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View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



republican identity it claims to have.

That was why the political power that Sinn Féin burnished when Charles visited Belfast—the First

Minister in waiting, the Speaker and the Mayor of Belfast are all members of Sinn Féin, and all turned out to greet him warmly—was so difficult for the DUP to stomach. By dominating the welcome for Charles III, Sinn Féin usurped a unionist prerogative. That fact was so remarkable that it almost buried any memory of Sinn Féin’s stated republican stance against the monarchy. It also served to obscure Sinn Féin’s former stance against Charles due to his incumbency as Colonel-in-Chief of the Parachute Regiment (infamous in Ireland as the branch of the British Army that perpetuated the Bloody Sunday murders).

Maybe the BBC did give disproportionate focus to Sinn Fein’s love-in with King Charles III. However, what Foster could not bring herself to say is that her gripe has nothing to do with the BBC or any other media outlet. The ire that dares not speak its name in unionist circles is the obvious favouritism that Sinn Féin received from the newly crowned British monarch (Charles inherited none of his late mother’s discretion). It has induced jealousy and panic in Foster and others. The myth of the union in

Ireland was constructed to debar the possibility of Irish nationalism gaining a higher status than unionism in the eyes of the British ruling elite. It did not help that the new-broom British Prime Minister Liz Truss praised the Queen as being ‘the very spirit of Great Britain’ (Ulster Unionists insist on ‘the UK’ since that includes Northern Ireland).

Foster’s response is a good example of how putatively conciliatory gestures can awaken hostility in someone who has something to gain from enmity. The DUP and the TUV miss the boycotting and petulance that attended Sinn Féin’s response to the death of the Queen Mother in 2002. In October 2018, when Mary Lou McDonald presented herself as president of Sinn Féin at a special Ard Fheis in Dublin, she ended her speech with the words ‘up the rebels.’ No such squawk could be heard from Sinn Fein when King Charles III graced them with his company. Twenty years ago, Sinn Féin upheld a rejectionist tradition whereas today it leads the charge in embracing the monarch.

If Sinn Féin would quote from the Easter 1916 leader James Connolly’s article, ‘The British Monarchy Is an Affront to Democracy’, it would suit hardline unionist leaders much better. Responding to the visit of King George V to Ireland in 1911, Connolly wrote: ‘the occasion will be utilised to make propaganda on behalf of royalty and aristocracy against the oncoming forces of democracy and National freedom’.

Sinn Féin is well ahead of unionists in gaming the benefits of their relationship with the monarchy. The party has decided to pay the price of suppressing dissent about the travesty of royalty and silencing criticism such as Connolly’s. It does so under the banner of ‘maturity’ and ‘leadership.’ The narrative weaved around the peace process in Northern Ireland has been responsible for the production and promulgation of such deadening norms. Evidently, it would have been quite possible to behave decently when the queen died and yet uphold a basic principle that any republican worthy of the name would observe: the absolute rejection of monarchy.

To hew Connolly’s statement to contemporary circumstances, the occa-

sion of Queen Elizabeth’s passing was utilised to make propaganda on behalf of royalty and aristocracy against the tolerance of free speech that criticises the validity of the British royal family. For example, much vitriol was directed at Glasgow Celtic Football Club fans for refusing to observe a minute of silence to mark the death of the queen. What was not emphasised is that Celtic fans targeted the institution rather than the deceased. They clapped in response to the banner and refrain ‘If you hate the royal family clap your hands’. Denouncing those fans, former Glasgow Rangers manager Graeme Souness failed to find a moral rebuff. Instead, he found it anti-commercial: ‘Celtic now have a major problem because if you’re a major company looking to sponsor a team in Britain or Scotland, would you consider Celtic anymore?’

Despite Sinn Féin’s new-found affection for royalty, there was dissent aplenty expressed about the British royal family in the past month. In an act of lèse-majesté, the disgraced Prince Andrew was booed as he walked down the Royal Mile in Edinburgh with his family. Protesters also confronted Charles in Wales. As a young scientist, Laura Thomas-Walters, said: ‘In the 21st century in a democratic country, an unelected head of state has no place. It’s an antiquated system of class oppression and class inequalities’. Prince William travelled to Belfast with his wife, Kate, where she shook hands with a woman behind a barricade who informed her: ‘Ireland belongs to the Irish’.

Yet how many non-royalist Irish people (the vast majority of us) have spoken frankly about the affront that the monarchy is to democracy in response to the orgy of royalism since September 8th? The grip of Britain’s elite on free speech regarding their royal family remains very tight, and it is now aided by the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 that enabled the police to arrest young people for asking (about Charles) ‘Who elected him?’ That rhetorical question prompts another that we should be asking on this side of the Irish Sea: do we elect Irish republicans to acquiesce with and validate royalist agendas such as Operation Shamrock in our name?

Game of Thrones

Writing in The Express about the visit of King Charles III to Northern Ireland, former DUP leader Arlene Foster denounced the BBC for its focus on Sinn Féin. She maintained that the broadcaster made it seem that the visit was about Sinn Féin and ‘not marking the death of our sovereign and the first visit of her successor.’ TUV (Traditional Unionist Voice) leader Jim Allister chimed in a similar manner, arguing that the broadcaster ‘gave elevation and promotion to Sinn Féin’.

The British Royal family’s show of force after the queen’s death was decades in the planning. Known as ‘London Bridge/Operation Shamrock’, officials of the royal family and British civil servants had programmed in detail the manoeuvres that King Charles III would make across the UK. The method deployed was a form of soft coercion exercised through enforced handshakes with governing powers in the UK; the objective was to augment the royal family’s stature and ensure the perpetuation of the institution. What was uncertain, until the last minute, was how Sinn Féin would respond, given the

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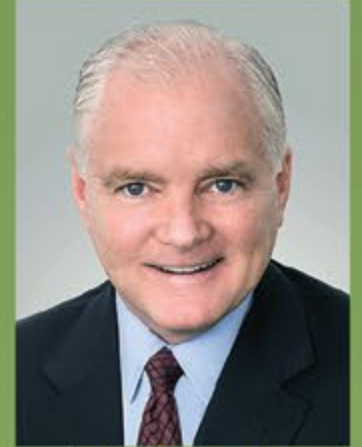


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Roaming in the Gloaming

By Estelle Shanley

Lately I have been haunted by two quotes uttered by the late Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and George Bernard Shaw. Haunted, because both men triggered a bout of fever pitch memories about the rearing the Irish received in the home, schools, orphanages and the Roman Catholic Church.

Churchill, in a 1955 discussion on Nuclear Warfare commented: "It is often said that facts are stubborn things". Indeed! We

A quote from an anonymous Irishman when asked why some Irish don't really come right out and say what they mean.

"We are good at speaking the language of evasion!"

Irish are good at burying facts that have permeated our lives. On the other hand George Bernard Shaw declared: A happy family is but an earlier Heaven. What constituted a happy Irish family? I suppose a combination of things. Food on the table, a loving mother, a father who stayed out of the pub except on the odd night when he came home roaring drunk. Brendon Behan once declared his was the only house where the dog committed suicide! I wonder if Frank McCourt was the only Irishman who confessed in the opening lines of Angela's Ashes, his Pulitzer Prize novel, that he had the worst childhood in the entire universe. Reading that I recall feeling shame and sadness along with a sense of horror although in a quiet private way his confession liberated me to dwell on my own upbringing in Ireland from birth to age 17. The eldest of

three, I was 10 when our father died at age 45, our mother 32. That was trauma, followed by her leaving for Boston to earn money to support us, sheltering us in her sister's home. What is interesting, and as Churchill said "a fact" by 1930 almost five million Irish people emigrated to the United States. No other country has ever given up a greater portion of its population to the U.S. As a result in Ireland today there remain insights and studies into the Irish/Irish-American temperament.

There is a saying that bears repeating: "The great Gaels of Ireland are the men that God made Mad, for all their wars are merry and all their songs were sad." Nonetheless, as the Ethnicity and Family Therapist Monica McGoldrick noted in her long years studying the Irish, there exists a striking charm, joviality and clannishness when the Irish band together for a cause, especially a moral or political cause, and yet seem to suffer from a sense of isolation, sadness and tragedy.

Following President Kennedy's assassination, Massachusetts politician Patrick Moynihan observed: "I don't think there is any point being Irish if you don't know that the world is going to break your heart someday" (Duff, 1971). Our Irish culture plays great value on conformity and respectability and yet we tend toward eccentricity and a history full of rebels and fighters, placing great stock in loyalty to our own and yet the ability to cut off relationships totally. Allegedly, as a result of Vatican II much of the guilt and rigidity that plagued the Irish has diminished.

One major consequence was the shuttering of the Maynooth Seminary in Dublin. Young men were no longer interested in the priesthood and accounts for the shortage of clergy and mass goers at the present time.

Fact, the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland is in the tank! The parish is no longer the neighborhood and the absolute obedience to the rules of the Church, Irish Catholics tend to be neutral about the value of religion in their lives.

Growing up, I recall being bereft of freedom. School was a necessity and even in the younger classes the catechism ruled and nuns who taught were either daft or endlessly cruel. When abuse occurred there was no place to complain.

ry that at home and the bar of soap was launched and as you gagged a lifetime promise was forged, tell your parents nothing about getting slapped with a can or pulled by the ear or hair. Zipper your lip!

Children learned early to smother complaints. Daily mass and communion was compulsory, confessions on Saturday, recitation of the rosary every single night kneeling on a cold kitchen floor, and the energy to make up sins to tell in confession took up much of the week. Lesson:

little kids do not commit sin! If I slipped an extra spoon of jam from the jam jar I felt obliged to confess it. Father Collins advised I pray to Mary the Mother of God when I had the urge for jam. He promised she would intercede in curing my bad habit. Was it a sin? Was the habit bad? Ironically the Mother of God did help. I gave up jam for Lent and discovered on Easter Sunday I hated the sweetness of Jam and my appetite shifted to Cadbury chocolate. We Irish children were wrapped in the fear of sin, the awareness that God died for our sins and we could burn in hell for infinity. The latter meant forever. We wallowed in fear.

We were also consumed with shame for everything. Nothing we achieved was noticed, never acclaimed or praised. Was this neglect or a form of abuse?

In December 2020, an Irish psychiatrist Dr. Garrett O'Connor delivered a lecture before a live audience in Dublin. His subject was the Role of Malignant Shame in Ireland. Interestingly, he shackled shame with alcoholism in Irish culture noting that drinking constituted a barrier to social and spiritual progress throughout the land over many centuries. By the way, he admitted that alcohol was "an excellent drug with a variety of social and psychological benefits for the 80% of individuals who can drink it safely without negative consequences.

He tracked the emotional history of the relationship between malignant shame and alcoholism emphasizing that both conditions were the sworn enemies of empathy and intimacy in interpersonal relationships. He also warned that shame and alcohol was a major obstacle to achieving success and self-fulfillment at an individual, familial, institutional and cultural level.

Meanwhile, how did Irish children suffer? We were watched, managed, oft neglected by both parents and authority figures and we too developed a sense of malignant shame. Parental praise was never forthcoming, neither was affection and at an early age it was easy to cozy up a convocation of personal inferiority plus a suppression of feelings.

One rainy afternoon I recall gazing out the window at the endless rain showers thinking I had two choices in life, I could become odd or I could be a good pupil and a holy child. I was eleven years old! Was I loved? I don't know, had no knowledge of love but I felt safe and secure. When I talk about our lives with other Irish women we report that we never witnessed our parents being affectionate with each other. It was not part of the culture, although there was hilarity good humor and listening to the wireless was the fun of the night once the rosary was concluded.

Dr. McGoldrick comments that the paradox of the general articulateness of the Irish and

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ISSN #1085-4053 USPS #013454
NOVEMBER 2022 Vol. XLVI #11

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Advertising Sales **Cliff Carlson**
Marketing: CMO **Jim Corboy**
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POSTMASTER:

Address changes to **Irish News Inc**
PO Box 7, Zion, IL 60099



PUBLISHERS STATEMENT

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

Distribution 12,013 monthly
cliff@irishamericannews.com

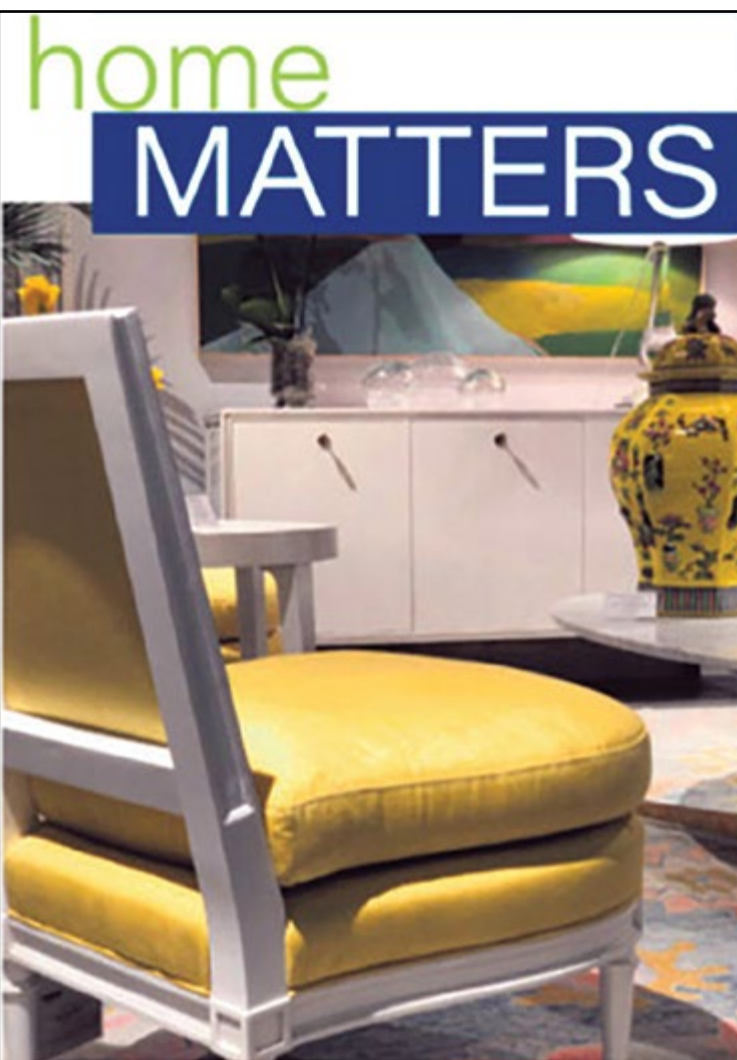
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the inability to express inner feelings is puzzling to therapist who may have difficulty figuring out what is going on in an Irish family. She claims the inexpressiveness is not a sign of resistance as it might be in other cultural groups, but rather a reflection of the blocking off of inner emotions, even from themselves.

Thus, although the Irish have a marvelous ability to tell stories, when it comes to their emotions they have no words. Perhaps that's why the English have coined the phrase "talking Irish" to describe the Irish style of both communicating and not communicating at the same time. It has also been suggested that in the extreme, this style of communication is responsible for the high rate of schizophrenia found among the Irish. It is likely that the tradition of verbal obscurity was due to the history of oppression by the British. Black Americans are another example of people who developed verbal mechanisms to disguise meaning.

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The Ireland Funds to Honor Sister Rosemary Connelly of Misericordia at its 38th Chicago Dinner on December 6th

Charitable event will raise support for nonprofit organizations in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

October 14 2022, Chicago. 400 guests are expected to gather on Tuesday, December 6 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Chicago to raise support for the work of The Ireland Funds while honoring Sister Rosemary Connelly of Misericordia. The Chair of the Misericordia Foundation, Sister Rosemary will be recognized with The Ireland Funds 2022 Humanitarian Award. Past recipients of the award, one of the highest honors given by The Ireland Funds, include former President of Ireland Mary McAleese, Bob & Susan Wright (Co-founders of Autism Speaks), Muhammad Ali, and Bono.

The Chicago Dinner is one of the largest of The Ireland Funds’ numerous international events. The 2022 Chicago Dinner will be co-chaired by Michael D. O’Halloran of Ryan Specialty Group; Thomas F. Meagher, Jr. of GCM Grosvenor; Devon C. Bruce of Power Rogers, LLP; and Patrick J. Canning of Cresset. The evening will be a gathering of The Ireland Funds supporters from around the country in addition to notable Chicago leaders from the areas of business, politics, philanthropy and the arts.

Sister Rosemary Connelly is a pioneer in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities. In 1969 as a member of the Religious Sisters of Mercy, she began as Administrator of the Misericordia Home for children with developmental disabilities. Her unrelenting commitment to developing

programs and services to better serve Misericordia’s community resulted in innovative programs addressing self-help skills, speech and physical therapy and recreational activities. Today, Misericordia supports



more than 600 children and adults from diverse religious, racial, and socio-economic backgrounds. She currently serves as Chair of the Misericordia Foundation. A native Chicagoan with parents hailing from County Mayo, Sister Connelly has led a life of compassion, advocacy and service to Misericordia and the Chicago community for over 50 years.

Aine Mallaghan, The Ireland Funds Vice President of Development, Midwest, said, “We are looking forward to a great Chicago night as we honor the tireless work of Sister Rosemary Connelly. She truly embodies the spirit of giving back which is very much in keeping with the mission of The Ireland Funds. We celebrate the deep ties between Chicago and the island of Ireland and the Dinner will showcase the strategic impacts our supporters are making in Ireland at a time when it is

deeply needed.”

The Ireland Funds is one of the largest private grant makers to the nonprofit sector in Ireland. Recent initiatives such as its Heart of the Community Fund and Ukrainian Relief Fund have ensured that critical and timely funding to a wide range of not-for-profit organizations across the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland is delivered. In keeping with the event’s tradition of supporting work not only across the island of Ireland but in the local community, a grant from the event’s proceeds will also be made to support the work of Misericordia in Chicago. Tickets and info

www.irelandfunds.org

ABOUT THE IRELAND FUNDS

The Ireland Funds is a global philanthropic network. Established in 1976, The mission is to harness the power of a global network of friends of Ireland to promote and support peace, culture, education, and community development throughout the island of Ireland, and among the diaspora. With chapters in 12 countries, The Ireland Funds has provided support to more than 3,200 deserving organizations across the globe.

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Game On! By Chris Wheaton



Ok, I'll confess; the hurling season has been a huge letdown after the North American Championships. I think part of the reason is that our club focused on the event for so long, mainly because it was held in our own backyard at Gaelic Park but also because we registered two panels and wanted to perform well. It's like when we were all 10 years old and the anticipation of Christmas morning consumed our every thought and then when the day finally arrived and ended a major depressing funk set in.

Where are us aspiring hurlers to turn when the season ends, the days become shorter, the temperature plummets and the hope for a solid hurling season is months away? One way to ease the pain and frustration is to look for hurling tournaments played in the winter, in warmer climates. Our club happened to stumble upon a tournament scheduled for February 18 in of all places Las Vegas. To make this rare find even better is that's a fundraiser for the National Collegiate

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Gaelic Athletic Association and the tournament is for OVER 40 year olds! Yes the aptly titled tournament is the "Knees that Craic over 40 Tournament". What a brilliant idea to raise some funds for a great organization and put a bunch of "old guys" together on the pitch for pure fun and a million laughs after the matches. The rules promote comradery and sportsmanship and specifically state that anyone who gets too heated on the pitch will be sent to the training tent for an ice bath to cool off. Anyone who finishes a game and states that they wish they could play longer will be asked to leave. I for one am looking forward to this weekend and Naperville Hurling is sending a large contingent which probably says more about the age of our membership than our sanity.

Until February rolls around I will feign interest in the baseball playoffs hoping for a Dodgers vs. Yankees World Series, which I personally think would be great for the game. I will also continue to watch Liverpool football with the delusional hope that they will soon be out of their current rut and rise to greatness once again before it becomes too late for Jurgen Klopp. The English Premier League has started with a bang and even though I'm not a fan it's exciting to see Arsenal back to the form they used to play with. The Erling Haaland goal brigade is also fun to watch, he is on pace to shatter the EPL scoring record with almost double the scores of second place Harry Kane. It's becoming almost laughable as he runs away with the scoring title even after putting an easy tap-in off the cross bar last week.

As the days get shorter and the air brisker I hope all of the hurlers and footballers have a chance to take a deep breath and reflect on the past season and recharge the batteries for the spring which will be here before we know it. Relax for a bit, have a few pints at your local pub with your mates and reminisce about what "might have been" and what "will be" this coming year. If anyone is looking for me to chat me up about hurling you can probably find me at Quigley's Irish Pub in downtown Naperville, enjoying a well poured Guinness and some fantastic music.

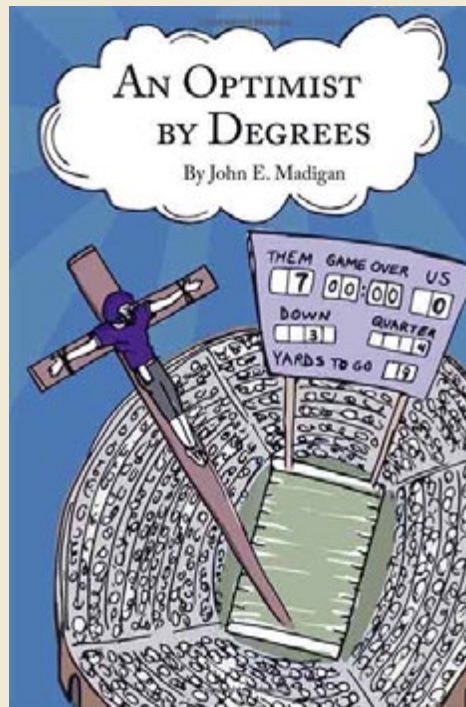
New Book by John Madigan: An Optimist by Degrees

Meet Tom Treith, a homeless victim of venture-capital, single-gaze, "bottom line" focus. To avenge all-too-familiar stories, Tom takes on the greed-mongers of the world. "Trickle up" humor at the expense of the "fat cats" and executive hubris results.

Motivated by hearing a newly acquainted friend's path to "street-person" status, Tom, a numbers person by training, decides to investigate. As a newly-hired, contract-labor, night janitor at the friend's former employer, Tom not only cleans floors, but he also scours for clues to his friend's story. He soon picks up a thread of diverted assets. More skullduggery is discovered. Things do not pass the "smell test." Ultimately, Tom decides to "even the score." He plans a guerrilla war to topple the executives by exposing all their illegal activities, by-products of their unbridled greed, to both authorities and press.

Tom knows he needs to raise money to finance his war. Noting patterns of insider trading, he decides to use the greed of the insider traders to raise that money. A street friend introduces Treith to the only possible source of unsecured capital to finance his guerrilla war—a loan shark, the paragon of the good businessman and a proponent of a Darwinian-variant "food chain" evolutionary theory. A self-styled "entrepreneur" committed to "best practices" management, the loan shark gives Treith terms. Treith invests the borrowed capital. The successful insider-trader leads finance the war's conclusion.

During the war, Tom falls in love. The girl, who, like Tom, has a few neuroses, encourages Tom to pursue a "perspective" on life. Tom, while executing his war, follows her encouragement, through art, to an appreciation of the power of love, truth, and beauty.



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musical references to Irish folk music. The 10 songs are (in the order in which they appear on the album):

1. Red Hanrahan's song about Ireland (2:48)
2. When you're old (2:23)
3. The song of wandering Aengus (3:47)
4. No second Troy (2:07)
5. An Irish airman foresees his death (2:20)
6. Never give all the heart (2:49)
7. September 1913 (3:23)
8. Words (2:59)
9. Crazy Jane on God (3:19)
10. Lullaby (2:50)

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Book Available at Amazon.com
Author Bio This is John Madigan's debut fiction manuscript. He does have a business book, Lean for the Cash-Strapped Leader: The Path to Growth and Profitability, in print

(published February 2016 by CRC Press, a Productivity Press imprint of Taylor and Francis of NYC). He also has a local history/genealogy, Wound Too Tight: A Madigan-Morrison Family History with Allied Families, (a limited run edition published March 2017). Both books can also be found in reputable libraries in the World Cat. His academic background is philosophy and classical languages—Latin and Greek. He is a graduate of the University of Denver. A native of Galesburg, Illinois, his work life has been in factory management and consulting, mostly in Chicago. He and his wife currently reside in Wisconsin.



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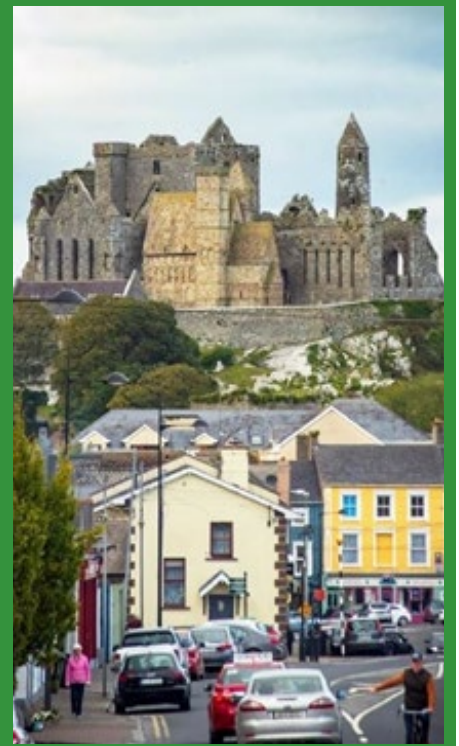
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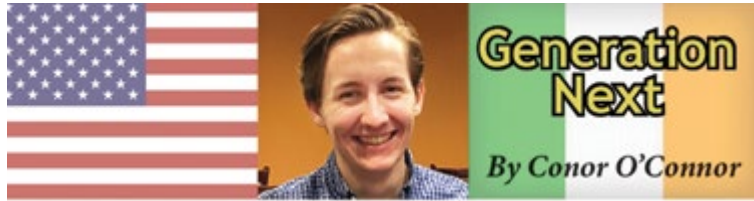
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How Will Gen Z Americans Craft Their Own Identity?

As far as my siblings are concerned, I am old. I was born in the final year of the 20th century, during a decade broadly defined by optimism, hope, and Friends. While my sister was born only two years after me, my brother would not enter our family's life until 2008.

In a sense, their attitude towards my age is warranted. As my mom sometimes points out, I was her "only only child;" I had two blissful years alone with my parents before my sister came onto the scene. And those two years were relatively uneventful. My sister, who was born in August of 2001, was

only able to enjoy a month of such tranquility. Meanwhile, my brother was born in the midst of the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression.

Since then, my siblings and I have lived through some pretty turbulent social and political times. I often wonder if normalcy is something conjured up by those who struggle to overcome nostalgia, or if we truly have been constantly living through unprecedented and chaotic times since the start of the new millennium. Then again, perhaps both of these perspectives have merit.

Sociologists and politicians still struggle to understand how our generation, Generation Z, thinks and lives. I have already begun to see clickbait articles popping up all over

the internet making sweeping generalizations about how we see the world and the way we conduct our day-to-day lives. These articles cite niche studies conducted by researchers who are just as confused as anyone else about how the younger generation sees the world. Nine times out of ten, their conclusions simply do not hold water.

So how do members of my generation see themselves fitting into the world? We are the children of 9/11, the kids who looked on helplessly as they saw their parents struggle to pay the bills, the teenagers who watched Donald Trump take an

ax to American democracy, and the young adults who helped put Joe Biden in the White House during a once-in-a-century pandemic. We don't remember a time before social media and online shopping. And we're terrified of what comes next.

I don't know how we'll define ourselves in the midst of such upheaval. Will we fade into the backdrop of history, like Generation X? Or will we assert ourselves as independent thinkers and doers fighting for the collective good? While I aspire to have a legacy that fits into the latter category, only time will tell how we ultimately

make our mark on the world.

The hopes I have for my generation are still a twinkle in my eye. But I think we're on the right track; my peers and I are tired of corporate greed, we want to save the planet from climate catastrophe, and we are determined to reunite America by restoring faith in our government's institutions. The path to get to where I want to be will not be easy, nor will everything I want to happen eventually come to pass. And, unlike the hippies and yuppies of the 60s, I hope that we stay true to our values until we ourselves grow old, and that society takes us seriously.

Celtic Woman: A Christmas Symphony December 11th

One night only, December 11 at 7:00 pm
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The Auditorium Theatre (Chicago's landmark stage at 50 E. Ida B. Wells Drive) proudly presents

Traditional Irish instruments like the Irish harp, bagpipes and bodhrán drum are joined by a full live orchestra for this special seasonal performance.

Celtic Woman is the most successful all-female group in Irish history, with a legacy of 12 consecutive Billboard number ones,

this National Historic Landmark that originally opened in 1889.

This Auditorium Theatre's 2022-23 performance season features a dynamic mix of acclaimed global dance companies (Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo, Step Afrika!, Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan, Ameri-

international singing sensation Celtic Woman performing a powerful holiday concert, A Christmas Symphony, in a one-night-only engagement Sunday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$47-\$158 and are available at auditoriumtheatre.org.

Christmas in Ireland is all about hospitality. The visitor is greeted with the traditional "hundred thousand welcomes" and is offered the best seat in the house. Audience members are invited to join in this sacred Irish tradition with Celtic Woman.

From delicate traditional Irish carols to magnificent uplifting anthems, the program features a wealth of inspiring seasonal music including new arrangements of the classic Silent Night and the ancient Gaelic carol Dia do Bheatha from the Celtic Woman holiday album, The Magic of Christmas. The evening also includes popular Christmas songs like Sleigh Ride and a singalong version of Deck the Halls.

10 million album sales and an incredible 2 billion online streams to date. For more information about the musical collective, visit www.celticwoman.com.

The Auditorium Theatre, located at 50 E. Ida B. Wells Drive at Roosevelt University in Chicago, is an Illinois not-for-profit organization committed to presenting the finest in international, cultural, community, and educational programming to all of Chicago and beyond as The Theatre for the People. The organization also is committed to the continued restoration and preservation of

can Ballet Theatre, and the much anticipated annual engagement by the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater) while closer to home, beloved Chicago dance companies also take the stage (besides Deeply Rooted Dance Theater, also Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater, South Chicago Dance Theatre, and an evening with Trinity Irish Dance Company, M.A.D.D. Rhythms, and special guest, New York-based Dorrance Dance. In addition, the critically acclaimed National Geographic Live speaker series, offering first-hand accounts and expert voices on cultural and environmental issues, returns with three offerings and a new lower ticket price. And rounding out the holiday season is the popular Too Hot to Handel: The Jazz-Gospel Messiah.

For more information on the Auditorium Theatre and a complete listing of events at the Auditorium Theatre, please visit AuditoriumTheatre.org.



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United Airlines Announces New Daily Seasonal Chicago Service for Shannon Airport

In a major boost for Shannon Airport, United Airlines announced it will operate a new daily nonstop seasonal service from Chicago to Shannon next summer (2023).

The new service begins on 26th May '23, departing Shannon daily at 09:30am on a Boeing 757-200 aircraft for Chicago O'Hare International Airport, a major US hub.

United previously operated a Shannon/Chicago service from 2013 to 2017. At that time, the airline operated five-times weekly, the 2023 service will see it expand to a seven day a week service, bringing a welcome uplift for the regional economy.

This new route has the capacity to generate an additional 30,000 passengers through Shannon Airport next year, supporting the West of Ireland economy in terms of business connections and an increase in tourism numbers.

Welcoming the news Mary Considine, CEO, The Shannon Airport Group said: "Today's announcement by United Airlines is fantastic news for our customers and for our staff at The Shannon Airport Group. Chicago is a really important U.S. gateway and is a positive addition to the daily services we already offer from Shannon to New York, Boston and Newark/New Jersey.

This new daily Chicago service will be an addition to the daily service to Newark/New Jersey that United operate at Shannon and which is set to return on the

8th of April 2023.

The United Airlines services to Chicago and Newark/New Jersey for 2023 are now on sale at www.united.com. To book holidays or city breaks from Shannon Airport visit www.flyshannon.ie

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IRISH FELLOWSHIP CLUB PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON TO KICK OFF CHRISTMAS SEASON

The Irish Fellowship Club and Education & Cultural Foundation will host The President's Luncheon on **Friday, December 2** at the Hilton Chicago. This annual tradition is an opportunity for Chicago's Irish to gather to celebrate the season and our heritage. Chaired by Tim Cavanagh, Founder, The Cavanagh Law Group and Michael Evans, CEO Cogent Strategic Wealth, the luncheon will honor President John Wrenn for his dedication and commitment to the Club and Foundation over the past two years. Say the chairs, "This is one of the Irish Fellowship Club's signature events and we are excited to celebrate John Wrenn's leadership and support the important work of the IFC Education and Cultural Foundation. Sponsorship makes this Luncheon successful and we invite sponsors to visit our website to make their donations: www.irishfellowshipclub.com "

The President's Christmas Luncheon is also the annual meeting of the Irish Fellowship Club where new members and 2023 officers will be elected. Says Executive Director Kathy Taylor, "This is always a great event where we welcome new leadership and board members as well as raise funds for the Education and Cultural Foundation." Proceeds of the Luncheon benefit the Club's Education and Cultural Foundation and provide essential scholarships to Catholic high schools across the Archdiocese of Chicago and grants to cultural institutions.

Guests at the luncheon will have the chance to buy raffle tickets for outstanding prizes and are invited to bring an unwrapped toy or gift card for the Catholic Charities Toy Shower. Following the luncheon, the fun will continue in the Normandie Lounge with live music provided by Catherine O'Connell and Jimmy Moore.

The cost of the Luncheon is \$100 or \$1000 for a table of 10. Guests are encouraged to make their reservations soon as the luncheon is sure to be a sell-out. Reservations are available on the Club's website: www.irishfellowshipclub.com.

AUTHOR EVENT

The Irish Fellowship Club hosted noted Irish author Turtle Bunbury at a special luncheon on October 17 at the Union League Club. Bunbury is the author of 'The Irish Diaspora' (Thames & Hudson, 2021) which is dedicated to the Club's legendary board member, Rosie O'Neill.

The luncheon featured a talk by the author and all guests received a copy of the book. Said Cultural Committee chair Meaghan Burdick, "With plenty of humor, Turtle's historic tales bring Irish history to life. He covered 5000 years of Irish diaspora in an entertaining and insightful manner. And he covered more than a few famous and infamous Chicagoans."

President John Wrenn commented, "The Club is proud to host cultural events for our members and guests. This luncheon was special as we had the opportunity to honor Rosie O'Neill for all she has done for the Irish community in Chicago and beyond."

JOIN THE IRISH FELLOWSHIP CLUB

Want first hand information about Club activities and events? Join the Irish Fellowship Club. Complete the form below or visit our website at www.irishfellowshipclub.org



Noreen Ryan, Hon. Maureen Connors, Author Turtle Bunbury, President John Wrenn, and Cultural Chair Meaghan Burdick on hand to salute Rosie O'Neill, (middle). Center: President John Wrenn with the Connors sisters.

Bottom President John Wrenn thanks Author Turtle Bunbury.



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Officer James Creighton: Community Relations & Crime Prevention Officer for 5 Schools in S. Elgin

By Mike Danahey

The giving, gregarious spirit of the Irish and those of Irish heritage is alive and well in South Elgin, a northwest suburb of Chicago, where James Creighton (pictured) has been a police officer for 16 years.

“My uncle was in law enforcement and my grandfather was a part-time firefighter. The opportunity to serve others and help those in need has been and continues to be in my blood,” Creighton said.

Creighton’s not just any police officer, mind you, but one who wears many hats, and even a kilt, now and then.

Currently, he’s the community relations/crime prevention officer with the South Elgin department’s Community Action Team that was created April, 2021. His work includes being police liaison to five elementary schools; working closely with the seniors and organizations that serve them; organizing annual Law Enforcement Torch Run events benefiting the Special Olympics of Illinois; heading up the Neighborhood Watch program; and overseeing the town’s Day Out Against Crime, its Santa’s Little Helpers holiday event and a Thanksgiving meal giveaway that’s coordinated with the local Jewel-Osco and the village’s fire department.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Creighton also used to read to children at the local library - an effort that might start up once more.

If that weren’t enough to keep one man busy, Creighton also plays the bagpipe with the Bagpipes & Drums of the Emerald Society, Chicago Police Department.

“I went to their recruitment meeting in May of 2018. I’ve been with the band ever since,” Creighton said.

The story goes that two pipers, a bass drummer and a snare drummer from the Emerald Society escorted Creighton and his bride, Melisa (cq), into their wedding reception.

Flash forward a bit, when Melisa (cq) spotted on social media that the group was recruiting new members.

“I told her, ‘This is why I love you.’ With a seven month-old son at home, she encouraged me to join an Irish police bagpipe band in the city,” Creighton said.

Being a piper plays a key role in a story tied to Creighton’s life prior to being a police officer and time served in a special unit of the US Marine Corps.

While Creighton was at Parris Island, SC for recruit training, the Bravo Company 1st Sgt and Plt. Sgt. for the World Famous Body Bearers at 8th & I Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C. were on a recruiting trip for Marines to come serve at 8th & I.

“I had a friend who was an active duty Marine at the time mention that if I ever had the opportunity to go to D.C. to go as it is a very honorable duty station,” Creighton said.

After Parris Island, Creighton next completed infantry training at Camp Geiger - Camp Lejeune in North Carolina before journeying to the nation’s capital.

“Once I got to 8th & I Marine Barracks, even though



I had earned the title Marine, I was nobody. I spent the following months with one other Marine - now a dear friend of mine, Agron Dika - training several hours a day to earn our colors, the black and gold,” Creighton said.

One memorable assignment with the 8th & I came in November, 2001.

“My unit, including a rifle team and color guard, went to New York City to render honors to Sgt. Michael Sean Curtin,” Creighton said.



James Creighton

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Curtin was Sergeant Major in the USMC Reserve, a member of the New York City Emergency Services Unit and one of the public safety workers killed in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

“Twenty years later, I’m now law enforcement myself and have been with the Bagpipes & Drums of the Emerald Society, Chicago Police Department for just over three years when members of the Kane County Chiefs of Police Association Honor Guard team went to Washington D.C. for the 2021 police week activities that were moved because of COVID restrictions to October,” Creighton said.

While there, Creighton coordinated training with the Marines at 8th & I for the police association’s honor guard team.

During training, Creighton mentioned that after a candlelight vigil and shortly after midnight he would be playing his bagpipes at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. And he told the Body Bearers about his role with Curtin’s funeral.

So, during Police Week activities, with then-current USMC Body Bearers beside him, Creighton piped “Honor Our Fallen”, “Amazing Grace” and walked back and piped the “USMC Hymn” by Curtin’s name - Memorial Panel: 17-W-23.

“Talk about full circle and a moment in my life that I will never forget - starting to pipe shortly after midnight with Marines from the Body Bearer unit standing at attention rendering honors once again to Sgt. Curtin,” Creighton said.

As for what inspires him to be so involved and to serve the community, Creighton credited his wife, who is with him every step of the way, and his late mother, Diana.

“I was raised by a single mother who died 11 years ago from lung cancer. She worked two to three jobs to provide for my sister and me. She had the biggest heart and would do anything for anyone,” Creighton said.

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Hi, I’m **Annie Nestor**. I was born in Ireland and have family from Galway, Mayo and Kerry. I’m a locally owned Home Care Agency founded in 2015.

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BOOKS by Irish Authors or About Irish Subjects!



Books in Review

By Michael Corrigan



friends and legendary writers. The book also includes photos of the author strolling about famous areas and landmarks.

Time Pieces: A Dublin Memoir

“Dublin was never my Dublin which made it all the more alluring.”

By John Banville

Review by Michael Corrigan

So begins John Banville’s book, Time Pieces: A Dublin Memoir. Banville, who recently won the Booker prize for his lyrical novel of loss and remembrance, The Sea, makes Dublin the focus of a journey into his past. Dublin is famous for its history and its literature, including James Joyce’s masterpiece, Ulysses. For Banville, born “a train ride away from Dublin,” going to visit on his birthday was a thrilling treat.

“Dublin was for Banville what Moscow was for Irina in Chekhov’s ‘3 Sisters,’ a place of magical promise towards which my starved soul endlessly yearned.” Banville’s reminiscence evokes Dublin, not the “dear and dreary Dublin” that Joyce saw, but rather a city where his beloved, subversive Aunt Nan lived. In fact, part of Banville’s charm, here, is his description of colorful characters, including relatives,

Eventually, Banville settled in Dublin as a writer, and despite the fact James Joyce had exhausted Dublin for his work, Dublin became a frequent location for Banville’s Quirke mystery series, written under the pseudonym, Benjamin Black.

“Time Pieces” contains much humor as Banville takes the reader around the city, reveling in its cultural, architectural, political, and social history, including ancient wallpaper and Horatio Nelson’s sculpted head after the IRA blew up Nelson’s Pillar, as it was named. Banville also describes places and events. Here’s a description of a picnic he shares with a young woman:

“...she brought sandwiches and I, hopefully, a bottle of wine that in the event turned out not to have the desired effect – it was cheap and nasty, and anyway, Stephanie was too canny a girl to let herself be led into tipsiness by a beady-eyed young brute with not much more on his mind than the one usual thing.”

Stephanie is canny, indeed, and tells the young Banville that he is “wasting his time.”

Banville uses this touching if comic farewell scene to describe the Iveagh Gardens wearing “an air of faint sadness.” Dublin has, in fact, many lovely parks and gardens.

Banville’s book provides both a wonderfully eccentric unpredictable tour of Dublin, and a portrait of yet another artist as a young man, John Banville. Early in Time Pieces, Banville asks a provocative question: “When does the past become the past?” His layered book of memories demonstrates that “Time’s alchemy works in a bright abyss.”

Dublin is a busy city with heavy traffic. Taking a taxi is an adventure, and driving one’s self, suicidal. Trinity College has the illustrated Book of Kells, and after viewing that marvelous creation of ancient monks, tourists can drop by Kennedy’s pub which, as Banville points out, was Samuel Beckett’s favorite when he was an undergraduate at Trinity. On June 16, one can take the Bloomsday tour and follow in the footsteps of Joyce’s main characters, Leopold Bloom and Stephen Dedalus. Through this fabled city runs the River Liffey.

John Banville knows these streets already celebrated in literature, and his book conjures a creative city map. Any American traveling to Dublin where many Georgian houses, halls and monuments still stand – except for Nelson’s Pillar – may want to bring Banville’s engaging and entertaining memoir as an enlightening guide.

The Execution, Life and Times of Patrick O’Donnell

By Gavin O’Donnell

This is a book every Irish American should read! A first-hand account of some of the most monumental events of the mid to late 19th century in fascinating, honest and brutal detail through the eyes of Patrick O’Donnell’s the author’s ancestor.

O’Donnell, remembered for the murder of James Carey, the leader of the Phoenix Park Murder gang The Invincibles and the

notorious turn coat who sent 5 of his gang to the rope in exchange for his freedom and a ticket to south Africa.

An intelligent, well researched book which tells us of the experiences of a nation’s impoverished at the hands of British imperialism, the desecration of a nation in the US civil war; the murderous Pennsylvania coal fields; famine; madness and love and more, all though the personification of just one of those people; O’Donnell.

A truly revealing, exciting and enriching read ostensibly a story of one but in reality the story of so many.

December 1883 and O’Donnell, already condemned to death, begins to record his incredible journey to its dreadful and inevitable conclusion at the end of a noose. His letters, written with passion and brutal, unvarnished honesty, lost for 133 years, now found and presented,

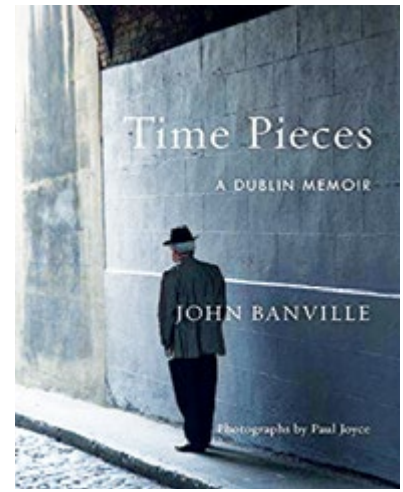
for your consideration, in this unique book.

For 12 days in his death cell Patrick frantically recalls his entire life. The chronicle is incredible, taking the reader from the man’s beginnings in Co Donegal, the Famine, escape to America in 1847 via a dreadful ‘coffin ship’, the Typhoid sheds of Grosse Island where he meets the incredible but broken Hanora, a beautiful and dangerous woman; his one love, but not as most people know love.

Mental health, confused sexuality, love, loss, hope and despair are his lifetime companions; whether that is during the American Civil, in which he fights for the wrong side, or visiting his love in the New York Lunatic Asylum.

The ending is astonishing and on reflection, though disputed, seems more and more likely to be true, the most incredible truth of the whole book. The Cavendish Family (Phoenix Park) and Gladstone himself owed the man a debt that had to be repaid. Was it? Link about the book:

<https://www.patrickodonnell.co.uk>



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Actor Cillian Murphy & Professor Pat Dolan Release Irish American Partnership - Funded "Ionbhá: The Empathy Book for Ireland"

The Irish American Partnership has supported not only the production of this important work, but also committed to making Ionbhá: The Empathy Book for Ireland available at every secondary school in Ireland.

Ionbhá or empathy is a core element of wisdom and a universal language bringing joy to the everyday, making the unbearable bearable. “We need empathy in schools just as we need empathy in the world right now,” said actor Cillian Murphy, Patron of the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre, and editor of the book.

The Irish American Partnership has supported the production of the book, and committed to making Ionbhá: The Empathy Book for Ireland available to every secondary school in Ireland.

The inception of this book began with Activating Social Empathy; an interactive, student-focused, social and emotional learning program developed by Dr. Ciara Boylan and Professor Dolan in 2017 as a resource tool for post-primary schools. The IAP found an opportunity to support this critical and innovative program. In delving into the research and through extensive conver-

sations with its leaders, the organization believes



that “Empathy education is not an add-on—it is the heartbeat of who we are and needs to be a priority for our young people going forward,” as contributor and secondary school teacher Hugh Fitzmaurice captures in the Ionbhá book.

Empathy education in schools aims to help reduce bullying, discrimination, racial profiling and



Professor Pat Dolan, & actor Cillian Murphy

violence, and increase young peoples’ sense of belonging in school. It is being piloted in Ireland, and is part of an international project that will be rolled out in the US, Canada, Nigeria, Myanmar, France, Cameroon, and Tunisia. In the words of Patron Cillian Murphy, empathy “can offer an

embrace to difference, and can bring connection in a disconnected world.”

“We are on the cusp of the development of empathy as a core part of education systems which will benefit not just youth but civic society as a whole,” said Professor Pat Dolan, Director

of the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre at NUI Galway.

This collection of contributions shows that empathetic actions have a massive impact. Irish secondary school students will be empowered to emulate the many compelling examples of activated empathy throughout the book. 89 contributors include Ireland’s President Michael D. Higgins, Hozier, The Edge, Imelda May, and citizens from all walks of life, including Irish American Partnership Chief Executive, Mary Sugrue.

Ionbhá: The Empathy Book for Ireland is edited by Pat Dolan, Cillian Murphy, Gillian Browne and Mark Brennan, and comprises over 80 contributions from mostly well-known Irish names on empathy. Published by Mercier Press and available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

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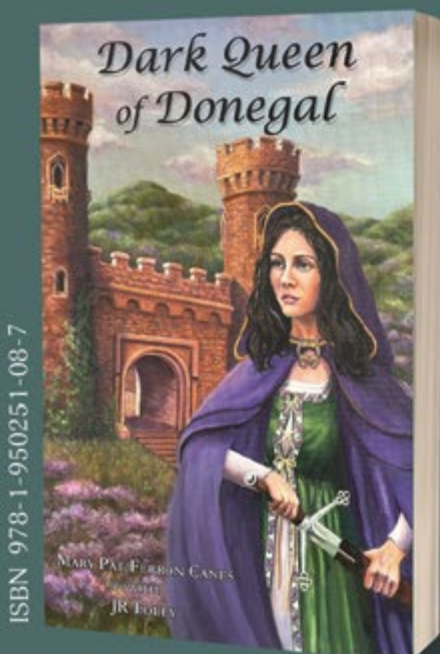
Ireland” *The Evening Echo*
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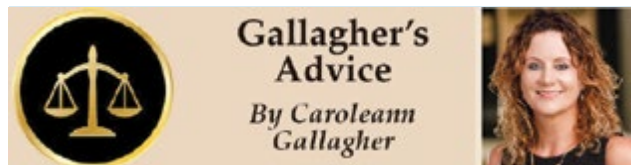
—Mary Pat Kelly, bestseller *Galway Bay*

“...will draw you into Ineen’s perilous life as queen, warrior, politician, wife, and mother of seven children...”

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—Amb. Francis O’Donnell, *The O’Donnells of Tyrconnell—A Hidden Legacy*



Gallagher's Advice
By Caroleann Gallagher

Why You Should Hire A Lawyer for Your Injury at Work

Workers' compensation is insurance that protects employees who have been injured as a result of their job. It is a system that gives employees the opportunity to file a claim to receive benefits that are owed to them instead of suing their employer. It provides payment of medical expenses, lost wages, and cash benefits if there is a permanent aspect to your injury. In other circumstances, it also provides benefits for the families of people that have lost their life in a workplace accident.

In short, workers compensation provides financial support to employees while they recover from their injury while also encouraging employers to continuously provide for a safe work environment. Although you can proceed with filing a workers compensation claim on your own, it is a good idea to speak to an experienced workers compensation lawyer to ensure that your rights are protected and to maximize your benefits.

An experienced workers compensation lawyer can help you with:

- Filing your claim with the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission;
- Finding evidence to support your case;
- Representing your interests throughout your case;
- Calculating how much your case is worth and negotiating a settlement;
- Allowing you to focus on your treatment and re-

covery.

In order to start your claim, you need to file an Application for Adjustment of Claim form with the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission, within three years of your accident. If you fail to do so by the deadline, you will be forever barred from doing so and will not have the opportunity to receive the benefits that you deserve. By hiring an attorney, you can be reassured that your claim is started properly, and you won't have to worry about missing deadlines.

Employers are allowed to dispute and contest your workers compensation claim, even in situations that are and may seem unreasonable. Understanding how to defend against a denied or disputed workers compensation claim is difficult and will take time to understand. It is even harder and more stressful for those that are already going through a tough time dealing with their injury and going through treatment. This is a situation where having an experienced lawyer on your side is crucial so that you can be reassured that your case is being fought for and that you are not being taken advantage of.

You need to build a strong case for your claim to be successful. This is done by investigating and gathering evidence about your accident and injury in order to prove what type of injury you have and how it has impacted your life.

Some of that evidence includes:

- Medical Reports and Medical Bills;
- Photographs and videos of your injuries;
- Witnesses to the accident;
- Doctors' notes and opinions; and
- Financial records

Gathering this evidence requires a lot of time. This is where an experienced lawyer and their staff can assist in collecting evidence as quickly and efficiently

as possible so that your case has the best chance of success while you focus more on your health.

An important step is understanding the value of your case and making a settlement demand to the insurance company. Unless you've had the same exact injury while working for the same exact employer in the past, it can be hard to determine what the value of your case actually is. Often times, the insurer will not pay out the amount you ask for initially. This is what starts the negotiation process and the stronger your case is, the less room the insurer has to negotiate. Workers' compensation lawyers have the resources and experience to determine an accurate value for your case and to negotiate a settlement on your behalf.

It is important to remember that insurance companies will use whatever they can to avoid paying out claims. It is their job to do so. Insurance companies are more likely to offer you a fair settlement and push back against your claim less if you have an attorney on your side. By hiring a lawyer, the insurance company knows that they have to deal with someone who has experience and that the case is being taken seriously.

If you are an employee and you suffered an injury while at work you may be eligible to receive workers' compensation benefits. My colleagues and I devote time to developing personal relationships with all of our clients. Our team has decades of collective experience in representing injured workers and we have the knowledge, experience, and resources to walk you through the process and obtain the most desired outcome possible.

**Caroleann Gallagher is an Irish born Attorney now licensed in Illinois and practicing all types of personal injury law and Workers Compensation. She can be contacted at cgallagher@cgtrial.com or at (312) 782-7482.*

Tips On Communicating With Elders Who Have Impaired Hearing

It may be challenging and irritating for someone with hearing loss to communicate successfully with others. Age-related hearing loss may have a devastating effect on seniors' quality of life, making them feel alone and unable to participate in social situations.

Assistive equipment like hearing aids can help some older individuals, but not everyone's hearing loss responds to this approach. Because of good communication tactics, listening and hearing abilities may be considerably improved. Use these ideas to help you communicate with someone deaf

or hard of hearing.

Minimize the Noise

Eliminate any background noise, such as the sound of music, movies, and the chatter of other people. Public places like diners with a lot of noise and social events make this more difficult, if not impossible.

Finding places with lower background noise levels or asking to be seated in less congested areas can improve communication by reducing ambient noise and disturbances.

Speak Up and Be Heard

Look at the person you're conversing with and enunciate, but don't overdo it. The same rules apply to the pitch and loudness of your voice. As a result of their age-related hearing loss, some older adults benefit from speakers who talk a little louder but not too loudly. Make sure you speak at a moderate pace, neither too fast nor too sluggish.

Repeat Yourself

It's vital to remember that a person with hearing loss may not understand what you say the first time you say it. You could be asked to say anything more than once.



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Don't be afraid to ask whether they understand if they appear unsure. Make an effort to repeat yourself a few times using the exact words and phrases. It may be unhelpful to continuously alter your terms since it makes them doubt what you first said. However, precise repetition might help them put together the whole meaning of what you're conveying.

What Method of Communication Do They Prefer?

When dealing with hearing loss, it's essential to work together. A person's hearing loss can vary significantly in form and severity. Don't be afraid to ask the individual how you can enhance your conversation since every person has their own preferred method.

Switch tactics if you're having trouble communicating verbally. If they're having trouble understanding you, you can try writing it down, making courteous gestures, or typing it out on your cellphone.

Take Your Time When You're Speaking

A person with hearing loss may find it challenging to follow a conversation involving numerous persons. Make an effort to limit the number of people speaking at once when in a group. People chatting over one another and having side discussions might be difficult for someone with hearing problems to understand and engage in.

Final Thoughts

Consider getting a hearing test for yourself or someone you care about if you suspect they have a sudden or worsening hearing condition. Finer Hearing professionally diagnoses hearing problems, suggest possible remedies, and prescribe improved communication methods that would help them better traverse social settings and preserve their quality of life.



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Succession Plan for Milwaukee Irish Fest Announced

MILWAUKEE (October 18, 2022): The board of directors for CelticMKE, the nonprofit organization that produces the annual Milwaukee Irish Fest, have announced a succession plan for two key leadership positions, which will go into effect in 2024 and 2025.

Caitlin Ward-Hegedus, a Brookfield, Wisconsin native, will take the helm as the executive director of CelticMKE in three years. Ward-Hegedus will succeed Mike Mitchell, the organization's current executive director, who has been in the position since 2018. After serving more than 28 years as a volunteer and seven years as the director, Mitchell announced his plan to retire at the end of 2025.

"Throughout the past year, the board prepared and adopted a strategic succession plan to ensure the long-term success of the organization," explained Matt Jendrzejczyk, CelticMKE's board president. "By planning ahead now, we will be able to execute a smooth transition, whilst continuing to build upon the talent and experience of our existing leaders. Assuming the role of executive director will be a natural progression for Caitlin, who has proven to have the expertise and vision necessary to strategically position CelticMKE for future growth."

Ward-Hegedus has over ten years of experience in the hospitality and tourism industry. She received her bachelor's degree in hospitality management from the University of Central Florida, worked in guest relations at Walt Disney World, and returned to Milwaukee for a few years to work with the Wisconsin Center District. There she accumulated further experience in small to large scale event management, convention and public show sales, contract negotiation and entertainment booking.

Her current role is the Marketing and Operations Manager of Visit Muskegon, the official marketing organization for Muskegon County, Michigan. She is responsible for departmental budgets, marketing and special projects and is also the acting parks and recreation grant writer, successfully writing over \$10 million in acquisition grants in the last two years.

A long time CelticMKE volunteer, Ward-Hegedus currently serves as a board member and coordinator for festival guest recep-

tions. Ward-Hegedus attributes the basis for her leadership and work ethic to Milwaukee Irish Fest and the community that taught her so much and looks forward to working with the board, staff and volunteers in her new role.

In two years, Franklin, Wisconsin native Molly Modlinski will fill the role of Director of Festival Operations, as Catherine Ward plans to step down and retire at the end of 2024, after spending six years in the position and over 40 years in various leadership roles.

Modlinski is no stranger to the organization, as she has been involved with CelticMKE for over 25 years. She started at a young age volunteering at the festival in the children's area and naturally worked her way up into coordinator roles in the artist and marketplace vendor areas.

Prior to joining the staff at CelticMKE as the Director of Administration, Modlinski mentored and evaluated new hires while managing and facilitating for a major insurance company for six years. Modlinski has been an integral part of the organization, and her proven leadership and demonstrated passion makes her the perfect candidate for the Director of Festival Operations role.

With this succession plan in place, CelticMKE is equipped to expand upon the foundation previous leaders laid over the last 40 years, advance the organization's mission of promoting and preserving all aspects of Celtic culture, and pave the way for the next 40 years. The board thanks Mike Mitchell and Catherine Ward for their decades of service and commitment to ensuring future success of the organization. They congratulate Caitlin Ward-Hegedus and Molly Modlinski and look forward to welcoming them to their new leadership positions in the near future.

For more information please visit celticmke.com.



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Irish Shop in Oak Park Closing as Owners are Retiring

(Story below courtesy of the Wednesday Journal, Oak Park, IL)

By Stacey Sheridan of the Wednesday Journal

For 30-plus years, the Irish Shop has been a destination for those looking to connect with the Emerald Isle from the landlocked western suburbs of Chicago. Known for its vast array of everything Irish, from surname key chains emblazoned with family crests to wool sweaters, the Irish Shop is an entirely unique and special part of Oak Park’s shopping landscape. That landscape is about to change, however, as the Irish Shop will be bidding the community slán, as its owners plan to retire.

“Hopefully this space will take on a whole new thing for someone else,” Anne August said of her storefront at 100 N. Oak Park Ave.

The Irish Shop is a family business, owned and operated by August and her husband Jim. The two often returned to Ireland - Anne August grew up in Belfast, the capital of Northern Ireland - for buying trips and to visit family. That familial charm permeates the Irish Shop itself: loyal customers are greeted by name, effortless conversations are had and directions are given to pass on well wishes to each other’s family.

“We’ve had many families come through here with their grandmother, their mother, their kids - the kids are all grown, now their kids,” August said. “Oak Park has been very good to us.”

With their lease up at the end of January and lacking the desire to renew it, closing the shop and retiring felt like the natural next step for August, who started working at 17. Her husband needed a bit of persuading to stop working.

“I kind of convinced Jim, I think, that it was time for us to retire,” she said.

The Irish Shop will be open through Christmas. As weeks go by, the Augusts will reduce and continue to reduce merchandise prices. Eventually everything will be on sale, including the fixtures.

“If anybody wants to buy the business, that’s great!”



Owners, Anne and Jim August

August said.

In the three decades of running the business, the married couple has been a dependable and leading presence in the Hemingway Business District, formerly known as the Avenue Business Association. Both even served terms as district president.

Beyond being the place to pick up celtic silver jewelry and Waterford Crystal wares, the Irish Shop carries beautiful knitwear, all made in Ireland of soft Merino wool. The sweaters and wraps are a particular favorite of August’s.

“The people that make them, they’re so creative,” she said. “Their product lines are so exquisite.”

The Irish Shop is also something of a local food gem for those in the know. The shop’s fresh bread sells out each Friday. The bread is made by Jim August, a professional cook. It also sold a variety of imported foods - sweets, savory pies, sausages, bacon, black pudding and more Irish fare that is hard to come by in the United States.

While speaking with Wednesday Journal about the closure, August stopped to help Cathy Malone, an in-home careworker who came in to pick up some white pudding for one of her clients, who lives in Park Ridge.

“He loves the stuff,” she said.

Wednesday Journal spilled the beans to Malone about the shop’s closure.

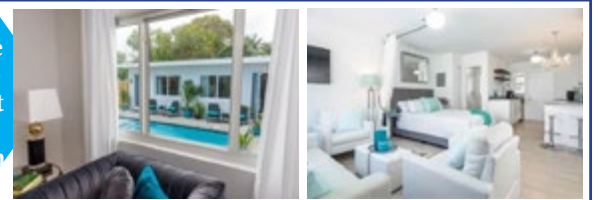
“What do you mean you’re retiring?” Malone asked August.

“I’m going to spend time with my grandkids,” August told her.

The Augusts will have plenty to do once the shop closes. The parents of four children, the couple has 13 grandchildren varying in age from 26 to 4. They babysit one of their grandsons at 7 a.m. every morning.

They also plan to take some time for themselves. The Augusts bought a vacation home in Antioch near the Chain o’Lakes that they’ll be refurbishing. The couple will continue to live in their River Forest home as well.

Irishman, Mossie Forde invites you to enjoy a stay at his Villas in Delray Beach



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Once Malone’s shock subsided, she congratulated August on the upcoming adventure. The closing of the Irish Shop will certainly be an acute loss to the Oak Park retail community, but also to the many individuals that have come to rely on the Augusts and their shop.

“Of course I’m sad,” Malone said. “And I don’t know where I’m going to get my sausages now.”

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**It Starts
With A Song**
By Joe McShane



It's good to be back for a few weeks in November. I'm looking forward to being part of the Nathan Carter Crew for his US Tour. Starting on the 10th, at the Cary Memorial Hall, Lexington, Boston - 12th, Chicago Gaelic Park - 13th, Stephens Auditorium, Ames, Iowa - 14th, Ames Center, Burnsville, Minnesota - 15th, back in Chicago Gaelic Park - 17th, Cutting Room, New York City - and ending the tour on 18th, in The Irish Center, Philadelphia.

This month being the 224th anniversary of the year that Theobald Wolfe Tone (known as the Father of Irish Republicanism) was executed on November 19th, 1798. At his sentencing in an address to the court, Wolfe Tone said:

"I entered into the service of the French Republic with the sole view of being useful to my country. To contend against British Tyranny, I have braved the fatigues and terrors of the field of battle; I have sacrificed my comfort, have courted poverty, have left my wife unprotected, and my children without a father. After all I have done for a sacred cause, death is no sacrifice. In such enterprises, everything depends on success. I know my fate, but I neither ask for pardon nor do I complain. I admit openly all I have said, written, and done, and am prepared to meet the consequences. As, however, I occupy a high grade in the French army, I would request that the court, if they can, grant me the favour that I may die the death of a soldier. Theobald Wolfe Tone, asked to be shot like a soldier but was denied his request and was hung.

He wrote two final letters to his wife Matilda, just over a week before he died:

First letter: Provost's Prison, Dublin Barracks
Le 20 Brumaire, An 7, (10th Nov.), 1798.

DEAREST LOVE - The hour is at last come when we must part. As no words can express what I feel for you and our children, I shall not attempt it; complaint, of any kind, would be beneath your courage and mine; be assured I will die as I have lived, and that you will have no cause to blush for me. I have written on your behalf to the French government, to the minister of marine, to General Kilmaine, and to Mr Shee; with the latter I wish you especially to advise. In Ireland, I have written to your brother Harry, and to those of my friends who are about to go into exile, and who, I am sure, will not abandon you.

Adieu, my dearest love; I find it impossible to finish this letter. Give my love to Mary; and above all things, remember that you are now the only parent of our dearest children, and that the best proof you can give of your affection for me, will be to preserve yourself for their education. God almighty bless you all.

Yours ever, T. W. TONE

P.S - I think you have a friend in Wilson who will

not desert you.

Second Letter: 11th November, 1798.

Dearest Love, - I write just one line to acquaint you that I have received assurances from your brother Edward of his determination to render every assistance and protection in his power; for which I have written to thank him most sincerely. Your sister has likewise sent me assurances of the same nature, and expressed a desire to see me, which I have refused; having determined to speak to no one of my friends, not even my father, from motives of humanity to them and myself. It is a very great consolation to me, that your family are determined to support you; as to the manner of that assistance, I leave it to their affection for you, and your own excellent good sense, to settle what manner will be most respectable for all parties.

Adieu, dearest love. Keep your courage as I have kept mine; my mind is as tranquil this moment as at any period of my life. Cherish my memory; and, especially, preserve your health and spirits for the sake of our dearest children.

Yours ever affectionate, T. W. TONE.

This month's song is by Stephen Smyth and I.

All about 'The Comfort Of Home'

Be good to one another,

Happy Thanksgiving! Joe

[Joe's FaceBook Songwriter Page](#)

[Website](#)

[Joe's ian Monthly Columns](#)

'Comfort Of My Home'

Words and Music by Joe McShane & Stephen James Smyth
verse 1

Standing on the doorstep, a desire in me to roam
To take me on a journey, far across the foam.
The first time in my life I saw my father cry
With my broken hearted mother by his side.

VERSE 2

As I reached the garden gate I put my suitcase down
With a heavy heart I turned and looked around
A bittersweet farewell to the only place I've known
I know I never will forget the comfort of my home.

CHORUS

The comfort of home, I'll not forget
The music, the laughter, the songs are with me yet
One thing I know is certain as from the nest I've flown
I won't forget my birthplace and the comfort of home

Verse 3

Now I'm settled in a city far across the sea
With unfamiliar sounds no birds singing in the trees
No mountains in the distance, no bright stars in the sky
Just a lasting memory of the day I said goodbye

Verse 4

Then I met some of my country men just the other day
It felt like I was home again as we pass the night away
It was great to join their company and not feel so alone
We brought each other back again to the comfort of home

CHORUS

The comfort of home, I'll not forget
The music, the laughter, the songs are with me yet
One thing I know is certain as from the nest I've flown
I won't forget my birthplace and the comfort of home.

Joe McShane

LOGICAL FLEADH



Logical Fleadh (album)



Acoustic Mixes

Irish Traditions, Rock "Oomph," and a Chicago Attitude

Funded in part by Illinois Arts Council and City of Chicago DCASE

logicalfleadh.com

Album release March 3, 2023. Now accepting performance bookings!



Chicago Gaelic Park

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



A Chairde

In October we were blessed with the return of Gaelic Park Players. No, they never really went away, but it's been some time since they were able to put on a production here. That changed with their very successful run of John Patrick Shanley's "Outside Mullingar." The reviews are in, and the cast of **Bob Scully, Bridget Christianson, Matt Walsh and Sherry Anton**, under the direction of Melanie Jones, and with the support of the entire crew and the Players' board of directors, did a brilliant job. Audiences were very pleased.

This month we look forward to two shows from **Nathan Carter**. He made his USA debut here at Chicago Gaelic Park in 2014, and we are thrilled to have him back for two shows. As I write this there are still some tickets available for the second show. And at the end of the month we offer a zero-net-calorie package. You can join us for our Thanksgiving buffet on Thursday, and come back that Sunday morning to participate in the Carraig Pub 5K run/walk!

Our thanks this month and throughout the year to all of you for your being part of Chicago Gaelic Park's community. You make what we do possible. Go raibh maith agat, **Bill O'Sullivan**

No. _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

CHICAGO GAELIC PARK
6119 West 147th St, Oak Forest, IL 60452

SUPER FUNDRAISER

Grand Drawing - Sunday, December 4th, 2022 at 7:00 pm

1st Prize: \$100,000 - Seller of Ticket \$10,000
2nd Prize: \$25,000 - Seller of Ticket \$2,500
3rd thru 7th Prize: \$5,000 - Seller of Ticket \$500
8th thru 18th Prize: \$2,000 - 19th & 20th Prize: \$1,000

Donation \$100 • Only 4,000 Tickets Sold

WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT THE GRAND PRIZE WILL BE DRAWN FIRST

ADMISSION FREE

Early Bird Drawing - \$10,000 • Seller of Ticket - \$1,000
to be held on Sunday, November 20th, 2022 at 6:00 pm

Membership

NEW RENEWAL Family \$50 Individual \$30

Name _____ last _____ first _____ initial _____

Spouse (if joining) _____ last _____ first _____ initial _____

Address _____ street _____ apt/unit # _____
city _____ state _____ zip _____

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

Mail to: Chicago Gaelic Park Membership, 6119 W. 147th St, Oak Forest IL 60452
phone: 708.687.9323 fax: 708.687.0120
www.chicagogaelicpark.org www.facebook.com/ChicagoGaelicPark

Live Music at

THE CARRAIG PUB

GAELIC PARK

CHICAGO

November

Friday	Saturday
04	05 St. James Gate
11 Joe Cullen	12 Damien Patrick
18 Bernie Glim	19 Mulligan Stew
25 Liam Durkin	26 Kieran Byrne

Volunteer Field and the New Beer Garden

The response from members, supporters and the general public to our major landscaping project aptly named **Volunteer Field** and our New Outdoor Beer Garden has been overwhelming.

Covid was a tremendous blow to the business arm of Gaelic Park but Our Board of Directors with the encouragement of our wonderful cast of volunteers pressed forward with improvements we deemed necessary

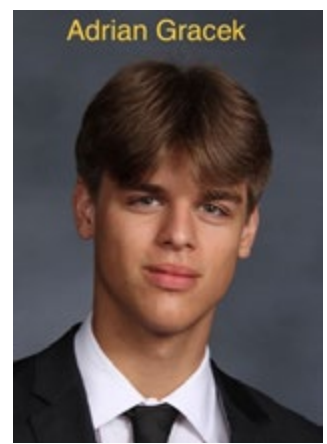


for the future of our beloved Gaelic Park.

We thank all our sponsors who sponsored the 12 benches and mature trees and the only major sponsorship opportunity that remains is Volunteer Field itself. We will erect a 2 sided 4' x 4' sign on the frontage of Volunteer Field which can have your name, family name or business name [Volunteer Field sponsored by ???] for a period of 10 years at a cost of \$50,000.00.

The Gaelic Park Volunteers including Directors past and present are so rightly proud of our wonderful facility which hosted both CYCC and NACB playoffs this year to rave reviews. Contact the office 708-687-9323 if you are interested in pursuing this rare sponsorship opportunity. Sponsorship is tax deductible.

SECOND SHOW ADDED!
Call 708-687-9323 to see
Nathan Carter on
November 15th.



Adrian Gracek

Chicago Gaelic Park Irish Heritage Scholarship

Meet Adrian Gacek and Conor McKeon, Mount Carmel High School class of 2023. We're pleased to share the news that these two student-athletes are recipients of the Chicago Gaelic Park Irish Heritage scholarships. These awards will help make the Mount Carmel experience a reality for both Adrian and Conor.



Conor McKeon



Chicago Gaelic Park
Carraig Challenge
Cross Country 5k Run / 1.5m Walk
 Sunday November 27, 2022
 Location: Chicago Gaelic Park, 6119 W. 147th St. Oak Forest, IL.
 Quarter Zip sweatshirt (register by November 15 to Guarantee)
 Indoor Heated Prep/Waiting Area with Bathrooms
 Finisher's water / food table with hot soup / Drink Ticket
 Discount Pricing for Family's and Students
 Age Group Awards
 Online registration
www.racetime.info or
www.raceroster.com/64973
 All net proceeds to Chicago Gaelic Park Charities

Gift Cards
 \$10 to \$1000!
 Gift Donations (any amount)
Memberships \$30 to \$205
 (Available online, fill out form on these pages or call us!)
<https://chicagogaelicpark.com>
 info or questions call 708-687-9323

Celebrate Thanksgiving at Gaelic Park
 Thursday, November 24, 2022

CHECK OUT THE PUB WEBSITE!
www.CARRAIGIRISHPUB.COM



Selected dates available for 2022 weddings & events in our newly remodeled Emerald Room, Our Tara Room, Our Celtic Room, Our Patio and in our Pub

A Traditional Thanksgiving Buffet with Turkey, Ham, Roast Beef and all of the Traditional Trimmings
 Choice of Soup, An Extensive Salad Bar, Vegetables, Potatoes and Dessert
 Served from 2:00pm to 5:00pm

Reservations are required and must be paid in advance.

Adults - \$37.00 Children 4 to 12 - \$18.00
 Cash Bar

Gaelic Park Charities, a 501(C)(3) entity under the umbrella of Chicago Gaelic Park, provides continual contributions to hundreds of charities, fund raisers, and worthwhile causes throughout the Chicago-land area.

In order to raise the funds needed to accomplish this worthy endeavor, Gaelic Park Charities hosts a 5k cross country race each year on the Sunday after Thanksgiving (The Carraig Challenge Cross Country 5k) and all on the grounds of Chicago Gaelic Park in Oak Forest, IL.

All proceeds from this race go to Gaelic Park Charities in order to assist us in our giving mission.

As such, we are asking for you to partner with us and become a sponsor for this important fundraising event. While a donation of at least \$200.00 is needed to place your name as a main sponsor on the back of our race shirts, any donation would be gladly accepted.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us at 708-687-9323. Thank you for your consideration and we hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,
Mike Cooke
 Gaelic Park Charities / Carraig Challenge 5k Coordinator

Pub Food Served Wednesday-Saturday
 Starting at 4pm
 Sunday From 2-7pm

Discover all the free resources available online to trace your Irish ancestry.
Sunday, November 6th at 3pm in The Celtic Room at Gaelic Park
\$10 Admission
 (to Gaelic Park Charities)

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

Celtic Angels Christmas

The Celtic Angels Christmas Show captivates audiences of all ages with the magic of the Christmas season!



The Celtic Angels along with the Celtic Knight Dancers will be coming to Gaelic Park on Saturday, December 10th, 2022 at 8pm. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased by calling 708-687-9323
 Chicago Gaelic Park - 6119 W. 147th Street - Oak Forest, IL

SAVE THE DATES

- Nathan Carter Concert Nov 12
- Nathan Carter Concert Nov 15
- GAA Awards Dance Nov 26
- Carraig Pub 5K November 27
- Family New Year's Eve Party Dec 31
- Bridal Expo Feb 19 2023
- Irish on Parade/ Southside March 2023
- Gaelic Park Easter Carvery..... April 9 2023
- Gaelic Pk Mother's Day Carvery May 14 2023
- Irish Festival is Back! August 25-27 2023



Take a Moment and Like Us on Facebook, Instagram, & Tick Tok!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER 2022

Friends, Members of the Irish American Heritage Center (IAHC), supporters, neighbors, and partners.

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone, near and far. Counting blessings this year brings so many people to mind and to my heart. I am grateful for my family – my parents and my family in Maryland, and for my children and family here. I am grateful for friends and neighbors who have become my family here in Chicago. Here at the IAHC, we are grateful to all of our members, supporters, partners and neighbors who have supported the Center through the difficulty of the last few years. Your support inspires us to continue to move forward and improve our mission going into the holiday season and beyond.

I am grateful for the Nimble Thimbles of the IAHC. This wonderful and creative group of seamstresses have another quilt raffle going on now as a fundraiser for the IAHC. The quilt is gorgeous. They have been “sewing for good” and supporting the Center and our community for years. As the saying goes, *Hem your blessings with thankfulness, so they don't unravel.* Our Nimble Thimbles are a continued example of community service in action. Be sure to shop at their booth at the annual Christmas Bazaar on December 4.

I am grateful for the Irish Dance Schools who learn, practice, and perform at the IAHC. There is no greater sound than that of Irish music and dancing in our building, and no greater experience than our musicians and dancers performing together at the Center. Many of the dancers volunteer at the IAHC as well - Thank you to Trinity, O'Hara and O'Hare companies who practice here, and MG who dances for our Bazaar.



I am grateful for the Irish Music Schools who practice, teach, and play here. The Academy of Irish Music and the Irish Music School of Chicago play such beautiful music at our concerts and events. I am grateful to the musicians who play in the Fifth Province, and for the sessions, every Thursday night in the Pub. Thank you to our session leaders, James Conway and Michael Austin. Finally, thank you all. *Go Raibh Mile Maith Agat* – May you have a thousand good things, this season. Join us at the Center and bring your family, friends and neighbors. Enjoy the music, dancing, and programming. Please take a look at the calendar on our website, <https://irish-american.org/events/list/> to see our coming attractions and details.

- The Great Irish Book Club started in September, and continues, once a month, on Saturdays from 1:30 to 3pm.
- The Nimble Thimbles Quilt raffle goes on until the drawing on December 5, 2022!
- Win a trip to Ireland with the Aer Lingus raffle!

- The Christmas Bazaar is set for December 4, 2022 with a whole day of shopping and celebrations. Mass in the Mayfair Theatre, with Fr. Mick Madigan followed by Christmas Breakfast in the Erin Room. Santa joins us at 1pm in the library, music in the Fifth Province and dozens of vendors to handle all of your holiday shopping needs.
- The annual Christmas Tea catered by the Galway Bakers is set for December 10, 2022, and tickets are going fast!
- *Joanie Madden and Cherish the Ladies* bring us *A Celtic Christmas* in our Mayfair Theatre on December 18, 2022, at 4:00 pm. Join them while they put a Celtic spin on some Christmas standards.

Members get advanced notice of all our events, and discounts on tickets and merchandise. Next time you visit, consider making sure your membership is current, and consider sharing your time and talents with the IAHC for any of our events, projects, or improvements. Looking forward to seeing you at the IAHC!

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family and friends.

Tony McHale

President of the IAHC. Board of Directors

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER NIMBLE THIMBLES QUILT RAFFLE



We can't let 2022 go by without the annual Nimble Thimbles Quilt Raffle! Purchase tickets in person at upcoming IAHC events, online at irish-american.org, or mail in your purchase info using this form. Drawing will be Monday, December 5th.

Here is your chance to own this beautiful Floral Kaleidoscope quilt! It features kaleidoscopic blocks, each one a different variation on the large scale print border. It measures 91 x 99 inches, a “generous” queen size, and is washable. A quilt like this, hand made by our very own Nimble Thimbles, would be at least \$500 if purchased outright.



TICKETS:
2 for \$10 • 3 for \$15 • 5 for \$20

DRAWING:
Monday, December 5th

*What a great Christmas gift,
for someone special,
or for you!*

Cut this order form out and _____ 2 Tickets: \$10
check the box that shows how _____ 3 Tickets: \$15
many tickets you would like. _____ 5 Tickets: \$20

Total number of tickets purchased: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE IAHC

or visit www.irish-american.org,
to purchase tickets or donate online

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER
4626 N. Knox Avenue, Chicago, IL 60630

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

4626 North Knox Avenue • Chicago, IL 60630 • (773) 282-7035, ext. 10 • www.irish-american.org

Christmas Bazaar, Mass, and Irish Breakfast

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022



Irish
american
heritage
center



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND BREAKFAST

Deck the IAHC halls at the annual Christmas Bazaar on Sunday, December 4th from 9am-9pm. Festivities include Mass, breakfast, craft and bake sale, music, dance, children's activities and visit from Santa.

Tickets for breakfast are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. Reservations are required. Entry to the Bazaar is free.

Mass is celebrated in the Mayfair Theatre at 10:30am.

A traditional Irish breakfast follows with live music and dance. The fun continues into the evening with music by the fireplace and food and drink for purchase.

With more than 60 vendors, there's something for everyone on your shopping list. Visit our gift wrapping station and have your gifts wrapped for free! The IAHC Gift Shop is open all day for shoppers to browse the shop's holiday stock. **Santa Claus visits from 1-3pm and parents can snap a pic with him.**

Vendors will be selling their wares until 5:00pm, the Fifth Province Pub is open until 9:00pm.

Interested in being a vendor? Call 773-282-7035, extension 10.



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TEA



Deck the Halls of the Irish American Heritage Center this December with the return of the annual Christmas Tea.

Enjoy afternoon tea, sandwiches and Christmas cookies while musicians celebrate the music of the Christmas season.

Delicious treats from the Galway Bakers, with entertainment by the Academy of Irish Music, the Foy Irish Dancers, and as always — carol singers!

The Christmas Tea is Saturday, December 10th from 12:00pm-2:00pm and tickets are \$40.

Reservations are necessary and must be made by December 7. To purchase tickets call 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

4626 North Knox Avenue • Chicago, IL 60630 • (773) 282-7035, ext. 10 • www.irish-american.org



Cherish *THE* Ladies

A Celtic Christmas

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH ~ 4PM

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

4626 N KNOX AVE. CHICAGO, IL 60630



**JOANIE MADDEN, MARY COOGAN, MIRELLA MURRAY
NOLLAIG CASEY, KATE PURCELL, BRUCE FOLEY,
WITH AMAZING CHAMPION DANCERS: DAVID GEANEY,
MICHAEL HOLLAND, NATHAN PILATZKE, NOEL SPILLANE**

**Tickets are \$35, \$30 for IAHC Members & Groups of 10+
Phone: 773-282-7035 | <https://christmasiahc.org/>**

**A SPECIAL HOLIDAY SHOW FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY
FEATURING WORLD CLASS MUSIC, SONG & DANCE**

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

4626 North Knox Avenue • Chicago, IL 60630 • (773) 282-7035, ext. 10 • www.irish-american.org



IRELAND 2023 RAFFLE

Enter the "Ireland 2023 Raffle" to benefit the IAHC and win two Aer Lingus round-trip tickets to Dublin, Ireland.

Airline tickets valid through September 30, 2023
The raffle closes January 6, 2023, so buy tickets now!

Winner picked on Oíche Nollaig na mBan on January 6, 2023.

Fill out the form below and mail it with your check.

or visit www.irish-american.org to purchase tickets online.

Buy your raffle tickets now! You could be heading to Ireland!

Make check payable to Irish American Heritage Center

Payments by credit card: Visa MC DISC

Name on the card: _____

Account number: _____

Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City

State

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

_____ Single Tickets at \$20 each

_____ Three Tickets at \$50 bundle

Total amount enclosed

Mail to: Irish American Heritage Center
4626 North Knox Avenue
Chicago, IL 60630

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

4626 North Knox Avenue • Chicago, IL 60630 • (773) 282-7035, ext. 10 • www.irish-american.org



Los San Patricios: The Irish Soldiers of Mexico 1847

performed by **Sones de México Ensemble**

with **Sean Cleland** & The Irish Music School of Chicago

Mayfair Theatre at the IAHC

Friday, November 11, 2022, 7:30 - 9:30pm • Tickets at irish-american.org

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

4626 North Knox Avenue • Chicago, IL 60630 • (773) 282-7035, ext. 10 • www.irish-american.org

Tomáseen Foley's A Celtic Christmas Takes to the Road for its 27th Year This Holiday Season



Irish storyteller, Tomáseen Foley, will take to the road just after Thanksgiving with his highly acclaimed show, A Celtic Christmas. Now in its 27th year of touring, A Celtic Christmas springs from the infinitely rich treasury of Ireland's cultural heritage. It is a re-creation of a night before Christmas in the West of Ireland in the 1940s, before the advent of motorcar, the television, and the telephone. The show takes us back to rural Ireland where neighbors gathered at each other's houses and brought with them -- not gold frankincense or myrrh, but gifts equally precious

-- their gifts of music, song, dance and storytelling. On stage, the spirit of Christmas dances to life and glows brightly when the artists - 'the neighbors' - gather to create a wholesome, cultural, family feast directly from the rich table of communal life in the west of Ireland. It was in such places and on such nights that the delightful treasury of Irish culture was created, expanded and preserved. By recreating just such a night on stage, Tomáseen Foley's A Celtic Christmas brings the timeless tradition to American audiences.

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Forbes 2022 AMERICA'S BEST INSURANCE COMPANIES

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*Optional coverages available for an additional charge --- not included in a base policy.
 **Discounts may vary by state, property, policy form and company underwriting the auto or property policy. Discounts may not apply to all coverages on an auto or property policy. Discounts do not apply to a life policy.

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SEASONAL FALL HOURS!
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 Located NW Side of Chicago!



The simple things in life! A young Irish lass enjoys the view of Dublin available from one of the walkways in the city centre.

This year's tour will be in Chicago, making its debut this year on November 30th. Purchase tickets at <https://secure.athenaeumcenter.org/474>

"Chicago has a special place in Irish hearts. When I was growing up in rural Ireland our neighbors, every Christmas, would get a big parcel from their relatives in that fabled city so far across the sea - Chicago. So we're especially delighted be bringing a taste of Christmas in rural Ireland to Chicago," said Tomáseen.

Joining Tomáseen on stage is a star studded cast of the finest and most authentic exponents of the Celtic arts performing anywhere today, on either side of the Atlantic. Grammy award winning guitar player, William Coulter; All-Ireland champion Eimear Arkins; multi-instrumentalist Brian Bigley; and renowned dancers Marcus Donnelly, and Natalie Wagner.

For full event listings, www.tomaseenfoley.com

Hibernian Radio

Police Pub Tour! Recording Live at Cork & Kerry Irish Pub
 10614 South Western Ave - Beverly



Every Wednesday night 7pm Start Dedicated to Irish First Responders WE BACK THE BLUE!

HIBERNIANRADIO.ORG

Hibernian Radio hosted by Mike "Houli" Houlihan Broadcast Sat. nights 7-8PM on WSBC 1240AM Podcasts at hibernianradio.org

Irish cops, firefighters, paramedics, music, news, obits, comedy, houli-town, life!

Presented by Chicago Firefighters Union Local 2, Flood Brothers Disposal, Cork & Kerry Irish Pub Fox's Pizza-Beverly and Orland Park, Local 150 Operating Engineers, Sheehy Funeral Home, & Irish American News!



Galway's Martin Lynch Celebrates a Guinness Milestone at the Irish Times Pub & Restaurant

On Saturday 19th of November 2022 Irish Times Pub & Restaurant will throw a party to celebrate a very unique occasion. Earlier in the year owner Martin Lynch was informed by his representative from Guinness that they became one of the few Irish Pubs in the United States to have sold over a Million Pints of Guinness!

Since opening over three decades ago in 1991 The Irish Times has served up delicious, authentic Irish fare in a cozy, home-from-home setting. Great service, Irish hospitality and a unique atmosphere sets it apart, while an extensive list of whiskeys, scotches, spirits, imported beers on tap and 'the craic' continue to attract old and new customers every day.

On the 30th anniversary of the pub last November 2021, Lynch had to hold off on the celebrations due to the Covid restrictions. This year however is a different story and they are now ready to throw a proper party to celebrate not just the 31st Anniversary but to mark over a million pints of Guinness served. There will be live music, great Guinness give-a-ways, and a party worthy of such a landmark event. All are welcome to join Martin, his friends, family and his



The Craic at Irish Times

including The Best Outdoor Patio in Chicago by a listener poll on XRT, we have been featured on Chicago's Best TV, Winner of Best Destination Pub in Midwest, and consistently ranked in the lists of the top Irish Pubs in Chicago."



Irish Times has become a landmark in Chicago through its Irish charm. The Tiffany-style lamps, paintings, fairy doors throughout the pub and beer garden for children to discover, antiques, artwork, a beer garden that feels like a street in Ireland and homemade Irish cuisine attract customers from all over the Chicagoland area. "There's a lot of people who come from miles away just for the craic, our pour and our delicious fare," event manager Clare O'Connor said. "It's also brilliant that the recipes are traditional." The Irish Times has been a social and community center for the people who visit. It functions as a place to meet friends, neighbors and even complete strangers to chat and have a good time in a relaxed atmosphere.

Lynch can not speak highly enough of his team of almost

legendary staff for this special occasion.

Lynch feels that it's the most authentic Irish Pub you'll find in the Chicagoland Area. At its core is a sense of camaraderie and friendship. To get a sense for how well loved the pub is, all you need to do is pop in on any day or night of the week!

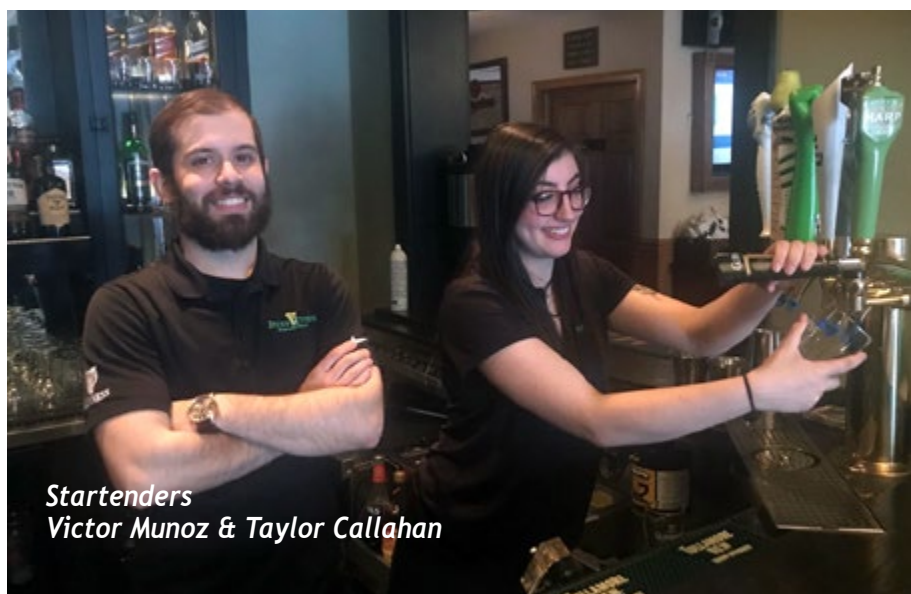
Lynch has expanded the pub since purchasing it in 2008 from his uncle Martin Cosgrave, adding new spaces and an extensive back patio beer garden area, new parking lot, including beer gardens and private rooms for events.

His focus remains on maintaining the consistency that has built the pub's great reputation. He intends to solidify Irish Times as an iconic location for Brookfield "I think Brookfield is known for two things and that's the Brookfield Zoo and the Irish Times - from now on it will be three - The Irish Pub with over one million pints of Guinness sold" Lynch said with a smile.

"With our food and beverage menu, and how we operate, I genuinely feel that we are up there with the best Irish Pub & Restaurant's in America, our excellent reviews reflect this - we have been honored to receive many awards over the years

50 staff members "we are literally as good as the weakest link here, we spend a lot of time and effort to ensure that every member of our team is as strong, knowledgeable, pleasant and confident as possible, and our reviews show the results of our work - I couldn't be prouder and happier to work alongside each and every one of our team"

The pub also attracts recognizable names that often visit, including professional athletes including past and present players and coaches from the Chicago Blackhawks, Sox, Cubs and Chicago Bears, X-game athletes, international sports stars. Ambassadors and politicians often frequent when they are in town



Startenders Victor Munoz & Taylor Callahan

and famous musicians that live locally like Patrica Treacy who performed for the President on his Inauguration Day in Washington can be spotted enjoying the craic at Irish Times. The pub also regularly caters to Cinespace Studios in Chicago for the cast and crew of hit NBC Shows Chicago Fire, PD and Med.

All kinds of events are celebrated at Irish Times in its party rooms - showers, weddings, funerals, metra train pub crawls, fundraisers, benefits, christenings, birthdays and any other celebrations you can think of are regularly hosted here with over 400 private events on average every year! The Saint Patrick's Day celebration is a sight to behold with Irish musicians, dancers and bagpipers in full swing.

"The people you meet here are incredible, from our local community and surrounding suburbs to tourists visiting Chicago and Brookfield Zoo from near and far - We really are a destination pub. People really look forward to coming here, we have regulars from northern Michigan who frequently come to Chicago just to visit Irish Times" Lynch said. "Irish Times is a neutral ground, a level playing field - a home away from home."

THE CRAIC AT IRISH TIMES

Some of the award winning food offered at the pub includes shepherd's pie, burgers, fish and chips, corned beef and a children's menu that's very popular with families. Most originates from family recipes. "Our fish and chips are our most popular item. I grew up in our family's fish and chip shop in Athenry, Co. Galway Ireland Lynch said. "All the time I get people coming in from Ireland saying our food is as good as home."

The experience doesn't end with the food.

The most popular drink at the Irish Time is Guinness, hence the million plus pints served here. The bartenders are trained by Guinness to use a special pouring technique that sets Irish Times apart from other bars. "We're serious about our Guinness," according to GM Mike DelVillar "That's one of the first things everyone that works here has to learn - how to properly pour and serve a pint of Guinness."

Guinness is indeed not only the most popular drink in Ireland but also something of a national symbol.

So how do you properly pour a Guinness? "It takes 119 seconds to pour it and it has to be done in the proper sequence because of the nitrates, "There's a cascading effect and when done correctly you will get a nice creamy head on top. Guinness has such a unique pouring process, the nitrogen bubbles will float down the side of the glass and then return to the top by flowing up through the middle of the beer. The route the nitrogen bubbles take is primarily responsible for creating the creamy head that makes Guinness so appealing".

Bartender Taylor Callahan views Guinness as a representation of Irish Times and its values. "Selling over a million pints of Guinness was definitely a massive accomplishment," Callahan said. "At Irish Times it's the coming together of family and friends, as well as making new ones." A seven-year veteran behind the bar at Irish Times, Callahan has become a recognizable face at the establishment. "I've always considered myself a friendly person and I love to put a smile on other's faces when they walk into our pub. A smile goes a long way, but a smile with a Guinness in your hand goes further."

STARTENDERS TAYLOR CALLAHAN AND VICTOR MUNOZ

Lynch views the Irish Times as a family business that he runs with the support of his wife Lauren and his children Emma and Seamus. "I think what makes Irish Times so special is that it has that culture of a pub in Ireland. The pub has evolved into a Chicago institution that's synonymous with hospitality, camaraderie and, most of all, community. There is a distinct warm comfortable feel to the place. I think it's the way it's constantly evolving, growing and improving, you can really feel the pulse of Ireland here"

The success of Irish Times Pub & Restaurant and Galway's Martin Lynch show that passion for people, food, the perfect pour, and having a good time at the Irish Times is an essential quality of a happy life!

This month I'd like to write about prisons in Ireland. I'd like to only think of things like Bora Bora, Fridays, pizza or cupcakes but prisons are a sad fact



GETTING TO KNOW THE IRISH!

By **TINA BUTLER**



The US. Prison population is just over 2 million and in Ireland that number is just over 4,000 people.

There are about 12 prisons (biggest is Portlaoise in co. Laoise) in Ireland but I will focus on the two historical prisons namely, Kilmainham Gaol and HM Prison Maze (Long

Kesh) colloquially The Maze or H-blocks. On the list of top 10 tourist attractions in Ireland, Kilmainham Gaol is 5th with the Cliffs of Moher being the first attraction.

Prisons have very serious health consequences psychiatric disorders, HIV infection, tuberculosis, hepatitis B and C, sexually transmitted diseases, skin diseases, malaria, malnutrition, and injuries including self-mutilation. I do think we need prisons I haven't come up with too many ideas on where to put murderers, rapists, or kidnapper.

Kilmainham Gaol was a former prison in Dublin it is now a museum. The men of the Easter 1916 uprising were held there, they were imprisoned and executed. It was built in 1796 and public hangings took place in the front. At this time a lot of prisoners were sent to Australia & Van Diemen's Land. In 1924 it was retired as a prison by the Irish free state. It was seen as a site of oppression and misery. Later Republican leaders proposed to preserve it as a museum and memorial to the 1916 Easter Rising. The plan was that the prison should be restored, and a museum built using voluntary labor and donated materials. It now houses a museum, art gallery, and sculptures. The majority of the Irish nationalist leaders of 1798, 1803, 1867, and 1916 were imprisoned here. Kilmainham is one of the biggest unoccupied prisons in Europe. Today it is void of prisons but filled with history.

Turning to Her Majesty's Maze Prison in N. Ireland. This was the prison that housed paramilitary prisoners during the troubles, it's about 10 miles away from Belfast.

The Hunger Strikers of 1981 were there. The prison was closed in 2000. It was redeveloped into a peace center. The Hunger Strikers and many others saw themselves as Political prisoners. They wrapped themselves in blankets and refused to wear prison uniforms and refused to eat. They went on hunger strike because they wanted to have political status. Bobby Sands was the leader of the IRA prisoners he died after 66 days on hunger strike. Another nine hunger strikers died within three months.

In 1983 Long Kesh saw the largest breakout of prisoners, 38 escaped. They highjacked a lorry and smashed their way out. Nineteen were recaptured. In 1997 an IRA escape attempt was thwarted when a 40-foot tunnel was found.

To review some history through movies you can watch, Michael Collins, Hunger, Some

Mother's Son & In the Name of the Father.

On a much happier note, my husband and I attended the wedding of Kevin & Jamie (Price) Daly. Kevin is the son of John and Yvonne Daly. The evening was magical, it was in a renovated barn and the ceremony was held outside on the lush green lawn. The Shannon Rovers pipe band were there & lifting the roof with their tunes. The groom's uncle Greg Daly is a Shannon Rover piper. The Daly's niece Maggie Devereux treated everyone with an Irish dance performance while the pipers played. She is a very talented & beautiful dancer!

Beaganin Gaeilge (Little bit of Gaelic)

Prison-priosun

Political-polaitiochta

Arrested-gafa Hunger-ocras

"Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering" **Hebrews**

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Money Saving Tips for Retirement

By **Brendan Houlihan**

Most people are responsible for their own retirement. The choices you make can help create a path toward financial success. Below are personal finance tips to help you focus on managing your money.

1. **The best advice:** start saving as early in life as possible. Putting away money today for the later in life is a discipline everyone needs to master and make a permanent lifetime habit. You need to save part of every paycheck you earn. Focus on being an early saver, compound interest will work to your advantage.

2. **Form a budget.** Generating and sticking to a budget is an ideal way to save your money and understand your inflows and outflows. Budgets are not meant to eliminate the fun in your life. Budgets help you create responsibility with your spending decisions. You will be able to see where your money is going each month and allocate funds to saving, bills and recreation.

3. **Avoid credit card balances.** We know depositing money into your savings is a proven benefit to practice for your future. Equally important is paying down on your debts. Create a plan to aggressively pay off your debt. Take control of your credit cards to save on interest charges. Have the aggressive discipline to pay off your credit card bills every month.

4. **Create an emergency fund.** Have funds set aside in an account for unexpected expenses so you will not be adding to your debt. Home repairs, car repairs and unexpected employment changes will have impact on your monthly budget.

5. **Contribute yearly to your Individual Retirement Accounts (I.R.A.s) and/or 401(k).** Make sure to take full advantage of any company match offered. Roth I.R.A.s and Roth conversions are a practical option to save on future taxes in retirement.

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Welcome, Lizzy!

After more than two years, we welcome our newest Irish intern! Lizzy Brennan—from Youghal in County Cork—studies at University College Cork and will be spending 14 weeks with Irish Community Services!
Welcome to the ICS team!

Senior Events for Fall

At the Irish American Heritage Center

Monthly Musical Gathering
Every month—usually on the first Wednesday—we host the *Monthly Musical Gathering*. Through live musical performances, we celebrate our shared Irish heritage. There is no charge to attend and ALL are welcome. Refreshments are served free of charge.

The Front Parlor
This gathering is named for the room in old Irish houses where people came together for important guests and special occasions. Each month—usually on the third Wednesday—we meet to share our Irish heritage and love of Ireland. There is no charge to attend. ALL are welcome and refreshments are served free of charge.

Monthly Musical Gathering	The Front Parlor
NOVEMBER	NOVEMBER
<p>Wednesday 2nd November Doors: 10 a.m. Music: 10.30 a.m. The talented Joe McShane joins us for a morning of live Irish music and fun with friends old and new!</p>	<p>Wednesday 16th November Doors: 10 a.m. Program: 10.30 a.m. Medicare Overview Oak Street Health offers an overview of Medicare and reminders about important aspects of coverage.</p>


At Chicago Gaelic Park

The Get Together
There's nothing like a good Irish get together! Twice each month—usually on the second and fourth Wednesday—we host *The Get Together* at *Chicago Gaelic Park*. We express our Irish heritage through an engaging variety of educational programs, cultural performances, lectures, and fun activities. There is no charge to attend and ALL are welcome. Refreshments are served free of charge.

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 9th November
Doors: 10 a.m. Program: 10.30 a.m.

Student Takeover
Irish Community Services is lucky to often host Irish interns. During their time with us, we ask our interns to help out with lots of activities and programs. Today, our newest Irish arrival—Lizzy Brennan from Youghal, County Cork—is taking over our senior group! You'll have to come along to the group to see what Lizzy has planned for us!




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Irish Movie News

by James Bartlett

Firstly, a story of a huge movie success in Ireland: after an incredible 22 weeks in cinemas across Ireland and the UK, *An Cailín Ciúin (The Quiet Girl)* has now grossed over €1 million at the box-office.

It all bodes well for the Irish-language movie, which shot in Meath and Dubin, and is Ireland’s entry for the Oscars® Best International Feature Film category at the upcoming 95th annual Academy Awards.

Based on the acclaimed story Foster by Claire Keegan, *An Cailín Ciúin* is the feature debut of writer/director Colm Bairéad and is set in rural Ireland in 1981. The story sees Cáit (Catherine Clinch) being sent from her overcrowded, dysfunctional household to live with distant relatives for the summer.

She is welcomed with open arms by Eibhlín (Carrie Crowley), but her husband, Seán (Andrew Bennett) keeps her at arm’s length. Slowly, however, a warmth grows within this makeshift family - but then Cáit discovers a secret and a painful truth.

Talking of the Oscars, it was revealed recently that two cast members from the cast of Belfast are set to reunite with Kenneth Branagh for his new movie - and third Agatha Christie adaptation - *A Haunting In Venice*. Actors Jamie Dornan and Jude Hill were both acclaimed for their roles in the black-and-white drama last year, though Branagh took home the movie’s only win - for Best Original Screenplay.

Dornan and Hill will be joined by Tina Fey, Ali Khan, Emma Laird, Michelle Yeoh and more in a movie that

will be based on Christie’s novel *Hallowe’en Party*, which was first published in 1969. The story again features Hercule Poirot (Branagh) and sees him retired and living in post-World War II Venice, Italy. He reluctantly attends a seance, but when one of the guests is murdered, it is of course up to the former detective to uncover the killer.

A Haunting in Venice is due to be released in September 2023, though there’s no release date yet for Dornan’s other big-budget Hollywood project, action spy thriller *Heart of Stone*, which he stars in alongside Gal Gadot (*Wonder Woman*) and Alia Bhatt, Sophie Okonedo, Matthias Schweighöfer, Jing Lusi and Paul Ready.



The Quiet Girl

Most of the plot is under wraps, but based on the trailer now online, the story follows the life of CIA agent Rachel Stone (Gadot), and Dornan says in the trailer than “There’s so much going on and it’s so big scale.” Something to look forward to perhaps, and it’s coming on Netflix.

The first theatrical trailer for new fantasy blockbuster *Dungeons and Dragons: Honor Among Thieves*, which was filmed in Northern Ireland and stars Hugh Grant, Chris Pratt, Michelle Rodriguez and Chris Pine hit the screens recently too. It’s due to be released in March next year, and the trailer looks wild!

Also, there’s even more news about a huge television

series due to be filmed in Northern Ireland: *Blade Runner 2099*.

A follow-on from the iconic science fiction movies starring Harrison Ford, this new series has been commissioned by the streaming giant Amazon, and has Ridley Scott, who directed the original 1982 *Blade Runner*, as executive producer.

Pre-production began almost immediately, and shooting is due to start in spring 2023 with the team behind the 2017 feature sequel *Blade Runner 2049* starring Ryan Gosling and Ford, behind the wheel.

No actors have been announced for the series however, and it’s part of Northern Ireland Screen’s new 2022-2026 strategy that the TV, film and video game industries should aim to generate more than £430m for the Northern Ireland economy over the next four years.

All good news, though not entirely: there is less money for Irish language and Ulster-Scots broadcasting this year compared to 2021/22, apparently due to the end of an increased in funding that was tied to the restored Northern Ireland Executive in January 1920.

What is available for the Irish Language Broadcast Fund and the Ulster Scots Broadcast Fund will fund 60 hours of television in Irish, 10 hours of television and some radio in Ulster-Scots and employment for a number of trainees through both funds.

Finally, since this is the month of Thanksgiving - a time for plenty of food and general over-indulgence - I thought we would move off-set for a moment, and bring you some news about the endlessly-working actor Liam Neeson.

He revealed that he checks into hotels under the name “Michael Collins”, a nod to one of his most iconic film roles as the Irish revolutionary, and that he asks for a spin bike in his room. He also insists on Irish food: champ, black pudding, wheaten scones and champ.

“My favorite food when I come back is an Irish potato...especially champ. We call it champ - it’s mashed potato and spring onions, with a big dollop of butter.”

All delicious, that’s for sure, so please enjoy your turkey and sweet potato - or whatever you choose to have for Thanksgiving, and best wishes to you and yours!

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Gioraíonn Beirt Bóthar (Two Shorten the Road)

The art of storytelling has been around since the mists of prehistory and far longer than that of recorded history. It is estimated that the cave paintings at Lascaux in southwest



France are over 17,000 years old. Proof is also emerging that the Neanderthal’s may have been decorating their caves with artistic stories well over 40,000 years ago in Germany.

People have been telling stories for a very long time, and they are very much embedded in ancient Irish folklore. The following tale is one of our most famous examples and may have originated as far back as 7th century Ireland.

The Gobán Saor was the greatest craftsman and builder who ever lived in Ireland. He built mighty castles for all the lords, and for each of Ireland’s five kings. Though he was most famous for his skill as a builder, he could fashion a spear-shaft in the time it would take you to count to five, and make a spear-head with only three strokes of the hammer.

The Gobán Saor was blessed with a

son but as the way is with the world the blessing was marred by the fact that his son’s brightness often shone behind clouds and was difficult to

see at the best of times. At other times so absent was that brightness that he seemed just plain dim.

Setting out one day to walk a day’s journey to his next job, he said to his son, “shorten the road!”. The son was perplexed and didn’t know how to reply. “How can I shorten the road?”,

he muttered sullenly. “Sure isn’t it as long as it is? How can any man shorten a road?”.

The Gobán was not to be deterred. “Well so”, he said, “if you can’t shorten the road there’ll be no travelling today. And with that he turned and went back to his house.

The son was baffled and not a little annoyed. “What kind of a question is that?” he wondered and spent the rest of his day slowly simmering his resentment for his inscrutable father.

Next morning the scene was repeated, faithful in every detail. “Shorten the road!”, instructed the Gobán to his lumpen boy. “Shorten the road yourself, ye....” but his words were lost on the wind as he turned and stalked back to the house and the comfort of the kitchen where his mother was baking griddle bread.

“What ails you, son?” asked his moth-

er as he slouched into the kitchen. “My father, the Gobán Saor. It’s free of his wits he is, the fool,” he answered. “There’s no sense in that man at all.”

“Why is that?”, his mother asked, sensing once again a familiar experience. It is hard for a woman to get the better of a man like the Gobán but she had had married him after all and had made it her life’s work to match him even if she couldn’t outwit him.

“He told me to shorten the road, twice, this morning and yesterday morning too.” Does he think I’m a fool? “We’ll not answer that for the moment,” his mother observed quietly.

“Do you mean you don’t know how to shorten the road?” she asked him. Do you not know that good stories shorten long roads just as good talk brings people closer together? “Tomorrow, if the Gobán asks you again, tell him to walk on and you’ll tell him a tale to toll the passing miles.”

It would be no surprise to tell you that the very next morning the Gobán instructed his son to shorten the road,

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and he did. The day was not long in passing, the miles covered seemed no longer than a couple of inches and they both arrived in high good spirits for the work which awaited them.

“Stories have power. They delight, enchant, touch, teach, recall, inspire, motivate, challenge. They help us understand. They imprint a picture on our minds.” –

Janet Litherland

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Catholic faith in England. Plunkett was the last fatality of the Popish plot. That was a fabricated but widely believed story that the Jesuits were planning

This month I'd like to remember Oliver Plunkett. He was a martyr for the Catholic faith. He was born in the 1600s in Co. Meath to well to do parents with Hiberno-Norman ancestors. Like myself, the Butlers.

Tragically, Plunkett was hanged, drawn and quartered in 1681. He is the patron saint for peace and reconciliation. He was the Catholic Archbishop of Armagh. Plunkett was beatified (became a saint) 1920 and canonized in 1975. That meant he became the first new Irish saint in 700 years. The last man to suffer martyrdom for the

an assassination of King Charles in order to bring his brother (a Catholic) the Duke of York to throne.

Plunkett was admitted to the Irish College in Rome he was ordained a priest. Unfortunately, the Cromwellian conquest of Ireland had defeated the Catholic foundation in Ireland. Therefore, the practice of Catholicism was banned in Ireland and clergy were murdered. As a result, Plunkett could not return to Ireland for a long time. He became a professor of theology in Rome all the while petitioning for the Catholic cause. He went back to Ireland

and established and taught at a Jesuit college. A Test Act was passed in the late 1600

s and of course Plunkett wouldn't agree to it. This test Act is where you must swear an oath to the king and deny the Catholic doctrine of transubstantiation. Transubstantiation is central to the faith, it means during Mass, the bread and wine used for Communion become the body and blood of Jesus. Plunkett refused they burned the school, and he went into hiding. In spite of being on the run and a price on his head Plunkett refused to leave his followers. He was eventually arrested and imprisoned in Dublin Castle, but they knew he wouldn't be convicted in Ireland, so he was moved to London. Archbishop Plunkett was found guilty of treason for promoting the Catholic faith and condemned to death. Plunkett said Deo Gratias (Latin for Thanks be to God) Plunkett was hanged, drawn and quartered he was the last Catholic martyr to die in England. Christians continue to be the most persecuted believers in

the world, with over 90,000 followers of Jesus being killed in the last year.

In 1997 Plunkett was made a patron saint for peace and reconciliation in Ireland. Plunkett's feast day is July 1st, I remember Saint Oliver Plunkett and we make this dish associated with his day, colcannon ham & cabbage pie. There is a St Peters church in Drogheda and a National shrine dedicated to St. Oliver Plunkett. Today the Catholic Archbishop of Armagh is Dr. Eamonn Martin. (he's from co. Derry)

Prayer to St. Oliver Plunkett Glorious Martyr, Oliver, who willingly gave your life for your faith, help us also to be strong in faith. May we be loyal like you to the See of Peter. By your intercession and example may all hatred and bitterness be banished from the hearts of Irish men and women. May the peace of Christ reign in our hearts, as it did in your heart, even at the moment of your death. Pray for us and for Ireland. Amen.

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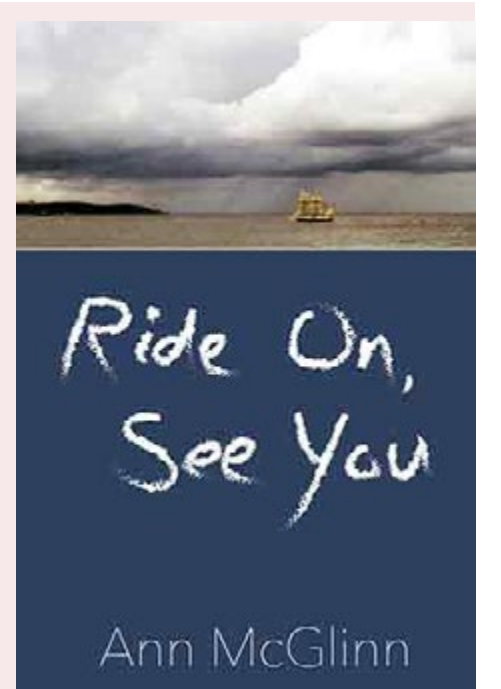
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Ride On See You

After Marie O'Dea dies in a plane crash in the Everglades, her husband David Lenihan returns to Dublin, back to where they first met two decades before. Revisiting memories of their life together and confronted by his own role in the tragedy, he finds little comfort even in his beloved circle of friends. Next door, a troubled boy named Emmett cradles a hurt bird in his hands, sparking a confrontation between David and Emmett that reveals the deep wounds in both of their lives. As David spirals into depression, he discovers two gifts from Marie. Her first gift brings David and Emmett together in a moment of powerful understanding, and the second gift provides David the solace needed to carry on without her.

"A moving and evocative novel that explores grief, guilt, and the strength of lifelong love and friendship."—Chris Binchy, author of *People Like Us, Open-handed, and The Very Man*, which was short-listed for the Irish Novel of the Year Award

"With style and grace, Ride On, See You hoists a flag of courage above the wreckage of a lost love ... a journey of self-forgiveness and gratitude that can only fully be traveled—and



appreciated—alone." —Lyle Roebuck, author of *Phantom Sounds*

"Ann McGlinn navigates the landscape of loss, memory, and the meaning of home, with lyrical intensity. Every page is imbued with the ineffable." —Joni Wallace, author of *Blinking Ephemeral Valentine and Kingdom Come Radio Show*

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Hello everyone I hope this finds you all keeping well. We recently went to my daughters college for parents weekend. Unfortunately she was under the weather so we ended up in the ER. They diagnosed bronchitis. Both my children suffer with sinus and chronic allergies. Illinois is one of the states with the highest pollen rates.

I grew up on a farm back home as a kid jumping on hay stacks going to the bog cutting turf never had an allergy. I now suffer from allergies and have had sinus surgery and tubes in my ears. Spring and autumn are particularly bad for us so I empathise with my children.

As a mother I really wanted to wrap her up and bring her home, make her comfort foods just like my mum did for us with lots of home made barley and vegetable beef broth, big hunks of homemade treacle and sultana bread. She was an amazing cook, none of that sodium chicken noodle soup out of a can for us.

I was happy my daughter had settled into college life and joined their circus club making lots of new friends. Some I met when she put together a little birthday celebration for me for which I was very impressed how organised and respectful solid kids are. I shouldn't call them kids, they are our independent future educators.

We stay the weekend to

make sure she got all her medications and vitamins, and stocked up her fridge.

So I want to share some stories I found out while there. ISU was the first teaching college in the states. It was founded in 1857 under Illinois state normal university emphasis on teaching and agriculture.

There is a museum close by which tells the story of when millions of Irish immigrated to America shortly after the so called famine of 1847. Yes we had the blight on potatoes but they were not our only staple. We had corn and barley poultry pigs cattle all of which were stolen and shipped back across the water to England while our families were left to starve, their homes and land were also stolen.

I believe the queen on her last trip to Ireland did not apologize, but rather expressed regret for centuries of conflict between our two countries and sincere sympathy for the victims of the violence and troubles. Personally no amount of apologies will bring back my family.

There was rough times for the Irish that settled in Normal and Bloomington Illinois where they experienced bigotry and discrimination but our Irish immigrants were strong and brave and had to soldier on as it was a long way back home to Ireland. Things started changing as they were hard workers. They were instrumental in

building the railroads. They opened prairie farms. The Costigans became grocers, lawyers and judges. The Irvins started the Bloomington Pepsi Bottling Company. The Quinns opened a gas station that still exist today.

The Boylans made candies and pop. The O'Malley's and Costellos had a clothing store. This is to name a few success stories as you drive through the small towns you'll notice all the Irish names on a lot of the establishments. I felt very emotional and wanted to shout Hurray!!!! YOU made it ... We are so eternally grateful to our ancestors for paving the way for us. We need to keep their stories in our history books and in our schools. I'm glad my daughter choose ISU. We feel more connected to it now. We both love history, and I'm confident she will make an amazing history/english teacher. Read on.

So here's what's interesting. Our hotel was 17 miles from the college in a little town called El Paso. There, we noticed two two huge antique barns right beside our hotel. I was excited to explore them as we had turned our sunroom into a little shebeen Irish antique pub but that's another story I will fill you in on later. So I couldn't wait to see what they had to offer. The first antique place had a huge bronze statue by the counter that looked like Saint Anthony, but the manager said it was a priest who was born in their El Paso town who was in the process of being canonized.

Wow!!! That sure peaked my interest so a bit of googling later I found his story. He was Fulton John Sheen born 1895. Wait for this now.

His grandparents were Irish from county Roscommon so that really had me sitting up as my husband is from there too.

Fulton was ordained as a priest, he was a teacher of theology, philosophy and later became auxiliary bishop of New York. He also hosted a television show called *Life is Worth Living*. He was promoted to archbishop and was highly regarded and praised by pope John Paul II. He passed away in 1979. Apparently there was an alleged miracle in his name concerning a stillborn baby who came back to life after over sixty minutes with no signs of a heartbeat. This was recognized by our holy

father Pope Francis. We didn't have time to visit his grave. Maybe next time, but yes in all we had a very interesting weekend. Our daughter had got tickets for us to see that magician guy. Michael Carbonara. He has a show on television called *The Carbonaro effect*.

Unfortunately she was unwell but her college reimbursed her the ticket money so a big thank you to ISU, and hopefully we can take in a show next year on parents weekend.

Right now we are excited to have our kids home for Thanksgiving so wishing you all well wherever you may be til next time. Bye for now.

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Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Ghosties and Fairies and Devils...Oh My!

Simple pleasures. I've been thinking of them a lot lately. I'm not sure what brought these slightly bitter-sweet thoughts on, but they've been lingering for weeks now.

Did they start with a walk through the nearby Renville Woods, in Co. Galway?

Yes. Yes, I think that perhaps they did. You see, I don't believe I've been in those woods (that I once lived on the very edge of) since before the Covid Lockdown. But during that lockdown it seems that a great many people have

discovered them. Obviously out walking in a beautiful area, trying to keep their children occupied during a difficult time.

And something rather marvelous, enchanting and... yes, magical, happened. One by one those children - and I suspect quite a few grown-ups too - picked out a specific patch of woods, happily semi-clear of trees and began to lay down small, home-made fairy doors. And somewhere along the way, as lockdown weeks turned into lockdown months, the carvings became more intricate, more ambitious. So that now, if you turn into the woods above the Bay just outside of Oranmore Village, you'll come to a rough-and-

ready sign that says FAIRY TRAIL and which points you to the left and an area where not only fairy doorways are at the bottom of the trees but where you can find small fairy houses (complete with tiny fairy rooms) and other mini fairy buildings halfway up the trees themselves.

And all the more charming in that it is not a polished, professional layout. It is quite obviously a labour of love. How wonderful to think of the hours of enjoyment that entire families - no doubt coming together as their own little community - must have enjoyed during those long lockdown days. And will at least some of them, now that things have returned to whatever passes for normal, continue to care for that little grove and its delightful clutch of fairy dwellings?

I like to think so.

Simple pleasures. Anyone who dips into this column even occasionally knows that my own particular pleasure - for more than half a century now - has been the world of the cinema. It's an addiction that can be traced back to a nine-year-old boy (mouth hanging open, eyes like saucers) watching on a 'sixties TV set the flickering black-and-white shadows of Boris Karloff and Colin Clive in the 1931 'Frankenstein'.

A few weeks back I was in PALAS, the Galway City arts house and had just been to an afternoon showing of 'Crimes of the Future' - brilliant, but not recommended for anyone who can't take director David Cronenberg's brand of filmmaking. [And a note on the joys of art houses. As much as I like the staff in my local multiplex the plain truth is that if you watch a film in an arts cinema then you are going to be in the company of other people who actually want to be there. As opposed to

brain-dead cretins who seem unable to grasp the concept of turning off their phones for a whole two hours.]

Afterwards, and on the spur of the moment, I took the lift up to the cinema bar, something I don't usually do; but in this case I was very glad I did. There were only two people there at that hour, both in their early twenties: Mikey, who was helping behind the bar; and Holly, who was sitting at the counter. As it turned out, they were partners and both were film students and, well... just a great, enthusiastic couple. Best of all, they were just finalizing details for a film club that they were organizing - 'Cinephile Paradiso' - and which would be specializing in the classics. The film would be shown on one of PALAS's three screens and afterwards it would be upstairs to the bar for a podcast and discussion of what we had just watched. Now, as I write this on the 17th of October, they have already shown Hitchcock's 'Rear Window' (and boy, did it do my heart good to see how many attended) and next up is Robert Aldrich's 'What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?' and John Ford's 'The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance'.

As the bar grew busier that afternoon, I realised that the young people coming in for a drink were people who knew Holly and Mikey, were indeed part of a whole sub-culture of genuine, knowledgeable film fans. I was both delighted and amazed to listen into the conversations, with names like Raoul Walsh and Howard Hawks being mentioned with an easy familiarity. How great it is to come across a whole new generation of Irish with the same love of cinema as I had at that age.

Only a few weeks previously a mainly young crowd had turned up at this same ven-

ue to see the German silent horror classic, 'Nosferatu'. An Irish/ UK company called Figgis-West had commissioned the Irish composer Hugh Doolan to write a new piece for the anniversary. Yes, incredible as it seems, F.W. Murnau's masterpiece was a century old in March of this year.

There has been an Irish link with 'Nosferatu' right from the start. In fact, Florence Stoker of Clontarf, Dublin did her level best to have all prints of it destroyed (and came very close) when it became clear that she was not going to receive any badly-needed money, even after winning a case against the company that had shamelessly plagiarised her late husband Bram's great work, 'Dracula'.

Intriguingly, this beautiful Irishwoman was the link between two of the great enduring literary monsters of the 20th and 21st centuries. Oscar Wilde had presented to us a certain famous attic hoarder of paintings in the 1890 'Picture of Dorian Gray', while along came fellow Dubliner Bram Stoker in 1897 with none other than the King of the Vampires himself.

Florence of course married Bram; but years before she had been courted by none other than Oscar Wilde himself. Indeed, as something of a muse to him, a sketch by Wilde exists that shows a winsome, elfin lady. And it is rather precious, as Florence allowed no photographs of her to be taken after she turned forty.

And just as an aside, now that you've got me started, yet another Dublin man had come along decades before either Oscar or Bram. Sheridan LeFanu gave the world the immortal 'Carmilla' in 1872, the world's first tale of lesbian vampirism.

Leave it to the Irish!

Finally, can I wish the very best of luck to Adam Schefler, who has opened a small - wait for it - cinema devoted to silent films. It is indeed The Silent Cinema, Dominick Street, Galway. You can be seated at a table, glass of wine at your elbow and be entertained by a treasure of yesteryear, whilst musical accompaniment is courtesy of two resident pianists. I was there two nights ago for Buster Keaton's 'Sherlock Jr.' and will be there again this coming Friday 21st for their Halloween grab-bag of shorts, organized in conjunction with Cinephile Paradiso and featuring amongst others the very first horror film - 'Manor of the Devil' - from 1896; and the once-lost Eddison 'Frankenstein' from 1910.

Well done to these extraordinary and infectiously enthusiastic people.

Simple pleasures, indeed. mail:charleybrady@gmail.com

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and salt is completely dissolved before adding your bird. The brine can usually left on a deck or porch as long as the temperature does not

Why do we celebrate Thanksgiving? Thanksgiving commemorates a three day feast celebrated in November of 1621 in Plymouth Massachusetts between the English colonists and the native American Wampanoag nation. As is the custom the English colonists being grateful for good harvest celebrated their bounty with a feast before the onset of winter. During the festivities the colonist fired their muskets. Wondering what all the commotion was about the Native Americans came to investigate and were invited to join the festivities resulting in first Thanksgiving in what was to become the U.S.A. I say this because Canada celebrated their first Thanksgiving in 1578 when Arthur Frobisher and his crew returned from their search of the Northwest Passage. To give thanks for their safe return they organized a feast. The Canadian Thanksgiving is very similar to its American relative. Turkey, or ham, dressing and gravy, corn and pumpkin pie, except for the date. Thanksgiving in Canada is celebrated on the second Monday in October.

In 1863 President Abraham Lincoln designated the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day and we have been celebrating it since.

You may be surprised that Thanksgiving is not just an American and Canadian Holiday.

In Germany, Switzerland, and Austria the residents celebrate Erntedankfest a more public celebration with musical performances, dancing, fireworks, and of course food.

In the Netherlands the Dutch version of Thanksgiving is celebrated in Leiden. The interesting thing is that Leiden has everything that the United States celebration has except American football.

Apparently the Pilgrims that feasted with the Wampanoags started as a group of religious separatists that fled England to avoid the persecution of King James and many lived in Leiden until 1620 when they sailed to Plymouth, and you know the rest of the story. Other countries that celebrate Thanksgiving include Grenada, Japan, Liberia, the U K, and Brazil.

Turkey is usually the star of any Thanksgiving feast. I like to brine my bird for about an hour per pound which usually means overnight. Mix 1cup of kosher salt, 1cup of brown sugar, per gallon of warm water with some dried thyme, sage and rosemary, three or four crushed garlic cloves, and some whole black peppercorns, and Bay leaf in a 5 gallon plastic bucket with a lid. Make sure the sugar,

go above 40 degrees. After the brining time has been completed rinse off the herbs and seasonings and pat dry with paper towels. Rub with softened butter. Place turkey in a 350 degree oven. An 18 pound turkey should take about 2.5 hours. If the breast starts to brown too quickly cover with foil paper.

To stuff or not to stuff. I stuff the neck of the bird with Irish sausage meat, and leave the cavity empty except for some rough cut carrots, celery and onions. I like cooking my dressing/stuffing in a separate pan so the top gets nice and crispy. Forget about that plastic thermometer that's stuck in the breast. Use an instant thermometer and insert it in the thickest part of the thigh with out touching the bone. When it reaches 165 degrees it is done. Remove the bird from the pan and tent with foil paper.

Strain and reserve the pan juices. Deglaze the pan with some turkey or chicken stock scraping up all the brown bits. This is the base for the giblet gravy. Place the neck, heart, and gizzards in a sauce pan with chopped celery, bay leaf,



black peppercorns and chopped parsley and cover with water. Cook for about 45 minutes. Strain and dice the heart, gizzards, and neck meat. Separate the fat from the pan drippings. Combine the drippings chopped meats and stock in a sauce pan. Heat to a boil. Make a roux with the turkey fat from the pan fat and equal amount of flour. Cook in a separate pan for about 3 minutes until roux is smooth. Add this to your gravy and stir until thickened. You can take this to another level with a splash of sherry

As far as dressings go I like mine simple. Dried cubed bread, sautéed onions, celery and garlic, parsley, thyme, chopped turkey liver, lots off melted unsalted butter, salt and pepper, and turkey or chicken stock. The stuff in those cartons is fine. Place mixture in a deep pan and bake until top is golden and crispy.

By popular request I traditionally make a New England clam chowder. Cau-

iflower, broccoli, glazed carrots, Brussel sprouts, and butternut squash can all be cooked in advance and reheated. You can also cook and strain potatoes and just before serving mash in a pan over heat with butter and milk. Sweet potatoes can be baked, mashed or served au gratin with a sprinkle of Parmesan, maple syrup, ginger, and cinnamon.

And what would Thanksgiving be without pumpkin pie, pecan, or Apple pie for dessert?

What about leftovers? Save the carcass and make a flavorful stock with carrots, celery, onions, bay leaf, and black peppercorns to make a turkey chowder.

How about a turkey pot pie? Or turkey chili

What ever you decide to serve and whoever is seated at your table be grateful for the blessings God has bestowed on you to be able celebrate these gifts with family and friends

THREE BEAN CHILI

This recipe won me the Bucktown Chili Cook Off 2 years in a row.

4cups cubed cooked turkey meat breast and thigh

- 1 15oz can black beans
- 1 15oz can red or kidney beans
- 1 15oz can navy beans
- 1 28oz can crushed tomatoes
- 1 tbs Tomato paste
- 1 Medium Diced onion
- 2 cloves chopped garlic
- 2oz vegetable oil
- 1tbsp chili powder
- 2tsp cumin
- 1 cup Turkey stock
- ¼ tsp cayenne pepper (optional)

Heat oil in a stock pot. Sauté onion, and garlic in oil until softened but not brown. Add turkey and spices. Combine and cook for 5 minutes. Add crushed tomatoes, and tomato paste to the pot along with the stock. Simmer for about 30

minutes. Add salt and pepper to taste. Add 2 tablespoons of corn starch and 2 tablespoons of water to make a slurry. Add to thicken chili.

Serve in a bowl or crock topped with shredded Cheddar cheese, sour cream and chopped green onions.

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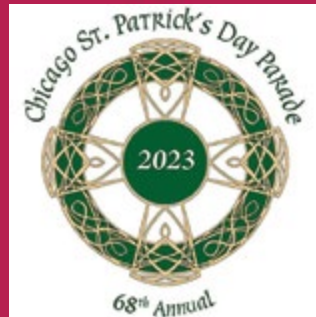
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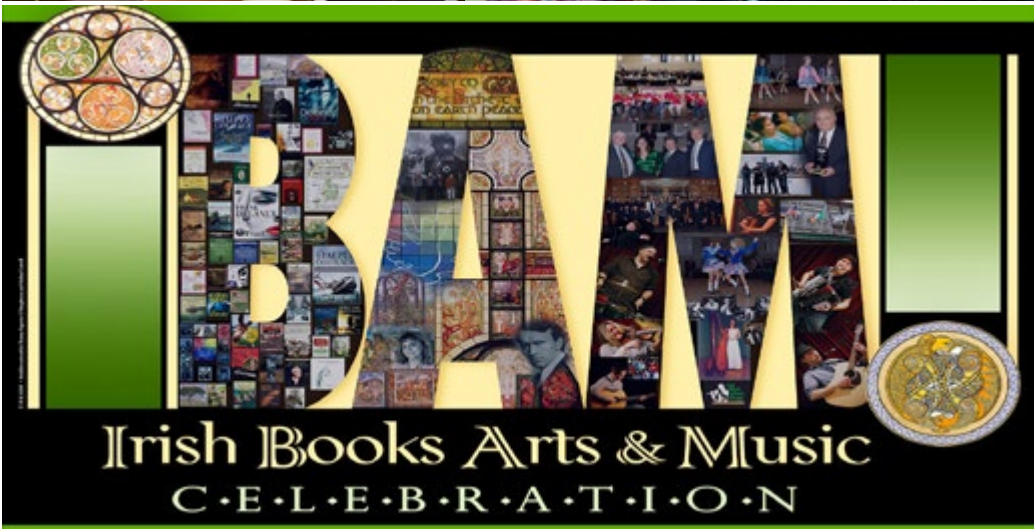
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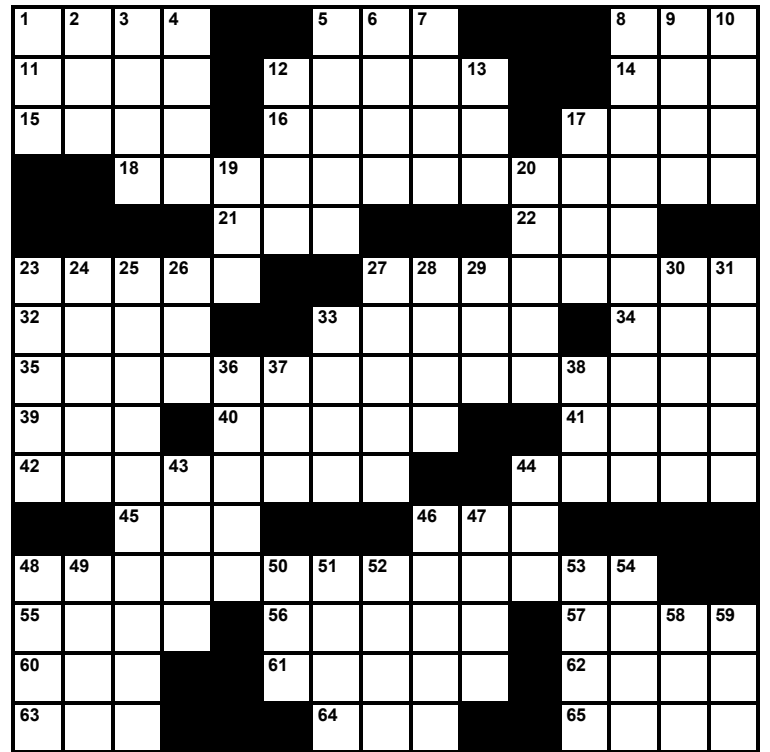
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1. Irish singer with U2
5. Quart divs.
8. Jamaican pop
11. Missing in action, abbr.
12. Irish poet
14. Neighbor of Ill. and Mich.
15. Aquatic plant
16. Open
17. Electric and conger
18. Presumptuous
21. Jeanne d'Arc, e.g., abbr.
22. Coll. basketball contest, abbr.
23. Sirs' counterparts
27. Current
32. Hotel chain
33. F. Scott Fitzgerald's wife
34. Brain-wave reading, for short
35. It's important on a rainy day
39. Self-image
40. Antlered animal
41. Sea motion
42. Irish soccer star
44. Clarifying phrase (Latin)
45. ___ moment, 2 words
46. Brest buddy
48. Mass walkout
55. Yen
56. ___-frutti
57. Man, for one
60. Up to, old way
61. Cases
62. Finger tip
63. UK TV
64. Letter abbr.
65. Compliment

4. Norwegian monarch
5. Coins
6. Dish that might come with mole sauce
7. "The Man" Musial of baseball
8. Honey
9. Pottery oven
10. Helper, abbr.
12. Tentlike dwelling
13. Tanning lotion letters
17. Modify text
19. Feminine suffix
20. Acquired relative
23. Landscaping machine
24. Sidekick
25. In a disturbing manner
26. During
27. Ms. Witherspoon
28. Fashion magazine
29. Supplement
30. Old-fashioned rewards
31. Certain wading bird
33. Utah national park
36. Mascara problem
37. Home Owners' Association, abbr.
38. "___ be an honour!"
43. Kind of cap or pad
44. Roman number
46. Top floor
47. Dr.'s orders
48. Moxie
49. "CHiPs" co-star Estrada
50. Downed
51. Mandolin cousin
52. Leave slack-jawed
53. Neck stiffness
54. Jacob's brother
58. Coffee cup cover
59. Band with the hit "Don't Bring Me Down"

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IRISH CHRISTMAS IN AMERICA
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3 8PM

- Take a new class with us!
- Irish Step Dance: Beginning
 - Irish Step Dance: Intermediate
 - Irish Singing
 - Introduction to Irish Session
 - Fiddle 3: Introduction to Irish
 - Fiddle 4: Irish Forever & more!

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THE IRISH SHOP IS CLOSING!



After 32 years Jim and Anne August have decided to retire.

Which means big savings for you! Everything in the store must go, and Christmas is just around the corner. So, shop now while the selections are good.



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Happy Thanksgiving

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