

irish american news  
**icain**

August • 2006



## **Fest Up!**

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*(pictured) Heidi Talbot of Cherish The Ladies  
at Milwaukee Irish Fest*



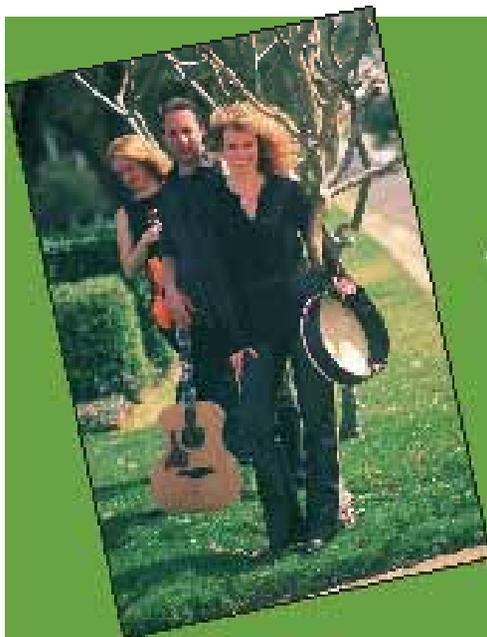
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## IAUC National Convention and Chicago H-Block Hunger Strike Commemoration

By Bill Chambers

On Saturday September 30th at the Doubletree Hotel in Rosemont from 8:00AM to 9:00PM, the Irish American Unity Conference (IAUC) will be holding their national conference in Chicago with the theme of "Remembering the Hunger Strike: the Impact on Ireland and the U.S. - Then and Now". Speakers include many figures from Ireland including:

- John and Dermot Finucane - John Finucane (Pat Finucane's son) and Dermot Finucane (Pat Finucane's brother) will be coming to speak on the behalf of the efforts to have a truly independent investigation into Pat Finucane's murder. Pat Finucane was a human rights lawyer from West Belfast who devoted his career to defending individuals falsely accused by the British government. He was accused of being a "Provo" lawyer and was murdered in front of his wife and children on 12 February 1989 by the pro-British Ulster Defense Association.

- Margo Harkin, a freelance producer

with her own company, Besom Productions, from Derry, who will be showing her recently completed documentaries on Bloody Sunday and the 1981 Irish Hunger Strike.

- Cara McShane who is the Sinn Fein Councillor for Moyle District Council - Ballycastle Town, County Antrim, and the first Sinn Fein representative elected in that area.

- Mary Nelis who has been a member of the Northern Ireland Assembly and a City Councilor for Foyle, has always been involved in community politics in Derry and has been a member of Sinn Fein since 1980.

- Nuala O'Loan, the Police Ombudsman in Belfast.

- Marian Walsh, one of the founding members of the Victims and Survivors Trust in Belfast, a support organization for those who have suffered or lost family members due to the conflict.

Other speakers include Irish activists in the U.S.

- Douglass Cassel, an attorney, journalist and scholar specializing in international human rights, international humanitarian and international criminal law who is currently Director, Center for International Human Rights and Clinical Professor of Law at Northwestern University in Chicago.

- Terry Kirby - a former H-Block blanketman and who along with Kevin Artt and Pol Brennan, known as the H-Block 3, were arrested in California between 1992 and 1994 and granted bail pending the men's hearing on their applications to stay in the U.S. After a vigorous campaign by Irish America to stop their deportations, in September 2000 the British Government said it would not seek the extradition of convicted paramilitaries who would have been eligible for early release under the Good Friday Agreement and applied that ruling to the H-Block 3.

- Bobby Lavery, a former Sinn Fein Belfast City Councilor for eleven years.

- Matt Morrison, a former POW who

served ten years in Long Kesh for activities in opposition to the British occupation of Northern Ireland. Morrison completed his sentence and came to the United States in December, 1985.

- Jerry Boyle, a Chicago attorney and Irish activist active in campaigning against the U.S./U.K Extradition Treaty and promoting fair immigration laws.

- Maureen O'Looney, a Chicago IAUC member and lifelong Irish Republican activist. For tickets to the convention and further information call 815-667-4939.

### Chicago H-Block Hunger Strike Commemoration

On Sunday, October 1st at the Embassy Suites Hotel - Rosemont, from 3:00PM to 9:00PM, multiple Irish American groups including Chicago Irish Northern Aid, IAUC, and Clan na Gael will be holding a commemoration of the 1981 Hunger Strike with speakers from Ireland, music, raffles and food. For further information and tickets, contact call 773-764-4089.

## In Memoriam - AOH Editor Frank Feighery Dies

by Michael J. Cummings

I first met Frank Feighery during the Great Hunger Strike and worked with him more closely in the Joe Doherty Extradition fight. He was a skilled tactician and fundraiser in both those arenas and in many other Irish peace and justice causes. Everyone knew where Frank Feighery stood and the passion with which he fought for those things he believed in.

He was President of the United Irish Counties when some whined that Frank would offend the Irish Ambassador if he went ahead with plans to honor Martin Galvin of Irish Northern Aid. He suffered neither fools nor phonies and hosted one of the largest UIC dinners ever.

No one who knew him could call him a mellow fellow. As Editor of the Hibernian Digest he fought for months a suggestion that he made an error in a story and then only acknowledged it by exclaiming the "At least I know one person reads the Digest." It was his leadership as Editor of the Digest for 8 years that challenged his skills and proved his mettle. He transformed the paper so dramatically as to give a new image to Hibernians in this the 170th anniversary year of their founding in New York City.

He counseled many National Presidents of the AOH on the intricacies and pitfalls of the New York City Irish and Irish-American social and political scene. His story telling of the origins of disputes going back 50 years would soon lead to sidebars about who was related to whom by blood or marriage. He often would give such detail that the listener had to remind him how the story originally started to get him back on track.

A bachelor all his life, Frank still chose his battles wisely. Once he reminded me that if my wife didn't work my taxes would be far less. I asked that he be the one to tell Nurse

Hogan she shouldn't work. The subject never came up again.

Frank was mindful of all the protocols of hosting a Hibernian officeholder having served in most of the capacities himself. But there was one exception. He would regularly pick up Hibernian dignitaries at NYC airports who then had to sit in the back seat while Fiacra, his Kerry Blue Irish Terrier rode shotgun. No one dared complain.

He was a history scholar, knew his Gaelic and his Gaelic games, and made sure the Digest gave new life and coverage to Hibernian support for these and for projects helping to feed the hungry, for support of seminarians and those called to a religious vocation. He was a proud Hibernian and it showed in all he did.

But the true measure of Frank can be found in ways few saw. He was a caregiver to his aged parents for as long as he could and regularly visited his mother when more care was needed. Much more than that you never heard him complain about it. He was a good and faithful son. He was a friend who would often be there when others who claimed such status were not. He made a special effort to connect a couple who just lost a child with a priest who especially helped bereaved parents. Such was his concern for their hurt. He made sure that his home was a first stop for Offaly friends and family and would clear his schedule to help with a visit from a disabled friend. He counseled and helped many an illegal—some not even Irish—if he thought he could help them beat the INS or the IRS.

There is many a lad at McDwyers who will miss the 'craic' with Frank. There are many in the Hibernian family who will miss his stewardship of the Hibernian Digest. I will miss him as a true friend. May the good God above now grant him his crown!



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**Publisher O'Dowd addresses Senate committee**

ILIR Chairman Niall O'Dowd received a warm welcome at the US Senate Immigration Hearings on July 12. Both Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA) and Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA) thanked the ILIR for supporting the Senate hearings.

Mr O'Dowd put a human face on an issue which is so often debated in facts and figures.

Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL) was taken aback by the news that the families of President Reagan and President Kennedy would be unable to enter the US now legally.

Irishlobbyusa.org will be posting reports on their website over the coming days. We include the testimony of Mr. O'Dowd for those who were unable to make it to the hearings.

"My name is Niall O'Dowd I am Founder and Chairman of the Irish Lobby for Immigration Reform and also founder and Publisher of Irish Voice Newspaper and Irish America Magazine the two largest Irish American publications.

I am a native of Ireland, once undocumented, but now a proud American citizen.

I have lived the emigrant dream in America since coming here in 1979. I started a newspaper with less than \$1,000 dollars in 1979 in California and made a success of it. Currently, I employ 22 people in New York City running both of my companies.

But I come here representing the



Mr O'Dowd speaksto the panel with vice-chairman Ciaran Staunton, (left) and ILIR volunteer Caroline Lynch, (r).

50,000 Irish undocumented in the United States and the millions of Irish Americans who are looking for a resolution to this issue.

Since the inception of the Irish Lobby for Immigration Reform last December we have held scores of public meetings across the United States attended by thousands and have held two lobbying days in Washington D.C. A total of over 5,000 Irish Americans from across the United States attended both lobbying days.

The facts are clear to us. Without immigration reform the Irish-born community in the United States will no longer exist and one of the greatest contributors to the success of this nation will be no more.

Our neighborhoods are disappearing, our community organizations are in steep decline. Our sporting and cultural organizations are deeply affected by the lack of emigration.

Meanwhile, our undocumented community is under siege. They can no longer travel to Ireland, even when family tragedies occur.

Their drivers licenses will not be renewed which means mothers can not drive their children to school. The day to day struggle of living illegally in America has taken a heavy personal toll on them. I submit that they deserve better.

Everything they have worked years for in America, building their own American dream is now falling around them and I submit that America will be the big loser.

I know that hundreds of these emigrants, Irish construction workers, worked with little more than their bare

hands to try to uncover bodies at Ground Zero after 9/11.

Irish labor union members and construction crews were among the first on the scene and they tried frantically to save lives working alongside rescuers who

included thousands of Irish American fire and police workers.

No one was calling them illegals then.

They did no more than previous Irish generations. As President Bush has stated "Throughout our history America has been greatly blessed by the innumerable contributions of the Irish." Unfortunately the contribution of Irish-born may be about to end.

If the Irish antecedents of Andrew Jackson, John F. Kennedy, Ronald Reagan or indeed, America's greatest dramatist Eugene O'Neill, were trying to enter the United States today they would have to do so illegally.

The sad reality is that there is simply no way for the overwhelming majority of Irish people to come to the United States legally at present.

So when people say to me that the Irish should get in line to come here I tell them there is no line we can join, no way the vast majority of our people can come legally to America.

As a July 10th op-ed article in the Wall Street Journal by 33 leaders of the Conservative movement noted "While immigrants continue to be drawn to the jobs created in this country they have no legal way to enter the country."

The figures for the Irish bear this out, of the almost 1 million green card visas given out last year about 2,000 went to the Irish. Since 1995 in the diversity visa program, which was intended in part to help old seed countries Ireland has been successful in obtaining one half of one per cent or 2,800 out of 553,000.

Such realities, however, have not stopped thousands of Irish doing what

generations of Irish have done since they served in George Washington's army - coming to America and living the American dream like generations before them.

Unfortunately, of course, they are undocumented which is why I am here today to tell their story.

I can tell you about Mary who is 36, whose brother was killed in a car crash a few months ago and she had to listen to his funeral down a phone line because she cannot go home and grieve with her family.

Yet she has boundless faith in the goodness of this country and has spent sixteen years making her life here.

She is now a registered nurse, a proud homeowner and intends to marry soon. Hospitals would snap her up in a moment if she became available. She deserves her American dream.

Then there is Brian, who is 32, a contractor, who was among the first to go to Ground Zero because he was working nearby

Brian continues to believe in his American dream. He has six Americans working full time for him, all legally and he looks forward to the day he can take his new wife back to Ireland and meet the families they have not seen for years.

Eamon who is 38, came over from Armagh in Northern Ireland 14 years ago. There were no jobs in his town because of the Troubles and the only recruiting was being done by paramilitaries. Here Eamon now runs his own roofing company and employs six persons legally.

So many others have grandchildren their grandparents have never seen, or live in daily fear of being deported or worse, a family tragedy back in Ireland which could end their lives here.

These are typical stories of the Irish undocumented here in America. They ask for just one thing - the opportunity to live their American dream like so many generations of Irish before them.

My deepest desire, and that of millions of Irish Americans around this great country, is that their wish can be granted. With your help I believe it can.

Thank you very much."



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# Tinker's Dam

by Fr. Kevin O'Neill Shanley



## Bishop Fulton J. Sheen: A preacher who became a media star

### Introduction

The visage and voice of Bishop Fulton J. Sheen was known throughout the U.S. and elsewhere during his career as a radio preacher on "The Catholic Hour" in the 1940s, and in the following decades as the media star on "Life is Worth Living" weekly TV show. His viewing and performance on TV earned him an appearance on the cover of the prestigious "Time" Magazine, and an "Emmy" Award as the top media star in the U.S. His great program even outclassed "The Texaco Star Theater" of comedian Milton (Uncle Miltie) Berle who graciously acknowledged Bishop Sheen (and his heavenly sponsor) as the top performer on TV.

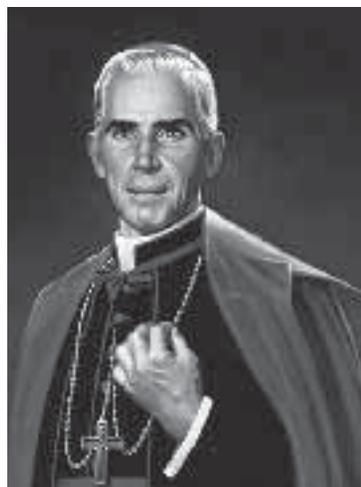
### A Long-ago Memory

As a high school seminarian in 1948-49, this writer vividly recalls the deep and fascinating baritone voice which invited listeners to seek God in all things. Later, on TV, his piercing, deep-set eyes invited all to the same purpose. His TV show was the first religious one on commercial television, sponsored by the Admiral (TV) Corporation, and was soon an overwhelming success.

But who was this priest-turned-media-star? According to some who knew him well, and others, he was the "Beloved Preacher and Teacher of the Word"; he was a priest deeply devoted to his Faith and to people of all Faiths. Born and raised in a large Irish Catholic family of share-cropper farmers in El Paso, IL, near Peoria, he was early noted for his piety and studiousness.

On Sept. 20, 1919, Fulton Sheen was ordained to the priesthood. And on that day he established two hallmarks of his priesthood: he resolved to offer the Holy Eucharist each Saturday in honor of the Blessed Mother for her protection of his priesthood; and he also promised to make a Holy Hour each day before the Blessed Sacrament. He kept both resolutions throughout his life.

Following ordination, he was sent to the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., where he would eventually join the faculty. He also attended the University of Louvain in Belgium from which he received his



doctorate in philosophy in 1923.

### Life in a Parish

When he returned to the Diocese of Peoria, he was appointed as a lowly parish assistant priest. He plunged into the parish apostolate in the same way he plunged into everything in life: joyfully and wholeheartedly. His outlook in life was that everyone's vocation was to be like Mary, through God's grace, to lovingly and humbly bear Christ within and then usher Him in service to one another.

### A Media Career

After doing parish work and teaching at Catholic University, he began his preaching career on radio and then TV. He was given his own half-hour TV Show entitled "Life is Worth Living" on DuMont TV. The show made its debut on Feb. 12, 1952, for a season of 26 episodes at a cost of \$1 million. His salary of \$26,000 per show was always unhesitatingly handed over each week to the Society of the Propagation of the Faith, as he

had resolved to refuse any personal financial reimbursement for his outstanding services. He appeared in his recently acquired bishop's robes.

That same year he was nominated for, and won, TV's prestigious Emmy Award as "Most Outstanding Television Personality." Most unusually, Bishop Sheen found himself at a loss for words. But with a twinkle in his eye, he announced, "I wish to thank my four writers, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John."

The Advertising Club of New York also awarded Bishop Sheen the title "Our Television Man of the Year." And in a nation-wide poll, "Radio and Television Daily" named him TV's "Man of the Year." And the great American publication, "Look Magazine" recognized "Life is Worth Living" as the best religious program in the U.S. three different times. Bishop Sheen's alma mater, The Catholic University of America, presented him with the Cardinal Gibbons Medal for his service to the Lord, America, and C.U. And, in that same year, the Freedom Foundation of Valley Forge in Pennsylvania recognized Bishop Sheen and his program for contributing to the American Way of Life.

Even his fan mail was beyond expectation with as many as eight to twenty-five thousand letters a day arriving!

As director of the mission-fund raising Propagation of the Faith, Bishop Sheen also gave women positions of authority. And as a conciliar bishop at the Second Vatican Council, he regretted that his request for a document about women in the Church and the world did not come to pass. His high esteem for women and his love for the Blessed Mother were tied together. He discovered that the level of any civilization could be measured by the level of its care for women.

### Opposition to Communism

Another important aspect of Bishop Sheen's life was his opposition to Communism, which he began in the early 1930's. As he pointed out

about this evil: "Brotherhood became revolutionary proletariat; sacrifice became violence; and the will of God became the will of the dictator." But his outstanding convert from Communism was "Daily Worker" editor Louis Budenz.

Bishop Sheen was also a personal friend of Pope Pius XII and Pope John XXIII. But as 8th auxiliary bishop of the Arch-diocese of New York, he didn't get along well with Cardinal Francis Spellman, his superior. Not long afterward, Bishop Sheen was appointed bishop of the Diocese of Rochester, N.Y., at the age of 71. The transition was not easy for him. He never quite enjoyed the popularity or esteem of the clergy or people of the new diocese, as he had previously on a national scale.

His opposition to the Vietnam War also created a difficult situation for Bishop Sheen. In addition, his attempts to create affordable housing for minorities lessened his acceptance by his people, and clergy. It was not a happy time in his life but he refused to complain.

### More Than a Media Star

It should be remembered of Bishop Sheen that he was far more than a media star. He was above all a priest with a single-minded determination to bring people to God. Although he counted the rich and famous among his converts, he was a friend and benefactor to many poor, sick and lonely people and not a few hardened sinners. As Pope John Paul II said of him, he was "a loyal son of the Church."



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## Irish American Cultural Institute Announces the Departure of The Irish Way

The Irish American Cultural Institute is proud to announce the departure of this year's Irish Way Program. 74 students from 24 different states and 1 student from Canada are attending this summer's program.

Now celebrating its 30th year, the Irish Way is a unique educational program for American high school students introducing them to the rich history and culture of Ireland firsthand. The Irish Way Program has over 3,000 alumni from across the United States.

The students began their journey in Ireland at Kings Hospital Boarding School in Dublin taking classes in Irish folklore, Gaelic language, Irish

and Irish American history, music, literature, dance, and sports. Field trips include a visit to Glendalough, an ancient Monastery in the Wicklow Mountains, the 5,000-year old site of Newgrange, a tour of Belfast, and a visit to the Antrim Coast to visit the Giant's Causeway and Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge.

During the second week of the program, students have the opportunity to live with an Irish family. Many students find this to be the most cherished aspects of the program. A full spectrum of experiences ranging from life on a dairy farm to living in the center of Dublin, makes each

students' journey unique.

On July 13th, the students returned from home stay to the city of Waterford, where the students continue in another week of classes and workshops at Newtown Boarding School. In addition to their classes, students will participate in field trips throughout southeastern Ireland, including, Blarney Castle, Cobh Heritage Center, and a special tour of the famous Waterford Crystal Factory.

After completing classes in Waterford, the Irish Way students traveled to Galway City. While in Galway, students visited the Rock of Cashel, spent a day on the famous Aran Islands, and visited the Cliffs of Moher and Connemara

region. To learn more about what is happening day to day on the program, you can visit [www.iaci-usa.org](http://www.iaci-usa.org) where you will find an online diary that highlights the students' journey.

The IACI is a federally recognized 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit national organization committed to the exploration and appreciation of Irish culture. Founded in 1962, the Irish American Cultural Institute (IACI) is the leading Irish American cultural organization with the President of Ireland as its Patron.

Irish American Cultural Institute, 1 Lackawanna Place, Morristown, NJ 07960; [www.iaci-usa.org](http://www.iaci-usa.org)

## Stay at Castledaly Manor in the heart of Ireland

This stately manor house, built in the 1760s, was for generations the residence of a family named O'Daly. Today, beautifully restored Castledaly Manor is a charming country inn with 22 guest rooms. Each room combines gracious living with modern comfort. This 250 year old Manor is located in the Irish Midlands within easy driving distance of Dublin and Galway, is surrounded by 37 acres of pasture and woodland with a large pond, small streams, and several foot paths.

Combining the best of bygone eras with modern conveniences, guests enjoy refreshing walks as well as nearby horseback riding, and fishing. Golfers appreciate the five championship golf courses within a 30 minute drive of the Manor. The beautiful monastic site of Clonmacnoise and Birr Castle are also nearby. Birr Castle is the site of a world famous observatory.

The climate of the Irish Midlands is full of surprises. While there is plenty of rainfall in Ireland, the weather is rarely stormy. Winters are the biggest surprise. They are warm enough to permit golf and comfortable sightseeing. Snow is unusual and rarely lasts more than a day. The Irish winter has never disturbed the palm trees on the property! January is more like autumn in the Midwest USA, and many of the guests find it to be one of the nicest months of the year. Days are short and sunny and early evenings invite friendly socializing around a turf fire... an event to be savored at the Manor House or in one of the many pubs nearby.

Call toll free (888) 942-5273 or visit the website at [www.irishinnsandtours.com](http://www.irishinnsandtours.com).



Irish Way students met with the current U.S. Ambassador to Ireland, James Kenny. (l to r): Megan Harf, NY; Siobhan Smith, NY; Ambassador Kenny; Ryan Gleason, NJ, 2004

## "Irish Classic" Vacation Takes Visitors to the Four Provinces of Ireland

For an in-depth visit to the Emerald Isle, CIE Tours International is offering the Irish Classic vacation, a 13-day fully escorted tour that covers the whole island - north south, east and west, priced from \$1,698 for land-only or from \$1,996 including Aer Lingus airfare from New York or Boston; or from \$2,024 from Chicago. Departures are scheduled on Wednesdays and Fridays through October 27th.

The itinerary, which starts and finishes in the capital city of Dublin, presents a complete circular tour of all of the prime sightseeing highlights of Ireland including Downpatrick, Mountains of Mourne, Belfast, Glens of Antrim, Giant's Causeway, Derry, Bushmills, Belleek, Donegal, Sligo, Westport, Galway, Connemara, Clare Coast, The Burren, Killarney, the Ring of Kerry, Blarney, Cobh, Waterford, and Glendalough.

Activities and special experiences include a catamaran cruise of Killary Harbor; ferry ride across Strangford Lough: tour of Belfast with a local guide; walking tours in Derry and Waterford; and whis-

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# CHICAGO Gaelic News

BY PAT HENNESSY



## Thrilling Hurling and Football Games at Gaelic Park

Senior hurling and football games together with junior football, Camogie (Ladies hurling) and Ladies football are in full swing now as all teams are getting ready for the final this month. Winners in all grades will contest the North American Board championship over the long Labor Day weekend and each individual winner, including the very active Juveniles, will carry the big honor of representing Chicago.

Large crowds are expected during this month to witness what promises to be some thrilling encounters in all grades. CuChulianns, hurling champions for the past three years, will be anxious to make it four in a row, but hard hitting Harry Boland's, back after a years absence, will be all out to dethrone the champs, and go on to win their 14th American

crown. Likewise powerful St. Brendan's champions for the past 2 years will be favourites to make it three in a row. Hopefully, Wolfe Tones will also be competing and if they are, some exciting moments can be expected, as the Tones and other clubs get ready to spring a surprise.

In junior football, St. Brendan's, always a power, will again be favourites but Wolfe Tones and others will not be eliminated easily. Camogie and Ladies football, always capable of producing thrills a minute, are expected to serve up some excitement all through the games. And not to be outdone, Chicago Juveniles under some great managers including former chairman of the board, great Wicklow gael, Joe Begley, always provide some thrilling encounters.

Gaelic Park is located at 6119 West 147th Street, in Oak Forest, on the southwest side of Chicago. It can be reached from 147th Street, from Harlem going east

and from Cicero, traveling west. Lots of free parking is available, and refreshments and food is also on the menu. A spacious Picnic area with swings is also available, so families can bring along the kids and watch the games and the kids at the same time, whilst enjoying a cold Guinness, Smithwick or soft drink. For more information call Gaelic Park at, 1-708-756-9323 or listen to the fine Irish radio program broadcast every Sunday evening for 7-9pm, over station WCEV, 1450 AM with commentators, Mary Riordan, Harry Costello and Mary Hackett. Live broadcasts of the major games in Ireland are also televised to Gaelic Park, every Sunday morning, starting at 9.00am. Or website [chicago-gaelicpark.org](http://chicago-gaelicpark.org).

## Lady of Knock Day at Gaelic Park August 21

Our Lady of Knock will be honored at Chicago Gaelic Park starting at 7:00 PM on August 21st with a procession around the park holding lighted candles and reciting the Rosary. Fr. Kevin Shanley will officiate. In past years large crowds of people have made this walk reciting the rosary on the feast day of Our Lady of Knock. This year should be no exception as large groups

reaffirm their faith in our religion and celebrate the big day. For more information call Chicago Gaelic Park at 1-708-687-9323.

Our congratulations are expressed to Harry Costello and his fine committee who again this year sponsored the annual very successful Irish Feis at Gaelic Park. More than 2,000 Irish traditional dancers from all over the U.S. and Canada competed. Harry Costello, (man for all seasons) took over this mighty task from his good friend John Crean, and as usual did a tremendous job. Gur a mile mait agat, a cara.

## Grand Irish Lady Dies

After celebrating a happy 90th birthday recently surrounded by her Mulryan-McAuliffe family, Mary Mulryan-McAuliffe passed to her well earned Eternal Reward two weeks afterwards. Eldest daughter of the late legendary Chicago Gael and Irish Nationalist, Mike (Evergreen) Mulryan, Mary who gladly stepped into the role of "mother", after the untimely death of her own mother, made a legion of friends in the Chicago area, especially beautiful Mount Greenwood where she and her devoted late husband Tom, well known Chicago Teamsters Union official, made their beautiful home and raised a lovely family.

The late Mary grew up in an Irish Nationalist home and from an early age she and the entire family including the late Pat, well known Chicago head electrician, at the Chicago Rainbow Beach Filtration Plant, Joan, Rita and the late Loretto were "well schooled" by loving parents of Ireland's freedom fight and the games, culture, song, dance and music of the gael. Harry Boland, a legendary figure in the cause for freedom made the Mulryan home in Chicago his home during a visit with Eamon DeValera, former Taoiseach and President of Ireland, to Chicago in 1920. Boland himself a great Dublin hurler played in the hurling game that historic Sunday at Chicago Gaelic Park at 4700 So. California Ave. to the delight of thousands of Chicago gael.

All of this great Irish nationalism was passed on to the late Mary and it was she who in turn made sure that her own fine family led by son Thomas who now is the "Keeper of the Flame" in the grand tradition of his famed grandfather. We had the honor and pleasure of presenting "The GAA Scroll of Honor" to the late Mary a few years ago who proudly received it on behalf of her

beloved father, who was without a doubt not only the guiding light who led the Chicago GAA here in the twenties, but who also with others kept the spirit of the games alive, during the 30' and 40's. He inspired the reactivation of the association here in 1949 and was also co-founder of the famed Harry Boland Hurling Club, founded in 1925 and still going strong.

Her huge wake at Andrew McGann's on Sunday and the celebration of holy mass for the happy repose of her soul at St. Christina's before burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery afterwards, testified to the popularity of the fine Irish lady, who no doubt the poet had in mind when he wrote, "O those little Irish mother's going from us one by one who will write the story of the good that they have done." Ar dheis De go raibhn an ainm.

## The Kingdom Grit

In a fine Chicago Tribune story recently writer Rick Kogan tells his countless readers of the "True Grit" of the well known and popular Chicago Alderman Patrick O'Connor (son of the great Chicago gael, Pat, a proud Kingdom lad) who beat the dreaded cancer disease with typical Kingdom grit.

The Alderman relives that dreaded moment in the doctor's office when he is told "you have cancer", and the effect those few words can have on a person's life. "It refocuses your life", he said. It's something that I could have lived without, but I am happy I am living with it. I appreciate things more, my family, a good day". Spoken in the typical language of a lad from the Kingdom of Kerry. Its a tough game but I can win.

Alderman Pat, is the floor leader for Mayor Richard M. Daley in the City Council and as such he has been very helpful in having Resolutions for Irish causes, passed unanimously. He is also the chairman of Education Affairs and is a powerful voice for Chicago schools and teachers. Pat Sr. is a former Chicago St. Pats gaelic football star and wore the famed green and gold of his Kingdom before coming to the U.S. We offer our best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery

## Former Taoiseach Charles Haughey Dies

The death of former Taoiseach Charles Haughey in Ireland recently removed from the Irish political scene, a legendary figure who left a lasting legacy that will live forever. Love him or hate him it was he who defined Irish politics for more than half a century



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and, no doubt about it, put Ireland on the right road for the Celtic Tiger fame.

With the economy at a low ebb in the 80's and thousands fleeing the country for want of work, Charles Haughey was not afraid to take the tough measures and by so doing turned things around. His investment in education is still being talked about when people chat about the Celtic Tiger, and his close friendships with U.S. multinationals sealed the deal.

His passage of the Succession Act providing help for widows after the death of husbands and his public access for senior citizens was a gem. And what Irishman or woman at home or in exile will ever forget his turning the "blind eye" when guns were shipped to those in Ulster who needed them to defend against Orange mobs.

Our own P.J. O'Dea (The man from Clare) had a close relationship with the Haughey family because of his close friendship with the Taoiseach's brother Sean with whom he played football. He tells us that the Haughey family had a great love for Ireland and its people and every decision that he made was for the betterment of the country.

Charles Haughey's great legacy will outlive his many critics and his countless friends at home and in exile will long mourn his passing as we extend our deepest sympathy and condolences to his charming wife Maureen and fine family. Ar dheis De go raibhn an ainm.

### Death of a Well Known Chicago Gael

The recent death of Joe Ahern, here cast a huge cloud of sadness over the entire Chicago gaeldom, where he was well known and respected. The proud Cork gael with his brother Tony were members of the famed Harry Boland hurling club as well as being involved in many other Irish clubs and activities over the years.

He was with Liam O'Brien, Johnny Lynch, John Crean and others when the first move was made to gather funds for the erection of Chicago Gaelic Park began and he remained an active member of this committee until the first sod was turned over. He was a dedicated gael and when Chicagoans gathered together to protest the hunger strike in the early 80's when ten brave young men were dying from hunger strike, fighting an edict from Maggie Thatcher, Joe Ahern was up front and center in the cause.

We join with his many friends in extending our deepest sympathy to his loving wife and family and to brother Tony and his family. Ar dheis Go raibhn an ainm.

### Former Chicago Hurler Injured in Truck Accident

Former Chicago fine hurler Jimmy Moylan, of St. Vincents suffered a serious injury recently in a truck accident. He is recovering in hospital. His countless friends in Chicago gaeldom are urged to say a prayer for his speedy and complete recovery. A proud native of Tipperary and as sweet a caman wielder as ever graced Chicago playing fields Jimmy wreaked havoc with many a good defense line. Beannact De leat a cara

### Good Friend Passes

Shortly after co-chairing a giant Chicago Fund Raiser for a well known Chicago southside church, the charming Donna Earner developed an illness which caused her untimely death recently at her home in Sun City, Florida. Upon learning of her death, His Eminence Francis Cardinal George sent his blessing and kind words to her brokenhearted husband Gene and his family.

Cardinal George wrote, "When I saw Pr. Dan Mallett yesterday he told me about the death of your wife Donna. Please accept my deepest condolences on this great loss, and please extend them to your children. I remember having had the pleasure of meeting both you and Donna several years ago at the St. Patrick's Day Party at St. Margaret of Scotland Parish. Thank you for your life of faith, especially for your tireless support of St. Margaret of Scotland, which helps that parish bring together its many current and former members in worship and celebration."

We join with the many Chicago friends, including Deirdre O'Reilly, the famed Irish singer, Frank O'Hara and his great Irish band, and Jerry O'Loughlin, famed Irish dance teacher, Mary Fahey and others in offering our deepest sympathy and condolences, to Gene and his fine family. Beannact De leat, a cara agus Ar dheis De go raibhn an ainm.

### Congratulations Mayor Daley

Mayor Richard M. Daley and his powerful Chicago Olympic Committee traveled to California to present Chicago's opening presentation (in its desire to stage the 2016 Summer Olympic in the Windy City) recently, and no doubt left a lasting impression

of being able to accomplish the huge task. At home the confidence is over 80 percent in a poll of Cook County residents conducted in June.

Led by Patrick Ryan, of AON Corp, Miles White, Abbott Labs and representatives from other well known establishments, Allstate Corp., Boeing Co., Northwestern Trust, Zenith Electronics and a host of others, this committee is capable of doing anything for Chicago and Mayor Daley. It's a win-win situation for all concerned even without local tax revenue.

A successful Olympic hosting would no doubt make Chicago a world envied city and establish it as a Mecca for future vacation goers from all over the world. A suggested tab for making all of this come true is in the region of four billion dollars. One billion for construction and three for operations. Olympic revenue from tickets, sponsorships and broadcast rights should cover operations and then some, according to the experts. Olympics in the U.S. in the past, Los Angeles, Atlanta and Lake City were all profitable.

All of this speculation is just that until the U.S. Olympic Committee decide to make a bid for the 2016 Games. They will pick a city by March. The U.S. host city will be picked in 2009. But, as now all systems are "GO." "Go Go" Chicago and congratulations to Mayor Daley for providing the leadership.

If all this comes to pass in 2016, it's also the 100th anniversary of the glorious Irish Easter Rising in Dublin. The big occasion will expect the governing bodies of Chicago Gaelic Park and the Irish Heritage Center, at that time, to have in place a suitable program to present to a world wide audience. This golden occasion must not be missed especially if Ireland is still divided and unfree. Beannact De ar an oibre a cairde.

### Irish Language in U.S. Universities

Now recognized in the European Community as Ireland's national language Irish, or Gaelic as it is called sometimes, is also experiencing a minor renaissance in several U.S. universities including Notre Dame in Indiana, New York, Boston and Houston, Texas. Of the 51 university's outside Ireland that teach Irish, 29 are in the U.S.

Brian Laverty from Dublin tells us that the Irish government began a Fund last year that will grant 36,000 Euros to help international colleges and universities establish such promotional programs. And this Fall, the local branch of Fulbright Commission

will for the first time assist native born teachers in universities. "We can't get enough teachers", Says Carmel Coyle, Director of the Irish Fulbright Commission.

Notre Dame first taught Irish in the 1860's but discontinued it in the 1950's. The reason given, "Earlier Irish generations in the U.S. couldn't be ethnic." Now, according to the Director of Languages, "They want to connect. The number of students enrolled in Irish classes abroad has risen from 114 to 296 in three years. That enthusiasm surprises people in Ireland."

"It's a battle here for Irish kids to learn the Irish language," said Aibhistin O Coimin at Wesley College School, Dublin, who will be coming to Boston to teach Irish this summer. "We can raise the perceived status of the language at home by showing that it's taught abroad as well," said Deaglan O'Brian, a policy officer with Gaeltacht Affairs.

In Chicago, Gaelic has been taught for some time at Chicago Gaelic Park and The Irish Heritage Center. For more information call Gaelic Park 1-708-687-9323.

### Pilgrimage to Croagh Patrick Co. Mayo

Last month thousands of faithful from all over the world made the annual pilgrimage to Croagh Patrick in Mayo. It is the sacred and beautiful mountain where St. Patrick is believed to have spent 40 days and nights in fasting and praying.

It is also believed that for his endurance and prayer the national Apostle of Ireland, St. Patrick, received a promise from God that the Irish people would never lose the faith of their fathers. That promise is remembered in the beautiful Irish hymn, "Faith of our Fathers living still, we will be true to Thee 'til death."

A top of the rocky mountain, pilgrims gather, many of whom crawl up on their knees, to join in the beautiful celebration of Mass and to reaffirm again that the Irish at home and in exile will never lose the faith. As we in exile join with those pilgrims from all over the world -- we repeat the grand old words, "In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword, we will be true to Thee 'til death."

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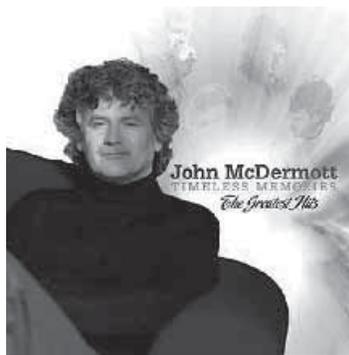
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John was discovered quite by chance, when working as the veteran circulation manager for the Toronto Sun, he belted out an impromptu rendition of "Danny Boy" at a company party.

Executives in attendance at the party helped fund John's first album, Danny Boy, which was originally recorded as a very private and personal 50th anniversary tribute for his parents. Its quality could not be ignored and it eventually found its way into the hands of EMI Music Canada. Danny Boy subsequently garnered strong sales for a debut release in Canada and the U.S.; it even reached number one on New Zealand's album charts, and was certified double platinum in that country. This success, led to his participation in the PBS phenomenon The Irish Tenors. John's presence helped generate a US gold record, 3 US tours and a high-profile media schedule including appearances on Good Morning America and The Today Show.



Timeless Memories features 19 of John's best-loved classics. John's clear, expressive voice and rich tenor is deeply affecting, particularly when evoking the complex emotions found in folk music. The universal motif of remembering those no longer present, and taking a moment to appreciate how those who are with us have, in some way, touched our lives that gives John's music a unique appeal. As a result, he is an artist whose sense of respect for tradition and understanding of the sentiment behind the music resonates worldwide.

Clancy Londra Promotions, 4402 23rd St., Studio 8, 5th Flr, Long Island City, NY 11101; 917-402-3616 718-530-2761; Release 8-29-06

**Pléráca**

Produced by Noel Rice, All arrangements by the Academy of Irish Music

"Whenever the word 'Pléráca' occurs in any Irish song or rhyme of the last 100 years, it is in the sense of abandonment, ...carried out in all imaginable riotous and reckless gaiety." - Eugene O'Currey, Gaelic Language expert, mid-1800's

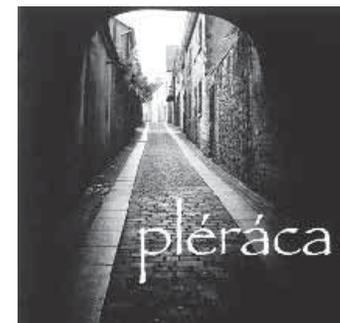
This recording by the Academy of Irish Music in Chicago is a true musical delight. From classical violin, viola, or cello, to first-timers in Irish music, Director Noel Rice encourages experimentation in new ways of presenting old music and finds a way to include everyone. Students are encouraged to build on basic tunes, to come up with creative, supportive and tasteful musical phrases, harmony lines and so on in a very lighthearted trial-and-error environment overseen by Noel.

For their performances, these young musicians set themselves up on stage, plan their own performance and deliver music to the standard you hear on this album without the direct involvement of their teacher. Their presentations are classy, professional and enjoyable. The Academy's objectives are met every time and the students are out front, not the teacher. The age old Eastern adage comes to mind. "The teacher and the taught make the teaching"... a job expertly done.

Inspired by the strong, vibrant Irish

Music scene in the city of Chicago, these young musicians came together looking for a new outlet for their musical aspirations, and found that outlet with each other. They have been together for more than a decade, all the while growing musically. Because of their frequent performances they have gained confidence, stage presence and maturity in their playing,

"...a gorgeous recording laden with skillfull arrangemnets based on some of our contemporary Irish tunes, and some of our most ancient known



works." - John Daley, Chicago  
Produced by Noel Rice; 847-564-1338; nrice@interaccess.com

**Pauline Scanlon  
Hush**

"Her voice is a superb mix of china cup fragility & steely resilience." — Irish Times



The first album by enchanting young Irish vocalist Pauline Scanlon, 2004's Red Colour Sun, introduced the world to a singer with

a disarmingly pure tone, ravishing interpretive abilities, and a wide-ranging set of influences that had already coalesced into a mature, unique sound. Available August 15 on Compass Records, Hush is a powerful, impressive step forward. Throughout Hush, Scanlon further explores elements outside of her native Irish tradition, while simultaneously reaffirming her roots in that tradition and illuminating the vast influence Irish music has had on other genres. Scanlon's musical partner, former Lunasa guitarist Donogh Hennesy, ingeniously shapes the instrumental landscape, bridging formidable musical gaps with endless facility and grace. "This album," Scanlon says, "is as much his as it is mine." [www.compassrecords.com](http://www.compassrecords.com).

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to present. Take a break from watching sports or playing pool to sit at the turn-of-the-century back bar originally constructed for the Schlitz Brewing Company.

The Brehon has an interesting history. The title is no misnomer-Brehon is the name of the ancient Irish legal system. Appropriately, the pub was formerly a front in a secret operation to set up crooked city inspectors. Hopefully the crooks and/or detectives had a chance to have the famous open-faced Sloppy Joe before being sent off to the slammer. This may be the only Irish pub north of New Orleans to serve the muffaletta sandwich-smoked ham, salami, provolone cheese and spicy olive mix. The grilled steak sandwich, grilled portabello sub or BBQ

meatloaf sandwiches will fill you up while you enjoy the weather under umbrellas on the outdoor patio from March 1st to December 1st.

Entrees range from beer battered fish and chips to grilled mahi-mahi and sirloin steaks. Very reasonably priced food and drink specials ensure a steady string of regulars for lunch and after-work. If you're looking for a low-key place to hang out and play pool in River North, check out the Brehon Pub at 731 N. Wells (corner of Wells and Superior, brown line Chicago Ave). Hours are 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Mon.-Fri., noon-3 a.m. Saturday and noon-2 a.m. Sunday, 312.642.1071. It's a real gem to the area with a friendly staff and welcoming ambiance. You'll wonder why you haven't stopped in before.

# B Full Irish Breakfast

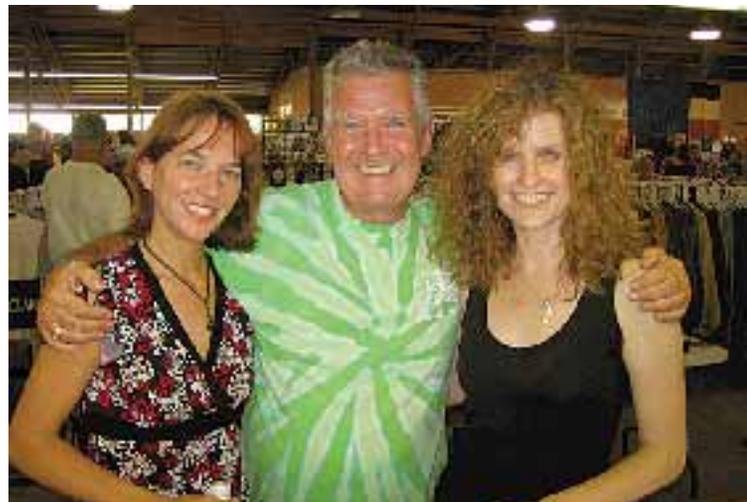
by Maureen Callahan



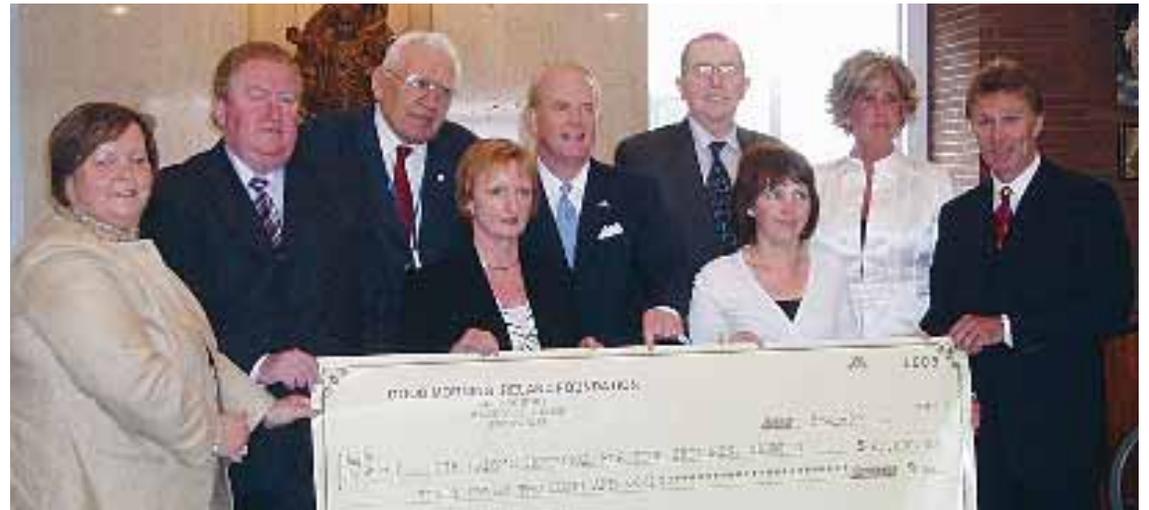
## Pull Up a Chair in Chicago's Furniture District at the Brehon Pub

"We've been serving Guinness, not gimmicks, since 1980," according to the pub's history as narrated on the cover of the menu. Stop in and you'll realize the truth of the statement. The original tin ceiling and brass taps hint at its 1871, right-after-the-Chicago-fire construction. Proud to be a half-Irish, half-Chicago pub, the Brehon is a cozy place to stumble upon with perfectly poured Guinness and a casual, reasonably priced menu with great food. It's a real testament to what a good, friendly neighbor-

hood pub in Chicago should be. The appetizer list offers reliable standbys from buffalo fried shrimp to blackened chicken quesadillas to nibble on while you drain any one of your 19 draft beers. For something totally different, try out the nachos, done only as the Irish could. They're similar to what you'd expect-cheese, beef, sour cream, guacamole, and beans served over waffle fries rather than chips. Enjoy them in the back room while you peruse the photographs depicting the development of the area from the late 1800's



Peggy Baker of Brigid's Cross, our own Shay Clarke, and Cathie Ryan, somewhere in Ohio festifying! Shay, you are having too much fun!



The very successful Good Morning Ireland Foundation fund-raiser held in October, 2005 raised over \$67,000 for charity. Foundation representatives presented a check to Our Lady's Hospital, Crumlin in Ireland. Pictured (l to r): Josephine Regan, John Gurhy, Frank Feely, James Kenny - American Ambassador to Ireland, John Cahill, Maureen Cahill, Eamon Coghlan, Deirdre Coaxley, and Trudy Bennett.



Members of the Kerry Association and their families celebrate America's Independence Day at their annual picnic in July.

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Join the fun departing March 15th with roundtrip airfare from CHICAGO, all inter-island flights, transfers, baggage handling, tourist bottles, escorted sightseeing and tax included. Think about it, 88 degrees and a St. Patrick's Day Parade along world-famous Waikiki Beach. After the parade join the block party at Murphy's Bar and Grill and O'Leary's Pub. Enjoy a pint with Hawaii's Society of the Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick.

For information, reservations and a free brochure:  
**Call 1-800-729-6729**




Up and coming talent performing at the Irish American Heritage Festival.  
 (All pictures by John O'Malley).



Having a good time at the Irish American Heritage Center Festival in July, 2006.

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Emerald  
Society  
Pipes & Drums

The Larkin & Moran Brothers, 9P

## SATURDAY, SEPT 16

Clowns, Jugglers 'n Stuff, 12-3P  
Oyster Cooking Demo, 2P  
Shuck 'n Suck Oyster Contest!, 3P  
(Register online or in person Saturday)



Irish Dancers

Donegal's Brendan Loughrey, 4P

Emerald Society Pipes & Drums, 7P  
Irish Step Dancers, 8P

Cirrus Falcon, 9P

## SUNDAY, SEPT 17

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"Fireplace Songs", 6P



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# Boyle the Kettle

By Tom Boyle

## We'll Have A Sup Of Tea

boylekettle@irishamericannews.com



**Stroger Circus**  
Alderman James Beaver is the ringmaster, or so he thinks. Alderman Beavers said, "nepotism is okay for whites, but when "we" do it, it's wrong!" What's wrong is the Democratic Party has abandoned Democratic principles. The primary election was meaningless. The voters decided Forest Claypool was clearly their second choice. Maine Township voted almost 80% for Forest Claypool. I wonder what the breakdown on voting was outside the city of Chicago?

Most suburbanites don't benefit very much from Cook County services, ie Stroger Hospital. The forest preserves are a shambles. There are a few that they showcase, but most are in disrepair, and poorly kept. The bottom line is the Democrats have morphed into a new political party, the "Nepocrats,"

who have no shame. Bobbie Steele has four of her seven children working for Cook County, three of them earning over \$82,000 a year, according to Steve Patterson, Chicago Sun-Times reporter. Bobbie Steele's comment, "I didn't hire them." Back to Alderman Beavers who wants his daughter to replace him on the Chicago City Council, when he fills Todd Stroger's seat on the Cook County Board. "Send in the clowns!" When the elephants enter the "Big Top," commissioner Anthony Peraica will be in the lead.

Worth repeating, Forest Claypool said, "A remarkable, almost breathtaking contempt for the voters and the taxpayers of Cook County." A blog on Alderman Beavers by "Blithe Spirit," July 5, 2006 "Utterly missing the elementary powers of abstraction."

... News flash! Bobbie Steele bows out of race because she didn't have a famous name. Oh well! What about "Famous Amos?" Another new flash! It's all over, Todd Stroger will carry the "Nepocrats" banner. I guess you have to come from the right gene pool to run for public office. Forest Claypool calls this "a coronation." Does that mean Todd Stroger is royalty? Do

you think he eats at Burger King? They give out crowns.

Does the Shackman Decree apply to nepotism? What if the father gave out patronage jobs? How does the Shackman Decree cover genetics? Will he have to give DNA samples if elected as President of the Cook County Board? Will Cook County employees have to give DNA samples, even if their

job is picking up road kill for the highway department? Absurd? You bet! I'll bet Patrick Fitzgerald is sharpening Elliot Ness' axe! Are you fed up or well fed? How will suburbia vote?

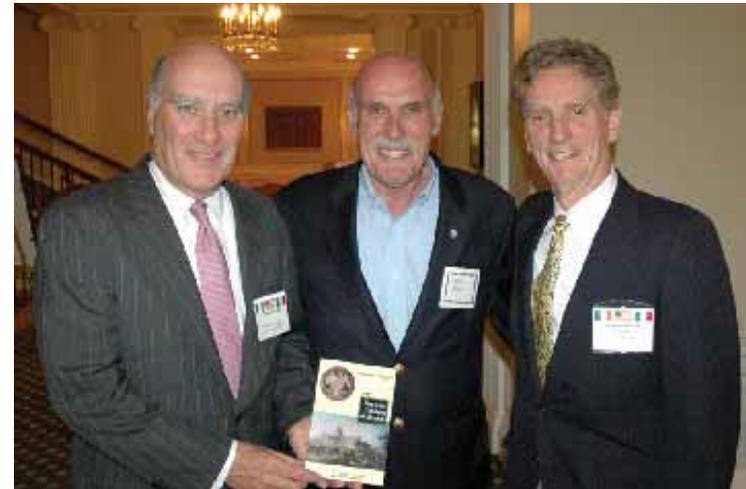
My apologies to those readers who are not interested in Cook County politics, however, there is no business like show business. It's time now for the elephants to bring down the "Big Top!"

Frank Duffy

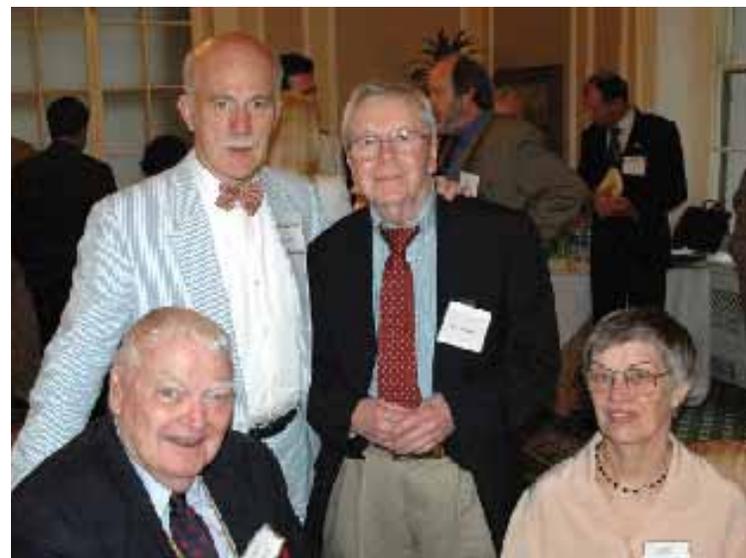
Our good friend and master craftsman at the Irish American Heritage Center took a very bad fall at his son's house. Frank underwent major surgery. He is



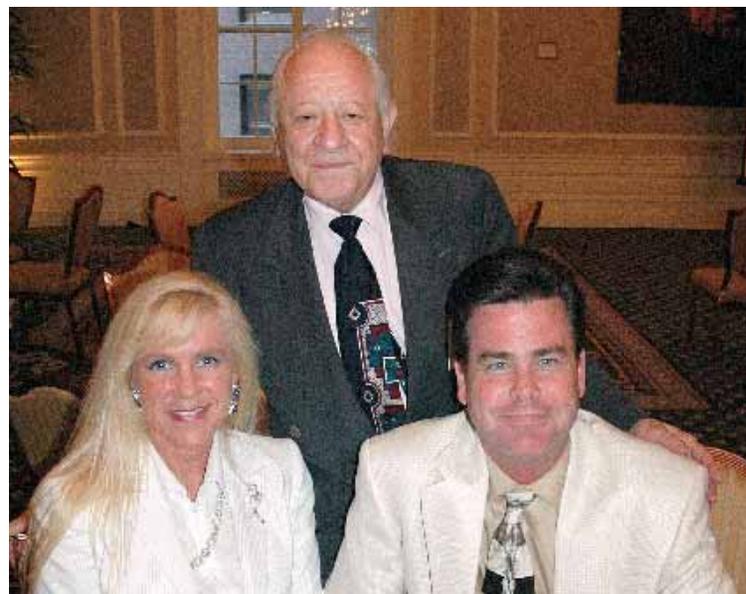
Frank Duffy working at the IAHC



(L): Former Secretary of Commerce, Bill Daley, holds Michael Hogan's (c) book, 'The Irish Soldiers of Mexico,' while James B. Sloan, organizer of the event honoring the San Patricios looks on.



(l to r): Professor Emmet Larkin, Bill Currie, Professor Lawrence McCaffrey and Mrs. Larkin



(l to r): Siobhan McKinney, Aruro Lenci, Brendan McKinney

on the mend, and resting comfortably at home. Get well Frank, we need you.

Irish American Heritage Center Festival

Congratulations to Bob McNamara and Pat Burke on a job well done, and the hundreds of volunteers who helped make the festival a cultural and financial success. The library, art gallery, and museum have never seen so many visitors.

Los San Patricios

The Mexican-American and Irish-American community turned out in force at the Union League Club of Chicago to honor the Irish heroes who fought in the army of Mexico in 1846-47. Many of the Irish gave their lives in defense of Mexico.

There is a monument to the Irish of the "batallon de San Patricio" in San Angel, Mexico (now Villa Obregon) and over a thousand people gather to honor those Irish who "gave their lives for the cause of Mexico" each September 12.

There is a full commemoration of the San Patricios held at the San Angel Monument on St. Patrick's Day each year when Mexican children read each name of the San Patricios out loud. Mexican schools include their story in history books.

...More pictures on page 39

# WANNA PLAY?

Young musicians come together to play Irish Music... and have a great time too!

The Academy of Irish Music students meet once a week at the Irish-American Heritage Center in Chicago. Students are divided into beginner, intermediate, and senior groups based on ability and experience. The children come from all over the Metropolitan area. Most of them participate in school bands and orchestras; many are Suzuki trained. These kids enjoy playing Irish music and making new friends.



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## Live Bait Theater's Grigsby Award For Excellence in Solo Performance Goes to Brigid Murphy

Live Bait Theater's annual "Grigsby" award for Exceptional Achievement in the Art of Solo Performance has been awarded to Brigid Murphy, honoring her exceptional achievement and unique talent as a solo performer, producer and nurturer of solo talent.

Ms. Murphy will be celebrated with an industry roast on August 26, 2006, at 7:00 pm (location to be announced) with those who know her, worked with her and have loved her throughout her amazing career. (Roasters to be announced at a later date.) Ticket prices are \$50 for VIP seats and \$35 for general admission.

Brigid began as a dancer, receiving a B.A. in performance and choreography from Columbia College. Brigid moved from dance to solo performance throughout Chicago, and in New York City.

She is best known as the creator and host of "Milly's Orchid Show", an Ed Sullivan meets The Grand Ol' Opry style variety show. Hosted by the wise cracking country singer Milly May Smithy (Played by Murphy), the show opened in Chicago in 1987, and soon moved to the Park West where it played to sell out crowds. Milly's Orchid Show also enjoyed two runs in New York.

Brigid was commissioned by the Lyric Opera of Chicago to create an opera-themed version of the show, and by the Chicago Theatre Group to inaugurate the



Brigid Murphy

opening of the Albert at the new Goodman Theatre.

As an M.F.A. student in the film studies program at Columbia College, Brigid was the recipient of the Follet Fellowship, the Rosebud award, and the Albert P. Weisman scholarship. In October of 2000, her thesis film "A Prince in the Projects" premiered in the Chicago International Children's Film Festival, the largest festival of its kind in the world. The film has screened in festivals throughout the country as well as in India and Australia. The

film has been licensed by the Instructional Telecommunications Foundation to be presented in schools across the country. Her first feature length screenplay, "Maggie Was Here" was selected as a finalist for the 2002 Sundance Writing and Directing Lab.

Brigid has worked on various film crews since 1987, directed staged readings for Famous Door Theatre's prestigious "Women at the Door" series, played saxophone with Poi Dog Pondering, taught in the film department of Columbia College, and studied writing at the University of Chicago with Molly Daniels.

Murphy was featured in the Museum of Contemporary Art's exhibit: "Art in Chicago 1945-1995", and received the Alumni Award from Columbia College for outstanding contribution to her field.

Her musical play "Without A Song", about her expe-

rience with cancer, completed a successful workshop production at The Goodman Theatre in June of 2005.

For the past three years, Murphy taught solo performance and began nurturing a whole new generation of solo artists. In 2004, she presented the fruits of their labors in the 2005 Fillet of Solo festival.

She directed "The Swinger" which was written and performed by Rob Shindler in 2004. Most recently, she directed the critically acclaimed "Golden Corral", written and performed by Joe Steiff at Live Bait Theater in 2006.

### Authentic Irish penny 1928-1968

In 1926 the government of the newly founded Irish free state formed a coinage committee to plan for the new Irish coinage (UK coins were the circulating Irish money). Irish poet William Butler Yeats was named the design committee's chairman.

Well known artists were asked to submit designs. The design committee decided the Irish harp, Ireland's national symbol in the 1500's, was to be used on all coins. The coin's reverse side, it was decided, would feature a series of farm animals so important to Ireland's mainly agricultural economy. Artist,

Percy Medcalf, an Englishman, submitted the best design. The Irish free state decided to use the English sterling instead of a independent Irish currency.

These coins were first minted in 1928 and last minted in 1968 which was the last year of the true Irish coin. The 1968 mint changed from sterling to decimal and to much smaller coins. The coins from the 1928 minting were really works of art. This penny is copper and the size of a Kennedy 50 cent piece, weighing nearly an ounce. At one time this penny was being melted down for it's copper. (see ad page 22).



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## Kitty O'Shea's Irish Pub Celebrates 20 Years of Service in the South Loop

Eamonn Brady, Hilton Chicago's Kitty O'Shea's Irish Pub Manager and staff celebrated the Pub's 20th anniversary with the first group, the Irish Fellowship of Chicago, to raise a glass of cheer on May 14, 1986.



Eamonn Brady and some of his original staff at Kitty O'Shea's cut the anniversary cake.



Current Kitty's staff.



Thomas J. Loughlin, General Manager, Hilton Chicago; Andrew Finn (original bartender) now Director of Finance; Mayor of Cork; and Eamonn Brady, original Pub Manager.

## August at Gaelic Park

Chicago Gaelic Park, the Irish Cultural Center located at 6119 West 147th Street will commemorate the Feast of Our Lady of Knock on Monday, August 21, 2006 at 7:30 p.m.

The miracle of Our Lady of Knock began on a misty, rainy evening in August 1879. Fifteen witnesses saw a bright light shine over the Knock Parish Church, an Apparition that included the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and Saint John. The faithful watched and recited the Rosary in its presence for two hours. Miracles began days after the Apparition. Over the years, the visitors to Knock, Co. Mayo, has grown to over half a million and has seen many other exceptional happenings including the healing of the terminally ill.

Gaelic Park honors this event with Benediction, Rosary and Procession to the Grotto led by Fr. Michael Boland and Fr. Kevin Shanley. Refreshments hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary will be available after the ceremony.

Gaelic Park's monthly Musical Luncheon is the exhilarating answer to August's hot summer days. The Musical Luncheon includes an afternoon of fun music and dancing by entertainer Sean O'Donnell along with a delicious sit down lunch. Doors open at noon on Wednesday,

August 3rd, with lunch served at 1 p.m. Tickets to this party are \$12 and reservations are required.

This month at the Carraig Pub enjoy the free weekend entertainment beginning Fridays at 9 p.m. and Saturdays at 10 p.m. This month's schedule includes:

Gerard Haughey on Friday, August 4th, The Ploughboys on Saturday, August 5th, Katie Sullivan Band on Friday, August 11th, Jerry Eadie on Saturday, August 12th, Velvet Green on Friday, August 18th, Dan McGuinness on Saturday, August 19th, Bernie Glim & Country Roads on Friday, August 25th and Mulligan's Stew on Saturday, August 26th.

Also taste the menu at the Carraig that includes daily food and drink specials such as mouth-watering BBQ ribs on Wednesdays.

Remember to listen every Sunday night from 7 to 9 p.m. to a live broadcast 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.

For further information, to reserve lunch tickets or to view a complete Carraig menu please visit [www.chicagogaelpark.org](http://www.chicagogaelpark.org) or call Gaelic Park at (708) 687-9323.

## Kansas City Fest features World-class Music

The Kansas City Irish Fest will carry on its tradition of bringing a lively and diverse range of Celtic sounds to Crown Center September 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. More than 20 national and local music acts are scheduled to perform on three outdoor stages, and the O'Riada Academy of Irish Dance will feature its annual "Feis" (dance competition), which will put more than 600 young Irish dancers in the spotlight.

Now in its fourth year, the KC Irish Fest continues to be one of the fastest-growing Irish festivals in the nation. Held on the grounds of Crown Center, the world headquarters for Hallmark Cards, the Irish Fest is set among green terraces, trees, and cool fountains. For those who like the non-traditional side of Irish music, the Fest will feature Celtic rock performers who infuse old-world themes with new-world sounds. Making its first-ever appearance at the Fest, Ireland based Hothouse Flowers is touring on the tail of its fifth studio album, "Into Your Heart."

Named for the multiple nations of the Celtic world, the hard-rocking New York City-based band Seven Nations has reached an even wider audience in the world of Celtic music, instilling bagpipes and tin whistles into its sets ever since it began in 1993.

Gaelic Storm rose to fame in 1997 as the "steerage band" in the blockbuster film Titanic, but that was only the tip of the iceberg. On the heels of its just-released album, "Bring Yer Wellies," this diverse group of entertainers will bring their high-energy show to the heartland.

Also debuting a new album, "Soapbox Heroes", Irish Fest wonder Enter the Haggis will dazzle listeners with Celtic and rock mixed with elements of bluegrass, funk, blues and Latin.

For those with a more traditional ear for Celtic music, the Fest features an array of top choices. The Bridies, whose members have played in both the "Lord of the Dance" and "Riverdance", bring blazing fiddles and vocals to match as a staple on the Irish Fest circuit. Grada has been together for only five years, but its unique time-honored sound and visionary albums have already won critics over. Ireland natives Luka Bloom, Seamus Kennedy, and John Spillane are also traditional acts that the Fest audience can enjoy.

An Irish Fest in Kansas City wouldn't be complete without hometown favorite, the Elders. Their raucous live shows and roots-rock beat have made them one of the most sensational and popular bands at the Fest, and on the American Celtic fest circuit.

Single day passes to the Kansas City Irish Fest are at [www.kcirishtfest.com](http://www.kcirishtfest.com) for \$8. Senior tickets are \$5, and weekend passes are available for \$20. Tickets at the gate are \$10, and children 12 and under are free. For those who want to stay close to the action, the Hyatt Regency (800-633-7313) and the Westin (800-937-8461) are offering discounted rates to festival-goers for \$89 and \$99 per night, respectively. Each reservation includes two tickets to the Fest. Early hotel reservations are recommended. Callers must ask for the Irish Fest rates.

## Dupage Symphony Orchestra presents Liz Carroll and John Doyle

September 9th at 7:00 p.m., World-renowned Irish fiddler Liz Carroll and guitarist John Doyle join the DSO at Cantigny to celebrate the captivating charm of the Emerald Isle, from the haunting beauty of its folk songs and ballads to the exuberant gaiety of its fiddling tradition. Don't miss this unforgettable evening, with music by Leroy Anderson, Frank Bridge, Liz Carroll, Charles Stanford and more!

Admission is \$15. for information or tickets call Cantigny at 630-260-8164, or visit [www.dupagesymphony.org](http://www.dupagesymphony.org). You can also call Kevin Dolan at 630-369-8475 or 630-569-8172. Cantigny park opens at 5 p.m.



Liz Carroll and John Doyle

## Gift Theatre's second season includes Irish plays 'Long Day's Journey Into Night' and 'Beauty Queen of Leenane'

The Gift Artistic Director Michael Patrick Thornton will direct *Long Day's Journey Into Night* by Eugene O'Neill, August 31-October 15, 2006 at the Jefferson Park theater.

Winner of the 1957 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, this play "of old sorrow, written in blood and tears" focuses on the turbulent Tyrone family's heartbreaking disintegration over one summer day. Considered one

of *Leenane* is the haunting story of Mag and Maureen Folan, a mother and daughter destined to be at war with each other forever. Winner of four Tony Awards.

"[McDonagh is] the most wickedly funny, brilliantly abrasive young dramatist on either side of the Irish Sea.... He is a born storyteller."—New York Times

Subscriptions to the 2006-07 The

Gift Theatre Season are currently available through the box office, by phone, (773) 283-7071 or online at [www.thegifttheatre.org](http://www.thegifttheatre.org). Subscriptions range in price from \$70-\$500 including Dinner Subscriptions with the famed Gale Street Inn.

The theatre is located at 4802 N. Milwaukee in two storefronts North of Lawrence, on the West side of Milwaukee.



Meet the Ensemble: Front Row L to R: Robert G. Keleghan, Alexandra Main, Michael Patrick Thornton, Maggie Andersen, Lynda Newton, Daniel J. Ahlfeld, Kenneth Mihlfried, Nikki Heverly. Back Row L to R: Brendan Donaldson, Benjamin Montague, Jenny Connell, William Nedved, Paul D'Addario, John Connolly. Not pictured: Mary Fons, Maureen Payne-Hahner, John Gawlik.

of the greatest plays of the 20th century, it was also considered so autobiographical, its publication was banned until twenty-five years after O'Neill's death.

The theatre company will also present Sheldon Patinkin directing Mary Ann Thebus as Mag Folan in *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* by Martin McDonagh January 25 – March 11, 2007.

Set in a town in Galway so blighted by rancor, ignorance, and spite that, as the local priest complains, "God Himself seems to have no jurisdiction here", *The Beauty Queen*

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## Chicago Celtic Fest's Sept. 16-17

Free summer music doesn't end in Grant Park after Labor Day. Find your Celtic side at Celtic Fest Chicago, September 16th and 17th in Grant Park. To celebrate its 10th anniversary, Celtic Fest will feature some of the finest talent from the past ten years such as headliners, La Bottine Souriante and Natalie MacMaster, as well as Brian McNeill and Baal Tinne just to name a few.

Celtic Fest Chicago provides young and old the opportunity to take a break from the routine one last time before summer is over. This year's festival will feature national and international musicians representing all seven Celtic nations on 9 stages. Headlining at the Petrillo Music Shell on Saturday, September 16, La Bottine Souriante and Kornog and on Sunday, September 17, Natalie MacMaster and the Bangor Male Voice Choir.

New this year, Celtic Men in Kilts! Guys, get in touch with your Celtic side, grab a kilt and head to the Celtic Voice Tent at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 16 for the Men in Kilts leg contest! All men must be 21 to enter and can sign up day of the contest beginning at 11:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. at the Media Tent located at Columbus and Jackson. Back by popular demand: the shepherding demonstration from 2-2:30 P.M. in Butler Field each day; the Céili Dance Tent and live Celtic music at the Gathering Tent.

Don't miss the Celtic Art Fair, where you're sure to find beautiful hand-knit Irish wool sweat-

ers, hand-crafted jewelry, photographs, paintings, and other great one-of-a-kind gift ideas. Also fun to watch: the Scottish heavy athletics competition, featuring the cabertoss; the harp tent; the dance stage, with Highland and Irish step dancing; the Kids Celtic Oasis or take a break at the coffee and tea garden. Finally at 11:15 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. daily, step off with the Bagpipe Parade and enjoy the pipes as they make their way down Columbus and Jackson.

A preview performance for Celtic Fest Chicago is scheduled for Wednesday, September 6 with Baal Tinne, a local Irish band, on Daley Plaza at Dearborn and Washington beginning from noon until 1:00 p.m. On Friday, September 15, The Hatfield Sisters and Brian McNeill will appear at the Chicago Cultural Centers' Preston Bradley Hall at 78 East Washington from 7:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m. Both performances are free.

Celtic Fest Chicago is presented by the Mayor's Office of Special Events and sponsored by Celebration Creamery, Time Out Chicago, Communications Direct, Hinckley Spring, La Grou Distribution, Inc., Pepsi, Chicago Tribune, CLTV, WGN, Essex Inn, Hyatt McCormick, Stewarts Coffee, AT&T Blue Room, National City, WXRT, Chicago Transit Authority, Rampant Lion Celtic Traders and Southwest Airlines. For more information and a complete schedule call the Mayor's Office of Special Events at 312-744-3315 or visit [www.celticfestchicago.com](http://www.celticfestchicago.com).

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# Beyond the Abbey

BY SEAN CALLAN



Sir Roger David Casement, an Irish political patriot and also a career British consular official, was executed by hanging in Pentonville Prison,

London on August 3rd, 1916. He was aged 51 and had been convicted of treason. The first Thursday in August marks the 90th anniversary of his death.

The Sixteenth Man, a one act play based on Casement's life, will be performed by Inishfree Irish Arts Productions at Milwaukee Irish Fest (Aug 18-20; times to be announced). It will feature Frank Gleeson in the role of Casement and Josephine Craven as the narrator. The play was written by the author of this column. It runs for 42 minutes and is a shortened version of a longer play entitled Transformed to Treason.

The Sixteenth Man, like the longer work, is set in Casement's death cell in the hour preceding his death. As Catholic prison Chaplain Fr. Thomas Carey keeps vigil alongside Casement, the latter recounts his life story. At various stages his recollections are accompanied by music and other sound effects.



Sir Roger David Casement

Casement was born in Sandycove just south of Dublin to a Protestant father and Catholic mother. His father died when he was

4 and his mother passed away a mere 5 years later. The orphaned Casement was moved to Antrim where he was raised in the Protestant faith by his father's brother, John. At 16, the future Sir Roger left Ireland and took a job as a clerk for a shipping line in England. He did not like it. A few years later went to Africa where he remained for the next 20 years working, mostly for the British government. He witnessed first hand atrocities against the native populations and reported them in official dispatches. In due course, that led to some corrective actions.

The writer Joseph Conrad came to Africa in 1890 and met Casement. Conrad then based the central figure in his classic novel Heart of Darkness, on Casement in the Congo. It was not the only time a fictional character was made to resemble the real-life Casement. In The Lost World, a 1912 novel by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the protagonist Lord John Roxton was also based on Casement.

After Africa, Casement was sent as a British agent to South America to investigate ill treatment of rubber plantation workers. He successfully reported on what he saw and was knighted for his actions. But by then Casement had undergone a change. He started learning Irish and taking an interest in Irish affairs. At first he appeared interested only in Irish culture. Then, he started attending nationalistic political meetings. When the Irish Volunteers were organized in the Rotunda in November 1913, he became treasurer.

The following year World War I broke out in Europe. By that time, Casement was in the US trying to raise funds through John Devoy and Clan-na-Gael for the Volunteers. Casement stopped what he was doing in the US and departed for Germany. There, he tried to recruit Irish prisoners of war to fight against England in Ireland. It was a novel idea but did not work. He was able to enlist only a handful of men. He despaired and considered his mission a failure. But Casement had one significant success. He signed a friendship treaty with the German government on behalf of Ireland. This was the first time that any nation had ever formally recognized Ireland as a distinct entity unto herself. It was a harbinger of things to come. Case-

ment returned to Ireland on the eve of the 1916 rising. He was captured in Co. Kerry and taken to England. There, he was convicted of high crimes and executed.

Sir Roger Casement's sexual orientation has provoked much discussion in the 90 years since his death. He never married and, following his trial, the British Government circulated dairies which were never entered into evidence. But the Government claimed that the dairies belonged to him. Their pages describe homosexual activities in graphic detail. The dairies were passed to various individuals of influence in a calculated maneuver to block any possible intercession for clemency. People who were shown the dairies included John Redmond, the Irish political leader, Walter Hines Page, the Anglophile American ambassador to England and Cardinal Francis Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster. Cardinal Bourne was so offended by what he read that he refused to permit Casement to be received into the Roman Catholic Church unless Casement first wrote a letter of repentance. Casement refused to do so. Nevertheless, Casement was baptized into the faith of his mother on the eve of his execution by Fr. Carey. Carey did that on the basis of in articulo mortis, an indulgence granted at the point of death. Casement certainly qualified for that.

The authenticity of Casement's alleged dairies remains in dispute to this day. Some, harking back to the false Piggott papers used to undermine Parnell, maintain that they are forgeries. Others concede that they are probably true. But it is not likely that we shall ever know for sure.

When Casement's remains were repatriated to Ireland in 1965, they were afforded a state funeral. The ceremonies were attended by the ailing President Eamon DeValera who defied his doctors to be there. DeValera, the last surviving leader of the 1916 rising, obviously held Casement in high esteem.

The Sixteenth Man has been presented previously at the IAHC and Gaelic Park in Chicago where it was well received. Both Gleeson and Craven are experienced troupers. They have developed facile and polished techniques which result in entertaining and informative presentations.

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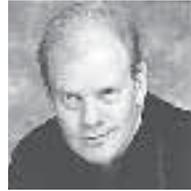
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# Hooliganism

Mike Houlihan



bound", an old Hitchcock thriller starring Gregory Peck as a man slowly going insane. The name fit.

In the good ol' summertime many folks from the Chicago area like to drive several hours into Northern Wisconsin for some fishing, swimming, and drinking. People in Wisconsin love this because it gives them someone to hate. I first noticed this as two guys in mullets passed me on the left in a pickup truck as they flipped me the bird on the highway. "What's eatin' those guys", I wondered.

They must have seen my plates. The farther you go up north in Wisconsin the louder the culture clash. But the tranquility of the woods and lakes can be therapeutic and when my old pal John Spellman invited me for some fishing a few weeks ago I said, "That's just what I need, some r' and 'r."

Yes it was restful, like resting among the bears would be for a rube from the city.

Spellman and I had an apartment at the corner of Wellington and Broadway in our college days,

Spellbound is just another portly old grizzly like me these days. As we fished on his lake Spellbound would take calls from his new girlfriend. He hangs up the phone and shrugs with a chuckle, "She likes fat old bald guys... And I'm glad she does!"

I arrived late on a Thursday night and Spellbound took me immediately to the Breezy Point bar and grill. They stayed open late for us. Oh yeah, did I tell ya Wisconsin is also known for beer. And shots.

Breezy Point became our headquarters during my Wisconsin sojourn. One night we were rocking out at the bar and I went to play some tunes on the juke. I ask the bar what number I should play and an old lady three stools down, says to me, "I like 69."

That's naughty grandma. You don't look a day over 68.

The Spellman family has a rustic home and



Spellbound & Rudy on the pier

spread right on the lake with a bunkhouse across the road that sleeps a dozen more. Spellbound is an avid sportsman; a hunter of wild animals, and not just the Oregon State mascot either. He fishes too and won a Walleye tournament in Madison the week before my visit to "Camp Spellbound."

Spellbound and I returned to camp that night and met his brother Frank and stepbrother Dennis Butkus. Spellbound told them of the huge bear he saw on the road the day before, "just starin' at me." Lindsay Lohan appeared on the TV and the room fell silent.

Spellbound stands up and says, "I wanna show you guys something."

Spellbound's opening remark in the bars we hit was always, "Seen any bears lately?" That got everybody talkin'. It's a bear's world and we're just livin' in it. I'd been hearing bear

stories all night and I half expected Spellbound to pop out of the kitchen now in a bear suit.

Instead he brought a deer back from the freezer. "Check this out, twenty pounds of venison."

Butkus the chef grabs it for examination and proclaims in jubilation, "This is back strap! Back strap man!" If he could have done a back flip without hurting himself, he would have. Evidently back strap is the tenderest part of Bambi.

She was delicious, like steak but with a little snap to it.

Spellbound and I actually caught fish in between beers and boating. On Saturday the brothers took me skeet shooting in a sand pit a few miles away. Frank hands me the shotgun and says, "Try a few Mike."

I put the gun to my shoulder and fired both barrels. Suddenly all the beer and Bailey's I'd had the night before began to percolate. Uh oh, I better not do that again. If a shotgun doesn't shake something loose, nothin' will. It was a blast, but almost a blast in my khaki shorts.

I retreated to the hammock along the lake at Camp Spellbound, a lovely spot where I could nap, read, or pretend to sleep when any of those guys looked like they might ask me to help them lift something. It was idyllic; birds crapped on me while I slept.

Camp Spellbound was rejuvenating, particularly the conversation. The director of maintenance of the camp is a Walter Brennan type guy in overalls with a Billy goat beard named Rudy. He told me of a bear that had been terrorizing campers and was finally caught and killed. They hung the bear by its feet from a tree for all to see. The guy told Rudy the bear was 27 years old. Rudy asked him how he could tell. "We counted the rings in his a..hole."

On the day I left I noticed the netting of the

hammock was now all stretched out with a huge divot where a fat bear may have snoozed. Yeah it was fun, just being a bear.

For a preview of Mike Houlihan's independent feature film go to [www.TapiocaTheMovie.com](http://www.TapiocaTheMovie.com).

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### Belcaster heads restart of Purple Heart Cruise

Elizabeth Murray-Belcaster has been appointed Senior Development Consultant for Kup's Purple Heart Foundation and is in development of the July 31, 2007 Cruise.

Senator Barack Obama and Lt. Governor Pat Quinn are Honorary Chairman, and the cruise has support from the United States Navy, USO of Illinois, WLS-Radio, CBS-2 Television, The Chicago Firefighters Union and the Fraternal Order

take place in October 2006. Jay Leno and the 1985 Chicago Bears have committed to help kick off the first of many events in promotions and to raise awareness for this great cause.

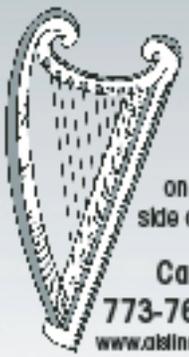
The CEO of Kup's Purple Heart Foundation is David Kupcinet.

The re-launching of the cruise will take place on Irv Kupcinet's birthday, July 31, 2007.

For more information, call Elizabeth Murray-Belcaster, Senior Development Consultant, Kup's Purple Heart Foundation at 773-640-8221.

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Elizabeth Murray-Belcaster



Present on the shore of Lough Ree for the launch of the new Athone & District Tourist Guide on the Web. acis.ie were from left Donie Cassidy TD, Padraic Dunne Managing Director of Lough Ree Publishing Co ( Publishers of the Guide ) Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources, Noel Dempsey TD, and Councillor Kevin Moran.

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of Police. Many other city officials and offices including the Governor and the Mayor our supporting the cruise as well. "This is an amazing opportunity with the beautiful city of Chicago as a backdrop to send a clear message to those courageous individuals that have made life changing decisions to support this great country and it's people. I am very proud and privileged to be a part of Kup's Purple Heart Foundation and the cruise," replied Elizabeth.

You can visit the new website at [www.kupspurpleheartfoundation.org](http://www.kupspurpleheartfoundation.org).

The first fundraiser for the cruise will

### Testimonial Dinner Dance to Commemorate the 25th Anniversary of 1981 Hunger Strike

The Irish Freedom Committee cordially invites you to attend The Chicago Hunger Strike Commemoration Committee Testimonial Dinner Dance in memory of the 25th anniversary of the 1981 Long Kesh hunger strike martyrs.

Saturday August 12, 2006; The Blackthorn Manor; 7280 W. Devon Ave., Chicago, IL; 6:30 PM - 10:30 PM. Dinner tickets \$40; RSVP 312-560-9311 or Saoirse@irishfreedomcommittee.net

There will be a Raffle Drawing for unique handmade crafts made for this event by Irish Republican Political Prisoners. (Raffle Tickets \$10.00 ea.)

Music will be provided by Joe Monahan.

Featured speakers include former political prisoner and hunger htriker - Frank O'Neill

and founder and co-chair, NY H-Block/Armagh Committee - Seoirse McLaughlin.

This event is part of a year-long unity project to commemorate the sacrifices of ten Irish Republican POWs from different Irish Republican perspectives, twenty-five years ago this year, in Long Kesh Maze prison. Event co-sponsors are: The Chicago Cumann of The Irish Freedom Committee, The Concerned Group for Republican Prisoners, and The Irish Republican Socialist Committee of North America.

For more information visit the Chicago Hunger Strike Commemoration Committee website at [www.wemustbeunited.com](http://www.wemustbeunited.com)

\*\*\*Note - all proceeds from this event to be donated directly to needy families of irish republican political prisoners - no funds will go to any banned or proscribed organization\*\*\*

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## History of Northern Ireland Class as IAHC

The IAHC is pleased to offer a class this fall for adults on the history of Northern Ireland. The 13-week class, The History of Northern Ireland, will be taught by Laura Weinstein.

Weinstein holds a BA in European History from Northwestern University and an MA in Irish Politics from Queen's University of Belfast, Northern Ireland. She is currently working on a PhD in European History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her undergraduate thesis was on Sinn Fein and the IRA and her master's thesis was on Irish republican women.

The History of Northern Ireland runs on Saturday afternoons from September 9-December 16 from 1:30-2:30pm. There will be no class on Thanksgiving weekend. Tuition for the course is \$125 and class size is limited to 25 students. Registration is required and class slots can be held by calling the Center office at 773-282-7035, ext. 10.

## Art Exhibit at IAHC

Day of the Dead/Samhain festival: A Celebration of Ancestors

The Day of the Dead and Samhain (sow-en) are both festivals celebrating the central portion of the birth, death and resurrection. Local artists examine the similarities between the Mexican celebration of the Day of the Dead and the ancient festival of Samhain.

The opening of the veil between the living and the dead is similar, though the rituals and the outcomes of these events are vastly different.

Opening Reception, Sunday, October 15, 2006, 1-4 PM; Close, November 12, 2006. Gallery hours Sat. and Sun. 1 PM-5 PM or appointment 773-282-7035.

## Outdoor Mural Project

The Irish American Heritage Center and Windy City Arts is participating in an outdoor mural project in the Wicker Park/Bucktown neighborhood. We invite teens, adults and older children accompanied by adults who are interested to call Frank Crowley at 773-489-6396. We will have meetings to design our mural and review techniques of mural painting. All experience levels are encouraged to join us. Free!

The Irish American Heritage Center is located at 4626 N. Knox in Chicago.

## IAHC hosts traditional Irish musicians 8-10 Edel Fox and Ronan O'Flaherty with Ryan McGiver

The Irish American Heritage Center is proud to host traditional Irish musicians, Edel Fox and Ronan O'Flaherty, who will be accompanied by Ryan McGiver for a concert this summer.



Fox and O'Flaherty will play a concert on Thursday, August 10 at 8pm as a part of their US Summer 2006 Tour. They are touring to promote their newly-released, self-titled debut recording and will be joined by New York guitar player, Ryan McGiver.

Edel Fox (concertina) is one of the most accomplished Irish musicians of her generation. Despite her young age, her musical resume boasts a list of accolades; she is a regular performer on Irish National Radio and the BBC and has performed in festivals and concert halls throughout the world. She studies music at the University of Limerick.

Ronan O'Flaherty (fiddle) grew up in County Galway surrounded by music. A protégé of Frankie Gavin, he is a virtuoso fiddle player, whose complex and technically brilliant style brings a fresh and exciting interpretation to the repertoire of old masters, such as James Morrison and Michael Coleman.

New York-born Ryan McGiver (guitar) is a sought-after accompanist on both sides of the Atlantic. His music has been showcased on national Irish Radio and has toured the United States, Europe and Asia.

Tickets are \$10 for the general public, \$8 for IAHC members and \$5 for students and can be

reserved by calling the IAHC at 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or purchased at the door.

Programming at the Irish American Heritage Center is supported, in part, by generous grants

from the Illinois Arts Council, CityArts grants, from the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and the Illinois Humanities Council.

The Irish American Heritage Center, which occupies an 86,000 square foot building on the City's northwest side, near Wilson Avenue and the Edens Expressway, at 4626 North Knox, fosters the practice, study, and celebration of Irish, Celtic, and Irish-American cultural traditions. Membership in the Center is open to anyone with an interest in these traditions. The

IAHC houses a 650-seat theatre/concert hall, auditorium, a library, an authentic Irish pub, a Social Center, a museum, dance/music studios and meeting rooms. For more information, call 773-282-7035, or visit [www.irishamhc.com](http://www.irishamhc.com).

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# Healy Law

Senior Partner  
By Martin J. Healy, Jr.



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

common reaction. I challenge you to overcome it. Putting aside the fact that disregarding a summons can be a serious matter, consider why jury duty is necessary.

### Philosophy of a Jury System

Serving as a juror is a fundamental civic responsibility. When you are sworn in as a juror, you become a temporary officer of the court, a tradition that goes back 800 years to the Magna Carta. Thomas Jefferson said that the jury system is the best line of defense against tyranny and more precious to democracy than even the right to vote. A vital purpose of the jury system is to subject our laws to democratic interpretation by drawing upon the values and common sense of the people. The citizen jury is what sets us apart from the rest of the world.

A juror's responsibility is a near-sacred one: to dispense justice fairly. The statue of Lady Justice, the Greek Goddess holding the scales of justice, has a blind fold over her eyes. It symbolizes blind justice. Whether you're a large corporation, a powerful individual, an accused, or everyday folk, everyone is treated fairly and the same under the law.

At the very least, jury duty is a rare opportunity to witness the real life operations of a court.

### Nuts and Bolts of Jury Duty

If you have to report for jury duty, you will be required to show up at the courthouse in the morning. You will be given an orientation covering the theoretical (such as juries have a constitutional role in protecting the people from the power of the government) and the practical (such as your boss can't fire you because you're on jury duty).

Next, you will be brought into a courtroom. The judge will ask if anyone has a compelling problem that will keep them from serving. If you have a legitimate reason such as compelling work, medical or family care responsibilities, you likely will be relieved of jury duty. People offering excuses will be asked to speak with the judge, lawyers, and/or court employee. This may be done in private or in open court. You will then either be relieved of jury duty or told to return to your seat.

Next, you will be sworn to tell the truth and answer questions, or "voir dire" (literally "to speak the truth"). The judge and lawyers will question you in open court. The questions are not meant to embarrass or pry, but rather to afford the lawyers some insight as to your beliefs. The judge will instruct you to be candid and that you need not be afraid.

Voir dire questions are also designed to reveal any conflicts of interest you may have in judging a particular case. For instance, if the case is about an allegedly defective product, the court wants to make sure you're not a manufacturer who is too biased to judge the case fairly. You can expect questions about your job, friendships and family.

The judge will determine which jurors will be excused "for cause," which means they have a legitimate conflict. Attorneys are allowed to excuse potential jurors using a limited number of "peremptory challenges," which can be used against a juror for any reason. Each party uses them to discard jurors that will be too detrimental to its side. In the end, twelve jurors and a number of alternate jurors will be selected. People who were not selected as a juror or an alternate will be excused. The excused will return to the jury pool room and may be assigned to another courtroom or be dismissed for the day.

For a typical trial, a jury is expected to be in court each day for about eight hours. A juror can get a certificate of attendance each day if an employer requires it. The Court does modestly compensate jurors with around \$15 - \$40 per day, depending on the jurisdiction. The law does not require an employer to pay you while you are serving. The law does require that your job be protected while you serve. Some employers will continue to pay a juror's full salary while they serve, others will pay full salary less the Court's compensation, while other employers won't pay you at all while you are on jury duty.

Finally, the judge will give the selected jurors some procedural instructions. The stage is now set for trial.

Next month's column will be Part 2 of 2 where we discuss the components of a trial and jury deliberations.

By: Matthew J. Healy, The Healy Law Firm. Matthew is an associate attorney at the Healy Law Firm. Previously, he was a law clerk serving several Cook County judges in the Chancery and Law Divisions.

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 nine 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.

### Jury Duty: What To Expect (Part 1 of a 2 part series)

The official envelope greets you from your mailbox - "SUMMONS FOR JURY SERVICE." To you, a summons may invoke more questions than answers. Recently, since the George Ryan trial, there has been a focus in the media on jury service. Your initial reaction may be "How do I get out of this?" Ah This is a



Lisdoonvarna 2006 winning contestants Emily and John at the "Cottage." Maureen O'Looney, in the background, is busy putting couples together. The Irish Cottage Hotel in Galena holds this popular event annually in July.

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# An Immigrant's Musings

Fr. Michael Leonard

## U.S. Bishops call for comprehensive immigration reform

At a press conference on June 15th in Los Angeles, a panel of bishops discussed the U.S. immigration system as a moral issue that should protect the human dignity of all immigrants. The panel was comprised of Cardinal Roger Mahony of Los Angeles; Bishops Gerald Barnes of San Bernardino, Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn, and Gerald Kicanas of Tucson (a native of Chicago); and Auxiliary Bishop Jaime Soto of Orange.

The bishops called on congressional leaders to enact comprehensive immigration reform that addresses the root causes of migration and sets up an earned path to citizenship for undocumented workers.

Cardinal Mahony, Archbishop of Los Angeles, described the current immigration system as "morally unacceptable because it accepts the labor and taxes of millions of workers without offering them the protection of the law." While the immigration debate to date has focused on the economic, legal, and social/cultural aspects of the issue, it is ultimately a humanitarian, and moral, issue."

This is a point, which needs to be emphasized, particularly in a country whose constitution is based on Christian principles. We have an obligation to in the words of scripture: "take care of the foreigner among us". This can be achieved while at the same time making every effort to take care of our border's security. I believe it is not a matter of either/or as some in congress propose. As Rep. Anthony Weiner said at the recent Irish Lobby day in Washington: "we can chew gum and walk at the same time".

Bishop Barnes, Chair of the Bishops' Committee on Migration, said the Catholic Church have a "long history of advocating for just and fair immigration laws," and have concluded that the current immigration system is "seriously flawed with respect to the treatment of immigrants and does not serve the common good of our nation. The common good of our nation demands that our lawmakers would put party political concerns



What is very clear right now is that the republican controlled congress is stalling on the important issue of immigration reform and this is not good enough. Some are suggest-

ing yet another solution, namely, that we would have a phased approach to the senate bill. This would mean in practice that we first address the issue of border security and then a year later begin to deal with the introduction of the guest worker provisions. I could accept such a "phased" approach provided we had guarantees that the issue of fairly dealing with the undocumented population would be dealt with in a timely manner thereafter.

Poll reveals GOP voters want immigration reform now

A poll taken of 804 likely Republican voters in various U.S. states from June 12-15 commissioned by the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research found that 72 percent said it was important to

aside and do the right thing for the good of the country as a whole.

Bishop DiMarzio, Chairman of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, highlighted several concerns the bishops share about recent congressional action on immigration that he hoped would be corrected in conference committee. The major difficulty right now is that we have a series of politically motivated "hearings" going on while the real issues staring us in the face are being neglected.

"For example, we understand the logic behind the three-tiered system included in the Senate bill, but believe it might be difficult to administer and that it unfairly leaves behind many who may be eligible," said Bishop DiMarzio.

Another way of breaking the current impasse is seen in a proposal that has come up recently from Rep. Mike Pence of Indiana. He is proposing that all of the undocumented leave the U.S. return to their countries of origin and there apply for a guest worker program. Business leaders see this as a very impractical way of dealing with the issue. For one thing who would do the work while the 12 million folks spend up to six months being processed in their respective countries of origin!

solve the problem of illegal immigration this year. Eighty-two percent of the respondents supported tightening the borders and imposing tougher penalties on illegal immigrants and employers who hire them. However, the poll revealed that about 80 percent support an earned legalization program and 68 percent also oppose deportation for illegal immigrants.

This poll suggests that when people take the time in the cold light of day to study the facts in the immigration debate, they more often than not favor the approach which we find in the bill passed in the Senate. Let's hope our elected representatives get the message!

On a personal note: I take this opportunity to say a heartfelt thanks to all who contacted me following the sudden death of my brother Johnny R.I.P. To all who sent mass and bereavement cards, messages of sympathy and also the many who attended the memorial mass for Johnny at St. Tarcissus church, I am most grateful. A special thanks to Vaughan's Pub on Northwest Highway who providing food after the mass. Know that all of you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Please feel free to contact me at 312-337-8445 Cell. 773-677-5341 or E-mail: [siochan@catholic.org](mailto:siochan@catholic.org)

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# Get Your Irish Up ...North!

By James McClure



## Oil's Well That Ends Well

While driving down Northern Lights Boulevard in Anchorage, I made way as a huge Denali SUV lumbered around me, guzzling up gallons per mile.

The irony was not lost to me, as the name Denali may symbolize giant guzzlers, but the name is actually drawn from the native Alaskan name for Mt. McKinley. Things are often different in perspective up here, though not necessarily from a height of 20,000 feet.

Oil is more than 'Texas Tea' in Alaska; it is the top industry in the state (with Texas rig workers among the top émigrés) and the lifeblood from Anchorage to Prudhoe Bay. Oil moves 800 miles from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez along the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. It was near Valdez, off the fiords, and also where the opening scene of Hunt for Red October was

filmed, that the 49th state's greatest ecological disaster occurred: the leak from the grounded oil tanker Exxon Valdez in 1989.

Who can forget the scandal and the gripping pictures of polluted once-pristine water and mammals and birds being hand-cleaned from their oily coatings? The impact on the fishing community is still measured today, with continued calls for federal and state assistance.

Halfway around the world, with war and unrest spreading across the Middle East and four-dollar-a-gallon gasoline becoming an increasing reality close to home, the perennial debate about expanding the oil exploration in Alaska takes on an increasing urgency.

Surprisingly, that debate is largely absent here. Just about everyone is for the increased drilling, and people find it hard to believe why legislators in Washington just "don't get it."

You wouldn't know that after reading the recent edition of the National Geographic titled, "Selling America's Frontier", which chronicles the promise and perils of expanding the home of 16 percent of the nation's domestic oil supply and 90 percent of Alaska's state revenue.

That figure alone tells you why most in Alaska favor expanding exploration into protected wildlife areas, including the highly controversial Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, shortened to ANWR and pronounced "Anwar." ANWR is even becoming a nickname commonly used without defining it in broadcast news stories in the continental United States, as is the practice in Alaska.

The pocketbook plays a lot into the appreciation of the proposed drilling. Alaska has a unit dividend paid to each and every Alaskan known as the Permanent Fund. Every year a dedicated percentage of the Permanent Fund is paid back to residents, generally from \$800 to \$2,000. That's not something you hear about very often if you live outside the state, although Virginia Senator George Allen recently described it as a perfect model for how to get the citizens of Iraq more involved in

their struggling steps toward economic and political freedom.

Then there's the environmental impact. Alaska's big daddy of federal money, longtime Republican U.S. Senator Ted Stevens, refers to the tundra area on the North Slope as "miles and miles of nothing", a frozen wasteland largely devoid of wildlife, other than the occasional meanderings of caribou. Stevens seems to get

view to the championing of the expanded exploration. A consulting civil/environmental engineer and fisherman by training, he has high confidence in how the exploration and eventual drilling could be conducted with little impact on the environment. "To see how these drilling pads are constructed, is to believe" points out Lehman. "The footprint is incredibly small, and when the drilling is done with,

almost nothing is left over to clean up and restore the land. Modern technology has changed the impact."

Lehman estimates that only about 2,000 acres would be affected while ANWR contains 19 million acres, the size of South Carolina or Maine. He further estimates that 250,000 jobs would be created, especially for Alaska's poor and



Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

remote native population. a little closer each year to getting his legislation "for exploration" through the Senate and on through the full Congress, even more so after Hurricanes Rita and Katrina blindsided much of the nation's oil industry in the Gulf of Mexico. Most Alaska Democrats are just as enthusiastic.

Lt. Governor Loren Lehman is a Lincoln-esque Republican who brings a more scientific

view to the championing of the expanded exploration.

"Decades of exploration and development have shown that caribou and oil can co-exist. The Central Arctic Herd, which calves in the Prudhoe Bay and Kuparuk fields, has increased from 3,000 to more than 30,000 animals" notes Lehman.

Look for the debate over permafrost land to heat up between Alaskans and the rest of the nation

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Lt. Gov. Loren Lehman

as environmentalists and politicians square off over how best to keep that GMC Denali going with oil north of Mt. Denali.

Jim McClure is a television news reporter and anchor when not freelancing for Irish American News. He may be e-mailed at [JimMcClure71@aol.com](mailto:JimMcClure71@aol.com)



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## Irish Books and Plays in Review

BY FRANK WEST

### Blood on the Shamrock: A Novel of Ireland's Civil War

"It is in the brightness of the morning air that hope and history walk toward us across the meadows, radiant as a girl in her first beauty."  
-- Thomas Flanagan

When I began this review, I was afraid I wouldn't do justice to a book of this scope and power. I have spent a long time writing it and hope it is adequate.

Only seven "historical fiction writers" have written about the Irish Civil War: 1922-1923. Sean O'Casey and Liam O'Flaherty

wrote about it long ago and Roddy Doyle, actors of this period.

The civil war spattered out bitterness and hatred that have lasted for generations. Partition, and the hate and bitter opposition of the Unionists are still not resolved.

I have seen here the spite and hostile attitude to the Irish government. This is because many of the Republicans or Irregulars came to Chicago for refuge after the war.

How is Liam able to capture that period so well? I believe there are two answers to that: by scrupulous research and, by giving life to the many heroic sized people of that age.

Liam carefully documents assertions and observations made in this book. For this he uses accounts of people who lived during those years and witnessed those events. He also uses modern historical research. For these research sources he has included a five-page Selected Bibliography and a thirteen-page Glossary.

Cathal Liam believes: "History to me is meant to inspire the living and to honour the dead." He believes so strongly in this that for the last eleven years he has devoted part of each day to the history of the 1916-1923 period!

The period of the War of Independence and the Civil War is marked by Irish characters that could have been heroes in the ancient sagas of Ireland.

Liam needs 33 pages to list and describe the book's cast



of characters. These range from Michael Collins, brilliant and forceful spymaster and man of big ideas, to devious and spiteful Eamon de Valera.

The British characters that opposed them were the Merlin-like magician Lloyd George and the overbearing Winston Churchill. Even Shakespeare couldn't have invented more striking and memorable characters.

Cathal Liam has created such realistic and believable fictional characters that they seamlessly interact with the historical ones.

Liam says about this novel's approach "... the line separating the protagonist and antagonist is... blurred and distorted." Or another view of this by him: "Fantasy can sometimes be a lovely resting place when the troubles of the world seem too much to bear."

Liam has a gift for writing realistic dialogues. He can also select beautiful and dramatic quotes. Each chapter begins with a pertinent quote. The background of the Irish Civil War is the War of Independence - 1916 to 1921. He illustrates this period by a quote from *The Seeds of Freedom* by Bobby Sands: "You sowed the seeds of freedom in your daughters and your sons."

*Blood on the Shamrock*, by Cathal Liam, is a book of great proportions. It focuses on the slice of Irish history from 1922 to 1923. But it encompasses the complexities, frustrations, beauty and mystery of human actions.

These are some quotes that illustrate the book:

Liam discusses British concern for Ireland: "... back in '47, where was British concern for a famine-starved people? ... Great Britain continued exporting Irish

grown foodstuffs. And... after thousands of our soldiers had died fighting for the 'rights of small nations' in the mud-filled trenches of France, the House of Commons showed her empathy toward our war-weary people by breaking its Home Rule promise. Instead of giving Ireland a limited measure of independence, she gave us partition and the Black and Tans."

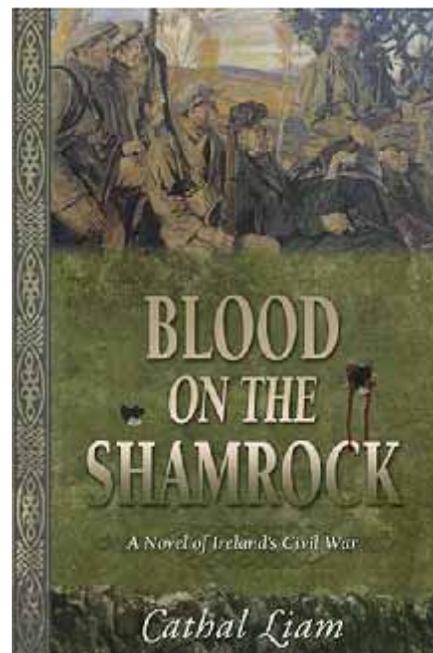
The author described the impossible position of the Treaty negotiators: "as a plenipotentiary, Collins must have felt he was being fitted for a straitjacket. On the one hand de Valera and half the cabinet placed him in an impossible position. In Collins' own words, "... we never hope to bring back all that Ireland wanted and deserved to have."

Liam uses a telling event to describe the shallow and shifty de Valera: The Irish parliament discussed the Treaty "After the roll call, de Valera was first to speak. He began in Irish but quickly reverted to English. He said he'd like to continue in Irish, but knowing some members of the assembly weren't conversant in Gaelic, he'd speak English." In a footnote historian T. Lyle Dwyer (pages 112-113) is quoted "Later, de Valera admitted he himself didn't have a good command of Irish and that's why he decided to proceed in English."

Michael Collins says "... the vocal minority (Republicans) isn't the voice of the silent majority. I believe the bulk of Irishmen and women see things differently. They're more interested in practical issues... the ones affecting everyday life... rather, than matters marked by subtle political differences..."

This quote is taken from T. Lyle Dwyer: "During the 1930's, de Valera systematically dismantled the Treaty and thus proved [Michael Collins] right in his assessment that the 1921 agreement could be the stepping stone to the desired freedom."

*Blood on the Shamrock: A Novel of Ireland's Civil War* by Cathal Liam, St. Padraic Press, www.cathalliam.com: Cincinnati, OH, 2006, 541 pg, \$16



The tragedy of Easter, 1916 lies behind Aron Roe O'Neill and his determined comrades, both imagined and historical. Spurred on by the euphoric tone of London's willingness to negotiate a settlement ending the Irish War of Independence (1918-1921), Ireland finally seizes its stand on the brink of triumphant autonomy from British rule. But almost overnight, the green hills of Eireann turn red again - blood red - as the bitter drags of Anglo-Irish politics erupt into unholly Civil War, the spectacles of which are destined to sully the dream of Irish unity for years to come.

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### Grace O'Malley for Young Readers

by Frank West

The Gaelic poets called Grace O'Malley's ancestors "the lions of the green sea".

Grace absorbed that tradition as she grew up in Mayo in the 1500's. Her family were Irish seafarers who for centuries had traded along the coasts of Ireland and as far away as Scotland and Spain.

The story of Grace is an amazing one. She lived during a time of constant warfare and deep uncertainty. She felt a profound obligation to protect her people.

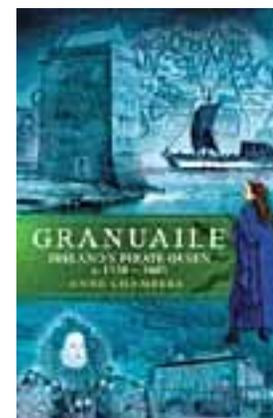
England was expanding its power

and wanted to reduce Ireland to the position of a safe, docile colony.

England's King Henry VIII and Elizabeth I set Irish Kings against each other. This divide and conquer policy was gradually

Against this background, Grace O'Malley had to survive and also protect her people, ships and lands. Fortunately, she was strong willed and cunning.

Chambers vividly tells how Grace did this and how she had the courage to go to London to meet Elizabeth I despite the risk of being executed.



The English government has been successful at putting labels on people it doesn't like" the IRA are terrorists, German soldiers are Huns, Irish nationalists are Papists, etc. English officials called Grace a pirate queen, even as Elizabeth was taking a 20% cut of pirated goods stolen from Spanish ships by English sea captains, like Drake, Raleigh and Hawkins.

The book is a special edition from children (ages 9-12) of Anne Chambers' acclaimed biography of Grace O'Malley. She

spent four years doing research for that book. She found the real Irish hero in 16th century manuscripts and records.

The biography was short listed for several literary awards, and now she "...lectures extensively" on the subjects of her books which have been adapted for television and widely translated.

The book's cover features a picture of Grace O'Malley and has attractive illustrations throughout. It has a complete index, and thoughtfully includes

a page for further reading that lists related books, videos and websites.

Granvaile: Sea Queen of Ireland shows Grace O'Malley's qualities of powerful will, vision and boldness. These are shown so that children can admire them and aspire to them.

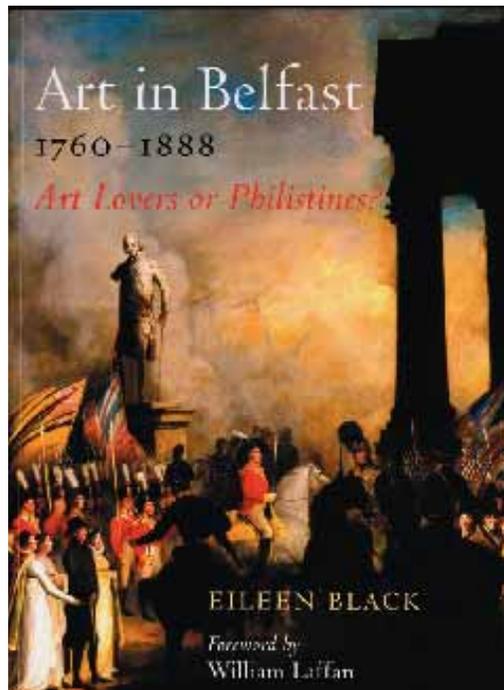
Granvaile: Sea Queen of Ireland by Anne Chambers. Collins Press/Dufour Editions; (610-458-5005); Wilton, Cork, Ireland; 2006; 114 pages; \$9.95. Dufour Editions distributes this outstanding book in the United States.

### Art in Belfast 1760-1880: Art lovers or Philistines?

Art in Belfast is the first book to thoroughly examine art in Belfast in the 18th and 19th centuries. Written by Dr. Eileen Black, curator of Fine Art in the Ulster Museum, this richly illustrated book tells the story of art in Belfast from its early beginnings in the mid-eighteenth century to the opening of the first art gallery. Primary sources are used, charting the growth of the city into a lively centre for the trading of art. This neglected area of Belfast's cultural life is given an authoritative reappraisal and places events in context for the first time. The book also contains much new material and 120 illustrations, 50 in colour.

"Her microscopic analysis make her book essential reading to all those interested in Irish art and also provides a fascinat-

ing social history of many different aspects of Belfast life." - Taken from the foreword by William Laffan  
 Art in Belfast 1760-1880: Art lovers or Philistines? by Eileen Black, Ulster Museum, Belfast; Irish Academic Press; April 2006. 400 pages; (0 7165 3361 8 cloth \$85; 0 7165 3362 paper \$65.00)



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## Síocháin Raising Cain in the Midwest

There is a new band on the scene out of Indianapolis, Síocháin (pronounced (she a con) and they are starting to perform in the Chicago area. Although the name may mean peace, the band's entertaining music will do more to disturb the peace! Síocháin blends Celtic



Rufus Campbell - Electric/Acoustic Guitars, Bagpipes, Whistle

instrumentation (bagpipes, fiddle, bodhran) in with the high energy of rock to produce some wonderfully powerful music. Síocháin performs music from a wide range of Irish and Scottish groups, along with their own renditions of some of Ireland & Scotlands finest songs.

Within their first year of existence, the band opened for The Fenians and Gaelic Storm. They've performed at the Indy Irish Festival, placed in the top five for People's Choice Awards for favorite festival band and have quickly developed a strong fan base in the Midwest. The band had a great first year and

play bagpipes and since then has been performing bagpipes solo and with local pipe bands. He may have lost most of his hair, but he hasn't lost any of his love of playing great Celtic music!

Claudia has also been a performer for most of her life touring as a vocalist. Her birthplace was San Bernardi-

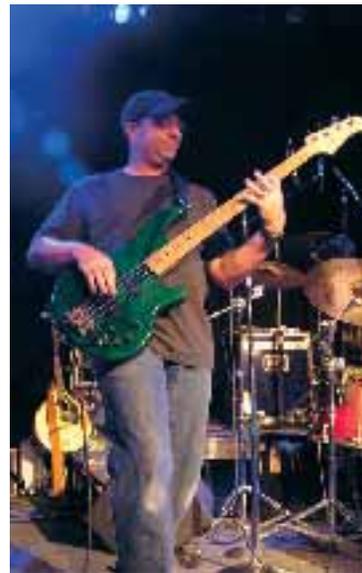
no, California and she spent a good part of her life on the west coast. She provides the up front presence for the group along with Nathan. In addition to her great vocal chops, she also helps out on bodhran and keys. Keeping the boys in the band in line is also one of her great assets to the group.

They say that bass and drums provide the solid foundation to any group and this is certainly the case with Cory. Cory's experience with several different local groups has earned him high regard in the local music scene. His great musical chops provide a good deal of the driving force behind Síocháin. And besides that, he's a really nice guy! Along with Claudia, Nathan, is

the up front presence to Síocháin. He adds great energy to the band. You never know how he'll be playing fiddle...behind his back, over his head or where he will be playing fiddle... on stage, on a table top, on the floor... Over his 18 years of playing violin, his tastes have broadened



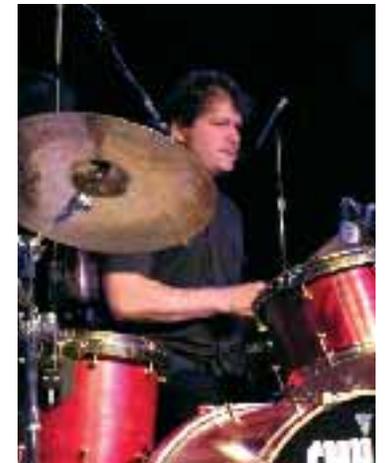
Claudia Campbell - Vocals, Keys, Bodhran



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dramatically, bringing him into the world of Irish music. Ask him what he loves to do and he'll tell you, "I just want to play music!"

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Bryan Meyers - Drums, Vocals



Nathan Klatt - Fiddle, Mandolin, Vocals

Bryan is back there laying down a solid rhythmic beat for the music of Síocháin.

Síocháin, c/o 18085 Kinder Oak Dr., Noblesville, IN 46062-7529, 317-773-8677, 317-450-1995. E-mail: rufuspc@sbcglobal.net

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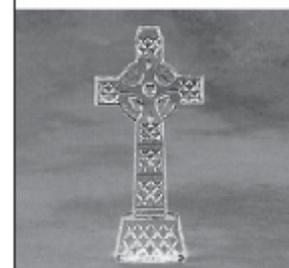
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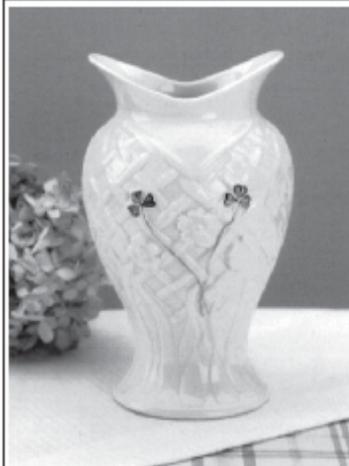
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## Remembering the Hunger Strike

By Rae Doberstein

Joe McDonnell

While growing up in Greater Andersontown, Joe McDonnell never expected to become a martyr for the cause of Irish freedom. He was a happy, easygoing fellow, and while he always supported the Republican cause he was not one to be ardently radical. But events and circumstances changed him into a man willing to risk starvation and death for what he believed in. To the end, however, he never lost the gentleness and optimism that endeared him to so many.

McDonnell was born in September of 1951 and followed a path taken by so many of us: grew up, married, had two children. But living in an abnormal environment like the one in Northern Ireland made even the mundane challenging, and he quickly found out as he got older that to be a Republican in the North was akin to being a black person in apartheid South Africa: thought of by those in power as something less than human, a threat and a burden to be kept in invisible but very strong chains. Not a man to accept such conditions for either himself or those he loved, McDonnell entered the Republican movement in his youth and remained a dedicated activist all his life.

Perhaps some of his sensitivity to the sufferings of others came

about as a result of his three year-old sister's death from kidney failure when he was ten. He adored her and her loss left a deep wound. Even so, he grew up being admired for his easy sense of humor and ability to make people see the light in the darkest of tunnels. Life was an adventure to him that he intended to live to the fullest.

His street in Greater Andersontown was primarily Loyalist. The anti-Nationalist prejudice of the area came to a head one night when a large group of Loyalist terrorists broke into and destroyed the McDonnells' home and that of the only other Republicans on the street. Both families were forced to leave the town. They knew that protesting the attack would be useless—since it took place in the sight line of a Brit outpost and with the permission of the local Protestant minister, who stood watching the raid in sanctimonious approval.

Once the McDonnells relocated to Lenadoon Avenue Joe met the woman who would become his wife: Goretti. He was a mate of her brother and it didn't take long for the couple to declare their love for each other. They wed in 1970 and eventually had two children. Family life never dimmed McDonnell's commitment to the cause of Irish freedom. He was not, however, of the radical vein for most of his life. He seldom socialized with other activists, preferring home life and the company of his mates from his job as a furniture upholsterer. But as it so often does fate intervened to harden his resolve. He was beaten by soldiers and interned in Long Kesh for his non-violent Republican activities. Although ultimately released after months, his treatment at the hands of the British resulted in him becoming a Volunteer with the IRA's Belfast Brigade. As always, the Brits created their worst nightmare by refusing to treat the Irish with even the dignity they would afford an animal.

The family's victimization by British authorities increased after McDonnell's first period of internment. The home he shared with Goretti was a regular target for Brit raiding parties. During the abuses the soldiers went out of their way to destroy the family's personal effects such as photographs and letters. Goretti was also arrested. With every outrage McDonnell's commitment to the Republican cause grew stronger. It fed on his just anger and became as much a part of him as his love for his family.

Once he joined the fight as a Volunteer McDonnell was known as a cool, conscientious operative who never cracked under pressure and kept his highly valued good nature. When exhaust fumes from a car he and other Volunteers were using to transport explosives were mistaken for fire, McDonnell's response to a man who voiced concern was not to worry since the explosives would soon be detonating anyway. His welcome black humor saved the mission, which went off perfectly.

After firebombing a furniture store that victimized Republicans by charging outrageous prices, the Volunteers (one of whom was Bobby Sands) were blocked in their planned escape by a car the Brits positioned on the road. Volunteers Seamus Martin and Gabriel Corbett suffered gunshot during a shootout with the Brits and RUC. McDonnell, Sands, Seamus Finucane and Sean Lavery were arrested. The show trial staged by the British government in October of 1976 resulted in fourteen-year sentences being handed down to each of the four captured activists. Ironically, the fact that all four men refused to sign a statement of guilt, despite abuse at the hands of RUC officers, resulted in them being convicted on the basis of one weapon found in the car in which they were captured. They were never

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charged with the attack on the furniture store, but such are the vagaries of "justice" in Northern Ireland.

McDonnell never cooperated with his captors. He went on the blanket as soon as he reached Long Kesh. He refused to wear a prison uniform. As punishment, the Brits did not permit him to see his family. He got around the proscription on contact with them through the use of smuggled communications. As part of his ongoing commitment to his Republican ideals McDonnell shouted Nationalist news from his cellblock to the next, acting as a vocal courier. He further angered his British jailers this way, bringing on more brutality from them, but doing such things gave his life purpose and enabled him to know on a daily basis that he would never surrender.

McDonnell did not volunteer for the initial Hunger Strike, believing that he "had too much to live for" and would someday get out of prison to reunite with his family. Eventually, however, his anger at the injustice he and his fellow prisoners, and his country, suffered at the hands of the Brits overwhelmed him and he joined the protest. On July 8th, 1981, after sixty days without food, McDonnell died in Long Kesh—a Republican to the end.

### Martin Hurson

Five days later Volunteer Martin Hurson joined his comrade McDonnell in death after forty-four days in the Hunger Strike.

The road Hurson took to reach his destiny was vastly different from that of McDonnell. Martin Hurson was born on September 13, 1956 in Cappagh near Dungannon. He was the second-to-the-last of nine children of John and Mary Ann Hurson. Because Cappagh was a staunchly Nationalist area, the Hursons did not endure many of the abuses so routinely perpetrated against Republicans by Loyalists. Loyalist lands, however, surrounded Cappagh, so the family was never completely safe from potential terror and they knew it. Subconsciously this injustice must have become a part of Hurson's psyche, working to make him the man he became.

He was quiet and deeply religious, and loved helping his father work their farm. Paradoxically, he could be very exuberant on occasion and was not above having a bit of craic by playing jokes on his unsuspecting mates. Never malicious, his games had the effect of endearing him to others. He made friends easily wherever he went despite his tendency toward shyness. His love for his family extended to those around him; everyone liked Martin Hurson.

Hurson met and married Bernadette Donnelly, a Nationalist who shared Hurson's love of pranks along with his fidelity to the cause of Irish freedom. Bernadette sometimes helped her husband perpetrate his jokes, such as the time the two towed his brother's caravan to the opposite side of the road while the brother and his family were asleep inside. The campers awoke to find themselves in a completely new location, but it didn't take long for them to realize just who was responsible for this nighttime lark.

As with so many others in the Volunteer movement Hurson's life was marked by a family tragedy. He adored his mother and her death from cancer when he was fourteen scarred him deeply. Her particularly quick deterioration made her passing even more difficult. He completely "lost" the week after her death, having no memory of it. When he regained control over himself the Troubles began to crowd in on him, the awareness of the injustice in Northern Ireland to which his previously idyllic life in Nationalist Cappagh had blinded him. Once this sensitization process began he could never look at the world in the same way again.

Loyalist/British abuse of Nationalists in places like Dungannon was common knowledge in Cappagh. Increasing Nationalist activity in East Tyrone led the Brits to take what were, even for them, unusually draconian measures. Euphemistically named Regional Crime Squads under the direction of the chief RUC Constable, a sadistic man named Newman, were assigned the task of solving all Republican "crimes". Of course, the Brits and Loyalists made sure to capture some Irish person for these so-called offenses, whether he was guilty or not. The Brits cared no more about justice in Hurson's time than they do today. And as they do today, in the 1970's the Brits used torture to get their confessions.

Hurson was one of many Irish victims of these violations of the Geneva Convention. After being unspeakably tortured during interrogation he signed an admission statement about his activity in the exploding of a landmine. After the dog and pony show the Brits termed a trial he was sent to the H-Blocks in 1977 for a term of twenty years, despite the fact that the judge had ample proof that his "confession" was extracted under torture. Surprisingly, Hurson received a retrial when he appealed the sentencing judge's decision on the grounds that his interrogators had so violently abused him. In September of 1979 Hurson's original statement was ruled inadmissible but he was convicted once more—on the basis of other "admissions" he made under threat of being sent back to his original torturers, whom he knew would be enraged that he had marked them as the brutes they were. After his second conviction, Hurson returned to Long Kesh and went on the blanket as he had during his first stay.

Hurson joined the Hunger Strike in May of 1981. The next month he came quite close to being elected representative for Longford/Westmeath. All through the election Hurson remained true to his Republican ideals and the Hunger Strike he and his comrades undertook as a protest at the denial of political prisoner status. Sadly, he deteriorated at a far more alarming rate than any of the other victims of the Strike. After forty days his condition became grave; on the forty-fourth day he died, the sixth Striker to perish for a free Ireland.

### Conclusion

Joe McDonnell and Martin Hurson must be counted among

the heroes of Irish Nationalism. The events of their lives shaped them into men who refused to accept the British terrorists who so presumptuously believe that Ireland is their land to destroy and the Irish people their chattels to enslave. Without these two men something very dear to the history of a proud, defiant people would be missing: a vital piece of the curious puzzle that is the fight for Irish freedom.

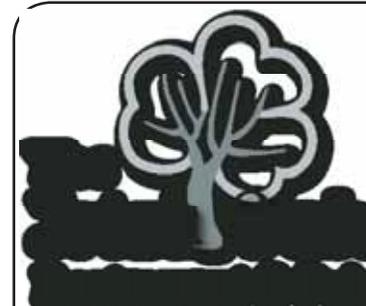


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# Raised On Songs and Stories

By Shay Clarke



## Hop Till You Drop — but Toss the Feathers

I have been a vendor at several feise's recently, and I have got to tell you that it is getting more like Vegas every year. Now, don't get me wrong, I have always liked Irish dancing, and I have many of them in my family. I support anything that promotes Irish Culture, but they are losing the plot. The wigs, the makeup, the sequins, neon and fluorescent colors, and now --- feathers. Yes, I have seen it all now, feathers on an Irish Dancing costume. I find it all a bit disturbing.

I have spoken with officials, dance school teachers, both senior and junior dancers, and many parents, and I still have not determined who is pushing this particular envelope. If it is really about the posture, dance steps, and choreography, then why must they look like decorated Christmas trees?

I remember when Traci (the missus) was up at 5 a.m. getting Saoirse's hair ready for competition, and I know that the advent of the Irish Dance wig was welcomed by lots of Irish Dance moms, but is it what the judges wanted? A senior dancer told me recently that it has very little to do with Irish culture anymore, and again I find this a very sorry comment.

It has become a very expensive pastime, or is it a sport. Between costume, hard-shoes, soft-shoes, wigs, makeup, and other accoutrements, Irish Dance parents have to shell out thousands of dollars. Add to that lessons, workshops, feise's, solo dresses, Nationals, and the Oireachtas, and it probably costs somewhere between five to ten thousand a year to put an Irish Dancer on the road. And, with solo dresses fetching 2 to 3 thousand dollars a piece, its no wonder I see Irish Dance dads wearing the t-shirt, "I don't dance --- I finance"

Now, before I lose the plot myself, I must say that I find Irish dancing to be very entertaining, and I'm always proud to see them on stage or on television. Michael Flatley has dragged Irish dance into the new century and elevated it to a new level. But, do our children need to look like Jean Benet Ramsay? Where is it all going? Will it take some really good dancer to compete in a white blouse, nice skirt, and natural hair to win big in competition or would she be ridiculed? What are the judges looking for?

I would love to hear what you think, e-mail me at the Irish American News, and please... Toss the Feathers.

## Festifying (mid-season)

Loading vans and trailers, setting up tents, thousands of highway miles, cold, heat, storms and bugs. Pipe Bands, dancers, traditional musicians, ballad singers... mad sessions late at night at après-festival hotels where we swap stories, and wind down after the days work. It's not for the feint of heart. And you must be sort of mad to endure it. But as long as it's fun and profitable, it's hard to beat.

I'm writing this at the Cleveland Festival, and we are halfway through the season. The family is holding up well, but the vehicles are feeling the strain. I am on first name terms with my local Jiffy Lube crew as I'm there twice a month or more. The three vehicles have a half a million miles between them.

Bands and vendors in constant motion. Dallas, Denver, Boston, West Palm Beach, Cleveland, Toledo, Carbondale, Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Dayton, Dublin, St. Paul, Muskegon, New Orleans, Huron, and on, and on. Is it any wonder I missed my column last month. And we are working on the blameyhome.com website in between events. Oops! Nearly forgot Peoria, and East Lake Ohio.... but the head is gone.

Anyway back to the present, Cleveland's Irish Cultural Festival, Day 2, and the craic is ninety. Johnny McEvoy, Brendan Shine, Cherish the Ladies, Brigids Cross, Gaelic Storm, Cathie Ryan, New Barleycorn, Foster and Allen, Seven Nations, Dave Munnely Band, Brace Yourself Bridget, The Irish Sopranos Tommy Makem, Tommy Fleming, and oodles more, there is something for everybody here, and at 8 dollars admission, it's the best value on the Irish Festival circuit. And that keeps John O'Brien's Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival, in the top 5 fests in the Nation, along with Milwaukee, Dublin, Pittsburgh, and our own Gaelic Park in Chicago.

Right now Johnny McEvoy is on stage singing Spencil Hill; sure you can't beat it with a stick. Yee Haw! Its nearly party time again. Then on to Dublin and Milwaukee. Life is good.

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# Irish Times

**Pub & Restaurant**

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**Monthly Events**

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## The Affects

Saturday, August 5th

**50's & 60's Music Night**  
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---

**Brookfield Jazz Society**

**Live Jazz Event**  
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---

**Weekly Schedule**

Every Monday in the Cottage  
• Irish Movies - 7 p.m.

Every Tuesday in the Cottage  
• Pub Quiz-Trivia Night - 8 p.m.

Every Wednesday  
• Live Music with Jerry & Friends

Every Thursday in the Cottage  
• Brookfield Jazz Society Meets - 7 p.m.

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**UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT**

Friday, 8/4	Friends O'Neill Call
Saturday, 8/5	David Cross & Blackstar
Friday, 8/11	City Hall
Saturday, 8/12	Home Music
Friday, 8/21	Sammy O'Keefe and Jimmy Moore
Saturday, 8/22	Army Dads and Friends
Friday, 8/28	Toy Laundry
Saturday, 8/29	Home Music
Friday, 9/25	Mark Houlahan & Guest
Saturday, 9/26	Home Music

All shows start after 9 p.m.

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**AUGUST 2006 LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

Aug 2	Raymond Grogan
Aug 3	Don McSweeney
Aug 4	Mal Minto with Lenny Maguire
Aug 8	Raymond Grogan
Aug 10	Accorde Waly
Aug 11	Mal Minto with Lenny Maguire
Aug 18	The Heavly Brothers
Aug 17	Shane McConville & Paul O'Donoghue Duo
Aug 18	Mal Minto with Lenny Maguire
Aug 22	Jack & Jill
Aug 24	The Fells Brothers & Friends Duo
Aug 25	Mal Minto with Lenny Maguire
Aug 28	Raymond Grogan
Aug 29	Don McSweeney

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## The Long Game

It's been said the Irish spirit is reflected in its national sport, hurling—a raucous, explosive game played at breakneck speed, with origins dating back over 3 millennia. England prefers the long game. Cricket, not nearly as ancient as hurling, dates to pre-Norman times and is achingly slow and deliberate.

In the long game with its former American colony, as with the Irish, Britain never quits. She is back again seducing our senators to strip away the human rights endowed to us in American extradition law.

Below is a letter I wrote to Senator Obama, and will forward to members of the Foreign Relations Committee and others. Britain is on the fast track with this one. Please contact members of the Senate ASAP, before it's too late. And ask any government official, local or otherwise that you know or have voted for, to please pass on your concerns to the Senate. That input gets attention.

"Dear Senator:

Last November, on short notice to those opposed, your Committee held hearings on Britain's push to amend our extradition treaty with the UK and Northern Ireland. Senator Dodd remarked then how few people were in the hearing room. He took it to mean the UK and US governments had 'done their homework' this time, comparing the calm atmosphere with the 1986 hearings and the 'controversy' back then over Britain's attempt to cripple the protections of American law. Twenty years ago Irish Americans helped save at least part of the 'political offense exception' a tenet of American law since Thomas Jefferson's time. That exception protects us from being handed over to countries where, due to our race, religion, nationality or political opinions, we, as judged by an American court, might face serious prejudice or harm. The original treaty, like most U.S. extradition pacts with foreign countries, gives American judges latitude to rule on the merits of requests.

At the 2005 hearing two witnesses for the U.S. government, representing the departments of State and Justice, denied the validity of all objections raised against stripping those protections from American law. They claimed terms such as 'provisional' arrest for 60 days were 'standard' in US treaties with foreign powers. They also denied that peoples' homes and other property would be seized without due process, and claimed ex post facto laws were really not uncommon.

Chairman Lugar asked them how often the political exception had been an issue in extraditions since 1986. They replied that the amendment has not been invoked in recent years. That seemed to imply its pointlessness. No one in the hearing room suggested that Britain ceased filing extradition requests concerning N. Ireland because, in light of severe human rights violations there, those requests, under the current law, might face embarrassing denials in American courts. No senator thought to ask the government witnesses why, if the protections of the law are pointless, is Britain so hell-bent on having them removed.

Like a dealer passing crack in a schoolyard; offering his 'mark'

free hits to get him hooked, Britain's latest ploy is to enforce the treaty unilaterally, granting extradition requests to the US, including those for 3 high-profile British bankers flown here just days prior to this latest Senate hearing. Now Britain is saying, 'You can't renege, you owe us'. On July 12, treaty 'opponents' in parliament issued a statement: "Since the UK-US Extradition Treaty of 2003 was signed, the US has demanded the extradition of over 40 British citizens without having to provide any evidence." Even if the US ratifies the treaty, Britain cannot seek the extradition of any US citizen without first proving a case in a US court - British citizens have inferior rights compared to their American counterparts."

That's the point. British citizens do 'have inferior rights compared to their American counterparts'. Despite the wigs, and the fancy language and trappings, their legal system also is inferior to ours. Are we then to dilute American rights in deference to the law in England, a country with an established religion, and lacking the protections of our Bill of Rights?

Similar arguments were made in 1986 when Britain successfully lobbied the Senate to amend American law. Northern Ireland Secretary Tom King reminded senators that Margaret Thatcher allowed U.S. warplanes to fly from British bases for a strike against Libya a month before. Senate refusal to consent to the extradition treaty, King said, 'would simply not be understood in the U.K.'

For a one-time flyover, Britain was rewarded with permanent abridgement of Americans' rights. President Reagan was given a knighthood by QEII in 1989.

British ministers including Tony Blair, Baroness Scotland and UK foreign secretary Margaret Beckett, are right now lobbying senators and administration officials to ratify further amendments to the treaty.

Washington should know better. The U.S. now has to face the heat of worldwide condemnation for adopting "the five techniques" (wall-standing; hooding; subjection to noise; deprivation of sleep; deprivation of food and drink) that Britain used 35 years ago to torture Irish Catholic citizens herded into extralegal internment camps. That policy led to a 1978 judgment finding Britain was in violation of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Are we now to ignore why the political exception was drafted into American law in the first place? Have we forgotten why Washington refused to extradite Citizen Genet- why Justice Jay resigned his seat on the Supreme Court- why Jefferson, the premier Republican of his time, bested Adams in the 1800 election?

You are being told to allow Americans to be carried off to non-jury trials in courtrooms where testimony by police officials and unseen, anonymous 'witnesses', uncorroborated by any supporting

## About the Cover:

Photograph by James Fraher



James Fraher has been active as a photographer for over twenty-five years and is based in the Chicago area. In addition to producing photography for marketing, editorial, documentary and fine art projects, he maintains an archive of stock photographs with an emphasis on

music (blues, folk, jazz, zydeco, celtic) and photographs of Ireland.

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evidence, is accepted as fact.

Here, in part, is the statement by civil rights attorney Rosemary Nelson before the International Operations and Human Rights Sub-committee of the US House International Relations Committee hearing on Human Rights in Northern Ireland, September 29th 1998:

'I have been a solicitor in private practice in Northern Ireland for the past twelve years. My clients are drawn from both sides of the community. For the last ten years I have been representing suspects detained for questioning about politically motivated offences. All of these clients have been arrested under emergency laws and held in specially designed holding centers. Since I began to represent such clients and especially since I became involved in a high profile murder case, I have begun to experience difficulties with the RUC (Royal Police).

These difficulties have involved RUC officers, at their most serious, making threats against my personal safety including death threats. All of these remarks have been made to my clients in my absence because lawyers in Northern Ireland are routinely excluded from interviews with clients detained in the holding centers.

This behavior on the part of RUC officers has worsened during the last two years and particularly since I began to represent the residents of the Garvaghy Road, who have objected to an Orange Order march passing through their area from Drumcree Church. Last year I was present on the Garvaghy Road when the parade was forced through. I had been present on the road for a number of days because I had instructions from my clients to apply for an emergency judicial review of any decision allowing the parade to pass through the area. When the police began to move into the area in force in the early hours of 5th July, I went to the police lines and identified myself as a lawyer representing the residents. I asked to speak to the officer in charge. At that point I was physically assaulted by a number of RUC officers. The officers responsible were not wearing any identification numbers and when I asked for their names I was told to "f--k off". I complained about the assault and abuse but to date have obtained no satisfactory response from the RUC.

Since then my clients have reported several death threats against myself and members of my family. I have also received threatening telephone calls and letters. Although I have tried to ignore these threats, inevitably I have had to take account of the possible consequences for my family and for my staff. No lawyer in Northern Ireland can forget what happened to Patrick Finucane nor dismiss it from their minds. The allegations of official collusion in his murder are particularly disturbing and can only be resolved by an independent inquiry into his murder, as has been recommended by the UN Special Rapporteur. I would be grateful if the Sub-committee could do all in its power to bring about such an inquiry, by communicating to the United Kingdom government its belief that an inquiry in this case would in fact be a boost to the peace process.

I believe that one of the reasons that RUC officers have been able to indulge in such systematic abuse against me is that the conditions under which they interview clients detained under emergency laws allow them to operate without sufficient scrutiny. My access to my clients can be deferred for periods of up to 48 hours. I am never allowed to be present while my clients are interviewed.

Another reason why RUC officers abuse me in this way is because they are unable to distinguish me as a professional lawyer from the alleged crimes and causes of my clients. This tendency to identify me with my clients has led to accusations by RUC officers that I have been involved in paramilitary activity, which I deeply and bitterly resent. The Special Rapporteur has recommended that

RUC officers be sensitised to the important role played defense lawyers in the criminal justice system. To date this recommendation had not been implemented. I should be grateful if this Subcommittee would ask the UK government what steps they intend to take to act on this recommendation.

I, like many others, was pleased to see the human rights provisions included in the recently signed Agreement. In particular I was pleased that the Agreement looked to the early removal of the emergency provisions legislation which has been in place in some shape or form since the inception of the state. The existence of this legislation has seriously undermined public confidence in the rule of law and led to numerous miscarriages of justice, some of which have involved my clients. I was therefore very disappointed when, in the wake of the horrific Omagh bombing, new and draconian legislation was introduced which further erodes suspects' due process rights. For example, the legislation provides for the opinion of a senior RUC officer that someone is a member of a proscribed organization to be accepted as evidence by the courts. I and many of my colleagues fear that if these laws are used they will lead to further miscarriages of justice. Mrs. Nelson thanked the committee chairman and returned to Belfast. (Note: Northern

who observed the attack were suspended from duty, nor was any disciplinary action taken.

And the peace process hasn't halted these attacks. Two months ago Michael McIlveen, a student at St. Patrick's high school in Ballymena, left a movie house in the town's center and was attacked by a dozen Protestant youths. Michael was kicked, stomped and beaten with a baseball bat. He died the next day.

Ballymena is the home town of DUP leader Ian Paisley, and a no-go area for Catholics. Though invited by the murdered boy's family, who are his constituents, Paisley, as is his custom with Catholics, would not even attend the funeral.

McIlveen was the third young Catholic murdered within nine months.

On Easter Saturday, another young Catholic from the same Dunclug estate as McIlveen was beaten and stabbed in a daylight attack at the town's Tower shopping centre, suffering a punctured lung.

As I write, another young Catholic man lies in critical condition with a fractured skull and possible brain damage after attending a barbecue in Derry's Protestant Waterside area. Paul McCauley was attacked by up to eight men on Sunday, July 17.

A friend who was with him suffered a fractured jaw, and another was badly bruised.

Despite inflexible blindness to these stories by the American press, they are the reality of a centuries-old government-sanctioned cultural and religious domination into which you are being told to extradite American residents.

On March 15 1999, six months after her appeal for help to the US Congress, civil rights attorney and mother of three Rosemary Nelson was headed for her office. Just yards from her Lurgan home a bomb exploded under her car. She died two hours later.

Police have yet to charge anyone with her murder, and despite strong suspicions to the contrary, say they have no evidence of a police conspiracy.

We Irish, of all world peoples, know well that while England's tactics evolve over the centuries, her strategy remains constant. It has been declared a country with: 'a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny.'

The Crown has been indicted: 'For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences. For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us: For protecting them, by a mock Trial from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants...'

You've read it before. The quotes are from a straightforward single page document of only 1300 words: our Declaration of Independence. These are also grievances long held by Irish men and women living under the Crown.

You may recall one other grievance: 'For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments.'

Whose interests will you serve by removing safeguards set in place at the founding of our Republic? And what are those safeguards worth? Would you trade them for a fleeting advantage in a minor, soon forgotten dispute, or for a foreign honorarium? If American principles can be bartered away so cheaply by our leaders, then the 9/11 hijackers could have saved the world the heartache. The American Idea is already on its knees."

Watch Irish Tv Journal; Chicago- All cable systems: Channel 19: Monday 7PM, Tuesday 2PM; Comcast- (Elmhurst billing) 41 West suburbs - Channel 19: Tuesday 7:30 PM; Comcast- (Skokie billing) 24 North suburbs- Ch. 19 (or 35): Tuesday, 6PM; E-mail: IrishTV@ameritech.net



### BRITISH GIVE ORANGE ORDER PROTESTANTS \$180,000 TO MAKE EXTREMIST PARADES A TOURIST ATTRACTION

Ireland Ombudsman, Nuala O'Loan has confirmed that whether or not British security forces were proved to be involved in the Omagh bombing, as many suspect, they did choose to ignore several clear warnings prior to the attack.)

Britain is now urging you to adopt similar draconian and undemocratic measures and apply them to Americans.'

A year before her Washington testimony, Mrs. Nelson represented the family of Portadown Catholic Robert Hamill. On April 27th 1997, Robert was returning from Portadown city center with his friend, Gregory Girvan, and two girls. They were heading for the Catholic estate on Garvaghy Road. A gang of up to 30 Protestant youths set on them. The two girls flung themselves over Robert and his friend to protect them, but Gregory was kicked unconscious. Robert was beaten into a coma and never regained consciousness. He died twelve days later.

The attack took place in full view of four RUC officers in a police Land Rover, and 200 yards from an RUC station. The officers wore body armor and were armed with machine guns, but made no attempt to intervene. They simply sat in their vehicle until the attack was over. They made no arrests and did not report the incident back at their station.

In a typical outcome for such murders, evocative of the very worst abuses in the American South half a century ago, the Director of Public Prosecutions chose not to prosecute. None of the officers

## IRA honoring its promise -Hain

The IRA is honoring its pledge to shut down all paramilitary activity, Northern Secretary Peter Hain said today.

Even though Northern Ireland Secretary Peter Hain accepted that some IRA members are still involved in illegal operations, he insisted that was not a good enough excuse for political parties to refuse to restore devolution at Stormont by the November 24th deadline.

He said: "There probably is still some localised individual criminality by former and maybe existing Provisional IRA members for their own private gain.

What there is not, is any organised 'from the centre' criminality any more."

"To that extent the IRA are delivering on their commitments made last July, not just in respect of shutting down paramilitary activity but also shutting down criminality."

The Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionists continue to insist on more proof that the IRA has abandoned all violence and alleged racketeering before they will agree to go back to a power-sharing executive in Belfast with Sinn Féin.

Dublin and London have warned the political parties that

if they fail to revive a coalition government in time then they will take control of how Northern Ireland is run.

Following talks with Government ministers at Hillsborough Castle, Co Down, Mr Hain stressed it was unrealistic to expect the IRA to deliver a state of absolute perfection in the time available.

Ireland's Minister for Justice, Michael McDowell, backed Mr Hain's assessment today.

Claiming the IRA had brought a halt to its activity, he told how leading members of Sinn Féin had called for the police to investigate a recent vodka robbery in Ireland when it was alleged that two members of the IRA movement were involved.

Mr McDowell said: "I believe that's the first time remarks of that kind have been made in relation to a matter of that kind."

Asked if he believed the IRA's war was now over following its declarations and disarmament last summer, he added: "The Irish Government and British Government are working on that assumption, based on the evidence we have."

## Saint Patrick's Battalion by James Alexander Thom

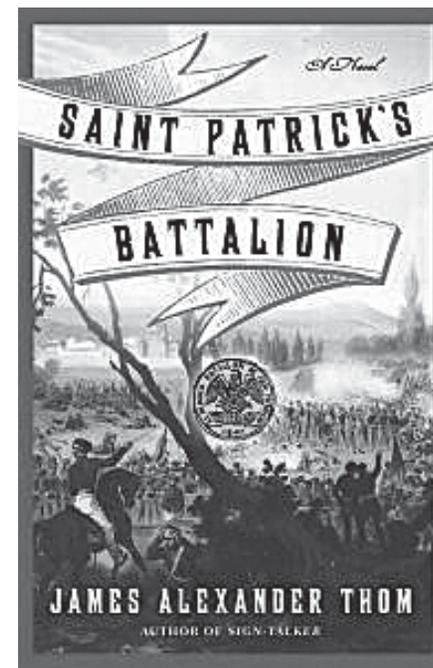
Saint Patrick's Battalion tells the remarkable real life story of John Riley, an Irishman who led his men to desert the American military during the Mexican-American War.

It is June 1845, and Paddy Quinn is a camp boy for the American army - which, by order of President Polk, is bound for Mexico. A young man with journalistic aspirations, Paddy writes letters for illiterate soldiers and learns that, like him, many are Irish, including the enigmatic John Riley. Riley rattles camp hierarchy when he rails against the brutal treatment of Irish soldiers, but soon he goes further, sneaking away at night to switch sides.

Riley is not alone. Fed up with mistreatment and drawn by a Catholic bond, Irish, German and other soldiers join Mexico. Led by Riley, a corps of Irishmen called the San Patricios—in English, St. Patrick's battalion - fights for the enemy in the war's major campaigns. But when they are captured, their resolve is tested in the extreme - as are Paddy's loyalties, to his country and to

the man he most admires. Alternating between Paddy's account and that of Mexican soldier Augustin Juvero, Thom constructs a gripping novel that questions our concepts of war, duty, loyalty, and national identity and draws intriguing parallels to our current conflict in Iraq.

Saint Patrick's Battalion by James Alexander Thom. A Ballantine Books Hardcover, Publication Date: August 29, 2006. (0-345-4456-2); 336 pages; \$24.95; lbarnes@randomhouse.com.



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## The Shamrock Club of Wisconsin, Milwaukee Elects New Board

The Shamrock Club of Wisconsin's Milwaukee Chapter recently held elections for their 2006-2007 board of directors. The new board is as follows: Brian Witt, president; Peter Fleming, Vice President; Marianne Fisher, treasurer; Dawn Fleming, secretary; Kathy Donovan, sergeant at arms; Tom Smith, membership chair; Ed Mikush, parliamentarian; Julie Smith, past president; and trustees: Del Canon, Noreen Barclay and Patrick Fitzgibbons. Their terms are from July 1 until June 30, 2007. The new board was installed on July 13th.

The chapter will again be a part of the Milwaukee Irish Fest. Volunteers will be working their sales booth in the Grafton Street area, as well as staffing the information table in the Cultural Area.

The Shamrock Club also proudly sponsors the Shamrock Club Griffins in the Milwaukee

Hurling Club. The team is headed up by captains Mike Larson and Dan McAullife. The Griffins are currently in first place in the Harp Division standings, and are the only undefeated team in the MHC.

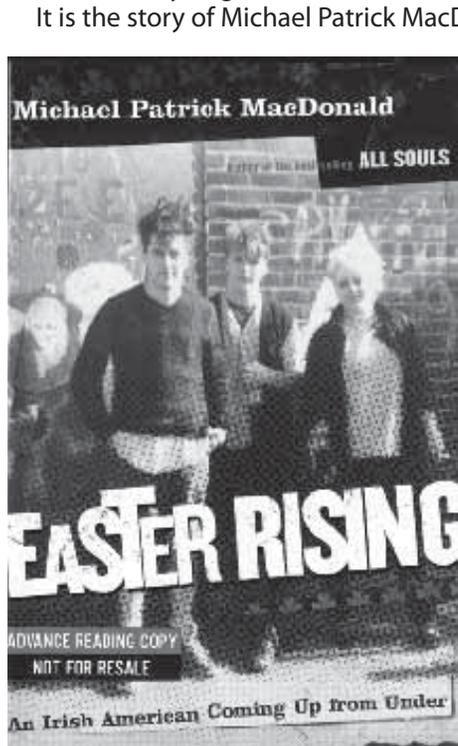
The club has listings of Irish and Celtic events, including music, plays, dances and lectures for Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and the Upper Midwest, (Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, and Ohio). Go to <http://shamrockclubwis.com> for links to all those, as well as information on the Shamrock Club. The Shamrock Club now has a listing in Wikipedia, the free online encyclopedia.

The Shamrock Club is based at the ICHC, mailing address: Shamrock Club of Wisconsin, 2133 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53233. Contact their 24-hour activities line at 414-77-IRISH, (774-7474).

### Easter Rising: An Irish American Coming Up from Under

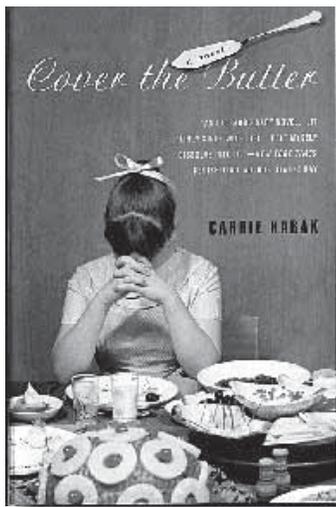
by Michael Patrick MacDonald

In his best-selling *All Souls: A Family Story from Southie*, Michael Patrick MacDonald told the powerful story of a decimated community and family, chronicling the loss of four siblings to the violence, poverty, and gangsterism of Boston's Irish American ghetto. In *Easter Rising: An Irish American Coming Up from Under*, his long awaited new memoir, MacDonald tell his own story, answering the question "How did you get out?"



### Cover The Butter

by Carrie Kabak



In *Cover The Butter*, Carrie Kabak delivers the smart and funny coming-of-age story of Kate Cadogan, a middle-aged housewife who is stuck in a rut – right between her self-absorbed husband and her teenaged son, neither of whom pay her much attention. Then Kate returns from a trip to find that her son has thrown a party and trashed the house, and her husband is too busy watching television to respond to her disappointment.

A few glasses of wine later, Kate finds herself falling down a hole like Alice in Wonderland. She lands in the year 1965, smack in the moment she receives her first bra.

What follows is an exhilarating series of adventures with two spirited and devoted friends, an Irish mother who dishes out equal amounts of love and loathing, a weak-minded and smothering father, a couple of wayward men, an unsatisfying job, a few

unwanted pounds, and an unflattering outfit or two. Through it all, Kate learns to pull away the blindfolds and emotional clamps that have kept her from pursuing her passions all these years.

A captivating exploration of love, friendship and family, *Cover the Butter* is a novel that proves it's never too late to start over.

*Cover The Butter* by Carrie Kabak. NAL Trade Paperback Reprint, May 2006. (0-451-21835-3); \$14.00; [www.penguin.com](http://www.penguin.com).

It is the story of Michael Patrick MacDonald's personal path to reconciling himself with where he came from, reclaiming his heritage, and learning to use it as a source of inspiration and pride rather than disgrace. It is also a funny, honest, heartrending story of both loving and hating the place you call home, a story that will resonate with readers from anywhere.

*Easter Rising: An Irish American Coming Up from Under* by Michael Patrick MacDonald. Houghton Mifflin. Publication Date: September 27, 2006. (0-618-47025-5); \$24.00; [www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/booksellers](http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/booksellers).



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The Kerry Association of Chicago held their annual 4th of July picnic at Rubio Woods in Crestwood, IL. The weather cooperated completely. It was a beautiful warm summer day with mild temperatures in the low 80's and hundreds of members and friends and their families attended the fun-filled day. All day continuous music was provided by the expertise of John Carmody and his CD's. There were races for the children, golf games for the bigger kids, and a face painter for the young and young at heart. Popcorn, beer and pop were provided all day. The day began with the singing of the National Anthem by Matt Doyle and a moment of silence for those who gave their lives so we can enjoy our freedom, followed by a parade of all the kids waving their American flags led by bagpiper Mike Shaunassey. President John O'Connell and his committee did a great job of organizing the annual event. President O'Connell said he thought it was "one of the best picnics ever".



John O'Connell, Mickey O'Rahilly, and Mike Doyle enjoying the Kerry Association annual picnic.



Brian Connolly, Tommy Dolan and Brian Ruane (not pictured) started playing football with the Chicago Youth Gaelic Football Club 9 years ago. Now they're coaching the Club's U-14 team, which competed in Boston in July at the 2006 GAA Continental Youth Championships.

## One Million in grants to Irish organizations in U.S.

Mr. Dermot Ahern T.D., the Minister for Foreign Affairs, today announced grants totalling US\$1.183 million (€919,374) to 14 Irish community organizations in the US engaged in the provision of support and advisory services that are accessed by Irish emigrants.

In announcing an unprecedented level of Government support to these groups, the Minister said:

"Government funding to the Irish immigration centres in the US continues to rise very significantly. In a clear reflection of the Government's strong resolve to support the more vulnerable members of our community in the US, funding this year is up 29% on last year, it is close to

double the amount distributed in 2004 and is more than three-times the funding available in 2003."

The Minister warmly commended the work of the Irish immigration centres in the US.

"The information and advisory services that the Irish immigration centres offer are of great benefit to the more vulnerable members of our community in the US. Their services are of particular value to the undocumented Irish whose welfare remains an issue of deep concern to the Government. We will continue to attach the highest priority to representing their interests in the critical period ahead."

The Minister added that he greatly values the services that the centres are developing to

respond to the needs of the Irish community.

"The Government is happy to support the work that the Irish centres are carrying out to develop a wider range of support services for our community in the US. In this regard, I welcome in particular the development of services for older Irish people in the US."

The Minister today also announced a grant of US\$10,000 towards the costs of a memorial in New York to commemorate Irish soldiers who died during the Korean War. Funding was also extended for the first time to two web-based publications, with grants of €5,000 each to the Newshound and the Irish Emigrant.

## Prader-Willi Fund Raiser Committee Meeting

The Prader-Willi Fund Raiser Committee held a well-attended meeting at Mary Todd's Restaurant on July 9th. Several items were discussed and decided upon regarding the upcoming fund raiser at Gaelic Park in Oak Forest, Illinois on Sunday, November 19th, 2006. A cash raffle will be held and the music will be provided by Velvet Green and Pat Daly. There will be food and a cash bar, as well.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 10th, 7:00 pm at Jack Desmond's Irish Pub at 10339 S. Ridgeland, Chicago Ridge, Illinois.

Anyone wishing to participate in putting this fundraiser together is welcome to attend. For those who would like more information about this potentially deadly syndrome... attend the meeting or call Bill Devitt at 708-372-1737.

## 28th Annual Chicago Jazz Festival

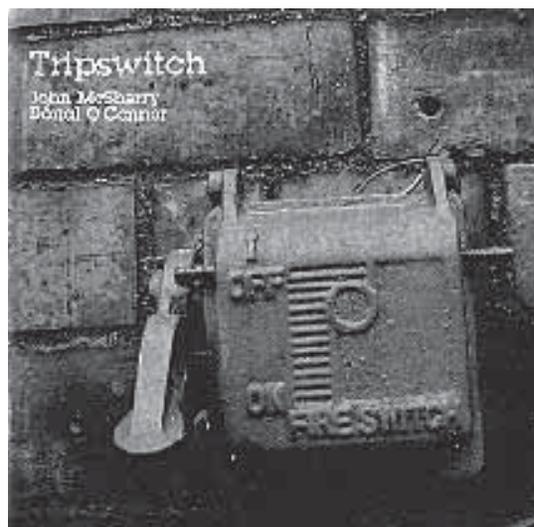
The City of Chicago honors the birthplace of Jazz, featuring performers from New Orleans and celebrating the impact of that city in the creation and evolution of Jazz music at the 28th Annual Chicago Jazz Festival, August 31-September 3, in Grant Park. The Chicago Jazz Festival officially opens with a ticketed performance at the Chicago Symphony Center on Thursday, August 31 at 7:30 pm. The festival then moves to Grant Park on Friday, September 1, for three days of free music on three stages.

For more information on the Chicago Jazz Festival call the Mayor's Office of Special Events at (312) 744-3315, TTY (312) 744-2964 or visit the Mayor's Office of Special Events on the Internet at [www.cityofchicago.org/specialevents](http://www.cityofchicago.org/specialevents).

## Tripswitch

John McSherry & Dónal O'Connor

"... if there's a better Irish album released in 2006 I'll willingly dance naked in Trafalgar Square with a ferret on my head. But only if Tripswitch is playing in the background. -- Geoff Walls, Songline



From his early days with his family band Tamalin to his role as a co-founder of Lúnasa, to his recent solo work, Uilleann piper John McSherry has helped to reinvent Irish music, bringing to it urgency and precision matched with an ambitious, sophisticated rhythmic sensibility. That immediacy and sophistication is heard throughout Tripswitch, McSherry's new collaboration with young fiddler Dónal O'Connor. Tripswitch mates the pair's virtuosity and mastery of traditional forms with a fluid, jazz-infected sense of rhythm casting the ancient art into an exciting new context. McSherry and O'Connor are joined on Tripswitch by Austerien Musician of the Year - Rubén Baba (guitars, bouzouki), as well as McSherry's brother Paul (guitars), guitarist Tony Byrne and

Giles LeBigot, and Shaun Wallace (percussion).

While the uptempo selections are riveting, the quieter moments - such as the slow-jig set "Commonalty Set" and the slow reel title track - speak more directly of the passion that exists at the core of Tripswitch. "Tight as a drum and louche as a bordello queen," wrote Siobhán Long in the Irish Times, "Tripswitch is a collection for the wide open road, fuelling the miles along after the tank runs dry."

[www.compassrecords.com](http://www.compassrecords.com)

Continued from page 14



Small world. Old school buddies Bob Fitzgerald, and Frank West catch up on old times.



(l to r): James Sloan, Irish Consul General, Charles Sheehan, and Tom Boyle. Mr. Sloan presented the flag representing the Batallón de San Patricio to the Irish American Heritage Center.



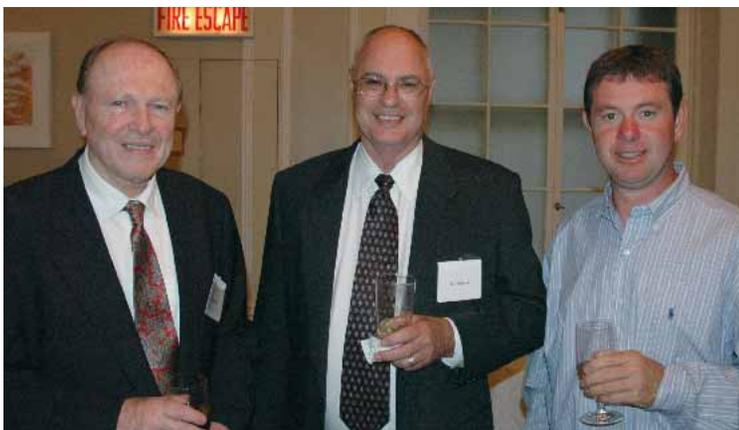
James Sloan introducing Alphonso Gonzales and Martin Cabrera.



(l to r): Frank Crowley, Pauline Kochanski, Anne Carney, Brendan Heintz, and Dr. Alice Carney.



(l to r): Kevin Connollan, Tim Egan and Noah Garcia.



(l to r): Matt Lynch, Jim Ferguson and Dermot Raftery.

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## Chicago Fire Announces St. Baldrick's Soccer Challenge in Association with Fado's to Raise Funds for Childhood Cancer Research

Amateur teams to compete at half time with a catch – the losers not only lose the match but their hair as well!

A lofty challenge will be revealed during Thursday's World Cup Soccer match between the United States and Ghana at the Fado Irish Pub and Restaurant, 100 W. Grand, Chicago. The Chicago Fire will announce the First Annual Fado/St. Baldrick's Soccer Challenge at Toyota Park.

The Soccer Challenge will take place on August 26th, during the Chicago Fire and Colorado Rapids match. At the half-time break, two amateur teams sponsored by Fado Irish Pub will take to the soccer field for a mini-match.

The twist? Members of the losing team, not only lose the match but their hair as well! They will have their heads shorn post-game by Chicago Fire's Justin Mapp and Nate Jaqua, in support of the St. Baldrick's Foundation, which raises money for children's cancer research through head-shaving events. A portion of the day's ticket sales will also be donated to the St. Baldrick's Foundation by Chicago Fire.

In the past six years, St. Baldrick's has already raised over \$20 million for childhood cancer research, with over 26,000 past shavees - including over

3,500 in the Chicago area alone - at 828 events in 42 states and six countries.

About the St. Baldrick's Foundation St. Baldrick's is one of the few charities where people can get involved in a very meaningful way. Shavees come to identify with cancer patients by personally experiencing a very public aspect of their illness – the loss of their hair, and all the stigmas that are associated with that.

Launched in 2000 by three Irish reinsurance executives from New York City, St. Baldrick's Day began when Tim Kenny, John Bender and

Enda McDonnell reflected upon their professional and personal good fortune and challenged each other to give back to society.

They decided to turn their industry's famed St. Patrick's Day party into a benefit for a good cause. Having resolved to raise funds for research and show solidarity with kids in treatment by shaving their heads in public, in return for financial gifts from friends and family.

This first St. Baldrick's celebration, held at Jim Brady's pub in lower Manhattan, sought to raise \$17,000. The founders exceeded their goal, having recruited 20 volunteer shavees who, together, raised over \$100,000.

Funds raised at St. Baldrick's celebrations are granted to research organizations that meet stringent criteria and who share the foundation's commitment to fiscal responsibility. Its primary grant recipient is the Children's Oncology Group (COG), a network of over 4,000 physicians, nurses and scientists that treats kids and performs cutting-edge childhood cancer research at its 230 member institutions throughout North America and beyond. COG hospitals treat over 90% of all children with cancer in North America.

One hundred percent of the St. Baldrick's Foundation's donations are

generated by St. Baldrick's shavees, organizers, volunteers, staff and board members. Unlike many other charities, the St. Baldrick's Foundation does not receive government grants and does not raise money through mass mailings or telemarketing.

In 2005, the St. Baldrick's Foundation established the first St. Baldrick's Fellowship to encourage promising new medical professionals to pursue pediatric cancer research as a specialty. This Fellow is now in place at Schneider Children's Hospital in New Hyde Park, NY, a respected COG institution near the birthplace of St. Baldrick's.

For a complete listing of St. Baldrick's Day events near you and for more information about the St. Baldrick's Foundation and/or Sponsorship Packages please visit [www.StBaldricks.org](http://www.StBaldricks.org) or call 888-889-BALD.

Contacts: Chicago Fire Major League Soccer; Vanessa Aceto, 708-496-6741; [vaceto@chicago-fire.com](mailto:vaceto@chicago-fire.com). Fado Irish Pub and Restaurant; Kieran Aherne, 312-836-0066; [Kaherne@fadoirishpub.com](mailto:Kaherne@fadoirishpub.com)

The St. Baldrick's Foundation is an independent, IRS approved, 501(c)(3) organization, Federal ID # 20-1173824. Audited financial statements are available for public viewing on the St. Baldrick's Foundation website.



The Irish American Heritage Center said goodbye to the popular Irish Consul General Charles Sheahan, (2nd from left) and his wife Alice, who have been reassigned to Dublin, Ireland. IAHC President, Patrick Bloom (L) and IAHC Director, John Daly presented the Sheahans with several mementos with Chicago flavor in appreciation of their fine service to the Midwest Irish.

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former lead singer

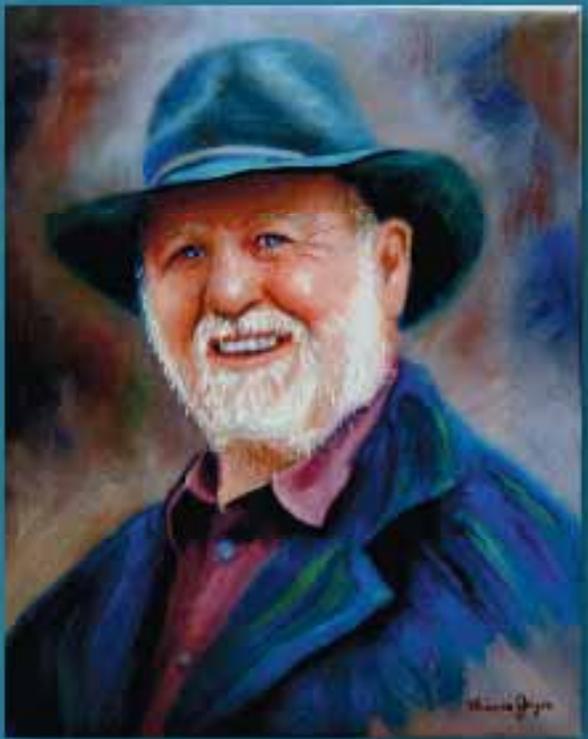
Brian Howe @ 9:00 pm

Friday, September 15

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Brian Howe started his career as lead vocalist for Ted Nugent. In 1990, the 2 existing members of Bad Company - drummer Simon Kirke, and guitarists Mick Ralphs recruited Brian to replace Paul Rodgers as the lead singer. Brian decided to accept the offer and joined the legend of Bad Company. Brian toured and toured with Bad Company for the next 10 years. See him live at Ballydoyle.

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# Sporting Log

By Sean Og. O Ceallachain



diately came up against the powerful GAA programme of matches which killed off their support base in the capital city. FAI chief executive John Delaney pointed out that it was up to all the League clubs to run their business properly because they won't survive if they don't. He also stressed that the issues affecting League clubs in terms of viability and securing sustainable future were very much behind the planned merger with the FAI.

The final act in the close down of the Dublin City soccer club was the decision taken by the FAI to expunge the results of the 17 matches they had played. As a result., the teams that secured points against Dublin City already this season have had them docked, leaving Drogheda top of a revised 11 team premier division.

Dublin

Meanwhile, the GAA scene is buzzing and the money is pouring in to the coffers of the Association. New records were established by way of attendance and gate receipts for the recent Leinster football final between Dublin and Offaly. Over 82,000 packed Croke Park the biggest ever attendance for a Leinster final. The drawing power of Dublin is phenomenal wherever

they go throughout the country playing matches. Dublin Secretary John Costello told me they could have sold another 10,000 tickets for the Offaly game.

The Down county Board look set for an estimated £8 million (11.5 million euro) windfall following confirmation of a number of offers for St Patrick's Park in Newcastle.

Several commercial companies, including supermarket chain Tesco, are more than interested in the ground. Written offers are being considered at present. The initial approach had been made by Tesco some months ago, but the interest in the site had grown to an extent that it was time for the GAA people of Down to be told about it.

While major money is always attractive there is also the sentimentality factor about the disposal of this ground.

County chairman Jerry Quinn said "There is a sentimental attachment to the ground because it has played a significant part in the development of the GAA in Down." He also stressed that there will be those with the view that they should not sell, but there are also those of the view that if you are sitting on a nest egg, you should

sell it and look at what you can develop from it. St Patrick's Park, the county's second ground behind Newry's Pairc Eslar has received £100,000 in the last four years. Interest in GAA grounds has led to a rash of offers to County Boards and they are all big figure sums.

The Clare County Board are considering 10 proposals for Cusack Park in Ennis. A special steering committee will be meeting this month to make a recommendation to clubs. There have been offers for a number of GAA grounds, such as Austin Stacks ground in Tralee, Pairc Tailteann, Navan, St Conleths in Newbridge, Kildare and Dr Cullen Park in Carlow.

The growth of the GAA in towns and rural areas has led to improvements in order to cope with bigger attendances at matches – especially at inter county level.

The visit of a Dublin football team to any venue in the country is worth millions in revenue to the local economy and long may that situation continue. In that context some of the leading teams, Galway, Westmeath and Mayo are demanding that their possible games against Dublin be played at Croke Park should they win their qualifying matches.

The financial pressure involved in running Soccer in Ireland is beginning to show its teeth. Quite a number of the clubs are already very much in debt and are finding it hard keeping their heads above water. The Professional Footballers Association spokesman Fran Gavin, was shocked to learn that the Dublin City club has had to fold the club and this may be the tip of the iceberg. He expects other clubs to go to the wall before the end of the season.

He has now to hold meetings with the City players in an effort to find new clubs for them before the end of the soccer season. Gavin is already involved with players who are already in discussions with clubs, who are trying to address crippling debts.

Another factor has entered the scene, the Revenue Commissioners are taking a closer interest in clubs affairs, which means more suffering on the way for some other clubs. The Revenue Authorities served

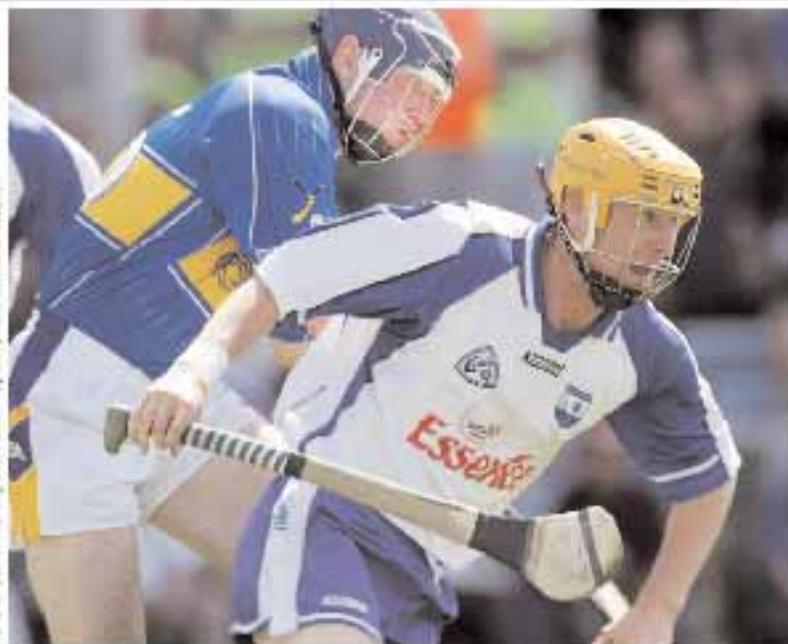
winding up orders already on Cork and Shelbourne football clubs and Shamrock Rovers last season.

At the moment the League of Ireland are expecting to amalgamate with the Football Association of Ireland, who run Soccer in this country, and that should bring a greater unity of purpose in keeping the game alive. It goes without saying that a number of the League clubs who are unable to raise capital for their debts will not be involved in the proposed take over. It will also mean a reduction in the number of the clubs playing in the Premier League. A morning newspaper recently showed a young boy sitting all alone in an empty stand at one of the League of Ireland soccer matches. That picture amply illustrates the reason for the difficulties facing some soccer clubs at present.

A couple of years ago the Soccer Association decided to switch their playing season to summer - which was a retrograde step. They imme-

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# A Word With Father Boland



The Voice of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago Administrator, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago

You've probably encountered major roadblocks in your life as we all have: some obstacle that looms up and seems insurmountable: a large medical bill, a student loan that goes on forever, a car accident, a flood or fire in your home or business. The investment of your time and money is enormous.

The working poor have many more strikes against them. Not only do they have to work for their daily bread, as we all do, but they work for considerably lower or minimum wages, often do not have health care plans, and have difficulty finding affordable housing. Daily life often involves making choices between food, clothing, medicine, rent and utilities.

Then there is the specter of unemployment, or the unexpected illness of a child, parent or oneself. The ultimate disaster is homelessness, drifting from one relative or shelter to another, making it difficult to keep or find a job - losing one's income and one's roots.

Imagine, however, adding to these obstacles another major setback: a child custody dispute, a mortgage foreclosure, the physical or financial abuse of yourself or an elder - and you're poor. You may not be able to work because of an illness or a disability, or you are laid off and can't pay your rent. You've been threatened with eviction. You have no safety net. What do you do? Where do you turn?

Catholic Charities is no stranger to meeting needs. Over the years,

as we have seen increasing numbers of poor people with similar, serious needs, we have expanded our services to help them. Several years ago, our Emergency Assistance Centers in the poorest regions of Chicago, its suburbs and Waukegan sprang up within months to provide food, clothing, shelter and utility assistance.

Decades ago, we started intensive, long-term self-sufficiency programs for homeless families so that they could work their way toward financial independence, permanent housing, family stability and restored human dignity. Comprehensive services such as individual and family counseling, recovery residences and services for seniors continue to maintain families and help people restore their health.

A few years ago, as we talked with our guests at our weekly suppers in Chicago, Summit and Des Plaines, and with the adults who came to our food pantries and clothing rooms, it became evident that many had legal obstacles that kept them from bettering their lives.

According to a 2005 study\* that documented the legal needs of low-income Illinois residents, over 1.3 million civil legal problems were faced by Illinois poor in 2003, the vast majority of whom had to face the problem alone, without legal help. These low-income residents had the assistance of an attorney for only one out of every six legal problems they

encountered. Yet in many cases, their safety, health, stability, education, food or financial futures depended on resolving these issues.

Because charity and justice for the poor go hand in hand at Catholic Charities, we have taken new action to help the poorest of the poor who have no one to defend them. Last fall, to meet the debilitating legal needs of the poor, two volunteer attorneys, members of our Board, began to take requests for legal help. As a result of their experience and research, I am happy to announce the establishment of the Catholic Charities Legal Assistance and Resource Center (LARC) under the leadership of Legal Program Coordinator, attorney Elizabeth Teague.

Now, we are looking for help! Word about our legal assistance program is spreading rapidly among the guests and clients at our weekly suppers and other programs. We invite practicing attorneys to volunteer their time and expertise in their chosen field to help the families and individuals who come to Catholic Charities. The need is great in all areas, such as consumer, housing, health, employment and disability law, but the overwhelming need

is in the area of family law.

The Legal Assistance and Resource Center takes telephone calls, walk-ins and referrals from the intake process for Catholic Charities programs, because a legal need may emerge as clients are seeking another service: counseling or rental assistance, for instance. Our volunteer attorneys will consult on a pro bono basis with those who need help, give them advice when appropriate, and determine if they can represent themselves.

Some of the legal needs of the poor families or individuals can be met - the roadblocks removed - with just a little information from a lawyer. When informed about the legal process and who to call, what to expect in terms of time commitment or expenses and obligations to be incurred - the head of a low-income household can often act "pro se" (for him/her self).

Pro bono services can consist of giving one-time advice, writing a letter or taking on a case. If the client needs representation by an attorney, LARC will match them with volunteer attorneys. Currently, LARC is working hard to recruit more law firms and individual attorneys to represent clients, because legal aid clinics in the Chicago

area often have to turn away prospective clients. They simply do not have sufficient resources to help them.

Here are some examples of the calls for legal help we have received:

- Women who were victims of domestic abuse and feared for both their own and their children's safety were instructed on how to obtain orders of protection from the court.

- A homebound woman crippled with multiple sclerosis called seeking an attorney who would come to her home to draft a will.

- Numerous other callers - including seniors - faced eviction, the denial of public benefits, or needed to make a will.

If you are a licensed Illinois attorney and would like to volunteer to accept an occasional pro bono case from LARC, please call Elizabeth Teague at (312) 948-6821.

By doing the work of justice in charity, you will enable our poor brothers and sisters to live in safety, peace of mind and human dignity.

\*For further information on the legal needs of the poor, see the document: "The Legal Aid Safety Net: A Report on the Legal Needs of Low-Income Illinoisans" at [www.lf.org/iolta/legalneeds.pdf](http://www.lf.org/iolta/legalneeds.pdf).



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# Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Let's put one piece of nonsense to rest immediately.

There is an attitude lately that Ireland has become anti-American. This has to be one of the most frustrating things that I come across. I have yet to meet an Irish person who does not admire the sheerve, the optimism and the exuberance of the American people. On a personal note I love the manner in which they so venerate their flag. Nationalism has often been taken to appalling extents here, yet I find it refreshing to see people who are not ashamed to raise "Old Glory" in their backyards.

Not in any way a Nationalist myself, I still can admire this. It seems to me a forthright and healthy expression. It's your government that most of us have a problem with, as indeed many of us do with the Irish government.

(On a side note, many thanks to George Bush—a man that I have very little time for—and belated congratulations to him for putting well-overdue manners on Gerry Adams and for just all-around spoiling

his St. Patrick's Day celebrations. About time someone did.)

Over here in Ireland I find that our own rulers are increasingly timid when it comes to actually doing anything about lawbreakers, while having no problem about making the lives of the law-abiding citizens increasingly monitored. In the film "V For Vendetta" there is the memorable line: "People should not be afraid of their Government; the Government should be afraid of the People". This is a sentiment that appears to have been lost along the way, as we begin to forget that we put them there to serve us and then become upset when they install monsters like Hussein, who were armed and brought to power by us in the first place, but then become dissatisfied with their role as puppets.

I saw in close-up this week how steadily insane our global situation is becoming when on the streets of Galway, a 40-year old man known as Imam Noonan was allowed to canvas for converts to his extremist sect while 30 miles down the road at

Shannon Airport young Americans were passing through on their way, some of them, to die in Iraq. Talking to these soldiers it is impossible not to think of the children that will be unborn, of the parents and spouses who will have lives shattered, of the books that they will never read, let alone write. It's impossible not to feel a deep and raw anger. But here's one Imam's more memorable quotes:

"Obviously Ireland will have to change—eating ham and close observation of the opposite sex will have to stop. The whole bar and disco culture will have to go and the beaches must be segregated. These changes will take time—but they will happen."

The most chilling thing for me is that although to look at this man he is just another humourless bearded religious extremist, wandering around with his Koran stapled to his wrist, he was actually born in Galway. Indeed, before he converted 15 years ago, he had an Irish wife. He likes to boast that he divorced her because she refused to wear a veil! It really is at this point that one begins to wonder if one has gone completely mad.

Still, there is some humour in everything and here it comes with his reason for converting: he once had an encounter with Barry Manilow. "I found him bossy, arrogant and rude. I didn't like the way he spoke

to the co-stars in his show. I was very unhappy after meeting him and decided it was time to choose how I wanted to live".

So there you have it. After all of his crimes against music we now have to blame poor old Barry for another—let me be careful, here—interesting person wandering our streets in search of converts. Oh, and before the usual suspects complain that he belongs to one particular sect, I don't make any distinction, so save your little pots of vitriol.

Cheers, Barry!

By the way, I have no time for this nonsense about political correctness. However, I've just returned from the

Caribbean island of St. Lucia. I was privileged to stay at both the marvellous LeSport resort and at the achingly beautiful Jalousie Plantation. Oprah Winfrey has commented that this is one of the places to see before you die and for once something lives up to what could have just been hyperbole. On seeing St. Lucia one of the things that hits you is that two cultures really can live as one. I doubt the word "integration" would even have any meaning. These are beautiful people living life as it should be lived. (It seems the old hippie in me isn't quite extinguished after all.) I hope to talk more fully on that visit next month.

## Fifth of police in North now Catholic

By Alan Erwin, PA

One in five police officers in Northern Ireland are now Catholic. As demand to join the PSNI reached a new high, the drive to achieve religious balance in the ranks was strengthened by the latest figures.

Catholics account for 20.05% of regular officers in the force, compared to just 8.3% when the Patten probe into the old RUC was carried out in 1998.

Even though the SDLP's Alex Attwood described it as a landmark in attempts to overhaul the service, he warned against any move to now end the 50:50 recruitment policy.

"It's a watershed that they have broken through the 20% barrier," the Policing Board representative said. "The figures remain very encouraging and very strong."

"But the continued success of overall recruitment and Catholic

recruitment must not mean that the Government changes its position on the retention of 50:50.

With new recruits graduating from the Garnerville training college in east Belfast last Friday, there have now been more than 65,000 applications to join the PSNI.

The latest campaign led to the highest level of interest yet. Nearly 7,700 applicants competed for 220 places.

Out of these 37% were Catholics, again the highest rate to date.

Paul Goggins, the Northern Ireland Security Minister, praised the standard of men and women joining the PSNI. "Policing as a career isn't an easy choice. It's not an easy job, and not everyone could do it."

"The PSNI has shown that it is attracting high calibre candidates into its ranks."

## Once Upon A Time in New Jersey

The Marriott Theatre presents the world premiere of a new musical comedy, *Once Upon a Time in New Jersey*. Performances run through September 10, 2006. The musical is the winner of the Richard Rodgers Award for Best New Musical and The Global Search Award Winner for Best New Musical in Cardiff, Wales.



Jim Weitzer as Vinnie, and Kathy Voytko as Angie

Swing back to 1956 "Joisy". An ordinary deli...not your ordinary hero! Sweet deli-man Vinnie loves Angie. Adorable deli-gal Angie loves Rocco. Womanizing Rocco loves Celeste. And sexy Celeste's thug of a husband loves to break legs.

When Rocco makes Vinnie an offer he can't refuse – to be Rocco for a week – Vinnie leaps at the chance to get the girl of his dreams.

Free parking. For info or to reserve tickets at 847.634.0200 or visit [www.marriotttheatre.com](http://www.marriotttheatre.com).

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## 11th Annual St. Catherine's Irish Fest

As Labor Day approaches many people think of fall, the start of a new football season, or children returning back to school. For the Irish, they think of only one thing --- St. Catherine's Irish Festival! Irish Fest is a weekend filled with

music, dancing, and food.

Irish Fest will be held on Friday, September 8 from 5:00PM - 11:00PM, Saturday, September 9 from Noon to 11:00PM, and Sunday, September 10 from Noon to 7:00PM. The fest is located on the grounds

of St. Catherine of Siena, Routes 31 and 72, in West Dundee. The church grounds are just two short miles north of I-90 off of Route 31.

A lively line up of musical entertainers are highlighted by the return of the Fenians on Friday night only, Brigid's Cross, the Larkin and Moran Brothers, Mother Grove, the Chicago Irish Pipe Band, and directly from Ireland - Gael Sli. There will be plenty of Irish dancing featuring The Mayer School & Anam Mor Irish dancers. The bands featured throughout the weekend on the inside and outside stages are guaranteed to bring out the Irish in everyone! For the children, there will be a "Wee Folk" area with Irish crafts, games, Irish dancing lessons, Irish folk singing, and several raffle drawings. Admission to the Wee Folk area is just \$3 for children.

There will be a variety of Irish and American food vendors serving everything from corned beef & cabbage to hot dogs and chips. A Celtic Marketplace highlights the festival featuring various vendors including Blarney's Irish Imports and Murray's Irish Outfitters. Our vendors offer an array of Irish jewelry, sweaters, and Irish keepsakes. After you finish shopping you can visit our raffle tent to purchase a ticket for a chance to win \$10,000!

Are you up for a run or should we

say Jig Jog? That's right, a 10K Run, 5K Walk/Run, and a one Mile Fun Walk/Run will also be going on during the weekend. The Jig Jog will take place on Saturday, September 9th, at 8:00AM starting at the school grounds. The race is presented by the St. Catherine Home and School Association. For more information regarding the race go to [www.irishjigjog.com](http://www.irishjigjog.com)

The festival will take place rain or shine! All events are indoors or

under the main tent. Daily admission is \$8.00, \$20.00 for a three-day pass; children under 12 free with paid adult; Senior Citizens are just \$6.00. Don't miss these three solid days of family entertainment, food, and shopping. St. Catherine's invites you to come to the fest, raise a glass of Guinness and enjoy!

For more information, visit the website at [www.stcatherinesirishfest.com](http://www.stcatherinesirishfest.com) or call (847) 426-2217.



Brigid's Cross

## Manhattan's Fitzpatrick Hotel Serves Up Savings With U.S. Open "Perfect Match" Packages

The Fitzpatrick Hotels in Manhattan serve up savings and convenience for tennis fans combining summer vacation with the action of the world-famous U.S. Open tennis tournaments. The Perfect Match overnight package for two is available at both Fitzpatrick Manhattan and Fitzpatrick Grand Central from Friday, August 28 through Sunday, September 10. The package includes an overnight stay in one of the Midtown properties, complimentary continental breakfast for two, and two New York City Transit MetroCards for easy transportation between the matches. Rates for the Perfect Match packages begin at \$229\* per night in a deluxe room, or \$299\* in a suite, saving guests nearly \$150 per night.

The Fitzpatrick Manhattan, located at 687 Lexington Avenue between 56th and 57th Streets, offers 92 guest rooms and suites. Fitzer's, a popular neighborhood bar and restaurant, features plenty of TVs to watch the action in-house, while those wanting to catch an early dinner before evening matches Monday through Friday can enjoy the Beat the Clock special, a three-course prix fixe menu, available from 4 - 6 p.m. for

just \$25 per person, plus applicable tax and gratuity.

The 155-room Fitzpatrick Grand Central, just steps from Grand Central Station and the #7 train to the Tennis Center, is located at 141 E. 44th at Lexington Avenue. No one need watch the matches alone if choosing to dine at the hotel's welcoming Wheeltapper Pub during lunch - guests can meet new friends and fellow sports fans by simply requesting the "Singles Table". The restaurant features a variety of tempting Irish and American menu favorites, and a quiet outdoor patio also offers TV coverage and a delightful al fresco dining experience.

Both hotels offer guest rooms filled with charming comforts and contemporary amenities. Traditional style and gorgeous Irish appointments are enjoyed throughout, while guest rooms feature sophisticated canopies above pillowtop beds, luxurious bathrooms, plus an array of business amenities. Visit the website at [www.fitzpatrickhotels.com](http://www.fitzpatrickhotels.com) or call 800-367-7701 for more information and reservations.

\*Based on availability. Subject to change. Excludes taxes.

## Tee Time For IAHC Golf Open

Polish off the five-iron and get ready for the 17th Annual IAHC Golf Open on Saturday, September 9. This year's outing is at Fresh Meadow Golf Course in Hillside, IL. There will be a shotgun start at noon.

The fee is \$100 and includes lunch and dinner at Fresh Mead-

ow as well as greens fees, a golf cart, and 2-hour open bar. Prizes will be awarded. Proceeds from the Open go to the Irish American Heritage Center (IAHC).

To book at tee time, call Golf Open Chairs, Alan Duggan at 312-401-2603 or Maureen O'Looney at 773-286-6866 or the Center at 773-282-7035, ext. 10.



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# For The Republic

By Chris Fogarty



This column, as long-time readers know, reports the news that the rest of the "news" media cover up or twist. Big Lie "journalism" has swept the field of all but a relative handful of truth-tellers. Thus, presented below are the facts as to terrorism in Ireland, Iraq, Palestine/Israel and Lebanon. As the Bush/Blair/Israel axis push us into WWII, below you will find incontrovertible evidence as to actual events in Palestine/Israel.

"Terrorist," unless it has a direct connection to political homicides, is merely a smear. Those who murdered some 2,800 at the World Trade Center are terrorists. But "terrorist" is usually hurled by the bloodiest of terrorists against their victims or those trying to defend their victims. The "news" media's use of the word "terrorist" has little meaning other than to designate those whom a powerful State intends to murder.

THE I.R.A. were smeared as terrorists despite the following facts; 1) On three separate occasions, in the 1500s, 1600s and 1800s, Britain wiped out more than half of Ireland's population. 2) In the post-1968 British occupation of Ireland, while both sides killed approximately the same number (1,750), British forces murdered mostly civilians while Irish forces killed mostly enemy combatants. 3) Of the 174 children murdered in the latest phase of Britain's war against Ireland, 154 of them were murdered by British forces. These British specialists in child-murder are the terrorists. (For the comprehensive listing see [www.terrorismireland.org](http://www.terrorismireland.org).) No amount of spin can alter the facts of that listing. The perpetrators also earned Britain the vile record of most convicted torture-State in Europe (at the European Court for Human Rights). Yet, for years, like most Irish-Americans, I

had been neutralized by lies. It seemed to us that, if the Brits were the terrorists, which they are, at least some few mainstream news outlets would be reporting it. But the U.S. - and Irish and even Irish-American! - news media constantly promoted Britain's Big Lie about IRA "terrorism." For their Big Lie to prevail against Irish democracy they obviously had to, and did, conceal the homicidal data that would expose the terrorists as British. This era of the Big Lie is notable also for the framing of pro-democracy activists such as the following.

Free Michael McKeivitt! As one of Ireland's foremost defenders of democracy, McKeivitt (whose wife, Bernadette, is a sister of the immortal Bobby Sands) incurred British wrath. Thus, he was framed and sentenced to 20 years. It was so blatant that civil rights activists and honest people everywhere are organizing to get justice for him. McKeivitt was framed by the same MI5/FBI criminal gang that unsuccessfully framed me twice and my wife, Mary, Frank O'Neill and Tony McCormick, once each. In Chicago, the MI5/FBI criminals were led by FBI agent Patrick "Ed" Buckley. Two years later Buckley's second attempt, at framing the four of us, failed when his evidence fabrication and perjuries were exposed in Federal Court. He was soon sent to Ireland where he continued to ply his trade for MI5. Buckley hired a David Rupert who, according to a New York State Police Affidavit, is "a life-long criminal and con-man." Rupert is a serial bankrupt (four times) who perpetrated frauds and perjury even in his bankruptcy filing documents. When only one of his bankruptcies was known he testified in a McKeivitt pre-trial hearing that a truck accident in Kentucky had caused that bankruptcy; but that accident occurred two weeks AFTER

he filed for bankruptcy. He defrauded his employer, B&K, a suburban Detroit trucking company, of some \$800,000. The IRS considered that loot as income to Rupert and filed a tax lien against him for it. With penalties and interest it came to nearly \$1,000,000 but, under FBI influence, the IRS settled the \$-million claim for \$25,000. Rupert habitually embezzled the federal taxes he withheld from truckers' paychecks. He had cut a destructive swath through his home city of Massena, NY. This is the David Rupert who, while collecting performance payments from both MI5 and the FBI, was their key witness in the frame-up of McKeivitt. That is why decent people, good citizens of all countries, are pursuing justice for Michael McKeivitt. Some individuals now eminent by having long been deemed Ireland's consciences, including Msgr. Raymond Murray and Frs. Desmond Wilson and Joseph McVeigh, are pursuing justice for McKeivitt. Let's join them! See [www.michaelmckeivitt.com](http://www.michaelmckeivitt.com).

even if no U.S. law has been violated; Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the membership of the Ancient Order of Hibernians assembled as a body at the 93rd National Convention in Boston, MA this July 8th, 2006 strongly oppose the new Treaty which is a deprivation of the rights of the citizens of the United States and wholly unnecessary in the war against international terror And Be It Further Resolved, that this resolution be transmitted to every member of the U.S. Senate and the President of the United States as a matter of urgency with the express urging to withdraw and/or oppose any new Treaty which does not include the important language noted above." Signed, Jack Meehan, National President, AOH. Well done, AOH! Let's all contact Sens. Durbin and Obama and our congressman about this.

The murderous lies regarding Iraq was Saddam's WMDs and his ability to deliver them to targets in the US. If true, it would have made Bush's invasion of Iraq legal. But this column was

It so reeks of the general corruption that has made rapists' paradises of the once-proud West Point and Air Force Academy.

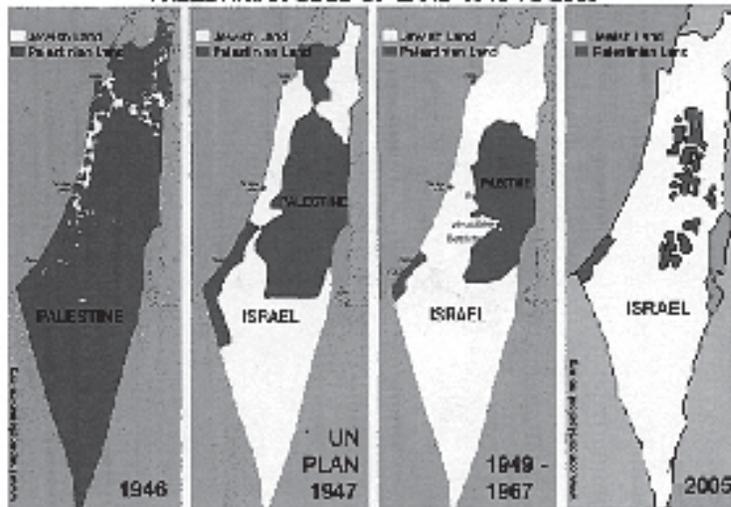
The Zionist Lie. Before reading further take a careful look at this pages' maps of Palestine/Israel. It is being distributed by an exemplary; largely Jewish-Chicagoan group called Not In My Name. Note well how the dots of Israeli-occupied land in Palestine have spread such that the Palestinian-occupied part of it all has become mere dots. Here is the crux of the matter, which our news media cover up. If you grasp it, you will understand the essence of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict as well as why we invaded Iraq and threaten to invade Syria and Iran. Here it is: That massive Israeli takeover of Palestinian land was not the result of market forces. That Palestinian land was not sold to the Israelis. Its Palestinian owners were (and are still being) terrorized out of them by the Israelis who now occupy them. It is the continuing Israeli grabbing of Palestine lands and houses by means of murder and terrorism that informed people object to. Israel's "right to exist" is a red herring that covers the reality of Israel's demanded right to exist as the genocidists of Palestine. The tiny and diminishing Palestinian dots of land suggest that Israel's final solution" for Palestine is at hand. The crime has been underway for most of our lives and most of the world turns away from it. Our news media are far more anti-Palestinian than, say, Israel's Ha'aretz newspaper.

Israeli Terrorism. Israeli terrorists out-murder Palestinian ones by four to one. Why do our news media label the Palestinians as the terrorists?

The U.S. Congress. To learn why they give nearly half of all US foreign aid to Israel, some \$3 billion of our taxes annually, find out who is bribing them. Today I talked with ex-US Congressman Paul Findley (IL). He once expressed sympathy with Palestinian suffering and was soon targeted and politically ruined by Jews. So was ex-US Senator Charles Percy of Illinois. Ditto Adlai Stevenson, Congress members Pete McCloskey, Cynthia McKinney and others. Those not already on the take from AIPAC (most congressmen are) fear being ruined by Jews if the stand up for the Palestinians.

Clip out the maps. An occasional glance at the ethnic displacement they show will cut through the bs on TV "news." You will never again believe that the Palestinians are the terrorists. Help to head off WWII by phoning Sens. Durbin and Obama and your congressman. Courteously ask them to stop using your taxes to fund Israel's genocide in Palestine and Lebanon. Phone me at 312-664-7651.

PALESTINIAN LOSS OF LAND 1946 TO 2005



The U.S.-U.K Extradition Treaty change sought by the UK is an attack upon US sovereignty. A resolution adopted by the 93rd National Convention of the AOH on July 8 at Boston reads; "Whereas, there is currently before the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee a new U.S./U.K. Extradition Treaty; and Whereas, the Treaty, as proposed, eliminates an important safeguard in the current Treaty, to wit Article 3(a), which states in part: 'extradition shall not occur if the person sought establishes to the satisfaction of a competent judicial authority by the preponderance of the evidence that the request for extradition has in fact been made with a view to punish the individual on account of race, religion nationality or political opinions...' (1986); and Whereas, if adopted this new Treaty could mean citizens of this Republic may be treated as Subjects of Her Majesty's Government and to be removed from the U.S. based on unproven allegations by that government

pointing out at the time that were we actually in such danger no lies would have been necessary. All of the solemn warnings of "Saddam's purchase of uranium oxide from Niger," his "aluminum tubes useful as centrifuges in nuclear bomb development," and "the smoking gun that could come in the form of a mushroom cloud" were all clearly falsehoods. They now constitute evidence of Bush & Co's violation of Nuremberg, the Supreme Crime.

More lies re: Iraq. When in late June the news broke about the US soldiers' elaborately planned rape and murder in March of a "25-year-old Iraqi woman" and the murder of her family including her 2-year-old sister, I smelled something. Odd, that 23 year age difference in siblings. By early July the news media were admitting that the rape/murder victim was a 14-year-old girl. But, like the torture in our gulag, it is the cover-up and twisting of the facts by higher-ups that, more than the original crime, is so offensive.



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## Horoscopes

by Theresa Castro

**ARIES:** The full moon in Aquarius brings with it some opportunities to change the status quo. Others may come unglued by the prevailing planetary weather but you see this as a foot in the door to your progress. Just be above board in all of your dealings for best results.

**TAURUS:** Unlike your astrological neighbor, Aries, you will not fare quite as well in the stressful aspects of the full moon on the 9th. The Sun, Moon, and Neptune are all besieged by Saturn. All of this presents challenges for you. You may see the evidence of this in your work or home environments. Hang in there.

**GEMINI:** Like Aries you do have a bit of an advantage during the full moon of August. You are likely to see some friend or group of friends go through a sticky set of challenges. Be a good pall and support those in need.

**CANCER:** The full moon of August is going to be a challenge to your finances. You would do well not to make any major purchases or loan out money. Your personal possessions are also vulnerable. Don't invest if seems too good to be true. It probably is.

**LEO:** You are the focus of a planetary tug of war. During the full moon of August you will feel the pull of Sun and Saturn opposing Moon and Neptune. All of this will likely manifest in your one on one relationships. Expect a few confrontations.

**VIRGO:** You are going to have a few issues that you cannot readily tackle in the month of August. The problem is that you are not privy to all of the elements of your problem. The positioning of the planets are hiding the issues. This is only temporary.

### Scottish fair in Midlothian soon

On Saturday, September 30, Scotland will come to Midlothian for the 9th annual Scottish Fair. The fair will open at 10 AM on the Village Green, 147th one block East of Pulaski. The fair will include fiddling competition with a world-class fiddle judge who will also play for the fairgoers at 5 PM in the Pub Tent; mini-pipe band performances; Scottish Highland and Scottish Country Dancing demonstrations; a sheep herding demonstration; Irish Dancing; Celtic vendors; Scottish and American food vendors; clan/genealogy booths; a storyteller; children's games (with prizes), along with a jump, face painting and a take home art project; "Mary Queen of Scots," and a Pub Tent featuring Stone Ring and others to be announced, providing Celtic pub music.

About ten years ago, a Midlothian Scottish family came to the village to request that we bring the Highland Games back to Midlothian. The Illinois

**LIBRA:** You will not be as bothered by the major planetary opposition presented by the full moon of August. The tensions during this planetary storm will be evident in way that it slows down some of your plans. Be patient.

**SCORPIO:** The full moon of August will bring you the greatest challenge of the year. There could be major transformations in your home life as well as your career. These areas of your life might be contingent on the other like a change of hours or position that will affect your domestic situation. A split of some kind could happen as well.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Try to keep your wits about you while some old or worn out structures seem to crumble before your eyes. This could be your old car or your job, or even a relationship that has run its course. Life is full of changes and August will prove it - one way or another.

**CAPRICORN:** The month of August will bring sobering fortunes with the Sun and Saturn opposing Moon and Neptune. Usually this month is a boon for you but Saturn will throw a wet blanket on your affairs. Your travel arrangements may hit a snag as will vacation plans in far places. Stick close to home.

**AQUARIUS:** The full moon of August hits close to home for you. If you are involved in some kind of relationship that needs revising this will be the perfect opportunity. The planets could also force a sudden split. Leo, your opposite sign will see similar results. You could find the courage to walk away from an untenable situation in your life.

**PISCES:** Help your neighbor Aquarius. He or she is having a tough time now with the planets. You are probably blissfully unaware of the turmoil that is plaguing some of your fellow signs. You are blessed with enough detachment to see things as they are. Please share.

St. Andrew Society Highland Games were held in Midlothian for about a ten-year period in the 1970's. The games outgrew Midlothian and went to Grant Park and, ultimately, to the Oakbrook Polo Grounds where they are held each June.

Failing to bring the games back to Midlothian, we decided to have our own Scottish Fair to celebrate our origin. The village took its name from the Midlothian Country Club, founded in 1898 by a group of prominent Chicago businessmen who wanted a "getaway" where they could send their families for the summer and then join them on weekends and play golf.

Written about by Sir Walter Scott in his book, "The Heart of Midlothian," the village was incorporated in 1927, it took its name from the Country Club.

During the period that the village hosted the Highland Games, a relationship was begun with Midlothian, Scotland. That relationship has been

### Chicago Irish Harp School Wins Seven Solo Medals

The Chicago Irish Harp School recently won seven solo medals at this year's Midwest Regional Fleadh in St. Louis. Golds were won in the senior division and the 15 to 18 division; Silver in the under 12 division, and Bronze in the under 12 division, two in under 15, and senior divisions. There were also three medals won in group competition. All five of four students qualified to compete at the Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann in Ireland.

The school is dedicated to learning and sharing the ways of traditional Irish music on the harp. Their students have won many competitions, but more importantly, have shared their love of Irish music. They have played at events such as Chicago Celtic Fest, Milwaukee Irish Fest, 2006 Comhaltas convention, and at Gaelic Park. Many of their students who come from Chicago and the suburbs, play at local events and shows in their communities. The students range in age from 10 to adult and are under the direction of Marta Cook.

For more information visit [irishharpchicago@bravehost.com](mailto:irishharpchicago@bravehost.com).

### An Irish Hooley

An Irish Hooley: A Celebration of Irish Music, Dance and Culture will be held Sunday, September 24, 2006 at the Dubuque County Fairgrounds in Dubuque, Iowa.

"Stones in the Field" will perform in the Fairgrounds Ballroom from 2-5 PM with Ceili instruction provided! Children's activities will be offered from 12:30-4:30 PM.

Admission for adults is \$7 (after 5PM - \$5) and children 10 and under are free.

**Schedule of Events**  
11AM - Irish Mass; 12:30-2PM - 5 Mile Chase; 2-3:30PM - Fiona Molloy; 3:30-4PM - Claddagh Irish Dancers; 4-5:30PM - Peter Yeates; 5:30-6PM - Claddagh Irish Dancers; 6-8PM - The Kissers.

For more information call Shamrock Imports at 563-583-5000.



The Stones in the Field are an Eastern Iowa band dedicated to the world wide expansion of traditional Celtic music. They play a dizzying array of instruments: fiddle, concertina, button accordion, melodeon, wooden flute, tinwhistle, bouzouki, mandolin, banjo, guitar, and bodhran. They play traditional dance tunes in the Irish ceili style, as well as their own arrangements. When challenged by a request for some hard-driving old-time American tunes, spritely Swedish tunes, or even a Finnish polska, we try and comply. Their main objective is to get down, cut loose, and have fun with traditional Celtic music.



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fostered over the years and has been strengthened by a "twinning agreement" with Midlothian Scotland signed in 2002 when Provost Sam Campbell came to the Midlothian Scottish Fair. Midlothian is the only community in Illinois to have a formal "sister-city-like" agreement with a community in Scotland and so we refer to Midlothian as "a wee bit o' Scotland in Chicago Southland."

There is something for everyone at the Midlothian Scottish Fair...all for free. The fair is handicapped accessible with ample free parking in Metra lots.

Midlothian is conveniently located in the heart of Chicago Southland and easily accessible via I-294, I-57, I-80 and Metra Rail (the fair is one block from the Metra commuter station).

For additional information, look on Midlothian's website: [www.villageofmidlothian.net](http://www.villageofmidlothian.net). Or call the Village of Midlothian at (708) 389-0200.

# Voice of the Immigrant

By John W. Kearns, Attorney at Law



## More on the immigration front

### Immigration Issues

Attorney Kearns practices immigration law and general practice from Chicago, Illinois.

Immigration reform is once again hijacked by the House of Representatives. Rather than being considered by a joint House-Senate Conference Committee as it was supposed to be, House leaders have decided to hold more hearings before various House committees, apparently intending to bury the issue until after the November elections. In the meantime, both sides of the issue (conservatives and moderates, who, let us not forget, are still pro-enforcement) will be playing for the heart and mind of the voting public.

As the chances for favorable immigration reform legislation fade with those ongoing House hearings, it becomes even more important to take special care to recognize issues that can get one into immigration trouble. Now that the government is enforcing the rules like never before, it is important to know these rules, because they got a

lot worse for the people since 1996.

### Criminal Convictions

Someone who has been arrested before, and even if they settled the case without a conviction, can have a big problem later. Maybe you had a case a long time ago and forgot about it. When would it pop up and cause an immigration problem? Most commonly, when coming back through the airport, renewing the employment card, at the citizenship interview, or now they have a new one: the Chicago office is refusing to renew the ten-year green cards if there are criminal convictions. This is clearly wrong and abusive. The government cannot deny permanent resident status by refusing to issue the card, the person has to be put in removal proceedings and a judge will have to decide.

Are there solutions for the problem of prior criminal convictions? Of course there are, if the right attorney has enough time to clear the criminal record. Pursuing post-conviction relief in the form of vacating the original

plea and conviction, in other words, reopening the old criminal case, is a big case by itself. In my experience, not many professionals can do it, but it may be the only choice. Some cases are hopeless, but many are not. When the person has already been arrested, detained, and is in removal proceedings, it may be too late.

"I was never convicted of anything! The lawyer said I could forget about it!" Your protests will fall on deaf ears, as the immigration authorities arrest you and put you into removal (deportation) proceedings, even if you have a green card. Many criminal cases, including first offense felonies, end up with no conviction going on the record after a period of probation, especially for first offenses. The bad news is that these cases count as "convictions" for immigration purposes. Immigration law, unfortunately, applies a different standard of definition and classification to crimes than normal criminal law. This can have very serious and unexpected (especially by the criminal lawyer) negative consequences. Sometimes those consequences don't pop up for years.

For example, the criminal lawyer considers it his highest achievement (short of winning at trial, which is also luck and gamesmanship) to make a deal with the prosecutor where you, the defendant, end up with no conviction on your record. To achieve this result, you will be forced to admit

guilty. Your sentence will be a period of "probation" during which you must comply with all the requirements, and then upon successful completion of the probation, the original charge is considered dismissed or at least the conviction is not entered on your record. It's a great result from the criminal law point of view.

Unfortunately, if you plead guilty or agree to the facts upon which you are charged, this counts as a "conviction" for immigration purposes. What other choice do you have? Well, you started off pleading "not guilty." Maybe your lawyer can try the case. Force the State to put on its evidence and witnesses to prove you guilty. You ARE innocent, right? Of course, the risk of losing at trial is that there is no deal with the prosecutor. The Judge could give you the maximum sentence. OK, the "choice" was to NOT commit the crime in the first place, especially if you are not a citizen. Even green card holders will have problems resulting from criminal convictions. It never fails to amaze me when those with so much to lose (immigration-wise) will shoplift or get caught with drugs. The government does NOT want such people here!

So you have pled guilty. Whether you are going to have a problem really depends on what kind of crime. For immigration purposes, there are many categories of crime. Some will fade off over five years. Some are eligible for a waiver, if that application is made. Some are harmless unless there are two or more "convictions" for the same thing. An attorney should really analyze the criminal record after first obtaining an accurate copy of it.

Depending on the crime, it may mean that you (the defendant) are theoretically subject to arrest by immigration officers right out of the criminal courtroom the moment after pleading guilty or agreeing to the facts which would support a conviction. I am not saying don't do it; what I AM saying is to first analyze and take into consideration the immigration effect, because most criminal lawyers are totally unaware. Furthermore, most immigration lawyers are not equipped to effectively deal with the criminal case. The government is really not likely to arrest anyone right out of the courtroom. When can one expect the immigration problem more likely to arise? We discussed that, above, but considering that one may be theoretically eligible for arrest right out of the courtroom as soon as the plea is entered, will the Service be found banging on one's door at 5 a.m. one morning. That is not impossible, but it would be more likely that a letter will come in the mail requiring a visit to the deportation officer. But the arrest

is more likely to happen when coming back through the airport after an ill-advised trip to visit grandmother, in the course of applying for or renewing employment authorization, while applying for a renewal of one's ten-year green card, or while sitting in a citizenship interview.

For those who are truly innocent, for whom the arrest itself is a travesty of justice, who are wrongly accused, these are the righteous people who it is an honor to defend. Of course, it costs more, because we have to go to trial for sure, and seek an acquittal on the merits. Certainly a trial will require the best lawyer money can buy, but it's still a roll of the dice. In criminal law, that's what makes the difference between a \$2500 case and a \$10,000 case. The immigration consequences of any arrest, no matter how unfair, which do not result in an acquittal after trial, can be quite severe and short of writing a book on the subject, are extremely complicated. The point is, if you have a criminal matter of any kind, do yourself a favor and find a good lawyer who is intimate with immigration and criminal law.

Case after case comes into our office where someone is in a serious trouble that could have been easily prevented. The resistance of the people to hire a lawyer until after it is too late is amazing. For the past two weeks, we have been discussing issues where immigrants inadvertently can get themselves into serious immigration problems, often resulting from a desire to save some money on an attorney, or from bad advice from someone in the immigrant community.

In the next article we are going to discuss some real life examples and answer questions on the same topic.

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# Careers

by James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



well as poker. And as the subordinate hopes and expects the boss will admit to his or her erroneous thinking, similarly the subordinate must be ready to do likewise.

But the subordinate

must understand the need to render criticism without any personal angst towards the boss. It can be presented with great excitement and enthusiasm, but without any personal animosity.

Business executives need to heed Jack Welch's advice about getting the right people on the bus. Too often, companies accept substandard performers. We need to discern early in the recruiting process, whether or not this potential hire is going to have the chutzpah to speak his mind. We might even build little tests of this characteristic in the interview; the interviewer might intentionally include some faulty thinking or data into the conversation for that purpose. Will the interviewee speak up when the interview decision is still in doubt? If they won't challenge the interviewer, should you hire them? Is the interviewee a person of principle?

Once a person is on board with your organization and their life has become complicated with spouse, children, mortgage and college tuition, the boss should reaffirm their willingness to speak up. The challenge for the subordinate is to find the appropriate time and venue to challenge the boss's thinking. To paraphrase an old maxim, you should applaud the boss publicly and criticize the boss privately (ideally behind closed doors).

When the boss says, tell me what you REALLY think, be careful and circumspect, unless you have been assured that dissent is welcome. Once you have had a chance to state your dissent, you should feel comfortable going to lunch with your boss. It should not destroy, but rather enhance, your professional relationship with your boss.

John C., the VP of HR, for a \$400 million company recently told me about an experience he had as his company was facing yet another restructuring. John has lived through several of these. He cautioned the CEO about a mistake made by his predecessor when they had a prior reorganization. All the people terminated were members of a protected class, over 40. They weren't intending to lay off only "older" employees, but that was the result. That decision cost them \$1.7 million in a law suit. I told John that he did just the right thing by bringing this matter to his boss' attention, even if it was uncomfortable for him. John said he felt obligated to tell his boss the unpleasant news. Fortunately, John has a pleasant manner, so he was able to make his case with the CEO.

If you intend to be the individual who speaks up, because you are driven by your integrity or ego (sometimes easily confused), you need to do some preparatory work. As early as recruitment, you make the point

with your boss that you are driven by your innate honesty to always tell the truth, even if it is unpopular. You view it as an obligation to tell the truth under all circumstances, it's not a multiple choice option. Such candor should never be interpreted as disloyalty on your part. Once the decision has been made, you will be on board and execute the decision enthusiastically, because you are a committed team player. All you want is to have your opinion heard, whether it is integrated into the solution or ignored in its totality.

Many of us throw rocks at our political leaders about their decision making capabilities, but that criticism applies to virtually all authority figures in our life. We all make mistakes; that's human nature. But the impact of mistakes could be mitigated, if the boss heard all sides of the story before making a final decision. Are you willing to give your boss a copy of this article as a discussion point?

This process works in your personal life also. As

the CEO of my family, I was always impressed and delighted at how carefully my wife and children have considered issues. They commonly let the "boss" know when he went over the edge.

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Often times, the person in charge does not know what's going on. One can certainly argue that the boss should know what's going on around him or her. But we know, at every level, that the person in charge may not know. If the boss has created an environment that stifles disagreement or for that matter, anything that is short of total and complete agreement, who's going to argue with him? How many of us really relish the notion of telling our boss that he or she doesn't know the whole story? Do we really want to bring "bad" news to our superiors?

Over breakfast recently with a dear friend of mine, Bob, a retired senior corporate officer, framed it this way. In conversation with a fellow executive, Bob said, "you control your subordinate's career, including pay raises, bonuses, and promotions. But you still think he is going to tell you the unvarnished truth?" What are you smoking? Unless you have created an environment of total trust, you are only going to get safe information.

He said he would accept any criticism from a subordinate and if it was a significant issue, he had a method of framing his response. He would tell the person that he would accord the input some quality thinking time and would get back to the subordinate within 24 to 48 hours. Bob would then respond by stating his agreement or disagreement with each element of the criticism. He would use this matter as a teaching moment, helping the subordinate to better understand the issues. He feels that the superior should always be operating as a mentor, not a harsh critic.

Obviously if the subordinate was "dead on", he would recognize the contribution and encourage the subordinate to continue his practice of challenging the boss. If the subordinate was "dead wrong", he would take the time to walk the issue through and explain the flaws in the subordinate's thinking or information and again, encourage the subordinate to be critical of the boss' decision making.

Subordinates need to be careful that they don't simply become nay sayers and fight every decision. As Kenny Rogers said, you need to know when to hold and when to fold. It applies in corporate decision making as

# SHARING A PINT

By Scott Powers

For you Chicagoans, how many times have you been visited the Sears Tower? Shopped on Michigan Avenue? Checked out one of Al Capone's old haunts?

Like most, I've been, maybe, up in the Sears Tower once, if anything I might have bought a drink at Walgreens on Michigan Avenue and couldn't tell you anywhere Capone used to hang out.

I wouldn't expect the answers to be much different from anyone else. What tourists see as attractions

and unique, we take for granted and consider them ordinary. Plus, if I ever do have some free time, the last thing I want to do is deal with thousands of out-of-towners on Michigan Avenue.

The strange thing about that mentality is that it completely changes when I travel elsewhere. I'm supposed to be on vacation, but all I want to do is see everything and be a tourist among the thousands of other tourists. The people I found annoying in Chicago, I



Pete Hamill, Colum McCann and Larry Kirwan.



Loretta Heaney and Samantha Meehan, owners of Ceol.

became myself.

Just this past month, I did just that in the king of tourist stops - New York City.

I dragged my girlfriend around from a play to a movie to a comedy club to Ground Zero to Times Square to Central Park. She put up a fight at times, but usually in the end allowed me my way, even when I made it worse by being that insuf-

ferable guy with the camera that has to take pictures of everything.

When she worked or was busy, I went to Shea Stadium, checked out famous basketball playgrounds in Harlem and Greenwich Village and watched World Cup games in New York bars.

In addition to all that, I proved to be the absolute Irish-American tourist. I ended up 'Sharing a Pint' with much of New York's Irish community.

We started our journey by attending a fundraiser at Connolly's Pub in Manhattan to save a local church from demolition. The church, St. Brigid's, had been the parish of choice for many Irish-Americans since they began traveling over during the Great Famine.

The event brought together some of the biggest of Irish names. Larry Kirwan, the lead singer of the Irish rock band Black 47, was the master of ceremony. The five-plus hour event included readings from bestselling authors Pete Hamill, Colum McCann, Malachy McCourt and Joseph O'Connor.

While stepping outside to catch some fresh air during the night, I came across McCann and introduced myself. We talked for a few minutes and he asked me if I would be attending the following day's reading for Bloomsday, a day which honors James Joyce's book Ulysses. It's commemorated every June 16 because the events of the book happen on that date, and it is called Bloomsday because the main character's name is Leopold Bloom. Anyway, I hadn't known about it, but added it to my tourist agenda.

On the following day, we traveled to the pub, which was called Ulysses', and ended up seeing a number of the same faces from the evening before. Joyce readings

were given by McCann, Hamill, McCourt and Kirwan. With the sun shining down on the outside reading and the Guinness pouring well, the day turned out just fine.

Another place where I enjoyed a few Guinness was Ceol, an Irish pub in Brooklyn. Owned by Loretta Heaney and Samantha Meehan, both who are from Ireland, the pub has a real Irish feel from the drink to the food to the traditional music sessions. A lot of pubs in New York like Chicago have shamrocks on their doors and aren't really Irish, but Ceol is authentic.

My final Irish-related tourist stop in the NYC was Broadway to see the play Lieutenant of Inishmore. I don't see much theatre and I don't pretend to be a critic, but for what's it worth, I haven't laughed that much in a while. The play was nominated for five Tony Awards, so I'm not only one who liked it.

All you need to know about the story going in is it's about a dead cat and an Irish rebel who loves his cat. If you're ever in New York, I guarantee it's worth the extra coin.

After two weeks in New York City, I returned home to Chicago from my vacation and needed another vacation to relax. It didn't help that my flight was cancelled, then had to fly to Indianapolis, where I stayed over a night, and finally the airline lost my luggage.

On the Tuesday morning when I came back, I got into the cab and provided directions. All I wanted to do was get home and sleep. As soon we hit the Kennedy, the traffic started to build toward downtown.

The first thought through my head of course was "Oh, how I hate tourists."

\* If you have any comments or suggestions for a Sharing a Pint, e-mail Scott Powers at [sharingapint@yahoo.com](mailto:sharingapint@yahoo.com).

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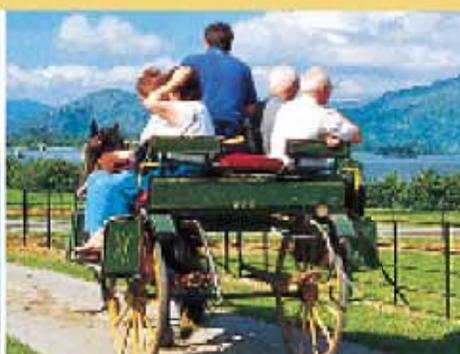
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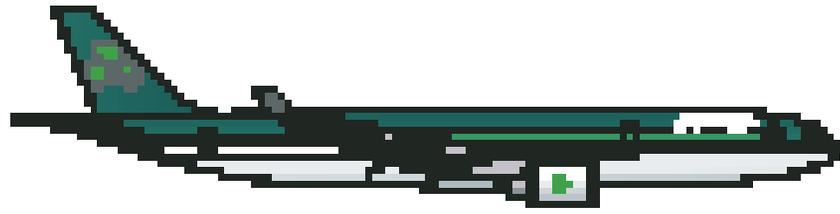
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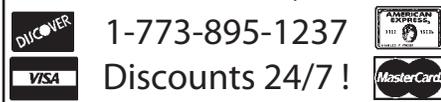
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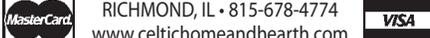
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