabia for a year, Italy for a year, and Tunisia in North Africa for two years. While we were in Tunisia, I think I found my voice as a writer, and I wrote a book called Benny and Omar... it's set in 1996 when Wexford won the All-Ireland final for the first time in half a century. When (the book) was finished, it coincided with us coming home... and it was picked up right away. The first publisher, I sent it to was O'Brien Press, and they rang me the following week."

Benny and Omar was Colfer's breakout piece, inspired by his time spent in North Africa, about a boy who moves from Ireland to Tunisia and befriends a local boy. It was followed by Benny and Babe, which sees Benny take a holiday in Ireland and build a friendship with a local girl.

Despite that first success, and the success of the following three

books he collaborated on, it wasn't until the Artemis Fowl books were coming out that he started feeling like he'd really made it as an author.

"When I wrote the first Artemis Fowl, which was in 2000, I felt no

cause the book hadn't even come out, and I was on the front page of the Garden. I'm very Irish and I didn't want to get too happy and jinx it, but I was quietly hopeful that something was gonna come out of this book. And it did. And very quickly, the movie rights sold, and when that happened, even though it's taken nearly twenty



Eoin Colfer appeared in Chicago recently at the Writer's Museum.

difference. I thought, it's the same as the last five books, and it's the best I can do. The last five books had been in the Irish charts, but that was it. But I gave it to my wife to read, as I always did, and she came back and said, 'Okay, it's time to get an agent now. It's time to stop messing around. This is the book.' And I was surprised, because Jackie is usually not so forthright in her opinions and stuff, about my work as such. But she was right, and I did.

"I was going over to London to do my first (book) launch, and as I was going to the airport, I saw that English Garden newspaper, I think... there was a big splashy cover, and on the top, there was David Beckham, me, and one of the Royals, and I thought, 'Oh, something's going on now,' be-

years to do it, but at that point, I kind of knew."

For the graphic novel adaptations of Artemis, Colfer teamed up with co-writer Andrew Donkin, and illustrator Giovanni Rigano. The books, which bring Artemis et al. to life in drawings for readers, have also become bestsellers.

Switching lanes for his most recent project, Colfer is using his considerable fame as an author for a great purpose. Teaming up once again with those same graphic novel cohorts, they've created a story that puts a human face on the current issue of undocumented immigrants in Europe (while also ringing relevant for Americans).

"We've written about something that we're all concerned about, which is the mass migration from Africa across the Mediter-

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anean into Europe. And it's not a political book in that it's not saying 'this should be happening or it shouldn't be happening', it's saying 'this is happening, this is exactly what's happening,'" explains Colfer.

The moving story, *Illegal*, sees two brothers on their journey from Africa to Europe in search of a better life, and the sister who traveled ahead of them.

"Andrew said, 'Between the three of us, we have several million readers, and if even one-tenth of them follows into this genre, it could be a couple hundred thousand kids who might think differently about the situation.' Sometimes we take for granted that children understand completely what's going on, because they are very sophisticated, but they need to see it from their own point of view, so that's what we tried to do with this."

While the timely release of the novel might seem entirely deliberate, its actually been four years in the making, and has only lined up with the current climate in the

U.S. by coincidence.

"The release date has coincided closely with the troubles that you guys are having at the borders here, where families are being separated. And when that started, somebody took a (frame from the book), and in it, someone holds a baby up to give back to his mother and says that they should be together, because they're family, and someone took that and put it up, and it became a bit of an emblem, I suppose. It's terrible that these books have to be written. There are a lot of fantastic novels, but I think this is the only graphic novel of its standard."

A far cry from the lighthearted fun of *Artemis Fowl*, the undertaking of *Illegal* has included a more serious atmosphere when Colfer tours with it, something he appreciates and hopes will communicate the importance of this issue.

Speaking of his most recent experience at BookExpo America in New York in May, he explains, "(*Illegal*) is a graphic novel. They're not generally as popular as novels, so I didn't expect much

of a turnout. But the queue... we completely ran out of books... It was very emotional for people. Even though it's not the story of Mexico or South America, it's a similar situation.

"It's kind of promoting itself in that the librarians, who are such a powerful force in America... I love American librarians because they really have a say, and they really promote work that they believe in. It's not a political thing because they don't show favoritism. They're about the books. So a lot of librarians have picked this up and put it on the summer reading lists, which are a huge thing... We'd hoped it would reach an audience, but we had no idea it would be this big."

It's Colfer's hope that *Illegal* will help bring more understanding, empathy, and compassion to immigrants, who are only looking for a better life for themselves and their children.

"I'd like to say to the Chicago people, and especially the Irish people of Chicago... They've been so welcoming over the years, the

last twenty years now for me, and people keep turning up year after year to my readings, and sometimes you might think I don't appreciate that, but we all do. We really do. Often, you're hustled out at the end. But if it wasn't for the people of Chicago, and New York, and all the other places, we wouldn't have careers.

"But now is the time to maybe look at something serious... It's very hard for a child to be turned against someone they like. And if they read this book, and they realize 'oh, I've got a guy in our class who just came from Somalia. He probably had a similar journey'. It's very hard, then, for those kids to be turned against each other. And I would love to hear stories about that, about parents who read that book with their kids, and the kids maybe changed their minds a little bit. It's very difficult to change someone's mind, but hopefully it might change a few."

NOËL The Musical

In the upcoming months, you can see more of Eoin Colfer's handiwork in *NOËL, The Musical*,

which was written by Colfer and composed by Irish film composer Liam Bates, and produced by Michael Londra.

Set in modern day London, *NOËL* tells the tale of a little girl (Noël), who is preparing for her starring role in a Christmas play when her mother suddenly disappears. She keeps the disappearance a secret and sets out on her own to find her. Along the way, she befriends a diverse group of characters that have lost their way in life, including Nick, who believes the world has forgotten the true meaning of Christmas.

The show was met with critical acclaim overseas, and is now on a North American tour, is set to perform in Joliet on December 4th, and Bloomington December 6th.

For information on *NOËL*, including tour dates and tickets, you can visit noelthemusical.com

For more information on Eoin Colfer, including a full list of his books, you can visit his website at eoincolfer.com

All books and graphic novels for Eoin available at Amazon.

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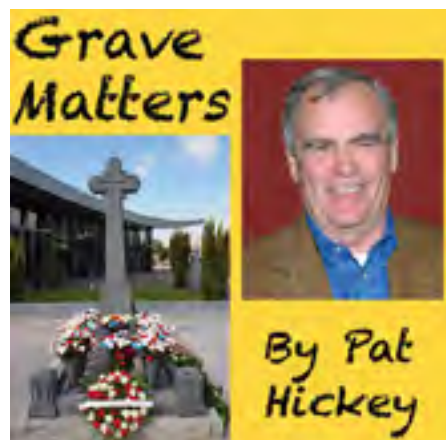
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Last February, I joined Evergreen Park Mayor Jimmy Sexton and Chicago Film Director/ Author Mike Houlihan at Reilly's Daughter Pub for lunch. We discussed the Republican Gubernatorial Race pitting State Representative Jeanne Ives against the incumbent. . . good old . . . what's his name? Le Petomane? Blago-lite? No matter. We all celebrated Jeanne Ives as smart, witty and fierce, though like a young woman running up Mt. Suribachi, in February 1945, armed only with a tiny parasol in this, our Illinois political abattoir.

The Governor holding office as of this printing will be as forgotten as wit at an Independent Party fund-raiser, days after the IAN November issue. Back to our chat.

Our three way chin-wag turned to the absurd and rather depressing realities of our joyless culture: teachers are forced to 'dumb-down' instruction, kids seem unable to any longer to play by their own

rules or to entertain themselves with electronic gizmos, couples rarely stay that way, priests are either predators or persecuted, fun always requires a substantial investment of capital and conversation must always be calculated to the prying ears of busy-bodies.

Mayor Sexton said wistfully, "Boys, I am glad we are on this end of life and not the other way around. What kind of life can young people expect in the days to come? The world gets goofier by the minute. We, all of us, white, black, rich or poor, enjoyed one another for what we are and how we got there."

We were not maudlin, rather, we were in full and beefy agreement, like gourmands after a free meal at Gibson's, or Krapil's. Our lives were and are great! We did not know PC, Passive Aggression, or Gender Shame, while growing up – sort of. We were 'free-range' American kids. We are The Guys who grab that last piece of pizza, because that is what we do!

Ubi Sunt? Those days and that life is gone – dead. Deader than Kelsey's nuts.

We three gents seated at Reilly's Daughter that afternoon are white haired adolescents with gainful employment.

I said goodbye to forty three joyful years as a Catholic high school teacher, because of the proliferation of Passive-Aggressive Administrators who lead via memo. I am now in my second career working in the cemetery industry.

Ever since folks in Morocco, decided that

the lads who shed the old mortal husk were getting a bit too ripe and walled the departed up in a cave at Tavoralt, cemeteries of all sorts have allowed human beings a place of dignified final rest and site to honor the memory of those who have gone beyond.

Oddly enough, my lunch buddy, Mayor Sexton's name harkens back to the Medieval Church, when every parish had a 'bell-ringer' or Sexton who cared for the parish burial ground. Mayor Sexton has an incredibly sunny disposition that belies his grave family name.

Over the last few months I began to consider our chat as a springboard to new themes here in *Irish American News*. This is October and advent of Samhain, or "The dark half" that culminates on All Saints Day – November 1st.

The Irish, like our Mexican cousins, celebrate the time of the haunting – when those who have gone on before return and generally keep an eye on our deeds. I am haunted by scores of people that I love and hate to read the Irish funnies anymore. More great people are lost to the God's Will and we can only hope people worthy of the lives once lived will continue to make this sad old a bit happier.

Personally, I could do with fewer enthusiasts who scream "WHOA! Bam! Let's Get some!" when talking about the banal – like sales.

As it is, People are bay and large very nice, thoughtful and generous. Only rarely does one run into a person who delights in

another person's misfortune and they are generally journalists, or elected officials.

Samhain makes sense. Our loved ones have gone to the Otherworld. What that is like, no one but Paul McCartney knows – he was stoned to the bone and chatted up God.

The Chinese also celebrate our departed as well as theirs; they celebrated Ghost Day last month and Ghost month in August. This is a time, beginning on July 15th when the wide gate of Hell affords 'ghosts' the opportunity to return to this world.

At a time when so many people are leaving the pews empty, turning from religious practices and shunning our Eternal Truths, I find comfort in a search for meaning beyond this life. People who will nod with conviction every time Bill Maher debunks a person's beliefs will also find comfort in Wiccan drum circles and try to recreate the Celtic practices banished by St. Patrick.

Well, end of life issues just might be our meat. These things keep me going to 6:30 AM services at St. John Fisher Catholic Church and in the pews at Sacred Heart, St. Odilo and St. John Cantius on Sundays.

Mike Houlihan is a frequent flyer at St. Odilo's and a practiced man of Samhain, Beltane, and Lughnasa

Jimmy Sexton was really on to something. "I am glad we are on this half of things."

Mayor, this half (You and I stand upon) isn't anywhere near dark.

Next Month, All Saints Day, Veterans Day and Advent.



Irish Musicians Association of America Fall Ceili Honoring Past President Frank Burke

Sunday, November 25, 2018 • Gaelic Park – Tara Room ~~~ 2:00pm – 7:00pm IMA will play for Ceili and Set Dancers, Performances by The John Shine Family and Shepherd School of Music, Display of Frank Burke's Fiddles, Irish Paintings, Lunch, Raffle, Split the Pot \$20 ~~~ Children under 12 are Free ~~~ Tim McGinness 708-341-0858



The Fragile Mind

One of the things that seem to stress me out completely is driving into Cork City and then trying to find a parking space. Recently, I have taken to getting the bus in and out of Town, which I find very convenient. Over the years when I started driving, I would always think of Taxis as the next alternative, and tended not to travel in the buses anymore.

One evening, last week, as I crossed over one of the bridges straddling the River Lee, my thoughts seemed to be drawn back to a friend of mine, Barry, who left us nearly forty years ago now. He was consumed, much too early, by this same river that continued to flow on, oblivious to any personal tragedy that it might have caused.

Barry began studying Economics and Psychology in College but dropped out after a year or so. After a number of years he came to work in the same Plant as myself. His position was way below his intellectual capabilities and his mind was always moving at an advanced pace. I was starting to read Philosophy myself at the time and we were both interested in Plato, Nietzsche, Kant, Mill and various others who had started to explore the mystery of human existence. Philosophy can be a dangerous discipline to dabble in unless your mind is trained to receive and assimilate the information in a logical thought process. It is like jumping off the Cliffs of Moher. Only the experienced divers will manage to make it back to the surface again.

After a while, Barry seemed to grow troubled, there were bouts of depression, and he often left work unexpectedly without telling anybody. Eventually he left the Plant, returned to College to resume his studies, and it looked like he might be getting back on track. One Monday morning in November we were flicking through the death notices at work, when, to our absolute shock, we came across Barry's name. He had taken his life by jumping off the North Gate Bridge the previous Friday evening. Somebody

jumped in to save him but he fought him off. He wanted to go.

There was a heavy mist descending on the East Cork countryside as we waited outside the country Church that Monday afternoon. His wife Margaret, tearful and distracted with the pain of sorrow, broke away from the cortege and asked me 'Bill, why did he do it?' I could not answer her. I still do not know why. We missed him an awful lot. He was an excellent person, great company and full of conversation. Suddenly, he was gone.

Our minds are very intricate vessels. We shove an awful lot of complex information into them with the expectation that they will rationalize and assimilate our thoughts. Sometimes, like modern equipment, we can push it towards saturation point, and that is where the danger and damage is likely to happen. We always need to be on the watch out for people we notice to have become a little distant and battle weary. Never be afraid to engage and get involved, especially during the long and dark winter months when people start to lose hope. The life you save Today could

actually turn out to be your own.

'Time spent in nature and landscape is the most cost-effective and powerful way to counteract the burnout and sort of depression that we feel when we sit in front of a computer all day' – Richard Louv.

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Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler

Who was Anthony Raftery? (Antoine O'Raiifteiri) (1779-1835) He was an Irish poet often called the last wandering bards. His poetry was in Gaelic. He was born around the time president George Washington was in office. I wanted to write about him since my mom is from Kiltimagh and Anthony was from a nearby town called Kiledan. His mother is also from Kiltimagh but his father was from Sligo. His story is a very



sad one, but legendary I suppose most are like that. And, some stories are only known at a superficial level, so I wanted to

share his story. And his poetry is still studied by school children in Ireland. He was one of nine children, he was a very intelligent and curious man. Sadly, his life took a huge turn when all his siblings got sick, it all started with a cough. They all contracted smallpox. Smallpox is a nickname for a contagious viral disease called Variola. It is a virus where you get headaches, fever and a bad rash. It was eradicated in 1979, it was said to be the scourge (plague) of the world, 300 million people died from it in the 20th century. So, within three weeks his eight siblings died. One of the last things Anthony saw before going blind was his eight siblings laid out dead on the kitchen floor. I can't imagine the heartache & destruction Anthony and his parents felt for losing the eight children. I can only imagine the loss and desolate journey a parent must feel losing their child. I remember about ten years ago, Mike Tyson (boxer) lost his four year old daughter an accident with a treadmill cord. I think I heard Tyson was arrested about 40 times by the time he was 13 but my heart broke for him

that day. As stated Anthony was blind and the poet James Joyce also struggled with eye problems. Joyce ended up blind before his death, he was on the Irish 10-pound note. There are an estimated 52,000 blind people in Ireland and 36 million blind people in America. Stress/trauma causes eye problems, people with PTSD get blurry vision and sometimes their eyes freeze for a long time. Braille is a form of written language for blind people. The man who invented braille was a French man named, Louise Braille. He played the organ and cello. Anthony grew up in poverty and lived by playing the fiddle and performing songs and poems for the rich Anglo-Irish. His work drew on the forms and expressions of Irish poetry and it is regarded as marking the end of the old literary tradition. However, Anthony and his fellow poets didn't see themselves this way. Anthony had a patron (someone who supports you) the local landlord, Frank Taffe. Frank wanted some things for the house, so he sent a servant and Anthony out, they went on Frank's horses. Unfortunately, the horse Anthony took ended up in the bog drowned with a broken neck. Poor Anthony's fate only grew worse. So, Frank exiled Anthony and he started to live the life of an itinerant. Anthony died in Galway, they have a memorial for him in a village named Craughwell. He also has of course

a granite memorial in Kiltimagh, Mayo, in the town square. I remember it well. In Loughrea, Galway they have an annual festival in honor of him. There was a restaurant in Kiltimagh named Raftery room it closed down about 14 years ago. There is a school in Mayo named after him, Scoil Raftery, an all-Irish primary school in Castlebar. A street in Derry is named Anthony Raftery and finally Anthony's famous poem, Mise Raifteiri an file (I am Raftery the poet) is on the Irish five pound note. A verse from one of Anthony's poems: Eanach Dhuin

(honey to you) If my health is spared I'll be long relating of the number who drowned from Anach Cuain And the keening after of mother and father and child by the harbor the mournful croon. King of Graces, who died to save us, T'were a small affair but for one or two, but a boat-load bravely in calm day sailing without storm or rain to be swept to doom. In case you don't read poetry there are a few movies based on poetry: Troy, Mulan, Beowolf, Dead poets society, Orpheus (ancient Greek legend)

Gaelic for the Month

Poetry-filíocht Blind-dall Sorrow-bron Poor-bocht
Irish Proverb *A cabin with plenty of food is better than a hungry castle~ No man is rich enough to buy back his past~Oscar Wilde email: Molanive@yahoo.com*

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- * To promote and cooperate in the general welfare work of the community.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS WELCOME

Members willing to serve are invited to come forward. Obligations include approximately 8 meetings per year and volunteer time for Irish Fest in March and Celtic Fest in August. To volunteer please contact President Tim Brophy at tmb777@aol.com.

2019 Slate of Officers:

President: Tim Brophy
 Vice President: Sharon Houk
 Treasurer: Bettie Komar
 Secretary: Brian Conroy
 Membership Chair: OPEN
 Director: Jim Lawler
 Director: Dan Maher
 Director: Mary Beth Gannon
 Director: Kathy Jordan
 Director: OPEN

IASCW ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Members and potential members are invited to the annual general membership meeting to be held Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018 from 2PM - 4PM at Chicago Street Pub, 75 N. Chicago St., Joliet. Live Entertainment by Green Meadow Boys following a short business meeting. Members in good standing will vote on the 2019 slate of officers. Snacks & one drink ticket provided.

Members may renew annual dues at the door. New members will be recognized and given a pin at the event.

2018 CELTIC FEST A SUCCESS!

Thank you to our sponsors, volunteers and guests for making this the best ever Celtic Fest! Over 1200 attendees enjoyed great music, delicious food, cold beer, crafts, vendors, and fellowship. Our generous sponsors include:

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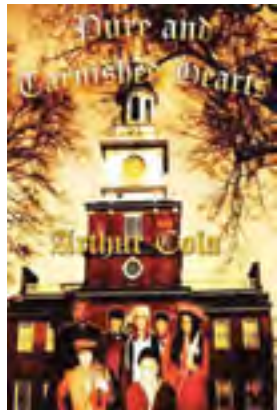


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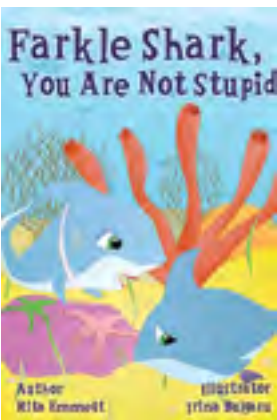
Authors at iBAM! 2018

Meet the brains behind the stories

Arthur Cola



Rita Emmett



Monica Dougherty



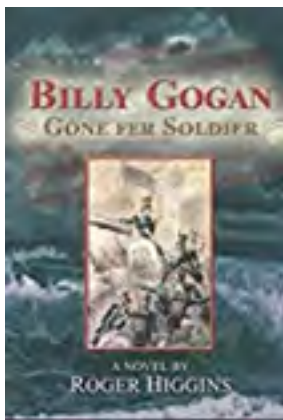
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Jessie Ann Foley



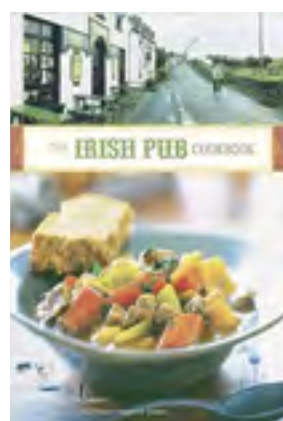
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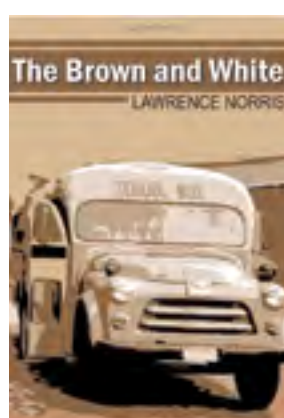
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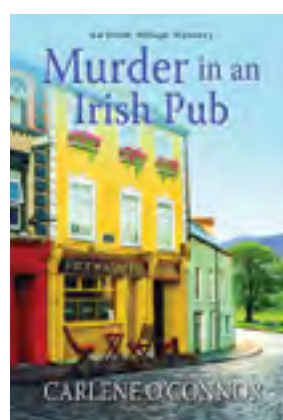
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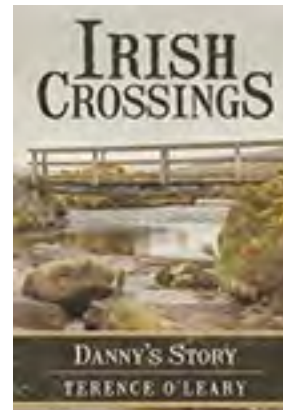
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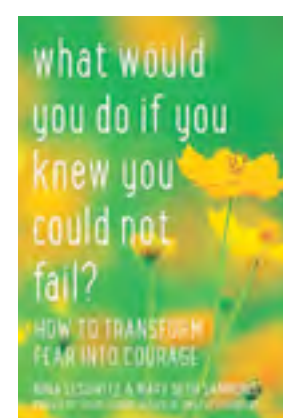
Terence O'Leary



Rex Owens



Mary Beth Sammons



Sean Throne



Kevin Toolis



Meet our authors in person on Saturday, October 27th, and Sunday, October 28th, from Noon to 6 p.m on floors one and two.

While you are at it, look into our Lit Salon on the first for presentations almost every half hour over the two days.

Award winning Irish Chef, Noel McMeel, will be speaking to attendees on both days, and will have his cookbook available. Noel had the honor of being the chef for Paul McCartney's wedding party.

On the 100th anniversary of World War I, catch a theatre reading by Irish actor, Shane O'Regan at 1pm on Saturday followed by a q and a!

Shane is in Chicago acting in, Private Peaceful at the Greenhouse Theatre thru November 11th. The play toured Ireland with Five star reviews in several Irish newspapers.

Award winning artist, Mary McSweeney, will be painting "live" in the art gallery while you are here. www.ibamchicago.com for more information.

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Reading from

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Sunday 12:00

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12:00-4:00



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Room 309 2 Films by
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2 pm Crossroads (1 Hour)
Mike Leonard tells stories we
all have in common. In Ireland
at his ancestral home, Mike
explores how life can change
dramatically at the crossroads

of old and new, need and ne-
cessity, dreams and decisions.
It's a journey home, where
Mike finds that what makes us
who we are is something we
all share in common.

4 pm The Ride of Our Lives
30 Mins + Q & A.

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Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



You Too

Every year, I teach G. B. Shaw's play, Saint Joan, and each year it continues to inspire me. Shaw, a renowned atheist, takes it upon himself to tell the story of a 15th Century woman who dares to challenge the male hierarchy. Not content to be simply a dutiful daughter, Joan rejects the traditional role of wife and mother and becomes a soldier. For Shaw, Joan's life is one of genius. She a military strategist, a forerunner of gender equality, and she refuses to be silenced. Believing herself commissioned by the Almighty, Joan rallies the French army to oust the English from her beloved France. Her passion is indomitable. Joan's fervor cannot be quenched; despite the numerous attempts to alienate her. Eventually, Joan is betrayed by those she

believes she can trust (Church and state). Shaw's Joan is formidable. She is a threat to male supremacy and as such must pay for it with her life.

Writing at a time (1920) when women were sacrificing themselves for the right to vote, Shaw demonstrates that the spirit of

Joan lives on. In Shaw's play, Joan's solitary voice is highlighted by the fact that she is the only woman on stage. While the men seek to bully, mock, and demean her, their attempts inevitably backfire. Joan, naively it seems, believes that the important men in her life will support her cause. But, she is sadly mistaken. To those in power, Joan is a rabble rouser whose political inexperience and idealism makes her dangerous to the state. And, her belief that anyone can hear God for themselves puts her at odds with the Church.

In contrast to those in positions of influence, the populace, see Joan as sincere. She is a visionary, who,

unlike the men in power, genuinely believes in what she says. To the ordinary people, she is without guile.

It is inconceivable for us to imagine what Joan faced as a woman in the 15th Century. Her biographers, mainly men, tend to romanticize Joan's life. Uncomfortable with a female protagonist, they depict her as saintly, beautiful, and otherworldly. By objectifying and downplaying Joan's ordinariness they elevate her in a way that detracts from her incredible talents as a leader. Her skills as a military strategist, bravery on the field, and genius are diluted and written out of her story. It is not until Shaw recasts her in his famous drama that we see that she is a woman before her time.

Her voice can still be heard in the 'Me Too' movement. For while we continue objectify and demean women, we add fuel to fire that took Joan's young life and branded her a witch.

To finish, I would like to offer my own homage to the patron saint of gender equality.

Spit Fire

Tripping on Jesus, fiery and stoned,
Joan irascibly expelled smoke rings,
Tiny halos of ethereal substance
Sputtered into a gaping hole of nothingness,
Mockingly, she laughed at the giant void,
Silence was no friend of hers,
Dwarfing her with reminders
Of absence and stilled voices,
The soul's vigil began to wane in the gathering darkness
And her ire began to smouldered,
Wandering with the wispy plumes
Into abstraction
Wondering, if that was all we left
The faint smell of existence,

Fondling a cross with sweaty palms
She massaged the dead Christ and
Prayed for martyrdom,
Let them strip, whip and expose me on the solid
Rock of faith,
Tis better than being crucified by
Time, and the predictable agony of multiplying seconds,

She laughed at her confessors,
Thinking her religiously insane
And, dissatisfied with a world
Full of self-interest and political snakery,
Her perverse sense of fashion, deemed to be
Morally corrupt,
Christ, she even reeked with the odour of neglect,
She had become a smell that lingered a little too long,
She cried,

Soon, they would pin the tail of her
Confession
On her donkey's ass and expect her to pray,
Another game, another rouse to belittle a
Simple maid,
Cross bearers would tempt her
With the smell of burning flesh,

Meat for their fleshy minds,
Men in love
With their carnivorous egos,
They would try to consume her passion,
And, spit out the grit of her humanity
Into a hollowed piety,

Creaking doors, rough voices full of intent
Moved closer,
Rats, laid siege to her imagination,
Scurrying across her naked feet,
The dank, cold, cell, closed about her,
There was no escape,
A ghastly smell of the dead and dying
Rose up from the slabs,
The fragrance of the damned
Bound her to them,

A key in the lock,
Forced air from her lungs,
Hope and despair blindly
Pushed past each other
Edging towards despair,
As fear, oozed out of each pore,
In thick blood droplets,
From her hand, the cross dropped,
Lost to the darkness,
Abandoned,
Joan prayed,

Soon, the fire would lovingly kiss her face,
And, with each rush of flame
The sheer magnitude of her resolve
Would melt and peel away,
Soon to be scorched, her unsteady purpose,
Soon, her body too would become exhaled in a halo
of smoke
In the dark soul of the night,
Leaving her spirit to hang on the tree of life,
Charred,
Watching, as the fiery sprites dance around her
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A Word With Monsignor Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Rev. Monsignor Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



Earlier this month, Catholic Charities officially closed-out our year-long centennial celebration at the 101st annual meeting of our board of advisors. This past anniversary year has been an exciting one, giving us an opportunity to look back at our rich history, and enabling us to recommit ourselves to the next century of service to those in need.

In honor of our 100th anniversary, Catholic Charities was fortunate that Bob Morris, a dedicated board member, offered to put together an anniversary book, A Century of Hope, which was unveiled at the annual meeting. Working alongside Catholic Charities staff, Bob was able to gather hundreds of wonderful old photos and put the story of Catholic Charities into historical context. The book discusses the changing economic, political and societal trends over the years and how Catholic Charities responded to these signs of the times, always ensuring the needs of the poor and vulnerable were being met. 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, implementing numerous "War on Poverty" programs in the 1960s, expanding housing and senior services as the population aged, providing relief during the Great Recession, and now being an important part of anti-violence initiatives in troubled neighborhoods, Catholic Charities has always been at the forefront of assisting those in need.

I think what is remarkable about this book is that it is not just the story of Catholic Charities, but really the story of how the Catholic Church has come together in the Archdiocese of Chicago to fulfill Jesus' mission to love and serve the poor. The story of Catholic Charities is the story of parishes, religious orders, community groups, board members, donors, and volunteers working together to take care of the people Jesus loves so dearly.

One hundred years later, this is still what Catholic Charities is all about. The mission of Catholic Charities remains resolutely focused on caring for the poorest of the poor in partnership with loyal supporters throughout Cook and Lake Counties. Our 2018 Annual Report, also re-

leased at our annual meeting, is titled Built on Faith & Hope. We are honored to build on the solid foundation of faith & hope that was laid 100 years ago. Undergirded by the Church's belief in the dignity and sanctity of each human life, Catholic Charities has a steadfast commitment to treating all who walk through our doors with the utmost respect. For us, charity is not just about providing material assistance, but acting with the same love and mercy Jesus showed to restore people's dignity and give them hope for the future.

Each day, thousands of people rely on Catholic Charities to help them overcome the challenges of poverty, hunger, homelessness, addiction, violence, aging and abuse. I know I speak for our staff, volunteers and board members when I say that we are truly honored to carry out the Gospel mission to love and serve the poor in the Archdiocese of Chicago. We are deeply grateful for the faithful support of the community that enables Catholic Charities to remain on the cutting edge of social services, being responsive to changing needs and providing the best, most complete services possible. As we embark together on this second century of service to those in need, may God continue to bless our efforts to extend the warmth of a helping hand and the loving embrace of hope to all those entrusted to our care.



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Boyle the Kettle

We'll Have A Sup Of Tea
Tom Boyle



iBAM! TEN
October 26, 27, 28

The most significant cultural event of the year featuring Irish books, the arts and music. Jump in and immerse yourself in Irish culture, meet authors, artists and musicians, and attend the Awards Dinner. Last year's dinner was spectacular, and the acceptance speeches were the most meaningful we've ever had, especially Darkness into Light's Joan Freeman who was Person of the year in 2017. I hope to see your face in the crowd!

Celibacy

The vow of celibacy is a commitment to life without intimacy, the human desire for love and affection. The duties of a priest do not allow for the companionship of a woman. Gay priests must also adhere to the vow of celibacy. Pedophilia is a psycho sexual disorder. A primary or exclusive attraction to prepubescent children. Is this the result of an unnatural

lifestyle? One answer is to end the practice of celibacy and allow priests to marry.

What will the Curia come up with?

Ireland

The majority of priests in Ireland are now over 70 and serving more than one parish, at a time when they should be taking life easier and retiring.

In a chat with my first cousin, John Cooney in Kilkenny, he told me there is only one seminarian in Maynooth. It has also been revealed that nine Irish priests falsely accused of pedophilia have committed suicide.

Cardinal Cupich

On a local Chicago TV station he was asked the question, "did Cardinal McCarrick have anything to do with his appointment as Archbishop of Chicago." He said, "I'm not going down that rabbit hole. We have more important issues like 'climate change' and 'immigration.

I thought I was the only one who picked up on that until I saw my dentist, Dr. Ryan, who brought it up, and was totally flabbergasted by the remark. He said he would write no more checks to the Church until he got a satisfactory plan for the Catholic Church to solve their problems. He went on to say, let priests marry and allow women to become Deacons.

Illinois

The state of the state, if Democrats win the Governor's race, you might as well get on the next raft across the Mississippi. The campaign ads have been vetted and Kwame Raoul has been caught in a number of fabrications. Political ads have always been a load of crap, such as "I'm fighting for you!" Horsepoo! "And I'm just getting started." Baloney!

Mayoral Race

Chicago's Mayor, Rahm Emanuel has decided not to run for a third term. The number of candidates is up to fourteen and growing by the day. They are mostly Social Democrats who have been feeding at the public trough for a great many years. Let's see what happens to this vibrant city with the wrong leadership.

Cardinal Dolan

Cardinal Dolan finally surfaced. He has hired a former federal judge, Barbara Jones, to review

the procedures and protocols for handling allegations of sexual abuse. That should take about 20 minutes!

Supreme Court

I don't believe the accusations that have been made against Judge Brett Kavanaugh. The story is too "convenient." Senator Diane Feinstein should retire. She knew about this so called accusation for months and did nothing about it. Now we have had death threats against Kavanaugh, and death threats against his accuser. Why are people so concerned over a conservative justice on the Supreme Court? Because the lunatic fringe is bouncing off the walls over Roe V. Wade.

CBS

CBS seems to bend over backwards to promote the liberal view of America. On one of their flagship programs, CBS Sunday Morning, they had a segment on Norman Rockwell. What it amounted to was Norman Rockwell's White America. Norman Rockwell's work focused on the 1930's and 40's and he lived into the late 60's. For the record, there were many non-white Americans in his paintings, some of which were quite famous.

Vocabulary

The following words or phrases are now in everybody's vocab-

ulary. Social justice, diversity, LGBTQ, abortion, clergy sex abuse, Colin Kapernick, equal pay, politicians, corruption, millennials and gentrification. So many people just can't make their way in life without bemoaning their perceived plight.

Pennsylvania Clergy Abuse

Pennsylvania's States Attorney is fighting hard to get the statute of limitations on sex abuse removed from the books.

Fr. Paul Kalchik

Fr. Kalchik was the priest at Resurrection Church in Avondale. He is the priest that burned the LGBTQ flag. Fr. Kalchik had a history of being abused by a neighbor and again as a 19 year old he was abused by a priest. The flag emblazoned with a cross had hung in the church for years, but had long since been removed. The parishioners wanted the flag burned, and Fr. Kalchik had the flag burned in back of the church. Cardinal Cupich had instructed him not to do that, and now has removed him from the parish. The word is that he was to be sent away for psychiatric counseling. The two men who were sent to pick him up were reportedly part of the 'gay mafia.' Fr. Kalchik had the presence of mind to slip out the back way and his whereabouts are unknown.

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Former Taoiseach of Ireland, Enda Kenny (r), meets Matthew Walsh, (c) and his father Matthew Walsh II, at the offices of Hinshaw and Culbertson. Enda was in town in September in support of Scoil Uí Chonaill GAA Club's Oneness Gala where he gave a rousing speech to support the event.

Chicago Lights Up at Christmas with Brittany's Spirit

The Irish American Heritage Center has received two AED's: machines used during cardiac emergencies from the charity, Brittany's Trees.

Brittany's Trees was founded by Jim and Roberta Guthrie in memory of Brittany Valene, a young neighbor who died in 2005 from Long QT Syndrome, a disturbance of the heart's electrical system, and a common cause of sudden death in children and adults.

Brittany's Trees sells, delivers and decorates Christmas trees to raise money for the SADS Foundation, which supports families of young people with hereditary heart rhythm disorders. During Christmas 2005, Brittany's neighbors decorated trees with 300 white lights in her honor. Since then, Brittany's Trees is receiving over 2,100 tree orders per year, and donated nearly \$250,000 in donations, over the past twelve years to the SADS Foundation.

Brittany's grandparents Paravic and Mary Joyce, natives of County Galway are very active with the fundraiser, as is her ex-



Brittany Valene

tended family, who have made this important fundraiser an



annual tradition. Brittany's extended family and their friends have taken on the deliveries of the trees in Chicago for the past 6 years. The dedication from our family and friends are tremendous and it has become tradition to start delivering trees to Chicago residents on Thanksgiving weekend. Now, the generosity of Brittany's Trees will benefit the IAHC with the AED donation. Staff members and key IAHC volunteers will receive training on these life-saving devices.

If you would like to order a Brittany's Tree, the link is <http://www.brittanys-tree.com>.



We sang with Emmet Cahill in June. We opened the show and then we sang two pieces with him. It was a good concert. He was tremendous and very gracious. We did our part and performed well.

July was a busy month for the choir. We sang on Saturday at Irish Fest and again on Sunday at Mass. Our Dan Mackey cantored. On July 21 the choir sang at Hines Hospital. As always the report was that it was an emotional performance. The Vets enjoy the Irish music. We always perform a segment where we include each of the service anthems. We always end that program with the National Anthem. It's very special for them and for us.

I'm going to introduce you to Elly Anderson, the lovely young woman who sits behind me in the Alto section. She's tall, beautiful and looks like a fashion model. She is an accomplished musician. She played stand-up Bass in the high school orchestra. She's plays piano

and has a degree in classical piano from Columbia College. She has a very nice voice too! I love sitting in front of her. After college she spent 2 years as the vocal and music director for Gallery 37 an After School Matters musical theatre program. They did Seussical the Musical. Elly joined the Heritage Singers to stay connected with her Irish roots. Her dad, Richard, is a tenor in the choir. It's nice to have families; a warm welcome to Elly.

The choir will sing at **IBAM**. We will sing Mass on Sunday October 28 at 10:30 followed by a concert in the Auditorium at Noon. The program was created by our music director Paul Matijevic especially for **IBAM**. It's a beautiful grouping of Irish literary pieces set to music.

On Sunday, November 18 the choir will hold our annual fundraising concert in the Erin Room at 3:00. The program is new and exciting to perform. It's designed to present a broad spectrum of Irish music from the eleventh century to the present day. The program is entitled; "Rising from the Mists: A Thousand Years of Irish Soul." Every Thursday night and some Mondays we're working very hard to perfect this beautiful music.

To purchase tickets for the November program you may call 773-282-7035 ext 10 or buy them at the door. The cost is \$20 for adults, \$5 for children 5 - 12 and children under 5 are free. Please visit www.facebook.com/irishheritagesingers/ After the November concert we will be singing Mass at the Center on Sunday, December 2, the first Sunday of Advent. We will move from Mass to The Fifth Province to sing Christmas Carols as we await the arrival of Santa.

We end the performance year with a concert at The Glenview Library on Sunday, December 16 at 2:00. I want to thank everyone for supporting us. We are committed to the Irish Center and we work hard to contribute to its continued success.



Top Back Row: Rory Dunne, Bill O'Callaghan, Mary Valene, Lenny Morgan, Richard Godley, Sean Joyce, James Cooney, Martin Joyce, Pat Joyce, Nick Nickeas. **Middle Row:** Ally Nickeas, Maureen Nickeas, Pat Joyce, Mary Joyce, Paula Patrick, Jim Gunthrie, Rebecca, Tony Valene, Bridget Joyce, Casandra Petras, Christina Joyce. **Bottom Row:** Thomas Joyce, Kristine Kilroy Dunne, Barbara Contreras, Abbie Contreras, Aileen Godley, Maureen Cooney, Sarah Godley, Katie Nickeas. **Not Featured:** Jack Dunne, Sean & Jack O'Callaghan, Liam Godley, Abel & Joseph Contreras, Annette Joyce, and Clare Mulcrone



Gallagher's Advice

By Caroleann Gallagher



Nursing Home Falls

One thousand eight hundred Americans die each year in nursing homes from falls, according to **The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**. In my career, I have represented too many families of patients killed or injured as an immediate result of a fall while residing at a nursing home.

to the CDC, nursing home falls frequently go unreported.

By their nature, nursing homes are populated by weakened individuals who are there for respite, rehabilitation or long term care. Nursing home residents tend to be vulnerable and susceptible to falls and because of this, falls can cause catastrophic injuries for these residents. I have seen nursing home falls cause, death, fractures, disability, loss of function, loss of independence and a definite loss of the quality of life.

It is also been my experience that residents of nursing homes who have a history of falling or fear the possibility of a fall, will often deal with anxiety and depression as well as social withdrawal. Their fear of further injuries from falling leads to self-limitation where they stay in their wheelchairs and avoid risks associated with other activities, or even resort to just staying in bed.

Nursing home falls are common because residents are typically older and

less able and agile than the general population. In many of the cases I have been involved in, falls at a nursing home are the direct cause of the nursing homes and their employees not taking the proper steps to supervise and protect residents under their care. Many of these falls are preventable.

If you or your loved one has suffered a fall at a nursing home, you will need the benefit of an experienced nursing home lawyer to advise you of your rights. My colleagues and I here at Dwyer & Coogan have handled many cases against many Illinois Nursing homes and would be happy to discuss your concerns regarding yourself or your loved one.

Some of the common causes of typical nursing home falls include:

- Muscle weakness and gait problems are the most common causes of falls among elderly nursing home residents. Malnutrition and other conditions can lead to muscle weakness and disorientation.

- Inadequate staffing levels to properly monitor, care and supervise patients.

- Environmental hazards, such as equipment in the hallways, debris on walking surfaces, poor lighting, wet floors, poorly fitted wheelchairs, poorly maintained wheelchairs and beds that are set too high.

- Medications including anti-anxiety drugs and sedatives can increase the risk of falls and fall-related injuries. The risk of falls is greatly elevated within 3 days of taking any of these types of medications. There are studies that show how certain medications designed to help the elderly sleep have resulted in more falls and injury.

- Other types of falls are related to difficulty in getting from one place to another, such as walking from the chair to the bed, moving from the bed to the chair, poorly fitted shoes, poor care of the feet and the improper use of walking aids like walkers and canes.

Many, if not most, of the nursing home falls are due to a lack of proper fall prevention programs within the nursing home.

In long-term and acute-care settings, fall-risk assessment is required for all patients on admission, upon being transferred to a new unit within the home, after a change in the level of care or the patient's condition, and after a fall.

It is vital that a nursing facility takes the time with each new patient to assess of their fall risk. If a patient is not assessed or not properly assessed for their fall risk, it is inevitable that the proper fall prevention measures will not be in place, leading

to an inevitable yet preventable fall.

When screening a new patient for their fall risk a nursing home should check for:

- history of falling within the past year;
- history of blood pressure issues which can cause dizziness;
- impaired mobility or gait;
- altered mental status
- incontinence;
- medications associated with falls, such as sedatives and blood pressure drugs; and

- use of assistive devices

Additionally, nursing homes must ensure all their staff are trained on how to assess a person for their fall risk and what measures should be put in place to prevent falls. Effective fall prevention training will mean that nursing home staff are able to identify and recognize fall hazards in their patient population. Training should also include training the staff to properly use any fall prevention tools or equipment such as side rails, gait belts, hoists and walking aids.

Finally, nursing homes should be free of environmental hazards that could pose a fall risk. This includes wet and slippery floors, poor lighting, and items being left lying about on the floor. All mobility aids at the facility should be kept in proper working condition. A patient's call light should always be within their reach so that they are not stretching and straining to reach it. For certain patients, side rails and bed alarms will be necessary.

If you feel like your loved one needs additional fall protections other than what the nursing home is suggesting, speak up and insist that they be provided to your loved one. As I have said time and time again in this column, **you are the greatest and most important advocate for your loved ones**, so use your voice when you feel that things are not as they should be.

At **Dwyer & Coogan** we fight for the rights of our most precious aging population and their families who are suffering due to nursing home falls and injuries. If you believe that you or your loved one may be a victim of nursing home negligence please call our office for a free consultation.

**Caroleann Gallagher is an Irish born Attorney now licensed in Illinois and practicing all types of personal injury law – including nursing home litigation, medical malpractice law, wrongful death claims, transportation injuries, premises liability claims, defective product claims, construction site injuries and Workers Compensation. She can be contacted at cgallagher@dwyercoogan.com or at 312-782-7482.*

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Irish Artist Brian Boylan Gives Celtic Art His Own Unique Twist

By *Ryanne Gallagher Johnson*
Brian Boylan paints vibrantly-colored scenes of both fantasy and reality, frequently incorporating gorgeous contemporary slants on old Celtic knotwork into his creations.

Brought to life from his own imagination, or commissioned specially for different buyers, each piece of work manages to portray a visual feast for the spectator, regardless of the color palate or scene.

The Irish-born, California-based artist began his creative career in 2D animation in Dublin for Sullivan Bluth Studios on *American Tail* and *The Land Before Time*. Currently a Redondo Beach resi-

dent, he went from Disney Studios in London and Australia to Dreamworks Studios in America, having worked on such notable projects as *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* and *The New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh*.

Shortly after settling in the states, he found steady work with several of the animation studios in California. "I was very lucky," Boylan recalls. "When I came to America, Disney had just released *The Lion King*, and animation really took off then, with everything that came after that.

So very luckily, I was employed for fifteen years non-stop."

All told, he spent twenty years in animation before giving up the work to be a stay-home dad. Then, his career in painting



began.

"The first (piece of art) I did was for my daughter. It's one of the most famous myths of Ireland called The Children of Lir. I kind of think I just developed using the older knotwork patterns, but (with) more of a contemporary style. It's not as strict as the old Celtic stuff," he explains.

That initial piece of art was likely influenced by his upbringing on the water in Skerries, North County Dublin. "I grew up on the harbor, and with

the fishing boats, and all that good stuff as a kid... I fished for lobsters and prawns with my father, (who) owned fishing boats. Every summer as a kid, since I was eleven, I'd be out on a fishing boat at two o'clock in the morning. It was a great childhood. In Skerries, you either went fishing or you picked potatoes for the summer. That's how you earned your money in the summer," he says.

By the time his children were grown and he started looking for full time work again, the studios had shifted from the 2D, hand-painted animations, to 3D computer renderings, something

he wasn't interested in doing. "I wouldn't have the patience. Computers and me don't gel," he jokes.

So, he began looking at other possible jobs, and was pointed in the direction of working one on one with special needs children. "I like it and I like working with the kids. I give them art classes every now and again. It's nice. The hours suit, and I like the work... I work in the Manhattan Beach school district, with special needs kids during the day. That's my bread and butter, as they say. And then I come home and do whatever artwork is in my head, or commissions I have to do."

Now living and raising two daughters near a different ocean than the one he grew up on, he's an educator by day and an artist by night.

The knotwork found in many of his paintings is reminiscent of the classic Celtic knots found in historical Ireland. Something, he says, he's always been intrigued by. "I was fascinated with Celtic borders (in art), the way that the monks put horses' heads and birds' heads and made knotwork out of their necks. I was fascinated with that for some reason, to

be that out there. It still fascinates me."

More recently, he's done Irish pub scenes for local bars, something that, creatively, is away from his usual renderings. "I'll do a picture for a pub owner..



(the painting includes) a few characters at the bar, and they're set in the pub that I sold the picture to. So then we have an unveiling of the picture, and it brings the spread out Los Ange-

les Irish community together for an afternoon."

But, as with any artist, he's still interested in expanding his creative horizons, and is always looking to move on to other projects and creations. "I've fallen into everything I've done so far... nothing was planned, but

so far it's worked out. (Now) I'm trying to get more out there."

Brian Boylan art can be found at newirishart.com. You can also find Brian Boylan Artist on Facebook.



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by Vicki Quade

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Mick

Mike Morley



long-term effort now appears to be falling apart- actually back-firing; not only on the advertisers, but the investigators to boot. So the game strategy

Field Of Dreams

Time was, I would look up and wonder why anyone, much less a well-heeled corporation, careful about its expenses, would spend thousands of dollars per month for a billboard, then fill the huge space with nothing more than their product, brand name, and a girl in a bathing suit or a handsome, muscular guy. We humans learn best automatically, by association- no lengthy sales pitches required. Pavlov's pooches learned the same way. Ring a bell at dinner time awhile and soon Shep's mouth will water for the bell alone. Association helps dog and man navigate their day automatically, no thinking necessary. Associations are basic to advertising, and work in reverse as well. In the interest of science, one callous experimenter introduced a cute little rabbit to an infant. All was well until each time he began making a loud noise each time he brought the rabbit. In no time, the kid cried in terror at the sight of the bunny; loud noise no longer needed. For man and dog, association is essential to memory, and to selling. Connect an emotion with your target. Repeat that message. And soon it will stick, rewarding your efforts.

Two years running, Democrat leaders have advertised one message: "Resist". Engines of government and media have been harnessed to convince voter-buyers that a successful American businessman and President is secretly a conservative Communist-capitalist who conspires with Russia. That

to wrest control of America's future has returned to the simple back-up plan: redouble efforts to link the President negatively in voters' minds with cries of "Rapist" and "Racist".

Campaigning in June 2016, President Obama, a politician who believes no one ever can make anything by themselves, took a question at a Town Hall in Elkhart Indiana from Eric Cottonham, an African-American union official with Steelworkers Local 1999, representing workers at a *Carrier air conditioner plant which was being moved to Mexico. Cottonham, attired in a neat but slightly rumpled suit and tie, asked the natty young President: **"I'm tryin' to find out: what have**

we got left? Because all of our jobs are leavin' Indianapolis. I hear you're doin' a lot of things; but here in Indianapolis there's nothin' there for us. I mean, what's next? What can we look forward to in the future as far as jobs, employment, whatever? Because all of our jobs has left; or in the process of leavin', sir."

Obama, in white pressed shirt and tie, no jacket, hands in pockets, sleeves rolled up- the image of the modern hard-working young executive- answered Cottonham: **"Well, in fact, we've seen more manufacturing jobs created since I've been president than any time since the 1990's. That's a fact".** (Shrugs shoulders; hands still in pockets.) **"...We actually make more stuff- have a bigger manufacturing base today- than we have in most of our history. The problem has... part of the problem has been jobs goin' overseas. And this is one of the reasons why I'VE BEEN TRYING TO NEGOTIATE TRADE DEALS THAT RAISE WAGES AND ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS IN OTHER COUNTRIES, so they're not undercutting us".** (Emphasis, mine.)

There's the brilliant master plan: when third-world wages match U.S. wages (or vice-versa, of course) America will be great again for Americans like you. Business baron Barry then goes on to explain to his jobless brother: **"But, part of it is automation... The good news is, there are entire new industries that are starting to pop up... But, for those folks who have lost their jobs now because a plant went down to Mexico, that isn't gonna make you feel better."** He proposes training for new jobs **"because some of those jobs of the past are just not**

gonna come back. And when somebody says, like the person you just mentioned, and I'm not goin' to advertise for, that he's gonna bring all these jobs back. Well, how you gonna do that? What exactly are you gonna do? There's no answer to it. He says he's gonna negotiate a better deal. Well how exactly are you going to negotiate that? What magic wand do you have?"

He goes on to tell his admiring PBS audience about his plans to grow new industries like clean energy **"and, say, something like 3D printing or nanotechnology or all kinds of stuff that I can't really explain, but scientists and really smart people know all about it. And let's invest in this, so that when the new jobs come, they're comin' here. But I gotta tell you that the days when, you just bein' willin' to work hard, and you can now walk into a plant and suddenly there's gonna be a job for you for 30 years or 40 years? That's just not gonna be there for our kids."**

Barry finished up talking about automation, computer literacy and free two-year community college training to prepare Americans while they wait and hope, like members of a continental cargo cult, for the brave new world to come to America. "Build it and they will come", just like in the movie.

[Watch that dystopian dissertation at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKpso3vhZtw>]

And his party offers nothing but "resistance", and still believes it's impossible they were so wrong about the hearts and minds of American voters. The only conclusion is collusion they say; or rather, what they and their corporate sponsors who love the business climate offshore, advertise to those same voters.

[*Note: Yes, that Carrier plant is the one where President Trump made a deal to save jobs. Some indeed were saved, but not all.]

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The Bruce family, Devon and Yvonne, welcomed the Fourth Earl of Iveagh, Arthur Edward Rory Guinness (below) with Julie Rancourt, and The Honorable Rory Guinness, (above) with Avis Jason, to their home to celebrate Guinness and the Fall season. See www.irishamericannews.com for more photos.

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



Caroleann Gallagher
312-543-4642
cgallagher@dwyercoogan.com

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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We've all observed it. When US friends return from an Irish vacation they express delight and pleasure experiencing the culture, hospitality, cuisine that has earned coveted Michelin Stars across the island. The golf courses beckon, the green, lush scenery blows visitors away as does the history, music, theatre, and Irish writers who never cease producing award winning literature and poetry.

Have you also noticed how returning Americans insist they experienced during their stay, warm and continuous sunshine each and every day. We shake our heads, those of us who lived there, we know better as the abundance of low hanging dark clouds promise rain several times most days.

But, there's another side to Ireland confronting returning immigrants. Blame it on jet-lag instead of culture shock and the infuriating Irish motto of "make haste slowly." Accustomed to the hustle, bustle of US speed, it takes a day or two to settle down to a softer, kinder, slower pace of Irish life. Day one, I had difficulty making a call to the U.S., I went to the reception desk where a young girl on duty did not glance up as I approached. She licked the point of her pencil several times, continuing her task, and refraining from eye contact. Coughing loudly had no affect and finally aggression was necessary to gain attention. "What is the country code to call America? She looked up slowly, oblivious to irritation and without hesitation says, "I don't have a clue"

Traveling in the North I planned a train trip from Belfast Central Station to Dublin, I visited the station in Carrickfergus. I decided on the day and time and asked to purchase a return ticket. "When are you traveling," inquired the clerk behind the glass window. It was 3 days away and he rubbed his forehead and says: "Ah! no, you can't buy a wee ticket today, you might lose it and wouldn't get the money back." When traveling, its wise and necessary to plan, but I walked away wondering if I looked like the sort who'd lose or misplace a train



Roaming in the Gloaming

By Estelle Shanley

ticket? I removed myself gently went off and returned the day prior to traveling and once again was unable to execute the task. The gray haired women behind the glass explained a ticket could only be purchased on the day of travel. I wondered why I wasn't advised of this by the previous railway employee.

My host and I traveled to Belfast City Airport to meet friends traveling from England. Suddenly we thought it might be easier, and quicker to fly to Dublin. We approached the information booth and inquired about flight schedules and costs.

The handsome employee, dressed to the nines in shirt, tie and a Donegal tweed jacket, studied us with a quizzical look. "Why would you fly when its only a two hour drive to Dublin? Wouldn't you rather do that," he asked. We pushed for the flight schedule, he pushed his chair back, leaned forward and shouted, "there's no flights going to Dublin, for the love of God why not drive?"

My home town of Dundalk, Co. Louth features a posh hotel on the outskirts of town, on a lovely country estate, owned and operated by a local family. The Ballymascanlon Hotel, back in the day, hired and trained country girls as waitresses during the summer high tourist season. They had a tendency to stamp their feet as they walked and you could feel the wind of them stampeding between dining room tables.

It was a mid-week afternoon, a dreary cloudy day, rain spilling, wind chilling and we dined on hot soup for a starter course, our table overlooking the rose garden and lawn tennis court. My spouse spilled soup on his tie, not an unusual occurrence, and we heard the speed of our waitress approaching wielding a tea towel, held unhigh in a threatening manner, prompting my husband to duck. Gazing at the stained tie, she exclaimed, "you

dirty ting slobbering all over yourself. He remained ducked, expecting to be clattered across the head for his carelessness.

She then turned to me, pulling on the sleeve of my Ralph Lauren navy blue double breasted blazer, adorned with the gold crusted crest on the pocket. "Would you not go down the town and buy a nice light Irish jacket, instead of that dowdy ting?"

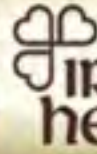
I complained bitterly to my shamed spouse who had already discarded his tie. Her cheeky criticism of my designer blazer prompted me to make a complaint at the Reception Desk. "I paid \$450 for this blazer, how dare she express criticism," I grumbled. Husband stopped dead in his tracks. "You paid what" he bellowed, his face ashen. Never underestimate the power of womanhood. I looked him in the eye and explained that was the original price, but as a savvy shopper I waited for several reductions and purchased the garment for a fraction of the original cost. Men at times, can be so gullible!

Having breakfast in the beautiful Saddle Room at the famous Shellborne Hotel facing Dublin's Saint Stephen's Green, the only guests in the dining room, until another American couple sauntered in, the man ordering kippers, the lady eggs benedict with a glass of cold milk. They waited and waited. Finally a waiter approached their table announcing there'd be no kippers since the chef was after having a tiff with the waiter.

A reorder provided, food finally delivered, the man summoned the maitre'd. He walked erect, handsome, the essence of professionalism, distinctive, impeccably clad in a tuxedo, an Irish linen tea towel folded in high style over his arm.

He bent down to listen to the guest, stood up, looked across the dining room, his tone vibrating the Waterford chandelier, and shouted: "Seamus, are you bringing the f---ing milk or what?"

You have to admit, traveling in Ireland provides humor, and patience, the Irish wit unparalleled.



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UPCOMING CONCERTS AND PROGRAMS



Algren, A Life Book Signing

Chicago journalist Mary Wisniewski O'Malley reads from and signs her book, *Algren, A Life*, the definitive biography of writer Nelson Algren. **Thursday, October 4, 7:30pm • Free**



Jarlath Henderson Band in Concert

Jarlath Henderson is a masterful balladeer, three-time All-Ireland Champion uilleann piper and versatile multi-instrumentalist on whistle, flute and cittern. He combines modern, rhythmically intense, percussive electronics with a traditional singing style to create a signature sound all his own. **Friday, October 5, 8pm • \$25 for IAHC members, \$28 for general admission**



Maire Ni Chathasaigh and Chris Newman in Concert

Maire Ni Chathasaigh, one of the British Isles' leading harpers is joined by Chris Newman, one of the UK's most revered acoustic guitarists, who adds an exciting dimension to Ni Chathasaigh's playing with elements of rock, jazz and bluegrass. **Saturday, October 6, 8pm • \$20 for IAHC members, \$22 for general admission**



Fall Watercolor Class

Study the art of watercolor in this class designed for all levels. Lessons focus on learning to draw, valuing relationships, paint color interpretation, composition and watercolor techniques. **Wednesdays, October 17-November 28, 6:45-8:45pm**
\$130 for IAHC members, \$140 for non-members



Tracing Your Roots Genealogy Series

The monthly workshop is designed for those continuing their genealogy research.
Gathering the Family Stories: Learn to use applications to gather stories and photos and preserve them. **Thursday, October 18, 7-9pm • \$20**



Tea with Oscar Wilde and *The Canterville Ghost*

Actress Megan Wells appears as Irish poet and playwright Oscar Wilde and performs his novella, *The Canterville Ghost*, a humorous Victorian Gothic horror tale. **Saturday, October 20, 11am • \$25 for adults, \$8 for children 12 and under**



Children's Irish School

Kids aged 8-14 can experience Irish culture through art, music, dance, drama, language and more. \$75 session per student for the 5 week session and \$20 off for IAHC families with more than one child. **Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6-7:30pm (10/22 through 11/21) or Saturdays from 10am-1pm (10/27 through 11/24) no class 10/31**



2018 iBAM Chicago, Irish Books, Arts and Music Celebration

Celebrating its 10 year anniversary, iBAM! features authors, artists, musicians and scholars from Ireland and North America for a full weekend of Irish cultural programming. **October 26-28 • www.ibamchicago.com • See iBAM! section in this issue**



Click: A Collection of Frozen Moments in Time

Stacy McReynolds' exhibit features concert photography, sporting events and IAHC functions.
Artist reception: Friday, November 2, 6pm • Exhibit Hours: Friday, 11/2-Sunday, 12/16, 1-5pm on Saturdays, 1-4pm on Sundays



Rugby Weekend Screening Party

Catch the New Zealand All Blacks vs. USA and Ireland vs. Italy matches on the big screen and enjoy Guinness and food specials and chances to win Guinness swag. **Saturday, November 3 • Pub opens at 1:30pm, first match at 3pm**



Veterans Day Mass and Remembrance

The IAHC and Vietnam Veterans of America, Chicago Chapter 242, honor those who have served and sacrificed for their country with Mass, remarks by chapter members and music by the Shannon Rovers Irish Pipe Band. **Sunday, November 18, 10:30am • Free**



Rising From the Mists: A Thousand Years of the Irish Soul

The Singers' annual concert explores Ireland's music ranging from a setting of the earliest-known Irish text to the theme from a modern romantic musical drama, along with sing-alongs and Irish Christmas carols. **Sunday, November 18, 3pm • \$20 for adults, \$5 for children ages 5-12 and children under 5 free**



JARLATH HENDERSON BAND IN CONCERT

Friday
October 5, 2018
8pm

\$25 IAHC members
\$28 general admission



Maire Ni Chathasaigh and Chris Newman in Concert

Saturday, October 6, 2018 • 8pm
\$20 IAHC Members
\$22 General Admission

October 26 • 27 • 28

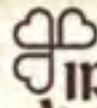
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President's Message

Many thanks to all who came out to support two fantastic concerts at the Center in September. Traditional Irish music legends Altan charmed the standing-room only audience in the Erin Room as part of World Music Festival Chicago and The High Kings performed to a sold-out crowd in our Auditorium.



Napier on keyboard.

The following evening, we present one of the UK's most influential Irish harpers, Máire Ní Chathasaigh, sole harper recipient of the prestigious Irish Traditional Musician of the Year Award (Gradam Ceoil TG4) along with Chris Newman, one of the UK's most influential acoustic guitarists. The

concert is Saturday, October 6.

Later this month, iBAM! celebrates its 10th anniversary with a stellar lineup of artists, authors and musicians and another list of distinguished honorees. iBAM! is Friday, October 26 through Sunday, October 28.

The IAHC welcomes new Irish School Coordinator, Susan Byrne. Kids aged 8-14 can have fun and make new friends as they experience and connect with Irish culture through art, music, dance, drama, language and more. Classes begin October 22 so make sure you sign up now!

For information on all of these events and more, follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or visit our website at www.irish-american.org.

See you around the Center!
Mike Shevlin, President

It was great to see so many IAHC members and friends at the annual Breakfast with the Board. It started with a lovely Mass in the Auditorium followed by a traditional Irish breakfast from Harrington's Catering and Deli. Thanks to Ken Harrington and his team for the delicious food and to my fellow board members for putting on the aprons to serve our members.

It will be hard to top all the activity from September in October but there is plenty on the schedule to keep those toes-a-tapping. On Friday, October 5, we welcome Jarlath Henderson, a masterful balladeer, three-time All-Ireland Champion uilleann piper and versatile multi-instrumentalist on whistle, flute and cittern. Hailing from County Armagh, Henderson will be joined by Pablo Lafuente on guitar and Hamish



2018-2019 IAHC Board of Directors

Back row (L-R): Rich Godley, Cliff Carlson, Mike Hamman, Mary Avery
Center row (L-R): Mike Roach, Mike Geraghty, Tom Shea, JoAnn Fergus,

Tim Taylor, Marty McDonagh

Front row (L-R): Kathy Kelly, Donna Hawkins Quirk, Mike Shevlin, Eileen Ryan,
Monica Dougherty (not pictured Virginia Gibbons)

The Heritage Line Staff Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

Contributors: Meg Buchanan, Theresa Choske, Laura Coyle, Catherine Kelly, Nancy Moore, Sheila Murphy, Mike Shevlin, Becky Tatz

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the fifth province

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

OCTOBER ENTERTAINMENT

Music Starts at 8pm

- 10/5 The Boils
- 10/6 Larry Nugent and Bill O'Donoghue, 9pm
- 10/12 TBA
- 10/13 St. Patrick Fathers
- 10/19 Cirrus Falcon
- 10/20 The Dooley Brothers
- 10/26 Kilgubbin Brothers, 9pm
- 10/27 Kilgubbin Brothers, 7pm



Thursday Night Irish Music Sessions: October 4, 11, 18 and 25; 7pm

October 2018

10/4	Algren: A life Reading	Library	7:30pm
10/5	Francis O'Neill Ceili Mor	Room 111	8pm
	Jarlath Henderson Band Concert	Auditorium	8pm
10/6	Máire Ní Chathasaigh and Chris Newman Concert	Room 109	8pm
	Shamrock American Club Social	Shamrock American Room	8pm
10/13	St. Patrick Fathers Social	Fifth Province	8pm
10/14	Galway Fellowship Club Breakfast	Fifth Province	11am
	Library Book Club		
	<i>Cre na Cille and the Midnight Court</i>	Library	1pm
10/16	Celtic Women Interational Meeting	Room 304	7pm
10/18	Gathering the Family Stories Workshop	Library	7pm
10/19	Tara Club Monthly Musical Gathering	Room 306	10am
	Shamrock American Club Meeting	Shamrock American Room	8pm
10/20	Tea with Oscar Wilde and the Canterville Ghost	Fifth Province	11am
10/26	iBAM! Irish Books, Arts and Music Gala	Erin Room	7pm
10/27-10/28	iBAM! Irish Books, Arts and Music Celebration	Full Bldg.	Noon

Regularly Scheduled Events

Mon-Fri	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	4pm-8pm
Mon	Children's Irish School (starts 10/22)	Room 304	6pm
Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
	Memoir Class	Library	4pm
Wed	Children's Irish School	Room 304	6pm
	Traditional Irish Music Session	Room 311	7pm
	Na Gaeil Irish Language Class	Library and Room 304	7-9:30pm
	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7-10pm
Thurs	Memoir Class	Library	7pm
	Thursday Night Irish Music Session	Fifth Province	7pm
	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsal	Room 306	7pm
Fri	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili	Room 111	8pm
Sat	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	10am-8pm
	Na Gaeil Irish Language Class	Library	10:45am
	Children's Irish School (starts 10/27)	Room 304	10am
Sun	Knotwork by Hand and Eye 1:		
	Introduction to Knotwork	Varies	10am
	Celtic Art Portfolio: Open Studios	Varies	1pm

Library Hours:

Tuesday 10am to 2pm | Wednesday 4pm to 8pm | Saturday 10am to 2pm

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Piping It In

Jack Baker



joined by no fewer 23 friends and former band mates, including the late Gordon Duncan's son, to create the best "best of" recording I've ever heard a band put together. Again featuring the excellent production and

distribution facilities of Compass Records, we are presented with a fantastic "Tannies" recording, whether you've been following them for the last 50 years (raising my hand here) or you've just discovered them. This is Scottish folk at it's level best, with a heartfelt rendition of Stan Rogers' "The Jeannie C"; the sweet air "Sunset Over the Somme"; Robert Tannahill's "Jessie The Floo'er O' Dunblane" and finishing with a tribute "Gordon Duncan Set". Hold onto your knickers, these guys know what they're doing and it all makes me proud to be a Scot. These are the guys who developed the sound blending bagpipes in with the other instruments and gave Scottish folk an entirely new sound. This recording is a gem and one you'll find yourself replaying over and over.

The third recording this month is by a Scottish-American group, The Fire, www.firescottishband.com, based in California,

consists of piper David Brewer, a wizard on Highland Pipes, small pipes, bodhran and whistle; Rebecca Lomnick, a fiddler with a strong and wild manner

to her playing and Adam Hendey, a guitar player who can hold all of sound the other two can throw at him and keep it flowing, strong and clear. All three are outstanding musicians and their new cd, "Radiance" is a celebration of tunes that will capture your ears and feet and refuse to let them go. Jigs, reels, strathspeys, airs all performed with joy, high energy and stunning talent make this a recording you can dance to, drink to, simply enjoy and play for your friends who have the idea that Scottish music is bland unless it has electric guitars banging away. David is genius at showing the beauty of pipe music and Rebecca adds her strong lyrical fiddle while Adam weaves a web to bring it all together. This cd hopefully, will bring The Fire east to venues in the Midwest. I've seen them and they are a joy to watch and listen to. Are you highland games promoters listening?

At Hoffman Estates this month for their Celtic Fest at the Sears Center, then to Indianapolis for the Indy Scottish fest, see you at the fests.
Contact: store@rampantlion.com Slainté

Happy Samhain!

Samhain, the Celtic New Year, although that's a gross simplification of a complex pre-Christian holiday, we know as Halloween. A time to remember those who have passed and fill the wee ones with more sugar than is good for them. I won't belabor the strange way that the celebration has morphed in this day and age because I've got three delightful new cds to talk about.

I'll start with the Irish cd first, and it is a pip. Altan, www.altan.ie, has created a body of work over the years that fairly boggles the mind and they have continued to produce beauty with their latest release, "The Gap of Dreams". You know what to expect with Altan, beautiful instrumentation and vocals, courtesy of Mairéad Ni Mhaonaigh, that make the angels jealous. The good news is that this cd is on the Compass label and has all the professional recording quality that we are used to seeing from this powerhouse.

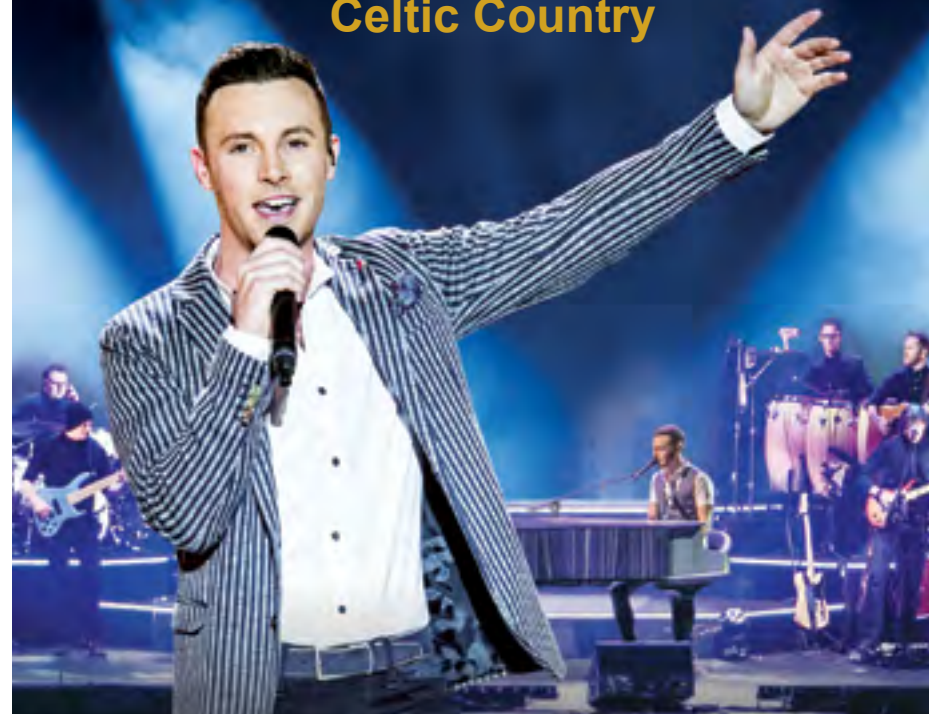


That, plus Compass' efficient distribution network, guarantees that this cd will see the exposure that it deserves. I have nothing against bands doing production on their own recordings, but it occasionally makes it difficult for those of us that review music to get copies to listen to. www.compassrecords.com. I have heard some folk criticize Altan's recordings, saying that they are just like their earlier stuff and indeed they are, merely classic music that maintains the highest standards of one of the finest bands ever to hit the boards. The only thing that could possibly increase my enjoyment of Altan is for me to learn Irish, since most of their vocals are in that lovely tongue and, sidebar, if you want to know just how lovely a language Irish is, just listen to Mairéad lend her talents to track 4 on this cd, "Bacach Shíl' Andai". I dare you to try and tear your attention away from this cd, can't be done.

Compass Records scores again with the release of "Órach" celebrating the Tannahill Weavers 50th anniversary! The current band members, Roy Gullane, Phil Smillie, John Martin and Lorne MacDougall are

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Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA

Are You Familiar With The Toughness Training Rules?

A few years ago, my son, Damon, and his family: Julie, his wife, and their two lovely daughters planned a trip to Arizona which would include a lot of hiking. The four of them crafted a list of rules for their conduct during their hikes. These rules seemed to relate very closely to rules that might be every bit as appropriate and applicable in several different "work" settings as well. See if you agree with me. The original set of rules totaled 20. Given the space limitations of this column, I selected the seven most applicable to a "work environment".

1. No quitting. One could argue that this rule applies to a wide range of tasks that anyone in an office, factory, or school might be expected to perform. Surely we have all seen projects fail because the responsible individuals simply decided to give it up and walk away from the task. It is prevalent not just in business, but also academic, scientific ventures, and big or small activities, even in the very lucrative sports world. In the most recent NBA finals, numerous observers commented that the great LeBron James "quit" on his team when it became obvious that the Cleveland Cavaliers were going to lose to the Warriors. This rule is listed as #1 because if the project falls apart, what else matters?

2. No crying or whining. Hasn't every one of us worked on a project where a few individuals spent more time complaining than they spent on the task at hand? Frequently though once the project is deemed a success, they are quick to advise all of us of their level of commitment to the task. Unfortunately, people crying and whining is not a productive response to the job at hand. Whining and complaining to fellow workers is destructive because it steals enthusiasm and energy from the project, even if these people are at other times highly enthused about the project. If you can find a way to minimize the negative input of your compatriots you will enhance the likelihood of a successful completion regardless of how dreary or how exciting the task may be. Success is always more welcome than defeat.

3. Your stuff is your responsibility. A real challenge for any leader, supervisor or senior executive is the task of delegating and getting "their" people to accept an appropriate level of responsibility. It seems that currently our society is focusing on convincing everyone that they have "rights" rather than focusing on their responsibilities. In an old time movie, Knock on Any Door, the defense attorney Humphrey Bogart, made an impassioned plea to the jury to give his young hoodlum client a "pass"



on the crimes he had committed. The gist of his defense was to pass the responsibility on to the youngster's parents, his environment, his poor choice of friends, and the world at large. The accused, Nicky, played by John Derek, wasn't responsible for his conduct; it was argued that his surroundings had caused it; he had been victimized by the world. Sound familiar? Most of us probably have played this same "card" with our parents or teachers at least a time or two.

4. Everyone fails once in a while, GET OVER IT. Easily said, no doubt. But it is also quite true. Can you think of any person (politician, boss, executive, sports figure or parent) that you know who has not failed at some important level? As scholars say, most of us learn more from our failures than our successes. Failures can be building blocks for success in your future. The toughest paths can be the most rewarding; nothing worth having ever comes easy. A reporter asked the amazing inventor Thomas Edison about his many failures to produce a workable electric light, Mr. Edison said he now knew a thousand ways that wouldn't work.

5. Attitude is important; nay, attitude is essential. In your daily life, don't you find that you enjoy dealing with upbeat people, rather than the negative ones? Think about how you reacted to a person who conducted himself like he had been thoroughly defeated by his circumstances. Most of us are more comfortable dealing with an enthusiastic person regardless of their "station" in life. One's attitude is absolutely vital in virtually any transaction; it facilitates the process. Don't you find that the people you enjoy dealing with are positive and energized? Don't just shuffle your way through life; put a little spring in your step. It will make your life a lot more interesting and enjoyable. It will attract more interesting people to you.

6. Sweating is part of every good workout. There is great truth in this one, who could dispute the need to work up a sweat if you are really serious about being successful, regardless of your ultimate goal? A solid workout leaves most of us on a "high": we are ready to take on the next tough task.

7. A couple of final thoughts. Go potty before undertaking any rigorous task. Never bring your "blankie" into your work space; its presence will affect how you are viewed by other team members. As Bill Gates has been quoted as saying, maintain your focus on the task. Carpe diem.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. *The budget should be balanced, the Treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed, lest Rome becomes bankrupt. People must again learn to work instead of living on public assistance.* Cicero, 55 B.C.

James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville-based Senior Executive Coaching and Career Transition firm. #630-420-0362, jamesffitz37@hotmail.com jamesffitzgerald.com



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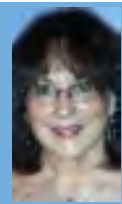
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On the Upbeat

By Maryann
McTeague Keifer

The first time I met Helen Flaherty was at the now sadly closed, but one time vibrant haunt of Trad music, World Music Academy in the Beverly neighborhood here in the southside of Chicago. She was in town playing with David Munnely and Philip Masure as Shantalla. Going home that evening, I vividly remember being so revved having heard her gorgeous voice and being pulled into the songs by her emotive singing. Whether she made you fly high on happiness or

drop a tear from the sadness, Helen made you feel the lyrics. I can happily assure you, nothing has changed.

Her new group, The Helen Flaherty Band,

has recently released its first album *Gazing at the Moon*. Comprised of Helen on vocals and bodhran, oft bandmate Philip Masure on vocals, guitar and cittern, Ies Muller on flutes and vocals, and Siard de Jong on fiddle, bouzouki, mandolin, whistles and vocals, you will find seasoned



and superb musicians who have put much time into the choices of songs and tunes to give their listeners a wonderful music experience.

Helen's voice is clear, pure and rich. She is one of the best "story song" singers you will encounter. The music surrounds her stories perfectly enhancing the songs. Listen to the opening track, "The Outlandish Knight" to hear this. Ies Muller's flute and whistles especially set the songs off beautifully. Several of these songs are done in stunning harmony, all taking a part. They are so superbly sung, you will feel compelled to listen again immediately. I can't listen enough to "All That You Ask of Me." Songs are quite varied ranging from the beautiful and longing "Edith's Lament" to the patriotic "Scotland the Brave" and the sea song

"Braw Sailing on the Sea." Add in the striking tune set "Mill Brae/Lassies Trust in Providence/Sonya's Garden," and you have yourself an album that will be on the top of your play list. Helen, Philip, Ies, and Siard have gifted us with this superb album!

Another lovely surprise that arrived just in the last few days by mail is *Garadice* by a quartet of very accomplished Leitrim musicians you will well recognize. Eleanor Shanley, Pdraig McGovern, John McCartin, and Dave Sheridan have produced a refreshing set of tunes

a lively concertina on this album. This year, he was the Musician in Residence at the Scoil Samhraidh Scoil Acla 2018 where music students get to play with and learn from respected masters. John McCartin's guitar is very busy and requested on many others' albums as well as solo performances. It is great to have him as part of this group! Dave Sheridan's flute is to die for, and on accordion, his fingers at one time fly and at others, he pulls your soul out. His own album, *Sheridan's Guesthouse* is one of my favorites.

Put these four together and you have an utterly fascinating and enjoyable album. The sets are traditional and superbly arranged. I've especially enjoyed "Leitrim Rover/Johnny Doherty's," "Keep It Up/The Cloone Reel/The Old Schoolmaster/The Missing Reel," and "A Sligo Air/Gladstone's Bill." The interplay of the instruments takes you on exciting musical rides. You cannot go wrong adding this CD to your collection.

Festival season is winding down here in The States. And as it does, notices of upcoming late winter/early spring concerts by our favorite musicians and bands are already starting to appear. My



Garadice Band

and songs that will have your toe tapping, and you'll be leaning in to listen to the poignant lyrics.

Eleanor has for many years been a top listed songstress of Irish music. She was a member of DeDanan, and has sung with many of the most well known Irish musicians and bands. Her voice is light, lilting and flows over you like a warm breeze. You want to listen and always want more. With songs such as "Leanbh Aimhreachh," and "The Wild Mountainside," along with folk selections like "Both Sides Now" and "Motherland," you will be more than ecstatic with *Garadice*.

Pdraig McGovern is a well known and respected uilleannan piper. He also plays

calendar for the High Holy Month of March is already becoming dangerously full. Watch for next month's ON THE UPBEAT where I will get all those I know about out to you. I hope to see you at We Banjo 3 on Oct. 5th at the Skokie PAC, Open the Door for Three October 27th at Chief O'Neill's, Martin Hayes Quartet October 20th at OTSFM, and The Paul Brock Band Oct. 19th at Chief O'Neill's. Please support these bands by attending and bringing friends!

Don't forget to tune into IRELAND TONIGHT every Monday evening from 8-10PM on WDCB

Fheiceann tu an chead uair eile, Maryann



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Youth and Family Engagement Project

ICS is proud to announce that we will be starting two new programs in the coming year. These new programs will fall under our Youth and Family Engagement Project (YFEP). This expansion offers ICS the opportunity to better engage with the younger members of our community and their families. The YFEP will consist of two distinct programs, a Parent Toddler Group, and a Foróige Youth Club. We anticipate a start date of early November for both programs.

The YFEP will be lead by our new Youth and Family Engagement Coordinator, Aisling Culhane. Aisling started with ICS in an official capacity in September. Aisling, a native of Dublin, has a background in youth work and program development. Everyone at ICS is very excited to have Aisling on board. If you are interested in learning about our new programs or would like to connect to Aisling directly you can do so at aculhane@irishchicago.org.



ICS is excited to partner with Foróige on the new youth club that we are forming as part of our YFEP. Foróige is the leading youth organization in Ireland and has been working with young people since 1952. Their purpose is to enable young people to involve themselves consciously and actively in their development and in the development of society. Foróige groups work with young people aged 10-18. ICS's group will represent only the third city to host a Foróige club behind New York and Philadelphia. Please contact Aisling Culhane about how you can get involved in Chicago's first Foróige Club!

October Event Schedule

- **Tara Club:** Wednesday, October 3rd starting at 10am in the IAHC. Topic: Understanding Anxiety
- **Immigration Legal Clinic:** Tuesday, October 9th (4-7p) IAHC (appointment only)
- **Memory Support Program:** Tuesdays starting at 10am starting October 9th through December 11th at the IAHC (registration is required)
- **Emerald Club:** Wednesday, October 10th starting at 10am in Gaelic Park. Topic: The Price is Right!
- **Tara Club & Monthly Musical Gathering:** Wednesday, October 17th starting at 10am in the IAHC. Music by Ray Gavin
- **Immigration Legal Clinic:** Monday, October 22nd (4-7p) IAHC (appointment only)
- **Senior Fall Trip:** Wednesday, October 24th. Destination: Carmelite Shrines Indiana. Registration required prior to October 10th.
- **Irish Cultural Hour:** Friday, October 26th at 10am in the Mount Greenwood Library. Topic: Documentary film on Thatching the Old Irish Cottage.



Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

Although commonly associated with military veterans, PTSD actually affects 8 million Americans. Trauma such as abuse, both sexual and physical, natural disasters, witnessing a traumatic experience or being in a life-threatening situation can all cause PTSD among other things. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, should you experience the following symptoms for more than a month, it is possible you could have PTSD:

- At least one "re-experiencing" symptom (flashbacks, bad dreams, frightening thoughts)
- At least one avoidance symptom (avoiding thoughts, feeling, places, objects or events related to the traumatic experience)
- At least two arousal and reactivity symptoms (easily startled, feeling tense, difficulty sleeping, outbursts of anger)
- At least two cognition and mood symptoms (difficulty remembering details of the traumatic experience, negative thoughts, distorted feelings, loss of interest)

PTSD symptoms may not appear immediately following the traumatic experience. It could take weeks or months to impinge daily life. It's also important to note the difference between normal reactions and PTSD symptoms. While most will remember the fear they felt during trauma, PTSD can cause a person to actually feel as if they are reliving that fear.

If you think you might be suffering from PTSD, consult a physician and get started on the path to recovery right away. Treatments for those who suffer from PTSD can include the following:

- Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) – helps a person replace their negative thoughts and behaviors with positive ones
- Eye movement desensitization and reprocessing (EDMR) – exposes a person to traumatic memories with varying stimuli, such as eye movements
- Exposure therapy – helps a person safely face their fears so they can learn to cope with them
- Imagery rehearsal therapy (IRT) – is a new treatment for reducing the intensity and frequency of nightmares

If you or a loved one suffers from mental health issues, know that you are not alone, that there is help and there is always hope.



Given our programmatic expansion, ICS is searching for motivated community members to volunteer with our organization. Volunteer opportunities include, administrative assistance, community outreach, and committee roles. If you are interested in getting involved please call our office at 773-282-8445.

Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Yesterday is Tomorrow: Remembering 9/11

The battle for the mind of North America will be fought in the video arena – the Videodrome. The television screen is the retina of the mind's eye. Therefore the television screen is part of the physical structure of the brain. Therefore whatever appears on the television screen emerges as raw experience for those who watch it. Therefore television is reality, and reality is less than television.

David Cronenberg, 'Videodrome'.

On its own endless loop, it played around again this past week, the anniversary: seventeen years ago, September 11, 2001.

Seventeen years ago and the day the Western world changed.

Those images:

An apocalyptic cloud impossibly transported through time from the Californian dust bowl of a sepia-tinted 1930s to the 21st Century and into the very heart of one of the world's greatest cities;

A businessman, in obvious shock but walking as if with some demented purpose that exists now only in his own head, battered briefcase still held firmly in his hand, forever on his way to a conference that now will never take place;

A beautiful woman, covered in dust, emerges from a white-out background and into a life that has changed utterly from the one that she was living only thirty

minutes ago;

A firefighter sits hunched amongst the rubble, head in his hands and full of the horrors that he has just seen, and now will see forever.

On its own endless loop, the plane emerges from the right hand side of the television screen, moving with serene purpose before disappearing behind the tower. Then, in an unholy meeting of primitive, murderous desert religion with modern technology, a fireball erupts that still sears the retina of the mind's eye all of seventeen years on.

Of course, we all remember where we were when it happened. It has become one of those experiences that form part of our own personal mythologies, leaving us free to scrawl our own particular message on a piece of canvas that was blank before that day.

I was in the Horseshoe Bar of Dublin's Shelbourne Hotel. I can only remember one person at the counter, an Irish man living in Zombabwei called McGlinchey, over on holiday.

George Duffy had just come in to work and was as stunned as we were on hearing the news that was drifting in. First, there had been an apparent accident at one of New York's Twin Towers; then, a second plane had hit the other tower and suddenly there was the real, paralyzing possibility that these two incidents were no accidents at all, but deliberate acts of terror.

Finally, as we heard that yet another plane had flown into the Pentagon, McGlinchey looked into his whiskey and said:

'We're at war.'

We're at war. It sticks in my mind, that, all these years on: We're at war.

A short while later -- I forget how long -- I was in New York with Paula, my then-partner, now friend. It had never been my intention to visit the site where 3,000 people had died. Rightly or wrongly I just felt that it would be a bit ghoulish.

Paula, however, had gone shopping at a place called Century 21 and since experience had

taught me that this was an operation that might take a while, I decided to have a wander around the area.

And that was how I came to find myself at the site of where the Twin Towers had stood. And something that had seemed real and not real at the same time became a thing of solidity. There were screens and monitors playing the endless loops of the now-familiar footage. And, peering over someone's shoulder, I found myself looking yet again at the image of that hijacked plane gracefully approaching the second tower.

Again, the fireball that explodes before the loop continues with the plane once more approaching. Hypnotic, eerie, over and over; watching as if -- just this once -- it's going miss the building, everyone will give a sigh of relief and life will continue as it was.

Only now I was standing there where it had happened, where the planes hadn't missed, where the extremist followers of a warped ideology -- disapproving of the way others live their lives -- had taken a modern technology and fused it with medieval hatred in order to forever damage, destroy, decimate the lives of perhaps tens of thousands of innocents that they would never meet.

And the whole area appearing unexpectedly enormous to me.

And the photographs of the still-missing, stuck up in seemingly random areas.

And the conviction that life didn't alone end for those who physically died that day, that the mental suffering for so many others would just go on and on and on.

I seem to remember parts of the area still smoldering. Is that possible or is it a false memory? Whatever the truth, I suddenly, horrifyingly found myself weeping. Just crying in great big hitching sobs.

Why? I knew of no one personally who had died then. Perhaps it was just the enormity of it, the sheer bloody scale of what had happened.

I've heard fools since who

point out with a certain infuriating smugness that there have been atrocities in other countries where the dead came to far more than 3,000. Well, I'm still not going to apologise for my tears of that day. Most of those other places, I don't know them.

But I have been in New York and Paris and Berlin and Nice and London and all the other places that have featured in terrorist attacks in the past few years. And, because I've walked these streets, the dead there do mean more to me than those in Syria or Iraq. I'm only human and that's only natural. As natural as anything can seem when we shouldn't be doing anything as unnatural as killing each other at all.

'We're at war', said McGlinchey that day. 'We're at war'.

But we've already forgotten the harsh lesson that was taught us on September 11, 2001.

In Ireland we talk on another endless loop about how BREXIT will affect us, will we end up with a hard border. And it makes me laugh, as I look at the rest of Europe and see borders that have more holes in them than your kitchen colander. Where Mrs. Merkel and our true masters in Germany have decreed that the borders be thrown open and that anyone who might have some legitimate concerns be hit with that ludicrous new word 'Islamophobic'. Or simply with the more old-fashioned one of 'racist'.

All for asking legitimate questions, for raising legitimate concerns. We're going to PC ourselves right into the grave. And just because it's been quiet for a while we've forgotten that terrorist sleeper cells now exist throughout Europe, having taken advantage of how soft and afraid of being called names we are.

We've forgotten that we're at war, Mr. McGlinchey.

And on its endless loop the hijacked plane sails silently towards the tower and the fireball that is only seconds in the future...

...but already we have begun to forget what we promised ourselves we never would.

Hello everyone, I'm about to load up my van and head to Galena. I'll be there every week in October from Sunday thru

It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane



Thursday, finishing on the 25th. I really look forward to this every year. It's like stepping into Ireland, the scenery is just like the Old Sod and it's that time of year when the beautiful fall colors appear. Plus I get to perform at the Irish Cottage Hotel for the month in a wonderful atmosphere. "I love my job". Also, it's a great opportunity to do some songwriting. If you are in the area call in and stay awhile.

I'll be back in Chicago on the weekends and I'm really looking forward to this year's iBam. Every year the Carlson's put on a fantastic weekend of Irish music and literature, including live performances of some of the biggest names in the Irish music business. Also a chance to get the latest books and meet and chat with the authors. I believe there will be around fifty authors. There is so much going on at the iBam

weekend that you really need to come and see for yourself. It spans the whole weekend of October 26, 27, and 28. One new thing that will be held this year is a talent competition - 'Ginger in the City's BAND SLAM'. The final Will be held on Sunday, October 27 in the auditorium and I'm happy to say that my son Declan is in the final ten contestants. He is building quite a fan base, so please come and cheer him on. We will also be performing together during the day on the Saturday and Sunday. I can see visions of me becoming Declan McShane's roadie and that would make me a very happy roadie.

Nathan Carter has written a book titled 'Born For The Road': The Story So Far. Also, he is releasing a new album by the same name. He will be appearing at

the Irish American Heritage Center on December 1st. And I hear the tickets are selling quick.

Big Tom McBride R.I.P. would have turned 82 on September 18th. He left some wonderful memories with us and will always be fondly remembered. There is a book that's just been released about the life and times of Tom and it's titled 'The King of Irish Country' Written by Tom Gilmore.

We send our sincerest sympathy's and heartfelt prays to Sean Ginnelly and Family (Good Morning Ireland Radio Show) on the recent passing of his Father, Jack Ginnelly Castlebar, Co Mayo R.I.P.

For this months song, it's a story/poem I wrote some time back. I didn't have anyone in mind when I wrote it but I'm sure there are similar stories out there. It's called - 'Momma Taught Me How To Pray'

I hope you have a great and SCARY! Halloween!

As always be good to one another, Joe

'Momma Taught Me How To Pray'

Written by Joe McShane

Verse 1

I was raised by my dear mother, me and my 2 brothers She taught us how to pray and showed us, love, With all her heart and knowledge, she put us all through college Though dad walked out she never held a grudge

Verse 2

In the hospital that day, when my Mother passed away I heard a strange voice calling down the hall I peeped into a room and underneath the tubes I could see an old mans bed against the wall

Verse 3

He said you know I've retired, from hangin' round the bars And I quit drinkin' and smokin' cigarettes Soon I'll be fit to run 10 miles, then he smiled and winked an eye Then I heard the whistle coming from his chest

Verse 4

There was something kinda

strange, as I looked into his face A likeness to someone I should know Then I recognized that smile, from all those years gone by But I just couldn't let my feelings show

Verse 5 He said you know there was a time, I'd drive the women wild Then he stared at me and then said now who are you I wanted to say, Dad,

I'm the eldest son you had As I tried to hold a tear from breaking through

Verse 6 I thought about his wife, who stood by us all her life And single handed raised a family I can't hate him anymore, cause when I look in the mirror I see my father looking back at me

Verse 7 I layed him in his grave, I know mom would've done the same She raised us all to live t he Christian way

I guess I'll never know why Daddy had to go And I thank god my Momma taught me how to pray



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An Immigrant's Musings

Michael Leonard



rather than tear them down; when we doubt the power of our ideals, rather than trust them to be the great force for change they have al-

John McCain's Passing

This month I just want to pay tribute to the late Senator John McCain. I first met McCain together with Senator Ted Kennedy in 2005. I had been visiting Kennedy's office to discuss the contents of their Immigration bill. It is a shame that their common sense bi-partisan effort to fix this ongoing problem for our nation was not successful.

I would like all of our readers to reflect on John McCain's final message to the Nation.

"My fellow Americans, whom I have gratefully served for 60 years, and especially my fellow Arizonians, thank you for the privilege of serving you, and for the rewarding life that service in uniform and in public office has allowed me to lead.

I've tried to serve our country honorably. I've made mistakes, but I hope my love for America will be weighed favorably against them. I've often observed that I am the luckiest person on Earth. I feel that way even now, as I prepare for the end of my life. I've loved my life, all of it. I've had experiences, adventures, friendships, enough for 10 satisfying lives, and I am so thankful. Like most people, I have regrets. But I would not trade a day of my life in good or bad times for the best day of anybody else's.

I owe this satisfaction to the love of my family. One man has never had a more loving wife or children he was prouder of than I am of mine. And I owe it to America to be connected to America's causes: Liberty, equal justice, and respect for the dignity of all people brings happiness more sublime than life's fleeting pleasures. Our identities and sense of worth were not circumscribed, but are enlarged by serving good causes bigger than ourselves.

Fellow Americans, that association has meant more to me than any other. I lived and died a proud American. We are citizens of the world's greatest republic, a nation of ideals, not blood and soil. We are blessed and are a blessing to humanity when we uphold and advance those ideals at home and in the world. We have helped liberate more people from tyranny and poverty than ever before in history, and we have acquired great wealth and power in the progress.

We weaken our greatness when we confuse our patriotism with tribal rivalries that have sown resentment and hatred and violence in all the corners of the globe. We weaken it when we hide behind walls,

ways been."

We are 325 million opinionated, vociferous individuals. We argue and compete and sometimes even vilify each other in our raucous public debates. But we have always had so much more in common with each other than in disagreement. If only we remember that and give each other the benefit of the presumption that we all love our country, we will get through these challenging times. We will come through them stronger than before, we always do.

Ten years ago I had the privilege to concede defeat in the election for president. I want to end my farewell to you with heartfelt faith in Americans that I felt so powerfully that evening. I feel it powerfully still.

Do not despair of our present difficulties. We believe always in the promise and greatness of America because nothing is inevitable here. Americans never quit, we never surrender, we never hide from history. We make history. Farewell fellow Americans, God bless you, and God bless America.

Chopsticks

A woman who had worked all her life to bring about good was granted one wish: "Before I die let me visit both hell and heaven." Her wish was granted.

She was whisked off to a great banquetting hall. The tables were piled high with delicious food and drink. Around the tables sat miserable, starving people as wretched as could be. "Why are they like this?" she asked the angel who accompanied her. "Look at their arms," the angel replied. She looked and saw that attached to the people's arms were long chopsticks secured above the elbow. Unable to bend their elbows, the people aimed the chopsticks at the food, missed every time and sat hungry, frustrated and miserable. "Indeed this is hell! Take me away from here!"

She was then whisked off to heaven. Again she found herself in a great banquetting hall with tables piled high. Around the tables sat people laughing, contented, joyful. "No chopsticks I suppose," she said. "Oh yes there are. Look - just as in hell they are long and attached above the elbow but look... here people have learnt to feed one another".

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

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Arms and the Man

By: George Bernard Shaw
Directed by: Brian Pastor
Reviewed by: Frank West

The wonderfully funny, even hilarious, comedy is about the folly of people deluding themselves. It is a wonderful performance and I enjoyed myself greatly.

One of the main characters deludes himself into thinking that he is better than everyone else. That character is Sergius. He is a swaggering cavalry officer in a small, backward Balkan country. He is so puffed-up with self-pride that he believes he is a great military leader.

His lady love, and fiancée, is Raina. She is taken in by his attitude about himself. She says, "Sergius is just as noble as he looks." She calls him, "my king." He calls her "my queen."

Quoting Penguin Classics: "Dearest, all my deeds have been yours. You inspired me. I have gone thru the war like a knight in a tournament, with his lady looking down on him!"

That concept of nobility was a common Victorian illusion. Leave it to an Irishman to write a play debunking this. Shaw wrote the play in 1894 and it is a satire about the illusion of nobility. Yet, even today, we meet obnoxious people who believe they are better than the rest of us.

Captain Bluntschli is a soldier from Switzerland who serves in the army. After a lost battle, he escapes. The press release says: "He hides in the bedroom of Bulgarian heiress, Raina..." she hides him from his pursuers who would kill him.

Bluntschli is the opposite of Sergius. He is down-to-earth and realistic about himself and the world.

Another dose of reality for Raina is when she looks out a courtyard window to admire her hero, Sergius, and sees him forcing his attentions on her servant. This tells her that her opinion of him is an illusion, and that he has fooled her and himself.

All of these happenings are ac-



companied by great laughs as each situation develops. The acting is vigorous and fully shows the personalities of the characters—even to the rolling of their



Photo by Steve Graue

Adam Benjamin, Scottie Caldwell

eyes. The actors perfectly show the subtle actions that Shaw put

in Arms and the Man.

The wonderful acting can be carefully seen and appreciated because the theater is intimate in size, having about 100 seats.

The delightful acting is the result of the high standards of Director Brian Pastor. He draws a vibrant performance from the marvelous actors. I talked with him and found him to be a pleasant person with wide knowledge of the theater. He exemplifies City Lit, which "is dedicated to the vitality...of the literary imagination."

You'll enjoy this production of Arms and the Man by George Bernard Shaw and directed by Brian Pastor. It will be presented by City Lit Theater now thru October 21. It will be presented Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 and Sundays at 3:00. Ticket prices are \$32, seniors \$27, students and military, \$12. City Lit Theater is at 1020 W. Bryn Mawr in Chicago. The theater is inside the Edgewater Presbyterian Church building.

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