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## Grania McKirdie and The Chicago Academy for the Arts AIDS Benefit

Grania McKirdie knows the value of hard work.

The 17-year-old Oak Lawn resident and senior at The Chicago Academy for the Arts has had that mantra installed in her virtually from birth.

McKirdie's father, Scott, is a plumber; her mother, Katie, is activities director at a senior facility and a school bus driver for St. Rita High School.

Grania caddies several times a week at Beverly Country Club. Much of the money she earns goes back to her parents; a great deal also is used to take out her five other siblings.

"I know that if my life journey hasn't been what it has been so far, I would not be where I am today," said Grania, who is director of the upcoming AIDS Benefit at The Academy. "It makes you

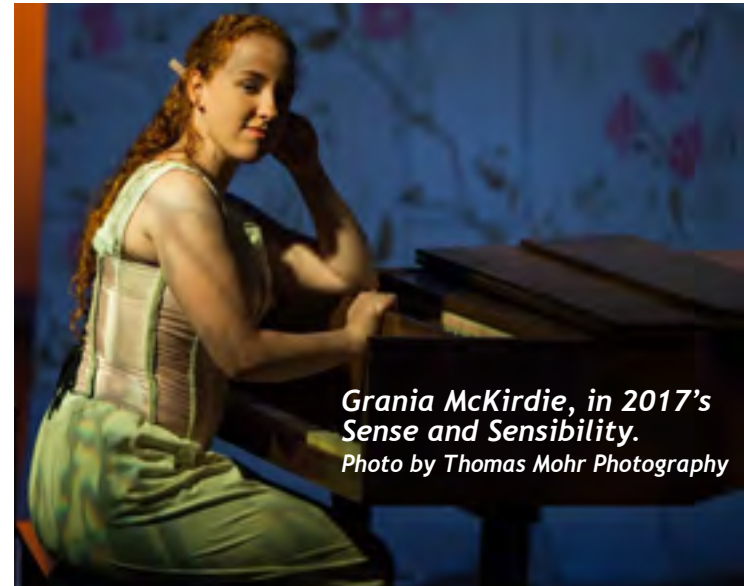
want to work hard and it makes you grateful for all the things you do have."

Each year, Academy students produce and perform in a benefit show to support HIV/AIDS research. The 23rd Annual AIDS Benefit will take place Sept. 20-21 at The Academy, 1010 W. Chicago Ave. in Chicago's River West neighborhood.

Students from each department will present new work, under the direction and curation of student leadership. All proceeds after costs go to The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, with a goal of raising \$10,000.

"It's kind of like our Homecoming," McKirdie said. "And it's my favorite part of being at The Academy. If kids aren't in the show, they're coming with their friends, and it's a really fun event."

Since its beginning in 1997, the AIDS Benefit has become one of the staples of The Academy community. Twenty-one years ago, Musical Theatre Department alum, and now hit songwriter Justin Tranter (Justin Bieber's "Sorry," Fall Out Boy's "Centuries") put together a student-run variety show that could help raise awareness and advocacy for HIV/AIDS. His vision was to create an entirely student-run show without



Grania McKirdie, in 2017's *Sense and Sensibility*.

Photo by Thomas Mohr Photography

faculty direction or oversight, but also one that could benefit a great cause.

In the years since the event's inception, Academy students have raised tens of thousands of dollars for AIDS research, support, care and organizations.

Grania has four younger siblings - and the children range from age 19 to 9 - so has succeeded because of hard work.

"My mom was always raising a younger child, so she was never going to hold our hand," said Grania, who calls her mom "the real-life Wonder Woman".

Grania also plays the violin and cello, and won a children's category and was named "Golden

Rose" in a South Side Irish Queen contest.

Grania, a theatre major at The Academy, plans to major in the same discipline in college. She has also helped direct a few professional performances in Chicago.

She hopes to earn an Evans Scholarship (a distinguished scholarship for caddies), which would pay for full tuition in college.

"It's all about hard work, respect and just determination - if you want something done, you can do it for yourself, and you know no one is going to stop you," she said.

For more information on the AIDS Benefit, visit <https://www.chicagocademyforthearts.org/aids-benefit>

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## From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell

### Just The Facts Ma'am

What follows excludes details of Brexit's probable effects on Ireland and the Backstop issue.

The penultimate acts in the Brexit saga are being played out. Boris Johnson is currently touting for a "new" deal around EU capitals. The British Parliament reconvenes on September 3. Will Johnson, Cummings and the Brexiteers get their way and a deal, or crash out without one and go for an early election? Will the Opposition gel together sufficiently to force (and win) a vote of No Confidence and either trigger an early election or cobble together some form of national government to forestall Brexit and seek an extension to Article 50? What will be the result of any election? The bookies are giving 5 to 2 on an election before Christmas, 6 to 4 against any party securing a majority and 15 to 8 on Britain to exit the EU this year.

Stirring times and interesting odds. One way or another Britain seems on her way out of the EU, possibly as early as Halloween, barring an extraordinary political upheaval in a country apparently split down the middle on the issue. There are doom and gloom economic forecasts from the civil service and financial advisers in both Britain and Northern Ireland, most recently on August 18 the "Yellowhammer Report", a leak from the British Cabinet Office. This detailed the likely immediate short term effects of a No Deal exit. The picture was bleak: threats to fresh food supplies and time-sensitive medicines as well as the knock on effects of disruption and logjam at the ports, with an anticipated further lurch downward in the value of sterling on top of its 15% fall since 2016. The knee-jerk reaction of the Brexiteers to this and all such forecasts has been to rubbish them and declare loudly that "it will be alright on the night."

With the future so uncertain, predictions are virtually worthless, beyond the fact that even the most sanguine suggest that the collateral damage from any Brexit is likely to be at its worst in both parts of Ireland. Ireland's difficulties with Britain as a major trading partner, particularly in terms of food exports, are well known. Northern Ireland's top civil servant, ironically called Sterling, has consistently pointed out the threats to the North's economy, and the



possible potential for renewed political violence in the event of a hard border, to little or no avail. This seems not to faze Johnson and his acolytes.

Indeed, recent British media reports suggest that Ireland's difficulties are fully grasped in Whitehall and may actually be regarded by Johnson as a trump (apologies) card in pressuring the EU into a new deal.

Whatever about the Brexiteers' assertions that the process will prove less harmful and disruptive for the UK after any initial hiccup, certain salient facts about Brexit bear repeating. Britain, the fifth largest economy in the world, is taking the counter-intuitive step of turning its back on forty five years of steady integration into the largest and most successful free trade, economic and social multinational organisation on the planet. Leaving involves parting company with its major trading partners, with the cornerstones of the EU, the Single Market and the Customs Union, as well as the other Treaty provisions. Britain will also cede its membership, and therefore influence, in the Union's decision making processes. A massive change. From the date Britain leaves it will be on the outside looking in.

This on the basis of a narrow majority (under 4%) in the 2016 referendum which showed marked regional and class differences, with Scotland and Northern Ireland voting decisively to remain and virtually the whole of Northern England voting to leave. The Leave campaign concentrated on "taking back control" of Britain's borders - code for keeping immigrants out - eliminating Britain's net €9 billion contribution to the EU budget, and dangled the prospect of potentially lucrative trade deals with the rest of the world for a Britain supposedly unshackled by EU trade policy, with attendant new jobs and prosperity. Three years on the complexities of disentangling Britain from the EU have been starkly revealed, without apparently altering public attitudes in the UK, which on both sides seem more entrenched than ever.

The trade fantasy, parroted daily by British Ministers, merits scrutiny. In 2018 Britain exported \$484 billion of goods and services, of which 46.6% went to other EU countries, with \$140 billion going to four, Germany, Netherlands, France and Ireland, as against the \$64.4 billion (13.3%) to the USA. Britain imported a colossal \$673 billion, over half (52.5%) of which came from the EU, which accounted for seven of Britain's top ten suppliers, with the same four accounting for almost \$120 billion,

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compared to the \$35 billion imported from the USA. Well might Trump hail the prospect of a trade deal with post-Brexit Britain; on those figures the USA can hardly but improve its trading position.

Granting Mark Twain's reservation about statistics, there's surely a lesson here for the ardent Brexiteers. Quite apart from supply chains, contracts, the introduction of a customs regime and shifts in exchange rates, such is the level of Britain's current trade with the EU in both directions, that any and every variation or trade hiccup consequent on giving up the current preferential situation, carries implications for Britain's economy. A No Deal exit would be very serious, with WTO rules applying; even any "deal" which interfered with the current free access would be detrimental.

Interestingly also, while the volumes of trade have greatly increased since 1988, historically the destination percentages have remained relatively stable. Thus in 1988 Britain exported 50.4% to the (much smaller) EU and 12.9% to the USA, importing 52.5% from the EU and 10.1% from the USA. And in 1960 Britain was exporting 9.3% to the USA and importing 12.5%, while trade with the infant EC/EU was running at roughly 23% both ways. Essentially trade with the countries of the EU expanded massively after Britain joined, with the EU

replacing the Commonwealth as the key plank in Britain's trade structure. This had been a major factor behind Britain joining in the first place. Britain's only major new trading partner to emerge in the last 30 years is China, which unsurprisingly enjoys a huge trade surplus with the UK.

A massive additional trade bonanza with third countries seems unlikely. Britain currently exports worldwide partly on the basis of the EU's economic "clout." Could it do better alone, adding to what it already sells (only added value counts!)? To date it has agreed replacement trading arrangements with some countries covered by existing EU trade agreements, of which Switzerland and Norway alone are significant; they already account for the bulk of Britain's other European trade, so nothing new there. Generally trade negotiations are lengthy and difficult; they are also two-way and the other parties, like the USA, are likely to fight their corner. No easy solution there either.

Last year Martin Donnelly, Britain's exasperated outgoing chief trade official, described hoping for a better deal with third countries as wishing for "a fairy godmother," adding that Brexit was akin to swapping a three-course dinner for the future promise of a packet of potato chips.

Potato chips anyone?



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## WTTW's Our Irish Pub TV Show Taping Live at Cork & Kerry 9-12

**Katie Grennan**



Irish American radio personality Mike Houlihan is producing another episode of his popular TV show, OUR IRISH PUB, which debuted last March on WTTW to critical acclaim. This time he's bringing the show back to the old neighborhood where he grew up,



**Pauline Conneely**

Beverly. On Thursday Sept. 12th OUR IRISH PUB will film at The Cork & Kerry Irish Pub, 10614 South Western Ave, in Chicago.

The show features telegenic Irish fiddler Katie Grennan, from the electrifying Irish band "Gaelic Storm", as host, visiting local Irish pubs, playing traditional Irish music with other Irish musicians, and offering some brief history on each pub. Joining Katie that Thursday night at the Cork & Kerry will be Irish musician Pauline Conneely, a former champion Irish step dancer, founder of Chicago Reel, and legendary Irish banjo player. Also performing will be Derry born singer-songwriter, recording artist Gavin Coyle, two-

time Midwest Fleadh Cheoil champion on the bodhrán, Amy Richter, and two-time world champion step dancer and local Oak Lawn HS student, Tadgh Spillane.

All are welcome and encouraged to join in the craic in OUR



**Gavin Coyle**

IRISH PUB at The Cork & Kerry on Thursday, Sept. 12th at 7PM. Admission is free with a cash bar. All audience members are required to sign television appearance release forms that night.

The show kicks off at 7PM in the Cork and there are rumors that Houlihan will also tape his radio show that night beforehand. Houlihan co-hosted The Skinny & Houlihan Radio Show for nine years before Skinny retired last December and now solos on The Hibernian Radio Hour, which is broadcast every Saturday night on WSBC 1240AM from 7-8PM, featuring Irish music, news, comedy, and interviews with Irish First Responders, cops, firefighters, and paramedics.

[mikehoulihan7@gmail.com](mailto:mikehoulihan7@gmail.com)



**Amy Richter**



**Tadgh Spillane**



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Minister Cannon with the crowd from County Clare showing the way to Ireland at the Milwaukee Irish Fest, 2019!



Pam Carroll of Gadabout Travel visits with Mags Connell at the County Mayo booth.



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## Attend the iBAM! Gala Awards Dinner Friday, October 18 Featuring A Stellar Irish Lineup

This year's Gala Awards Dinner presents a stellar cast of iBAM! Award winners who will be on hand to receive their awards on Friday evening beginning with cocktails at 7pm and dinner at 8pm. The Gala takes place in the Erin Room of the Irish American Heritage Center where it all started in 2009 and the public is welcome!

### Performing Arts

The prolific Michael Patrick Thornton; a native of Jefferson Park is a Joseph Jefferson Award



winning, actor and director, and he was assistant director of Steppenwolf's Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning August: Osage County.

His career includes being the Artistic Director and Co-Founder of the Gift Theatre. Michael has performed on TV, recently in the ABC drama series, Private Practice, and Fox's The Chicago Code, and Ron Howard's, The Dilemma. He is also a teacher and playwright. He was King Richard III in the Gift Theatre's production at Steppenwolf. He played Lago in Othello, appeared in Actors Theatre of Louisville in the 50th Anniversary production of Our Town, and in the Jefferson Award nominated, Dirty, and others too numerous to mention.

Directing credits include the world premiere of Gift Ensemble Member David Rabe's Good for Otto, War of the Worlds, Oh the Humanity, Long Day's Journey Into Night; Hurlyburly (Joseph Jefferson Award: Actor In Leading Role) Of Mice and Men, and A Young Man in Pieces, and The Good Thief (Joseph Jefferson Award—Solo Performance, to name a few. Michael's awards/distinctions

also include: Tree of Life Award: Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago; Chicago Finalist: National Shakespeare Contest (Mitzi-Newhouse Theatre; Lincoln Center); 3Arts Artist Award; Northlight Theatre's Jack Springer Award for Outstanding Performance; The Tim Meier & Helen Coburn Meier Foundation Achievement Award, The Second City Foundation's Jim Zulevic Chicago Arts Award, The Joseph Jefferson Award for Solo Performance and induction into The St. Patrick High School Hall of Fame.

In 2003, Michael suffered a spinal stroke that left him paralyzed from the neck down. He underwent vigorous rehabilitation at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago and regained some of his mobility.

### Visual Arts

Calligrapher Denis Brown, of Dublin, Ireland is internationally acclaimed as a primary leader in western calligraphy, from traditional and avant-garde experimental work.

His art is represented in major collections including those of The European Parliament; The British Library; The Newberry Library Chicago; San Francisco



Public Library; Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge UK; National Museum of Ireland; Akademie der Künste, Berlin; Trinity College Library, Dublin; Chester Beatty Library, Dublin; University College Cork; and The Irish Department of Foreign Affairs. Denis will do his calligraphy work "Live" during the iBAM! program on Saturday, Oct., 19.

### Literature

The hugely successful author of the Artemis Fowl series, who served as Laureate na nÓg, or Ireland's Children's Laureate, between 2014-2016, Eoin Colfer

will accept his award and participate in the program Saturday.

Eoin (pronounced Owen) was



born in Wexford on the South-East coast of Ireland in 1965.

He and his wife spent about 4 years working in Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and Italy. His first book, *Benny and Omar*, was published in 1998, based on his experiences in Tunisia; it has since been translated into many languages. A sequel followed in 1999. Then in 2001 the first *Artemis Fowl* book was published and he was able to resign from teaching and concentrate fully on writing.

In 2016, in a contract with Marvel Comics, he released *Iron Man: The Gauntlet*.

He has published more than 40 books. His latest, *Illegal*, is much more serious and he hopes that it will bring more understanding, empathy, and compassion to immigrants.

Eoin wrote the screenplay for the Irish feature film, *Poison Pen* released in 2014, and Kenneth Branagh has been hired to direct *Artemis Fowl* for Disney with Conor McPherson to write the screenplay. Disney has confirmed the film is to be released in May 29, 2020.

Colfer has also written a new musical, *NOËL*, which opened last year to critical acclaim.

### Music

Ed Ward of The Ward Irish Music Archives, located in Mil-



waukee, Wisconsin receives the iBAM! Music Award for establishing and maintaining over 50,000 pieces in the archives. Established in 1992 and named after John J. Ward, Ed's father, *The Ward Irish Music Archives* houses one of the largest public collection of Irish music in America. The entire collection ranges from the early 19th century to modern singers and bands including Bing Crosby and U2.

### Person of the Year

Miami Showband Massacre survivor, **Stephen Travers**, is an author, filmmaker, and peace



activist. He is the chairperson of the Truth and Reconciliation Platform: *"Healing Ireland,"* and works tirelessly for peace in Northern Ireland and beyond.

Stephen has authored *The Miami Showband Massacre*, and the book is in the process of being made into a major movie.

He will present his book, *The Miami Showband Massacre*, on Saturday, as well as chair a panel; *"Truth and Reconciliation Platform; Ireland's Destination."*

He will also be showing his Netflix film, *"The Miami Showband Massacre,"* (70 minutes) and give a talk entitled: *"Netflix Lifts the Lid on Ireland's Troubles."*

### Media/Journalism

Maureen Dowd is an op-ed columnist in the New York Times, winner of the 1999 Pulitzer Prize for distinguished commentary and author of 3 New York Times best sellers. She also writes for The Times Magazine.

Ms. Dowd began her journalism career in 1974 as an editorial assistant for The Washington Star, where she later became a

sports columnist, metropolitan reporter and feature writer. In 1983, she joined The New York Times as a metropolitan correspondent and then moved to The Times's Washington bureau in 1986 to cover politics.



Ms. Dowd has covered nine presidential campaigns, served as The Times's White House correspondent, and written "On Washington," a column for The Times Magazine. In the run-up to the 2004 presidential election, G. P. Putnam published her first book, "Bushworld," which covered the presidency and personality of George W. Bush. After "Bushworld" quickly climbed the best-seller list, Ms. Dowd switched from presidential politics to sexual politics in another 2005 best seller, "Are Men Necessary? When Sexes Collide." Ms. Dowd has written for GQ, Vanity Fair, Rolling Stone, The New Republic, Mademoiselle, Sports Illustrated and others. Her column appears every Sunday.

### Volunteer of the Year

**Mike Neary** is a long time run-



ner with many marathons under his belt, He's been at the Irish American Heritage Center for years, and was once seen hauling a huge radiator out of the Erin room by himself! He goes above and beyond, and supports many of the events at the Center.

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**View From Ireland**

By *Maurice Fitzpatrick*



**Indecent Proposal**

Sinn Féin sits in a room within a house that catches fire. Inside the room there are some hefty fire extinguishers that may well suffice to stanch the blaze. However, Sinn Féin has made a prior pledge that its members do not handle fire extinguishers. So what action is Sinn Féin taking? It curses the arsonists who set fire to the house, and mythologises the site that would remain if the fire incinerates the building. It also never misses an opportunity to say that it dislikes the fire. Understandably, Sinn Féin cannot abide people who make reference to the utility of those fire extinguishers. Any intimation that Sinn Féin might stand aside to grant entrance to others to utilise them really grates on the party's nerves. After all, the fire extinguishers belong to Sinn Féin. Assume, then, that the fire does its worst. Among the people gathered round to survey the smouldering cinders are members of

Sinn Féin. Their plan now is to get rebuilding immediately, but to re-zone the new house in another jurisdiction, thereby putatively removing the threat of arsonists. However, the writ of planning authorities and government regulation impedes such unilateralism. Besides, how would the project be financed? This is a head-scratching moment. Things are not made any easier by the deepening consensus in the neighborhood—and among a fair sprinkling of Sinn Féin's own supporters—that Sinn Féin really should have done something to extinguish the bloody fire.

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alliance in the UK Parliament is now down to a majority of just one seat, bringing it within a hair's breath of being unable to govern the 650 seat parliament that already bristles with revolt. Sinn Féin holds seven seats in that parliament, but it insists that it will not take the seats, in accordance with its abstention policy.

Last October 20th *Irish Times* columnist Fintan O'Toole mused that, to obtain a majority in the UK Parliament, the current Leader of the Opposition, Jeremy Corbyn, might offer parties that seek to separate from the UK—the Scottish Nationalist Party and Sinn Féin in Northern Ireland—the in/out referenda that they seek. The SNP wants a re-run of the failed Scottish Independence referendum of September 2014, which would propose the motion of Scotland staying in EU rather than leaving the UK (and they would probably win on the basis of the new motion). Sinn Féin could be induced, O'Toole suggested last October, to trade the occupation of its seven seats in Westminster for the 'Border Poll' it seeks—a referendum that could facilitate a United Ireland. The reality in which such deals may be cut is now upon us. So far, however, Corbyn's offers have been timid, and largely aimed at English political parties in opposition. So

how might a party such as Sinn Féin activate its dormant power?

Fintan O'Toole—again—had a proposal on August 2nd. In the interests of peace and economic stability in Ireland, he argued that Sinn Féin should resign its seats to allow pre-agreed proxy candidates to take them instead, on the provisos that Sinn Féin could control the putative representatives' mandates and that they would take the seats solely to fulfil Sinn Féin's agenda on Brexit.

Sinn Féin wishes the question about the ongoing validity of their abstention policy would go away because it has no adequate answer for it. The puerile riposte of its party leader, Mary Lou McDonald, to the proposal was to insinuate that 'O'Toole shouldn't provide cover for a British government that is threatening a hard Brexit'. The proposal had obviously hit a nerve.

Since O'Toole's argument depends upon Sinn Féin's cooperation, it was always going to be a fantasy. Yet Sinn Féin's diversionary response bespeaks a panic in its leadership about being seen to do nothing during the emergency that the threat of a no-deal Brexit on October 31st represents.

Other parties in the North of Ireland—principally the Alliance, the SDLP and the Green Party—could enter this debate by pledging not to run candidates if by-elections were to be triggered

by Sinn Féin resignations. Those parties would thereby do what they can in regard to the unused seven seats in UK Parliament, and put further pressure on Sinn Féin to act. The discussion could then spread to include the Welsh separatist party (Plaid) and the SNP in Scotland: statements or joint statements from them affirming that Sinn Féin support, or Sinn Féin proxy support, is badly required would also pressure Corbyn. Sinn Féin would likely still decline to act, but the record would stand that it had a chance to do something without fear of competition and yet it refused. Sinn Féin's calls for grand acts on the part of others—such as triggering the Border Poll, a complex set of constitutional steps both for the UK and Irish governments—serve to sublimate Sinn Féin's own inaction.

In the past generation, Sinn Féin has reziled from abstention in the Irish government, from abstention in Stormont and from its anti-EU stance. Reziling from abstention in Westminster is, it should be acknowledged, much more difficult: the unabashed colonial symbolism of the parliament and the oath of allegiance to the monarch are degrading. Even so, this is the same Sinn Féin whose senior members have welcomed Queen Elizabeth II to Belfast and photo-bombed Prince Charles when he visited Dublin.

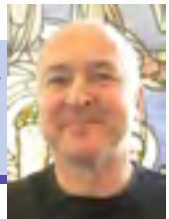
United Ireland rhetoric is to contemporary politics what a score is to a drastically malnourished junkie. The cure-all that the junkie envisages is the next hit, and, in this equation, Sinn Féin blithely plays the role of the pusher. It is having some success since a significant proportion of Sinn Féin's base voted for Brexit in June 2016 to generate the type of crisis that is now upon us and putatively hasten a United Ireland. Yet this strategy is a hostage to fortune for Sinn Féin, whose support has ebbed dramatically in the past two elections. Vis-à-vis the EU the party is apt to argue that Ireland is better off in than out. Sinn Féin may yet rue failing to argue the same about its seven seats in Westminster.





## Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



### Not Such Shady Friend

The great divide, as we term the political polarization of the present time, is often the result of a romanticized view of the past and untenable vision for the future. One example this incongruity comes to mind, when I meet with Irish Americans who, while they are proud of their ethnicity, are quite shocked to find the 40 shades of green is as politically fragmented as any other nation. Nationalists are not simply Green, white and Orange. Unionists are not simply Red, white and blue. When you get below the surface, you find real differences. For example, during *the Troubles*, our household was divided between nationalists who were socialists and socialists who were nationalists. To top it all, I occupied yet another camp, a Catholic socialist. The common denominator between us was obviously the cause socialism.

If the nationalist socialist were to define their understanding of socialism it would be a United Ireland committed to breaking down economic disparity, providing equal access to education and a fair health service. The socialist nationalist might define their position as all of the above with the emphasis on social improvement before nationalism. In other words, the priority lies with changing society regardless of the flag it flies. A Catholic socialist provides us with an unnecessary qualification. One would like to believe that the very essence of Christianity validates the cause of socialism. The follower of Christ should value the qualities of the Beatitudes more than nationalism.

It was not until I came to the United States that I discovered a strong reaction to the idea of socialism. For many, socialism equates communism and, for them, 'it's better to be dead than red.' I was shocked and somewhat surprised by the lack of understanding of some Irish Americans who espoused to be ardent Catholics but opposed socialism without seeing the obvious contradiction to their beliefs. My brothers and I may have disagreed when it came to the nationalist cause but we were always united when it came to the need for social reform. Our socialism was not patterned on 40 shades of red, as it might be conveniently dismissed by those who refuse to question the jingoism of the capitalist ideologists, but on the common good.

My first experience of this kind of non-thinking partisanship originated close to home. A relative of mine, who has lived in the U.S. for a long time, assumed that her Irish relatives would be nationalists first, and capitalists second. At first, we were so dumbfounded by her lack of understanding of modern Irish nationalism that we kept quiet. However, when she began to berate African Americans, illegal immigrants and basically anyone who had access to health or education simply because they were poor, our common socialist sensibilities refused to be silenced.

We, her family, were the product of a society that actively discriminated against us. Educational opportunities afforded to us were limited, housing was disproportionately doled out to those who were supportive of Unionism, and

had we been transported to the United States we would be anathema to her. The ardent Catholicism she embraced did not inform her sense of charity or justice. She was definitely not a socialist, in which case she could not rightly be called a good Catholic either. This encounter was an eye-opener to my family who thought that Irish diaspora would readily identify with the immigrant, the disenfranchised and be motivated to fight the cause for the oppressed. But, this is not the case.

There are many of the diaspora who have forgotten the struggle, the pain and the hardship of leaving home for a better life. Now, that the Irish have become respectable and no longer outsiders, it is easy to lose sight of a troubled past. Many Irish men and women came to this country to survive famine, pestilence and injustice. They struggled, lost contact with their families, and at times were treated no better here than they were at home. Still, they persevered and became a part of the fabric that has become one shade of the multi-cultural shades of America. Together, they have established themselves in positions of power, influenced the systems of justice, health and education for the betterment of society.

Then, why is there is there such a disconnection to the plight of the immigrant? Why is there such affinity with a government administration committed to the cause of capitalism and exploitation of the worker? Why is there such love for those who refuse to change the gun laws? The great divide becomes apparent when those who have been oppressed affirm, directly or indirectly, the oppression of others. When one chooses to support a narcissist who flagrantly lies, and demeans others, the connection to a common humanity is lost. Socialism is not a dirty word. It is not designed to take what is yours and give it to others who do not deserve it. Socialism is simply a fundamental requirement to any act of charity, love in action. It is intrinsically part of our better nature and, for those of us who believe, an act of faith, a mitzvot.

My father, brothers, and I were divided on a lot of things when it came to the cause of Irish nationalism but we were united when it came to social change. There are as many shades of nationalism, and cultural identity but there is only one shade of socialism and it is not red, unless it indicates the blood of those who have suffered

for the rights of others. Socialism challenges us to think of others, put ourselves in their shoes, and above all, pushes us to become better people.



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## Chicago Celtic Youths & Windy City Gaels

*Chicago Celtics and Windy City Gaels went to the CYCs*

Another CYC (Continental Youth Championships) in the books! This year it was held in Philadelphia and was a resounding success for ALL Chicago Clubs.

Celtics/Gaels took first place in the Boys U8 with the help of our very enthusiastic Girls.

U10 hurlers with St Jarlaths also took First. U14 boys who played with Ottawa took second.

U16 Boys who played with St Jarlaths took second.

All Ladies teams were "City Teams" (players from all three Chicago Clubs) and this year performed exceptionally well culminating in the U16s taking First place.

Well done to all the players who played their hearts out and a special thanks the passionate Coaches and Parents/Volunteers who made it all possible.

Congratulations again on another successful season of Gaelic Football, hurling and Camogie.

### Limerick Hurling Club

The Limerick Hurling Club hold

their 60th Dinner Dance Nov 9th @ Fountain Blue Banquets Des Plaines. Meet Limerick Players and Management of 2019 Munster and League Champions. To reserve a table: Tom Sheehy (773) 329-6263 Eoghan Murphy (773) 484-9598 TJ Liston (773) 366-2135

### James Joyce Gaelic Football Club

James Joyce GFC is looking for young men interested in learning and playing Gaelic Football for the 2019 season. No experience necessary! If interested, please contact the club at (773) 678-7099 or email JamesJoyceGFC@gmail.com.

### Padraig Pearses

A huge congratulations to the Padraig Pearses Intermediate team for winning the Chicago finals.

### Aisling Gaels

Annette Reilly Coen Annual Memorial tournament coming in September. Seven aside Co Ed. Teams all welcome.

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## Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



### The Killer in Me

By: *Olivia Kiernan*  
*River Run-Quercus*

Frankie Sheehan is the Detective Chief Superintendent of the Irish Police Bureau for Serious Crime. We follow her in search for a murderer. A police procedural yes, but the beautiful language and sharp observations of the inner selves of people life the police work to a higher level.

The intriguing plot and beautiful language in this book are the creations of Olivia Kiernan. She lives in the UK with her husband and daughter. "She was born and raised in County Meath and holds an MA in Creative Writing awarded by the University of Sussex. The Killer in Me is her second novel.

About the inner self, Frankie states on page one, "no one really knows what a person is capable of despite the smile on their face, the firmness of their handshake, or whether they look you in the eye as they lie to you."

When Frankie is call to the scene of the murder, she observes: "I should be disturbed by the drive in my blood, a sick kind of curiosity that all detectives house in the darkest corner of themselves. A little kick of excitement, stitched up with a fearless kind of hope."

During the investigation, she finds many suspects, and the police have to check the truthfulness of each of their alibis. Frankie is always polite and respectful with suspects. She is forced to arrest a suspect with no alibi, and who is uncooperative. But when she arrests him, he calls her a filthy name and flicks his cigarette at her.

Another detective puts the suspect's arms together, and Frankie says, "I tighten the steel around his wrists, and

make sure the bands chew down on his skin." Frankie and her team of detectives finally catch the murderer—and find that he is truly a monster. Her police supervisor advises her, "Be careful with this, Frankie. Sometimes when you look in the mouth of that kind of evil, it's hard to look away. You think give it another moment and your



eyes will adjust, you'll see the bottom of that darkness, understand it. It's alluring. Addictive. And while you're standing there rooted to the spot, you're not noticing that the fucking shadow is closing over you and you're disappearing."

There is nothing more to say about *The Killer In Me* by Olivia

Kiernan.

You will like these quotes: "A detective asks a priest with no alibi for help, "It won't be easy to get information from him, though. He doesn't seem like the sharing type." What priest does? Expect us all to pour our darkest secrets into their ears but keep their own to themselves."

The detective in an interview room "gives the priest a reassuring smile. An interview has its own psychology. We want witnesses and suspects like Fr. Healy to trust us, want them to believe we're on their side. We rely on a man's capacity to always think the worst couldn't happen. That no matter what they tell us, they will be okay. And when they begin to talk, even a tongue-tied perp can morph into a grand orator."

Cloutarf is a seaside suburb of Dublin: "The tide at Cloutarf is turning. Already water is creeping over the beach, collecting silver ridges and pools between the dark mounds of seaweed. A thin black dog...barks a sharp warning at a flock of seagulls. They rise into the air in a squawking scatter of madness."

"The mind is a fragile being: a vulnerable mesh of soft cells. Malleable. The hard shell of the skull unable to shield it from memory or nightmare. Both looped together in the brain's primitive pod for survival...Fear or trauma leaving you unable to tell the difference between what's good or helpful and what's bad or dangerous."

## The Power of Dreams

### The Dream Circle by Máire Malone

Book Review: *By Katie Fitzpatrick*

No one can accuse Máire Malone of a lack of ambition in penning her debut novel *The Dream Circle*; after all, the book's subtitle reads, "Can lives truly be transformed through the power of dreams?" While readers will need to answer that question on their own, one can safely say that Ms. Malone's novel is a thought-provoking perspective on dreams and their ability to shape the very direction of our lives.

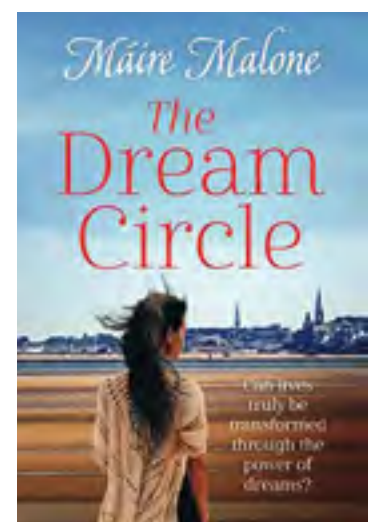
A Dublin native, Ms. Malone worked as a medical secretary for ten years before moving to the United Kingdom, where she pursued a career in counselling and psychotherapy, with a particular interest in - you guessed it - dreams. She currently lives in Hertfordshire in southern England, but chose Ireland, and in particular Dublin and Cork, as the setting of *The Dream Circle*.

*The Dream Circle's* plot loosely follows a year in the life of Ireland's first dream circle, a weekly meeting where seven participants share their dream experiences with each other. Specifically, the plot focuses on the relationship between main characters Fergus Doherty, the professionally trained psychotherapist and leader of the circle, and Pearl Conors, one of the circle's participants who was raised as a Traveler, the nomadic ethnic group of Irish who spend most of their time on the road living a life akin to that of gypsies. Each chapter is written from the perspective of either Fergus or Pearl, providing a first-hand chronicle of the complicated nature of this on-again, off-again couple and the outside forces that continually keep them apart.

If the story sounds like a light, happy-go-lucky, whimsical take on an Irish romance, it is not. In fact, Ms. Malone weaves together a number of heavy topics - among them the way we deal with grief, loneliness, mental illness, addiction, and professional ethics - to tell a highly readable, engrossing tale. While other modern authors tackle similar themes with

sarcasm and sardonic humor, Ms. Malone crafts characters who are decidedly earnest in their intentions and dialogue; in fact, Fergus and Pearl both deliver lines that might make readers wonder, "Do people actually talk like this today?" That said, this sincerity in writing is a welcome relief from the cynicism that pervades today's cultural and literary environment, particularly in dealing with such weighty issues.

*The Dream Circle* is recom-



mended for all readers of a certain age, but Irish natives, or those who have visited enough to be familiar with the island, will recognize the myriad references to various locales, streets, foods and drinks that are spread throughout the book. Likewise, readers who have hardly heard of psychoanalyst Carl Gustav Jung may not recognize or appreciate his contributions to the field that are referenced at length throughout the novel, and in fact may gloss over those passages.

For book lovers seeking something more than a breezy summer romance, but without the caustic atmosphere of other modern fiction, *The Dream Circle* will make for a fitting autumn read, and may even provide some insights into our own understanding of the world we inhabit when we close our eyes.

**The Dream Circle**

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Phil is one of the biggest record sellers in Ireland with numerous Platinum, Gold and Silver discs. His career spans more than five decades, garnering a Grammy Nomination for his Celtic New age album Highland Cathedral, two Grand Prix d' Eurovision Awards and amongst other honours, the prestigious Gold Badge from the British Academy of Songwriters, Composers and Authors. His songs have been recorded by a wide range of global stars from Elvis Presley to The Bay City Rollers and a who's who of Irish acts including Van Morrison, Sinéad O'Connor, The Dubliners, The Irish Tenors, Celtic Thunder and The High Kings.

This promises to be a one off evening, not to be missed by lovers of good music.

Join Phil, with his special Guest *Geraldine Branagan*, as they perform many of his unforgettable hit songs, taking you on a journey across 'the land we love so well - IRELAND.

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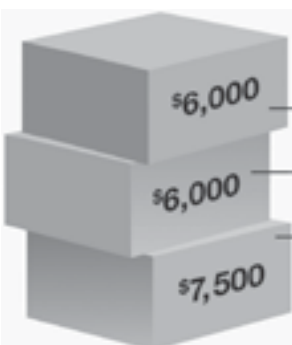
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**South Side Irish Parade Golf Outing Celebrates  
Halfway to Parade Day, Adds Post Round Party**

The South Side Irish St. Patrick's Day Parade is bringing the annual golf outing to the neighborhood. The "Halfway to Parade Day" celebration will be held on Monday, September 16 and feature a golf outing at Ridge Country Club followed by a post-golf party in the Country Club

challenging play for golfers of all skill sets and opening the post parade event to non-golfers as we gear up for the 2020 South Side Irish Parade," said Don Larisey, South Side Irish Parade Committee Member. "The golf outing and party are crucial in helping us raise funds for next year's parade to keep our celebration of family, community and Irish heritage marching down Western Avenue."

The "Halfway to Parade Day" celebration begins with golf outing registration, check-in and a lunch buffet at 11:00 a.m. followed by a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. Golf outing tickets include golf, beverages, lunch and post-party celebration for \$200 per person. The post-party celebration, open to all, will

feature beverages and heavy appetizer food stations from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tickets for just the post-party are \$60 per person.

Southsideirishparade.org and parade's Facebook page. "Halfway to Parade Day" sponsorship opportunities available - Don Larisey at (773) 960-7312.



clubhouse to support the 2020 South Side Irish Parade. All are welcome to join in the post-party celebration that will feature live Irish music, dinner, an open premium bar, and raffle prizes.

"We are bringing the golf outing back into the neighborhood and are thrilled to host at Ridge Country Club allowing

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



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## Houli's Dream Blanket

By Mike Houlihan

Years ago, while passing through County Mayo, I bought a dream blanket. It's made of Aran wool, the same material they make the sweaters from, only much larger and it covers your entire body. In my case, that's a very large blanket.

I had it shipped home to the lovely Mary, a gift for my darling from the old country. When I returned from my travels I found it draped over the back of our living room couch. It called out to me, like one of the sirens of ancient Greek mythology as they beckoned Ulysses to be wrapped in their ivory beauty, for a long awaited nap.

The naps I've shared with my dream blanket have been the most luxurious of my napping career, always bringing visions of beauty, serenity, and peace as I doze off to golf or The White Sox loosing another game on the TV. My wife and I have actually fought over the blanket in pursuit of its' gift of Irish slumber. Lately our four-year-old grandson Michael has claimed it for his own whenever he sleeps over.

This year we've found a way to share our Irish dream blanket with you.

I've often thought of films as our waking dreams and this year's lineup for our 5th Annual Irish American Movie Hooley is all about Irish and Irish American dreams. We've chosen three beauties for your pleasure and the Gene Siskel Film Center on State Street is a cozy corner to have those dreams wash over you. And with complimentary Paddy's Irish Whiskey in



the lobby before each screening, how can you say no?

The Hooley opens Friday night, September 27, 2019 at 8pm with black comedy MISTY BUTTON, directed by Seanie Sugrue from Tralee, County Kerry. The film tells the story of a pair of dreamers, Irish lads, living in the Bronx, dreaming of

a quick score with a ten grand, 35-1 shot, racetrack wager on the right horse by the wrong guys. An engaging cast of Irish and Irish-American actors make this a thrill ride all the way down the stretch. The audience is invited to our opening night reception at The Emerald Loop Bar and Grill, 216 N. Wabash Ave., immediately after the film, with MORE complimentary Paddy's Irish Whiskey.

Saturday night September 28th at 8pm, the Hooley will present the Chicago premiere of THE MAN WHO WANTED TO FLY. A huge hit in Ireland, this feel-good film tells the story of 83-year-old Bobby Coote, whose lifelong dream includes flying his own plane; yet as his brother Ernie is quick to point out, Bobby doesn't own a plane or runway, nor has he ever taken a flying lesson. But Bobby Coote has faith, and says "I'm going to fly that plane if it's the last thing I do!" Audiences find themselves yearning to fly with Bobby Coote as well, joining him in pursuit of his dream in the skies above Ireland.

Sunday afternoon September 29th at

5:00pm the Hooley screens the American premiere of CUMAR: A GALWAY RHAPSODY. The diverse glories of the city of Galway, celebrated in song, performance and image, make this lyrical bilingual documentary a must for any lover of all things Irish. Set in a lush green countryside at the edge of the sea, Galway has long attracted Ireland's most adventurous storytellers in every medium and genre. The confluence of cultural riches evokes the mystical and mythical elements that make Galway a legend in its own right. This film might be the dreamiest of all in our trinity of films on the Hooley weekend. Please join me and my family as we celebrate the magic of the City of Tribes, Galway.

This weekend will enrapture you, and just like your dreams you'll see many of your friends there, and get to meet the film's directors and producers, sharing the experience. Ask for the "Hooley Triple Play" ticket discount if you want to see all three films that weekend. All are encouraged to join us after each film, around the corner at the Emerald Loop Pub, 216 North Wabash.

Hoping to share our dreams together with you, Friday, Saturday and Sunday Sept. 27, 28, and 29th at the Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 North State Street, Chicago.

The blanket stays with me though.

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## Great Pink Run 5K & 10K Has Full Support of Former Depaul Runner/Coach Pat Savage

By *Ryanne Gallagher Johnson*

As runners and sponsors prepare for The Great Pink Run with Glanbia's upcoming inaugural Chicago event, supporters of this amazing cause have not been scarce. With the occurrence of cancer becoming more and more prevalent in people from all walks of life, the need to fund and find cures for these diseases is at an all-time high. This October 5th, participants in this race-for-a-purpose will come together at Diversey Harbor to support and socialize with each other under one common goal: find a cure for breast cancer.

One such participant who has also helped spearhead the efforts to bring The Great Pink Run to the States from its Ireland flagship, has himself found many reasons to support this incredible endeavor.

"My wife had breast cancer, my daughter had breast cancer, my mother died of cancer," explains Irish-descended Chicagoan and former DePaul coach, **Pat Savage**. "My mother died of lung cancer, after having never smoked, she died of radon poisoning (because) she used to do her ironing and everything down in the basement (where) radon gas came through the walls. And my mother-in-law just passed away from cancerous tumors. So, cancer is in the family. We've gotta find a cure. The big thing is we've got to find a cure."

Mr. Savage has had ties with the running community in Ireland stemming back almost three decades, a connection which was used to reach out to him about expanding this amazing race internationally. Savage, who's paternal grandparents are from Swords, Dublin, and maternal grandparents hail from Feakle, Clare, and Westport, Mayo, jumped at the opportunity, and suggested Chicago as the location for the debut event.

Having discovered his love for running while at DePaul University on an athletic scholarship from 1962-1966, Savage went on to teach from 1966-2002, and coached from 1966-2005. He also coached the Niles West/Oakton Runners Club for 35 years. He eventually returned to his Alma Mater as head men's and women's coach from 2005 until he officially retired in 2011.

"I tell people that I started running at DePaul in 1962, and at age 62, I became the head coach," he jokes.

Encouraging of all runners, no matter

their skill level, Mr. Savage has taken running tours to Ireland with Hal Higdon since 1992, and in 1999 began running the tours himself. So it was only natural that **Research a Cure** tapped him as a resource to help bring their race to the States.

He finds that running, jogging, or even walking, are some of the most excellent ways to keep yourself healthy. "I believe in exercise. If you want to have a healthy life, you have to get out and exercise."

So, hosting a race in order to support research and the development of treatments and cures for breast cancer is an excellent combination to him.

Among the many reasons to have this first Great Pink Run in Chicago is that Glanbia, the global nutrition group sponsoring the event, is based just outside of the city.

"They are a nutritional food company, and they're interested in working on things like this to get their name out there," Savage explains.

All entry fees for the race will go to the **University of Chicago Ludwig Center for Metastasis Research**.

"As I get older, I'm hearing more and more that people have cancer. I don't know if it was this prevalent when I was younger, or we just didn't know that it was cancer, or what the case was.

"Just about every family has or has had someone they know with breast cancer, it's so prevalent. They used to say that if breast cancer doesn't run in your family, you don't need to worry about it. But, for my wife Melissa, she was the first one in her family to have it. My daughter Julie, when she found out she had it, she had a double mastectomy right away, and that's a decision that a lot of people are having to make."

The best way to help in the research and development of these treatments, and hopefully find a cure one day, is to get the word out about events like this one. "You have to keep getting on the airways and the newspapers and in the magazines, and saying, 'Look, we need your help. We need your help,'" says Savage.

Skill level and ability aren't necessarily a consideration for this event, as along with the 10k race, there will also be a 5k fun run, jog, or walk. Come out and have fun and support the cause!

"You need people on your team who are gonna get the excitement going,"



*The great Irish distance runner; Sonia O'Sullivan, and long time Chicago runner, and former De Paul Running Coach Pat Savage, will 'toe the line,' October 5th at Diversey Harbor in support of this Irish race, sponsored by Glanbia, to find a cure for breast cancer.*

finishes Savage. "People who love to run, love to get out there. They're not the first ones leading the workout, but they're telling everybody, 'Hey, we can do this! Let's do this!'... If more people were

runners, we'd have a better world." Information about the Great Pink Run with Glanbia, including registration links and course maps, can be found at [www.thegreatpinkrun.com](http://www.thegreatpinkrun.com).

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## Boyle the Kettle

We'll Have A Sup Of Tea  
Tom Boyle



## Ireland

(Continued from last month)

Once our dinner was over, we started traveling around. Our first stop was at Dick Keane's Pub in Causeway Village. There was only one lightbulb hanging in a corner along with concrete floors and a bar painted battleship gray.

Smoke filled the air and everything was grimy. The locals, mostly farmers, came in wearing hobnail boots, and some in Wellington's. There were no toilet facilities. Women were not allowed to sit at the bar, they sat on benches along the wall.

All pubs had a snug where women would come in with empty bottles and have them filled with stout to take home.

Everybody discussed the price of a pint, 31 pence was the going rate. If the price of the pint went up, most would go to a pub with a lower price. There were 12 pence in a shilling, and 240 pence in a punt.

We were constantly visiting

relatives.

The custom was to serve you a whiskey when you arrived and then put the tea on. Somebody might have to run to the shop to get some ham.

Hospitality waited for you inside of every door.

Almost everyone seemed to have all kinds of cookies and cakes, otherwise you were likely to get a cut of soda bread.

One day on our way over to Ballyheigue, Uncle Pat spotted a farmer out in a field. We pulled over and Uncle Pat called him over to the hedge.

He asked him if he knew who I was. Now, he couldn't possibly know I was even in Ireland. Without hesitation he said, "He's Mich's son." I nearly fell over!

Everyday wrote a new page in my memory.

Tralee was a thriving town, and the cattle market was a good place to park. There was a pub at the entrance to the car park called the Long Bar. Years later it became known as the Pig and

Whistle.

There were several ways from the car park out to Boherbee Street. One was The Hole in the Wall Pub, where years later Uncle Pat sealed the deal after he sold a calf to a cattle buyer from Cork.

The most interesting pub in Tralee was Crosty's. It was big and easily had a dozen or more snugs. It was a great place to have a drink.

Our next adventure took us out to the Dingle Peninsula by way of the Connor Pass. There is a car park at the top of the pass, and "on a clear day you can see forever," so it says in the song.

(Dingle Town in 1969)

The movie, Ryan's Daughter, put the town on the map. The movie wasn't released until 1971. The cast had stayed at Benner's Hotel while they were there. Along the coast you'll find the beehive huts out on Sleah Head, the Gallerus Oratory. Further along there was an ocean going shipwreck washed up on the beach. The Basket Islands stood offshore uninhabited.

Next month we'll visit Nenaga, County Tipperary, and Mooncoin in County Kilkenny.

### Predator Priests

The following paragraphs appeared in *The Harrisburg Evening News*. Asbee, 67, stood in the rotunda of the state Capitol last week as cameras rolled and recounted how two Roman Catholic priests in the Diocese of Harrisburg brutally raped him for years while he was still a child.

His lawyer said the rapes were so cruel, the pain caused him to go in and out of consciousness.

Asbee was only 9 years old when he says the Rev. Raymond

Dougherty began grooming him for sex. And for a good part of his young life, Asbee says, Dougherty and Walter Sempko, another priest, repeated raped him, all under the protection of the Roman Catholic Church.

"I grew up in a devoutly Catholic family," Asbee said. "I was told repeatedly to obey father or I would surely go to hell. At the age of 9, I began this journey through hell itself."

For decades Asbee says he kept secret the awful memories of the pain and humiliation he endured as an altar boy in the Catholic Church. Experts say it's not uncommon for children who have suffered sexual abuse to keep quiet well into adulthood.

Attorney General Josh Shapiro in Pennsylvania said the sex abuse hotline yielded 1,862 calls in its first year.

### Political Tidbits

Puzzling, mean-spirited, name calling, hate speech and socialism's ugly head.

Twenty-two Democrats are in the running for their parties nomination. J.F.K. said, "Change is the law of life." I doubt if he ever could have imagined his party reduced to in your face, nasty, name-calling and race baiting.

Meanwhile, our country is plagued by senseless shootings. Dayton and El Paso were the latest. We need meaningful gun legislation, which must include banning the sale of assault weapons and large capacity magazines. Background checks are a must, and a one week delay in delivering a new weapon or large quantities of ammunition.

As a former member of the

National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association, it's easy to understand the concern of responsible gun owners.

The second amendment needs to remain unchanged.

Income inequality? Get yourself an education so you can compete for jobs. I heard a young black woman complain that her parents had to buy their house on contract. Well, my parents also had to buy their house on contract. When you have no credit history, buying on contract means if you miss a payment they can take the house away from you.

Charlottesville: Some people who were opposed to removing the Confederate monuments were not nazi's or clansmen. They were possibly descendants of Confederate soldiers and some were people who just value history and would like to preserve it. When Trump said there were "good people" on both sides apart from the clan and the white supremacists.

Is white supremacy real or perceived? Will Hurd, (R) Texas, said, "elect people who look and sound like me." Senator Scott (R) said, "there is a mental health crisis." Somebody else observed that, "people are tired of thoughts and prayers." Beto O'Rourke (D) said, "the President encourages racism." Somebody else said, "Are we suffering from metastatic racism? Is it spreading from mind to mind. "When does mental anguish cause you to go out and kill people?" Police are to undergo implicit bias training.

Mayor Lightfoot took a bite out of Ivanka after she made a comment on the Chicago violence the same weekend as Dayton and El Paso.

Michael Brown, Ferguson, Missouri is now being portrayed as a victim. The news are showing pictures of him in his cap and gown. The video of him strong-arming an Asian shopkeeper and helping himself to whatever he wanted is not making the news. I always liked Joe Biden, but when you stoop to mudslinging . . . it's hard to digest.



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# Dan McCaffery's Visionary Build at the Crossroads of Lincoln Park

**By RYANNE GALLAGHER JOHNSON**

Ireland native turned Canadian high school vice principal turned American real estate business founder and CEO, Dan McCaffery's early beginnings offered no hint that he'd eventually become one of Chicago's largest commercial real estate developers, most recently responsible for the city's newest mixed-use development, Lincoln Common.

Born in Newry, Northern Ireland, and raised in Dublin, he migrated to Canada with his family at the age of ten. "A bunch of the Irish guys went up to Northern Saskatchewan, where they'd recently discovered uranium, and (my dad) went up there to try and seek his fortune. Even though his parents had a few businesses in Newry, he passed on those and went adventuring instead," he says.

In Canada, McCaffery went to Catholic school and played sports like hockey and football. He attended the University of Alberta, where he received a Bachelor of Physical Education and a Master of Arts, and was named the school's Most Outstanding Athlete. He did do a summer Executive Program at Harvard, where he took classes in architecture, but that wouldn't come into play until much later. Instead, he became a high school teacher in Edmonton, Alberta, and later the vice principal.

"I actually moved to Chicago (and changed professions) because of my wife," he explains of the sudden career flip. "I loved the kids, and I wanted to coach. But admittedly, I was looking forward, and I thought, 'gee, I hope this doesn't get boring'. Then my wife stepped in and arranged for me to go to lunch with a guy who, over a series of conversations, asked me to send a resume to this large company in Edmonton."

That company turned out to be Oxford Properties, a global real estate investor, developer, and manager. After a few "bumps in responsibility" and a transfer to the States, he went to work for BCE Development, which is now Brookfield Development Inc.

"After I got to Chicago and the slowdown in real estate happened in 1990-1991, they were asking me to move back to Toronto. But my kids had settled in and my wife had settled in, so (we decided to stay)."

McCaffery himself then settled on the idea of starting his own commercial real estate business, and founded

McCaffery Interests. Thanks to the slow down at the beginning of the nineties making real estate much cheaper, his first big project was the former Saks building on Michigan Avenue, which he bought and turned into Nike Town and Cole Haan.

"I did the Nike store, and it was right in the era of Michael Jordan, so... it was a big deal."

Over the years, his company has expanded to have offices in Pittsburgh, Denver, and the Greater D.C. areas, and offers services in development, investment advisory, property management, retail leasing, and marketing.

As someone who reached his profession in a roundabout way, through a series of happenstance encounters and circumstances, McCaffery notes that while education is important, it's not a guarantee that you'll end up in a great

Fullerton, and Halsted. The 6.04 acres, which took over the former site of Children's Memorial Hospital, boasts upscale luxury apartments, dining, retail and fitness centers, boutique office space, a senior living facility, and over an acre of open space. Next year, they'll finish the condominiums.

It took over five years to develop, is set to enhance the already desirable neighborhood, and is mixed with restored and revitalized buildings to integrate into the existing structure of the area.3

One thing of note about the residential side of the new addition is that a number of the units will be affordable housing.

"Typically, developers are told 'you have to have 10% affordable housing, or give me \$100,000 per unit, and

you don't have to build them', and it's cheaper to pay the money than build the units. (But we didn't want to do that), so fifty of these units are affordable housing, and not one iota, not one piece of wood is different in these units than the high rent ones," McCaffery explains.

"We were, if not the first at that point, very close to the first of the companies that built a high quality development, and included the affordable housing in that development. Because (what typically happens) is you'd say 'well, we owe you fifty

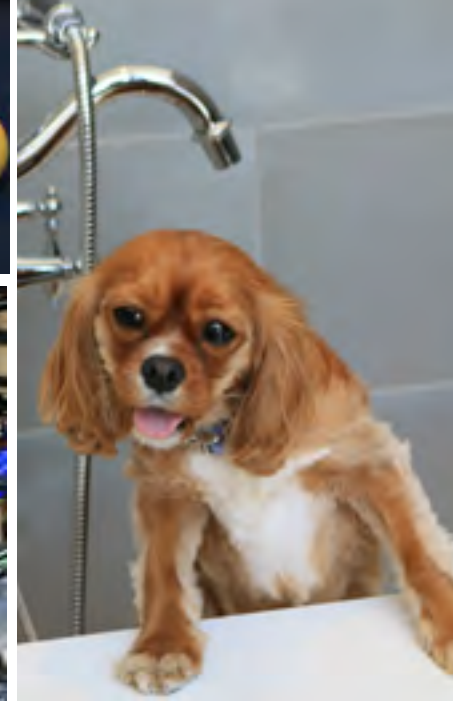
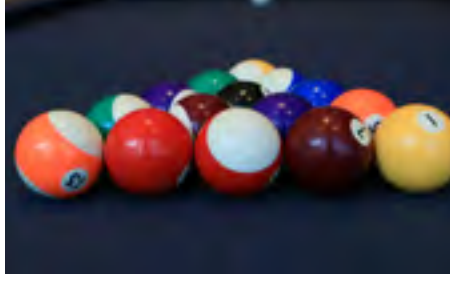
four units', and we'd buy that building over there and give you the fifty four units over there. But the affordable housing for this project is within the walls of these buildings here (inside Lincoln Common)... What's gonna be wonderful to see is the families and the people that have gotten this advantage, that it really pays off for them."

The residences offer one, two, and three bedroom units across two towers, and house fitness centers, rooftop pools, yoga studios, a 24/7 concierge, bike storage, and are 100% smoke free and pet friendly, among other amenities.

When he's not working on new mixed-use developments across the country, McCaffery is a husband and father to three adult children, travels back home to Ireland frequently to visit his family, and sits on several different boards. Now thirty years into the real estate industry, he's very active with the Urban Land Institute and the International Council of Shopping Centers, and is a sought after speaker and participant on panels and award juries.

For more information on McCaffery Interests, you can visit their website at [mccafferyinc.com](http://mccafferyinc.com).

To learn more about Lincoln Common, check out [lincolncommon.com](http://lincolncommon.com).



**Cover photo and story photos by Cathy Curry Carlson**

career, just as a lack of education doesn't guarantee that you won't end up in a great career.

"As a former educator... I try to take some of the edge off this education stuff. I think college is terrific, but I take the position that it's not for everybody... I think in America, we're losing our way, telling these kids that they've got to go to college. It's certainly important if it's something that drives your life, but don't do it because your mom and dad say you should. Have a purpose. Because (college) is very expensive. It's starting to surface that kids are going into massive amounts of debt that they can't repay (in order to get a college education). If you can't repay, then it's not worth it."

Although he was armed with a Master's Degree, it was his experience in the real estate development industry, and the connections he made (and let's not forget a little help from his wife) that got him to where he is today, on the finishing end of the Lincoln Common project.

The enormous development, which is the joint creation of McCaffery Interests and Hines Interests, has been hailed by Alderman Michele Smith as the "new crossroads of Lincoln Park", as it resides at the intersection of Lincoln,

# It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane



for local events in South Armagh. Playing guitar and singing has opened many doors for him and afforded him the opportunity to meet many new people and connect through music. In the past few weeks he has made a new friend in Declan McShane and they bonded through their love of music. Thank you, Sinead...

## IRISH STARS NATHAN CARTER AND CHLOË AGNEW SIGN TO NEW U.S.AGENCY

Venuworks Group Announces The Launch of Its New Boutique Booking Group. Based out of Ames, Iowa, with offices in NY, the Agency, whose primary function is to create and develop complete touring strategies for the artists it represents. Festivals and State Fairs across the USA. The principal agents behind the company are founder and C.E.O. Steve Peters, internationally renowned artist and Emmy® nominated producer Michael Londra, and marketing and Public Television specialist Jean Clancy. Steve Peters is a Tony® award nominated producer and Outer Critics Circle award winner (You Can't Take It With You starring James Earl Jones). Jean Clancy has worked on global live tour marketing and management for over two decades, organizing and directing large scale tours, live events and television/DVD specials. She has worked on projects for Celtic Thunder, Celtic Woman, Cherish The Ladies, Nathan Carter, Michael Londra and Noël the Musical amongst others, and has wide experience working with artists, presenters and Public Television on touring music shows across the US and Canada. Great! News! Congratulations to all involved and continued success. If you would like to see Nathan and Chlöe in the USA, November this year 2019,

they will be at the Mickey Gilley, Grand Shanghai Theatre, Branson, Missouri, between November 7th -19th.

While driving through Ireland, Declan and I were listening to the new albums of Cherish the Ladies 'Heart Of The Home', Niall Murphy's 'Breaking Trad' and Liz Carroll and Jake Charron 'Half Day Road'. I love these albums, especially when driving through our beautiful Island.

On a sad note, I heard the news of Danny Doyle's passing just before I left Ireland. To me, he was my hero. I was very blessed to have done support to him a couple of times in Ireland. Danny put so much feeling into his songs. A national treasure, great ballad singer, and story teller. R.I.P. Danny Doyle.

This month's song is about a little area called Ummeracam, which I call home. Ummeracam is an old Gaelic word meaning 'Crooked Ridge'. So I titled the song 'Down That Old Crooked Road'. And there was so much unconditional love down that road, that has carried me through life.

Until next time, be good to one another, Joe

## 'Down That Old Crooked Road'

Written by Joe McShane

Verse 1

Through miles of misty dreams  
And streams of memories  
Every night I travel on that journey  
No street light or concrete  
No side walk to be seen  
Just flowers, trees and every shade of green  
As the city starts to rise  
I rub my weary eyes  
But I'll fly away in dreams again tonight

Chorus  
Down that old crooked road  
The place I called home  
I believe that God blessed every stone  
Though I left it far behind  
I can't erase that time  
It's going to stay forever in my mind  
The one place I know  
That owns my heart and soul  
The house down that old crooked road

Verse 2  
So blow a gentle breeze  
Across the stormy sea  
Whisper sweet memories in my dreams  
The times we'd run and play  
The smell of new mowed hay  
The journey that would take me far away  
My Mother's last good bye  
The tears that filled her eyes  
My father broken hearted by her side

Chorus  
Down that old crooked road  
The place I once called home  
I believe that God blessed every stone  
Though I left it far behind  
I can't erase that time  
It's going to stay forever in my mind  
The one place I know  
That owns my heart and soul  
The house down that old crooked road

Hello Everyone,

Well that's goodbye to another great summer. I'm back in Chicago and Declan is at the Fleadh Cheoil, in Drogheda, Co Louth. He is playing with the Shepherd School of Irish Music. And having a ball with all the other young ones, competing in the world championships. And of course he's having lots of great craic. Thank you to Sarah and Rich Godley for being his chaperones. I think you might have to handcuff him to get him on the flight back to Chicago. Declan has struck up a great friendship with the Godley's two kids, Liam and Aileen, two fine musicians and a pleasure to be around.

He also made some new friends at the Tuesday night sessions in The Welcome Inn, Forkhill, Armagh. Especially, a young man called Eoghan Murphy that he met one night and they hit it off straightaway. It's as if they had been practicing for years together. Eoghan on guitar and Declan on piano. I love to see young talent coming to the fore. Eoghan's mother Sinead kindly sent me at little info on Eoghan, so I thought it would be nice to share it with you - Eoghan began playing guitar and singing with the Traditional Arts Partnership (TAP) lead by Elaine O Sullivan 3 years ago. During that time he has competed as part of the grupa cheoil in Armagh, and Ulster Fleadhs, and feis competitions. He has also represented Silver-

bridge Harps GFC in Scor Na NÓg Solo singing and instrumental group. Above all he loves to play with his friends in monthly sessions in Silverbridge. Last August he became part of a Trad Group called Soilse. The group is comprised of three Casey sisters Claire on the banjo and whistle, Ellen on the bodhran, Dearbhla who sings and plays whistle and button accordion, and guitar, alongside Aodh Murphy on fiddle, bodhran and whistle and Jude Quigg (who is also one of Declan's new found friends) on button accordion and whistle. The group had the honour of performing on the Late Late Show with Ryan Tubridy at Christmas. Soilse were also the warm up act for the Phil Coulter show in Silverbridge last March. Eadaoin Murphy, Eoghan's sister has also joined the group on the fiddle and together Soilse continue to perform

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## Roaming in the Gloaming

By Estelle Shanley

The morning ritual begins. Shower, breakfast, newspaper, a pot of Trader Joe's Irish Tea.

In a quick scan of page one below the fold, the headline startles. "Man leaves one year old twins in his automobile." The first paragraph announces the death of the children. A swirl of emotion takes hold, a combination of fear, anger, despair and the crippling disquiet of a colossal act of mindlessness. Would a mother have forgotten her babies asleep in the rear seat? How will this bereaved man and his wife cope? Will resentment against their father build in their older children? Will his spouse and the children's grandparents forgive? How will he survive? How in God's name could this have happened?

One meditates, beseeching God to hold Juan Rodriguez and his wife tight, to work a miracle lightening the trauma, the guilt, the impossible grief, its mantle a destructive and heavy load.

Is there hope for survival, for mental and emotional stability? Is this family doomed forever in a prison without walls, or will the legal fallout provide prison bars? Can this man live and shoulder the blame, perhaps in time to find forgiveness in his heart and soul? I pray in my preferred way: Dear God, hold the bereaved couple in your Mother's embrace and your arms tightly holding their siblings, grandparents and extended family.

My tea grows cold, my mind wanders into an early life in Boston rearing three young daughters. On a day scheduled for an interview at the Lowell, Massachusetts Sun, a daily newspaper north of Boston, I was also babysitting two equally young neighborhood children. After lunch all five napped, then snacks, and off we set, six of us in the car to the newspaper building not far from the New Hampshire border. The parking lot was free. I distributed crayons and coloring books to my young cargo of five, slightly rolled down one window for ventilation, locked them in the vehicle, and proceeded to the building a few yards away.

The Newsroom, a most exciting place, I aced the interview, was hired as a correspondent heralding my first entry into the news business. I was a journalist! Returned quickly to my automobile, a rise in my step, the children coloring peacefully, two playing games, I delivered the good news, but all they heard was the promise of a big celebration at the nearest ice cream parlor en route home.

It was the early seventies, contraception forbidden by the Catholic Church, hence a record breaking birth rate. Public school systems throughout Massachusetts and other states tackling the population growth launched massive fund raising campaigns to build and expand existing school buildings to meet the burgeoning school age population, kindergarten through twelfth grades.

It was safe to leave little ones alone in automobiles. Everyone had too many children, too engrossed in

rearing their own brood, hence no interest in kidnapping others. An illustration worth mentioning is my single friend who married a widowed man with a very young son. Katherine took him to the supermarket, placed him in the front seat of the shopping basket. He screamed, he yelled, he cried reaching madly at the shelves knocking down cereal boxes, toppling candy displays, Impossible to control. Exasperated, with little experience in the rearing of children, she left him in the aisle in the supermarket cart, got in her car and drove home. In telling the story, she comments that no one wanted a crying child, he was safe. The father drove to the market and his son was where his step-mother left him. Safe and sound!

Were we irresponsible? No, the culture was vastly different from current times.

In time, everything changed. The birth control pill, the feminist movement, the economy necessitating two incomes, the return of Rosy the Riveter, as mothers and women entered the work force. Children were dispatched to day care facilities, pre-kindergarten schools, or home daycare if couples could afford it. Grandmothers and maiden aunts were no longer available to share in child-rearing. They were careerists, liberated, happy in the job market. Another change was the mobilization of American society. Families no longer lived close by.

The juggling, the hassle of young families was a reality. Couples maintained rigorous schedules, parental roles shifting, melding into the phenomena of stay-at-home dads. The legal system also changed. No longer could a parent leave children in a locked car as they make a quick dash for a pick-up into a photo shop. If caught, they were arrested. Ditto for leaving dogs or other pets in a vacant automobile.

And yet, it is not uncommon to read a headline about "hot car deaths". Parents arrested for neglect, charged with homicide, many judges going easy on families cognizant of the guilt, the loss, the pain and shame. The latest story of Juan Rodriguez is twice as harsh, the death of two babies, a tragedy of horrific proportions. The father, a social worker, preoccupied, distracted, the rush and rumble of life, went to work, forgetting his one-year old twins strapped into the back seat. No excuses, hard lesson learned, could happen to anyone. The question is: how to survive? Our lives need to slow down. As of press time, the grieving father has been charged with two counts of manslaughter and two counts of criminal neglect. A grim reminder of the care of children.

## Brexit

As the scourge of Brexit drags on, Taoiseach Leo Varadkar journeyed in early August to Hillsborough Castle in Northern Ireland to discuss with British politicians the Irish fall-out if a no-deal Brexit becomes reality. Varadkar insists that the UK negotiations with the European Union must include a solution to the Irish Border. He demands it be one of the first three items on the agenda. The Irish Prime Minister, conceding the weariness of the Brexit dilemma, emphasized negotiations should conclude at the end of October with or

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without a deal.

In a statement that may have alarmed many, Varadkar also predicted that the divorce between the UK and the European Union will take years in negotiations on a new free trade agreement with a new economy. The three items in negotiations Varadkar refers to include citizen rights, the European Union's financial settlement and the solution to an Irish Border. He stressed in an upbeat moment, "there is always room for talks and negotiations."

## Mud Slinging

As the Brexit fatigue continues to spiral, supporters of the UK severing ties with the European Community have been given the dubious title of "poo-polishers." The term rattles the upper crust dignified English class, whose collective eyebrows were raised when the term first uttered publicly by Prime Minister Boris Johnson when he served as Foreign Minister under the reign of Theresa May. Actually, he broadened the sling when she allegedly browbeat her cabinet into endorsing her Brexit plan. The current Prime Minister dismissed her efforts and opined that arguing May's plan was "akin to "polishing a turd"! Boris Johnson's comment launched a torrent of mud slinging language.

Offensive off-color language has a way of taking hold. One member of parliament agonizing over Brexit choices advised the Speaker that one option was "a turd of a deal," and had been "honed into a polished turd" but could well be the best turd before parliament. He believed it was worth pointing out "that turds could actually be polished!"

Ironically, the television Discovery series featured Japanese children creating spheres of fine soil, polishing them with a fine cloth to a high gloss, The technique was also tried on feces from ostrich and lions, proving it works splendidly on poo! Go figure!

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## Our Personal Renaissance

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

would eventually spawn scientists such as Galileo and Newton, sea travellers like Columbus and Da Gama and artists of the calibre of Michael Angelo and Da Vinci. It was a time of great change, spiritual renewal, and it was a massive kick start for civilization in general.

In this present age we should also look beyond our normal boundaries and at our own po-



The Renaissance proper is a French word meaning 'rebirth'. After the fall of the Roman Empire, Europe was overrun by Barbarian tribes which led to the historical timeframe that we now refer to as 'The Dark Ages'. After many centuries of this, there was a major push to renew science, literature, travel and culture and this gave rise to the Renaissance period in the Middle Ages. This fostering of culture and learning

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

## Mary Ellen Considine



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COLDWELL BANKER

Many people are reluctant to try new ventures if they do not have previous experience of the new function they are now entering into. This attitude has changed over the past few years

*'Amateurs sit and wait for inspiration, the rest of us just get up and go to work'*

*-Stephen King*

to now bring our experience, wisdom and work ethic to the new position and learn the elements of the new job afterwards as a secondary consideration. We are capable of making abrupt career changes and adapting to them successfully if we need to. The main thing is not to get boxed in, take the time to look around and put your plans in place to make that transitional change if you feel that you need to achieve more.

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

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

# BIBLE BINGO

**A Comedy with God, Games, & Goofy Prizes!**

by Vicki Quade

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**On the Law**

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

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

**Summer Product Safety**

Last month, we discussed potential safety hazards concerning jet skis and pool safety. This month, we will be discussing the potential safety hazards concerning hoverboards, electric scooters, trampolines, golf carts, and ATV's.

While warm weather brings with it many opportunities for fun in the sun, there are also a number of potential safety hazards unique to summer activities that everyone should keep in mind.

**Hoverboards**

A relatively new and trendy product, the self-balancing scooter, sometimes referred to as a hoverboard, presents its own unique dangers. First, hoverboards, or self-balancing scooters, have been known to burst into flames, generally from faulty batteries, causing burns. More common, however, are broken arms and legs, or concussions from falling off the board. Just as when riding

a bicycle or skateboard, users should wear helmets, wrist guards, and knee pads in order to reduce the risk of injury.

**Electric Scooters**

Another trendy mode of transportation is the electric scooter. Electric scooter-sharing systems are being used in around 40 U.S. cities, and the National Association of City Transportation Officials estimate that 38.5 million trips were taken on these scooters in 2018. These systems allow users to find and unlock scooters with an app and to leave the scooter where their trip ends. Though readily accessible with over 85,000 available for public use, these scooters may not be the safest way to get around.

The scooters can reach speeds of 20 mph, and the rules relating to their operation are not yet known by most of the using public. Rutgers University found that in 2018, there were 6,957 scooter related injuries. To avoid injury, it is important to always

wear a helmet while operating an electric scooter. Head trauma is the number one cause of trauma related deaths, and 66% of those treated for electric scooter injuries were not wearing helmets. To further ensure safety, users of electric scooters should check with their city to learn local safety and scooter-driving rules.

**Trampolines**

Trampolines and bounce houses also have their own particular risks. Children tend to jump in groups, and injuries can result from mid-air collisions or being flung in unexpected directions. The National Electronic Injury Surveillance System shows that 75% of trampoline injuries occur when multiple people are jumping on the mat. Concussions, as well as neck and back injuries, have been known to occur. Children who wish to do tricks on the trampoline should take classes and train properly beforehand in order to avoid injury. Bounce houses are especially popular at warm weather parties, carnivals, and fairs. However, according to the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System, approximately 31 children suffer inflatable bouncer-related injuries per day.

**ATVs**

Another popular warm weather activity is riding an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) or "four wheeler." There are over 10 million ATVs in use in the United States, and the number of ATVs in use has more than doubled since 1998. Due to the serious injuries that have resulted from their use, ATVs have frequently been the subject of litigation. As a result of litigation years ago, manufacturers discontinued selling dangerous three-wheeled ATVs

in favor of the four-wheeled variety. However, many safety experts consider the four-wheeled ATVs to be almost as dangerous as the banned three-wheeled types. According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), there are around 650 ATV related deaths annually and around 100,000 injuries. The summer months are the most common for these injuries.

The risks of ATV use are compounded by the fact that there is almost a complete lack of governmental regulation regarding the use of ATVs. Indeed, some states still have no minimum rider age. Just as with jet skis, it is important to remember that ATVs are powerful machines and must always be used considering safety first.

**Use of Golf Carts and Golf Cart Like Vehicles**

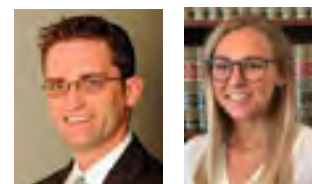
Golf carts and similar vehicles are popular modes of transportation, and not just on golf courses. Many people now use golf carts to take short trips or use them as a recreational vehicle. It is easy to assume golf carts are safe due to their relatively slow speeds. However, there are still significant risks associated with golf carts, particularly if they are overloaded or driven in a reckless manner. Researchers have found that children as young as nine years old drive golf carts, often not wearing seat belts. Between 1990 and 2006, there were nearly 150,000 golf cart injuries in the U.S., and about a third of those involved children under the age of 16, according to a 2008 study in the American Journal of Preventative Medicine. Newer studies indicate

that the most common causes of golf cart injuries involving children being thrown off the cart or overturning the cart. Over 10,000 emergency room visits result from golf cart accidents each year, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). About 40% of golf cart accidents involve someone falling out of the vehicle and roughly 10% involve a rollover.

It is important that a golf cart not be overloaded and should only carry passengers that it is equipped with seats for. Passengers should not be allowed to stand in the vehicle or hang onto the vehicle, and golf carts should never be driven by an intoxicated individual. We represented an individual who was thrown from a cart during a sharp turn and seriously injured. This particular cart had a rear facing seat in back which without seatbelts or other passenger containment heighten the risks of serious injury. Always drive golf carts responsibly and keep arms and legs inside the vehicle at all times.

**Enjoy Summer Activities Be Alert to Hazards**

Summer is a special time in Chicago, and many of us want to cram as many fun activities into those short summer months as possible. However, summer brings with it its own set of potential safety hazards, particularly as it pertains to consumer products. Keeping an eye out for these dangers can help to ensure that you and your family enjoy summer safely.



This Article by:

**Patrick C. Anderson, Esq.**  
**Madeline M. O'Mara**

*Madeline M. O'Mara, a law clerk at Healy Scanlon, is a second year law student at Loyola University Chicago School of Law. She is a member of the Loyola Law Journal and is in the top 20% of her class.*

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*Support for people with memory loss and those who care for them.*

## SUPPORT GROUPS FOR MEMORY LOSS

If you're experiencing memory loss or you're caring for someone who is, your going to need help. While there are many ways to find assistance, joining a support group can be one of the most effective and enriching ways to do so.

### WHAT IS A SUPPORT GROUP?

Support groups vary greatly in terms of subject area and how they are organized. However, they often have many things in common. In general, support groups offer an opportunity to gather with people going through similar experiences. A support group provides an accepting, understating and encouraging environment where people can share their experiences, feelings, coping strategies, advice and practical information.

### BENEFITS OF A SUPPORT GROUP

Everybody's experience of attending a support group will be somewhat different but common benefits include:

- Feeling less lonely or isolated
- Improving coping skills
- Drawing strength and inspiration from others experiencing the same challenges
- Learning about health, financial or community resources from other group members
- Gaining a sense of empowerment, control and hope

### IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES' MEMORY LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

Over the past year, ICS has been partnering with the Alzheimer's Association to provide peer support groups for those with **early-stage memory loss** and their **caregiver**. We will be hosting another eight-week support group beginning in October at the Irish American Heritage Center. Our model offers **two support groups running at the same time – one for the person with a diagnosis of memory loss and the other for their caregiver**. Meeting separately allows both groups to gather with peers and speak openly about their feelings and shared experiences.

### IS OUR SUPPORT GROUP A GOOD FIT FOR YOU?

A good support group is designed with a specific purpose or audience in mind. As such, not every group will be able to meet the needs of everybody. Before joining our support group we'll arrange a screening conversation, but below are some examples of who may answer 'yes' and 'no' to the question **'is this group right for me?'**

#### YES

- I have a diagnosis of memory loss from a physician.
- My memory loss is 'early-stage' and I can follow and participate in group conversations.
- I am open to hearing the difficult experience and emotions of others.
- I feel that I could give and receive support in a group setting.

#### NO

- I'm uncomfortable talking about my feelings or being around people who are upset.
- I am a paid/ professional caregiver.
- I cannot commit to being present for MOST of the 8 weekly meetings.
- I have difficulty being around those whose opinions or beliefs are different from mine.

Are you interested in being part of our support group?  
Call Paul Dowling on 773-282-8445



### A warm Chicago Welcome to our new social work intern, Ella!

*Hi my name is Ella and I'm from Carlow in Ireland. I'm 23 and about to start the second year of a Masters in Social Work at University College Cork. I'll be completing a 14-week placement with Irish Community Services as part of my program. I'm looking forward to developing my professional practice by supporting the clients who avail of ICS' services and getting an entirely new perspective on community development and social service. I'm excited to meet the Irish community of Chicago and I expect this will be an experience of a lifetime!*



**Senior Groups**  
Irish American Heritage Center  
&  
Chicago Gaelic Park

### Meetings in September

IAHC	Gaelic Park
<p><b>Mass</b> Wednesday 4th September</p> <p>To celebrate the return of our senior group meetings we'll kick things off with a celebratory mass by Fr. Mick Madigan.</p> <p>10.30 am</p>	<p><b>Documentary Film: Old Irish Crafts</b> Wednesday 11th September</p> <p>Shot in 1970's Ireland, this film show craftsmen engaging in activities that might be very familiar to many older Irish people.</p> <p>10.30 am</p>
<p><b>Monthly Musical Gathering</b> Wednesday 18th September</p> <p>A celebration of Irish culture with live music</p> <p>10.30 am</p>	<p><b>Mass</b> Wednesday 25th September</p> <p>In celebration of the new season of senior group meetings, Fr. Mick Madigan will join us to say mass.</p> <p>10.30am</p>



All are welcome! Our programs are **Free** and refreshments are served. For more information call our office on 773-282-8445





## IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES IMMIGRATION NEWS

### Apply for the DV Lottery

Each year a Diversity Visa (DV) lottery is held for qualified applicants who are either legally in the United States or overseas to obtain permanent residence status. It is available for individuals coming from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States. A full list of eligible countries can be found at <https://www.usgreencardoffice.com/qualifying-countries>. 50,000 green cards are available each year through the DV lottery. Over 8 million people and of those 100,000 are randomly selected and given the opportunity to apply for permanent residence. If granted permanent residence, the individual, their spouse, and unmarried children under 21 can live and work permanently in the United States.

Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent OR at least two years of work experience for an occupation that requires at least two years of training. Applicants apply online at [www.dvlottery.state.gov](http://www.dvlottery.state.gov). Beware of fraudulent services, the only way to apply is online through the State Department. There is no cost to apply.

Keep in mind it is a long application process. You apply in 2019, you are notified about your application in 2020, and you receive your green card in 2021. Application dates for the 2021 lottery will be announced soon.

If you applied for the 2020 lottery, check your application status at [www.dvlottery.state.gov](http://www.dvlottery.state.gov). The status update will be available until September 30th.

**U.S. CITIZENSHIP WORKSHOPS**

When: Saturday, October 12th from 10am-2pm  
Saturday, November 23rd from 10am-2pm

Where: Irish American Heritage Center  
4626 N. Knox Ave Suite #306  
Chicago, IL 60630

Call (773) 282-8445 to register today!

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<https://www.uscis.gov> | <https://www.irishchicago.org>

### Changes to Public Charge

‘Public Charge’ has been a term used to describe someone who is likely to rely on government support for their livelihood. Under current immigration law, a person can be denied a visa if that person is believed likely to become a public charge. The Trump Administration has recently made a new rule that would broaden the likelihood of someone being considered a public charge and being denied a visa.

Under the previous definition, factors that could determine someone a ‘Public Charge’ are Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and long term institutional care.

With the changes, a person could be determined a public charge based on the existing factors as well as Medicaid (except emergency coverage), Section 8 subsidies, public housing,

and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) would also consider age, medical conditions, family status, household assets, financial status, education and skills, and affidavits of support to determine if someone is likely to become a public charge in the future.

Public charge applies to individuals seeking admission to the US or anyone with a nonimmigrant visa seeking an extension or a change. It does not apply to individuals seeking humanitarian relief such as refugees or asylees. It also does not apply to permanent residents. The rule also would not make public charge a ground for deportation.

This rule was released Wednesday, August 14th and will go into effect 60 days after its release (October 13th 2019). The rule is not retroactive, so benefits would not be counted until after the law goes into effect.

### Immigration Legal Clinics

Free 30 minute consultations, *by appointment only*. Call 773-282-8445 to reserve your place. Additional dates may become available.

Wednesday, September 11th 4:00-7:00pm Chicago Gaelic Park	Wednesday, October 23rd 3:30-6:30pm IAHC
Wednesday, September 25th 3:30-6:30pm IAHC	Sunday, November 17th 10:00am-12:00pm Teamsters Local 705 HQ



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### ICS NEEDS

# YOUR VOICE

ICS is building a brand new project to connect people from all generations, but we can't do it without you. We are calling on folks of all ages to share their insights, inspirations, skills, and opinions to help us design the best program possible.

#### How can you help?

Join a Community Conversation! ICS will be hosting small group meetings and phone interviews to facilitate open discussions about intergenerational programming.

give us a ring at  
773-282-8445

### September Event Schedule

- **Tara Club Meeting:** Wednesday, September 4th (10:30am) in IAHC
- **Emerald Club Meeting:** Wednesday, September 11th (10:30am) in Gaelic Park
- **Immigration Legal Clinic:** Wednesday, September 11th (4-7pm) in Gaelic Park *by appointment only*
- **Tara Club Meeting:** Wednesday, September 18th (10:30am) in IAHC
- **Emerald Club Meeting:** Wednesday, September 25th (10:30am) in Gaelic Park
- **Immigration Legal Clinic:** Wednesday, September 25th (3:30-6:30pm) in IAHC *by appointment only*

## HAVE YOU BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH MEMORY LOSS

OR

## ARE YOU CARING FOR SOMEONE WHO WAS?

JOIN OUR FREE PEER SUPPORT GROUPS AT THE IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER THIS FALL FOR THOSE WITH MEMORY LOSS AND THEIR CAREGIVERS



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This fall at the Irish American Heritage Center

## Memory Enrichment Program

A group meeting where seniors participate in cognitive and physical exercises to boost brain activity and strengthen memory.

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Call today to find out more or to register!

Registration  
Required

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**Home is Where  
the Heart Is**  
By Aishling Kelly



might be dementia. Women are more prone to dementia than men.

Up until now, here in Illinois, there has been no mandated dementia

training requirements in the home care industry. In the past, agencies have shown DVDs and handouts on this disease regarding dementia but there was no requirement to provide official dementia training.

Because the demand for assistance is being driven by the rise in diagnoses of seniors with this disease, the Alzheimer’s Association initiated a bill stating that there should be official training for health care entities named in the bill.

See below for link to entire act and inserts relative to the entities that fall under this act and the requirements that are now mandated and regulated by the Illinois Department of Public Health. This is a giant step in the right direction for health care. This new act will ensure that our seniors can be cared for by qualified individuals trained specifically to deliver compassionate and knowledgeable dementia care.

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=3734&ChapterID=35>  
(410 ILCS 406/15)

Sec. 15. Applicability. Programs covered by this Act include, but are not limited to, health care facilities licensed or certified by the Assisted Living and Shared Housing Act; Nursing Home Care Act; Home Health, Home Services, and Home Nursing Agency Licensing Act; and Hospice Program Licensing Act. This Act does not apply to physicians licensed to practice medicine in all its branches. Staff with direct access to clients with Alzheimer’s disease or a related dementia hired after the adop-

tion of rules implementing this Act shall complete a minimum of 6 hours of initial training in the first 60 days of employment using an Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias services curriculum compiled by the Department, except as provided in subsection (c).

(c) Subsection (b) shall not apply to the following:

(1) staff who received at least 6 hours of comparable training in compliance with licensure or certifies training requirements.

## The Revolving Door of Health Care

In recent years, the volume of calls to the 24/7 help line for the Alzheimer’s Association has increased. The common denominator is families calling in asking for assistance with a loved one with a form of dementia and the requests are for information on trained caregivers who can assist their loved ones with dementia.

We must understand that when this disease is diagnosed in families, there is no specific training for the family members at all and eventually, this disease takes its massive toll on all family members and caregivers alike.

The burn out among caregivers when providing care to a person with dementia is off the charts. Many family members are the main caregivers. A simple instance might be a spouse that is 100% cognitive providing care for the love of his life because she has been diagnosed with what

## The Chieftains and the ‘The Irish Goodbye’

The Chieftains are highly recognized for reinventing traditional Irish music on a contemporary and International scale. The Chieftains were formed in Ireland in 1962 by Paddy Moloney, the top traditional folk musician in Ireland and around the world.

around for a few more songs?

Paddy Moloney says, “It’ll be fantastic to return once again to America where we are always welcomed with open arms. We’ll share a lively evening of music, stories, laughter and great craic! In each city we

will perform with local Pipe and Drum bands, Irish Dance schools, choirs and special guests - the whole shebang! It’s always fun to showcase local talent to their hometown crowds.”

As cultural ambassadors, their performances have been linked with seminal historic events, such as being the first Western musicians to perform on the Great Wall of China, participating in Roger Water’s “The Wall” performance in Berlin in 1990 and being the first ensemble to perform a concert in the Capitol Building in Washington DC. In 2010, their experimental collaborations extended to out of



Their ability to transcend musical boundaries and blend tradition with modern music has notably hailed them as one of the most renowned and revered musical groups to this day. After more than fifty seven years of making some of the most beautiful music in the world, The Chieftains’ music remains as fresh and relevant as when they first began. And now they will bring their music once again on tour to the US in 2020 called, ‘The Irish Goodbye.’

What is an Irish Goodbye you may ask? Dictionary.com states that an Irish Goodbye is sneaking out of a party without telling anyone. But some people disagree. They say that an Irish person can’t be the last one to leave the party without hours of long conversations, a few sing alongs and elaborate keening farewells. So you may have to guess which definition fits this tour. Are they leaving us or are the staying

this world, when Paddy Moloney’s whistle and Matt Molloy’s flute travelled with NASA astronaut, Cady Coleman, to the international space station. Although their early following was purely a folk audience, the range and variation of their music and accompanying musicians quickly captured a much broader audience, elevating their status to the likeness of fellow Irish band, U2. Never afraid to shock purists and push genre boundaries The Chieftains’ however remain loyal to their roots. They are as comfortable playing spontaneous Irish sessions as they are headlining a concert at Carnegie Hall. Approaching sixty years of making some of the most beautiful music in the world, The Chieftains remain as fresh and relevant as when they first began.

Don’t miss this tour. For full tour information and tickets go to [www.thechieftains.com](http://www.thechieftains.com)

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## UPCOMING CONCERTS AND PROGRAMS



### The High Kings in Concert

This trio of internationally acclaimed singers of Irish folk songs returns to the IAHC for 2 nights this September. **Friday, September 6, 8pm and Sunday, September 8, 6pm** • IAHC Members: \$30, General Admission: \$35



### Titanic: Irish Ship, Irish Experience

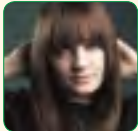
Historian Jessica McCann presents a multimedia program on the origins of the Titanic and the experiences of the Irish aboard the ship. **Sunday, September 8, 2pm** • \$10



### Project Pins and Needles Sewing Class

Learn basic sewing and quilting instruction in this ongoing series with the IAHC's Nimble Thimbles.

**Wednesdays: September 11, 18 and 25, 7pm-9pm** • \$135 and includes fabric



### Aoife Scott in Concert

Aoife Scott is an award-winning folk singer and songwriter who is a rising star in the traditional and folk music scene. **Friday, September 13, 7:30pm**  
 IAHC Members: \$15, General Admission \$18



### Anam Cara Storytelling

Hear compelling, humorous and heartfelt stories from students of the IAHC Memoir and Creative Writing classes. **Saturday, September 14, 6:30pm** • \$5



### Fall Celtic Art Classes

**Celtic Art by Hand and Eye** • **Sundays, 11am-1pm**. This class is an introduction to Celtic Art teaching calligraphy, knotwork, spirals and patterns.

**Celtic Art Portfolio** • **Sundays, 1:30-3:30pm**. An open studies class for artists; some knowledge of Celtic art is recommended.

**September 15-November 10**

**\$125 for IAHC Members, \$140 for non-members**



### The Conifers in Concert

The Conifers are five young musicians who play lively and energetic music, while remaining true to a traditional repertoire rooted in Clare, Slabh Luachra and Donegal.

**Sunday, September 15, 4pm** • Free

### Memoir and Creative Writing Classes

Whether you're an aspiring writer or working on your novel, this ongoing workshop offers instruction in a supportive group setting. **Tuesdays, September 17-October 22, 1-3pm** or **Thursdays September 19-October 24, 4-6pm or 7-9pm** • \$60

### Billow Wood in Concert

Direct from Mayo, Billow Wood are a four piece act who combine their unique brand of instrumentation with multi-vocals and harmonies. **Thursday, September 19, 7pm** • Free

### Beginning Genealogy

Not sure how to start building your family tree? This workshop teaches methods for those beginning their genealogy research. **Thursday, September 19, 7-9pm** • \$20

### Lankum in Concert

Lankum combines four-part harmonies with arrangements on uilleann pipes, concertina, accordion, fiddle and guitar. Their repertoire spans humorous Dublin music hall ditties and street songs, classic ballads and traditional Irish and American dance tunes.

The concert is part of World Music Festival Chicago. **Friday, September 20, 7pm** • Free

### Na Gaeil Irish Language Classes

Connect with Irish culture, heritage and new friends through the first language of Ireland in an informal and fun setting.

**Saturdays, September 21-January 25, 11am-1:30pm**

**Wednesdays, September 25-January 29, 7-9:30pm**

Tuition is \$130 for new students and \$105 for returning students

### Fall Watercolor Classes

Learn to paint in watercolor this class designed for artists of all levels.

**Wednesdays, October 30-December 11, 6:45pm-8:45pm**

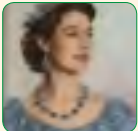
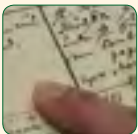
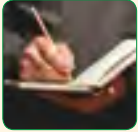
or **Thursdays, 10am-1:30pm, November 7-December 19**

**\$130 for IAHC members, \$140 for non-members**

### Tea with Queen Elizabeth II

Meet Queen Elizabeth II and learn about the woman behind the images, humor and savvy intelligence in this solo performance by actress Leslie Goddard.

**Saturday, October 26, 11am** • \$25, Children 12 and under \$8



## IAHC FALL CONCERT SERIES



### The High Kings

**Friday, September 6 • 8pm**

**Sunday, September 8 • 6pm**

**\$30-\$35**



### Aoife Scott

**Friday, September 13**

**7:30pm**

**\$15-\$18**



### The Conifers

**Sunday, September 15**

**4pm**

**Free**



### Billow Wood

**Thursday, September 19**

**7pm**

**Free**



### Lankum

**Friday, September 20**

**7pm**

**Free**

For all upcoming IAHC events, visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org)



*the heritage line*  
**IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER** Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

**President's Message**

It was great to see so many IAHC volunteers, staff and partners at Milwaukee Irish Fest last month. As with every year, there was a convoy of Chicagoans making their way up I-94 to the granddaddy of Irish festivals. The IAHC and its partners represented with programs and displays during the fest to showcase what we do here in Chicago. As always, thank you to the Milwaukee Fest volunteers and staff for their hospitality and support.



Friday, September 13. Get your tickets now for what is sure to be a fantastic evening of music. Don't forget that our participation in the City of Chicago's World Music Festival continues with a free concert from Lankum on Friday, September 20 at 7pm.

Check our social media channels and website at [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org) for information

for these concerts.

As the calendar turns from summer to fall, I look forward to seeing you all around the Center for a full slate of music and cultural programs throughout the building.

**Mike Shevlin, IAHC President**

Just a reminder that the IAHC Fall Concert Series is under way with FREE shows from Limerick's The Conifers and Mayo's Billow Wood. Aoife Scott makes her IAHC debut on



The IAHC's partners, board members and volunteers were in the house at Milwaukee Irish Fest with performances and exhibits from our Na Gael language program, Trinity Academy of Irish Dance, Irish Community Services and the Irish American Hall of Fame.

**The Heritage Line Staff**

Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

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

*No Cover* *Free Parking*

**the fifth province**  
 IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

**SEPTEMBER ENTERTAINMENT**  
*Music Starts at 8pm unless otherwise noted*

9/6 Francis O'Neill Ceili Mor  
 9/7 In Spite of Ourselves  
 9/13 TBA  
 9/14 TBA  
 9/20 Joe McShane  
 9/21 The Dooley Brothers  
 9/27 Mulligan Stew  
 9/28 The Chancey Brothers

**Thursday Night Irish Music Sessions: September 5, 12, 19 and 26**

**SEPTEMBER 2019**

9/1 and 2	Labor Day Weekend	Building Closed	
9/5	Genealogy Research Night for IAHC Members	Library	7pm
9/6	High Kings in Concert	Erin Room	8pm
	Francis O'Neill Ceili Mor	Fifth Province	8pm
9/8	Titanic: Irish Ship, Irish Experience	Library	2pm
	High Kings in Concert	Erin Room	8pm
9/13	Aoife Scott Concert	Room 109	7:30pm
9/14	Anam Cara Storytelling	Library	6:30pm
9/15	The Conifers in Concert	Fifth Province	4pm
9/17	Celtic Women International Meeting	Room 304	7pm
9/19	Billow Wood in Concert	Fifth Province	7pm
9/20	Lankum in Concert	Erin Room	7pm
9/29	Genealogy Meeting	Library	1pm
9/29	Phil Coulter in Concert	Mayfair Theatre	3pm

**Regularly Scheduled Events**

Mon-Fri	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	3pm-8pm
Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
	Memoir and Creative Writing Class (starting 9/17)	Library	1pm
Wed	Genealogy Consultations	Library	10am
	Traditional Irish Music Session	Room 111	7pm
	Sewing Class (Starting 9/11)	Room 208	7pm
	Na Gael Language Class (Starting 9/25)	Room 304	7pm
Thurs	Memoir and Creative Writing Class (Starting 9/19)	Library	4pm
	Memoir and Creative Writing Class (Starting 9/19)	Library	7pm
	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsal	Room 306	7pm
	The Thursday Shindig Music Session	Fifth Province	7pm
Sat	Gift Shop		10am-8pm
	Na Gael Language Class (Starting 9/21)	Library	11am
Sun	Celtic Art by Hand and Eye (starting 9/15)	Room 311	11am
	Celtic Art Portfolio	Room 311	1:30pm

**Library Hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 4pm-8pm; Saturday 10am-2pm**



THE CHICAGO  
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AND AFFILIATES

The Chicago Community Trust,  
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& Gene Siskel Film Center

present **5<sup>th</sup>** Annual

# Irish American MOVIE HOOLEY

September 27, 28 and 29, 2019 • [moviehooley.org](http://moviehooley.org)

## Misty Button

*Chicago Premiere*

Friday, September 27, 8:00 pm

*Writer / Director / Seanie Sugrue in Person!*



## The Man Who Wanted to Fly

*Chicago Premiere*

Saturday, September 28, 8:00 pm

*Director Frank Shouldice in Person!*



## Cumar: a Galway Rhapsody

*American Premiere*

Sunday, September 29, 5:00 pm

*Producer Aisling Ní Fhlaithearta in person!*



[moviehooley.org](http://moviehooley.org)

Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 N. State Street, Chicago

TIX - [www.siskelfilmcenter.org](http://www.siskelfilmcenter.org) Hotline: (312) 846-2800



## Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



### Want to be President?

Every one of the U.S. presidential candidates tells us that he or she is a leader. Each would claim to have been recognized for their leadership skills and acumen in the past.

Perhaps it is the same when a person wants to be considered for the presidency or general managership of his/her company. What is the evidence of their leadership skills?

One of my favorite reference books on leadership is the Leadership Challenge by James M. Kouzes and Barry Z. Posner. I found that earlier editions of this book and I believe current editions focus on their five prong approach to recognizing leaders. First, do they challenge the process? Do they inspire a shared vision? Do they enable others to act? Do they model the way? And finally, do they encourage the heart? If you use these five points as a filter, how does your candidate stack up? The book says "we define leadership as the art of mobilizing others to want to struggle for shared aspirations."

Of course, each of the points above requires studying and discernment. When candidates are on the "stomp", they are all challenging the process. They will try to convince you that they have insights and approaches not ever considered by the "other person". You need to determine whether they are simply a critic of the current person, or have they actually demonstrated their opposition to the current status in some substantial fashion.

Do you find one or more of the current candidates inspiring? Do you find yourself saying that if "your candidate" is elected, everything is going to be better economically, socially, or politically? Does your candidate lift your spirits? Does s/he inspire you to commit yourself to their platform?

Do they enable others to act? This is a tough one to assess unless the candidate has held an executive position in government or business, so you have a view of their actions, not just their words. How do we know if a long time Congressman or Senator will enable others to act? They are part of a large political body. Obviously

they can claim that their voting records show this characteristic. But does it? Will they appoint the best available tough minded, capable people to lead the governmental agencies?

A common vision? Can anyone develop a common vision in this country that has come to celebrate diversity? Have we traded our heritage in order to embrace diversity of ideas?

At one point, the European immigrants understood that to advance they needed to learn the English language; it was the national language. I celebrate the notion of learning a second or third language; wouldn't it be wonderful if we all could. But we need to have some thread of commonality and similarity or we will lose the incredible cohesion that we have had in the past. In a conversation with a German born friend of mine, whose father died in a Russian POW camp during World War II, he teared up as he said, "I am an American. My loyalty is to the United States; I would fight Germany as many German Americans did during World War II."

Would our president inspire the current and future waves of immigrants to truly adopt this country as their own? If the person being assessed is a corporate executive, could s/he inspire new hires from the Millennial generation? Could s/he help the new employees see the glory in the corporate mission?

Would the new president model the way for all of us? Would s/he walk the talk? Or might they be consumed by the majesty of the office? How often do we hear candidates proclaim that the government should be run as a business, until they take office? Will they conduct themselves as a truly representative American? How many presidents in your lifetime have disappointed you in this regard?

And finally, would your candidate encourage the heart? Would they recognize individual contributions to the success of every project? Would they celebrate accomplishment regularly? Have we lost the will to do these things?

In the Leadership Challenge, the authors report that the five most appreciated characteristics of admired leaders are: honesty, forward looking, inspiring, competency and fair mindedness. How does this five pronged filter match up with your view of your candidate? Interestingly enough, intelligence is 8th on the list while courage is #11.

Over the course of the next few years, we will have

a chance to assess each of the presidential candidates. But perhaps more on point, you and I will have a chance to use this same set of filters to assess and evaluate our corporate superiors. Does s/he live up to the expectations listed above? Are there steps we could take to help them achieve a greater sense of leadership? I am a big believer that you owe your employer loyalty, but if you are disdainful of the leadership of your organization, you have an inherent conflict.

If you are convinced that the leadership of your organization does not get a passing grade in the five most appreciated characteristics how can you continue to support their efforts? Perhaps you have to change them or change jobs. What would you choose to do?

Another resource that I often use in assessing leadership skills is A Leadership Primer, a 20 page document authored by General Colin Powell. He shares his views on leadership through the use of 18 Lessons. Each lesson is direct and pithy, including #1, which says, "Being responsible sometimes means pi-ing people off". He also shares his definition of Leadership: "the art of accomplishing more than the science of management says is possible". Carpe Diem.

**FOR CONSIDERATION:** "The idea for which this nation stands will not survive if the highest goal free men can set themselves is an amiable mediocrity. Excellence implies striving for the highest standards in every phase of life.

*John W. Gardner, scholar and leader.*

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

*#630-420-0362 Jamesffitz37@hotmail.com jamesffitzgerald.com*

### SHAMROCK AMERICAN CLUB DINNER DANCE

#### CELEBRATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY!

**OCTOBER 6TH - 4PM TO 11PM**

**in the Erin Room at the  
Irish American Heritage Center**

**Dinner by Harrington's**

**\$45 per person**

**773-203-4737**

**Music by**

**Gerry Haughey  
and Joe Cullen**

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# Chicago Gaelic Park

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



## A Cháirde

September has arrived. Cultural Camp is over. Wednesday Patio Barbecue nights are winding down, and we are ready for the return of a favorite annual event. Irish Heritage & Harvest Day. This September 8th event starts with the threshing and tractor displays, and then moves into the games, demonstrations, and celebrations of music and dance. Please join us for a free, zero-technology, all-ages day of fun and memories.

We welcome our new Book Club, which will be meeting monthly, and we look forward to the camaraderie, competition and craic of the Carraig Pub's annual Golf Outing on Thursday the 19th. County Mayo is sending us a special treat on Friday the

20th. Billow Wood was one of the most popular bands at our recent festival, and we were delighted to have them back for a concert so soon.

As I attend various events at Gaelic Park and the rest of Chicago's Irish Community, I am always impressed by the talent, dedication and hard work of the many volunteer's throughout each organization. Behind each volunteer, there are spouses and other family members that support that volunteer's involvement. I'd like to thank all the families of the volunteers for the support they provide.

Is mise le meas,  
Bill O'Sullivan

## THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING HAPPENING AT GAELIC PARK...

### Barbeque on the Patio

September 4 Grace and John

September 11 Frank Rossi (Last Patio BBQ of the Year)

September 4 Senior Luncheon Jerry & Kara Noon

September 8 Harvest and Heritage Day  
Book Club

September 11 Ladies Auxiliary 7:30pm

September 19 The Carraig Pub Golf Outing

September 26 Billow Wood Concert

Monthly Mass & Brekfast is the 2nd Sunday of the month and resumes October 13th

Every Monday Set Dancing - 7:30pm

Every Tuesday, Ceili Dancing - 7:30pm

Ceili Lessons - 7:00 pm

WEBSITE CALENDAR SHOWS FULL MONTH

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

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

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

## the CARRAIG IRISH PUB

### Live Music in the Pub

Wed Sept 4	Grace & John	6:00pm
	<i>Ribs On The Patio</i>	
Fri Sept 6	Joe McShane	7:30pm
Sat Sept 7	Jerry & Kara	8:00pm
Wed Sept 11	Frank Rossi	6:00pm
	<i>Last Ribs On The Patio</i>	
Fri Sept 13	Joe Cullen	7:30pm
Sat Sept 14	Kieran Byrne	8:00pm
Fri Sept 20	Bernie Glim	7:30pm
Sat Sept 21	Grace & John	8:00pm
Fri Sept 27	Gerry Haughey	7:30pm
Sat Sept 28	TBD	

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



NO COVER CHARGE



Dance moms share memories at a Wednesday BBQ...





# Chicago Gaelic Park

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



**Gaelic Park's 2019** *This event is Free & Fun for all the family!*

**Irish Heritage & Harvest Day**  
Sunday September 8, 2019

**Farm Animals  
Music & Dancing  
Art Contest**

**Wellington Toss  
Straw Pillow Fight**

Food and refreshments will be sold throughout the day

Youth Hurling and Football Games - Games for ALL AGES including ADULTS!

Straw Pillow Fight, Candy in the Straw Scramble, Three Legged Race, Sack Race, Dizzy Stick Race, Barrel Race, Water Balloon Toss, Tug of War, Wellington Toss & Gaelic Sports Skills Test

GAMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

For more information call 708-687-9323 or visit [www.chicagogaelpark.org](http://www.chicagogaelpark.org)

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

**The Carraig Pub  
Golf Outing**  
Thursday September 19, 2019

**Coyote Run Golf Course**  
800 Kedzie Ave.  
Flossmoor  
Shotgun Start 11:30am  
\$120.00 per person

Prizes, Dinner and Open Bar at Gaelic Park

Closest to pin on Par 3's  
Longest Drive

Contact Pub Manager Philip Guinlan to book your place!  
708-687-9323



**Billow Wood**  
IN CONCERT

**At Chicago Gaelic Park**  
Friday September 20, 2019 - Tickets \$20.00  
Doors open 7:00pm - Show at 7:30pm  
Chicago Gaelic Park - 6119 W. 147th Street - Oak Forest, IL 60452  
708-687-9323 / [ChicagoGaelicPark.org](http://ChicagoGaelicPark.org)

 ...I'm tellin' ye now...If a fella used plain common sense an' a simple plan he need never get caught!... and if you do not know what this is referring to, then surely you must come out to Gaelic Park Players production of *Anyone Can Rob a Bank*, written by Thomas Coffey, performed as the Fall 2019 play.

Also the Gaelic Park Players Junior group will be performing *Taddy: A Spirit of Ireland*, written by Bill Gleason. Set in rural Tennessee in 1964, Taddy tells the story of a group of young people as they learn the lessons friendship, Belief and the power of forgiveness!

Auditions for both the Players and Junior Players will be held in August and will be posted on the website [www.gaelicparkplayers.org](http://www.gaelicparkplayers.org). Check out the website for a cast of characters needed.

**Gaelic Park can be found on FACEBOOK AND TWITTER! TAKE A MOMENT AND "LIKE" US!**



# Chicago Gaelic Park

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



## Tuesday Night Ceili with Devin Shepherd Band



Thanks to all the great musicians who made our summer dances so special.



## Gaelic Park Book Club (Club Leabhar)

Library, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor 1:00-3:00pm  
September 2019 - May 2020

The first Sunday of the month we gather to discuss great Irish writers. Please join us!  
There is no fee & we don't require perfect attendance.  
If you have questions, contact: [Molanive@yahoo.com](mailto:Molanive@yahoo.com)

Sept 8	Irish Girls about Town	Maeve Binchy
Oct 6	Tara Road	Maeve Binchy
Nov 3	The Wonder	Emma Donoghue
Dec 1	This Side of Brightness	Colum McCann
Jan 5	No Ordinary Women	Sinead McCoolle
Feb 2	Everybody Matters	Former Pres. Mary Robinson
Mar 1	The Devil I know	Claire Kilroy
Apr 5	Dancer	Colum McCann
May 3	Unraveling Oliver	Liz Nugent

At Chicago Gaelic Park  
6119 W. 147th Street - Oak Forest, IL 60452  
708-687-9323 [www.ChicagoGaelicPark.org](http://www.ChicagoGaelicPark.org)

## Gaelic Fright Night

SAT. OCT. 26TH 7:00-11:30

AT GAELIC PARK 6119 147TH. ST. OAK FOREST  
MUSIC BY ELECTRIC BLUE ENTERTAINMENT

**COSTUME CONTEST**  
COUPLE / GROUP PRIZE \$500  
INDIVIDUAL PRIZE \$250

**MOUTHWATERING BITES**  
TRICK OR TREAT TABLE  
1 FREE HALLOWEEN DRINK

**COSTUMES ARE REQUIRED**  
\$30 PER VICTIM \$55 COUPLE \$275 TABLE OF 10  
(ADULTS OVER 21 ONLY)

Tickets Available on Eventbrite under "Gaelic Fright Night"  
Questions? e-mail [johndevitt67@gmail.com](mailto:johndevitt67@gmail.com)



# Chicago Gaelic Park

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



## Irish Cultural Camp





This month I would like to highlight Co. Tyrone (tir eoghan) meaning land of Eoghan. Tyrone is one of the six counties in the North. It is no longer used as an administrative division for local government but remains a strong identity in popular culture. Adjoined to the south west shore of Lough neah. The county is approximately 1,229 sq. miles and the population is at roughly 180,000. The county town is Omagh. The county derives its name and general geographic location from Tyrone, a Gaelic kingdom under The O'Neil Dynasty which existed until the 17C. Tyrone is the largest county in the north, area wise, not in population, Co. Antrim has the biggest population in the North. Gold has been discovered on every continent in the world. So, it's not surprising that gold has been found in the Sperrin mountains, they run through Tyrone & Derry, they are about 40 miles in length. There is a full running gold mine outside of Omagh, Galantas. It's said that our bodies contain gold, it's concentrated around the heart!

America has 16 towns named Tyrone. Tyrone, Kentucky, Tyrone, Colorado, & in New Mexico, etc... A man named John Dunlap worked in Gray's printing shop in Strabane, Tyrone. He is claimed to have printed the Declaration of Independence. (America declaring Independence from Eng. 1776) Former presidents, James Buchanan, Ulysses S. Grant & Woodrow Wilson have ancestral links to Tyrone.

Sadly, another topic in Tyrone are the bombings. The ferocious bombing in Omagh ended the troubles in Northern Ireland. It was a car bomb on August 15th, 1998. The bombing took 29 lives and injured 220.

From Tyrone to Kentucky...Over the last few weeks I have been in

contact with a lovely lady named Bridie Harrison. (nee McSorley) She claims that she left Tyrone under one condition, that she could go home once every year, and so far, she has successfully maintained that goal.

Bridie is happily married to her husband Tom, a native of Kentucky. They live on a beautiful horse farm, a serene equestrian paradise that reminds her of home. We spoke at length about her county and she shared invaluable information with me & is proud of where she comes from. A big thank you to the talented horse trainer Bridie Harrison & her husband Tom.

I will wrap this month with the topic of hurling but there will be a part 2 for Co. Tyrone next month. I see that my county Kilkenny has again fought their way to play in the All-Ireland. As it stands for the record for most consecutive wins Kilkenny 4, Cork 4. The All-Ireland that stands out to me was the 1947 Kilkenny vs. Cork with just a half minute to go the score even, by a combo of 14 points. The lead player for Cork was Christy Ring and the lead player for Kilkenny was Terry Leahy, there was a battle around the Cork goal. Leahy had the ball he lost his hurly in the battle but he managed to get the ball over the bar to win the game for Kilkenny. That year Kilkenny got a free trip to New York. Terry Leahy went on the trip & he met a girl in New York, he fell in love the rest is history. He never went back home to Kilkenny. When I was young, in the Kilkenny people newspaper it often read, "Terry come home we need you now" and everyone knew what it meant.

#### Up Co. Tyrone!

If you have any questions/comments, please call & we will have a chat about the counties of Ireland (708) 425-7021



## Who Was Constance Markievicz?

Who was Constance Georgine Markievicz? (nee Gore-Booth) (known as countess) (born in Sligo 1868-1927) She was an Irish politician, nationalist, suffragist (woman advocating for women) and a socialist.

She served as Minister for labor, she served as a Teachta Dala for the Dublin constituency & she was also a member of Parliament. (England) A founding member of Fianna Eireann, Cumann na mBAn & the Irish citizen army. She took part in the Easter Rising in 1916 as did other women. Her life and career were impressive and an amazing achievement for a woman at that point in history. She was a brave woman who wasn't afraid of anything or anyone.

Markievicz was the daughter of the Arctic explorer Sir Henry Gore-Booth, Anglo Irish landlord. During the famine her father provided food for his tenants in Sligo. An uncommon practice for a landlord to provide anything. Her father's example inspired Markievicz & her younger sister Eva Gore-Booth to have a concern and love for the working people and the poor.

Originally Markievicz wanted to be a painter. She moved to Paris and enrolled in an art school where she met her future husband, Casimir Markievicz. (an artist from a wealthy Polish family from Ukraine). They married and had a daughter, Maeve. Maeve was raised by Constance's parents and eventually became estranged from her mother.

In 1908 Markievicz became actively involved in politics in Ireland. She joined Sinn Fein Inghinidhe na hEireann (daughters of Ireland). To the meetings she would wear satin ball gowns and different tiaras. At times when people do that, dress flamboyantly or flashy they could be remembered for just that, but she is definitely remembered for fighting for Ireland's freedom.

Some women in high positions choose to wear black to let the

## Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



cause be highlighted and not the clothes. (for example women wore black to the golden globes, for the me too movement) Markievicz joined James Connolly (Irish Republican leader (Scottish born)) and the Irish citizens army, a small volunteer force formed in response to the lock-out of 1913 to defend the demonstrating workers from the police. Markievicz had a great humanitarian calling, sold all her jewelry and used her money to feed the poor children. She let her fancy clothes and jewelry go. She told her female friends, "Dress in skirts and strong boots, leave your jewels and buy a revolver."

Markievicz took part in the 1916 Rising she wore the same uniform the men wore. Some allege she shot a policeman and he later died from his injuries. As most of you readers may know that the Rebellion lasted six days and it ended when the British army brought the Irish leaders a copy of Pearse's surrender order. (Patrick Pearse-nationalist, writer, lawyer) Sadly the Irish fighters were taken to Kilmainham Gaol. At Markievicz's Court hearing she pleaded not guilty, she stated, she was only taking part in an armed rebellion for the purpose of assisting the enemy" but pleaded guilty to having attempted to cause disaffection among the civil population of His Majesty." Markievicz continued to tell the court, "I went out to fight for Ireland's freedom and it does not matter what happens to me. I did what I thought was right and I stand by it."

She was sentenced to death, but the court suggested compassion on basis of her sex. She was sentenced to life in prison. However, she was released in 1917 along with the others involved as the government in England granted a general amnesty for those who participated in it. Around this time Markievicz,

born Church of Ireland converted to Catholicism. (King Charles II of England also converted but on his death bed)

Markievicz served as Minister of Labor. She became both the first Irish female cabinet minister and only the second female government minister in Europe. She was the only female cabinet minister in Irish history until Maire Geoghegan-Quinn (1979). Markievicz left government in 1922 along with others in opposition with the Anglo-Irish Treaty. She ended up in jail again and so along with other female prisoners, they went on hunger strike, they were released within a month. Upon her return to her political career she left Sinn Fein and joined Fianna Fail while she was being elected, she got sick. She died a few weeks later. Markievicz died in 1927 at the age of 59 of appendicitis. (appendix is a pouch on the colon/has no role/if untreated it ruptures and causes sepsis).

Eamon DeValera, former president of Ireland, gave her funeral oration. In 2018 a portrait of Markievicz was donated by the Irish government to the House of Commons to commemorate the 1918 Representation of the People act. (fourth reform act) (granted the vote to women over 30)

In honor of my brother Mike who lives in Dublin he mentioned Markievicz to me and asked what about her story...

#### Gaelic for the Month

lady--bean  
women--mna  
jewelry--seodra

Irish proverb—"You have to do your own growing no matter how tall your father was." "Your feet will bring you where your heart is." I am starting a book club at Gaelic park. The first meeting will be September 8th, the book, Irish Girls about Town. (1-3pm) If you have any comments please email me: Molanive@yahoo.com



## Gallagher’s Advice

By Caroleann Gallagher



### Veteran Files For Alleged Defective Earplugs

Well that was a fast Summer! I am back in Chicago after a wonderful trip home to Ireland to see family and friends. I hope you all enjoyed an opportunity to do some happy things this Summer, as we settle in for back to school runs and cooler evenings.

This month, I wanted to bring IAN readers attention to some new litigation I have recently learned about, in an effort to reach out and see if any IAN readers may require my assistance in this particular area.

In 2003, 3M became the sole supplier of earplugs for the U.S. Military. It continued to supply all branches with earplugs until 2012. According to report I have reviewed, the company partnered with the U.S. to protect the nation’s troops despite knowing that its earplugs were defective. Now,

men and women who served and deployed during those nine years are coming forward with complaints of hearing loss, tinnitus, and other auditory issues. Since then, several lawsuits have been filed against 3M for failure to disclose the defects, including a recent lawsuit from an Illinois veteran.

When 3M signed on as the U.S. Military’s sole provider for combat earplugs, it apparently did so knowing that the men and women it agreed to protect would be exposed to explosions and firearms—both of which produce excessively loud noises that can damage the eardrum. The company failed to disclose to the government the fact that it knew the promised product was defective. The earplugs it sold were far too short for proper insertion, thereby

making them ineffective when it came to doing the one thing they were supposed to do: prevent hearing loss.

Individuals who wore the issued earplugs during combat and training are now coming forward with their stories of hearing loss, tinnitus, and other side effects of excessively loud noises. One such individual is Eric Taveras, an Illinois veteran.

Taveras served in Operation Iraqi Freedom between 2006 and 2007. He was just one of many who wore 3M’s earplug product under the assumption that it would keep his hearing safe. However, today he lives with permanent hearing loss and tinnitus, which is a pervasive ringing in the ears. Recently, at 41 years old, he filed a lawsuit against 3M alleging that the company knew of the defects, that it supplied the earplugs to the military regardless, and that it failed to inform the government of the defects. Taveras claims he feels betrayed, as the company knew of the flaws but failed to tell him and other troops.

3M, however, was not the original supplier of the military’s earplugs. The company that originally supplied the earplugs was Aearo Technologies, but this company was acquired by 3M in 2008. In acquiring Aearo Technologies, 3M promised to assume full responsibility

for the dual combat earplugs—a promise it failed to keep. Moreover, the company learned that if servicemen and women inserted their earplugs deeper into the canal, they would work properly. However, they did not inform military personnel of this technique.

Here at Dwyer & Coogan, P.C., my colleagues and I have vast experience with product liability litigation and we are dedicated to helping victims of faulty, defective, or dangerous products get back on their feet. If you were involved in Operation Iraqi Freedom between the years 2003 and 2012, and if you now live with hearing loss, tinnitus, or other auditory issues, you may be the victim of 3M’s negligence. Please contact me as soon as possible to see what, if any, legal rights you have to pursue compensation.

*\*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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## Building on Incredible Family Legacy, Harling School of Irish Dance Studio to Hold Beginner Irish Dance; Irish Dance Tots Beginning September 5

Building upon the Chicago Irish dancing legacy of Pat Roche, and Dennis and Marge Dennehy, the Harling School of Irish Dance will open its doors September 5 in Burr Ridge, Illinois.

The school, owned by Irish dancing Midwest Oireachtas Champion Alyssa Harling, TCRG, will teach beginning Irish dance to girls and boys ages 5 and up, as well as an Irish dance movement class for tots ages 3-4. Classes will be held at the Burr Ridge Community Center and students can register by visiting [www.harlingdancers.com](http://www.harlingdancers.com).

"We are beyond thrilled to announce the opening of the Harling School of Irish Dance," said Alyssa Harling, TCRG, who is the principal of the school and has been teaching for almost 15 years. "We take great pride in our incredible family legacy and can't wait to continue the tradition of Irish dance in the Greater Chicago area."

Alyssa is the grand-niece of Dennis and Marge Dennehy who started the Dennehy School of Irish Dance in the 1960s. The Southside dance school is run today by Kathleen Dennehy, ADCRG and TCRG. In addition, her grand uncle is the renowned dance master Pat Roche, one of

the original dance masters that brought Irish dance to Chicago.

"Both of my parents also Irish danced and my Aunt Maureen founded the Harling School in the 1970s," said Alyssa. I am so proud to carry on the family tradition and introduce the next generation to Irish dance."

She concluded, "At the Harling School of Irish Dance, we



build upon the values of excellence, integrity, and resilience. We believe every dancer has a story to tell and understand it's our directive to empower our dancers and nurture their dreams. It's an exciting time and we encourage dancers to join us!"

Visit [www.harlingdancers.com](http://www.harlingdancers.com) for more information.



Helping say goodbye to musician, Shauna Cullen, Mary Gormally Kessler joins her sons Pat and Mike, and their wives Anne and Violet gathered at Chief O'Neill's on August 4, 2019. Sean Cleland is playing tunes in the background!

# Theatre in Ireland

By Michael Corrigan

In a generous review by Gerald Nicosia of my hybrid memoir, *Confessions of a Shanty Irishman*, Nicosia mentioned that Irish writers dominated the 20th century in every genre: novels, plays, and poetry. Considering the English in the 19th century suppressed the Irish language except for areas like the Aran Islands, it is significant that there are so many great Irish writers in English. Unlike Caliban who learned a language only “to curse,” the Irish evidently used it to conquer.

At either end of the 20th century, we have Yeats and Heaney in poetry; we have George Bernard Shaw, a giant in the theatre, plus other playwrights from Synge through Sean O’Casey to Samuel Beckett. Modern theatre patrons can see the viciously funny work of Martin McDonagh who wrote the Academy Award nominated film, *Three*

Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri. For the novel, there is James Joyce who wrote the most complex celebrated novel of the 20th century, *Ulysses*. For a relatively small country, Ireland has four Nobel Prize winning authors. My answer to the question “Why?” is that the Irish decided to destroy the enemy with their own language.

The triumph in theatre is not surprising. The Irish going back to the ancient Celts have had a strong oral tradition that included myths and storytelling. The Irish have also used theatre as a weapon, from *Playboy of the Western World* which caused riots to the plays of Bernard Shaw, a man who used wit to satirize society. Samuel Beckett wrote the ultimate timeless look at absurd empty time, *Waiting for Godot*. (One cannot leave a good production of *Godot* unchanged.)

Years ago one summer in Dublin, my wife and I had the chance to see Ireland’s enduring classic, *The Plough and the Stars*, at the historic Abbey theatre. It cost 25 euros per person which beats Broadway prices, though each patron has to buy the program. The play is revived every ten years and for good reason, for it comes from the heat of the 1916 Irish rebellion on Easter Monday. What is particularly striking is that the play spares no one, Irish included, as we see revolutionaries looting along with the rest of the crowd. By play’s end, a woman lies dead on the floor, shot by a sniper.

The performance we saw remains one of the few flawless productions I have seen in my lifetime, and I can literally count past memorable productions on the fingers of one hand: Zeffirelli’s stage production of *Romeo and Juliet*, an early American production of *Waiting for Godot* (the bar across the street did great business after each show), a Julliard production of *Chekhov’s Three Sisters*, the San Francisco Actors’ Workshop production of Jean Genet’s, *The Balcony*, and the premiere of Sam Shepard’s *Buried Child* at the Magic Theatre. Those productions altered my view of the world.

For *The Plough and the Stars*, the cast was perfect down to the small roles of the English soldiers whose accents sounded foreign, like invading aliens. The direction was invisible but powerful, and the Irish actors that night inhabited the angry lyrical spirit of Sean O’Casey’s drama. Leaving the theatre and walking past the bullet marked Post Office where the Easter rising began added an irony

to the evening’s drama.

There is also *The Gate*, the “other” famous Dublin theatre. A trip to Ireland must include a trip to the theatre. To not experience the Irish theatre would be like visiting Rome and missing the Sistine Chapel.

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Ahhhhhhhh the incredible arrangements, the energy, the craic, and the name of the ebullient cut five on the new and live Socks in the Frying Pan' album Raw & Ril. Recorded in late spring at the Glor Theatre in Ennis, County Clare, the lads' hometown, this album may well prove to be their most popular. As in their previous releases, Raw & Ril gives us their voices, Aodan's, strong, vibrant, intense; Fiachra's baritone, deep, rich, flowing; and Shane's, warm, emotive, and intoxicating, all gifting us with the depths of meaning and soul of the songs they have included in this collection. Their 'none can do it better' harmonies grace each of the songs and are especially hallmarked in "Sammy's Bar" and "Feet of a Dancer". Fiachra Hayes, a multi-instrumental-

ist, is deadly on the fiddle. He is one of the most creative and fluid fiddlers on tour now. The power and brilliance of Shanes' accordion playing defines much of the Socks' particular "sound." The intricate rhythmic and harmonic support of Aodan's guitar holds and enhances each piece. OK, you may say, none of this is new, why am I so high on this album? Foremost, is the energy, the ability it has of giving us the passion of their live performances. Any of you who have not made it to a live Socks gig has missed a party, a rousing affair, an uplifting experience. This musical spirit, such a Socks' signature, comes across strongly on this live recording



## On the Upbeat

By Maryann  
McTeague Keifer

making it incredibly appealing. Their quick and endearing wit is included with the humorous jokes and stories they are so well known for.

Like most live albums, you are going to hear some previously recorded songs and tunes. I was so pleased to see "Mormond Braes" included, a tune Aodan all but owns with his passionate delivery. Those of us who frequent their shows have fallen in love with their rollicking version of "Rollin' in

My Sweet Baby's Arms" here delivered with particular ferocity and exuberance. The beautifully reflective "When I'm Gone" has become a fan favorite. You'll recognize parts of tune sets from previous cds, but here may be paired with a new tune, or a unique arrangement. There are new pieces for us to enjoy such as Fiachra's swinging "Feet of a Dancer", and the defy your feet to not be tapping "Extravaganza Bonanza".

Raw & Ril is like a cold drink on a hot day-sparkling, effervescent, and refreshing. You'll want it not just for your collection, but for the joy it brings you. Socks in the Frying Pan have set the example and raised the bar for all bands thinking of producing a live album-they aced it!

Another new album just out and so representative of the style of a band we love is Goitse's new album Ur.

Irish for fresh or new and stemming from a word meaning heather, Ur brings us more of what we have come to expect from this ultratalented band-beautiful and different

songs exquisitely performed and original tunes interspersed with creatively arranged traditional works. The album opens with the energetic set "The Dog Reels" featuring, for the first time on one of their recordings, their newest member Alan Reid, an



exceptional banjo player. Also featured on the bouzouki, Alan has contributed stunning new tunes and arrangements. With a distinctive style, his playing has melded with the band flawlessly.

Goitse has always had a knack for choosing interesting and beautiful songs that Aine McGeeney, one of Ireland's most

*Goitse*  
INSPIRED BY CHANCE



accomplished traditional style singers, performs with stunning feeling and clarity. She beautifully tells the story of the tentative lover in Andy M. Stewart's "The Queen of Argyll". "Urchnoc Chein Mhic Cainte" sung in Irish, sensitively tells of love in this song from the Eastern Central counties

of Armagh, Monaghan, Louth, and Meath. One of the lovely surprises on Ur is the story of Henry Joy, a duet with Aine and the powerful singing voice of Barry Kerr. While you may have thought his booming voice would overpower her gentle style, it instead sets off her singing perfectly leaving you with a truly memorable experience.

Goitse with Colm Phelan on bodhran, Aine McGeeney on vocals and fiddle, Tadhg O'Meachair on piano, keyboards and piano accordion, newly married Conal O'Kane on guitar, and new Daddy Alan Reid are well known and respected all over the world for their tunes and exceptionally creative arrangements. This album keeps their reputation going in spades! From the slow and easy "Nancy's

Arrival" to the spirited "Invasion" set, tunes are well varied and will have you tapping, swaying and air playing along with them. The light hearted "For Good Measure" set will have you hitting the repeat button, and the gorgeous set "Months Apart" will well appease your desire for traditional selections.

A particular favorite of mine," Siobhainin Seo", meaning the spindle is both comforting and intriguing.

Goitse has produced yet another magnificent first-rate album deserving of awards, and especially, a place in your record library! Let's hope we see them performing here in the States soon!

These albums are just two of many new releases. Next month I'll

be bringing you reviews of Winifred Horan's and Wild Rumpus' recently presented new collections. In the meantime, tune into IRELAND TONIGHT on Mondays from 8-10PM on wdc.org or 90.9FM and 90.7FM West Loop, or Tune In Radio to hear the new music from these and other bands.

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Administrator, President and CEO



It is with a heavy heart that I tell you of my decision to step down as President, Administrator, and CEO of Catholic Charities effective August 16, 2019. It has been my great privilege to hold this position at Catholic Charities for almost 25 years and to be a part of the agency for 30 years.

When I became Administrator, a friend told me that I had been given stewardship of “the great jewel of the Archdiocese.” That term has always stuck with me because it is a beautiful reminder that the poor and vulnerable are the true treasures of the Church. Catholic Charities is so blessed to daily minister to the needs of those whom Jesus entrusted to our care, and during my tenure I have tried to be a faithful steward of this remarkable agency that brings help and hope to so many people in need.

One of the greatest joys of my time at Catholic Charities has to be our recent year-long centennial anniversary celebration. The 100th anniversary gave us the opportunity to honor the great tradition of charitable care in the Archdiocese of Chicago—a tradition that has always included parishes, religious orders, volunteers, board members, philanthropic organizations, the business community, and government entities all working together to respond to signs of the times and adapt and add services to meet changing needs.

During the past 30 years, this tradition has not only continued, but flourished. I have been tremendously grateful for the support Catholic Charities receives from so many organizations, individuals, and especially our dedicated board members, that has allowed us to expand our services in both Cook and Lake Counties, implement innovative programming for veterans, ensure that we are present in the most under-resourced neighborhoods

in the city and suburban regions, extend the reach of our services for the hungry and homeless, develop housing and extensive services for older adults, and ensure that children receive the nutrition they need and have healthy, safe recreational options in their communities.

As Catholic Charities embarks on the next phase of leadership, it will continue the great tradition of bringing people together to respond to changing needs. With that in mind, I am pleased to announce that Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, the Archbishop of Chicago, has asked Kathy Donahue, our Senior Vice President of Program Development and Evaluation, to assume the role of Acting Administrator, President and CEO. Kathy’s nearly 40 years of service at Catholic Charities demonstrates her commitment to the mission and strong leadership in the agency. I am confident that Kathy will ensure that Catholic Charities continues to operate seamlessly. I am deeply grateful for the

friendships I have made with so many of you over the past 30 years. All of you have helped make Catholic Charities what it is today. While my heart will always be with Catholic Charities, it is time for me to step back, rest and transition to a new phase of my priestly ministry. I leave confident that you will continue your extraordinary support of Catholic Charities, ensuring that our brothers and sisters in need—the precious treasures of the Archdiocese—will be protected and treated with the love and



respect that is worthy of their God-given dignity.

Let us go forward, remembering Christ’s call to be the “light of the world” for one another (Matthew 5:13-16) as we continue to help build God’s kingdom on earth, wherever we are. May God’s peace be with you always.

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Hello there again! How was your summer? If you read my last column remember I took my beautiful almost sixteen year old (had to say that, she reminds me every day in a loveable way) home to Ireland for the whole month of June. I had not been home for about thirteen years. Sadly both my parents are gone now and you don't feel that urgency to jump on

a plane every year. I think those living abroad or out of state will totally understand what I'm saying. This trip was definitely long overdue and I was delighted to bring my daughter home. Maybe next time my almost twenty one year old son will go with us and share the driving. I know he would love to drive that Mercedes. He had a busy summer playing per-

cussion for a musical and keeping dad Company while we traipsed around Ireland. We flew into Belfast International Airport headed straight for the car rental. I had booked an automatic as I have a torn rotary cuff on my right side. I knew how many gear changes I would have to do going from town to town. My daughter was delighted when they handed me the keys to an automatic Mercedes Benz. We visited the family and friends first in County Armagh, Down, Tyrone, Derry and Donegal which is our parents' home. It was great meeting up with my cousins on both sides of my parent's family some of whom I haven't seen for over twenty plus years. My cousin daughter Leanne and her young son are beautiful singers. She asked me if I knew Joe Mc Shane she said he's a brilliant song writer. So big shout out to Joe from my cousins in Ballybofey, Donegal. Naturally they all wanted us to visit awhile longer. I did too but I was determined to stay on our schedule as I had promised my daughter we would tour Ireland together as her time was limited. She had Marching Band summer

camp upon our return. Donegal's coastline is the longest in Ireland and it's absolutely breathtaking. My daughter was in total awe, she kept saying how lucky I was to grow up with these picturesque views in my backyard. I think as kids growing up we didn't appreciate the magnificence of its splendor. We drove to parts of Ireland I hadn't visited since I was a teenager and some that I had never visited at all.

I was delighted to visit my husband's family outside Roscommon in Ballaghaderreen. We visited Saint Nathys Cathedral where we got married over 25 years ago. Father Costello and my husband cousin Father Duffy officiated. It was a bitter sweet memory as I stood outside remembering that beautiful day with all our family members present. Both our parents have since passed away and we have lost other close family members but as my husband said we are lucky to have our wedding video which we tearfully bring out every few years.

The cousins took us on a trip to Fowey's Falls in Leitrim. I had not visited there before. It was

specular with cascading waterfalls against the backdrop of the green hills and mountains. You really did want to break out singing. "The hills are alive with the sound of music" My daughter was obsessed with the sheep and especially the baby lambs. My husband laughed at her photos when we got home as I would say about ninety percent of her photos was all about sheep.

Athlone is a beautiful medieval town it was a place I wanted to visit as we had become friends with a family while we were involved in a children's fundraiser in Chicago over ten years ago. They had brought their sick baby daughter to Chicago children memorial hospital and ended up staying for almost a year. We became immediate friends. I fell in love with their little baby girl. I wanted to try and help them and be there emotionally any way I could. We would have them over to swim on Sundays with their baby girl, she loved the water it was a joy to see her little smiling face. I was delighted to see them and over joyed to see their daughter's progress and to meet her two new siblings. It was very emotional. Our next stop was Cobh in county Cork, again it was a beautiful mountain drive going down, and down. It was a very steep drive to the city Harbor. It's known as the Titanic last port of call in 1912. I visited my good friend Ciara who left Chicago over 20 years ago. I met her lovely children and we hung out for the day eating fish and chips then exploring their beautiful town. That's definitely one place I need to go back to. It just stole my daughters heart. But be prepared bring your walking shoes lots of hilly streets. Moving on towards Galway. I would like to take this opportunity to wish my husband Andrew a happy 25th anniversary it's been a blast and I am looking forward to another twenty five years. Im also looking forward to our party and meeting up with our friends.

Till next time enjoy what's left of our summer, personally I'm looking forward to the cooler autumn weather so I can continue to go on my long walks with my kids.

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## Jack Taylor Battles With the Galway Girl

By Kernan Andrews

As seen in the Galway Advertiser Thursday, August 8, 2019

**Ken Bruen's new novel publishes in November**

'GALWAY GIRL' has been the title of both a Steve Earle song and an Ed Sheeran song. The term is about to be put to better use by the award-winning crime writer Ken Bruen in his forthcoming novel.



Ken Bruen - pic by Grace Bruen

Galway Girl, the latest Jack Taylor investigation, will be published in November. It will see Bruen's violent, hard living, hard drinking, yet at times compassionate private eye, take on a psychotic assassin who has been killing Garda officers in Galway city, one by one. Jack is a former guard who fell out with his colleagues long ago, but in this instance, they implore him for help. He agrees, and finds there is not one assassin, but three.

From Galway, Ken Bruen is the author of 11 previous Jack Taylor novels, The White Trilogy, and the recipient of two Barry awards and two Shamus awards. He has twice been a finalist for the Edgar Award.

No stranger to critical acclaim, Bruen's writing has been called "a meeting of Samuel Beckett and Ogden Nash" by the Chicago Tribune; Deadly Pleasures called the author "a unique voice in hard-boiled fiction, his prose is poetic, scatological, and spare to the point of making Hemingway seem verbose and overweight"; while BookPage said "Bruen's novels are in a class by themselves".

*If you are in Ireland, near Galway on Friday, September 20, Ken Bruen will read, along with the poet Kevin Higgins, at The Kenny Bookshop, Liosbáin Industrial Estate, Tuam Road.*

## New Irish Books Available in the USA

Most of these books available at Good Reads, Kindle, Amazon, Barnes and Noble and more.

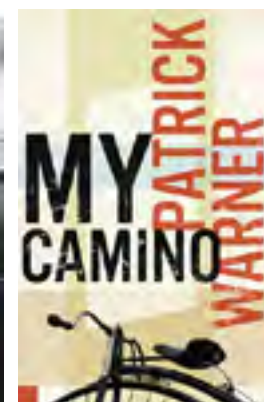
### All the Bad Apples

by Moira Fowley-Doyle

The day after the funeral all our mourning clothes hung out on the line like sleeping bats. 'This will be really embarrassing,' I kept saying to my family, 'when she shows up at the door in a week or two.'

When Deena's wild and mysterious sister Mandy disappears - presumed dead - her family are heartbroken. But Mandy has always been troubled. It's just another bad thing to happen to Deena's family. Only Deena refuses to believe it's true.

And then the letters start arriving. Letters from Mandy, claiming that their



family's blighted history is not just bad luck or bad decisions - but a curse, handed down through the generations. Mandy has gone in search of the curse's roots, and now Deena must find her. What they find will heal their family's rotten past - or rip it apart forever.

### Land of the Free:

An Irish Odyssey in America  
By Tom Curtin

It's 1969, the last summer of love. Moloney, O'Reilly and Gallagher - three Irish students yearning to break free from the shackles of strict, Catholic upbringings in the small university city of Galway - embark on a journey to New York under the guise of visiting relatives and searching for Maloney's long lost aunt. Summer work visas in hand, they quickly find odd jobs as construction hands, elevator operators and cockroach exterminators and become acquainted with the local bar scene - where they find it delightfully easy to meet girls ready to follow them home. As he revels in the novelty of the libertine American experience, Moloney struggles to keep feelings of Catholic guilt and thoughts of his Irish sweetheart at

bay. When he learns that his aunt is alive, he sets out to find her in California and stumbles on a dark secret from her past that casts a new light on the meaning of love, morality - and freedom.

What began as a simple quest for sex and a good time proves life-changing and profound as Moloney discovers that with exhilaration comes disappointment and guilt - both fellow travellers of true love.

### A Century of Service

By Mark Loughrey

Available at [irishacademicpress.ie](http://irishacademicpress.ie)

In February 1919, 20 nurses and midwives meeting in Dublin to discuss their poor working conditions took a historic decision to establish a trade union - the first of its kind in the world. The Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation (INMO) now numbers 40,000 and is Ireland's largest nurse and midwife representative

association.

The book details the Organisation's conservative middle years and its recent emergence as one of the most vocal protagonists for nurses, midwives and patients in Ireland, while also exploring the vast and varied service that the Organisation provides to its members.

### My Camino

By Patrick Warner

Reeling from the Night of Nights, an unexpected blockbuster art show, Floss, a transgender New York gallery owner, invites subversive installation artist Budy and their best friend the Apostle John to cycle the Camino de Santiago. When Floss tells her friends about her shocking experience at the hands of the King of the New York art scene, the journey becomes an anti-pilgrimage—from spiritual discovery to revenge fantasy. Moving from New York to Spain to Dub-

lin, My Camino is a book about misfits, identity, art and spirituality narrated by the audacious Apostle John whose telling sometimes rhymes, is often hilarious and is always a blistering account of the contemporary art world.

### Killer in the Carriage House

By Sheila Connolly

After fifteen years away, Kate Hamilton never expected to end up back in her hometown of Asheboro, Maryland full time. And she definitely didn't expect to be leading the charge of recreating the town as a Victorian village and tourist attraction. But as unexpected as the circumstances are, Kate is ready to tackle them.

The town, on the other hand, is going to take some convincing. Ever since Henry Barton's shovel factory closed down, it's started to seem like there are more tumbleweeds than tourists rolling down

Main Street. Kate's ideas are good, but ambitious—and her friends and neighbors are worried that finding the money for them would push the town even further into debt.

Luckily, Kate and the handsome historian Joshua Wainwright are two very determined people who may have come up with a solution. The Barton mansion, meant to be the centerpiece of the Victorian village, has proven to be a veritable goldmine of documents about the town's nineteenth-century history, and Kate is convinced the papers hide something of value. When a dead body turns up in the town library—mere hours before the documents were meant to arrive there themselves—Kate begins to worry that the papers spell danger instead of dollars. It seems that someone doesn't want these forgotten secrets coming to light, and they'll do whatever it takes to keep Kate quiet...

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## Happily Self-Segregated in My Rainbow-Coloured Safe Space

The world is confusing me - again. Nothing new there; it seems that a week doesn't go past lately that I don't feel as if I've fallen ass-first down the rabbit hole.

I mean, didn't Ireland fairly recently have a referendum on equality for the gay and lesbian community, with equal marriage rights and all that good stuff?

And didn't the population overwhelmingly show that they're not too bothered about interfering in other people's sex lives?

There ye go, I thought to myself; we won't have to listen to any more of this eye-watering stuff about a gay community and a straight community. It'll just be the Community, the way that it should be.

It turns out that would have been 'way too much to hope for. Now that we're all happily equal it turns out that the LGBT community (yes, we're back to separate communities again) don't actually want to be treated like everyone else after all. From September the University of Limerick will be granting requests for student accommodation that will be available for those who are gay, lesbian or transgender.

Presumably there will also be accommodation for those who are pansexual, gender fluid or who 'identify' as dolphins; but let's not go there: as I say, I'm confused enough as it is.

Because this isn't the 'straight' community that is imposing some sort of segregation; this is the LGBT themselves. Oh yeah... and the scheme is called 'rainbow housing'. Well, of course it is.

Here's Dr. Amanda Haynes to enlighten us. She is the co-director of Limerick University's Hate and Hostility Research Group (a First World job if ever there was one) and she says that "rainbow housing is not about self-segregation. It's about giving LGBT students access to a supportive base in which to launch themselves confidently, proudly, and assertively into campus life."

(Sure. By putting up a great big flag saying that they really WERE different all along. Jesus wept, it

doesn't even make a bit of sense.) "In addition, the University's introduction of rainbow housing sends out a clear message to all students, whatever their identity, that this campus intends to be a safe and inclusive space for LGBT people."

Oh well, I would have bet good money that nonsense terms like 'safe space' would come into it sooner or later - 'triggered' will be along in a minute -- and of course anyone who throws those terms about simply never disappoints you. I'm only surprised that the word 'vegan' hasn't popped up somewhere; maybe they're getting a different building.

Uncomfortably for me, I found myself agreeing with a Fianna Fáil politician who attempted (and it's a risky subject to do this on) to talk a bit of common sense.

Mayor of Clare Cathal Crowe said: "I'm big on inclusion and equality, but I think this idea from UL is a bit daft when almost all students are struggling to find affordable accommodation. On top of that, it's hugely segregationist. Why put LGBT students into separate accommodation?"

But - again - they're not being put in. They are putting themselves in. In fact, you could be forgiven for thinking that they are the ones who are not interested in 'inclusion and equality'.

In a Facebook post Mayor Crowe went on to say:

"It is 15 years since I graduated from UL and I considered it to be an open and tolerant campus. This entire idea seems a bit OTT and retrograde."

LGBT activist Richard Lynch wasn't having any of that, though. No common sense wanted here, thank you very much. He hit back with:

"Everyone has an opinion about these things, and if you're not an LGBT person, you probably do not understand the need for Rainbow Housing. He [Crowe] is not a gay person, [but] he is entitled to his opinion..."

And is it just me or did those final words seem to be given a bit grudgingly? I'm not so sure that Mr. Lynch really does think that the

Mayor is entitled to his opinion, him not being gay and all.

A few minor points: I'm fed up with everyone and their mother describing themselves as 'activists'. It just sounds utterly dopey after a while. And what's this with the gay community hijacking rainbows? I'm quite partial to a nice rainbow, myself. They're very pretty and I'm always hoping that I'll trip over a pot of gold at the end of one someday. Why do only gay people get to access them? Especially since 'gay' no longer means 'gay' but instead covers humourless and entitled.

Also, I'm sure I'll get enough stick about this article as it is, so I better apologise in advance for using the alphabet jumble of LGBT. I've just found out that it should properly be LGBT +. I forgot the plus. Heh. I knew the pansexualists would get in there somewhere.

And talking about getting stick, some people didn't seem too happy that I mentioned in my last column that I'm also getting a bit fed up with hearing about climate change. It seems that to even dare suggest that you don't spend every spare moment in thinking about that topic makes you an irresponsible monster who

## Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady

chasbrady7@eircom.net



has just been caught interfering with his neighbour's pet cat.

Yes, I know it's serious; but there's an awful lot of hypocrisy goes along with this territory. Nor do I just mean courtesy of the rich like Creepy de Caprio and others who manage to fly around in their private jets whilst lecturing we poor mortals on the immorality of leaving behind any kind of carbon footprint. Last week one of our local beauties, who never stops ringing her hands about the environment and letting you know what an activist she is, dumped her burger and chips on the ground before staggering into a taxi at three in the morning. Classy. I hope it was a veggie burger. I guess the environment isn't quite so important when you're off your face in the wee small hours and don't think that anyone is watching.

Nor is she alone. Check out Oranmore town on a Friday or Saturday morning and the litter and refuse would make you despair. We're not a species that deserves

a second chance, in my opinion.

Oddly enough, I recently took a notion to reread some very early J.G. Ballard -- one of my all-time favourite authors -- and I had forgotten how focused those first novels were on environmental disasters.

His 1962 book 'The Drowned World' gives us a look at a world where the icecaps have melted and the water level is up all over the globe. But it is 'The Drought' that will really pop your eyes, considering that it was published all of 55 years ago. In this nightmare vision of the future humanity has poured so much radioactive gunk, plastic and rubbish into our oceans that a sort of skin has formed, leading to a world-wide drought and the collapse of what we laughingly call civilization.

I suppose that back then it was considered a bit on the fantastic side. Now, as this astonishing planet prepares to teach us that we are going to reap what we have sowed, it doesn't seem very far-fetched at all.

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Tipperary are All Ireland hurling champions after an impressive 14-point victory over Kilkenny in the decider in mid-August.

The game was in the balance as it approached half time, with Tipperary leading by a single point, but Ritchie Hogan's needless red card tipped the scale.

Goals from Niall O'Meara, Seamus Callan and John 'Bubbles' O'Dwyer set Tipp on their way to what ultimately proved to be a comfortable 3-25 to 0-20 victory.

Tipperary had overcome a stern task in the semi-final when they saw off a fiercely competitive Wexford outfit at Croke Park. The Munster side had three goals ruled out and outscored Wexford by 0-12 to 1-02 in the final 20 minutes to record a 1-28 to 3-20 victory in an instant classic. Tipp's comeback was made all the more impressive by the fact that they played with 14 men for much of the second half.

Their All Ireland final opponents Kilkenny came out on the right side of an equally compelling All Ireland semi-final when they dethroned 2018 All Ireland champions Limerick on a scoreline of 1-21 to 2-17.

Kilkenny were dominant throughout and thoroughly deserved victory against an uncharacteristically lethargic Limerick side.

All four All Ireland semi-finalists have

# Shane's Games

## The Latest News on Sports

*an nuacht is déanaí faoi chúrsaí spóirt*

By Shane O'Brien



been announced to play in an exhibition tournament in New York.

The New York Hurling Classic will take place in Citi Field, the home of the New York Mets, on November 16 and will consist of two semi-finals and a final. The event will be followed by a festival of Irish music and dance and will feature a modified form of the game of hurling where each team only has 11 players and only goals count.

Switching codes, Dublin are preparing to create history and win five All Ireland football titles in-a-row when they take on Kerry in the All Ireland Football final in Croke Park on September 1.

The Dubs looked in imperious form when they dismantled Mayo in the semi-final at the beginning of August.

An excellent and hard-fought first half from Mayo had them going in at the break with a slender two-point lead which Dublin savagely demolished in 12 ruthless second half minutes.

The All Ireland champions came out a different animal after the break and kicked

2-06 without reply in an opening salvo of power and skill to which Mayo had no answer.

Con O'Callaghan grabbed both goals in the 12 minutes, leaving

Lee Keegan for dead on both occasions.

Keegan pulled a goal back for Mayo, but there was to be no repeat of Mayo's heroic semi-final comebacks in 2015 and 2006 against Dublin as Brian Fenton calmly slotted Dublin's third and rounded off a ten-point victory.

Mayo had previously dispatched Donegal, one of the favourites to life Sam Maguire, with an excellent four-point win against the Ulster champions in Castlebar in the final game of the Super 8s.

Kerry produced a similarly impressive second half performance to overturn a four-point deficit against 2018 finalists Tyrone in the other semi-final.

It appeared as though the Red Hands had Kerry's number in a very effective opening 35 minutes as they went in with a 0-09 - 0-05 lead at the break, only for Kerry to produce a barnstorming second half where they outscored Tyrone by 1-14 to 0-10. Stephen O'Brien's 56th minute goal proved decisive in what was ultimately a one score game.

O'Brien was then black carded late on as Kerry fought to keep Tyrone away from goalscoring opportunities, meaning that he was set to miss the final for amassing too many black cards over the course of the season. However, the suspension was overturned last week and Kerry will have one of their most prized assets available for the first Sunday in September.

In a twist of fate, it is Kerry attempting to stop the first five-in-a-row attempt since they were thwarted by Offaly in 1982.

Dublin remains in the hunt for the Ladies

Football All Ireland crown and take on Cork in the semi-final. The Dubs are looking to do three-in-a-row in the women's grade.

The other ladies' semi-final sees Mayo take on Galway in a local derby and a repeat of this year's Connacht final.

Galway have already made the decider in the Camogie championship, dethroning Cork in the process. The Westerners will meet Kilkenny in the final after they beat Tipperary and exact some revenge for the All Ireland final defeat.

In soccer, Mick McCarthy has named a provisional squad for the qualifier against Switzerland in the Aviva Stadium in September. Tottenham prospect Troy Parrott has made the 40-man training squad for the first time after impressing on numerous occasions during Spur's preseason tour.

Also in the squad is Shamrock Rovers' Jack Byrne, who has been utterly exceptional for the Dublin side since making the move back from a failed spell in England.

Byrne's call up to the national squad is about the only positive for the League of Ireland, however, after Dundalk and Rovers both suffered disappointing exits from Europe.

Dundalk were well beaten by Slovan Bratislava in the Europa League third qualifying round with defending proving to be their Achilles Heel, while Rovers went down heroically in Cyprus. The Tallaght side lost 4-3 against regular Europa League qualifiers Apollon Limassol after extra time.

The Irish rugby team continues its World Cup preparation with a warm up match against England in Twickenham on Saturday.

Ross Byrne starts at outhalf for Ireland after Joey Carberry picked up a minor injury in Ireland's straightforward win against Italy in Dublin two weeks ago. Ireland have 2 more games Wales to come before their World Cup opener with Scotland in Yokohama on September 22.

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## George Gaskin

In our work at the Ward Irish Music Archive in Milwaukee we come across many interesting characters. Many of these individuals were pioneers in their fields. But fame is fleeting and many are forgotten today. One of my favorite individuals is George Gaskin who was a pioneer in the recording industry.

George Jefferson Gaskin was born in Belfast, Ireland on February 16, 1863. Not much is known about his early life in Ireland or his family there. He emigrated to America in his youth where he started his musical career as a singer in churches and in early vaudeville. He was one of the first artists to actually be recorded. The commercial recording industry began in 1889 and Gaskin’s first recordings were made in 1891. Allen Koenigsberg’s Edison Cylinder Records, 1889-1912 states that Theo Wangemann, Edison’s recording engineer, believed that



Gaskin was only the second vocalist ever to make a commercial record. The first was probably George Johnson, a former slave who recorded only one day earlier on June 1, 1891. Further testimony to this is that Columbia record catalogs refer to Gaskin as “The Pioneer Phonograph Singer.”

In the April 1928 issue of The Gramophone, Fred Gaisberg recall’s the singer’s early career:

George J. Gaskin, who styled himself “The Silver-Voiced Irish Tenor,” possessed a repertoire that ranged from the sacred and soulful song to the popular vaudeville ditty...It was a positive education to observe the facility with which he could switch over from the religious emotion he displayed during 10 rounds of a hymn to 20 hilarious rounds of “Maggie Murphy’s Home.”

Secrets will out, and we discovered that the success of this transformation was mainly due to a quiet glass of lager imbibed offstage.

He was considered one of the greatest recordable singers in the industry. It was a tinny voice but all of his words were articulated clearly. He seemed to have the ability

Gaskin used was “The Irish Thrush.”

Most music historians place Gaskin as the most popular artist in the first decade of the industry. According to Joel Whitburn’s book, Pop Memories 1890-1954 The History of American Popular Music, Gaskin was ranked as the top artist from 1890-1900. Two other Irish-American artists, Dan Quinn and Arthur Collins, are also included in this top ten list. He states that Gaskin had 19 #1 singles and was rated in the top 100 artists during this period. His Irish-American hits included, “Slide, Kelly, Slide”, “Sweet Rosie O’Grady”, “My Wild Irish Rose” and “Bedalia.” His first number one hit came on December 5, 1891 with “Drill, Ye Terriers, Drill.”

In 1898 Gaskin signed an agreement which made him an exclusive artist with Columbia Records. The deal lasted a year and along with his solo recordings he also made some tenor duets with John Bieling (known as Livingston on the recordings). By the end of the decade the recording industry was rapidly changing. New artists were emerging and Gaskin’s popularity was fading.

In 1904 he stopped recording altogether. In 1916 he made what is thought to be his final disc. It was a double-sided disc with “Come Back to Erin” on one side and “Killarney” on the other. On December 14, 1920 he died in New York.

Unlike today, recording artists in the 1890’s were not on the front line of the music industry. Sheet music and successful songs from Broadway was where the public got most of their contemporary music. The early recording artists, such as Gaskin, only recorded these songs after they were hits.

The industry changed through the popularity of these artists. In 1890 the only way to get your song noticed was to have it published by a major music publisher. By 1900 the faster way to a song’s success was to have George Gaskin record your song.

Unfortunately most of these early recording artists, like George Gaskin, are forgotten today. But they were the

pioneers and first stars of the America’s music industry.

Article written by Barry Stapleton of the Ward Irish Music Archives, Milwaukee Irish Fest.



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[ibamchicago.com](http://ibamchicago.com) or Call 847-872-0700

## IAHC GRAND PIANO PROJECT



The Mayfair Theatre at the Irish American Heritage Center has long been a site for the best in Irish music and international and community performances. Sadly, our grand piano is no longer able to provide performance-level quality to musicians who visit us.

Help the Irish American Heritage Center continue our mission of providing music of all genres to our members and to the community we serve.

Donate \$100 and more, and we will say "thank you" with two tickets to a world-class Irish performance of your choice. \$500 and more is rewarded with four tickets.

The Irish American Heritage Center is a non-profit cultural organization, dedicated to nurturing and strengthening Irish culture and serving the community around us.

To donate, visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org) or call 773-282-7035, ext. 10

  
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