

# “Love at First Pint” Begets Paddy O’Fegan’s

Owners, Patrick and Cathy Fegan... pg 7



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# JULY 8-9-10

FRIDAY 6pm-MIDNIGHT    SATURDAY NOON-MIDNIGHT    SUNDAY NOON-11pm

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## Midwest Connemara Breeders Show July 23-24 In Memory of Martin Prendergast, 1966-2009

Martin Prendergast died way too young at thirty nine. But, not before he set the wheels in motion to hold the first Midwest Connemara Breeder's Show in Chicagoland.

His wife Kay, and many friends like Trevor Williams, John Keane, George Nugent, Martin Fitzgerald, Seamus Flanagan, Tom McNamara, Laura Balding and Gloria La Croix pulled themselves together shortly after Martin died to make his dream come true, presenting the show at Windy Isles Farm in 2009.

The Third Annual Midwest Connemara Breeders show is proud to return to Windy Isles Farm July 23-24, 2011.

Join the Prendergast family and their many friends for a fun-filled day in the country which begins at 9:00 am. A nominal fee of \$5 per car is all it takes to get you and the family on the grounds to watch more than 50 Connemara ponies compete for prizes in several categories. And don't let the name Connemara pony fool you. These ponies average 14 hands high or more.

A judge, Heather Dean-Wright, has been flown in from Ireland for the first time this year. Heather has been with horses all her life in the heart of County Meath, Ireland. Brought up surrounded by Connemara mares and stallions, her passion for the Connemara pony began as a young child watching her mother, Margo, a star in the Connemara breeding and competition world for many years. Heather now owns and runs the successful Ard Cherrymount Stud Farm which was founded by Margo over 50 years ago. Ard Cherrymount stands leading Connemara, Irish and European Sporthorse performance stallions.

Celebrate the day the way they do in Ireland. There are over 100 acres to explore so bring your lawn chairs or blankets and settle in for a day out in the country. There is plenty of food and drink to purchase in a day filled with fun such as Donkey races (we dare you to stay up on the donkey!), pony rides, and the best Connemara ponies in the Midwest. The Dennehy Irish Dancers will perform. In the evening enjoy a huge bonfire, and Irish music provided by John Kivlehan, and John Staunton, affectionately known as, "The Two Johnnies!"

Check out the performance arena where all the jumps will take place. There is also an in-hand ring, and a schooling ring to watch the horses.

It takes a lot to keep a one hundred acre horse farm going. Kay has a partner in Windy Isles Farm, Seamus Flanagan from Sligo, who races horses at Arlington and Hawthorne Race Courses. Kay keeps boarders on the farm, and they all have their own stalls, indoors and out. She formed the Legacy Eques-

trian Team which gives horse lessons and pony rides to help her pay for the farm and some twenty Connemara ponies, and the various farm animals like ducks, chickens, goats, sheep, dogs, and assorted living creatures you will see when you visit.

John Keane has his own farm, Blue Rock, in La Porte, Indiana where he

raises Connemara's. He recently went half way to Colorado to lease a stallion for his farm for the next couple of years. "Ponies are in my family and in my blood. I suppose we go back to at least the 1800's with ponies in the family on both sides. My brother owns Connemara's in Ireland. In the old days in Ireland there were no private stallions, you had society stallions. Seven or eight people from the society would pick the horses and buy the horses, and then they would

stud them out around Ireland and swap them out every two or three years to control the breed, and so on. My mother's brothers and father's family were society stallion owners," said John.

George Nugent grew up with draught horses and others on a farm in Ireland. "When Martin got sick he was worried about the show, and I promised him I would help make it happen. I love the horses," he said.

Trevor Williams grew up on a farm in Ireland in East Clare near Gort. "I

emigrated here, and was a friend of Martin's. I have a love of animals and this life style really. If we had the chance we'd probably all be farmers. Everything in Ireland was done with the horses when we grew up," said Trevor.

"When we grew up you cut the hay with horses, you plowed, you did everything. We did have the Irish draught horse—a stronger horse. We would break a couple of horses a year, and

...Continued on Page 4

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**A Word With Monsignor Boland**

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

**Rev. Monsignor Michael M. Boland**

Administrator, President and CEO



**Nurturing the Spirit of Charity**

Love of God and love of neighbor—the Great Commandment—are at the heart of a life of service to the People of God for every Christian, and especially for every Catholic priest.

So, each year, as spring and summer finally break through Chicago’s long winter, Catholic Charities hosts annual orientations for the seminarians and the newly ordained priests of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Because Catholic Charities compassionately and professionally serves more than a million persons each year with basic human needs or professional social services, we can serve literally as “a school of charity” for our seminarians in formation and our newly ordained priests.

This spring, for instance, I welcomed Father Christopher Ciomek and 12 Archdiocesan seminarians to Mass in our beautiful St. Louise de Marillac Chapel at Catholic Charities’ St. Vincent Center, followed by breakfast and an orientation to the mission and services of Catholic Charities. Pat Drott, R.N., Catholic Charities HIV/AIDS Liaison to the Archdiocese of Chicago made a presentation about “HIV and

the Christian Response.” Director Christene Dykes-Sorrells described the profound importance of Catholic Charities’ Emergency Services Department, which feeds, clothes and averts homelessness for tens of thousands of poor, unemployed and struggling individuals and families each year. I presented the overview of Catholic Charities’ 159 programs at 156 locations in Cook and Lake counties. This month, the 10 newly ordained Archdiocesan priests will serve dinner to our 130 Tuesday Night Supper guests and then have a meal and conversation about our programs with the priests who minister at Catholic Charities.

Fortunately, over the last several years, we have been able to offer a number of summer positions at Catholic Charities, giving seminarians the opportunity to learn about our mission while serving our clients. They have worked at the 311 Call Center operated by Catholic Charities for the City of Chicago; in our Departments of Development, Immigration, and the St. Mary of Celle Children’s Program; and in a number of other areas as needed.

Not only do these men learn about Catholic Charities’ mission and programs as our staff meets with them in orientation sessions, but for several weeks during the summer, they become an integral part of our service to the poor, understanding and alleviating poverty.

Our 130 Supper guests each weekday evening are men and women of all ages who are homeless, live on the street, have very low-incomes, or live in housing situations that do not provide the stoves or refrigeration required for preparing food. They literally depend on Catholic Charities for their “daily bread.” While held in Catholic Charities’ St. Vincent Center on North LaSalle Street, the other four weekly Suppers are organized and sponsored by one of the three other downtown churches or organizations: Holy Name Cathedral (two evenings), Help Ease Local Poverty (HELP), and Fourth Presbyterian Church. Parishes, 30 restaurants and many organizations from all over the Archdiocese of Chicago take turns providing food and volunteers to serve the meals. Needless to say, we serve more than a meal. The health, nutrition and attitudes of our supper guests improve week after week as they are served with warmth, respect and dignity by the volunteers. Our guests enjoy socializing, and their spirit of gratitude is evident in the chorus of “Thank You!’s” to the volunteers as they leave the dining room.

Serving at our Tuesday Night Supper is a wonderful opportunity for the newly ordained men to be brought up-to-date regarding Catholic Charities’ services as they begin their parish ministry. Their experience results in a win-win situation for them and their parishioners, as they are equipped to make appropriate referrals to our services as needed. In addition, as new “partners in charity” who have learned first-hand what we do, they will be supportive of our food and clothing drives, and our Annual Mother’s Day Appeal, as they minister in their parishes.

The spirit of unity and charity that the seminarians, the newly ordained priests, and Catholic Charities’ staff members and leadership have generated in service to the poor is a great gift to all of us at Catholic Charities, and to the Church, society and the people we serve.

Please keep us all in your prayers as we care for God’s people in need.

For more information re: Catholic Charities, please visit: [www.catholic-charities.net](http://www.catholic-charities.net).

**Midwest Connemara Breeders Show**

...Continued from Page 3  
get them ready to ride and sell them,” added George.

Another Irishman in the Chicagoland area that has interest in the Connemara ponies is Martin Fitzgerald. Martin grew up on a farm in west Kerry where they always had horses. His main sport growing up was horse and pony races on the local beaches.

Martin became interested in the Connemara Ponies when visiting the Prendergast family at Windy Isles Farm in 2005. When he and his wife, Annette, bought a horse boarding facility in Homer Glen he immediately bought some Connemara ponies from some long time breeders in Missouri and Indiana.

The Fitzgeralds now breed Connemara ponies, and their 15 year old daughter Mandy shows them in Eventing and Jumping Shows. They find the Connemara Pony to be a great addition to their farm, Kerry Meadows. Martin takes the ponies to Gaelic Park each year during the Irish Fest in May, and also to

...Continued on Page 5



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**Online This Month**

Due to the large quantity of columns this month and the lack of extra space a few columns will be online only.

- Irish Rover
- Horoscopes

They will be back next month for your reading pleasure!

**Midwest Connemara Breeders Show ...Continued from Page 4**  
 their Fall Fest. They enjoy working with their ponies to show them at the annual Midwest Connemara Pony Show.

Bring your tent if you want to, and brave the elements overnight—but do so at your own risk!

And don't forget to check out last year's

Performance Champion, The Quiet Man, the star Connemara Pony on the farm.

Windy Isles Farms is just 40 miles south of Chicago! 32263 S. Egyptian Trail, Peotone, IL 60468. <http://midwest-connemarashow.com>. 708-906-8540.

Email: [windyisles@comcast.net](mailto:windyisles@comcast.net).



(L-R): George Nugent, Jessica Jones, The Quiet Man, and John Keaney.



Trevor Williams

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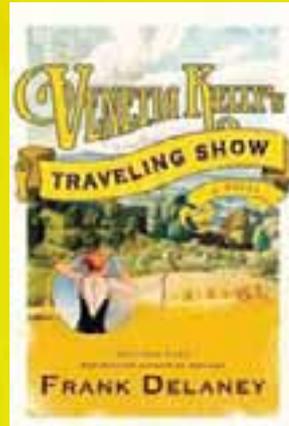


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## Love at First Pint Begets Paddy O'Fegan's

Looking up at you from the beautifully tiled floor, the *Cead Mile Failte* greets you as you walk through the front door. And it just gets better from there. The new Paddy O'Fegan's at 204 N. Halsted Street will open any day now.

O'Fegan's will serve over 100 beers, Irish and Canadian whiskies and specialty drinks, along with

Marine Corps in the Middle East.

He married late in life because, as Patrick puts it... "it took me a long time to find the woman of my dreams because she had to be imported from Canada!"

Cathy was born and raised in Edmonton, and Alberta in western Canada, and travelled the United States and Europe as a drummer



American traditional and Irish classic cuisine for dinner and weekend lunch. The lunch will spread to mid-week after the restaurant hits its stride.

Patrick Fegan is a lucky fellow. When Paddy O'Fegan's opens on the Northwest corner of Halsted and Lake—and it will be soon—he will have realized a life-long dream of opening his own place. And, he'll be sharing that dream with the woman of his life, Cathy, his Canadian born wife.

"Paddy" is first generation Irish. His parents, from Galway Bay, settled on the Northside of Chicago where young Paddy was born and raised.

He attended Quigley High School and Florida Institute of Technology. He also served two tours with the US

with a marching band. She majored in Computer Science which opened the door to career opportunities in the States.

Shortly after graduating college, she lived on both US coasts before settling in Chicago and becoming a US citizen.

Cathy puts things in her own perspective. "I met the man of my dreams in, surprisingly, a local Chicago bar and it was "love at first pint!"

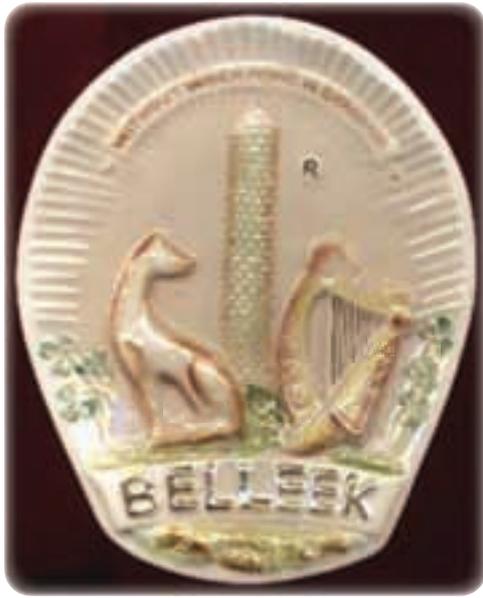
They share the dream of Paddy O'Fegan's and plan on making sure their customers and staff have as much fun as they do in life.

O'Fegan's proudly flies the American, Irish and Canadian flags. It looks like its going to be a good mix. 312-997-3100. www.paddyofegans.com.



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## Irish Fest Memorial Day Weekend...A Grand Time Was Had By All!





# Chicago Gaelic Park

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



## A Chairde:

The dust is settling from Gaelic Park's 25th Irish Fest and in many ways this year's fest was a great success. I know that some will say the dust never had a chance to rise as the weather gods were a little unkind, but overall the indomitable spirit of our volunteers and staff under the leadership of Festival Chairman Frank Bradley won the day. Often life is compared to the rose, which is a beautiful and aromatic flower armed with thorns. So it is with Chicago Irish Fest on Memorial weekend, I always enjoy the sight of young families at the carnival running from ride to ride and eating cotton candy or ice cream, or watching a magic show while having their young faces painted. I loved listening to Ronan Tynan singing live, the return of the multi-talented Leahy, Girsá's festival debut, and Chicago's own Four Courts, Kathleen Keane and Liz Carroll. The fest hosted the first ever Inter-Collegiate Hurling Championship, our first ever totally indoor Chicago Feis and a touching and poignant Memorial Salute on Memorial Day. There was a great turnout for the Memorial weekend open-air mass, another great Fest tradition. There were many other noteworthy performances and events on Memorial weekend which took place despite the unfavorable weather (the thorns) and I am very proud to be associated with the volunteers whose persistence was rewarded with a great Sunday evening and Monday turnout. We will continue to promote and offer the best of our Irish Culture in a family environment.

A beautiful wedding reception took place beside our new waterfall feature in mid-May, which will be aired on the TLC cable network as part of TLC's Four Wedding Series. The airing is tentatively scheduled for late July, it promises to be worth watching. The GAA season is in full swing, so come to Gaelic Park any Sunday afternoon and take in a hurling or football game and sip on a beverage while enjoying the sights and sounds of the waterfall.

### John Devitt, President

**Irish Fest 2011** A sincere "thank you" to all who donated items for our Irish Fest Tea Room! Everyone enjoyed your delicious bread and cookies with their "hot pot of tea."

**Feis** It was a huge success, thanks to the organizing of our "man for all seasons" Harry Costelloe. There were over 400 participants and the performances were amazing!

**Volunteers** To each and every one of you who worked tirelessly over the Irish Fest Weekend, rain and shine, to make this event enjoyable for all who attended... we could not do it without you... and we THANK YOU!

Ann Quinn writes *"it was wonderful to see traditions carried on at the Irish Fest with the Memorial Day salute...hearing taps played on the bugle by the grandson of Michel Finnegan who was one of the founding members of Gaelic Park; and the singing of the Irish and American Anthems by the young grandson of former directors, John Crean and Con Toomey."* The salute honored another former director, Pat Quinn from Co. Down, as an X-POW of the Korean War, as he stood proudly holding the Irish flag.

**Congratulations** to Mike Galvin the winner of our \$500 membership raffle!

**Lunch & Music At The Park** It's time to get out and enjoy these beautiful summer days and lift your spirits—no excuses! Come to Gaelic Park for our lively Musical Luncheons held on the first Wednesday of the month starting at NOON with music and dancing until 4pm. The menu is plentiful, a complete full course meal – all for the modest cost of only **\$13**. Mark your calendars for July 6, August 3, September 7, October 5, November 2 and December 7. Make it a monthly group outing with friends, neighbors, church groups, clubs, everyone is welcome! Take a leisurely stroll around the Park and sit by the fountain, stop in the office and shop for our newest merchandise and pick up a gift certificate or two – you never know when you might need an extra gift for someone! **Reservations are necessary**, call 708.687.9323.

**The Feast of Lady of Knock** The miracle of Our Lady of Knock began on a rainy evening in August 1879. Fifteen witnesses saw a bright light shine over the Knock Parish Church in an apparition that included the Blessed Virgin Mary along with Saints Joseph and John. The faithful watched and recited the Rosary in the presence of this Apparition for over two hours. Miracles began only days after. Pilgrimages to Knock, Co. Mayo began in 1880 and over the years, visitors have grown to over half a million and with other exceptional heal-

ings such as that of the terminally ill. Gaelic Park honors this astonishing event on Monday, August 22, beginning at 7:30pm with Benediction, Rosary and Procession to the beautiful Grotto. Refreshments hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary will be available after the ceremony. For more information, please call Gaelic Park at 708.687.9323 or visit [www.chicagogaelicpark.org](http://www.chicagogaelicpark.org).

**Sunday Live Broadcasts** (and over the internet) from 7-9pm from Gaelic Park by Harry Costelloe, Mary Hackett, and Mary Riordan on WCEV 1450 AM. Hear all the week's Irish news and sports direct from Ireland, and all the latest events and goings on at Gaelic Park. Call 708.687.9330 to request a song or dedication.

**National Collegiate Hurling Finals** The tournament was a massive success. We were able to do something that has never been done before. "We gathered college players from all over the coun-

Thus may the 4th of July,  
that glorious

and ever memorable day,  
be celebrated

through America, by the  
sons of freedom,

from age to age, till time  
shall be no more

...Amen, and amen

—Virginia Gazette, July 18, 1877



try, representing a total of 12 schools, to compete for a national title." says Matthew Schwertfeger (Secretary of NCGAA). The National Collegiate Gaelic Athletic Association now boasts two dozen collegiate clubs across the United States, and it doesn't look like the growth will be stopping any time soon. While 2011 marks the first year these young vibrant clubs have come together, they are quickly becoming the life blood for future hurling expansion across America. During Irish Fest on Memorial Day weekend these fearless lads took the pitch even during rain & flooding for some of the games. They were quite grateful to have such an amazing facility as Gaelic Park to kick off their new tradition, but also the added support from those spectators who came out to watch them. It seems that nothing can stop the will of a true hurler. —Greg Miller, NACB Central Division

**Seisiún On The Patio** The Thursday Irish Music Session hosted by Pat Finnegan and Friends, will move out onto the patio and new waterfall area for the month of July. Drink and food specials will be available!

**Ceili Dancing** will continue for the first time during the coming summer months. Come out to Gaelic Park on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30pm (\$2 donation). Beginners can come at 7pm for some instruction. Donna Killen, Instructor.

**Gaelic Park Players** In days of yore (seventeen years ago) Gaelic Park Players evolved when a group of people with a desire to promote Irish culture, got together and decided to give it a try! Our forte is Irish plays—denoting the current or past life and times of Ireland and its many people and places. Our reading committee is reviewing possibilities for our fall production and will announce their selection at our next general meeting. Then the process of finding a director, having auditions, calling rehearsals, and getting the stage and scenery set before it's 'lights up' once again. The GPP recently performed at the Acting Irish International Theater Festival in Calgary Canada. This is an annual event held in various States, Canada and Ireland, a great reunion, stiff competition and many great plays. We were delighted when our own Dave Denham (the ladies man in Castle Comer Jukebox) received a nomination for best supporting actor. We gather for meetings on the second Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm at Gaelic Park, new faces are very welcome.

Come join us, you don't have to be an actor; there's always a need for set-builders, stage hands, and many other necessary tasks.

Being Irish isn't a requirement, nor is being young or beautiful, but if you have those attributes, you'll definitely be allowed in!



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7/01	Gerard Haughey
7/02	Richie Z
7/08	Joe Cullen
7/09	The Rockets
7/15	Week Back
7/16	John Dillon
7/22	Bernie Glim & Country Roads
7/23	Gerard Haughey
7/29	Joe Cullen
7/30	Richie Z

Friday night entertainment begins at 7:30pm  
and Saturday night at 9:30pm.

Check Website for Full Schedule

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# Piping It In

Jack Baker

Here it is July already, half the year gone and with it some dynamite festivals and a couple that weren't quite so dynamite.

The best is yet to come. The festival at the Irish American Heritage Center comes this month with a huge lineup of superb talent, Gaelic Storm, Makem & Spain Brothers and bunches more. The fest will be on Friday thru Sunday, the 8th, 9th & 10th. The City of Chicago Pipe Band plays Saturday at 5pm. Here's your chance to see one of the finest pipe bands in the US. Hear them and you'll know what I'm raving about.

Milwaukee Irish Fest lies in wait on the third weekend of August and their schedule is already out. This will be a year to not miss going. A lot of our favorite bands are back and there will be some new acts that will blow your mind.

Before I get into the new music, and oh baby, there's some beauties this month, I want to take a minute and toss out some congrats to a fine piper I know and his lovely wife. Ed Cargill, longtime member of the Chicago Highlanders Pipe Band, and his lovely wife Susan, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 17. Susan was obviously a child bride. God bless and best wishes for a couple of great people on this impressive milestone.

On to the music. One of the most prolific Scottish fiddlers of all time is Alasdair Fraser. His impact on the Scottish fiddling scene has been profound, both in the number of successful recordings he has produced and in the number of students he has taught and inspired to become master fiddlers in their own right. On his last two CDs he teamed with cello virtuoso Natalie Haas and he has continued that partnership in his newest CD, *Highlander's Farewell*. Joined by a who's who of fine musicians (Martin Hayes, Dennis Cahill, Bruce Molsky, Brittany Haas and Hanneke Cassel), Alasdair and Natalie have again created a CD of astonishing beauty and incredible length! Running 59 minutes and 58 seconds, this lovely CD features the duo's unique arrangements of traditional tunes. What more can you say about these two monumental talents? They just keep knocking out great recordings and bringing



joy to those of us who love Scottish fiddle.

There has been a lot of confusion about the band DeDannan these days but there is no confusion about the band called

Frankie Gavin & DeDannan, I know just who that is. The latest release from Frankie Gavin & DeDannan is called *Jigs, Reels & Rock n' Roll*, a rather misleading title, since there are plenty of jigs & reels and beautiful vocals performed by the angel-voiced Michelle Lally—but no rock



& roll, and that's fine by me. There's plenty of fire and energy in this trad-based recording with outstanding performances by Damien Mullane on accordion, Eric Cunningham on bodhran, snare, flutes & whistles and Mike Galvin on guitar & bouzouki. Needless to say, Frankie Gavin shines on viola, flutes, whistles and, of course fiddle. They do take a rock & roll classic, "Here Comes the Sun," by George Harrison (Beatles, remember them?), and turn it into a thoroughly enjoyable trad tune. This CD shows a bunch of talent and courage to tackle arrangements that would give lesser musicians the fits. I like it.

An interesting surprise came to me in the shape of a promo from Valley Entertainment. A play copy of Fionnuala Sherry's new solo release *Songs From Before*. She's half of the duo called Secret Garden. I have to admit I have never listened to Secret Garden. I never before received a promo of their music and I had heard them described as "new age" music with Celtic overtones. I am frankly a wee bit leery of such stuff. Most of it sounds pretty lame, to my ear

...Continued on Page 28



Well, it's a pleasure to have this opportunity to speak with you all through this column. My name is Rosemarie O'Carroll and I am the owner/founder of Rose's Wheat Free Bakery and Café. I came to this profession in a unique way. I certainly didn't fancy my self a baker or a special practitioner of the culinary arts. Some of you have heard of gluten and some of you might be aware that Irish folks in particular have a problem with it. Gluten is the protein that is found in wheat, rye and barley. My mother, Elizabeth O'Carroll was diagnosed with Celiac disease in 1991. She nearly died before they figured out what the matter was with her. Celiac disease is an autoimmune disease that attacks the villi that line the small intestine. 19 years ago when she was diagnosed it was considered very rare. Perhaps 1 in 1000 people were said to have the disease and most of those were undiagnosed. But her recovery was so miraculous and the source of her illness was so unexpected, she came to the conclusion early on, that her condition was not so rare. She told everyone who would listen about the evils of wheat and her opinion that it was affecting a larger percentage of the population than most people thought. As in most things in life, Mom was right.

Two years after her diagnosis, she and my father came to Florida to help me with my children. My husband and I were both on active duty with the Navy and I had a two-year-old and infant twins. My husband was deploying for 10 months. We changed into a gluten free kitchen to avoid accidentally poisoning her and as a result, I realized that I was no longer breaking out in hives. I had broken out in hives daily for almost 8 years. It was chalked up to stress, but it turned out it was the stress caused by eating wheat, rye or barley. Now if I am accidentally "glutened," I also have symptoms of fibromyalgia. Ah, it is not easy to get old.

Gluten intolerance is associated with over 200 auto-immune diseases. The Celiac disease rate is now recognized as 1 in 133. That means about 2 million people here in the United States. In Ireland it is 1 in 100. But the number of folks who carry the genes that would make them potentially sensitive to gluten is 33-42% of the population. You don't have to have full fledged Celiac disease to have other issues with gluten. Gluten is one of the most complex, difficult molecules to digest that

we eat. It hangs out in everyone's intestines a long time. Remember when you made paste as a child with flour and water? The same thing is happening

on some levels in everyone's intestines. The incomplete digestion of gluten creates an enzyme called zonulin. It was only discovered in 1992. But when people refer to a leaky gut syndrome, one of the primary causes is zonulin. Zonulin literally makes the intestine more porous, letting food particles and bacteria that should stay in your intestines, into your body. This is potentially part of the cause of all these other auto-immune disease reactions that are related to gluten. The other thing that I became aware of as I entered this field of endeavor, was that food has changed dramatically in the last 20 years; more so than most of us realize. But that will be a subject for more columns to come.



But here's the good news: eating healthy is delicious and it can change your life. And it doesn't have to be hard! We have a whole shop/restaurant full of delicious food. Gluten is only found in wheat, rye and barley. (Although you have to be careful because these grains all have different names. Kamut, spelt, and semolina are all forms of wheat.) If you start with real food, not processed food, 99% of it is gluten free. Start with real meat, potatoes, vegetables, fruits and fish and all of it is gluten free. I shop at the Spice House here in Chicago for my seasonings and you have to avoid any MSG. You do have to read labels and unfortunately gluten is not required on a label. Wheat is required to be labeled, as it is one of the top eight allergies, but since gluten is also in rye and barley, you can still have a problem. Rice Krispies for example, has barley malt so if you have a gluten sensitivity it can make you sick. So you have to read the labels and educate yourself on what some of the other names for wheat are, but once you know what to look for it becomes much easier.

[For a recipe of *No Bake Mojito Cheesecake* visit [www.iannews.com](http://www.iannews.com), where it is included with this full story, or call us at 708-445-0700 and we will send you a printed copy.]

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## IRISH FEST is July 8, 9 and 10!



### GAELIC STORM RETURNS

**Along with The Tossers, Scythian, Makem & Spain Brothers, McPeake and bluegrass legends, The Tony Rice Unit**

Irish Fest weekend is finally here! The Irish American Heritage Center's annual summer celebration is packed with fantastic entertainment and activities for the whole family. A testimony to the amazing volunteers who put on this great event, Irish Fest continues to



*Gaelic Storm*

keep things fresh and provides new reasons to come back each year.

After missing out last year, **Gaelic Storm** is excited to return to close out our festival in their old spot on Sunday night. Nothing much more needs to be said about the #1 Irish touring band in this country, but if there is anyone out there who has yet to see this band live, don't miss this show. Their high energy performance and enthusi-

astic audiences is second to none in Irish music today. With a brand new album and a favorite venue, the band will ensure that the tent will be packed to the gills.

**The Tossers** are Chicago's answer to the Pogues. They have been at it for a long time and have really matured as a band and their music is stronger and shows the dedication these musicians have plied to their craft. As a live act, they play hard driving Irish music with an intensity and frenzy that is not for the faint of heart. The crowd will be packed with young people on Saturday night ready to match the band's intensity with their own.

On Friday night, Irish Fest adds a new wrinkle by spotlighting some Celtic influenced music with bluegrass legends, **The Tony Rice Unit**. Tony Rice is considered one of the most influential acoustic guitarists in bluegrass music. Rice has performed regularly with the likes of David Grisman, J.D. Crowe, Ricky Skaggs, Alison Krauss and Jerry Garcia. Bluegrass music is a direct descen-

dant of Irish music and is the core of American country and folk music. We are privileged to have him and his legendary band perform at our festival.

Other highlights

for the weekend include the return of **Scythian** on Saturday evening. One of the most cutting edge groups in Irish music today, these four lads stole the show at last year's festival. Their music is contagious and their shows always seem to end up with everyone on the dance floor. Also making their first appearance at our festival on Saturday is **McPeake**. This wildly talented traditional group features the next generation of the legendary musical family from Northern Ireland. Chicago is known worldwide for its own legendary traditional musicians and McPeake is looking forward to making its mark among Chicago's trad community. **The Makem and Spain Brothers** return on Sunday afternoon. Regular



*The Makem & Spain Brothers*

performers at Irish Fest, these lads have a real affinity for our Center and never disappoint. They have a brand new album which is getting rave reviews on the Irish scene and the folk charts worldwide. Providing a wall of sound and outstanding harmonies, nobody sings these songs quite like The Makem and Spain Brothers. They are simply the best in the business.

Of course it doesn't end there, the festival features the best in local entertainment like **Kevin Flynn and the Avondale Ramblers**, **Bua**, **The Great Whiskey Project**, **The Larkin and Moran Brothers**, **Homankeane**, along with **The Sandcarvers** from Milwaukee, and those New York

boys, **The Mickey Finns**, will be on hand to rock the house Saturday and Sunday nights. It all winds down on Sunday night with **The Chancey Brothers** squeezing as many guest performers from the weekend that they can fit onto the little stage in the Fifth Province.

Other groups appearing on the weekend include:

**Academy Of Irish Music • All Kinds with Steve Davern • Baal Tinne • The Boils • Ceili Mor with Ceoltoiri Chicago • Chicago Celtic Pipe Band • City Of Chicago Pipe Band • Joe Cullen and Teresa Shine • Dooley Brothers • Dyed In The Wool • Fast Eddie & Billy O'Donoghue • Finbarr Fagan's Band • Ciara Walton and Friends, featuring**

**Dennis Cahill • Gareth Woods & Sugarbeat • Johnny Gleeson Band • The Irish Heritage Singers • Irish Music School Of Chicago • Joe McShane & the Silver Bridge Band • Kennedy's Kitchen • McNulty School of Irish Dance • The Misericordia Heartbreakers • Mulhern School of Irish Dance • Mullane Healy Godley School of Irish Dance • Mulligan Stew • O'Hare School of Irish Dance • Shannon Rovers • Switchback • Trinity Academy of Irish Dance**

In addition to all this great music, the weekend is packed



*Scythian*

with the regular festival favorites: plenty of food and drink, shopping, step dancers, ceili dancing, trad sessions, cultural exhibits, children's activities, our raffle, the Mashed Potato Eating Contest, the ShamROCK Stars singing contest for kids and the Hooley Hook-Up for singles on Friday night. There is something for everyone at Irish Fest and a true celebration of our great Center.

To purchase advance sale tickets, call 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or purchase online at [www.irishfestchicago.com](http://www.irishfestchicago.com).

Tickets: \$14 per day; \$8 in advance until the end of business on July 7; seniors \$7, and children 12 and under are free when accompanied by a paid adult.

Hours: Fri., 6-midnight; Sat., noon-midnight; Sun., noon-11pm.



*The Tossers*



*Tony Rice*

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Additional parking is available at Wilson and Lamon with a free shuttle bus to the fest.

# Irish American Heritage Festival 2011 Entertainment Schedule

## Friday, July 8 6pm-midnight

### Main Stage

7:00-9:00 Switchback  
9:30-11:00 The Tony Rice Unit

### Raffle Stage

6:30-7:00 Sheila Tully Academy of Irish Dance  
8:00 Mashed Potato Eating Contest

### Fifth Province Stage

6:00-7:30 The Boils  
8:00-9:30 All Kinds  
10:00-Close The Great Whiskey Project



McPeake



### Folk Tent

7:00-8:30 Tom Hughes  
9:00-10:30 Platform 20

### 3rd Floor Theater

7:00-8:00 Strawdog Theatre Company One-Act  
Comedy: *Flannery, V.C.*



### Library

6:00-9:00 Genealogy and Used  
Book Sale



### Museum

Closed

### Art Gallery

6:00-8:00 IAHC Member's Exhibit - Paintings, photography,  
sculptures and installations from IAHC Members

### Ceili Room

7:00-8:00 Ceili Lessons with the Francis O'Neill Club  
8:00 Ceili with the Francis O'Neill Club

## Saturday, July 9 Noon-Midnight

### Main Stage

12:45-3:00 Dooley Brothers  
3:30-5:00 Larkin & Moran Brothers  
5:30-7:00 McPeake  
7:30-9:00 Scythian  
9:30-11:00 The Tossers

### Raffle Stage

3:00-3:30 Shannon Rovers  
5:00-5:30 City of Chicago Pipe Band  
7:00-7:30 Irish Music School of Chicago  
9:00-9:30 Chicago Celtic Pipe Band

### Fifth Province Stage

12:00-1:30 Baal Tinne  
2:00-3:30 Kennedy's Kitchen  
4:00-5:30 Sandcarvers  
6:00-7:30 Finbarr Fagan's Band  
8:00-9:45 Kevin Flynn and The Avondale Ramblers  
10:15-Close The Mickey Finns

### Auditorium Stage

2:00-2:30 O'Hare School of Irish Dance  
2:45 Seanachai Theatre One-Act Play  
4:30-5:00 Trinity Academy of Irish Dance  
5:00 Screening of Mike Houlihan's documentary:  
*Her Majesty, 'Da Queen*  
8:00 Comedian Alex Joyce and Friends

### Erin Room

3:00-4:00 Ciara Walton and Friends  
4:30-6:00 Joe Cullen and Kathleen Bremer  
6:30-8:30 Homankeane  
9:00 Ceili Mor with Ceoltoiri Chicago

### Folk Tent

12:30 Academy of Irish Music  
1:00 Irish Sing Song with Whitey O'Day  
2:00 Irish Dance Lessons w/Trinity Academy of Irish Dance  
2:30 Irish Pipe Band Demonstration with the City  
of Chicago Pipe Band  
3:30 Children's Sing Song w/the Wiggleworms  
4:30 Irish Music Lessons on the Bodhran with Mike Austin  
5:30 Traditional Irish Sing Song with Tom Hughes

### 3rd Floor Theater

2:00-3:00 Irish Heritage Singers  
3:00-5:00 Irish language film: *The Irish Language /  
Scéal na Gaelige*. Followed by teaching Irish  
language basics  
5:00-6:00 *The Castles of Ireland* multimedia presentation  
6:00-7:00 Shapeshifters Theatre One-Act Play: *Two Wits to Woo*

### Shamrock American Room

3:00-6:00 Tea Room  
Sandwiches, tea and live music with Tenor/Pianist  
Mark Piekarz

### Library

12:00-6:00 Genealogy and Used Book Sale  
2:00-3:00 *Grace O'Malley Sails the High Seas*  
Learn her history, tie sailor's knots and sing  
Sea Shanties and more  
4:00-5:30 Author Reading and Signing: Father Sean  
McManus launches his book *My American  
Struggle for Justice in Northern Ireland*

### Museum

1:00-6:00 George M. Cohan Exhibit

### Art Gallery

12:00-6:00 IAHC Member's Exhibit - Paintings, photography,  
sculptures and installations from IAHC Members

### Ceili Room

2:00 Sham-Rock Stars Contest  
3:00-8:00 Live music session with traditional musicians: All  
are welcome to join in. Musicians receive 1/2 price  
admission for the day with their instrument

## Sunday, July 10 Noon-11pm

### Main Stage

12:00 -1:30 Dyed in the Wool  
2:00 - 4:00 Bua  
4:30 - 6:30 The Makem and Spain Brothers  
7:00 - 9:00 Gaelic Storm

### Raffle Stage

2:00 - 2:30 Misericordia Heartbreakers  
4:00 - 4:30 Sham-ROCK Stars! Finals  
6:30-7:00 Shannon Rovers

### Fifth Province Stage

12:30-2:00 Mulligan Stew  
2:30-4:30 Gareth Woods and Sugarbeat  
5:00-6:30 Fast Eddie and Billy O'Donoghue  
7:00-9:00 The Mickey Finns  
9:30-Close The Chancey Brothers w/Special Guests

### Auditorium Stage

2:30-3:00 Mullane-Healy-Godley Irish Dance Academy  
4:30-5:00 Mulhern School of Irish Dance  
5:30 Seanachai Theatre One-Act Play

### Erin Room

2:00-2:30 McNulty School of Irish Dance  
3:00-5:00 Joe McShane and The Silver Bridge Band  
5:30-6:30 Academy of Irish Music  
7:00 The Johnny Gleeson Band

### Folk Tent

1:00 TBA  
3:00 Children's Sing Song with the Wiggleworms  
3:45 Irish Dance Lessons w/Trinity Academy of Irish Dance  
4:30 Irish Music Lessons on the Bodhran with Mike Austin  
5:00 Irish Pipe Band Demonstration with the City  
of Chicago Pipe Band  
5:30 Traditional Irish Sing Song with Tom Hughes

### 3rd Floor Theater

1:00-2:00 Strawdog Theatre Company One-Act  
Comedy: *Flannery, V.C.*  
2:00-3:00 Uilleann Pipe Demonstration with  
Patrick Cannady  
3:00-4:00 *Book of Kells* Lecture  
4:30-5:30 Shapeshifters Theatre One-Act Play: *Two Wits to Woo*  
6:00 Screening of Mike Houlihan's documentary:  
*Her Majesty, 'Da Queen*

### Shamrock American Room

3:00-6:00 Tea Room  
Sandwiches, tea and live music with  
Harper Lillian Reasor

### Library

12:00-6:00 Genealogy and Used Book Sale  
4:00-5:30 Author Reading and Signing: Father Sean  
McManus launches his book *My American  
Struggle for Justice in Northern Ireland*

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1:00-6:00 IAHC Member's Exhibit - Paintings, photography,  
sculptures and installations from IAHC Members

### McGinty Room

3:00-4:00 St. Brigid's Cross: Learn the history of the Irish  
symbol and how to make one of your very own  
4:00-5:00 Ceili Lessons with the Francis O'Neill Club



# THE HERITAGE LINE

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

## President's Message

Irish Fest Weekend is a cornerstone event for our Center. Beyond the obvious attractions of great bands and the festival atmosphere, what I enjoy the most about the Fest weekend is the gathering of the larger Heritage Center community. Thousands of people attend the event and at some point over the weekend, I get to visit with the extended IAHC family.

The Heritage Center has been an institution on the northwest side for more than 25 years now and my family has been part of it since the beginning. During Irish Fest all my siblings and their families make their way to the fest. Cousins attend with their kids. Friends from the old neighborhood, friends from college, friends from work; everyone attends and brings their kids. And it's not just my family, almost everyone I know around or through the Center makes their way to the fest and brings friends and family with them.

They come because there is great entertainment but more importantly they come to celebrate their heritage and friend-

ships and to be a part of the community. This is the lifeblood of our organization; the gathering of generations to celebrate their Irish-ness. The simple joy of people coming together to share a laugh, a drink or to chase kids across a hot, crowded parking lot! As we continue to grow and time moves on from the founding days, this is where we need to focus our energies; the families, the generations and the strengthening of that community.

Our Center continues to improve the quality and quantity of its offerings and is truly one of the premier cultural organizations in the country. As we continue to expand those aspects of the organization, we need to build upon our strength; our people. During the next few months, you will hear more about membership initiatives and we will ask you to help us get more of your family and friends to join as members. Building that sense of community for our members is a priority – the goal is that the sense of families gathering at the Center becomes



more of a regular occurrence than just on Irish Fest weekend.

Irish Fest will always be the main celebration and largest gathering for our Center's families, but our hope is that more and more families use our Center throughout the year to gather and celebrate their Irish-ness, whether for a special occasion or just

to sit by the fireplace, have a nice meal and listen to some great music. We thank you for making our Center part of your family's personal story and we welcome you to gather here at any time.

*See you at Irish Fest!*

Bob McNamara, President  
Irish American Heritage Center

## Milwaukee Irish Fest Choir

The Center hosts the talented young singers of the Milwaukee Irish Fest Choir this July.



Milwaukee Irish Fest Choir

The concert is part of a tour to promote the choir's performances at Milwaukee's Irish Fest this August 18-21.

The group is made up of young adults aged 14 and 20 and is under the direction of Chuck Kessell.

Part of the group's experience comes from touring during July or early August to prepare for their Milwaukee Irish Fest performances.

The Milwaukee Irish Fest Choir performs on Friday, July 29 at 8pm in the Erin Room. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door. A portion of the proceeds from the concert will benefit the Center's own Irish Heritage Singers.

## Boot Camp Offers Basic Training on All Things Irish

Love all things Irish? Want to learn more but don't know where to start? Join the Center for an Irish Boot Camp and learn the basics; down and dirty, in a fun way.

Boot Camp includes basic training on Irish music, dance, history and more. Recruits can learn an Irish jig, how to make a real Irish toast and pour the proper pint from a bartender, learn Irish words or phrases from an Irish language teacher to impress your friends or maybe curse them out! Other activities include a quick history lesson and a singing lesson with a professional singer.

Irish Boot Camp is Saturday, July 30 in the Fifth Province, from 2pm-6pm, with a tea break included. The cost is \$10 per camper; 21 and over only.

Bring your friends and learn what it really means to be Irish! Registration is required as this event has sold out in the past. For reservations, call 773-282-7035, ext 10 or email [info@irishahc.org](mailto:info@irishahc.org) to reserve your spot!

## Tee Time for Golf Open

The 22nd Annual Irish American Heritage Center Golf Open is Sat., Aug. 13.

The outing is at St. Andrews Golf Club in West Chicago at 1pm. The event is a fundraiser for the IAHC.

The price is \$100 per person and includes greens fees, a cart, dinner, cocktails, entertainment and prizes.

For tickets, contact Alan Duggan at 312-401-2603, Maureen O'Looney at 773-286-6866 or the IAHC at 773-282-7035, ext 10.

We are also offering sponsorship opportunities. Among them are: a) Hole sponsorship: \$100; b) Gift basket sponsorship: \$150; c) Golf ball sponsorship: \$400; d) Dinner sponsorship: \$800

In exchange for sponsorship, participants will have a sign acknowledging their support on the hole of their choice and will be listed in our September issue of the *Heritage Line* of the *Irish American News*, reaching more than 30,000 households.

For sponsorship opportunities, contact Alan Duggan at 312-401-2603.



## Heritage Camp — Calling all Kids!

If you have children or grandchildren aged 7 to 18, consider sending them to Heritage Camp this summer to learn more about the cultural roots of Irish America and of other passionate ethnic communities around the City of Chicago.

Heritage Camp is organized into two 5-day segments: Irish Heritage Camp and World Heritage Camp.

Irish Heritage Camp is July 18-22 and serves as full immersion into all aspects of the Irish culture, including music, dance, language, sport, art, literature, theater and history. The cost is \$150 and includes lunch each day at the IAHC, featuring Irish cuisine. The program consists of fun lessons and demonstrations provided by the Center's partners: Trinity School of Irish Dance, Francis O'Neill Ceili Club, The Cunninghams Sean Nós Dancing, Irish Music School of Chicago, City of Chicago Pipe Band, Seanachai Theater Company, Chicago Rose of Tralee and Chicago Celts Youth Gaelic Football Team. The camp will be kicked off on Saturday, July

16th with a fun mini-camp and orientation for parents.

World Heritage Camp is July 25-29 and serves to build awareness and appreciation for the diverse world around us in Chicago, one of the world's great multi-ethnic hubs. Campers will experience the vibrant arts and cultural elements of other ethnic centers around the city, including visits to the Swedish, Chinese, Puerto Rican, Scottish and Mexican communities and will also visit other sites of cultural and historical importance.

The cost is \$200 and includes a visit to an ethnic restaurant each day with a fixed menu. Campers who attend both weeks will receive a 15% discount on both weeks.

Both camps meet each day from 9am to 4pm. A small group of teens aged 17 to 18 can also join us as counselors-in-training, with a compensation of \$100 per week.

To register children for the sessions, call The IAHC Office at 773-282-7035.



# THE HERITAGE LINE

## IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

### Executive Director's Message

#### Preserving the Best Traditions of Ireland and Irish America and Bringing People Together Who Care About Where They Come From

There is no better place to celebrate Heritage than the Irish American Heritage Center in Chicago, and there is no better event to experience all things Irish than Irish Fest in July. The Fest really has it all. Music—more than 40 bands from all over North America and Ireland. Cuisine—great Irish food from the Abbey, Harrington's, the Claddagh, Winston's, and others. Dancing—performances by several dance schools and also a big ceilidh! Language—Gaelic 101. Art—an exhibition of work done by Center members. Theater—one act plays by the Shapeshifters, Seanachai and Strawdog Theatre. Song—our Irish Heritage Singers choir and the Shamrock Stars kids' singing competition. Story—lectures on the *Book of Kells*, Irish Castles and other interesting topics. Piping—piping and drumming 101 with some of the best bagpipers and drummers in the country. Sport—live gaelic football demonstrations and inflatable soccer playgrounds for the kids, provided by the Chicago Fire. The event also features a matchmaking hooley, a classic tea room, and of course more than anyone's fair share of laughs and good times. All aspects of the heritage on display and nary a detail left out, the Fest is fun for people of all ages, a great showcase of what goes on at the Center all year round, and our single biggest annual fundraiser. Hope to see you all there the July 8, 9 and 10.

#### Repping Chicago Well

Some great achievements to celebrate in the Chicago Irish community across the last several weeks:

On April 18 at the World Irish Dance Championships in Dublin, 13-year-old Villa Park resident Peter Dziak won a gold medal in the Under 14 category, the first solo gold in Trinity's 30-year history. Trinity is now the first and only North American school to have won each and every category at World Championship events.

The Western Warrior, boxer Henry Coyle, went to 15-2 on the 18th of May with a 2nd round knockout win over Keith Collins at the Donald Stephens Center in Rosemont. Addaboy Henry. The pride of Geesala, Co. Mayo, doing work.

Memorial Day weekend, the City of Chicago Pipe Band hit the road for the 2011 US Bagpiping Championships in Alma, Michigan, its first competition in Grade 1 (highest level of competition). Up against two of the top 15 bands in the world, Peel Regional, from Canada, (reigning Grade 1 North American Champs), and the renowned 78th Fraser Highlanders, also from Canada, the City of Chicago Pipe Band tied for first place—with its pipe corps finishing first in both piping categories. This is the first time that they stepped toe to toe with the big boys, and they matched up pretty darn well and became the first US band to EVER defeat the 78th Fraser Highlanders, a band that has finished consistently in the top 10 in Scotland for most of the last decade, was the first North American band to win the World Championships, (which is being received as pretty shocking news in the piping world), and has



won the North American Grade 1 title a record 12 times.

In June, Chicago Rose of Tralee winner, Siobhan Carroll, went to Portlaoise, Co. Laois and competed against 45 other Irish Rose regional champions for a chance at the big stage in August for the International final. No surprise to anyone, Siobhan indeed was chosen among the 23 Roses to advance to the final round to

be held, of course, in Tralee. I do also want to sneak in that the New York Rose, a Rockland County gal named Erin Loughran also made it on to the final—so not only was Chicago well repped, but my home county also. Daithi will have his hands full.

Well done all.

#### Center Chats

Starting in August (8/4), I will host a monthly 'fireside chat' in the Fifth Province on the first Thursday of the month to talk about and answer questions on the current state of affairs at the Center. The forum will be very informal. If you are curious to find out more about the Center's plans and what we are working on, please join us.

Onwards,

Tim McDonnell, Executive Director  
Irish American Heritage Center

### Singers' Summer Season Heats Up

The Irish Heritage Singers welcome Ciara Walton as their new Director. Walton is a familiar face around the Center who performs in the 5th Province Pub on Friday evenings and at numerous events at the Center.

Walton is a native of Kilkenny and lives in Chicago. She teaches Irish traditional singing at the Irish Music School of Chicago and is a regular performer on the Chicago Irish Music scene. The Singers look forward to many years of working with Ciara.

The Singers have a busy summer season shaping up! They performed as the warm up band for Emma-Kate Tobia and the evening was a great success. They have a few appearances lined up at Irish Fest in July and hope to throw a few "surprises" into



Ciara Walton

the mix during those shows. Be sure to be on hand to see what happens...

In 2012, the Singers will perform at the 2012 World Choir Games in Cincinnati and are already preparing for this great opportunity.

The Singers are looking for a few good men... and women! They seek members for all four sections; Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass. If you love to sing (especially Irish music) and love a great social atmosphere, consider becoming an Irish Heritage Singer. All levels are welcome and but you don't need previous choral experience, nor do you need to read music. The Singers rehearse every Thursday from 7:30 to 9:30pm in Room 304 at the Center. For more information, visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org), or call 773-285-7035, ext. 34.

### iBAM! Salon Sneak Preview

Celtic Women International presents a preview of its iBAM Literary Salon this July.

The iBAM Literary Salon Preview is a sneak preview to iBAM and features short presentations including a multi-media lecture on Jane Addams, poetry, memoirs, a mini salon concert with tenor Mark Piekarcz and more.

In 2010, the Salon was a highly successful part of the iBAM! weekend, with its non-stop programming that featured readings, theatrical performances, live music and poetry readings.

The event is Sunday, July 24 from 2pm-4pm and the cost is \$5 for IAHC members and \$10 for general admission.

Refreshments will be served.

iBAM is November 12 and 13, 2011 and features more than 100 Irish and Irish-themed authors, artists and musicians, all under one roof. [www.ibamchicago.com](http://www.ibamchicago.com).

### IAHC Members' Gallery Exhibit

The IAHC Art Gallery will feature an art exhibit of the work of IAHC members this summer.

The exhibit features paintings, photography, sculpture and installations by IAHC members and runs from Friday, July 1st to Sunday, July 24 and also during Irish Fest.

The exhibit opening is Friday, July 1st, 6pm to 9pm and gallery hours are Saturdays and Sundays 1pm to 4pm. Special Irish Fest hours Friday July 8th, 6pm to 9pm, Saturday July 9th and Sunday July 10, 1pm to 6pm. **Note:** There is a cover charge to attend Irish Fest.



### Country Barbeque Night

Join us this July for Country Barbeque Night at the Fifth Province on Friday, July 15 at 6pm.

Drop by for great food and live country music with Joe McShane. A barbeque dinner will be available for \$10 per person.

In addition to great food and music, there will be a raffle for the Mary Boyle Recovery Fund. Prizes include a cottage for 6 nights in Donegal, a trip to Beaver



Island and dinner with musician Margo O'Donnell at the Curragh in Edison Park.

There is no cover charge, but donations are accepted. Dinner is at 6pm and McShane takes the stage at 9pm.



# THE HERITAGE LINE

## IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

### Center Book Celebrates the Men and Women Who Made the Dream a Reality

Just in time to celebrate 35 years of bringing Irish to Chicago, the Irish American Heritage Center book is coming to bookstores and the Center on July 4. The book takes readers into the hearts and minds of the first-generation of Irish immigrants who made the dream for an Irish cultural center and community gathering spot in Chicago a reality.

Through their blood, sweat and tears, these determined founders created the premiere Irish Center in Chicago and a model for others around the globe to illuminate and define the Irish culture for generations to come.

It is a magnificent story with a rich cast of ordinary people who have been extraor-

dinary passionate in their efforts to create a home for the Irish in Chicago. With a grit and gusto that defies their turbulent family pasts and the tragedies that besieged many of them in Ireland, the community that makes up the Irish American Heritage Center gives life to their triumphant spirits. The book chronicles that legacy so that it becomes a treasured must-read that can be passed down to generations to come. The finely detailed stories, and memorable moments of the founders, volunteers and many visitors will be brought to life in photographs and powerful anecdotal story telling.

Copies are available in bookstores

on July 4, but you can purchase yours at Irish Fest on July 8, 9 and 10!



### Save the Date for...

## The First Annual Heritage Craft Brewfest at the Irish American Heritage Center

Saturday, August 27

Noon-7pm

\$20 advance until the end of business on Thursday, August 25 or \$25 at the door.

Includes Open Sampling until 4pm with a cash bar to follow.

Live bands, giveaways and LOTS OF BEER!

To purchase tickets, visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org) or call the IAHC office at 773-282-7035.



### The Fifth Province Pub and Restaurant is Open for Business!

By popular demand, the Fifth Province Pub and Restaurant has expanded its menu and hours of operation.

Join us for our new Supper menu that includes Bacon and Cabbage, Shepherds Pie, Bangers and Mash, Curried Chicken, authentic Irish Stew and Fish and Chips, which all come with your choice of soup or salad.

Now open on Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 5pm to 11pm, enjoy drink specials and get a complimentary dessert with any of our Supper menu selections.

On Friday evenings from 6pm to 8:30pm, enjoy the music of Ciara

Walton and Friends and get a 3-course dinner with wine for only \$25.

### Fifth Province Hours:

**Wednesday:**  
5:00pm-11pm

**Thursday:**  
5:00pm-11pm

**Friday:**  
5:00 pm-1am

**Saturday:**  
5:00 pm-1am

The Fifth Province is also available for party rentals for your special day. For more information on renting the Fifth Province, call the office at 773-282-7035, ext. 10.



### Irish American Heritage Center Presents: Hunt for Green October

(Formerly known as Seven Nights in Eire)

Featuring the Larkin and Moran Brothers

October 6-13, 2011

Air & Land Price: \$1979\* per person (based on double occupancy-sharing twin room)  
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# THE HERITAGE LINE

## IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

Chicago, Illinois



WWW.IRISH-AMERICAN.ORG

### July 2011

July 1	Francis O'Neill Ceili Dance	Fifth Province	8pm
July 4		Bldg Closed	
July 6	TIR NA NOG Seniors meeting	Fifth Province	11am
July 8, 9 and 10	Irish Fest	Whole Bldg	
July 14	Irish Immigrant Support Meeting	Room 304	10am
July 15	Country Barbeque Night	Fifth Province	6pm
July 16	Rosebud Camp	Room 304	Noon
	Irish Heritage Camp Orientation	109 and 111	Noon
July 18-22	Irish Heritage Camp	Various	9am
July 19	Celtic Women Monthly Meeting	Fifth Province	7:30pm
July 23	Rosebud Camp	Room 304	Noon
July 25-29	World Heritage Camp	Various	9am
July 28	Irish Immigrant Support Meeting	Room 304	10am
	Milwaukee Irish Fest Choir Concert	Erin Room	8pm
July 30	Rosebud Camp	Room 304	Noon
	Irish Boot Camp	Rm 111 and Fifth Prov	2pm
July 31	Genealogy Meeting	Library	1pm

### Regularly Scheduled Events

Tues.-Sat.	Golden Diners Lunch Program	Kitchen	12:30pm-2pm
Tues.	Quilting and Needlework	Room 208	9:30am
	Traditional Celtic Art Class	Room 304	7-9pm
	Celtic Art Class	Room 307	7pm
Wed.	Quilting and Needlework	Room 208	7:30pm
	Open Music Session	Room 302	7:30pm
Thurs.	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsal	Room 304	7:30pm
	Irish Social Dancing	Room 111	7:30pm
Fri.	Francis O'Neill Ceili Prac. & Dance	Room 111	8pm



## the fifth province

### UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

#### JULY 2011

Fri, 7/1	Ceili Mor
Sat, 7/2	Andy O'Driscoll and Martin Doyle of Stephen's Green
Fri, 7/8	Irish American Heritage Festival
Sat, 7/9	Irish American Heritage Festival
Fri, 7/10	Irish American Heritage Festival
Sat, 7/15	Country BBQ Night with Joe McShane, 6pm
Sat, 7/16	Seamus O'Kane and Jimmy Moore
Sat, 7/22	Donofinn
Sat, 7/23	The Dooley Brothers
Sat, 7/29	The Reilly Duo
Sat, 7/30	Gerry Haughey

All shows start after 9 p.m.



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IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

### BECOME A MEMBER

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To join call 773-282-7035 x10, visit [www.irish-american.org](http://www.irish-american.org), or fill out the form below. Send payment to:

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##### Annual dues

\$30/year or \$50/2 years

##### Family Membership

\$40/year or \$60/2 years

##### \$250 - Harper

3-year membership  
no annual dues

##### \$500 - Bard

5-year membership  
no annual dues

##### \$1,000 - Chieftain

10-year membership without annual dues

##### \$2,500 - High King

25-year membership without annual dues

##### \$5,000 - Saint

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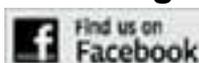


### Question about Membership?

Change of address? Email us at [membership@irishahc.org](mailto:membership@irishahc.org) with your membership questions.

### Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

For updates on upcoming events and ticket giveaways, follow the IAHC on



Facebook and Twitter



### The Heritage Line Staff

Contributors:				Kathleen O'Neill, Editor			
Frank Crowley	Monica Dougherty	Mary Griffin	Tim McDonnell	Bob McNamara	Mary Morris	Sheila Murphy	Kevin O'Kennedy
Mary Beth Sammons		Leslie Singel	Kathy Werning				

4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, IL 60630 • 773-282-7035



**Festering Orange**

For centuries July 12 has been the most contentious date in Ireland, bringing confrontation, riots, and murder. In January we commented on “Orangefest,” the Orange Order’s rebranding of their annual “we’re the boss” marches in Northern Ireland through Catholic neighborhoods. The new label attempts to win friends and lure tourist treasure.

The soft sell, courtesy of Belfast’s Visitor & Convention Bureau: “OrangeFest has become increasingly family friendly, and now includes acts for children to enjoy such as face-painting, juggling, stilt-walking and bouncy castles. And for fans of all things pyrotechnic, the spectacle of the annual Eleventh night bonfires all across Northern Ireland will certainly be a memorable one.” The PR on pyrotechnics did not include annual fire bombings of Catholic homes and churches, nor did it anticipate three days of rioting by Catholic youth last

year, costing millions. We will soon have this year’s results.

In 2009, shops in Belfast city centre opened during the parade for the first time. Orangefest’s home page displays a happy young lady holding aloft 3 shopping bags—apparently loaded with purchases made while celebrating British Protestant rule over Catholics and other undesirables.

Listed on the Order’s website are “The Qualifications of an Orangeman: ...he should honour and diligently study the Holy Scriptures, and make them the rule of his faith and practice; he should love, uphold and defend the Protestant religion, ...he should strenuously oppose the fatal errors and doctrines of the Church of Rome... resist the ascendancy of that Church, its encroachments, and the extension of its power.” (I often wonder if those sentiments are also woven into an unwritten code of estab-

lishment for America and its media).

Orangefest’s brochure promises a “family-friendly pageant,” a “kaleidoscope of culture and colour.” But describing the huge bonfires of wood, furniture and tires than burn on the streets the night before, the brochure warns: “It’s best to stay away.” And the good old boys dressed in red, white and blue will still sing “The Billy Boys” as they pass Catholic homes: “We’re up to our necks in Fenian blood... sur-

happening in any real way beneath the surface. Since the ceasefires 10 years ago, not one brick has come down in one peace wall. That’s the reality of Northern Ireland.” But he adds: “Look, we want you to come, bring your families and see that there is nothing there to threaten you.”

That would be laughable to Catholic residents of Ballymoney (in the constituency of Democratic Unionist Party leader Rev. Dr. Ian Paisley, MP) where in 1998, barely two months after the Good Friday Agreement, three boys were murdered in an arson attack on the eve of the 12th. *Irish Tribune* reporter Susan McKay describes the huge bonfires: “The 11th night is always manic. Loyalists drink deep on the eve of the Glorious Twelfth. As one Ballymoney Catholic put it, ‘They go clean mad.’ It is not unusual to see banners reading, ‘Kill all Taigs’” (Catholics).

“The little Quinns had gathered wood with their friends, for the local bonfire that evening.

The three, Richard, 11, Mark, 9, and Jason, 7 were asleep in their beds when a firebomb smashed through a window of their home. Their mother Chrissy was woken by her children shouting: “Mummy, smoke!” Chrissy, her boyfriend Raymond Craig, and a family friend, escaped with minor injuries but could not get upstairs through the inferno. Richard pressed himself against the upstairs window crying out that he was frightened and that his feet were burning. Three small charred bodies, each of them curled up in the fetal position, were later carried out of the ruins. A fourth brother, Lee, was staying with his grandmother.

The Quinn family was ‘mixed:’

Chrissy is a Catholic, the boys’ father Protestant. But the boys themselves went to the local Protestant school. Many other Catholics attacked that week were also “integrated” into Protestant areas.

The attack followed a week of protests by Orangemen demanding access to the nationalist Garvaghy Road during their annual march at Drumcree church. Reverend Paisley predicted 1998 would be the year Orangemen would get down Garvaghy: “They’d be far better letting them down before the 12th of July, because anybody here with any imagination knows what’s going to happen on the 12th of July.”

Police arrested Garfield Gilmour, 24, for the murders. UVF Christmas cards found in his house were identical to those sent to at least 5 Catholic homes in Ballymoney the week before the murders. On the front was a verse: “Shall we from the Union sever/By the God that made us never.” Scrawled inside was, “GET OUT NOW” with a bullet enclosed.



Loyal ladies: KAT= Kill All Taigs. FAP= F--- All Papists.

render or you’ll die.”

*The Belfast Telegraph* asked Drew Nelson, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the Orange Order, if his 40,000-strong institution could really change its ways: “Yes,” he replied, “by changing the 12th from a demonstration—which is the making of a political point—to a festival, which has the emphasis on enjoyment and celebration.” But he admits: “When people go out on the 12th they are saying, ‘I’m British, I want to stay British’ and ‘I’m a Protestant, I’m proud of that.’”

So this is a festival for the whole community, but no Catholic can take part? “Roman Catholics can’t take part in our parades, just as they cannot join the Orange Order, because we’re a Protestant organization.” But does he have faith in the peace? “All this talk about people coming together, it’s only a veneer,” says Nelson. “It’s not



UVF Marcher sports KKK style.

Did this horrific murder affect Orange attitudes? At the trial next year the level of hatred directed by Ballymoney’s good Protestants, not at the murderers, but incredibly at the dead boys’ mother, Chrissy Quinn, would thrill the likes of Hitler. A middle-aged, middle-class Ballymoney woman: “We are all very angry about the whole thing. It was a disgrace. She went out of her way to blacken the Orangemen at Drumcree when it was nothing to do with them. There is nobody has any time for her in this town.”

Two years later, *The Guardian* was reporting: “The Royal Ulster Constabulary has refused to ban up to 20 members of the neo-Nazi group Combat 18 from travelling to the Drumcree

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## Raised on Songs and Stories

Shay Clarke



So anyway, like I was saying to the lads last night, it's a funny old world working in a pub and that's what I'm doing for the past year at McNally's Traditional Irish Pub in St. Charles, IL.

"Come down," sez he, "and give us a hand, learn the ropes again," and there I was twenty minutes down the Fox River to the first job I've had since 1971.

It's a beautiful pub and it was brand new. I had dropped by a few times as it was being built and just a few weeks beforehand it had seemed unlikely that it would be completed in time, but Maurice, Cathal and the team from Avondale Custom Homes worked their magic and the result was spectacular.

The first few days were "training" and on day one I decided that I was not going back for day two. On day two I swore there would not be a third day, and by Friday of that first week I knew there would never be a second week. Yet here I am a year later, "happy as Larry" and "living the life of Reilly." I think I'll change my name to Larry Reilly. It's the "craic," and I'm addicted to it.

I work with a great crew of people. Chefs, busboys, food runners, servers, bar staff, dishwashers, and cleaners. All of them way younger than I am, and sometimes way smarter.

These first few weeks were a nightmare, I had no idea what I was doing and I figured that when they realized their mistake I'd be out the door in a flash, but I was mentored by Carol Nachreiner, a goddess who has forgotten more about the restaurant business than I will ever know, and in time my confidence began to restore itself.

McNally's has three floors and four stairs, and I lost thirty pounds in the first few months as I was constantly in motion like a hamster on a wheel. My right knee has been "banjaxed" for years, it's a Catholic thing from all that genuflecting I'm sure, but my crew realized that and came to my aid. The rule was, if you're behind Shay on the stairs... PUSH and if you are ahead of him... PULL... it works.

The hardest part of those early months was surely Friday afternoons, as all of the lads arrived for a few pints after their work week, many of them friends for years, and every fiber of my being wanted to sit down and join them. I would be "gumming" for a pint and a raging thirst would come over me, but I fought it off bravely and waited 'till my shift was over and my turn came.

Our customers are what keeps me there, They are an amazing bunch of

people—I could write a book about them, and maybe I will sometime. All ages, all walks of life, but when they gather at McNally's, they become part of our extended family and are welcomed as such. Everything that I have always known and often experienced about the hospitality of a real Irish pub is there, it cannot be taught, it's either in you or not, but when you can see it and feel it, it's awesome to behold.

The other thing that got me through the early days is the Irish music, and I'm sure most of you know that I would find it hard to work without it after 20 years of daily listening. Well let me tell you, an Irish Pub without music is just a pub, and there are plenty of those.

We have live Irish music every Sunday with the most amazing musicians, singers and dancers. Sunday is my favorite day and I get to see some of my great pals from the music business. The session always has a different line up with Maurice Lennon, Jimmy Keane, Paddy Homan, Jimmy Moore, Kathleen Keane, Jeff Ward, Kevin O'Donnell, Brian Cunningham, Kathleen Bremer, and some of the best young talent in Chicagoland turning up and sharing their incredible talent. I think I'm more proud of our Sunday session than of anything else, except perhaps our menu.

I digress, this is not what I intended to write at all, so back to the story I was telling the lads last night.

Next door to McNally's is a beautiful theater called the Steel Beam Theatre run by two lovely ladies, Donna and Dana. They are great neighbors and I love them both. Going back again to late summer last year, one sunny morning either Donna or Dana came into McNally's to let me know that some of our customers had been smoking outside on Main Street and had left their cigarette ends all over the pavement. I apologized and said that I would have it seen to straight away. I grabbed a broom and dustpan and went out on to Main Street to sweep up the offending mess.

So there I am, seeping up cigarette ends outside the pub, and I have one of those eureka moments, a flashback to my classroom in St. Laurences National School in Kilmacud, Co. Dublin 1960. Old Mister Brennan the headmaster shouting at me, "CLARKE... if you don't stop looking out the window you'll end up sweeping the streets.

How right he was. Headmasters can see into the future you know, and as I told the lads, "it's a funny old world working in a pub."

See you here in the *IAN* pages next month, and we proudly carry *IAN* at McNally's. Tune in on Monday nights for some *Blarney on the Air*, 7pm central time on 90.9 FM in Chicago, or on WDCB.org everywhere else.

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## Arlington Heights 12th Annual Irish Fest

Irish Fest, July 15 & 16, is all Irish all day with a huge line up of Irish entertainment, food, vendors and cultural programs. Fans of all things Irish can spend two days on the beautiful Arlington Heights Historical Museum grounds immersed in sounds, smells and tastes of Ireland. Blankets and lawn chairs are welcome. No pets please.

Winston's Market is the new food vendor for the 12th Annual Irish Fest. Bring your appetites for some great Irish fare.

On Friday, July 15, gates open at 5:30pm-11pm. Admission is \$5 adults, children under 15 free. Entertainment and activities include Finbarr Fagan, Merry Makers—free face painting with Irish themes, Trinity Irish Dancers, The Glengael—Bagpiping in the grand Celtic tradition,

Lucky Lass Drawing—all ladies receive a free raffle ticket at admission for this drawing, and the Larkin & Moran Brothers.

On Saturday, July 16, gates open at 3:30pm-11pm. Admission is \$6 adults, \$5 seniors and Historical Society members, \$2 children ages 3-14. Entertainment and activities

include the Muck Brothers, Wee Folk Tent with children's activities, DGEIGN Balloon Creations, Merry Makers—free face painting with Irish themes, Irish American Heritage Center display, Northern Illinois Chapter of Crochet Guild of America, Bagpipes and Drums of the Emerald Society, McNulty Irish Dancers, Best Legs in Kilts Contest—Gentlemen, bring your own kilt or borrow one from us for this traditional contest, Ceili Workshop—learn Irish social folk dance from the McNulty School of Dance, The Kreellers, an Irish Raffle—buy your chance to win from a selection of prizes, including \$500 grand prize (Tickets are \$5 each or 6 for \$25), and ARRA—one of the most sought after classic rock cover bands in Chicagoland.

Arlington Heights Historical Museum is located at the corner of Fremont and Vail streets, one block south of Euclid. Parking is available in the commuter parking lot across the street. Please do not park in the library lot.

For complete schedule, visit [ahmuseum.org](http://ahmuseum.org) or call 847-255-1225



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## Meehall Recalls

By Michael Carroll



### Chapter Five MEEHALL: Memories of a South Side Lad The King of Washtenaw Avenue

"I'M NINE! I'M NINE! That's almost TEN!" I shouted to myself and everyone and no one in particular, just for the sheer joy of being nine and having not a care in the world.

I sat perched about forty or fifty feet above the terra firma of our backyard, a leg thrown over either side of a large horizontal maple branch, the highest I could reach that would still support my weight. This was not to say that I could not or had not gone higher, but that rarefied altitude was known as the "Tippity-Top" and to reach it required nerves of steel, good shoes and complete lack of parental supervision. The Tippity-Top had been well-named, for it was at the top, and definitely tippity: the uppermost, thinnest, ever-swaying part of the trunk, devoid of supporting limbs, and above which there

was nothing but air.

In calm weather an ascent of my personal Mount Everest might have been attempted, but today's March winds whipped the treetop into a dizzying sweep that made me a bit woozy even clinging to my solid branch. I remained at Base Camp Two, satisfied to celebrate my special day short of the summit. For it was my birthday, and I was nine! That was practically ten.

"1970... we're getting pretty close to the end of the 20th century... only 30 more years," I thought. "Let's see, in the year 2000, I'll be what... thirty-nine? That's old. I wonder what I'll look like... I wonder if I'll be married... I wonder what she'll look like? I might even have kids by then. You know, if I had kids, I wouldn't yell at them or treat them the way everybody treats me! I'd be nice to my kids; they could stay up late and do whatever they want!"

I gazed out across the backyard and down the alley, over all the other backyards, trees, telephone poles and housetops below. For miles around, nobody was higher than me. Top o' the world, Ma! I gazed west to the tower of St. Thomas More church three blocks away. The late afternoon sun illuminated the bells in brilliant gold; they looked almost like real bronze rather than just aluminum shells with speakers mounted inside. But at that age one cares little for such distinctions. To be Nine and King of All That You Survey is what matters. From my treetop throne, I commanded the sun to set down before me and it did; I received boon work from the clouds, whose gift of painted reds and greens and pinks delighted my royal eyes. My next bidding caused the stars to rise in

my presence and serve me by twinkling for sheer joy.

"I'm Nine, I'm Nine... !" was my rejoinder to my realm above and subjects below, who looked up at their regent and marveled at the heights he had attained, practically to the Tippity Top! Then they respectfully averted their eyes and all went back inside to have their suppers, and as I watched them go the lights of the neighborhood winked on one by one, a soft, cool night breeze beginning to rustle the dark leaves of my maple tree kingdom. Now that all was right with the world, I bid the Tippity Top goodnight and clambered back down the trunk via my nailed-in sections of picket-fence ladder. As I descended to Base Camp One our dining room window came into view, bathed in warm yellow light. Within, my Mom was busy setting the table for my birthday dinner, after which they'd sing "Happy Birthday" and I'd get to make a wish, then we'd have my favorite cake and open presents. I practically jumped down the last few steps... my Kingdom could wait another day.

Suddenly, time slipped into slow motion. One second my royal shoe was on the picket step, and the next, the King was face first in the dirt. But all of that didn't matter because at this peculiarly slowed-down moment, I... could... not... BREATHE...!

Now I'd gone and done it, alright. This was it. I was going to die. At age nine. I would never make it to the year 2000, never get married, never even have a chance to be nice to my kids. I heaved and gasped in vain, trying to suck in precious oxygen, but it felt as if I had a two-ton barbell across my chest. I rolled onto my back; the seconds turning to hours as I wheezed breath out, but could not get any in. Finally in a single painful rush my lungs expanded and I let out a bloodcurdling scream. Mom soon arrived to sit me up and clean me off, ascertaining I had no broken bones but only the wind knocked out of me.

That, and more than a bit of pride. My piece of birthday cake that evening tasted remarkably like humble pie. Or crow. From the Tippity Top to the Big Drop, the King had been dethroned on his very own Coronation Day.

Mick

Continued from Page 18

stand-off in Northern Ireland this week... During their last trip to Mid Ulster, Combat 18 attacked Chinese families in Portadown." The English fascists stayed with Co. Armagh members of the Loyalist Volunteer Force.

Gilmour drove the car that night and named three Ulster Volunteer Force members who were with him. One remained in the car making sure he didn't drive off, while the others set the Quinn family home ablaze. The UVF men were questioned but released without charge.

Paisley claimed those murders by his constituents were "repugnant," but dismissed them to ITV News saying: "the IRA carried out far worse murders than we had at Ballymoney." Incidentally, Paisley is now a British nobleman. He was honored in June 2010 with a life peerage in the British Empire. The "Reverend Doctor," ordained by no church authority, and with only an honorary Doctor of Divinity from his "very close personal friend" Bob Jones, Jr. (whose unaccredited University in S. Carolina until recently banned black students), is now a full-fledged British Lord—"Baron Bannside of North Antrim"—courtesy of British Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

Belfast Media Group managing director Máirtín Ó Muilleoir: "Is there another festival in a European city which is so offensive to its citizens that they will travel to the ends of the earth to avoid it? The House of Orange has the audacity to call this... tension-filled, misanthropic outing a fest. It's so much of a 'fest,' that entire sections of the city have emptied on its eve."

Ó Muilleoir noted slight improvements, though: "Gone are the days when, as a previous columnist to this paper once recalled, Orangemen in East Belfast could march into his home—the only Catholic one in the street—on the Eleventh night, stomp upstairs, pee in the bath, and troop back out again."

There are many parallels between the KKK and the Order, not least their hatred of Catholicism. However, in a 2002 report, "Extremism in America," the Jewish Anti-Defamation League wrote "Today, there is no such thing as the Ku Klux Klan." Yet today, 37 of British Northern Ireland's MLAs belong to an Orange Order Lodge, that's over one third of the total Assembly membership—a staggering 66% of all pro-Union representatives.

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# Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



started the rot. On pages 625-6 of Fred Kaplan’s massive study of Gore Vidal, there is this interesting piece where Vidal talks about why he had Ireland in

## Bono and U2 — Pay Up!

Some months back, at the New Musical Express Awards, the Edge of Ireland’s favourite export U2, commenting on their forthcoming appearance at Glastonbury, informed us:

“I have to say there is something really special and iconic about that stage. So we’re all looking forward to coming back to pick up where I left off. [Hmmm.] We’re so excited to get to play in front of the world’s greatest festival audience.”

‘Iconic’ seems to be a favourite buzz word of U2. I seem to remember Bono referring to his Stetson hat as iconic. Be that as it may, I hope that this time around they find something even more interesting about some of the crowd. We’ll get to that in a minute.

For years now, long before U2 pulled out of shelling out any loot in Ireland, I have written in these columns and in others of my distaste for Bono’s endless preaching. In private, he may be the nicest guy in the world for all I know, but his public persona just grates on my teeth.

So when Ireland put a cap on the artist’s tax exemption scheme in 2006, it didn’t surprise me in the least that U2 threw a hissy fit at having to contribute something to the country and moved their corporation to Brussels in order to legally avoid paying tax. Well, just because something is legal doesn’t always mean that it is right. A quick word about the Artist’s Tax Exemption Scheme first.

This was one of Charlie Haughey’s better ideas; but it was meant for writers, painters, sculptors, etc. who were genuinely struggling. Somehow it got completely out of hand and then we found mainly the very rich being able to avail of it.

Look at two people who received tax exemption this year. One was the ghastly, full of herself model Rosanna Davison, daughter of Chris (“I can afford my own private jet”) de Burgh, who received it for doing a few illustrations for a children’s book. Another was Ryan Tubridy, one of RTE’s highest paid broadcasters for his book on John F. Kennedy’s visit to Ireland in 1963.

Now it sure as hell wasn’t set up with these two in mind. Still, Haughey himself may have

mind:

“[It was] because I’d said, when I spoke out about the Vietnam War, that if the war went on I’d change nationalities. Besides that virtuous motive, the unvirtuous one was that you pay no tax. So I could have made a fortune had I shifted over to Irish nationality, protesting the war, and saving my money from the government at the same time. But my man, Charlie Haughey, who was the minister of finance, fell from power as soon as I bought the house, and I couldn’t get the nationality.”

Now I am a huge admirer of Gore Vidal, but this is the kind of madness that I’m taking about. His own lifelong partner said: “I refused to set foot in the house in Ireland. I thought it was madness. Klosters, Ireland, three apartments in New York, an apartment in Rome... It was just driving me insane.”

Well, it drives ME insane when I see the likes of U2 being allowed to avail of that generosity for years and then when the government puts a cap of €250,000 a year on it, off they go into the sunset, with two fingers giving an “up yours” to the ordinary sucker like myself who has to shell out on tax for everything.

Enya also moved to Brussels. Now I don’t agree with someone as ridiculously wealthy as her doing so, but she doesn’t get on my nerves as much as Bono does, and that is mainly because she isn’t endlessly preaching to everyone who will listen about poverty in third world countries.

Well, you know what, Bono? Charity begins at home, in my book. Throw us a few quid towards our decrepit schools or our teetering health system and then I might pay you some more attention when you start clicking your fingers and telling us that a child dies in Africa every time you do that.

Enya doesn’t have herself photographed with every dodgy politician or world leader that she comes across. In fact, apart from her music, you would hardly even know she existed.

Bono? He never saw an important looking hand that he didn’t want to shake, never mind who it was attached to. In that way, he really is

the Mother Teresa of the rock world. Every time I hear another platitude coming out of the mouth of the prancing, preening, posing little popinjay, I know it’s time to get back on my medication quickly.

So, to get back to this year’s Glastonbury Festival. I’m writing this on the 15th June and the event at which U2 will be headlining is in the last week so it will be done and dusted by the time you read this. At the moment, though, you can imagine how delighted I was to hear that Art Uncut will be having a small peaceful demonstration to highlight the mega rich corporation/band’s non payment of tax in their home country.

The lobby group has had a Pay Up Bono site on the Net for some time now and Philip Goss, spokesman for the group said:

“We’d like to hear from them if they have anything against the Irish tax system? We want to raise awareness of the way tax avoidance practices have an impact on the developing world.”

“And one of the ways that we are going to do that is to highlight U2’s tax practices... We want U2 to think about their tax practices in an ethical way. We do not plan to disrupt the set or disrupt people’s enjoyment.”

“Tax avoidance impacts the amount of aid available to developing countries.”

I wonder how Saint Bono will react to being preached at for a change.

The group hope to raise a large inflatable sign with “Pay Up Bono” on it, while drifting fake euro notes over the audience. They will also have the Irish flag on one side and the Belgium flag on the other. Nice touch, that.

I just worry that the group may have scuppered their chances by announcing this so far ahead. Security may not even allow it now. Either way, though, it has drawn attention to what these hypocrites are really like. Over five years ago, I was one of only very few pointing this out. A lot of people in Ireland agreed with me, but the amount of hate mail that I received from American U2 fans was extraordinary.

So it’s nice to see others coping on. Goss: “This isn’t just about having a dig at someone. Christian Aid estimates that \$160 billion—more than the total global aid budget—is lost through unpaid tax each year.”

As I say, it will be all over by the time you read this, but I hope it went off well; and I certainly hope that the little man with the Napoleon Complex wore his customary and no doubt iconic elevated shoes in order to see the protestors better. At the very least, it will have made it a lot harder for him to preach this time around.

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known as The Four Cohan's.

Vaudeville performer, song and dance man, playwright, songwriter, produc-

er, and director, George M. Cohan did it all. He wrote many patriotic songs like: "Grand Old Flag," "Yankee Doodle Dandy," and "Over There." "Over There" was the signature song of World War I, and years later George M. Cohan was awarded a special Gold Congressional Medal by Franklin Deleanor Roosevelt for writing the song. The song became popular again during World War II. I remember hearing it on the radio with songs like: "The White Cliffs of Dover." My mother would become wistful when she heard those songs, as she had three sisters living in London during the war.

In May 1936, George M. Cohan saw Ireland for the first time, and traveled extensively in the North before journeying to the South. Cohan's grandfather was from County Cork.

"For Cohan, the spirit of Ireland thrived in the large Irish American communities of New York, Boston and his native Providence. To be Irish in America was, for him, to be an American with a proud ancestral heritage."

"Accordingly, he wrote numbers like 'Mary's a Grand Old Name' from his play *Forty Five Minutes From Broadway*, 'Harrigan' from his play *Fifty Miles From Boston* and 'Nelly Kelly, I Love You' from Cohan's postwar play *Little Nelly Kelly*. These numbers' lyrics extolled the Irishness of the title characters, while the melodies fused an Irish lilt with an American flair, trading on popular song forms of the day, such as the waltz clog rhythm for 'Nellie Kelly'..."

After an incredible career in show business, George M. Cohan passed away November 5, 1942. There's a bronze statue of George M. Cohan that stand in Father Duffy Square (named for Father Francis Patrick Duffy, 1871-1932, a military chaplain and priest who ministered to a local congregation after serving in World War I. Father Duffy was more well known

as the chaplain of the Fighting 69th, Irish Brigade. The statue stands on the southern end of the triangle between 45th and 47th Streets, opposite Times Square.



George M. Cohan  
1878-1942

**Congressman Weiner**

Well Golly! You mean to tell me that people are that gullible...? Over fifty percent of his constituency in Brooklyn and Queens, NY, thought that he should remain in office. They used to refer to California as the land of fruits and nuts. Apparently, there are a few nuts in New York. It's becoming abnormal to be normal, or some semblance of normal. Maybe we could get the Congressman to pose for a calendar like the firemen did. Think about it, Weiner's a real "hunk!" I can hear Charlie Rich singing now, "And when we get behind closed doors, and you let your hair hang down." Rascals are always sociable. More's the pity. He just cross-bred the Democratic Donkey with a Jack-Ass! Hee Haw!

**Immigration**

From a strictly humanitarian point of view, we should invite every refugee to our shores, if they would only come here legally. Unfortunately, we can't afford to do that. Emma Lazarus wrote, "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teaming shore."

Mother Theresa said, "Their is no great difference in the reality of one country or another, because it's always people you meet everywhere. They may look different, or be dressed differently, or have a different education or position, but they are all the same. They are all people to be loved, they are all hungry for love."

If only it were that simple. But it's like when the waiter brings the check and says, "I'm sorry we only accept cash."

**Lobbyists**

Illinois needs a law that prohibits anyone holding public office to act as a lobbyist in another branch of government. At the present, a state legislator can act as a lobbyist for another entity pursuing special interests with other governments, such as county or city governments. This practice needs to be ended.

**Casino Gambling**

Our revenue hungry Illinois legislators have lost touch with reality. They don't know how to manage the budget. If you pay attention to the news, fewer people are hitting casinos because they just don't have the money.

The Majestic Star Casino in Indiana closed down the third floor and laid off 50 people. Northwest Indiana casinos are puzzled by the revenue drop in May.

Atlantic City, NJ, will soon have Black Jack dealers wearing negligees and feature a Gentleman's Club, along with a bikini beach in a casino. What are they selling? In the early 1980's, the hookers were working all the hotels off the Boardwalk. The company I was with at that time was attending the American Newspaper Publishers Association Convention, and every time we either went into or left the hotel, we were approached by prostitutes.

Our racetracks in Illinois already have off-track betting parlors. Do we really want to add slot machines to the mix? If Illinois goes ahead with this really mindless legislation, the membership of Gambler's Anonymous will rocket up. I wonder if the casinos will take food stamps and welfare checks? *Snake eyes! Hit me again!*

**George M Cohan**

George M. Cohan was actually born on the 3rd of July. He was born in Providence, RI, on July 3, 1878, and baptized on July 14, 1878, at St. Joseph's Church. His grandfather's name was Keohane, (pronounced Co-han). His parents were Jeremiah Cohan and Ellen Costigan. His Godparents were Timothy William Cohan, and Margaret Ann Regan.

His parents were better known as Jerry and Nellie, vaudeville performers, who toured a good part of the country with their children in tow, Josephine and George. Soon their vaudeville act became

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## For The Republic



**Chris Fogarty**



ivet cemetery. In October, 1887 the Irish Nationalist Brotherhood purchased land along its

In August, 1884, Chicago's first archbishop, Patrick A. Feehan, paid \$40,000 for the eighty acres bounded by 111th and 115th streets, California and the Chicago & Grand Trunk railroad tracks. On June 28, 1885 he presided over the formal consecration of Mt. Ol-

ivet cemetery. In October, 1887 the Irish Nationalist Brotherhood purchased land along its ridge for a large monument and ninety-six graves (in Section 15). In 1887 the English government was still genociding Ireland, its army evicting and killing for its landlords who "owned" Ireland, and many of Chicago's Irish were actively trying to save the lives of their

by streetcar; its tracks ending beside Mt. Olivet on Sacramento.

To free Ireland from the genocidists then occupying it those interred here forewent personal advancement and marriage (though it is important to note here the many others who married and were buried in their family plots also gave and sacrificed much). Today the Irish Monuments Chicago blog accurately refers to it: "The obelisk was erected in honor of those Irish patriot heroes who died in Chicago, yet had no families in their new country."

Alex McDonald/ Patk. Galvin x \ James Coukley x /  
 Aug. 19, 1894 / Dec. 22, 1900 / Aug. 5, 1908 /  
 Martin Powers \ Edw. Harnett x / (Martin J. Murphy) /  
 July 15, 1896 / March 31, 1901 / Oct. 27, 1902 x /  
 John Anshro \ John Monaghan \ Thom. F. Cishell /  
 Feb. 4, 1896 / Aug. 15, 1901 x / Jan. 14, 1910 x /  
 James J. Sullivan \ Timothy Harnett \ Patk. Grant x \  
 Jan. 24, 1895 / Jan. 5, 1902 x / Aug. 7, 1910 /  
 Jos. P. McKenna \ Bartholomew Keon / Martin Garrity /  
 Jan. 22, 1895 / Jan. 26, 1902 x / Feb. 8, 1919 x /  
 M.J. McCaffrey \ Harry J. Jordan \  
 Nov. 22, 1894 / Oct. 11, 1902 x /  
 Maurice Foley \ John Gibbons x \  
 Aug. 24, 1894 / March 18, 1904 /  
 Edw. F. Hughes \ M. O'Donoghue \  
 June 17, 1894 / April 23, 1905 x /  
 Michael Loughlin \ Thomas Burke /  
 Feb. 12, 1894 / Nov. 3, 1907 x /  
 J. E. Murray \ Wm. C. McClure /  
 Date ? / Unk. Date x /  
 James Cline \ Name ? x \  
 Date ? / Date ? /

Base of  
 Monument  
 7 ft. sq.



The Nationalist Monument, Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Chicago, Palm Sunday, 2011. From left: James McClafferty, Pat Haran, John Joe Kennedy, George Gannon, Roger Murphy, Malachy Towey, Martin Saldana, Regan McShane, Allan Watson, and Mary O'Sullivan Fogarty (Photo by C. Fogarty)

Martin Hourke \ Name ? \  
 Dec. 9, 1892 / Date ? x /  
 Daniel Walsh \ Name ? x \  
 July 16, 1892 / Date ? /  
 James Howard \ Name ? x \  
 Apr. 28, 1892 / Date ? /  
 Edward Keenan \ Name ? x \  
 Feb. 14, 1892 / Date ? /  
 John J. Kelley \ Dennis Lenihan /  
 Nov. 15, 1881 / Date ? /  
 Pat'k Fitzgerald \ Luke White \  
 Apr. 10, 1891 / Date ? /  
 John T. Sullivan \ Edward Gleason /  
 Apr. 25, 1890 / Date ? /  
 Michael Sullivan \ James Cassidy /  
 Feb. 1, 1890 / Date ? /  
 Peter McGeehan \ Williams J. Ryan /  
 Dec. 20, 1889 / Date ? /  
 Luke Jordan \ Patrick McCarthy /  
 Aug. 30, 1889 / Date ? /  
 James Walsh \ John Ahern \  
 Jul. 30, 1887 / Date ? /

families and friends in Ireland. Many had joined the Union side in the U.S. Civil War, partly to acquire training to free Ireland. Their funds to Michael Davitt's Land League were having an effect against the landlords. At the time it was not known whether Ireland, if it could be freed, would become a republic or a monarchy; thus "Nationalist." Though exemplary in their dedication, goals, and actions, they were as smeared then as the IRA are today. The first interment was of P.J. Walsh on April 13, 1888; the monument was erected the following September 30th. For many decades funerals to Mt. Olivet were conveyed

Many, I included, would like to claim kinship to those interred here. See the adjacent map of the plots. The ones marked with an "x" lack a marker. Any interested party, please contact me fogartyc@att.net or 312/664-7651. A few of us, subject to Mt. Olivet rules, intend to install name markers on the graves of those whose names are known, and install walkway edges flush with the ground to guide visitors off the graves.

Credit for much of this data is to Mt. Olivet management and to John Corrigan and his article in Sceal, newsletter of the Chicago Irish Folklore Society.

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## Tradition In Review

Bill Margeson



the incomparable Maurice Lennon on fiddle—Maurice was one of the founders of the iconic Stockton’s Wing and a brill young

Let’s just wander around a bit this time. Ok? A little of this, a little of that. You know the drill.

• Just this second got off the phone with Sue Bourne. Who? Well, she has just released a brilliant documentary about the 2010 Irish World Dancing Championships, which were held in Glasgow. It is stunning. The filming and editing is Academy Award material. During the championships, they had five cameras at work at the competition. It follows a few individual competitors of the 6,000 entrants. That’s right. 6,000. The film wisely bypasses all the controversial aspects of Irish dancing, and focuses on the achievements of the dancers and their families. Currently looking for a distribution deal, by the time you read this, the film will have already had its Chicago debut at the Beverly Arts Center. If you don’t get a chance to see it in a theatre, watch for the eventual DVD. Stunning. The name is *Jig*. Google it. It was made with grants from the Scottish government. Fascinating and compelling. Best thing I’ve seen in ages.

• Spring/summer has finally arrived in the States! By, “The States” I, of course, mean Chicago. Annual Gaelic Park Irish Festival was held the weekend of May 28th. In true Chicago fashion, the weather was dreadful. Let’s see, Liz Carroll on fiddle and John Shine on guitar were there. The Four Courts were on hand in the tidal monsoons. This is a powerhouse throw-together group formed here in Chicago by Jimmy Keane. How’s this sound? Jimmy Keane (Male Musician of the Decade) on accordion, Paddy Homan (Male Singer of the Decade) on vocals,

keyboardist, Cormac McCarthy from Cork with Jimmy Moore from Kilkenny on guitar. Wow!

• New album just out from the wonderful box player, Luke Daniels. Entitled, *The Mighty Box*. As we get a chance to hear the whole thing, we’ll review here, and tell you if it is worth your money and love! Being Luke, it probably is!



• As I am writing you this, I am listening to Copperplate Podcast 39 from Alan O’Leary. Best podcast on the net for trad music. Right now he is playing Sean Tyrrell, Ronan Browne and Kevin Glackin with their new album, *And The Story Goes*. Sounds brill! Just Google Copperplate, and sign up for the podcast. The best. Did we already say that? Geez, we love Sean Tyrrell. Was at a massive session years ago with Ronan Browne at The Falls Hotel in Claire. Great memories! Review coming, obviously.

• Speaking of Copperplate, they are representing the fantastic, Oonagh Derby and her brand new album, *Harmony Street*. Full review coming next month.

Suffice it to say that this Armagh young woman is a stunner of an alto singer. It is available through the Copperplate site, and we’re sure you could also get it from her directly, as well as the usual outlets such as cdbaby and Claddagh. Google. We may well be listening to Newcomer of the Year!

• If you have not, find The Brock McGuire Band’s *Green Grass Blue Grass*. Go to the site. We reviewed it last month, and are still playing it regularly. Also, it has been a hit on *Ireland Tonight*, our American Public Broadcasting show each Monday evening! [www.wdcb.org](http://www.wdcb.org) will get you there. 8pm Chicago time. Co-host Maryann Keifer and Producer, Imelda Heinze keep everything on the straight and narrow. Or, they try to.

• Trad music is in a downturn in America and Ireland. All the energy being sucked up in Ireland by country and western. It is odd. There are more and more students for the music, and less and less people showing up for concerts. Album sales are, in general, awful. Big name acts such as De Dannan with Frankie Gavin had terrible audience numbers at Chicago’s number one venue, The Irish American Heritage Center recently on a Saturday night, of all things! We have written extensively on this, and will again soon. Trad popularity ebbs and flows, but is always there.

• Great tribute to the late, great box player, Raymond Roland in London at the end of May. Sixty musicians joined in! Everyone reporting it was one of those great nights! He, himself, was one of the greats. Apparently, it was recorded and will soon be on RTE *Raidio na Gealtachta*.

• Irishfest in Milwaukee has a fab, fab lineup this summer, set for August. Check it out! Loads for the true trad lover. More on this later. We’re going to have founder, Ed Ward, on the Chicago radio show before the Fest. Legendary.

• On of trad’s biggest losses has been *Reeltime*. *Riverdance* grabbed all the

group’s players in various forms, and then life moved on. We consider them the best vocal/instrumental group of all time in trad. They recorded two iconic albums on Green Linnet. Mairin Fahy on fiddle and vocals with Chris Kelly on guitar were the best of the best. Stunning. Well, they are still around in Galway, and performing the highly popular *Trad on the Prom*. It is their show, and has been packing them in for years. If you are anywhere near Galway, get to it. You will love it. Love it. Love it.

• LiveIreland.com founder and major domo, David Lattimer, is just back in the door from his family’s holiday in Greece. Greece. Great country, lousy wine.

• The best radio program in Chicago for the music is *Feast of Irish Folk* from The University of Chicago. Every Monday from 5-6:30pm. Tune in. They have been carrying the banner for trad here in Chicago for decades now! No one more loved or respected in Chicago. [www.whpk.org](http://www.whpk.org).

• There is an event in Chicago. iBAM! Really, it is the brainchild of Chicago *Irish American News* publisher, Cliff Carlson. Big stuff coming at the next one, and we will be telling you all about it. Think of it as an indoor Milwaukee Irish fest.

• Most Irish musicians are terrible businessmen and businesswomen. Almost all of them don’t realize it. There ARE a couple who stand out as musicians and business people. The aforementioned Jimmy Keane comes to mind. There are a few others. Damn few. We leave the panicked running around and constant burrowing in Irish music to the lessers in the field. They know who they are. After 25 years, the one thing I know is that the ONLY thing that matters is the music. The rest of it is all nonsense. Hangers on. Wannabes. Know nothings of the music, but there they are. So desperate to be part of it. Don’t confuse the music with the poseurs. The music. First. Last. Always. All there is and all there needs to be!

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## Sharing Meadows Leprechaun Hunt

The 17th Annual Leprechaun Hunt, will be held on August 7th at Sharing Meadows in Indiana.

A wonderful tradition started by Fr. Blaney as a fundraiser for Sharing Meadows, a place for other-abled adults located out in the country in Rolling Prairie, IN. The fun begins at noon; admission entitles hunters a chance to find one of 33 leprechaun figurines (worth 'pots of gold' valued from \$50-\$1,500 awarded before the 6pm close) hidden throughout the 185 acres of Sharing Meadows, and eat all the delicious food & drink they desire while there.

Musical entertainment includes the Doolin Clan, New Element and the Ploughboys. Children's games, cotton candy, ice cones and popcorn are all free for the little ones. All ages will enjoy the hay and tractor rides, and boating and hiking. Bring lawn chairs, blankets or even your own tent to relax away from the crowd.

Tickets purchased by Aug. 5th are \$40 for adults, \$35 for seniors and children 13 years and younger are free when accompanied by either their parents or grandparents. Tickets are \$10 more at the Hunt.

## "Books Are Not Like Children" —Colm Tóibín

By Seamus Byrne, Ireland Network Chicago

Books are not like children—they can easily be forgotten once launched, and perhaps should be, as the author moves on to the next challenge at hand. So quipped Colm Tóibín, offending all of his fiction pieces equally in responding to the question of which of his published works he would choose as his preferred. The setting was Ireland Network Chicago's June 3rd reception for the acclaimed Irish author and commentator at the University Club of Chicago, part of the Network's invited speaker series. I had the privilege of introducing him at this limited-attendance event, where our members and guests had the opportunity to meet and chat with the author before and after his speech, and to hear his nuanced take on the current state of Irish affairs in the wake of the recent visits to Ireland by both Queen Elizabeth II and President Obama. Recently shortlisted for the 2011 IMPAC Dublin Prize, an award which he won outright in 2006, he shared with us his recollections of meeting both the Queen and the Obamas in recent times, and of the sometimes absurd repercussions

of these encounters within his circle of peers. Following an entertaining characterization of the British-Irish relationship of recent decades, he offered a positive forecast for this relationship going forward, expressing the sentiment that having reached a critical milestone, it is now safe for us to behave respectfully like the grown-ups we claim to be.

Tóibín's responses to questions with regard to his work were memorable, characteristically modest, and sometimes surprising. He deadpanned that another way of saying that he had been twice-nominated for the Man Booker Prize was that he had twice-lost the Man Booker Prize, regaling the audience with a first-hand narrative of the whirlwind transition from "shortlisted" to "did not win." And of course, his fondness for his native County Wexford and its coastline was evident, as he described a favorite writing retreat of his which sits on a secluded stretch of the east coast of that county.

Following a stimulating conversation with our organizing group over dinner at The Gage afterwards, he

retired in preparation for a radio spot and an appearance at Printers Row Lit Fest the next morning. Tóibín is no stranger to the City of Chicago, having appeared here most recently last year in connection with the Chicago Public Library's choice of his novel *Brooklyn* for the 2010 "One Book,

One Chicago" selection. Ireland Network Chicago enthusiastically looks forward to hosting him again on one of his future visits to the city.

Visit [www.theirelandnetwork.com](http://www.theirelandnetwork.com) to see photos of this reception along with details of upcoming Ireland Network Chicago events.

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## Healy Law

Martin J. Healy, Jr.

Senior Partner



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

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

Readers are encouraged to call or write with questions concerning personal injury law.

### Check List If You're in an Auto Accident

Summertime usually brings more driving. And statistically with more miles being driven, the odds of a collision increase. If you are in an accident, what should you do? The following is a check list of things to remember:

(1) Safety is most important, so stop, pull off the road if possible, and warn oncoming traffic, if necessary. If someone is injured, call for help and assist them if you can. Avoid moving anyone with severe injury or with any injury to neck or back, if possible. If you see any smoke or fire, get away from the vehicle. Do

not attempt to put it out or retrieve belongings. Leave the vehicle only if it is safe to do so, and move off to the side of the road in case your car is struck by another vehicle. Never stand with your back to traffic, between or behind vehicles.

(2) Always exchange identification information and insurance information. Get the other driver's name, address, telephone number, insurance company and policy number and the name of the vehicle owner. Agreeing to working out auto-damage repairs with just a handshake can be problem-

atic. Often there are hidden damages that make an accurate assessment of the costs of repair difficult. If the accident involves the right-of-way at an intersection, or other accident patterns involving a question of fault, it may be important to get the names, addresses and telephone numbers of other drivers or witnesses. If possible, take photographs of the vehicles and drivers at the scene of the collision. Most cell phones now contain cameras, otherwise, a disposable or digital camera is adequate.

(3) If there is personal injury or property damage, you must notify the police either at the scene or at a local police station. It is also advisable to report the accident because in some situations, injuries are not readily apparent and only manifest themselves days or even weeks later. Without a police report, it is one driver's word against the other.

(4) If you are involved in an accident, resulting in injury or death, or property damage in excess of \$500.00, you must also file a written report of the accident with the State of Illinois within ten days of the accident.

(5) If you suffer personal injury, it is better from both a medical and legal viewpoint to seek help immediately. The full extent of injuries may not be known at the onset. If there is a future claim, injured parties are

sometimes criticized for failing to seek medical care the day of the accident or within one or two days.

(6) Anything a driver says at the accident scene can be used against that person later on. An oral admission of fault by a party to a lawsuit made at the time of an accident will be admissible against the party at trial and is strong evidence against that party. If there is some uncertainty about fault, you should remain silent on the issue. Also, try not to guess or speculate about what happened during an accident. Finally, it is important to take photographs of the auto damage, if not done at the scene, before the car is repaired or totaled.

(7) Generally, it is wise to notify your insurance company of the accident even if it is not your fault, by calling your agent. Policies have medical expense coverage that will help pay medical expenses, even out-of-pocket deductibles in addition to any health insurance benefits available. Also, other insurance coverages in the policy may apply, such as uninsured (where the other driver had no insurance) or underinsured (where the other driver is insured but his policy limits are less than yours) coverage. You may not

know at first what coverages may come into play because of an accident, but your insurer sometimes may be able to deny coverage if it was not promptly notified of an accident.

(8) If your vehicle is damaged to the extent that it needs to be towed, make sure you remove anything of value from the vehicle to prevent loss, weather damage or theft.

(9) Finally, don't panic. Be calm and polite. Escalating the situation is not helpful. If the other driver is upset or belligerent or tries to engage you in an argument, move away and wait for the police to arrive.

(10) If you suffer injuries, especially serious ones, it is wise to consult an attorney. If you attempt to resolve any injury claim on your own, you will be dealing with an experienced adjuster whose job it is to negotiate a settlement favorable to the insurance company. Furthermore, the insurance company is under no obligation to explain to you the applicable law or its responsibility under the law. Because the insurance company has hundreds of lawyers at its disposal, generally it is difficult to reach a fair settlement by going it alone.



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## Daly Investor

By John P. Daly



### Convertible Bonds

The recent stock market crash and recession have caused many investors to become overly cautious with investing. Investors are becoming risk adverse and unfortunately, in the current interest rate environment, no risk basically means—no return. As little as 4 years ago, investors were able to get 4-5% on FDIC insured CDs. We all know today's environment is much different—you have to lock up your money for 5 years to get a safe return of just over 2%, which won't even cover inflation. Investors are now forced to take on some additional risk if they want any return close to 5% or above. Convertible bonds could be a good solution for investors who are looking for increased returns, but don't want all of the risk that comes along with the stock market.

Convertible bonds are corporate bonds that have an added feature that allows them to be "converted" into the company's common stock at a later date. This hybrid feature allows investors to participate in the upside of the stock market with some potential downside protection. This feature makes them very attractive when managing a portfolio's risk/return profile.

The debt features of a convertible bond are very similar to most fixed income securities. They have a stated annual coupon and a maturity date. And like most fixed income securities, the coupon is dependent on the credit of the issuer and the time until maturity. The stock feature of a convertible bond is what makes it unique. There is a call feature embedded in the bond that allows the owner to convert the bond into a specified number of common

stock shares. This allows the owner to participate in the upside of the stock market.

The mechanics of a convertible bond are pretty easy to understand. The bond pays a coupon and has a stated maturity from the date of issuance. If the stock tied to the bond appreciates, the value of the call option tied to the bond increases, which in turn increases the value of the convertible. If the stock depreciates, the convertible still pays a coupon, which offsets downside risk and pays back principal at maturity.

Historically, convertible bonds have performed very well when compared to the stock market and corporate bond returns. From January 1990 through December 2010, the convertible bond index had an annualized return of 9.22% compared to the S&P 500 return of 8.52% and Bond index return of 6.99% during the same period. Also, convertible bonds unique hybrid feature has helped them outperform traditional fixed income investments during times of rising interest rates—something we might see in the next 12-18 months.

Keep in mind, convertible bonds are investments and there is risk involved, including loss of principal. If you think convertible bonds might be a good fit for your portfolio, I urge you to consult your financial advisor to see if they fit in with your goals and risk tolerance.

*John P. Daly is a Certified Financial Planner™ and President of Daly Investment Management, LLC, a fee only Registered Investment Advisor specializing in financial planning and wealth management for individuals and families. 312-239-1317. john@dalyinvestment.com. www.dalyinvestment.com.*



Presiding Judge Raymond L. Jagielski of the 5th Municipal District Circuit Court of Cook County in Bridgeview recently held a Flag Day Ceremony at the Bridgeview Courthouse. Judge Vincent M. Gaughan of the Criminal Court was the principle speaker and Edward F. McElroy, Past National Commander of the Catholic War Veterans, U.S.A. sang the Star Spangled Banner. A presentation of flags was done by the Evergreen Park American Legion Post. Pictured (L-R) are Commander Edward F. McElroy, Presiding Judge Raymond Jagielski and Judge Vincent M. Gaughan.

### Chicago Fire Halfway to St. Patty's Day Celebration

The Chicago Fire Soccer Club will be hosting an Irish American Heritage Night and Halfway to St. Patty's Day Celebration for their game against the New England Revolutions at 3pm on Sunday, Sept, 25th.

To order tickets, contact Tim Green at [tgreen@chicago-fire.com](mailto:tgreen@chicago-fire.com). [www.chicago-fire.com](http://www.chicago-fire.com).

### 2011 Young Irish Golf Outing

The annual Young Irish Golf Outing will once again be held at Carriage Greens Country Club in Darien on Saturday, September 24th.

Proceeds will benefit the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation. A Dignity Diner Special Discounted Price (\$425) is offered before August 1st.

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### An Taoiseach Enda Kenny Launches MAYO.IE



L-R: Peter Hynes, Mayo County Manager, Michael Ring, Minister for Tourism, An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, Michael Burke Cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council, Martina Hughes, MAYO.IE Project.

A new online initiative by Mayo County Council with the Western Development Commission (WDC) will see millions of people in the 'Global Mayo Family' get connected, through an innovative and exciting online project, [www.mayo.ie](http://www.mayo.ie). The new website recently launched by An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny at The Museum of Country Life, will bring together a wide range of information on all aspects of Mayo from business and social interaction to genealogy and local history.

The initiative is aimed at the 3 million people worldwide who originate from Mayo, along with those who currently live there, work there, or just have a love for the County. [www.mayo.ie](http://www.mayo.ie) will appeal to all ages and interests. [www.mayo.ie](http://www.mayo.ie) presents a unique opportunity for anyone with ties to Mayo to create and maintain valuable networks for businesses both at home and abroad. Equally it will be the perfect place for Mayo people all over the globe to update on local news.

One of the unique elements of the website is the fact that current informa-

tion on all the towns and villages of Mayo will be available. "In addition to the local communities we are also working with our International Communities, recruiting 'International Champions' who will work with us to keep us up to date on what's happening in the major cities around the world," said Mr Hynes.

The website is also good news for Mayo businesses who can avail of a free listing by registering their business details on [www.mayo.ie](http://www.mayo.ie), giving their products and services exposure to the global 'family'. An online shopping element will also be available on the site, which will see Mayo products become available for sale all over the world.

People are invited to become members of the global Mayo community and to create their own personal profile, outlining where they are in the world, their interests and activities and to discuss topics of interest with other members of this virtual global community. Registering as a member is free and can be completed in a number of simple steps on [www.mayo.ie](http://www.mayo.ie).



Board President Terrence J. O'Brien recently welcomed Mr. David St. Pierre to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) as the new Executive Director. Pictured (L-R) is newly appointed Executive Director David St. Pierre with President Terrence J. O'Brien.



## Reality Checks

The government must feel empathy with the tourist in the old joke whose request for directions from a yokel produced the response “If I were you I wouldn’t be starting from here.” No indeed. The economic straight jacket is bad enough—and looks set to get worse. The mortgage crisis is pending. Crunch time for dealing with the public sector approaches. The first Hundred Days are passing—and let’s not forget how the original Hundred days ended!

However, as days pass there are some signs of a growing sense of public realism. While distractions continue, such as demands for public enquiries, not only on the bank bailout (2008) but now the ECB/IMF bailout (late 2010), the hard edge of our situation is now penetrating. The election may prove to have been cathartic, in that, having got rid of Fianna Fail, the public is now stuck with its choice.

Here the signs are encouraging. The job of the government is to govern, and, at this time the general mood is to look to the government for solutions. The government, and in particular the Labour ministers, have been quite unequivocal in their statements about the tough road ahead and the lack of soft options. There are also promises of real reform and there is some hope that the era of hand wringing (“we can do nothing because...”) may now be over. The medicine may be unpalatable, but at least it will be administered.

One illusion has suffered a stake through its heart—the fairy tale from the left (and, indeed, the ultranationalist right) that Ireland had a metaphorical pot of gold waiting in the form of offshore oil and gas reserves. Figures of \$100 billion and up have been banded about in recent months by Sinn Fein and the rest of the left, as waiting to be harvested as soon as we got tough with the oil companies. Never mind that the one proven and commercially viable gas field, the Corrib field, has been on hold for a number of years over local and environmental protests; the offshore reserves have been touted as the magic bullet for Ireland’s budgetary and debt problems. The myth was forensically demolished in a speech by Energy Minister Pat Rabbitte in the Dail on April 16.

The speech, which can be googled easily, merits a closer look, if only to drive the message home. The seas round Ireland are not another North Sea. There are no 10 billion barrels of oil equivalent awaiting exploitation. The figure is an estimate of what might be present and what might be found, based on geological criteria and

regional comparisons. It would take hundreds or thousands of exploration wells, at \$125 million a time, to discover if the estimate is accurate. The process alone would take 10 or 20 years to yield any financial benefits. In the North Sea, 1200 exploration and appraisal wells have been drilled in the Norwegian sector, and over 4000 in the British sector; 156 in total have been drilled in Irish waters. There are 300 plus producing fields in Britain, three in Ireland; the Norwegian Troll field is 50 times bigger than Corrib.

There is no conspiracy not to drill in Irish waters. The oil industry is a global one which bases decisions on exploration primarily on geology and economics. To date there is no evidence to suggest that, where the prospects are high, the multinationals will walk away. Indeed Norway and Britain both have higher rates of taxation on oil and gas revenues than Ireland. There is an element of Catch 22 involved at present; without more exploration the petroleum potential of the Irish offshore cannot be proven, but until more commercial discoveries are made, it will continue to prove difficult to attract new exploration.

Reality checks of a different kind have come with revelations about some of the salary levels, and not just at the top, in the state-owned commercial bodies, the third part of the Irish public sector. The civil service and bodies including the police, teachers and health workers form the other parts; crucially their pay and conditions are monitored or controlled by the Department of Finance. Not so a number of the commercial bodies. The argument is that, since they are out in the big bad commercial world, and are making profits, their staff should benefit, as staff in a private company would.

Fair enough, but some of the companies are monopolies or quasi-monopolies, which certainly do not operate in a free market situation. Take the energy sector. It is dominated by two state owned enterprises, the ESB and Bord Gais; the electricity grid is run by another state company, Eirgrid. The 2009 average salary of their employees—including cleaners and bottle washers—and including also pension payments made by the employers (i.e. the taxpayer) were, respectively, \$125,000 (ESB), \$100,000 (Bord Gais) and \$129,000 (Eirgrid). Prices for Irish domestic electricity are among the highest in Europe, and the companies were criticised last year for not being slow cutting off those who couldn’t pay.

Elsewhere there are considerable variations in salaries paid, ranging from an average of \$170,000 in the case of the Irish Aviation Authority (which includes air traffic controllers) to around \$65,000 in the case of the transport company CIE. For those at the top the news is even better. Chief Executives in the state bodies had salary packages in 2009, including pension contributions, ranging from \$450,000 (Dublin Port) to \$1 million (ESB). This despite an attempt to cap or cut these salaries; in a number of cases, while salaries have held steady, other elements in the package, such as pensions, have been hiked.

The government is now to review salary scales across the whole semi-state sector, many of which have so far avoided the cuts and pension levies imposed on the rest of the public sector. Indeed ESB workers actually received pay increases under a fanciful “national pay agreement,” now moribund, in 2008, even as the country slid towards crisis. There was at least a suspicion that the last government at the time ducked a confrontation with the powerful ESB unions lest power cuts and disruption to industrial production be added to the developing economic woe. It will be interesting to see how this one develops. One thing is for sure; there will be little sympathy for ESB employees in any future clash.

Meanwhile new figures from the banking sector show that bank executives continue to receive large salaries even though the banks are on life support from the taxpayer and the ECB. At its crudest, cuts in the numbers of special needs teachers are paying for six and seven figure salaries for bankers. If there is a lesson from these and other revelations, including special pleading, it is that no one is going to yield what they have willingly. This could make the government’s job on the fiscal issue actually easier. When only belt-tightening all round will restore balance to the public finances, the more groups seek to protect their privileges at a time when others are hurting, the more support there will be for resolute action by the government.

## Piping It In

...Continued from Page 10

but it was with great delight that I listened to Fionnuala Sherry’s release. Her fiddle style is flowing and lyrical, strong but very, very smooth. I enjoyed the heck out of this CD and so did some of my most valued customers, who were also delightfully surprised. Matter of fact, on this CD is my all time favorite instrumental rendition of “Minstrel Boy.” I don’t say that lightly. I may have to go back and listen to some of the Secret Garden releases, if I can pry a promo out of them. I am cheap after all.

The next new release, while much awaited, was not a surprise as to its quality. I have been a huge fan of Girsá ever since this all girl band from New York exploded onto the Irish music scene a couple years back. Their first CD, simply titled *Girsá* was one of the few CDs ever to stop Shay Clarke in his tracks. We were at the Dayton Celtic Festival, and I put it on the player in my booth. I heard Shay yell “What’s that?” and he came scooting over to find out the source of that lovely music. So I knew that their second CD would be a winner as well, and the girls certainly did not disappoint me. The girls brought their new CD *A Sweeter Place* over to me when they played at Gaelic Park on Memorial Day weekend, and I’ve been enjoying it ever since. A very traditional rendering of lovely tunes marked by great musicianship and some of the sweetest voices you’ll ever want to hear. Those crabbers who complain that the great days of Irish music are past need to take a long listen to these lovely young ladies whose joy in the music is only surpassed by their talent. Yeah, I like this one a lot.

I mentioned in my last column that a new Daithi Sproule CD was on its way from New Folk Records. Well, I got my advance copy and, boy oh boy, what a treasure! Titled *Lost River: Volume 1*, I’m already excited that there might be a Volume 2. Daithi describes it best in his liner notes when he states that this is a collection of “traditional songs I have sung and loved for decades.” The love shows, let me tell you. Joined by a lineup of the finest talent in Irish music, this CD is simply one of the best I’ve ever heard. Don’t have a release date for this beauty yet, but I’m sure we’ll be getting it soon. In the meantime, you can drop by the store for a listen if you’d like.

I want to close this month with a heartfelt thank you for all of you who work so hard at supporting traditional music. It’s not easy or cheap but it is necessary if this important aspect of our culture is to survive. As Chief Francis O’Neill worked to save our songs years ago, we all need to support our musicians, singers and songwriters today.

*Thanks to all who encourage me to keep banging away at this. I enjoy your input. You can call at the store, 630-834-8108 or email me at pipingitin@comcast.net or find me on facebook. Slainte.*

## H-Block Hunger Strike 30th Anniversary

A commemoration of the 30th of the H-Block Hunger Strike will be held on Saturday, August 6th, 6:30-10:30pm at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N Knox Ave., in Chicago. The evening includes live music by Fast Eddie McAteer, a buffet dinner at 7:15pm, raffle of handmade crafts by Irish Republican POWs and an address by Richard O’Rawe, author and H-Block Press Officer in 1981.

Tickets are \$40 at the door, but please RSVP beforehand. 312-574-0286 or 312-560-9311, or [www.wemustbeunited.com](http://www.wemustbeunited.com).

## Buffalo Theatre Ensemble’s Faith Healer at McAninch Arts Center

Buffalo Theatre Ensemble (BTE) presents Brien Friel’s *Faith Healer* at the McAninch Arts Center at College of DuPage, 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL, July 8-24.

In *Faith Healer* we meet “the Fantastic Francis Hardy,” a traveling faith healer whose gift is genuine, if capricious, as well as Grace and Teddy, who complete the traveling band. These three individually tell us stories of their shared history. While the events they relate are essentially the same, the details are widely discrepant in each version.

(630) 942-4000, or purchase tickets online at [cod.edu/athemac](http://cod.edu/athemac). [www.AtTheMAC.org](http://www.AtTheMAC.org).

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### Sweeney Todd at Drury Lane

Drury Lane Theatre, 100 Drury Lane, will present Stephen Sondheim's Tony Award-winning masterpiece *Sweeney Todd*, from August 17-October 9.

The riveting thriller is based on the 1973 play *Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street* by Christopher Bond. Set in Victorian London, *Sweeney Todd* is the tale of Benjamin Barker, an exiled barber who escapes prison after 15 years to seek revenge on Judge Turpin, the man who unjustly imprisoned



him and stole away his wife and child. When he returns to London, the deranged Barker changes his name to "Sweeney Todd"

and joins forces with Mrs. Lovett, a diabolical meat-pie baker and resourceful proprietress of the pie shop, to get revenge. Unbeknownst to the public, Mrs. Lovett and Sweeney Todd end up serving "anyone... to anyone."

For reservations, call the Drury Lane Theatre box office at 630-530-0111, call TicketMaster at 800-745-3000, or visit [www.drurylaneoakbrook.com](http://www.drurylaneoakbrook.com).

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# Real Ireland



By Rachel Gaffney



## Food Fit For A Queen

Ireland waited with baited breath for an historic visit from HRH Queen Elizabeth. It began with her arrival in Dublin, taking in the National stud in Kildare, making her way down to Co. Tipperary and spending her last day in Cork City.

The English Market was her first stop.

This famous landmark is well known to us Corkonians. In fact, I remember taking a shortcut through the market to get to the bus stop on Patrick Street. Fishmongers, butchers, bakers and cheese makers have been there for generations. It first opened its doors in 1788.

A traditional favorite in Cork City every Christmas is 'Spiced Beef.' I remember my father bringing home the fresh supply, newly sliced, eager to have a spiced beef sandwich. If you have never had spiced beef then you are simply missing out on one of life's pleasures!

This famous beef was one of the many items that appeared in the basket presented to the Queen. Tom Durcan, a well know Cork butcher explained to her majesty how this Cork spiced beef was made. This particular method was used years ago on the ships and boats as a method of preserving.

During the 1990's, whilst living and working in London, I decided to make this spiced beef. I purchased my beef and the spice mixture calls for one very important ingredient, Salt Petre. I went from store to store looking and asking for this but to no avail. Finally, upon chatting to a manager in my local Sainsbury's he told me it was an ingredient in gun powder. No wonder I was getting funny looks!

with the people of Cork. I can only imagine what a feast for the senses it must have been. Before leaving, she was presented with a basket that embodied all that was and is the 'English Market.' The kitchens in Buckingham Palace were in for a treat. Meat from Bresnan's Butchers and Tom Durcan's Butchers, Irish Porter Cake from 'The



Farmgate Cafe," Wexford Irish Honey, Smoked Salmon from Ballycotton Seafood and Earl Grey Irish Tea Breac (cake) from ABC Bakery.

In 2010 [www.localmarkets.ie](http://www.localmarkets.ie) was founded. Rory McCann launched this website with twenty two producers and as of today, less than a year later, they have forty one producers. Rory saw a need for this. I asked him why, and he explained that these artisan producers were unable to reach a larger audience outside of their shops and market stalls. "What we do is reconnect the customer and the local producer."

Rory explains that they now distribute nationally and as of May they began to ship to the UK.

Now if only we could get some of these foods here... "The only reason for time, is so that everything doesn't happen at once." —Albert Einstein

### Rustic Raspberry Tart with Kerrygold Butter Crust

#### Crust

- 1 C. all purpose flour
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 6 tbsp cold unsalted Kerrygold Pure Irish Butter, cut into 1/2" chunks
- 1 lg. egg yolk (reserve white)
- 3 to 5 tsp iced water

#### Filling

- 2 C. raspberries
  - 3 tbsp sugar
  - 2 tsp cornstarch
- Preheat oven to 425 degrees F.

In a food processor, whirl together flour and salt. Add butter, pulsing until the mixture resembles coarse meal. Add egg yolk and water 1 teaspoon at a time, process just until dough clumps together and begins to form a ball. Set 2 pieces of plastic wrap aside (12-15 inches each). Lightly dust each with flour. Gather dough and press into a flat disk. Place dough onto one piece of plastic, then place 2nd piece on top. With a rolling pin, roll dough into about an 11-12 inch round.

Peel off top layer of plastic, invert onto baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Remove other layer of plastic. Distribute berries in center of pastry, leaving a 2 inch border. In a small bowl, mix sugar and cornstarch. Sprinkle 3 tablespoons mixture evenly over fruit. Gently fold edges of pastry over berries, pleating edges to fit. Leave an opening 4-6 inches wide in the center. Brush pastry with reserved egg white. Sprinkle pastry lightly with remaining sugar mixture. Bake on bottom rack of the oven for 25-30 minutes or until crust is golden brown. Cool in pan for 15 minutes.

Website: [www.RachelGaffneys.com](http://www.RachelGaffneys.com). Follow on Twitter: @Rachelgaffney. Facebook: Rachel Gaffney. Blog: [www.rachelgaffney.blogspot.com](http://www.rachelgaffney.blogspot.com).

## Our Irish Cousins Preview with Her Majesty, 'da Queen

Irish American News columnist, radio host, and filmmaker Mike Houlihan will be at The Irish American Heritage Center for Irish Fest on July 9th and 10th selling and signing his book *Hooliganism* along with DVDs of many of his films.

Mike will also present an encore presentation of his film, *Her Majesty, 'da Queen*, at 5:30pm, Saturday, July 9 and 6pm, Sunday, July 10th. The film premiered at the IAHC last November and aired on WTTW last St. Patrick's Day. *Her Majesty, 'da Queen* is a sneak peek backstage at the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade Queen Contest.

Mike will also be screening a special preview of the trailer for his film *Our Irish Cousins*, which covers his adventures on the book tour circuit across the USA and Ireland. Mike's been working on editing his epic documentary film, *Our Irish Cousins*, for the last three years. This ten-minute trailer gives a preview of the hilarious journey Mike took with his family in the discovery of his Irish roots. For more info, visit [www.ourirish-cousins.com](http://www.ourirish-cousins.com).

Mike will be in attendance at both screenings and encourages the audience to buy him drinks.



Chicago's Mike Houlihan shares a laugh with All Ireland Hurling Champion Mike Houlihan at his pub in Kilmallock, County Limerick.

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## pH Factor

By Pat Hickey



works—constantly closing a grip around the throats of the 23rd Illinois.

General Price probably should have lit them there bales on fire and smoked the Micks into residents who provided a relief committee for the prisoners when they learned of the camp's poor conditions. Mulligan apparently showed some sympathy for the prisoners because he had been treated with respect by Confederate General Sterling Price when Mulligan's regiment had been captured and paroled at the First Battle of Lexington, Mis-

### James A. Mulligan, Camp Douglas and History from a Boiler Fitter

I recently re-read a 1921 edition of *Catholic Church in Chicago 1675 - 1871* by Gilbert J. Garraghan, S. J., no doubt one of Father Damen's later disciples.

This history chronicles the growth of Catholic Chicago from Father Marquette's original Mass for the voyagers on the sand dunes near the mouth of the Chicago River to the Great Chicago Fire.

The first Catholic Church built in Chicago was Father St. Cyr's St. Mary's located on the south side of Lake Street near State in 1833 with a mere 200 (mostly French) worshippers.

By 1857 and a flood of thousands of Irish immigrants, the still magnificent Holy Family Church towered above 12th Street (Roosevelt Road); a Catholic College was in place at St. Mary of the Lake and the Catholic Institute (later the Chicago Lyceum)-Literary and Debating society flourished.

One of the chief members of the Catholic Institute was a recent graduate of St. Mary of the Lake College—James Adelbert Mulligan. The young lawyer was born to Irish immigrant parents in Utica, New York. The family travelled to frontier Chicago, where young Mulligan received a solid education at the Catholic college of St. Mary of the Lake.

James Mulligan edited a Catholic news weekly, *The Western Tablet* and worked with Stephan A. Douglas. When Democrat Douglas was defeated by Republican Abraham Lincoln and secession became a reality, Mulligan stood fast with the Union.

Col. Mulligan organized the three Catholic Military societies (The Shields, The Emmett and The Montgomery Guards) into the Chicago Irish Brigade, which was the 1st militia from Illinois recognized for the Federal Army in the American Civil War. This body became the Illinois 23rd Regiment. They trained at Camp Douglas for a few weeks and headed to Missouri. There the outnumbered 23rd Illinois Volunteers were besieged by the Missouri Militia under General Sterling Price.

Col. Mulligan led the Illinois 23rd (3,500 tough Micks) to Missouri where it faced Confederate General Sterling Price's force of 12,500 Rebs in what must have been the wildest battle of the Civil War—The Battle of Lexington also known as the battle of the Hemp Bales.

Hemp is dope. Mulligan's force was outnumbered and surrounded on the campus of Masonic College. Sterling Price bombarded Mulligan's troops from September 18th through the 20th. On the 20th of September, Price soaked hundreds hemp bales in the Mississippi River and used them as breast-

submission. Too stoned to fight?

Nevertheless, the soaked bales did the job and Mulligan and the 23rd were captured and later paroled in a prisoner exchange—not uncommon in the old rules of war.

Mulligan became the commandant of Camp Douglas but was removed for treating the Confederate Prisoners with dignity and food. Progressive minded radical Republicans wanted the Camp to be a punitive exercise—starve and freeze the Rebs.

My introduction to Camp Douglas, named for 'The Little Giant' Stephan A. Douglas, who died shortly after the start of hostilities in 1861, and was brought into the Catholic Faith on his deathbed, was by Ben McFarland. Mr. McFarland was the father of my buddies, Al and Charlie McFarland. Ben and Irma lived at 75th Place and Wood along the alley that met the viaduct leading to the industrial park along behind the railroad tracks. Ben McFarland was a Boiler Fitter and worked at Midway Airport, when not working, Mr. McFarland immersed himself in Civil War histories and issues of *National Geographic*. One day in the very early 1960's, he packed a bunch of us from the block into his Buick and drove us to the Confederate Mound at Oak Woods Cemetery on 67th Street. Mr. McFarland told the story of Camp Douglas and how the land had been given to the Union by the estate of Senator Douglas. We read the names of the Confederate dead on the monument. That was some history lesson. Mr. McFarland then told us about the Irish Brigade and Col. Mulligan. He talked about the Germans and the Irish of Chicago, and how many people in Bridgeport tried to help southern prisoners escape from the prison Camp and were thwarted by the Scottish Detective Alan Pinckerton, and of the starvation and disease that killed thousands of Americans.

Books proved Ben McFarland correct.

Colonel Mulligan cooperated with local

### James A. Mulligan (1830-1864)



*James Adelbert Mulligan was a brevet brigadier general of volunteers in the Union Army. An Irish politician in Chicago, he raised the "Irish Brigade" (23rd Illinois). He was wounded at Winchester and as his men were carrying him from the field he ordered them to save the flag rather than to save him. He was captured and died three days later.*

souri on September 19, 1861. Mulligan was exchanged on October 30, 1861.

James A. Mulligan was a Democrat, a Roman Catholic, and a Union Man. Though tasked with policing Confederate prisoners, Mulligan did so with humanity and a soldier's empathy. Mulligan has been treated with courtesy by Confederate General

Sterling Price and he tried to do the same for those in his charge. Mulligan was considered too kindly toward the Secessionists, and at one time Mulligan tried to maintain some sense of fairness over the prisoner's money in his care. Political enemies smeared Col. Mulligan for that.

Col. Mulligan returned to combat leading the Chicago Irish Brigade in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley against Confederate General Jubal Early at Leestown, and later, Second Kernstown (n.b. Illinois Irishman, James J. Shields, defeated Stonewall Jackson at the 1st Battle of Kernstown in 1862, and was the only Union General to best Jackson) where Rearguard Action expert Col. Mulligan fought a fighting retreat and was killed by a Confederate sniper. He was shot several times more, as his troops tried to ease the Colonel out of his saddle. The colors were saved, but James A. Mulligan died days after his words to his soldiers, "Lay me on the ground and save the Colors."

We read way too much mythology about Jane Addams and Lyman Trumbull-types, and most of it is inflated nonsense.

James A. Mulligan was quite a historic figure. We only read about great Americans like Jean Baptiste Beaubien, Orestes Brownson, Gen. Shields and James A. Mulligan in books that were close to history and not re-invented redactions of history. A Boiler-fitter did as much as any tweedy chap with a bunch of letters after his name to bring history to the lives of some little guys on Wood Street a long time ago.

[http://www.illinoisgenealogy.org/civil\\_war/23rd\\_illinois\\_infantry.htm](http://www.illinoisgenealogy.org/civil_war/23rd_illinois_infantry.htm).

[http://www.enotes.com/topic/Camp\\_Douglas\\_\(Chicago\)#Brief\\_command\\_of\\_Colonel\\_Daniel\\_Cameron.3B\\_Command\\_of\\_Colonel\\_James\\_A.\\_Mulligan](http://www.enotes.com/topic/Camp_Douglas_(Chicago)#Brief_command_of_Colonel_Daniel_Cameron.3B_Command_of_Colonel_James_A._Mulligan).

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## Bridging the Troubled Waters

May has always been a good month to be in Ireland. Over the past six years returning home, the May sun has been kind and made happy faces. This year, however, it rained almost every day. I was becoming tired of the weatherman’s over usage of the word changeable, which simply means a glorious start to the morning will inevitably dissipate into a wintry, cold day. I even heard one foreign visitor to Derry exclaim, it’s raining and sunny.

Despite the bewilderment the elements produced, it was good to be back. It’s been a year since I last visited, and already there were signs of changes. The prominent Guildhall (city hall) is now covered with industrial sheets of plastic, undergoing its makeover for the 2013 year of culture, and a new pedestrian bridge is almost near completion. Of the latter, some cynic remarked that it wouldn’t be standing long before it is blown up by the dissident IRA, a comment that seems at odds with the optimistic aspirations of

the aptly named ‘Peace Bridge.’

As I wandered down towards the Foyle River to see the new addition, I wondered how long it would remain standing. The bridge, costing £13 million, spans the river that traditionally separates the Protestant and Catholic communities. The 3rd bridge over the Foyle, it is designed to envisage a ‘handshake,’ a metaphorical reaching out between two polarized cultures.

The home of civil rights, Bloody Sunday, and the seat of blatant gerrymandering, Derry is attempting to bridge its past to the future while under continual threat by dissidents. As its people strive towards making peace the signs of political fracture continue to be exposed. Numerous bomb scares, designed to thwart political stability, interspersed with real threats, aimed at undermining progress towards peace are becoming more frequent.

For the politically disaffected, the peace process is a sell out, while for the majority it represents the hope of real

change. The bridge officially opened in June. Will it survive to see Derry become the city of culture in 2013, or will it be destroyed, metaphorically or physically, by those trapped in the cycle of violence?

I’d like to think there is even room for the cynic to have a change of heart. I certainly think the success of the recent Royal visit has given us reason to hope.

For the first time since the 26 counties became a Republic, a British head of state was invited, at the request of the Irish President, to visit the country. Queen Elizabeth II’s visit, as you would expect, created quite a stir. Not only was her presence on Irish soil highly controversial and expensive, but it signaled a possible change in British/Irish relations. There were dissenters and protests, but generally the monarch was received with a true Irish *faillte*.

Such an historic occasion symbolized, for many of us, a desire to move beyond the stagnant rhetoric of past injustices to create a place of mutual understanding. This visit does not cancel out historical grievances, but does at least signify a dignified gesture towards reconciliation.

The Queen wore green, spoke a little of the Irish language, and was treated to the best of Irish culture. The desire to reach out towards the other was mutual, two nations with a shared past were beginning to look to a new future, built on the hard won labour of the Northern Ireland peace process.

The second noteworthy event was President Obama’s visit. The city of Moneygall, Co. Offaly, with a small population of 300, took centre stage as the President Obama returned to his Irish roots. The generosity of the Irish continued to reign despite the looming debt.

And while the cynic might want to draw attention to the seeming irrespon-

sibility of such spending, the possible solicitation of Irish voters for Obama, and playing down the economic crisis facing the Republic, both visits, I would argue, brought with them a sense of hope. With emigration on the rise, a downturn in the housing market and the loss of revenue, Ireland is painfully aware of its financial troubles. It needs the support of its European neighbours, and the economic investment of American businesses, if it is to recover from its economic decline. At such times, bridges are to be built—not blown up.

My trip has once again left me reflecting on what will be the future of Ireland? There is no doubt in my mind that the country has much to offer the world, but we can be our own worst enemy when it comes to living up to our potential. We can complain about the incessant rain, it’s a national pastime. But water can be harnessed to produce energy, or bridged to combine resources. It can also immerse us in our despair, should we remain stagnant and refuse to change.

I’m not suggesting that it’s simply a matter of the glass half full or empty, but it’s discouraging to watch a city like Derry attempt to emerge from its past conflict, prepare to be recognized as a city of culture, only to be sabotaged by disgruntled Republicans. There are huge questions about the future of Northern Ireland and the financial re-structuring of the Republic’s debt to be faced, but there is little to be gained by prolonging the violence. The voice of reason should not be relegated to the wilderness as the ravings of an eccentric liberal, but should instead be heard from the rooftops as the rhetoric of the people.

*\*Terry, originally from Derry, now resides in Chicago and teaches Irish and British Literature at Loyola University, Chicago. terenceboyle@sbcglobal.net.*

## 1st Annual Will County Celtic Fest

The Irish-American Society of County Will (I.A.S.C.W.) has announced the 1st Annual Will County Celtic Festival will be held July 29th & 30th in beautiful Bicentennial Park along the banks of the Des Plaines River in Downtown Joliet.

The mission for the Festival is to preserve and teach the lessons of our Celtic heritage and culture to the community at large.

A great line-up of Celtic musicians, dancers, entertainers and pipe bands will be performing both Friday night and all day and night Saturday. Friday night will feature the south suburban favorites Three Men in Kilts & The Larkin and Moran Brothers. Saturday’s entertainment includes an Irish Session beginning at noon followed by the sounds of The Ploughboys, Reilly, Highland Reign & The Kreellers.

Great food will be provided by several local businesses on both days of the Fest. Vendors and crafters will be displaying Celtic goods and a variety of children’s activities will be taking place throughout the park. Step dancers, bagpipe bands and several other activities are planned for the weekend event. Also, the Will County Shamrocks Men’s Rugby Club will be hosting a 7’s Tournament on the field located just south of the park. Come catch a preview of Rugby 7’s and see what it is all about. Just this past year, Rugby 7’s has been approved as an official sport for the 2016 Olympics.

To honor its 30 years in Will County, the IASCW will also be giving away \$30,000 to local groups and charitable organizations. Starting next week, the IASCW will give \$2500 to the Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce to help offset the cost of the annual 4th of July Celebration at Memorial Stadium. The remaining \$27,500 will be distributed at the Fest to the following organizations: The Joliet Historical Society, Morning Star Mission, Will County Habitat for Humanity, the Will/Grundy Free Medical Clinic, Joliet Central and West Athletic Boosters, Joliet Catholic Academy and Providence Catholic High School. Additionally, through sales of corn-on-the-cob, monetary funds will be provided to the Southwest Suburban Conference Special Games Committee.

Admission for the Fest is \$4 prior to July 29th and \$5 the day of the event. Admission buttons are required for all attendees over the age of 10. Buttons will go on sale at local restaurants, bars and businesses beginning the week of June 20th. For more information please visit [www.willcountycelticfest.com](http://www.willcountycelticfest.com).

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## The Celtic Traveller

By Maureen Callahan



### Angel Island - Ellis Island of the West

"We estimate this spot to be the first glimpse of the United States for roughly a million people," the ranger says in response to a question raised by one of the tourists I spied earlier on Pier 44, waiting in line for the ten o'clock ferry this morning. Today's cluster of visitors ferrying to Angel Island, in the middle of San Francisco Bay, number only a few. It's a Wednesday morning in April, and the skies threaten to dump the contents of their heavy, grey clouds at any moment. We embark for the noon tour of the US Immigration Station, located on the water behind an ominously steep embankment. A skeleton crew greets us there, as there are few places to seek shelter on this rugged island.

The ranger relates a brief history of the island. From 1910 to 1940, the United States Immigration Station processed nearly a million immigrants from over 80 countries. Much like Ellis Island, the staff ensured that new arrivals were healthy and relatively self-sufficient. A fire destroyed several of the key buildings in 1940, forcing the U.S. Department of Immigration to abandon the site. Ongoing fundraising for restoration of the remaining buildings keeps the memorial open.

The tour consists mainly of the dormitory-like building which housed thousands of hopeful immigrants through the years, segregated by sex, in crowded and often less than sanitary conditions. Detainees spent much time in these barracks, desperately bored while awaiting difficult interrogations to gain entrance to the U.S.

Roughly 175,000 Chinese immigrants were processed here. Most were held for some length of time, ranging from three days to two years. Despite Chinese contributions to key events of American prosperity, this group had a period of difficulty gaining entrance to the U.S. The Chinese established themselves as a cheap, reliable workforce during the 1848 gold rush, continuing through the 1860s, performing the dangerous tasks of blasting rock and laying track through the high Sierras during the building of the first transcontinental railroad. The financially unstable 1870s saw growing outrage toward the Chinese, who were willing to work for much lower wages than other European immigrant groups, leading to the

passing of The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. The wooden walls inside the dormitories here express the feelings of despair and anxiety of detainees through poems carved in Cantonese characters.

Docent-led tours of the U.S. Immigration Station are conducted Wednesday-Sunday at 11am, 12:30pm and 2pm. Tickets are \$7 for adults, available only at the Cove Café at the ferry landing, or you may wander around yourself at no cost. The distance from the ferry landing to the site is 1.5 miles. Allow 40 minutes for the walk and beware of the mostly uphill route. If you aren't up for walking, there are a few other options.

All methods of transportation around the Island are accessible from the ferry landing. There is a shuttle service operated by the State Parks Service directly to the Immigration Station landmark for a small fee. Shuttle service coincides with the daily tour schedule. Check [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov).

#### Getting Around:

- Bikes can be rented for \$10/hour or \$35/day, helmet included. You must have an I.D. Daily rentals are due back by 3pm. Return on time, or you may have difficulty retrieving your I.D. You are almost guaranteed better equipment if you rent a bike on the wharf and transport it free of charge on the ferry. Plus, it's cheaper that way.

- Two-hour Segway tours of the Island leave from the Cove Café at 10:30am and 12:30pm daily for \$65/person.

- Tram tours of the Island are \$13.50 for adults and last one hour and 15 minutes. Schedules vary by season, so call in advance to the Cove Café, or check posted times when you arrive. 415-435-3392.

The Island is maintained by The California State Parks Service, a few dozen of its rangers making up the sole inhabitants of this Island State Park. While most people come to wander through the immigration memorial, there are other points of interest. This is a great place to spend a day hiking the 13 miles of hilly trails or riding the 9 miles of paved bike trails. Observe the variety of plant and animal life. Harbor seals and sea lions often sun on the rocky shores. The views of San Francisco's skyline and

The Golden Gate Bridge are spectacular from this vantage point.

During the Civil War, the U.S. Army established Camp Reynolds on the Island to protect San Francisco Bay. Tourists are welcome to poke around remaining buildings, or attend a Civil War reenactment. East Garrison, located on Quarry Point, served as a recruitment depot and discharge point for troops returning from World War I. Today, the abandoned site offers an unabashed, if somewhat eerie, up-close look at the once lively, now derelict buildings which housed military personnel and their families. Although many are boarded up, those that are not stand open to visitors.

#### If You Go:

- There are roughly three ferries daily which leave San Francisco from Pier 41, all of which depart in late morning. You will need a few hours on the Island to look around. The last ferry back to San Francisco departs Angel Island late in the afternoon. Schedules vary by season, so be sure to check [www.blueandgoldfleet.com](http://www.blueandgoldfleet.com) before starting to explore to avoid be-



ing stranded. Save campsites, there are no accommodations available on the Island.

- Credit and debit cards are not accepted on the Island, so have cash. An ATM is available in the Cove Café at the ferry landing.

- The Cove Café is the only dining option, containing a small store next to the restaurant. Be sure you have what you need with you before you set out (sunscreen, bottled

water, etc.), as it is inconvenient to get back here once you start touring. Consider bringing a picnic from the mainland in a backpack.

Maureen Callahan is a Chicago writer, columnist and seasoned traveler. [misssmaureencallahan@gmail.com](mailto:misssmaureencallahan@gmail.com).



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**Irish Books and Plays in Review**

**Frank West**



**Future and Past Dreams**

“She saw him often through her window of memory...” A woman is thinking about a dearly loved man she had to leave behind when she emigrated from Ireland to America.

Gardiner M. Weir is the author of this amazing book: *A World of Dreams: Scots-Irish Short Stories and Poems*. I say amazing because throughout the book he creates emotions in the reader.

That is difficult to do. What does an emigrant feel about the beautiful land he or she had to leave? There were few opportunities in Ireland to achieve a better life, so the person had to leave. But what emotions does that person feel, then and now, about the people they knew?

Intellectually, the person probably understands why they had to leave. But emotionally, it is very different.

Emotions stay with us, and continually influence us.

Gardiner M. Weir grew up on a farm in County Antrim in the 1940’s and 1950’s, much as my own relatives did in nearby County Sligo. There were few amenities, rural electrification hadn’t arrived, there was no running water, etc. But there were warm and close human interactions. And, there was something else: great social values. The stories and poems in *A World of Dreams* reflect “the social values that the author experienced in his youth—hard work, religious belief, valuing family connections, rectitude, personal responsibility and independence to name a few.”

In Chicago’s “old neighborhoods,” we too learned the value of personal relationships. The neighborhoods are long gone, but their values remain in us.

The topics of Weir’s amazing stories

and poems are universal: “how people relate to one another, the search for love, loneliness, humor, fear, memories, hope for the future and laser accurate observations of people.”

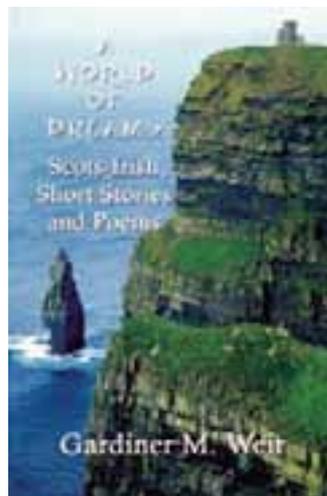
Weir grew up in an era in Ireland before radio and TV became pervasive. People came to someone’s kitchen and, around the hearth, entertained each other with stories.

He attended Queen’s University, where he studied science. But, there were always memories of his childhood in Northern Ireland. He kept notes that in some cases developed into poems and in others into short stories.

Weir is influenced by the past, but is a very modern person. As a biological scientist, “I have lived and worked for extended periods in twelve different countries and traveled on business in many more.” He is retired now and lives in the United States.

As a biological scientist, Weir worked with genetics and maybe the starkly modern DNA, but also remembered another reality, as this excerpt shows.

A girl in County Antrim has come home after seeing a movie with scenes



**You Can Sell A House, Can You Sell A Home?**

John Patrick Moore is an Irish American, a Chicago policeman and lives in Jefferson Park. You can hardly get more Irish American than that!

Moore is the main character in *Northwest Highway*, a play being produced at the Gift Theatre through July 17.

Moore’s character is fully developed. His outer life is clear: he loves being a Chicago policeman. But the playwright skillfully shows us Moore’s inner self.

Like most people’s inner self, it is a mix of strengths and weaknesses. Some of these things we are aware of existing in ourselves, but some we can’t see. I believe this is part of being human.

Moore is thinking of selling his house in Jefferson Park. He thinks of buying a condo in a nearby neighborhood, but deciding to sell is very difficult. This is because it is not just a house, but his home.

Moore was raised in this house. His father was raised here too. Thus, there are many memories and emotions involved.

The playwright, William Nedved, explores those emotions. And thru the action of the play, invites us to enter Moore’s psyche.

The questions Moore faces are really ones of identification. He plans to move only a few miles away, but he asks himself: Will I still be a Jefferson Parker? If I move, will I continue to be a dependable partner when on patrol with other policemen? Will I be faithful to my girlfriend?

He’s not ready for marriage, but his girlfriend is pregnant. Will he maintain his religious belief concerning abortion?

Most of us would say these questions are separate from the decision to sell the house. But they are all mixed in

of wealth and extravagance. She says that on the farm “there were no elegant dresses, cocktails or banquets with an orchestra of violins. Day in and day out it was... cookin for the family, feeding the hens, cleaning hen eggs to sell in the market, churning butter, washing and hanging out clothes... on the line.”

Weir’s poems are so profound that they could constitute a separate book. He creates in them, characters with dreams, and with subtle, but very strong and powerful emotions.

*A World of Dreams* has an enormous range of human emotions. This is a book that can be returned to often!

*A World of Dreams: Scots-Irish short Stories and Poems*, by Gardiner M. Weir. PublishAmerica, Baltimore, MD, 2011. 554 pages; \$34.95; 301-695-17807. Also available from amazon.com, on Amazon’s Kindle and on Barnes and Nobles Nook. www.publishamerica.com.

The three books he has written are available as paperbacks from Amazon.com as well.

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the mind of John Patrick Moore.

The excellent acting in the play makes clear these questions and dilemmas.

There is a wonderful feeling of intimacy in the theatres small space. The actors were so close, that I felt like reaching out and saying, "John, let's sit down and talk this over."

This is a play that will generate many questions. You'll enjoy the acting, the sense of identification with Moore, as well as the question it asks: What does it mean to be an Irish American?

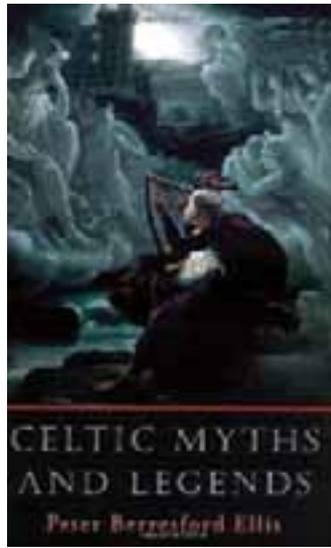
*Northwest Highway* is presented at the Gift Theatre, 4820 No Milwaukee Ave., thru July 17, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7:30pm, and Sunday at 2:30pm. [www.thegifttheatre.org](http://www.thegifttheatre.org) 773-283-7071.

## Celtic Beliefs for Today

When unforeseen events, sometimes caused by human weakness or fate, happened in ancient times, our Celtic ancestors said they happened because of the action of the Gods. With all of our modern scientific knowledge, are our explanations any better?

*Celtic Myths and Legends* by Peter Berresford Ellis, is about that interaction of the Celtic Gods with humans. He made these colorful stories come alive. Those stories and the descriptions of the Gods are slightly different in each Celtic country, like Scotland, Wales, etc., but they are essentially the same.

Peter Ellis, a noted Celticist, has produced another readable, and carefully researched book about the beliefs of our ancestors. He is also "under the pseudonym of Peter Tremayne, the author of



the Sister Fidelma murder mysteries set in seventh century Ireland."

Born in 1943, Ellis is incredibly pro-

lific. He has written over 90 books! Plus, he is the author of 95 short stories, and many articles and academic papers.

I'm continually amazed that the small island of Ireland, with a total population of about five and a half million, has such an outstanding, and vibrant culture. This golden culture of Ireland exists despite invasions, war and repression.

These quotes by Ellis pertain to that:

- Ancient Celts placed "mystic significance on words. They had great respect—almost a religious reverence—for the power and beauty of words."

- Of Celtic mythology, Ellis says: "There is a warmth and lightness rather than a brooding bleakness of the sagas of the Germanic and Nordic cultures. A bright, happy spirit pervades even the

tragedies. There is a spirit of eternal optimism... there is nothing final about the end."

- "The stories of the Celts were told for entertainment... they were meant to be enjoyed as well as learnt from... a sense of mischievous fun is never far from the surface."

- "The elements of fantasy, cosmic horror, and the supernatural form an indispensable ingredient in the folklore of the Celts. This has ever been a strong tradition, even among more modern generations of Celtic writers, who seem to have inherited the old ability to present breaks in natural laws as vivid and realistic."

*Celtic Myths and Legends* by Peter Berresford Ellis. Running Press, Philadelphia, 2008. 629 pages; \$14.95. [runningpress.com](http://runningpress.com).

## Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan



It's the only airport bar in the world where you'll never feel like a stranger.

There's something familiar about Reilly's Daughter, the little Irish pub that is an oasis in the sea of humanity trudging to and from their planes at Midway.

It's almost hidden to the side. Blink and you'll miss it. But you still might overhear the sound of Irish music and a football game played to the tune of clinking glasses. You peek inside and read the Celtic lettering above the archway, "Reilly's Daughter."

The guy behind the bar looks like somebody you grew up with in the old neighborhood.

Maybe it's Brendan or Danny or their Uncle Jimmy or his daughter Bridget. Maybe it's himself, Boz O'Brien.

It was June 16, 1976, when Boz O'Brien opened his saloon, Reilly's Daughter, in Oak Lawn at 111th and Pulaski. A shopping mall seems a strange place for a tavern but it had plenty of parking and it became the most popular watering hole in Chicagoland for anybody coming of age in the final three decades of the last century.

If ever there was a place where everybody knew your name, this was the place.

Boz tells me the secret of his success has always been the people who work at Reilly's, but his talents as the PT Barnum of bar owners never hurt.

Boz once booked a pair of CTA cars for a 3 hour pre-St. Paddy's train ride all over Chicago on the EL. It was 1977, and on Feb. 7th of that year four cars had derailed and fallen off the track at

Lake and Wabash. Somebody at the CTA figured that having these Irish kids party on the EL only a month after the crash might show Chicago that there was nothing to fear. It was a public relations stroke of genius, and Reilly's Daughter sold out all 200 tickets for the ride.

Boz says, "I put an Irish band on each car. If you didn't like the party you were in, you just moved to the next car with the EL going 60 miles an hour all over Chicago. We ended up going through 23 half barrels of beer!"

That train ride put Reilly's Daughter on the right track for legendary craic.

Monday Night Football was a huge draw for Reilly's, but the pomposity of Howard Cosell got under southsiders skin. Boz went out and bought a dozen used TVs and sold raffle tickets for the chance to throw a brick through the TV while Cosell pontificated. Next thing you know groups are driving in from Kankakee for the chance to brick Howard.

Boz tells me, "It made this implosion when you hit it, you could hear it a mile away. The late, great Tim Weigel heard about it and did a live remote on a Monday night for the game."

The story got picked up and went national and pretty soon the whole country wanted their hands on that brick.

"Cosell was totally offended by this. He was doing the World Series in Baltimore and somebody actually threw a brick at his limousine. He said, 'If it wasn't for that flea bag bar on the Southside of Chicago this wouldn't have happened.'"

The brick story followed Howard Cosell all the way to his obit.

Every year on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, Boz used to give away a free turkey every hour on the hour. "But the one at midnight was alive. He'd be walkin' around. We had him on a leash, everybody would be pettin' him, it was all crazy stuff."

The year of the Hostage Crisis in Iran the turkey was kidnapped. Boz says, "Twenty minutes later I get a phone call from a guy with a real crappy Iranian accent. 'Unless I get two Bears tickets you will never see your turkey alive again!' I called up the *Tribune* and said, 'Somebody just stole the Ayatollah Turkey!'"

The next day the *Tribune* printed a photo above the caption, "Have You Seen This Turkey?"

Santa Claus arrived by helicopter every year at Reilly's and 500 people would line up with their kids to get their picture taken with the jolly old elf. One year Boz was paying the young guy who played Santa, who told him, "Ya know something Mr. O'Brien, the first time I was here at Reilly's Daughter I was here to see Santa, now I am Santa!"

When the Bears trounced the Patriots in Super Bowl XX, a pair of bartenders and waitresses from Daisy Buchanan's bar in Boston had to come to Reilly's and work the week after the game wearing Patriots jerseys. They had lost the bet with Boz.

"I took 'em to Second City and they wrote 'em into the script. They had a great time and whenever we went out to Boston in years since, I always stopped into Daisy Buchanan's."

On St. Patrick's Day of 1984, Terry McElDowney and Tom Walsh were playing Reilly's and they wrote the lyrics to "South Side Irish" on a napkin in Reilly's Daughter at 3am. Boz was there.

...Continued on Page 38

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**Reel Jiggy**



**Deirdre Kozicki**

Last month I went to New York City. It was my first time ever. I was very excited when I found out I was going. The night before my flight, I don't think I slept at all. (I know I should have because I was going to the city that never sleeps.) On my first day, I wanted to make a mad dash out of the plane. I couldn't wait to go to Manhattan. Eventually I did get there. It was nothing like I expected, but in a good way. I went shopping, obviously. That was really fun. I also went to my first Yankee's game. It was cool to see a

different ball park because I have only seen U. S. Cellular Field. It was more modern. I must have been bad luck though, because the day before they won 9 to 1, and then when I came they lost 1 to nothing. It was still very fun. I got a free Yankees hat and had my first fried Twinkie! (Sooooo good.) I also got a private tour of 30 Rock. That was really cool. I went to some of the studios. I went to the *NBC Nightly News* set, and then I went to the floor where *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon* films, but we couldn't go in there because he was rehearsing. I went on the set of my favorite show, *Saturday Night Live*. It is so much smaller then it appears on TV. It was still very cool. I went to the *Today* show, too. I went in the morning. I saw Matt, Natalie, and my sister even got her picture taken with Ann! I took a walk through Central Park. It was a lovely day. I sailed my own sail boat (the mini kind). That was really fun. Then I headed over to Times Square. I went there in daylight and night time. It was cool at night because it seems like it is still daylight because of all the lights. I went to Serendipity at night. My family and I had to wait a while and that was at 10pm but it was worth it. The frozen hot chocolate was amazing. They just give it to you in a huge bowl. I went to the Sony Wonder Technology Lab. They have so many things to do. You get a card and you make your profile on the computer. Every time you play a game, you tap the card on it and your profile appears. I got to make a commercial, program a robot, make a news broadcast, and make a music video. There were plenty of other things to do. If you go on a trip

to New York, I definitely recommend it. On my last day I went downtown. We went down Wall Street and took a walk along the Hudson River. Then I went to the Irish Famine Memorial. They had rocks from all different counties. I took a picture with the rocks from Longford




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and Clare. That is where my ancestors came from. Speaking of ancestors, I saw the Statue of Liberty on a boat ride. It was the first thing most of our ancestors saw when they came to the new world. I was sad when I left, but I promised myself I would be back again. I had a really great time. I loved every second of my trip. It was one of the best vacations I took.

In Irish Dancing news, I received a 1st in my Hornpipe dance. So now I just need two more 1st and I will be in the next level. I just wanted to tell you next month I will have my results from Nationals. I have been working very hard and I hope I do well.

Our family friend, Hugh Heneghan, recently passed away. He was proud of his Mayo roots and will be missed by all. Please keep his wife Joan, son Patrick, daughter Rita, daughter-in-law Kelly and grandson Patrick in your prayers.

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## Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



### More Keys to a Happy Life

If you read my June column, *Are There Ten Keys to a Happy Life?* you will find this month's article an expansion of that earlier column. By the way, my June article was included in the easily accessed online version of our paper, due to the limitations of space last month.

Let me provide a brief summary of the ten keys included in the June article:

1. **Giving.** The very act of giving enhances our own self esteem.

2. **Relating.** You can relate with people of all races, ethnicity and religions.

3. **Exercising.** There are many ways to exercise without an expensive health club.

4. **Appreciating.** See the beauty and goodness in the world.

5. **Trying.** Learn something new.

6. **Direction.** Don't just drift through life.

7. **Resilience.** Learn from your mistakes and move on.

8. **Emotion.** Decide how you feel about your circumstances.

9. **Acceptance.** Do not compare yourself to others.

10. **Meaning.** Align yourself with and promote some worthwhile goal.

Because I couldn't resist, I added **Courage** to the *Ten Keys to a Happy Life* as announced by the group Action for Happiness. Then I heard from my readers, who had several worthwhile additions to the list:

**Education.** Clearly, readers felt that we need to learn how the world works and how we fit into the world. Such an education can be the acquisition of knowledge needed for a profession, trade or job. To be successful in this endeavor, one needs to enter into an educational atmosphere with a belief that he or she can acquire some new and worthwhile knowledge. Education provides us with the opportunity to learn from the achievements of others; we don't have to make the same mistakes that others have already made. But many of us are well aware of the great truth in the cliché; the lessons of history show that we don't learn from history. Do you have the appropriate level of education or training for the job you have or want to have?

**Can do attitude.** Virtually every successful athlete, scholar, adventurer or business person is imbued with such an attitude. They simply do not consider failure as an acceptable option. That doesn't mean that they don't fail, probably just the opposite. When they "fail,"

they examine the circumstances and find another way to attack the problem. They manifest a great sense of positive self-expectancy. This trait tends to be quite obvious when you watch great athletes; if they miss a free throw or shank a golf shot, they focus on the importance of the next attempt rather than on the "missed" opportunity. Do you expect to win every time or do you expect failure? How does that attitude affect how you are perceived by your fellow workers?

**Curiosity.** Where would we be if someone hadn't been curious as to what was on the other side of the mountain or the ocean or over the horizon? Perhaps because we live in a world of such innovation, we don't see the need to pursue things just out of reach ourselves. If necessary being small, you can sate your curiosity one step at a time; consider alternatives to your present approach to a problem. Explore old solutions from a different point of view.

**Change.** Our willingness to change is probably a reliable barometer of our curiosity. I continue to be amazed by the rate of change in our society. Think of the innovations you have seen in just the last five or ten years. Have you envisioned such things as Kindle, iPads, GPS, smartphones or cell phones? How about the enormous effects of technology on your daily activities? On the other hand, consider the effect of "negative" changes, i.e., increased unemployment, lack of available capital, increased terrorism worldwide, skyrocketing oil

prices and political upheavals throughout the world. Some change can be incredibly positive, but you must be able to discern the good from the bad.

**Time sensitivity.** At breakfast this morning, I had a senior executive tell me that any day could be his last day of employment. People will ask what he has accomplished in his first seven months with his employer. In my experience, a lot of us say and believe in things like "Someday." Don't you often hear that expression from others? Australia, oh, yeah, we are going there someday. Once we retire, we are going to travel. Someday, we will take that cruise on the Rhine River. Just imagine if Jesus Christ, Martin Luther King, or Alexander the Great had said, let's put "that" off till someday in the future. Where would we be now?

**Camaraderie.** There are few things more important in life than having a handful of good friends. But to have good friends, you have to be a good friend. Are you willing to give of yourself for the aid and comfort of a friend/colleague? Do you help them celebrate their successes? Do you stick with your pals when they get into trouble of whatever sort? Do you provide support and counsel to your comrades?

**Sense of Faith.** This one came through loud and clear from my readers. One person said he needed to understand the world through the prism of the Ten Commandments. He feels that the Ten Commandments provide a road map and a social order for his personal conduct. Others said their faith gave purpose and meaning to their lives.

**Caring.** One of my readers quoted Leo Buscaglia and I can't improve on his words: "Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, to the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a

life around." Can you apply Buscaglia's wisdom at your place of employment? Or perhaps more importantly, can you apply it in your personal life, with those you love?

Hopefully these thoughts will give you some food for thought on how you could conduct yourself in your work a day world whether that is business,

academia, military or the trades. *Carpe Diem!*

*James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., an Oak Brook, IL-based senior executive coaching and career transition firm. Phone 30-684-2204. Email: jamesffitz37@hotmail.com. Website: www.jamesffitzgerald.com.*

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# An Immigrant's Musings

Fr. Michael Leonard



## Recent News & "Stuff"

Is history repeating itself or what? President Obama, as he gets "his ducks in a row" for a second term, has once again turned to the topic of Immigration reform. It is hard not to be cynical and overlook this latest attention as no more than an effort to stay on board with the Hispanic voting block.

In fairness to Mr. Obama, I think he gets the need for reform, as indeed did his predecessor Mr.

Bush. (One of the few things these men could really agree on). The difficulty is of course both men have run into the same old and tired arguments from the anti-immigration groups.

Another recent survey puts immigration far behind the economy, health care and education as a priority with voters. And yet another report on the topic of migration gives the US higher marks for its immigration system than many

would expect. This does not mean that the US immigration system is perfect, as anyone who has to deal with its officers can testify. We regularly get complaints from people who have received different responses to queries on the exact same issue from agents of USCIS.

We do not have to look very far to find a country that consistently provides a better service. Canada, which is attracting more Irish immigrants than ever, has a system that is much more "user friendly" than ours. Canada has a better reputation for incorporating immigrants than most other countries.

There are three elements in the Canadian approach that experts often highlight. Firstly, it puts a big emphasis on skills and educational qualifications. Secondly, it also permits dual citizenship. And thirdly, it allows folks to apply for citizenship after only three years (as opposed to five in most cases in the US).

I referred earlier to the old and tired objections that are continually raised by the opponents of reform. What we seriously need at this time is a group of people who could

approach the issue of immigration policy with a new approach. Often when we are stuck with an obstacle, it takes a fresh look and a new angle of attack to make a breakthrough. This I believe is such a time, and I for one would be very glad to hear fresh, creative and constructive ideas on how best to deal with "the elephant in the room."

## Golf

A very sincere thanks to all those who sponsored or took part in our annual golf fundraiser outing, held on the 12th of June at St. Andrews Golf and Country Club in West Chicago. The event was a great success, and we deeply appreciate all the support we receive from our benefactors. Without your financial support and encouragement we simply could not continue to offer our services.

## Christian Buddha

One of master Gasan's monks visited the university in Tokyo. When he returned, he asked the master if he had ever read the Christian Bible.

"No," Gasan replied, "Please

read some of it to me."

The monk opened the Bible to the Sermon on the Mount in St. Matthew, and began reading. After reading Christ's words about the lilies in the field, he paused. Master Gasan was silent for a long time.

"Yes," he finally said, "Whoever uttered these words is an enlightened being. What you have read to me is the essence of everything I have been trying to teach you here!"

Should you have any comments, suggestions or questions please feel free to contact me at 773 282 8445 or sliabhanoir@yahoo.com.

## Hooliganism

...Continued from Page 35

He was the host to thousands and the benevolent boss to hundreds of south side Irish kids who worked for him. "I always thought our staff was gonna be what people thought of Reilly's. Pretty much everybody had a college degree or was working on it. A girl didn't have to be the prom queen or anything. I was more concerned that she was a good person and had a good sense of humor and was fun to be around."

The Reilly's staff alumni includes at least 15 circuit court judges, as well as labor leaders, doctors, and professionals who learned about life from Boz O'Brien; including 19th Ward Alderman, the honorable Matthew J. O'Shea, and popular Cook County Commissioner Bridget Gainer. They watched him throw fundraisers for local families who needed help or were down on their luck.

Boz says, "Giving back was always part of the deal."

Reilly's Daughter opened at Midway in 2002 and Boz sold the location on 111th Street the following year. He'd sponsored over 76 softball teams, introduced hundreds of couples that married, raised money anonymously for generations at benefits, and quenched the thirst of armies of Southside Irish. Now he's meeting them all over again at Midway along with their kids and grand kids.

Every day hundreds of people stop by just to say hello at Reilly's Daughter and recount their memories of nights they'll never forget. The storied history continues with new friends at Midway who feel the Celtic connection at Reilly's.

"I think I'm invited to every saloon in Boston, New York, and Washington DC."

For 35 years Boz O'Brien and his family have been swapping stories with old and new friends at Reilly's Daughter. Long may they pour!

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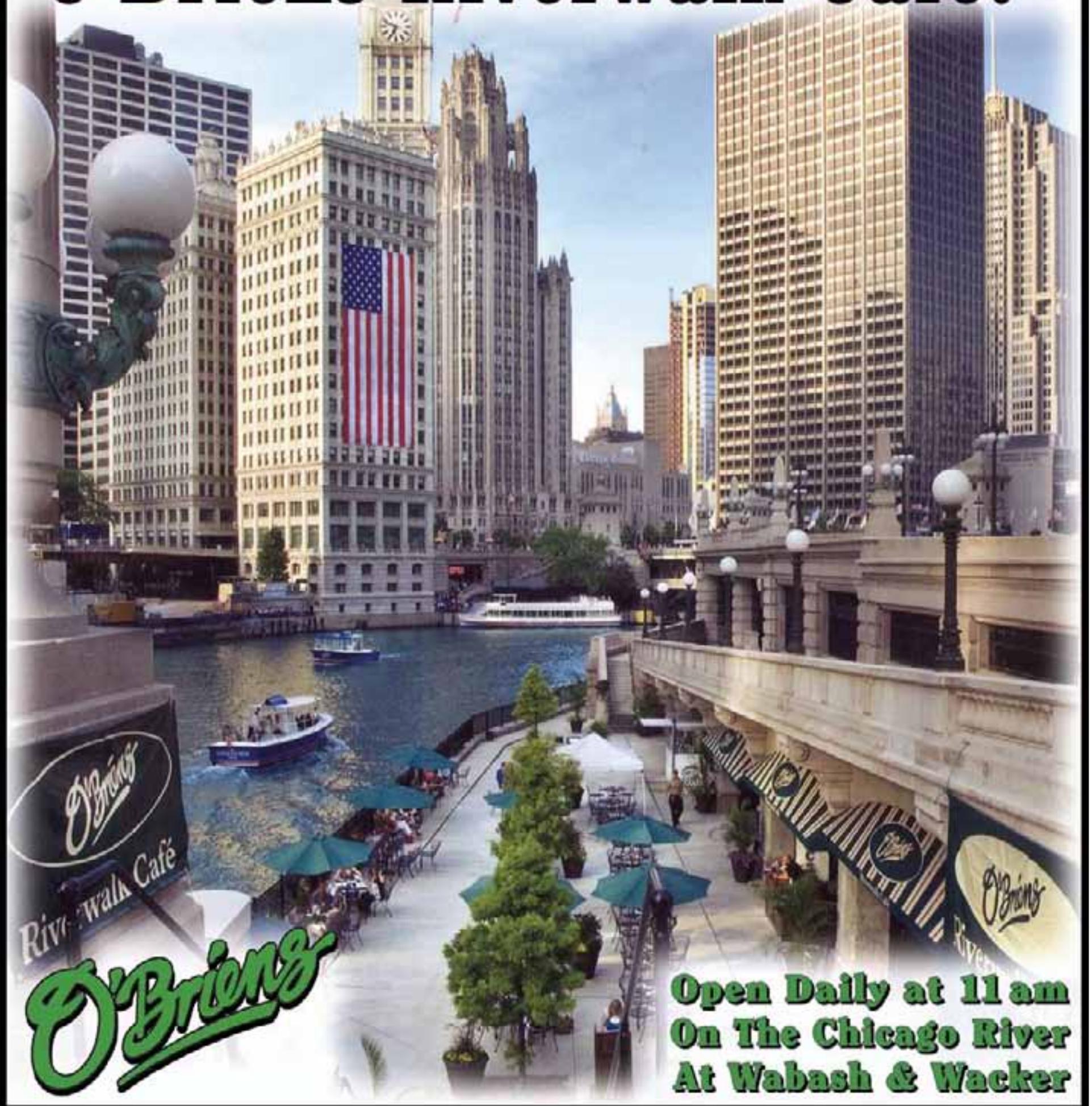
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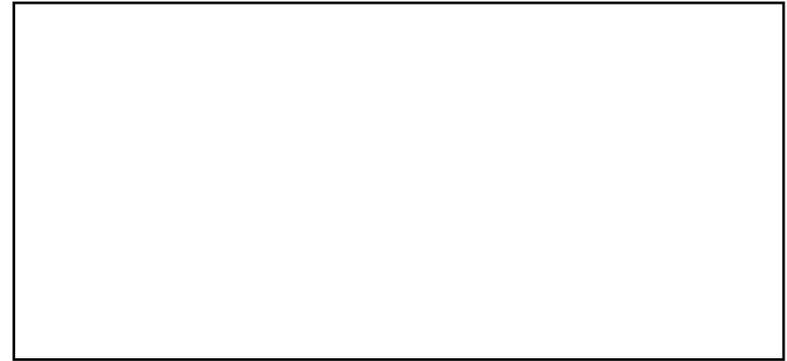
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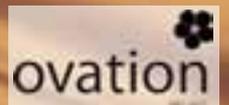
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