

THE HARP & FIDDLE

The Harp & Fiddle

*Keeping Park Ridge
Open at Night!*

Owner,
Declan Stapleton
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**It Was
A Wonderful Life!**
Farewell Ed McElroy
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**The Irish Times
Celebrating 25 Years
in Brookfield**
story page 11

Boyle the Kettle

We'll Have A Sup Of Tea
Tom Boyle



rie du Chien, Wisconsin. Soldier's Grove, Wisconsin is about halfway between Prairie du Chien

County for 40 years. He is now retired.

Ireland 1916

While World War I was still going on in Europe, on November 18th the Battle of the Somme ended in France after 141

wrestling match.

Please let us know if you were ever groped by Donald Trump.

If you are to the left of Whoopie Goldberg, you are off the charts! Whoopsie said, "hold your nose and vote for Hillary if you are a Republican, and vote down ballot for Republicans and maintain control of the House and Senate.

Not a bad suggestion considering that two or three Supreme Court Justices may be appointed in the next few years.

Veteran's Day

Once known as Armistice Day, which dates to World War I, when the Armistice was signed on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

This year you will hear the story of Eugene P. Moran.

Eugene was born July 17, 1924 in Scott Township, Crawford, Wisconsin. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in Madison, WI on October 21, 1942.

He served as a B-17 flying fortress Tail Gunner with the 8th Army Air Corps, stationed in England, and he flew five bombing missions.

On November 29, 1943 while on a bombing mission 28,000 feet above Sandbostel, Germany near Bremen. The tail section of the plane he was in was shot completely off by enemy fire. With severe gun shot wounds and a bullet-riddled parachute he roared the tail section down at the rate of 100 feet per second; and he survived the descent, but sustained a crushed skull when the tail section hit a tree before crashing to the ground.

His life was saved by a Serbian doctor, also a POW, who surgically repaired his head wounds, after which he became a prisoner of war for almost 18 months. Incarcerated in POW camps in Prussia, and Poland, he survived solitary confinement, relocation on a "Hell Ship" on the Baltic Sea, and participated in a 600 mile forced march from early February to late April 1945 in one of the harshest Winters on record.

He was liberated on April 26, 1945 at Bitterfeld, Germany, and was discharged on December 1, 1945 holding the rank of Staff Sergeant. He was awarded two Purple Hearts, the Air Medal with Gold Leaf Cluster. The European Theater Medal and a Good Conduct Medal.

Eugene Moran was a member of a family whose roots began in County Mayo. The great grandfather was born in Co. Mayo in 1836, and married Ellen Henry who was from Roscommon. They were married in St. Louis, Missouri. He died in 1906 in Soldier's Grove, (population about 563) Crawford County Wisconsin.

The Moran family emigrated to the United States in 1860. They traveled up the Mississippi River, and landed at Prai-

and LaCrosse. This tiny town sits on the banks of Kickapoo River.

St. Phillips Catholic Church is located in Soldier's Grove, where many generations of the Moran family have been baptized, confirmed, and ultimately buried in the graveyard there.

After returning from the war, Gene Moran led a full life. He got married and he and his wife, Margaret, had a family of 9 children. In October, 2007 Gene received the prestigious, Veteran's Lifetime Achievement Award from the Wisconsin



Eugene Moran

Board of Veteran's affairs.

Gene was a life member of American Legion Post 220, in Soldier's Grove. He served 10 terms as Post Commander and also served as Post Adjutant. He also served as Service Officer, Vice Commander and Chaplain. He was a life member of Disabled Veteran Americans, and American Ex POW's.

This unbelievable man served for 12 years on the Crawford Board of County Supervisors, 20 years as Chief of the Soldier's Grove Volunteer Fire Department, and 22 years as a charter member of the Soldier's Grove Rescue Squad. He was a member of the St. Phillip's Parish counsel, and Lord knows what else. What a life!

Next time somebody takes a knee during our National Anthem, they should be compelled to read the life story of Eugene Moran.

I had a long conversation with Jerry Moran, who was Eugene Moran's nephew. Jerry served as Sheriff of Crawford



Tim Gunning

days. There were thousands of Irish casualties who were fighting in the British Army. More than one million men were killed or wounded, making it one of the bloodiest battles in history.

My childhood friend, Jim Mulroy's grandfather who was from Co. Mayo, died in the battle.

One of our relatives from the Boyle family, Pvt. William O'Boyle, serving with the Irish Guards, died on November 2, 1917. He is buried in St. Sever Cemetery, Rouen, France. He was the son of Terrence and Kathryn O'Boyle, Gullan House, Ballybunion, County Kerry.

Republicans

The House Republican's "holier than thou" attitude just doesn't fly. As my mother used to say, "butter would melt in their mouths." They all ran for the exit when the Clinton campaign dug up the tape with Trump's so called "locker room" talk. The offensive word that he used is spoken a lot more commonly than you would believe. Since nobody could substantiate any of the claims about women being groped, apparently Trump's only offense was verbal. I suggest you take another look at the track record of President "Slick Willy" Clinton, who was definitely a hands on man!

TRUMP/CLINTON

The Clinton campaign has devolved into a mud-slinging morass. It can be compared to a voyeuristic ladies mud

GOODBYE TIM GUNNING

I'm sad to say Tim has passed away. Tim loved being Irish and he loved the Irish American Heritage Center.

I first met him in the 1990's, he was one of the zaniest characters you ever met. Green coveralls cut off at the knee, embroidered with leprechauns. He wore one green shoe and one orange shoe. He would offer his left hand to shake and he always had a kiss for the ladies.

Tim was generous to a fault. During my time as President of the IAHC, a women conned us out of some money using a well thought out sob story. After we found out what went on I became skeptical. Soon, another woman called the Center down on her luck. I asked Tim to go see her to find out if she was legit. As it turned out, her story was true. Tim bought her a large supply of groceries and paid her rent out of his own pocket.

Tim was a Navy man, I believe a Lieutenant Commander. He was in charge of the Brig that the U.S. Navy operates at the U.S. Marine Corp Naval Station in Miramar, San Diego.

Say a prayer for Tim, I'm sure he has already confounded St. Peter with the left-handed handshake.

Below are the arrangements for Tim's Remembrance.

Old St. Patrick's Church: November 6th Mass of Remembrance 12:30 candle lighting and 1:00 p.m. Mass we will honor Tim as well as all those we have lost this last year at this mass in the meantime and then on April 21st Memorial Mass 10:00 a.m. Tim Gunning with his 4 children

Notes of Condolence to Tim's Four Children: Timothy Gunning Jr.

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(ISSN #1085-4053) USPS #013454
NOVEMBER 2016 Vol. XL #11

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Advertising Sales Cliff Carlson
Photographer Cathy Curry Carlson

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Irish News, Inc. is published monthly on the 1st of month
SUBSCRIPTION
1 year \$30 • 2 year \$55 • 3 year \$75
Canada 1year \$45 • 2 year \$65
International: 1 year \$85
(Periodicals Postage Paid at Palatine, IL, and other mailing offices)

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to
Irish News, Inc.
PO Box 7
Zion, IL 60099
847-872-0700



e-mail to:
editor@irishamericannews.com

PUBLISHERS STATEMENT

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

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Anchors Aweigh: Titanicdance is U. S. Bound

The Millennium Forum's hugely successful Irish dance musical extravaganza, Titanicdance, is gearing up for its inaugural visit to the US later next month.

stateside with the show: "We have been looking forward to our American trip for some time now and can't wait to get on stage to show the people

sion to our visit!" Titanicdance is an Irish Musical Dance sensation that tells the story of the world's most famous ship from its beginning in the



The hit show will perform at the Branson Events Center in Missouri from 9th to 20th November fresh from its recent appearance at the China International Folk Arts Festival in Qinghai last month where it was seen by a live audience of over one billion people. Creative Director and Lead Dancer, Raymond Sweeney is looking forward to travelling

of America our amazing production. I am very excited to see their reaction. China was a great experience for all involved with Titanicdance and was a great honour to be invited to represent Ireland in such a huge festival. The fact that it was broadcast to 1.3 billion people was staggering. To dance on the historic Great Wall of China was a fantastic conclu-

Belfast shipyard to its tragic end in the Atlantic Ocean. Produced by Millennium Forum Productions, it first took audiences in Ireland by storm when it opened at the Odyssey Arena, Belfast in 2014 to standing ovations before

enjoying a sell-out run at the Millennium Forum in Derry. This is not just an Irish dance show; it's an emotional journey of hope, aspiration, love, heartbreak and sadness that will mesmerise audi-

ences everywhere. For more information on Titanicdance visit titanicdance.com Titanicdance is supported by the Arts Council NI and the British Council.

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I am writing my column from sunny Kinsale, Co. Cork...my "home away from home". In fact, having spent nearly 16 weeks of the last 25 in Ireland, I'm no longer sure which is my home away from home. Trust me....I'm not complaining. My business is booming as Tourism Ireland still does a fantastic job of enticing visitors through their ad and social media campaigns, the dollar is still making gains in parity with the Euro, and Ireland is still being viewed as one of the world's safest and friendliest destinations. In fact, Tourism Ireland just announced that Ireland has seen its best ever month of August and best ever January-August period for Irish tourism. So, I encourage everyone to get in on the action!

Having just worked with clients from Atlanta who realized their dream of a destination wedding in Ireland, I thought others might be interested in the growing trend of getting married abroad and invit-

ing family and friends to join in. Ireland seems to be a logical choice when considering a place that evokes romance and conjures up mythical couples of Irish legend, and in a sense weaving your own story with theirs. You can choose



to have your ceremony within the walls of a monastic ruin, a castle, a Georgian manor home, a local pub, on top of sea cliffs, a quaint countryside church. You can even

party and guests AND an Irish-based wedding planner. Waterlily Weddings, is one of Ireland's premier wedding planning companies and I was delighted to interview one of the partners and lead planners, Sile, to learn more about the process of getting married in Ireland.

IAN: What year did you start Waterlily Weddings?

WW: Waterlily Weddings was launched over 10 years ago in 2006.

IAN: Was it in response to a growing trend in the marketplace that you chose to capitalize on?

WW: At that time the whole wedding planning industry was a foreign idea — especially in Ireland. The only thing most people thought about when they heard "wedding planner" was Jennifer Lopez's character in The Wedding Planner movie! Michelle had a passion for planning, styling and event managed and her experience in marketing in Dublin had given her all the tools she need to venture out on her own. She started researching the destination wedding market in Ireland and saw the growing trend. So with a few business courses under her belt and joining a network of entrepreneurial women in Wicklow! Waterlily Weddings was born!

IAN: Have you seen a rise in queries coming from the U.S. and abroad?

WW: Yes, the interest and actual demand has been steadily growing year on year since 2006. Even while Ireland's economy was in recession, the demand for destination wed-

Continued on next page

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dings was still strong. Couples have been able to take advantage of extremely good value for money on accommodation costs. Coupled that with both the tax breaks the service industry received during this time and the favorable exchange rate, making the idea of an Irish Destination Wedding even more attractive for young couples and their guests.

IAN: Where would most of your clients be from? Ireland, the U.S., or elsewhere?

WW: The majority of our clients are from the United States, but each year we have new clients from other destinations. For example, we are working with couples from Sweden, Hong Kong, German, England and Oz just this year!

IAN: What age groups do you find use your services most?

WW: Most of our client would be in either there 20's or 30's.

IAN: What is the biggest mistake Americans make when considering a destination wedding in Ireland?

WW: I think it is over estimating their guest numbers

IAN: What SHOULD BE their biggest concern?

WW: Unfortunately, sometimes, even with the best of intentions family's situations change between the times of booking the wedding and the time to travel. You need to consider that elderly grandparents or other guests may be unable to travel. Once you are okay with that reality it avoids disappointment.

IAN: What are the requirements for non-Irish couples to get married and does it differ between a civil and religious ceremony?

WW: There are no major differences. Non Irish couples do their registration by post, as oppose to in person and then present themselves at the civil registrar's office 5 days before the wedding date.

IAN: What size weddings do you cater to?

WW: We do every size. We have a range of different wedding planning services to meet the needs of couples eloping (when it is just the couple themselves) right up to weddings catering for 150/200 guests.

IAN: What would you recommend as a timeline for an American couple considering having a wedding in Ireland?

WW: If they want a Friday or Saturday during the peak summer season or a date around New Year's we recommend a minimum of 18months planning time (although we have done it in a lot least).

IAN: What, on average, would the costs be associated with a wedding in Ireland for just a couple? For a wedding with 20 guests? 100 guests?

WW: I am afraid this is a very difficult

question to answer. It totally depends on the couple, the budget they have available and the type of venue and wedding they want. Some weddings would be just about the wedding day, others will incorporate rehearsal dinners and day after activities.

IAN: What would your top 5 favorite sites be in Ireland?

WW: We Love Ashford Castle it is just simply the fairytale after that they are too many favorites to narrow it down to 4 – but if we must – Luttrellstown Castle, Kilruddery House, Powerscourt House and Bantry House. Carton House in Kildare is amazing too!!

IAN: And, should a couple have a particular request for a setting would you be able to arrange most things throughout the country?

WW: More of less yes, we can create any setting as long as it is safe for their numbers and doable logistically.

IAN: Have you had any strange requests?

WW: Locals acting as strawboys!

*Strawboys were groups of revelers disguised in straw costume and wearing conical straw hats over their faces, have traditionally visited weddings to dance with the bride and other women, entertained with music, songs and jokes. Their presence was believed to bring luck, wealth and health to the newlyweds.

IAN: Anything that simply could not be done?

WW: You just cannot have a wedding for 100 on the Cliffs of Moher – it is just not possible!!

IAN: If YOU had a destination wedding in the United States, any thoughts as to where you might consider having it?

WW: I am a big fan of Martha's Vineyard – I love the idea of an outdoor wedding there. Or, in the mountains in Massachusetts in the fall, when the leaving are turning! Amazing!

For further information, visit <http://www.waterlilyweddings.com/>. You may contact Sile, or one of their other professional planners, at info@waterlilyweddings.com or via their U.S. telephone line at (443) 517-9870. Planning any wedding can be hectic, but with the assistance of professionals, a destination wedding in Ireland presents the unique opportunity to bring family and friends together to witness not only vows, but the magic that is Ireland. Go dté tú slán - "May you go safely",

Mary Ann K. Coon – Irish Travel Specialist
I invite all queries, suggestions, and comments. Don't forget if your question is chosen to be answered in my next column, you'll receive a \$25 dining voucher to Peggy Kinnane's in Arlington Heights!
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pH Factor

By Pat Hickey



The over-all appearance of the Irish Terrier is important. In conformation he must be more than a sum of his parts. He must be all-of-a piece, a balanced vital picture of symmetry, proportion and harmony. Furthermore, he must convey character. This terrier must be active, lithe and wiry in movement, with great animation; sturdy and strong in substance and bone structure, but at the same time free from clumsiness, for speed, power and endurance are most essential. The Irish Terrier must be neither "cobby" nor "cloddy," but should be built on lines of speed with a graceful, racing outline." -The Irish Terrier

This morning on the way to services at St. John Fisher Catho-

lic Church, I ran into Rocky - an eight year old Irish Terrier puppy. These dogs stay pups until they go to heaven. Rocky was all business yanking the leash of the young lady taking him out for his matin mouvement de l'intestin et de la miction des arbres, des souches, des poteaux et bouches. That's French for his refreshment complete.

Rocky turned his attentions to me - a natural patsy for play. He was all a shudder and whiskers.

Rocky reminded me of Leroy Hickey my dog from 1965 - 1977. Leroy was an Irish terrier that my Dad bought off of one of my Grandfather's pals - Pete Bradley - from Scartaglen, Co. Kerry. Pete had a bitch that pupped nine red beauties and my Dad picked the

feistiast one in the litter. About two weeks later the Old Man took Leroy back to Pete to have his ears and tail properly clipped.

Pete had had a few.

The result. Leroy's tail was about three inches shorter than it was supposed to be and his ears were lopsided. This is the downside of getting products, pets and promises from any 'guy I know.'

Leroy needed to shake, not only his tail and the attached money maker, but his entire being to signal delight. Other dogs took his tail-less greetings with wary approach.

The Irish Terrier breed is about 2,000 years old and was bred for protection of the home, children and to do constant warfare on rats and other vermin. With snooty Progressive patrician WASP bigotry, the Irish Terrier was not recognized by the American Kennel Club (AKC) until 1885. The Irish themselves much later.

Like most of the aboriginal Irish of the two-legged variety, these bastards can dig! Leroy would have made a great Streets and San guy. They are superb rat-ters. There was not a rat within six blocks of our house and Leroy would bound over the backyard fence or front gate to get after a rat or feral cat on the B & O tracks embankment at 75th Place. They'd go to ground and Leroy would dig them out.

They are very loyal, protective, stubborn and fearless.

Leroy had a reputation as the only dog in Little Flower Parish to have gotten the best of Bowser Lanigan - mixed mutt Rottweiler.

Irish Terriers are great with children, but very tolerant of others.

Leroy remembered Pete Bradley and would foam at the mouth whenever Pete's car pulled away from Grandpa Hickey's house at 7535 S. Marshfield and totally ape-scat if his blue Pontiac ventured west on 75th Place anywhere near our house.

I hope to see more of Rocky on my way to church.

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Ireland Underdogs to Topple New Zealand in Soldier Field

There is an old Irish seanfhocal: 'An rud is annamh is íontach,' which translates to 'What is rare or seldom happens is wonderful.' With this premise within grasp, a full house will fill Soldier Field when Ireland take on the rugby world champion All-Blacks on the first Saturday in November.

Much to Ireland's discomfiture, they have never beaten New Zealand in test rugby and it is primarily for this reason that the majority of those in attendance will be Irish expatriates hoping to witness a historic victory. This much sought victory is well overdue and in the past Ireland have come perilously close, most notably during their last encounter with the New Zealand in 2013.

With 20 seconds remaining on the

clock, Ireland were winning and had possession of the ball. However, a concession of a penalty in

midfield ended with the All-Blacks marching down the field and breaking Irish hearts

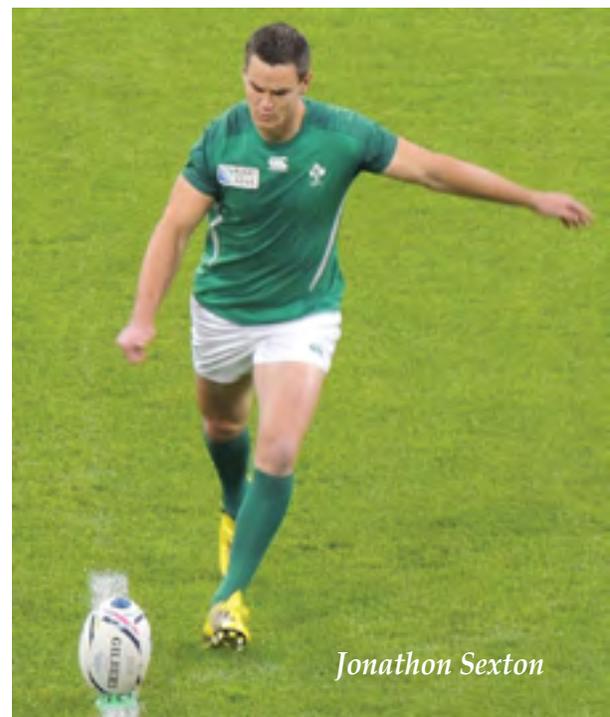
with a try in the corner on the last play of the game.

It had been a phenomenal display by Ireland, who on the day should have been further ahead on the scoreboard and Johnny Sexton is unfortunately remembered for a missing a late kick, which would have put Ireland two scores up with time running out. On that day it was not to be and if you were to look at the form, it would seem that Ireland's chances of winning this time around looks less likely in this encounter.

Record winners: New Zealand are coming off a world record winning record and in this year's Southern hemisphere Rugby Championship, they dispatched all three of last year's World

Cup semi-finalists with little difficulty on route to the title. Last month they defeated South Africa, by and large rated the second best team in world rugby, by 57-15 at King's Park in Durban. A second half surge saw the All Blacks finishing with seven tries and it seems that they have gone further ahead of their rivals despite losing the rugby talents of Ritchie McCaw, Conrad Smith and Ma'a Nonu to retirement after their World Cup victory last year.

They have scored tries for fun in 2016 and are playing an attacking brand of rugby that is a joy to behold. And as much as a big fat egg sits as an embarrassment in Ireland's win column against New Zealand: having never lost to Ireland is worn as a badge of honour by those donning the silver fern. However, sports matches are not won on paper and Ire-



Jonathon Sexton

land are certainly not without hope to make history in Chicago.

A Sporting Chance: Ireland are underdogs but also probably the best team in the world to play to their optimum when it is least expected. Ireland had

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Careers

By James F. Fitzgerald, CPA



thank some of my dearest friends and teachers in my life. So I decided to use this column to

thank those important people in my life as a reminder to all of us to express our genuine thanks to those who have helped us.

First, my thanks to my wife, Sandee Wask Fitzgerald, who has mentored me throughout our long and happy marriage. She has helped me to become more sensitive and aware of other people's feelings and for that I am deeply grateful.

Of course my first teachers growing up were my family. My thanks to my dad who demonstrated what the responsibilities of a bread winner were. To my beloved mother who showed me the importance of unconditional love. To my sister, Mary, who helped me understand how a gentleman should conduct himself with a young lady. To each of my four brothers, who all taught me what they knew best: Edward (courage and independence), Tom (toughness and leadership), John (charm and a pleasant manner), and finally, Joe (scholarship and

friendship). It has been my good fortune to have such amazing, loving mentors in my family.

Our four children have been a great joy. Mychelline, our first, fondly known as Rosebud, demonstrated a great intellect from a very early age. Damon has been a joy his whole life with his thoughtfulness and love of his family. Erynn has manifested a wonderful passion for life coupled with great acceptance and inclusion of others. Neal has been the traveler and adventurer of the family; yet, he is also a kind, gentle and thoughtful soul. Our daughter, Julie, has helped our family in countless ways. As for our two granddaughters, Janna Marie and Alecia Grace; they are simply "perfect".

Since I was four years old Bill Puschak has been my buddy and has always been in my corner offering support. Because the good sisters at St. Theodore grammar school wouldn't accept me into first grade at age four, our landlady, Eleanor Macak, became my first "formal" teacher who taught me how to read and do basic arithmetic.

Once admitted to St. Theodore, I have to thank Sister Paula and Sister Maria Gemma, my 2nd and 7th grade teachers, respectively. Sister Paula taught me that a little extra effort can make a major difference in the outcome of a project; Sister Maria Gemma drilled us tirelessly on the importance of knowing the English language which has served me well ever since.

To Jim "Red Dog" Kelly, my high school classmate who stood with me against some angry fellow students and made it clear he had my back, no matter what that took. God bless you, Red Dog.

Dr. William Raleigh Trimble and Father Fred Bergesich, SJ of Loyola University who helped me acquire an understanding of scholarship. Thanks also to my dear friends: Gene Croisant who taught me about style and class, Harold Fremgen for his friendship and his counsel on a dark day when I was a freshman, and Charlie Ptacek, for his unwavering support, and another frat brother, Captain Thomas Flatley, who demonstrated patriotism and loyalty as he served our country in Vietnam. He died there living up to his ideals.

To my fellow soldiers: OCS candidate Jim May, Colonel Bishop and Lieutenant Richard Fullman who helped me more fully understand my responsibilities as a junior military officer.

In terms of personal growth, there have been so many people I have reason to thank, especially the women who were

vital in my development as a gentleman. At the top of the list is, of course, my wife, Sandee, but my thanks also to very dear old friends: Sheila, Lori, Gretchen and Peggy who helped me along the way as well.

Professional growth came with help from so many other friends and acquaintances, particularly; Curtis F. Moore and William R. Hindman who helped me gain a deeper understanding of the business world. Curtis was the model of proper professional conduct. And Bill was probably the best boss and advisor I ever worked for, he was also very instrumental in stirring my passion for writing. Dr. Thomas E. Murray has been my friend and counselor since we met at Loyola University. His calm demeanor has allowed me to hear things that previously passed over my head. Dr. Kenneth W. Perry of the University of Illinois, whose commitment to his teaching profession was an inspiration to me.

Over the years, I have had the privilege of counseling with some other wonderful individuals, including Dan Josephs, Ed Buron, Bob McCoy, Pat Johnston and Phil Gresh. As it sometime happens in life, I got so much from these relationships I feel privileged to have worked with these men.

As I prepared this list, I became increasingly aware that I have left out numerous others who have helped shape my personal and professional life. Due to size constraints there simply isn't enough room to thank everyone who deserves it, so I apologize to anyone in my life who felt they should be included but wasn't. What I have learned writing this article is how much of my development came about through the help and mentoring of people in my life. A huge thank you to each and every one of them for all that they have given me, perhaps most particularly, Bob Hurley, who saved me from drowning when I was 19. Maybe when you sit down for Thanksgiving dinner, you will think of those who nurtured you and say a prayer of thanks for them. CARPE DIEM.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:

Treasure the love you receive above all. It will survive long after your gold and good health has vanished. By **Og Mandino: a best-selling American author** James F. Fitzgerald is the president of James F. Fitzgerald & Associates, Inc., a Naperville, IL-based senior executive coaching & career transition firm. #630-420-0362

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Do You Really Celebrate Thanksgiving?

As Thanksgiving approaches I found myself wondering about how many of us actually THANKED those people who have helped us over the years, I am sure that I have failed to fully and properly

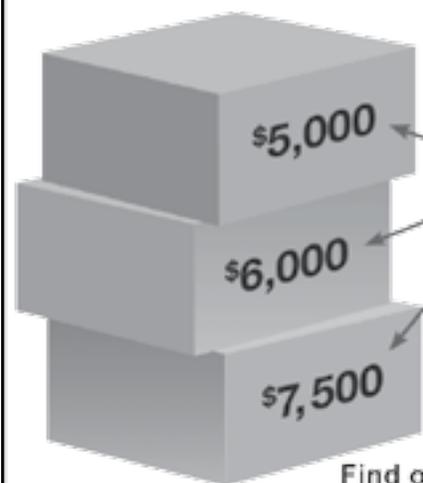
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Ireland Underdogs to Topple New Zealand in Soldier Field

Continued from page 9

a promising summer tour of South Africa, during which they blooded a lot of new players, who came away with a first Irish win on South African soil. With the November tests, many of the players that were missing in South Africa through injury are back in contention which should add to the quality and belief within camp.

The Irish pack will see a back-row of Jamie Heaslip, CJ Stander and Peter O'Mahony play together in green for the first time. Devin Tonor will be partnered in the second row by Iain Henderson. Both were outstanding on the summer tour, while Ultan Dillane should see more game time as an impact substitute, where he will be able to use his ball carrying abilities to greatest effect late in the game.

In the backs Ireland have new possibilities. Conor Murray and Johnny Sexton will start in the decision-making positions of scrum-half and out-half, but it is the 10, 12, 13 midfield axis of Sexton, Robbie Henshaw and Gary Ringrose that could give Ireland an attacking edge in midfield that they have not

had since the days of Brian O'Driscoll.

Ringrose has been long fingered to come into the second centre position since his displays at the Under-20 World Cup a few years ago. He is now the first choice 13 at Leinster and he has developed significantly to now be ready for employment on the international stage. His partnership with Henshaw, who moved from Connacht during the off-season, got off to a winning start against Munster at the Aviva last month.

Jarad Payne is Ireland's best full-back at present and will most likely be selected ahead of Leinster's Rob Kearney and Munster's Simon Zebo. Perhaps, the most interesting call from Irish coach Joe Schmidt will be whom he selects on the wing with Cian Kelleher a likely bolter for game time during the November series such as has been his form for Connacht.

It is difficult to see many weaknesses in the All Blacks game thus far. Ireland's best chance is to play to their strengths, which include a

disciplined defence, a strong attacking maul and a kick-chase game within their armoury. They will also need to approach the game with an intensity at the breakdown that outmatches their opponents. For those going to the game, an Irish victory is possible and it would certainly be both seldom and wonderful.

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For The Republic



Chris Fogarty



THANK YOU, dear readers, for telling me, at IIBAM, of your appreciation for this column. Please direct thanks to Publisher Cliff Carlson. If mainstream news media had editors of his caliber our nation would be safer, wealthier, and respected. Thanks, also, for buying my book; its first edition is almost gone. So is its third

(second Dublin) printing.

THE PURPOSE of the MI5/FBI crime spree in Chicago, Omagh, and Dublin is resolved. "Full Spectrum Dominance" as spelled out in the Neo-Cons' criminal "Project For a New American Century" required, first, our take-over of Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, Syria, and Iran. Destruction of these countries would pave the way for the Neo-Cons' ultimate goal, the destruction of Russia and China.

The prerequisite of all this was the surrender of Ireland's Six Counties to Britain to free up Britain's military. This also required the demonization of the IRA in Ireland and America (which MI5/FBI Agent Buckley and gang achieved in both countries). The Langert murders (with Agent Lewis' gun and TV Anchor Carol Marin's willingness to deceive the public) managed to demonize the IRA in Chicago. MI5/FBI car-bomb murders of 29 in Omagh (abetted by corrupt police and news media) demonized the IRA in Ireland. These crimes drove home the Good Friday Agreement's surrender to Britain of the Six Counties, and thus the Neo-Cons' Supreme Crimes enabled by Britain's military.

The above paragraph contextualizes my list of fourteen specific deeds, mostly MI5/FBI crimes in Chicago, Omagh, and Dublin; as follows:

1) CHICAGO FBI Agent Joseph Doyle urgently informed my wife and me that our lives are in danger; that MI5-subverted FBI agents are planning crimes

to "silence" us. It seems far-fetched.

2 through 13 (omitted due to space considerations) are MI5/FBI crimes, e.g., permitting use of a FBI gun in murders, protecting murderer David Biro from prosecution, framing me for those murders. (Biro saved me from a life sentence or worse by blabbing through FBI Agent Buckley's protection into Life Without Parole.) In a separate MI5/FBI attack; more evidence fabrication and perjury, false arrest and incarceration of four of us, the "Chicago Four," in Case US91CR911. Fifteen months of pre-trial litigation later we walked by proving that the evidentiary audiotape was another FBI criminal fabrication. Within months MI5/FBI's David Rupert attempted to entrap us. Rupert induces our trusting leader, Frank O'Neill, to insist that we buy guns for the IRA. When we voted it down for the third time, Frank quit and formed a new group headed by Rupert. Rupert then moved to Ireland with MI5/FBI Agent Buckley. Excepting Buckley's flight to the Atlanta Olympics bombing murder site (where he framed Security Guard Richard Jewell) he and Rupert operated in Ireland until the evening of 15Aug1998 when, mission accomplished, MI5 demobilized them. At the Dublin "trial" of Michael McKeivitt we saw Buckley for the first time since we defeated his crimes in Federal Court. McKeivitt's wrongful imprisonment ended this Spring.

14) ULSTER VOLUNTEER Force (UVF) leader David Ervine voluntarily submits to a taping of his account of his activities in "the troubles," during which his UVF randomly murdered some 800 Catholics. Ervine recounted his triumphant 1994 visit to the White House. He described his surprise to learn, regarding Northern Ireland, that the US State Department sides with Britain instead of with Irish republicans. That official; the head of the State Department's Britain Desk, had explained; the US Neo-Cons couldn't start their planned wars without Britain's military; and Britain's price was sole sovereignty over Ireland's disputed Six Counties.

Anticipating questions re the above:

It took a long time for some IRA volunteers to

grasp that Adams, McGuinness, Donaldson, et al. had betrayed them. Others caught on fast; "Darkie" Hughes, and especially the OBraidaighs, and the families/friends of the East Tyrone IRA.

As early as 1986 INA Co-Founder Michael Flannery, while attending the SF Ard Fheis in Dublin, spotted Adams' treachery. We Chicagoans hoped it was merely intramural friction, until the 1989 AGM of INA in Toledo, Ohio. There, Adams emissary Brian McDonald promoted such destructive policies that the Illinois delegation walked out (probably followed by delegations from other States).

My wife and I possess (and will share) abundant documentation that the Adams faction are not only traitors, but were (and remain) allied with the same criminal Chicago FBI and its latest well-funded/controlled false-flag operation; a "Clan na Gael" unit.

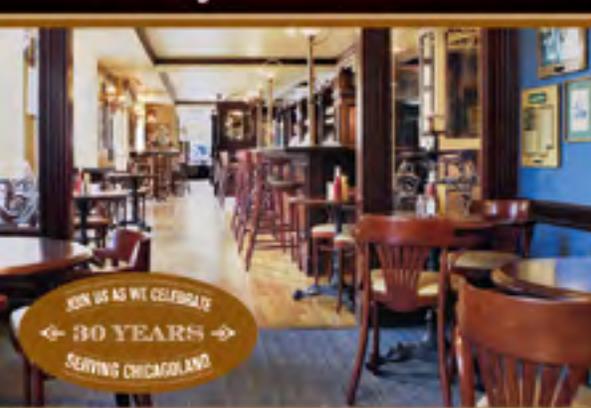
For confirmation from another source, see Ed Moloney's "Voices From the Grave" page 450, where UVF leader David Ervine quotes the Head of the Britain Desk of the US State Dept. explaining the globally strategic reasons why, regarding the Six Counties, the US gov't backs Britain instead of Irish republicans.

In Ireland, it's not only the Adams faction that the Neo-Cons control. The surrender to Britain of the disputed Six Counties was history's largest-ever surrender of national territory absent catastrophic military defeat (and the IRA were not MILITARILY defeated).

Prior to the 1998 GFA referendum large banners festooned highway lampposts between Maynooth and Kinnegad. They portrayed Taoiseach Albert Reynolds and VOTE YES FOR PEACE. Only Ireland's gov't could gut Articles 2 and 3 of Ireland's Constitution. This was done. Thus, the Neo-Cons control Ireland's government, too (which also explains Neo-Con use of Shannon Airport for criminal purposes).

REMEMBER the Craigavon Two; demand justice from Ireland's gov't. Tel. 312/337-1868. Let's not allow Ireland's officials to do another Birmingham 6/ Joe Doherty/MacBride Principles on the Craigavon Two.

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Terry From Derry

by Terry Boyle



Fragile Minds in a Muddle

The renowned English novelist, E.M. Forster, loved using the word 'muddle'. The word was usually used in connection to an experience, symbolically to represent a different perspective on life, which offered the opportunity for growth. However, depending on the character, the muddle could also lead to regression, a crawling back to the comfortable and familiar. Often his characters, challenged by new ways of thinking or diverse cultural viewpoints, were initially confused, and sought to ward off the new experience by retreating into what they knew best.

No one in their right mind wants to undergo change if they don't have to. But we get so settled in our ways that we can stagnate without realizing it. The world moves on, and we remain stuck in how we used to do things.

Forster viewed this fixed world paradigm as a symptom of cultural superiority. We close the windows of our lives to other nations, or close the eyes of our soul to the gift of the other, and, consequently, we close off ourselves to the enrichment brought about by the challenge of living fully. It's not easy to live a half-life, rejecting new thoughts and ideas, dismissing the daily encounters with strangeness. If we are to bolster ourselves against the 'muddle' we must reject all difference, and avoid the creative energy that diversity brings. It's hard work being stagnate.

It takes more resilience, and determination to maintain the status quo, than to simply absorb the wonderful chaos caused by interacting with those who don't share our safe ways of processing the daily grind. It can become increasingly harder to live with

a landlocked mentality, and yet, despite the multifarious channels to the larger world, we unconsciously filter out what we see and hear so as to avoiding changing. Such actions wear us down; make us rigid, and unbearably pompous.

It's time to become child-like and approach the world with wide-eyed curiosity of a child. Otherwise, we devote our strength to building 'walls' when we could enter the muddle with a willingness to see it as the potential catalyst for change. Those who are wounded by the truth survive to tell the tale, but it's never the same old story.

They are changed, transformed, by a deeper awareness of who they are. So what if we discover that what we've believed for a lifetime is limited, ignorant, and untrue? Isn't it better to seeing for the first time than to remain in the darkness?

The joy for those of us who teach is that we're always learning something new. We cast our ideas into the minds of others, hoping that what takes hold is wheat separated from the chaff and not the other way about. However, when it comes to dealing in matters of knowledge, there is always a risk that we delude ourselves into believing in something, even though we're not totally convinced.

This is what Forster sees as the blind spot of the self-satisfied. Those who are 'happy' with how they see the world, and live in of fear change.

There will be no Galileo, no Einstein, or Stephen Hawking to scupper his or her voyage through life. Such flat world thinking is prevalent when fear is present. We fear that the loss will outweigh the gain, but this could not be further from the truth.

What we lose is the illusion, or maybe we simply realize that what we have is an illusion and

this revelation can in itself be liberating. When we think of transformation, or transcendence, it requires a brave heart to rise beyond the drudgery of the usual and the everyday experience.

Forster was tired of his fellow English thinking of themselves as the epitome of civilization. He loathed the self-righteousness that accompanied such notions. He had traveled enough in the world to know that it was a much bigger and grander place than he imagined.

His interaction with other cultures invariably tugged at his English sensibility, and, as a result, his preconceptions of cultures began to change. Inevitably, the muddle would find him; the no man's land in between the known and unknown, and it would either be embraced or rejected.

More and more these days I find myself in a muddle. As the world moves in a direction that I am less familiar with, I find it easier or harder to hold onto what I thought to be true. I find myself react defensively towards those ideas that threaten what I thought to be of substance and worth.

There is a tendency at such times to drift, retrogressively, back to a golden age that does not exist outside of the realm of nostalgia. However, once my kneejerk reaction to the muddle eases, I find myself loving the new ideas. They force me to question what I value, and if they are worth anything more than passive acceptance, they certainly won't turn to dust after a little scrutiny. I might find myself more of an active believer, and less afraid.

Forster in delineating the muddle was careful to acknowledge the need for balance. The desire to throw one thing out in favour of another is too easy. No one viewpoint is without flaw, and no flawed viewpoint is without some merit. We need to allow ourselves to be pulled by the contradictions of life instead of simplifying for convenience sake. The fragile mind does not like the muddle, but it finds us out every time, and it can make or break us.



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Dublin Part 2. In last months issue I highlighted topics about our capital. Because Dublin is so complex and widespread I couldn't fit into one article. There is much more to be addressed. I would like to add that in the July issue I made some references about emigration. I mentioned that during my granddad's life-time (1830-1910) the population dropped from 8 million to under 4 million. And my school teacher Mr. Tynan (master Tynan) asked me the day I was leaving school, "Tom what are you going to be when you grow up?" I answered, "I'm going to America, I plan to further advance my education." His reply, "How can you help your country by leaving it?" A statement that has stuck with me all these years. Which brings us to the topic of emigration and it's impact on the world. This out pouring of people leaving Ireland had a tremendous impact and consequence on both Ireland and the destination country. By 1890, some 3 million Irish born lived in other countries, primarily USA. In Ireland, it meant that the remaining population had a better chance of getting by but



at the same time meant a degree of stagnation. By taking away Ireland's youngest and most vigorous members of the work force explicitly was a great loss and disadvantage for the Emerald Isle. Emigration deprived Ireland of its super power and industrial revolution. Instead Irish manpower and ingenuity flowed into the USA and England. This wide scale of emigration took a huge philosophical toll on those remaining in Ireland. Just about everyone living in Ireland would have known someone that left for USA or England. Perhaps many had

sadly left Ireland forever. It seems likely that this constant sense of loss would have contributed to the sense of fatalism and morbidity. This has happened is so much of Ireland's art and literature. Another impact of losing Ireland's younger population was that it made revolution in Ireland unlikely. What would have happened if all those young Irish immigrants running the politics in Boston and New York had stayed home?

On to Dublin, (B Congrats to Dublin on winning the all Ireland football championship. Hats off to Mayo for a tremendous effort. I was disappointed to see Mayo lose as my lovely wife, Mary, is from Kiltimagh. My good friend, John Devitt said after he heard I was going to write about Co. Dublin, "A



page a month for to 2 years is what it would take to cover everything about our capital".

On April 24th, 1916, Easter Monday a group of Irish volunteers moved into to GPO, General Post Office and occupied the building. Patrick Pearse a Sinn Fein activist read the Proclamation of the Republic a statement declaring Ireland's independence. Simultaneously armed volunteers took over other significant buildings throughout the city. Therefore the GPO on O'Connell street is one of Ireland's most famous landmarks. Today it is both a monument and a busy post office, you can still see the bullet holes left there from the Easter Rising. The Uprising was a surprise for Unionists and Nationalist alike with home rule already on the books. Armed revolution seemed a little extreme. English troops were quickly sent in to the city of Dublin and soon the city was in flames. The volunteers lacked either the arms or organization to put a real military resistance to the English army. After a week the rest of the rebels surrendered. The fighting killed at least 450 and afterward 1,000 Irish were sent to prison in England. At the time of the Rising many Irish disagreed with going to war with England. They didn't think violence was

the answer to Ireland's problems as they were content to let the constitutional procedures take their course. My father Michael told me his father Patrick told him that he was against this war as so many were. They were tired of hearing about Irish people put to death, war would bring more heartache. Our hearts go out to the men that fought and died for Ireland. The Easter Rising was a very sad period.

Here's a famous poem by one of the 16 men that died in the Easter Rising, Patrick Pearse, he was a school teacher. I had to learn this poem when I was in primary school. This poem came to mind because the Pearse's are from Dublin.

"I do not grudge them: Lord, I do not grudge

My two strong sons that I have seen go out

To break their strength and die, they and a few,

In bloody protest for a glorious thing,

They shall be spoken of among their people,

The generations shall remember them,

And call them blessed;

But I will speak their names to my own heart

In the long nights;

The little names that were familiar once

Round my dead hearth.

Lord, thou art hard on mothers: We suffer in their coming and their going;

And tho' I grudge them not, I weary, weary

Of the long sorrow-And yet I have my joy:

My sons were faithful, and they fought."

Patrick Pearse

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Getting to Know the Irish

By Tina Butler



This month I would like to detail some archeological sites in Ireland. Archeology is the study of pre-history through excavations of sites and analysis of artifacts. The World Archeological Congress is a non-governmental not for profit organization and the only archeological organization with elected representation. Membership is open to archaeologists, students and the public. The WAC's goal is the promote interest in the past of all countries and foster international academic interaction. It's committed to diversity and to redressing global inequities in archeology through conferences, publications and programs. It has a special interest in protecting the cultural heritage of indigenous people, minorities and economically disadvantaged countries.

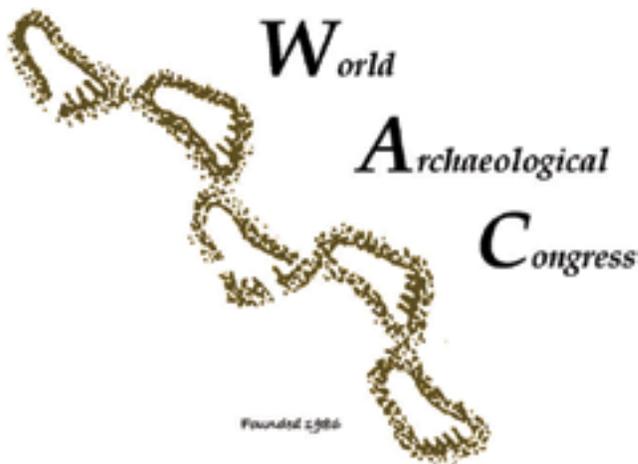
I think learning about our heritage sites is important because it's a contract with the past. These sites are non-renewable, and it's our cultural heritage. Some might say it's our duty and responsibility to learn about and remember these sacred places. Also, preserving and protecting archaeological sites promotes the economy because it brings visitors to the country and gives them a place to visit.

Sites I will explore and define include: Newgrange, Hill of Tara, Rock of Cashel, Ceide Fields, and Dowth.

Newgrange is a pre-historic monument in Meath close the Co. Louth border built during the Neolithic period. Around 3200 BC, it's older than the pyramids of Egypt. It consists of a large circular mound with a passageway and interior chambers. There is no definite answer to what it was used for but it's believed that it

has religious significance. It has been said to be a home for the Tuatha De Danaan. (supernatural Goddesses) It's aligned with the rising sun and it's light shines in on the chamber on the Winter solstice. There is an annual lottery to enter the chambers, the winners are taken into the chambers at the Winter solstice.

2. Hill of Tara is an archeological complex near the River Boyne in Meath. It contains a number of ancient monuments and was the



ancient seat of the High King of Ireland. According to legend the stone would scream if the new King was going to have a lot of challenges. If the King touched the stone it would let out a screech that could be heard all over Ireland.

3. Rock of Cashel also known as St. Patrick's Rock is located in Co. Tipperary. According to legend the Rock originated in the Devil's Bit a mountain 20 miles n. or Cashel when St. Patrick banished Satan from a cave, resulting in the Rock's landing in Cashel. It is acknowledged to be the site of the conversion of the King of Munster by St. Patrick in the 5th century. The Rock of Cashel was the traditional seat of the Kings of Munster. Brian Boru was crowned king here in the 10 century.

4. Ceide fields is an archeological site in Mayo. The site is the most extensive Neolithic site in

the world and contains the oldest known field system in the world (3500 BC) It consists of fields, houses and tombs concealed by the blanket bogs over the course of centuries.

5. Dowth is a neolithic passage tomb located in Meath, dates back from about 2500 BC. It is the second oldest behind Newgrange of the three principal tombs of the Bru na Boinne World Heritage Site (Dowth, Newgrange and Knowth) It's less developed as a tourist attraction that other sites, partly because its chamber is much lower. Dowth shares a special solar celebration with Newgrange during the Winter solstice. Several books have been written about this solstice phenomenon.

One I found interesting was written by Martin Brennan, "The Stars and the Stones." There is a wonderful museum in Dublin, The National Museum of Ireland. If you are interested in this topic, it houses ancient treasures and artifacts, in case you're planning a trip soon.

"Archeology gives a sense of place. It grounds us within the landscape and every place is unique." Stephen Dean. I have been to these sites with the exception of Dowth, but it has been awhile. I will re-visit these sites soon with a more interested eye and appreciation for their value and meaning to our heritage.

Gaelic for the month:
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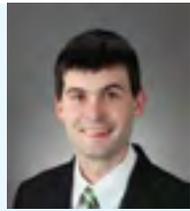
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From the Executive Director of Chicago Irish Immigrant Support

By Michael Collins

Irish Immigration Post Election

The state of immigration reform has been stagnant over the past two years due to the executive action set back in the courts and the heated election rhetoric aimed at immigration. One question remains, what will happen after the election regarding immigration reform?

There are a few different scenarios that will have an impact on this very divisive policy topic. Most notably, the outcome of the presidential election will have an important impact on whether or not immigration reform will be put back on the agenda. It is abundantly clear that should Donald Trump become our next president that immigration reform may well be on the agenda, but not in the manner that would positively impact the Irish community or the future flow of immigration. Mr. Trump's immigration policy would be isolating and would result in the removal of thousands of immigrants; this speculation is based on the assumption that he is a man of his word. On the other hand, should Hilary Clinton become our next President, according to her campaign, immigration reform will be on the agenda and is something that she hopes to achieve. With this being said, it is unclear when she plans to achieve this goal. As immigration reform is such a divisive issue, Secretary Clinton may choose to, like President Obama, wait until her second term. As we have seen with the President's executive action on immigration, the second term may not be the best time to achieve such an important goal. Needless to say if Secretary Clinton becomes President Clinton, the immigrant community nationwide should become

very active after November 8th to ensure that immigration reform has a firm place on her first term agenda.

Another one of the major factors that will impact this election is the composition of the US Congress and the US Senate. As many people may be aware, a major policy initiative such as immigration reform, will not go through without the approval from the House and Senate. This can be extremely difficult and will most likely require the Democrats to take control of the Senate and make a serious dent in the Republican controlled House. In the House, all 435 representatives are up for election. Currently, the House Republicans hold their largest majority since 1928 with 247 seats to the Democrats 188. In order for Democrats to retake control of the House they will need to take 30 seats currently held by Republicans. The expectation is that the Democrats will retake about 15 seats falling short of the needed number to take control of the House. This will make immigration reform a tough sell should Republicans dig in their heels. The US Senate should also be watched this election. There are currently 34 Senate seats up for contention this election. In order for the Democrats to regain control of the Senate, they will have to win four of the 24 senate seats currently occupied by Republicans. The New York Times gives this a 56% chance of happening (as of 10/17). If all predictions to date are correct, the Democrats are expected to narrowly win the Presidency and take back the Senate but fall short of a majority in the House. This will make immigration reform a strong fight to get over the finish line, but will also re-start the conversation. If given priority by the assumed Clinton administration, immigration reform might actually become a reality as long as a few House Republicans break from their party ranks. Whether or not this will be given priority is the major question. Regardless of this, a Democratic controlled Senate and Presidency will see the Supreme Court shift to the left. This may provide some degree of security should an anti-immigrant bill come to fruition years down the road. Either way, this will be one of the most hotly contentious elections in history and will

have everyone sitting on the edge of their seats! The Irish community will need to stay vigilant and focused post-election to achieve a long overdue reform of our immigration system.

CIIS Update

CIIS is delighted to announce that we will be hosting our first annual Casino Night Fundraiser on Friday, January 20th at the Irish American Heritage Center. We are extremely excited by this new event and hope that everyone is able to attend and support the great work that is done at CIIS. If you would like to get involved in this event by either joining our committee or by volunteering on the day please call our office. Mark your calendars for January 20th; we hope to see everyone there! All are welcome.

CIIS will continue to host free legal clinics for anyone who might have immigration questions. These clinics are currently being held twice monthly by appointment only. Each clinic provides a client with a 30-minute face-to-face consultation with an immigration attorney. Please call (773) 282-8445 or email mcollins@irishchicago.org to schedule your appointment.

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Swimming Upstream

By Charles Brady



Memories of Europe... Before the Flood

If there even was such an outlandish idea as having a 'gap year' back in the 70s, then I had never heard of it. It just wasn't something that you did back then.

All I knew was that I had just finished reading James Michener's huge novel 'The Drifters' and – with the last of my exams out of the way -- I was keen to wave goodbye to home and follow what was left of the hippy trail throughout Europe.

For an 18-year-old with a head full of romantic notions Mr. Michener had painted a hell of an enticing word-picture of free love, music, sunshine and adventure; and even though I was a decade behind his merry band of multicultural travelers, this was something I just had to do.

Try explaining to anyone under thirty what it was like for a teenager to get around Europe in those days and they'll look at you as if you fell off the back of the turnip boat. Relax; I'm not going to drone on about 24 of us living in a shoe box in the middle of the road. However, I'm reasonably certain that today's average kid would probably have a massive brain embolism if you suggested to him that he find his way through northern Spain without Google Maps or an iPhone to hold his hand every step of the way.

Travelling alone, my Bible – my absolutely essential, couldn't-do-without-it, item – was a book called 'The Hitchhiker's Guide to Europe'. And with that by my side I had as wonderful and magical a year as any young man could wish for.

First experiences of Amsterdam, of Paris, of Marseilles. Seeing them again years later, with the quiet caution of an adult, would never compete with the colour-drenched

adrenaline rush of that first time.

A trucker giving me a lift over the Pyrenees and watching the sun rise over them.

Of course, like many a numbskull before and since, I went to the San Fermin Festival in Pamplona and ran with the bulls.

And I can always say that I've seen wonderful Barcelona both before and after the Olympics.

After a couple of months, even living on inexpensive fruit, sunshine, fresh air and beer – as we all seemed to be able to do back then – my supply of money was dwindling. And by the time I reached Puerto Buenús in Spain I was just about running on empty.

(Of course my money was kept, along with passport and traveler's cheques, in an eye-wateringly bright electric-blue money belt worn around the waist, where of course no robbers would ever think of looking. Mind you, it did have the advantage that when they inevitably did look, they would have been struck blind on the spot.)

Several years ago I made the mistake of going back there. Yes, well...Lewis Carroll once said 'I can't go back to yesterday, because I wasn't the same person then.' And that misjudged trip taught me the truth of that. You really can't go back.

I'm trying to be kind here, so let me choose my words carefully and say that Puerto Banús, which holds so many happy memories for me, is now just pretty much another Marbella tourist trap.

But back then...ah, to me it was not only paradise; it was where I was able to revitalize my cunningly concealed money belt.

In the mid-late 70s, Puerto Banús wasn't much more than a couple of streets. However, even then – and as it had been designed to do – it was already attracting the big super yachts of the seriously wealthy. Of course, nothing like the 900 or so it serves as a marina for today;

but for this green young fella they were quite something to behold, and my initial sight of them was one that I'll never forget.

Out in the undeveloped scrub at the back was a cinema that was little more than a shack that showed films in English -- and even back then I needed my movie fix. I recall seeing John Huston's 'The Kremlin Letter' with Orson Welles there. Well, I didn't actually see it with Orson Welles but...you know what I mean. And you could sleep out on the beach, which was a blessing.

There was a little bar called 'Tom & Jerry's' and, more importantly for my purposes, there was another one called 'The Shark Club Bar', which was open to the street and where people could put up notices. Also, and it seems incredible to me now, I was able to leave my rucksack unmolested against a wall there throughout the day.

In a move that should in theory have set me on course to be a politician, I put up a notice which blatantly lied that I was an energetic and experienced young bloke, fresh from working on Scottish fishing vessels and well used to rolling waves. Lies, all lies; but with those credentials I was immediately snapped up by a middle-aged German couple who had their yacht on the Mediterranean for the summer. He had recently had a heart attack and she wanted someone along with them.

Needless to say, being not even a particularly strong swimmer at that time, let alone an 'old salt', that majestically flat blue water managed to make me seasick. They were a kind couple, though, and I soon got used to – and really loved – life on board a yacht; and when they moved on I had no trouble picking up similar work.

Over the next few months I sailed back and forth to North Africa and Gibraltar, whose borders were closed at that point, making going by yacht the ideal way to cross the border from Spain.

I don't suppose I've thought of those times in years. But this week some internet surfing washed me up at 'Mayra's Blog' – and I was enchanted. Apparently, Mayra completed some training with

a group called Bow Waves last year. Now she has been working on a 72ft sailing boat in the Caribbean for the past few months and dreaming of a career in the super yacht industry.

As it turned out, Bow Waves Sailing and Powerboat School are no less than neighbours of mine, with their offices in Galway. They assist with those wishing for a career at sea and have a comprehensive list of various courses to help anyone who is even simply looking for a fascinating hobby.

Digging Up the Truth at Duffy's Cut

Duffy's Cut is the name given to a stretch of railroad tracks about 30 miles west of Philadelphia, United States, originally built for the Philadelphia and

And reading through their site has brought back a multitude of wonderful memories for me, for which I thank them.

For a while this week the grumpy grouch of today was replaced with that smiling young man of forty years ago, shirtless and tanned on the deck of a yacht, on the blue of the Mediterranean Sea.

You can visit my blogs at www.cbsays.com or email me at chasbrady7@eircom.net You can reach the sailing school at www.bowwaves.com

murdered, perhaps due to fear of contagion, as the pandemic spanned several continents and many years.

The site is located near Mal-



Stones mark the make-shift grave where some are buried.

Columbia Railroad in the summer and fall of 1832. The line later became part of the Pennsylvania Railroad's Main Line.

Railroad contractor Philip Duffy hired 57 Irish immigrants to lay this line through the area's densely wooded hills and ravines. The workers came to Philadelphia from the Ulster counties of Donegal, Tyrone and Derry to work in Pennsylvania's nascent railroad industry. Less than two months after their arrival, all 57 are believed to have died during the second cholera pandemic.

While most died of the disease, forensic evidence suggests that some may have been

vern, Pennsylvania in East Whiteland Township near the intersection of King Road and Sugartown Road, where a Pennsylvania state historical marker has been placed.

Funds Needed

After years, Amtrack has agreed to let geologists dig underneath the tracks, but the grant from the State of Pennsylvania to pay for the digging was pulled. The group needs \$14,000 to finalize this project. As of 10/26 they have raised \$1,280 on go fund me. If you can afford to give a little they can get this done.

www.gofundme.com/duffys-cut-fund-the-project-2uv6pxes

Irish Books and Plays in Review

Frank West



A June of Ordinary Murders

By: Conor Brady
Minotaur Books
Amazon

"Anything you say will be taken down and may be used in evidence." A June of Ordinary Murders is a police procedural set in the Dublin of 1887. The title is the term for murder used by the rules of Ireland, the grandees in the Castle.

They were concerned with murders, but with only those that had a political aspect. These were any that they thought could threaten their control of Ireland. They called these "special" murders. All others were called "ordinary" murders.

The police are trying to solve three murders that occurred that week—an unusually high number. Also complicating the investigation is the celebration of Queen Victoria's Jubilee. She has ruled for half a century and her grandson, the future king, will visit in a week.

The detective in charge of the investigation is Detective Sergeant Joe Swallow. He is known for treating his men fairly and respectfully. Also she has solved many difficult cases.

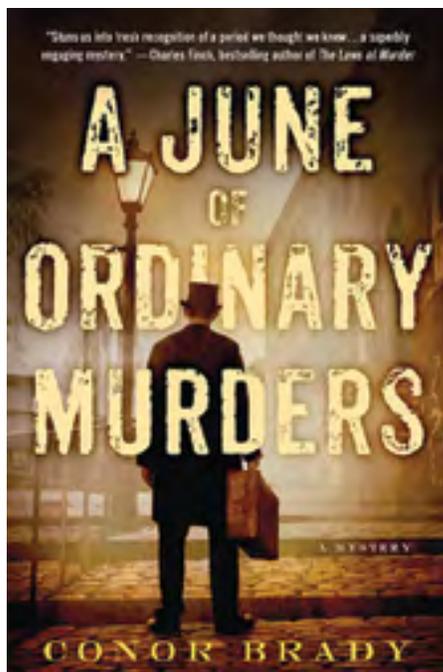
The author lets us see him as a complicated, conflicted human being. He is conflicted because he works for a police force that controls Ireland for the British Empire.

His sister tells him: "Our country is being subjected to England's will. We're expected to give loyalty to a foreign Queen, while her agents drive our people from their farms to starve in the fields or take the emigration ships to America."

Conor Brady, the author, fills the book with beautifully written prose. He was a

weekly columnist for a national newspaper and was editor of The Irish Times for 16 years. He has written several books about Irish policing. He lives in Dublin.

Brady makes 1880's Dublin and its people become real. As he says: "carefully chosen detail helps to build atmosphere."



The police in Dublin were called the Dublin Metropolitan Police. Their fellow police in the rest of the country were called the Royal Irish Constabulary.

I have a deeply personal relation to the RIC. My grandfather was a poor, farm boy in County Sligo. He was strong and intelligent and was recruited by the RIC.

He served with distinction. However, when 23 years old, he had a political awakening and resigned. He sought work in several places, but could find none. He then came to Boston, and then to Chicago. In 1905, he applied to become a Chicago policeman. In 1907 he was accepted to the police force.

I asked why he had resigned from the RIC. He replied, "They wanted me to spy on my own people."

The background to A June of Ordinary Murders is the slowly developing awareness of Ireland's cultural heritage. That leads to the Rising of 1916 and the War of Independence.

About that awareness, a young nationalist woman says to Swallow: "You see flags and emblems to celebrate a half century of

this Queen's rule. Well it might have been a good half century in England, but for this country it's been famine, starvation and disease...What has Ireland got to celebrate?"

During the War of Independence, one of the first things Michael Collins did was stop the information gathering by the RIC and the DMP. As a result, Ireland's English rulers began to lose control of the country.

These quotes show the author's writing style:

--Policemen talking about tenement crowding: "Up to twenty families might occupy a tenement building that was once the city dwelling of a rich merchant or professional man."

--Traveling through a rural area near Dublin: "Mossy foundation walls were the only lingering traces of the families that starved, succumbed to disease or fled to the emigrant ships."

--His sister says to Swallow: "You're a good man, but you're supporting a system that's rotten and that keeps your own people in subjection and ignorance and poverty."

Machine Made: Tammany Hall and The Creation of Modern American Politics

By: Terry Golway
Liveright Publishing Corp
Amazon

Many of our ancestors were poor when they came here from Ireland. The Anglo-Saxon establishment in America fervently believed poverty was a result of moral weakness. Of course, it wasn't, poverty was the result of colonialism in Ireland, or low wages for workers here.

The only friends of the immigrants were political organizations like Tammany Hall in New York and other in large American cities. These organizations were not judgmental of the new arrivals. And they understood that poverty resulted from the unfair distribution of wealth and from the low-wage paid workers that resulted from lack of collective bargaining.

Despite all the concern and help Tammany Hall gave immigrants, it was not altruistic. It expected those it helped would be loyal voters on Election Day.

Terry Golway tells the story Tammany—its good deeds and corrupt ones too. He uses elegant language and he often creates suspense. He makes history come alive.

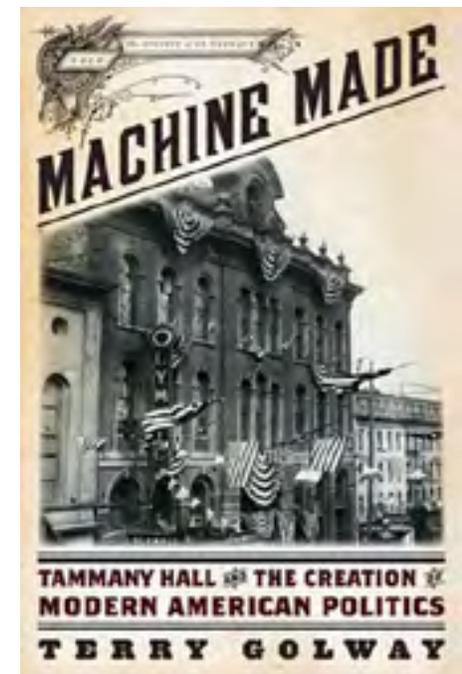
These quote are samples of the story he tells so well.

--"As these impoverished rural people

reorganized their lives in a great and alien city, they saw Tammany as an ally—an ally who did not judge their poverty, their religion, their culture. And so the narrative of Tammany and Irish America become one."

--The Famine Irish "were a poor, starving, rural people with few skills, and they had been subjects of an oppressive colonial system."

--"They might have sailed three thousand miles from their homeland, but the enemy hadn't changed—the enemy was still the moralizing reformer, the civic elitist, the High-Church Protestant who believed that



Catholics had to shed their superstitions and their cultural identity."

--Tammany could not solve poverty or other social problems, but "Tammany leaders believed that with every job placement, every whispered word to a judge, and even (despite Blue Laws) with every drink consumed on Sunday, they were providing no small amount of relief to those who needed it most."

--"The Tammany controlled New York state legislature put into place a series of reforms that laid the groundwork for a new and robust role for state government—not only in regulating the workplace, but also in providing a social safety net, particularly for women and children."

Some of these visionary goals became part of the New Deal. They improved our standard of living. Some of these goals were: pensions, collective bargaining (unions), better wages, better working conditions, one day off in every seven, and stricter regulation of businesses.

Americans today, owe much to political machines and to unions.

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As some of you may know, Imelda Bhroga and I host a weekly Irish music program every week on LiveIreland.com out of Dublin. It is on at noon every week, Chicago time, and is also the home for worldwide broadcast premiers for new Irish cd releases. (Broadcast? Internet?) We have been told for a couple years that our show has the largest audience in the world for an Irish music program, and there are some new, certified



The Fretless is Karrnel Sawitsky –fiddle, viola; Trent Freeman – fiddle, viola; Ivonne Hernandez- fiddle-violin; and Eric Wright – cello. Now you know why the group is called The Fretless. Bird's Nest contains nine tunes, all instrumental. This is not Irish music. It IS Irish music. This is not traditional. It IS traditional. Beyond any debate, it is wonderful music. The Fretless is unlike anyone else. Just when you think any one of these tunes has wandered off into a more general, weirdy world music format, each cut comes roaring back to Irish music—the real deal. Our favorites are Jig of a Blood Moon, Mary's Jigs, and Samuel's Maids. We used to think it was best for groups if they could

you do, too. The Awards are pretty eagerly followed by musicians and fans around the world because Chicago is the best city in the world now for Irish music, and The Chicago Irish American News IS The Chicago Irish American News!! Lots of great new albums this year to consider.

Also, as long as we are flogging programs, we hope you are listening to Maryann Keifer's excellent, Ireland Tonight every Monday night at 9:00 on WDCB. 90.9fm and WDCB.org. Best Irish music program we have, no question. After that, Imelda and I come on at 10:00 with House Party—a mix of

bluegrass, Cajun, Americana (whatever THAT is!) and an occasional touch of Irish trad—though we leave that mostly to Maryann! It makes for fun times, and we hope you can tune in! The Dublin, Templebar Trad Fest is coming up early in 2017. We are looking forward to it, and talking about being flown over with Imelda to take part. Hope so—but I have my doubts. More later, if it becomes a reality. There are still a bunch of cd's to squeeze in next month along with several Christmas gift recommendations for superb musical stocking stuffers. See you then!!



numbers that seem to support it! Fasten your seat belts. In the last year, LiveIreland.com had a total of 4,838,400 listeners. 4,838,400. When they sent us those numbers, we were floored. Our show is cleverly titled, The Bill & Imelda Show. There is an active chat room, and new features on the homepage pop up daily. Owner, David Lattimer and his group have really created something special over the years, and we are proud to be a part of it. Needless to say, we get in every plug we can for Chicago musicians and the Chicago Irish American News! The Dubs, however, stopped Imelda and me from playing Harry Caray singing, "Take Me Out to the Ball Game", and said that was going too far. Does anyone know a trad version of that? (Doc Watson's doesn't count!) Anyway, please forgive the flog and bit of brag. It is just that these kind of numbers are unprecedented. We are so lucky to be a part of it all.

The Fretless is out with a brand new album, Bird's Nest. This comes as welcome news to the group's singularly devoted following.

not be categorized. We are not so sure nowadays. If The Fretless did a purely traditional album, we are sure it would be sensational. But then, it would not be The Fretless. Make no mistake, these are four superbly gifted musicians, and all of this would be a lot easier to describe were it simply acoustic traditional. It is also interesting to note that at any festival featuring The Fretless, the front row is usually filled with other musicians. The ultimate tribute to their skills. This group is impossible to pigeonhole except in one key aspect: file them under excellent music, wonderfully played and demanding your fullest attention. We recommend this album highly. Just don't expect a thumpin' set of reels, jigs, polkas, and slides. It is far away from that, and it is excellent. Let's go back and repeat ourselves, something we do often. Bird's Nest is glorious. We have listened to it straight through four times, as well as sampling it. Each listen has uncovered new treasures. Good on 'ya, The Fretless! Keep going a long time!

We are readying the Chicago Irish American News annual musical Awards, The Top TIR, for January. This will be the 27th year? 26th? Anyway, it is the best of the best and we look forward to it and hope

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The Harp and Fiddle: A Modern Pub With an Irish Flair

By Cliff Carlson

Declan Stapleton, originally from Dublin, has opened a new restaurant in Park Ridge at 110 Main St, called the Harp and Fiddle about a block and a half away from the famous PickWick Theater.

He's done his homework, having owned Hollsteins in Tinley Park, and Casey's in New Buffalo, Michigan on Whittaker Street. "It's basically exit one in Michigan. It's ninety minutes away from Chicago and a nice respite from the madness of Chicago," said Declan.

The Harp and Fiddle opened Memorial Day in May, 2016 and business is excellent. According to Declan, it's the first true bar/restaurant in Park Ridge which used to be a dry town. The restaurant has an occupancy of 170 inside and the outdoor patio in the back holds 100. The patio has heaters strategically placed so there may still be time for an outdoor visit.

"I helped get the antiquated liquor laws changed. Five years ago, you couldn't dance in Park Ridge in a place that sold alcohol, you couldn't have more than four televisions and sell alcohol, you had to have a complete meal in order to have alcohol, and a lot of restrictive rules reminiscent of the Prohibition era. We had a large crowd that showed up at council meetings in support of change. A lot of folks went to Edison Park and Chicago to dine, so the council changed some of the regulations so we could compete with the surrounding areas, explained Stapleton."

Since they opened, Park Ridge has added three new restaurants and two more are opening soon. "I'm fine with that. Now you can walk from an upscale pizza restaurant, to an Italian restaurant, to a Japanese Sushi place to a Mexican Restaurant, to a crepe/French restaurant, and a craft beer store coming in. Now we have foot traffic and vibrancy and a lot more going on here," said Declan.

The Harp and Fiddle is located directly across from the Park Ridge Metra. If you are at the six corners of Touhy, Busse Highway, Prospect Ave. etc. you are near the PickWick Theatre and you are near the restaurant. "Folks meet their friends there when they get home from work. "All the places I own are across from a train station. I fell into it the first time, but I like it this way," said Declan.

Declan came from Dublin in 1989 with Price Waterhouse and has had a varied career since then. He spent time in New York and Chicago, and then he worked for the

Irish Dairy Board for about five years. He worked for a start up, Cuisine De France, which was a frozen bakery that started in Ireland despite the name! Declan got it going here in Chicago. It's now a multinational company called Aryzta. After that he went out on his own. He was in the food distribution business on the Southside off of 103rd and Harlem manufacturing Italian sausage,



(L to r) Owner, Declan Stapleton and Chef, Pete Flaherty

pizza dough and cheese, and then he got into supplying bars with Irish food and more.

Customer service is a high priority for Declan. "I like meeting people. I touch every table, sometimes it surprises them when they are asked how they enjoyed their meal. I like the personal touch and the hands on approach. You can go to an independently family owned place and you have good social interaction with the people who own it. I can't go home or be off somewhere else, and not here making sure things go perfectly well. Things don't always go perfectly well, but to me if you mess up, you measure the guy as to how you fix it, and I like to be here to catch any problems before it goes wrong. I hate to try and fix something after the fact. We've probably had 20,000 people thru the door in four months and I know 10 that weren't happy. Most people would think that's great, but I worry about those ten the most. I wish I could fix it for those ten, but they have left. I know you can't please everyone, but I'm mindbendingly fixated on everybody having a great time here," explained Declan.

Stapleton realizes that more and more people are trying to live a healthy life style. "It's not just Irish food we serve. Most of our sales are in entrees like fish, salads etc.

There is a big demand for gluten free or celiac, and by those who are living a healthy life style. You have to be cognizant of that. They want salads, less salt, and they want fish, and vegetable related items.

We try not to do fried food. We do fish and chips once a week. People ask me why we don't do it everyday. Here is my thinking. Fish contaminates the flavor of other foods when you mix them in the fryer. I don't want that contamination, and I don't want to change the oil everyday. I could put more fryers in, but that would just encourage more fried food, and we don't like that! The food here is fresh. We spend most of the day prepping it. Even the fish that comes in is fresh, not frozen. Fish for the cod fish fry is all fresh. Salmon is fresh. I don't like farm raised food. I don't serve Tilapia, not interested. I can't make a burger more healthy for you. It's an indulgence, but where we have a choice, I like more veggies, more salads, more fresh foods. Whatever we are doing have it fresh as possible," he concluded.

Declan pays attention to detail. He's put "sound panels" throughout the restaurant to deaden the table noise so folks can enjoy their table conversations and not have to yell at each other! He has entertainment on weekends that is not all Irish. Eighties and Nineties cover bands play there as well and there is never a cover charge.

"We call ourselves a modern bar and restaurant with an Irish flair. We don't have stone floors with sewing machines in the corner and biscuit tins. It's more of a modern place with an Irish attitude. We're

Irish, we're friendly, and we are hell bent on customer service. Our goal is to serve really good food, quickly, and at a reasonable price across the whole spectrum from kids, to teenagers to adults. We offer good entertainment, an outdoor patio and locally based foods. Our executive chef worked at Morton's, Rosebud's, Casey Moran's, Duece's and has a 30 year history of creating a full on menu. Pete (Flaherty) Svachula.

Entrees include fish catch of the day, scallop, and salmon entrees, chicken dishes, pasta, steak excellent burgers, veggie burgers, great salads with nuts and fruits and great flavor profiles.

The Harp and Fiddle is open at 11:00 am. seven days a week. Sunday thru Thursday until 1:00 am. and Friday and Saturday until 2:00 am. That's a revolution in Park Ridge! Most of the places used to close around nine o'clock.

You can rent the rear dining room, a front side room that holds 37 (where the Lions Club meets now) and the outdoor patio. From time to time people can rent the whole place, for funerals and special events like that.

Reservations are recommended. You don't need a reservation but it's a good idea to have one. They take reservations up to about 60 people and the rest is walk in. Sunday Brunch starts the first week of November!

Declan has this to say about his time at Ballymaloe Cooking School, "It's amazing to think of people around the world coming to Ireland to sharpen their culinary skills. In my class, we had people from Paris, San Francisco, Spain, and Chicago."

Any owner who has taken the time to attend Ballymaloe Cooking School with the famous Darina Allen, just to "brush up" his skills, deserves a spot on your restaurant list. Declan Stapleton fills the bill! 847-720-4466.



A small part of the outdoor patio



Clutter Buster Procrastinate No More

by Rita Emmett

You will never FIND time for anything. If you want time, you must MAKE it.

~~ Charles Buxton

Do nothing, and nothing happens. Do something, and something happens.

~~ Benjamin Franklin

Tackling That Dread

EMMETT'S LAW: The Dread of Doing a Job Uses Up More Time and Energy Than Doing the Job Itself.

Isn't that true?

That quote is the opening line of my book *The Procrastinator's Handbook*. Why? Because when procrastinating -- that dread has the power

man, I still haven't made that phone call" or you think, "I STILL have that huge pile of paper clutter go sort through because I've GOT to find that information" and your stomach ties up in knots, your heart starts to pound.

That dread has the power to leave you exhausted. When you dread something, it leaves us as tired as if we were digging a ditch, doesn't it?

If you're putting off something important and you CANNOT think of a reason to DO IT NOW, it's not just the consequence of whatever you procrastinated about that impacts your life. Remind yourself of the power of the dread that comes with procrastination. It can make you miserable, anxious, guilty, exhausted, stressed out, cluttered and sick.

And the opposite is true, too, isn't it? Have you ever finally done something that you've been putting off for ages? And when it's complete, don't you want to dance the dance of joy? You get so much energy you just want to run around the block and shout to the world what you've just finished. It's a great feeling, a sensational one, and ENER-GIZING one.

Next time you know you need to do something NOW but you start to talk yourself into putting it off till later, remind yourself:

EMMETT'S LAW: The DREAD of doing a job uses up more time and energy than doing the job itself.

In fact, you might consider writing it out and posting it someplace. Otherwise... do you really want to spend time with that cloud of dread hanging over your head?

to suck the energy out of the marrow of your bones.

How much time, energy, anxiety, guilt and exhaustion have you ever spent agonizing about something you've put off for weeks or even months. Then when you finally did it, it took you only 23 minutes.

Don't you just want to smack yourself in the face with a trout and say "Why did I procrastinate so long about that?" And while you were putting it off, that dread was hanging over your head like a dark cloud.

Have you ever - just as you're falling asleep at night - thought to yourself "Oh

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and The Irish Shop is the place for all your holiday needs

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The Irish Shop's
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Thursday Nov. 17th 6pm-10pm



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A Cháirde

The Irish Rugby Football Union arrives in early November to a huge Chicago Irish welcome that they will long remember. Expect a brilliant atmosphere when they take on the New Zealand All Blacks at Soldier Field. Together standing tall, shoulder to shoulder, they'll answer Ireland's call.

The days are getting shorter, which means that we will have longer nights to enjoy. I hope you spend some of those nights at Gaelic Park. Enjoy the warmth of the Carraig Pub's Thursday night sessions, or Tuesday Night Trivia, or the live bands on Friday's and Saturday's. A Good time is guaranteed for theatre buffs as the Gaelic Park Players present St. Patrick's Gift over three

November weekends, with food/drink/play combination specials available. Our Thanksgiving feast will be here soon, and a few days later on the 27th, runners can burn off some energy units at the Carraig Pub's Annual 5K run. (Don't you think that "energy units" sound much more positive than "calories?")

Best of luck to all those who choose to participate in our Super Fundraiser. It's a great draw with a \$50,000 grand prize and \$100,000 in total prizes. And for those who want to start their Christmas shopping early, we have memberships, concert tickets, gift certificates and merchandise for sale.

Slán go fóil,
Bill O'Sullivan, President

2016 CGP Calendar of Events 2016

NOVEMBER

11/2	Monthly Musical Luncheon* with Joe McShane	
11/6	Classic Carvery with Joe McShane	3:00pm
11/9	Ladies Auxiliary	7:30pm
11/13	Classic Carvery with Ray Gavin	3:00pm
11/20	Classic Carvery with Joe Cullen	3:00pm
11/24	Thanksgiving Carvery* with Joe McShane	3:00pm
11/27	Classic Carvery with Gerry Haughey	3:00pm

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

*Reservations Required 708.687.9323

Monthly Mass and Breakfast is the 2nd Sunday of the Month

Pub Trivia resumes Tuesday evenings in October 7:30pm

Monday Evenings Set Dancing 7:30pm

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

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



CGP Office 708.687.9323 www.chicagogaelicpark.org

Visit the CGP Library in the Shamrock Room

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

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

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

the CARRAIG IRISH PUB

Live Music in the Pub

Fri	Nov 4	Irish Musicians Session	9:30pm
Sat	Nov 5	Ray Gavin	8:30pm
Wed	Nov 9	Frank Rossi	6:00pm
Fri	Nov 11	Gerry Haughey	7:30pm
Sat	Nov 12	Bernie Glim	8:00pm
Fri	Nov 18	Joe Cullen	7:30pm
Sat	Nov 19	Mulligan Stew	8:30pm
Fri	Nov 25	Joe McShane	7:30pm
Sat	Nov 26	Larry Nugent & Bill O'Donahue	9:00 pm

Chicago Gaelic Park

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708.687.9323
www.chicagogaelicpark.org

NO COVER CHARGE





Celebrate Thanksgiving

at
Chicago Gaelic Park

Thursday November 24, 2016

*A Delicious All You Can Eat Buffet Dinner
With Turkey, Ham, Roast Beef
And All Of The Traditional Trimmings*

Choice of Soup, Salad Bar, Vegetables, Potatoes and Dessert

*Reservations are required and
must be paid for in advance*

Adults - \$26.00 Children 4 to 12 - \$12.00

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Chicago Gaelic Park

Carraig Challenge

Cross Country 5K run / 1.5 mile walk

Thanksgiving Weekend

Sunday, November 27, 2016 at 10:30am

Chicago Gaelic Park 6119 W. 147th St, Oak Forest, IL

Age Group Awards / Team Award

TShirt, and Carraig Pub Drink Ticket with Registration

Indoor Heated Prep/Waiting Area with Bathrooms

Finishers water / food table with hot soup

Discount Pricing for Family's and Students

Stay for the Game - Bears vs. Titans

Online registration at www.racetime.info

Questions, contact Chicago Gaelic Park (708) 687-9323 or officecgp@chicagogaelicpark.org

Proceeds to Gaelic Park Charities –

providing to those in need throughout the Chicagoland area

Chicago Gaelic Park

Carraig Challenge

Cross Country 5k Run / 1.5m Walk

Race Date / Time: Sunday, November 27, 2016 at 10:30 A.M.

Race Location: Chicago Gaelic Park, 6119 W. 147th St, Oak Forest, IL 60452

Registration Fees:

Registration _____ \$25.00 Student Registration _____ \$20.00

Family Registration (3 or more) _____ \$20.00 per participant

Day of Registration _____ \$30.00

Race Day Registration & Packet Pick-Up: November 27, 2016 – 8:30 to 10:15 A.M.

Registration Form and entry fees can be mailed or delivered to Chicago Gaelic Park at above address. Online registration available

To register online go to: www.chicagogaelicpark.org or at www.racetime.info

T-Shirt and free Carraig Pub Drink Ticket to all registrants. *T-Shirt and/or sizes not guaranteed for race day registrants

Awards to the top three male and female age group finishers in the Run Category / 3rd place finisher in TEAM category

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone# _____ Date of Birth _____

Email Address _____

Gender: Male or Female (circle one) Runner or Walker (circle one) Adult T-Shirt Size: S M L XL XXL (circle one)

I warrant, I recognize and acknowledge that there are certain risks of physical injury to participants in this event, and I voluntarily agree to assume the full risk of any injuries, damages or loss, regardless of severity that I and/or my minor child(ren) may sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with or associated with this activity. I further agree to waive and relinquish all claims I and/or my minor child(ren) may have as a result of participating in this activity against the race organization, the venue in which it is held, respective officials, agents, volunteers and employees (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Parties").

By participating in this event, race organization has the right to reproduce photos taken of the event and participants on race day. I do hereby fully release and forever discharge the Parties from any and all claims for injuries, damages or loss and I and/or my minor child(ren) may have or which may accrue to me or my minor child(ren) and arising out of, connected with, or in any way associated with this event. I further agree that this agreement shall be governed by the State of Illinois.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

All net proceeds to Chicago Gaelic Park Charities

For information or questions call Chicago Gaelic Park (708) 687-9323



Gaelic Park Players

Proudly Present

"ST. PATRICK'S GIFT"

Written by Lynnea Mangan

Directed by: Jaimey Kennedy & Phyllis Bieder

November 4, 5, 6 • 11, 12, 13 • 18, 19, 20, 2016.

EVENING PERFORMANCES

FRIDAY and SATURDAY are at 8:00pm

AFTERNOON PERFORMANCES on SUNDAY are at 3:00pm

Tickets are \$12 for Theatre Performances only.

Tickets are \$27 for Sunday Classic Carvery/Theatre Combo

Tickets \$22 for Friday & Saturday with Pub Menu Combo

Reservations are a must for Dinner/Theatre.

For tickets and reservations please call Gaelic Park at (708) 687-9323

Chicago Gaelic Park – 6119 W. 147th Street – Oak Forest, Illinois 60452

St. Patrick's Gift opens on Friday, November 4th at 8pm and will run for three consecutive weekends. The performance dates are Fridays, November 4th, 11th, and 18th at 8pm; Saturdays, November 5th, 12th and 19th at 8pm; Sundays, November 6th, 13th and 20th at 3pm.

The Pub Grub Special will be offered again for our Friday and Saturday performances at the Carraig Pub, Gaelic Park. The tickets for the Pub Grub will

be \$22, which includes your theatre admission along with dinner. The pub dinner will be one item from the Pub Grub menu along with one pint or glass of wine. For Sunday's performances, there will be a Classic Carvery, which will immediately follow the performance in one of the banquet halls. The Classic Carvery ticket will include your theatre admission and your meal for \$27. The Carvery is a buffet which consists of your choice of soup, salad bar, meat selection, potato, vegetable, coffee, tea and dessert. All individual play tickets are \$12 and can be purchased at Gaelic Park's main office, located at 6119 W. 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL 60452. Please contact Gaelic Park to reserve your tickets at 708-687-9323.

St. Patrick's Gift is a comedy set in the present in the Southside Irish home of the McLaughlin family, who are preparing in anticipation of their annual St. Patrick's Day party. Family misunderstandings abound! Bits of conversation overheard and misconstrued, romance and statues with mysterious powers. It was written by Gaelic Park's own Lynnea Mangan and directed by Jaimey Kennedy.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Gaelic Park Players, visit us at gaelicparkplayers.org or on [facebook.com/groups/gaelicparkplayers](https://www.facebook.com/groups/gaelicparkplayers).



At its recent annual meeting, the Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors Bureau presented a merit award to Gaelic Park's Irish Fest for contributing to local tourism for 30 years. In addition to Irish Fest, Gaelic Park's Radio Show and its Monthly Mass and Breakfast are also celebrating 30 year anniversaries.



Chicago Gaelic Park

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



**Gaelic Park's
Super Fundraiser
December 4, 2016**

\$50,000.00



Grand Prize

**Ticket Request forms
available on our
website**

chicagogaelicpark.org



an IRISH CHRISTMAS

Starring

"ANDY COONEY"

and his band

Special Guest: Dee Reilly

And World Class Irish Dancers

Sunday December 4th - Tickets \$25.00
Doors open 7:00pm—Concert at 7:30pm

708-687-9323

**Family New Year's Eve
Party!**

Saturday December 31, 2016 4-8pm

Buffet Dinner 5:00pm

Kid's Sparking Juice Toast / Adults Champagne Toast
at 6:00pm

**Live Music for the Kiddies!
Party Favors!**

Adults \$27.00 Kids 12 & under \$11.00
3 & under FREE
Cash Bar

Call for tickets 708-687-9323
no "at the door" sales



The Chicago Patriots Gaelic Football Club celebrated their 10 year anniversary in 2015 and now have a lot to celebrate following their 11th year in 2016. This group of American born players from the south side won the North American Junior A Gaelic Football title this year over Labor Day weekend in Seattle, the first time this feat has been accomplished by an all-American team. This marks the team's highest achievement to date after starting at the Junior C level in 2005 and progressively working their way up to the

Junior A competition in 2011 after multiple North American championships in the Junior B & C competitions.

They were led this year by their manager and founder of the Patriots Joe Begley, along with Francis Lang who trained the team twice a week starting in April. The team that travelled to Seattle was comprised of all American born players, many of who have been playing together since U-8's dating back to 1997 thanks to the St. Jarlath's youth club, who have developed a number of quality players over the years and are

one of the main reasons the Chicago Patriots exists today.

The first step in their title run began with a win over the Chicago Parnells in the Central Division Junior A Football championship, the club's third time holding this title. After that they travelled to the North American Championships beating Calgary in the quarter-finals in a torrential down pour, a slug-fest with San Francisco in the semi-finals, and a thrilling wire-to-wire championship game against the Celtic Cowboys of Austin, TX

The team will continue the celebration holding their medal ceremony on Friday, December 17 at Gaelic Park to bring together the friends, family, and supporters of all the players both past and present, all are welcome to attend. The Chicago Patriots GFC will look to build on their success in the upcoming 2017 campaign with support from their sponsors. Flood Brothers Disposal, as well as their ever growing fan base.

Mingle & Jingle

Each day sparkles of light. Each moment so bright. When gathered together on one eve. Create a Christmas delight!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8TH OR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, 2016
6:30-10:30pm - \$37.00 per person

Gaelic Park's Annual Mingle & Jingle Christmas Party is perfect for businesses who want to celebrate the holidays in a fun and spirited atmosphere.

Have more fun with more people as you join together with other offices in the area for one of these two big holiday celebrations! Every year attending will enjoy a delicious buffet dinner, a four hour open bar and live DJ!

Call Gaelic Park and make reservations for yourself or the entire office! Reservations must be made as soon as possible. Payment in full due by December 1st. Adults Over 21 Only.

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GAELIC PARK TRIBUTE TO IRISH MUSICIANS

**TOM MASTERSON
AND
MARTIN BYRNE**



SESSION / DANCE

Sunday, January 22, 2017

2:00 – 6:00

Chicago Gaelic Park

6119 W. 147th STREET—OAK FOREST, IL

A light dinner will be served

\$20.00 PER PERSON – 12 and under FREE

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From the Motherland

By Sean Farrell



One For Nearly Everyone in the Audience

There was very little doubt that the 2017 Budget would pass. Nobody wanted another election. The shaky, unlikely coalition that is Enda Kenny's government looks set to last at least until the middle of 2017 when a number of issues are scheduled to come to a head. Kenny himself shows no sign of quitting.

This should not be taken necessarily as a sign that the "new politics" is working, just that neither of the two main parties saw anything to be gained in facing the electors again so soon. It's been as you were politically since February. While Fianna Fail has been doing relatively well in the polls, consolidating its slight post-election lead over Fine Gael, an opinion poll before the Budget showed both main parties neck and neck with 26% each. These figures were marginally up on the election outcome but fell far short of enough support to govern. Unless the two parties were to merge – still a favourite with the bookies.

Such a merger may eventually take place, but not before a lot of soul searching by both parties. Not only is it off the table as long as one party – Fianna Fail – thinks it can regain its dominant position in Irish politics, far-fetched but believable by the party faithful, but also because it would replace the current mild ideological party political set up with a more sharply defined Right-Left one. Not surprisingly Sinn Fein and its leftist fellow travellers have been clamouring for this as the obvious beneficiaries. But between them Sinn Fein and the hard left constitute less than 20% of the votes and seats; they have clearly some distance to travel before being serious contenders for power. Any FF-FG merger would give Sinn Fein a major leg up, something neither party seems disposed to do.

There's no doubt that the Recession and its aftermath severely damaged the neat pre-2008 arrangement of two broadly centrist parties, with a makeweight less-than-radical Labour party. Sinn Fein has been the chief beneficiary, siphoning support from Fianna Fail and Labour, which has also lost out to the Left. There's

been a major rise in the number of Independents yet it would be premature to write off the major parties yet. Together with

Labour they make up roughly 60% of the vote (and seats) and it's been pointed out that many of the Independents have FF/FG DNA in their veins.

Passage of the Budget was helped enormously by the fact that it was basically uncontroversial and involved no hard choices. Revenue figures were buoyant, no tax increases were imposed beyond the ritual rise in cigarette tax, and no expenditure cuts were necessary. Indeed there was money – not a lot – to spread largesse around the system with a little for most pressure groups. Some progress was made on restoring some of the cruel cuts to welfare services, particularly in health, made during the austerity years and there were very modest cuts in taxation. There was precious little for the squeezed middle, something which may yet return to haunt, but, in the short term at least, economic hardship of itself looks unlikely to bring the Government down.

The Budget had two items of note, apart from the fact that the billion plus hand-outs were financed by borrowing (still!). A first step was made to introduce childcare subsidies to meet the demands of a particularly vocal lobby group – working parents – and a new income tax rebate scheme of up to €20,000 was announced for first time buyers of new houses. The childcare subsidy has been received with satisfaction by some (a "welcome first step"), demands for more by others and criticism from the much-less-vocal stay at home mothers lobby, demanding parity (watch this space when the subsidies are increased).

The tax rebate scheme has been received with derision and dismay by most economists and a large segment of the public as doing nothing to solve the housing supply logjam. This is an issue that seems likely to run. The government sought to appease the first time buyers lobby who are complaining over the amount of the cash deposit required to get on the housing ladder, thanks in part to the "stable door" lending restrictions imposed by the Central Bank to prevent a repetition of the disastrous property bubble that laid the country low in 2008. With new housing starts stalled or low in volume the sanguine hope is that having more people with money to spend will

stimulate supply. Economists argue that it will merely push up the prices of new houses. Public reaction is to complain that the measure applies only to new houses, whereas often older houses are cheaper. There may be pressure to extend the scheme before the Finance Act is passed.

Thus far it has been the Government of Easy Options, with anything remotely controversial kicked into 2017. One Minister has been reported as stating that there was no point in attempting to introduce any measure that involved an additional charge or tax as it would not get through the Dail. But even prevarication has its limits. The water charge fiasco remains unresolved with an expert committee due to report next March. With Fianna Fail now committed to abolishing charges, either the diehards in Fine Gael agree or the Government will collapse. Bin charges, a lesser fiasco, will also heat up next year when the Government moratorium lapses in July.

Right now the sands are running out on another major headache for the Government – Public Sector Pay. This was cut during the Recession, as a quid pro quo for maintaining existing jobs, but with the fatal promise that the cuts would be restored when the economy recovered. Cue the recovery. A cave in to the (private sector) Luas tram drivers last summer was followed by another cave in, this time to the (arguably more deserving) state sector bus drivers. Predictably the queue of state employees demanding restoration of cuts is mounting, with, as I write, the Government facing an unprecedented strike by the Gardai, with all that that implies, in November. The careful construct of public sector pay controls, essential to continued economic recovery and control of public spending, appears close to collapse. One friend has remarked that the country is becoming all but ungovernable. Another friend added more caustically that the country is ungoverned!

In 2017, also, the Brexit process will get under way. Already it has dawned on politicians here that the effects could be very serious for Ireland. The first jobs have been lost in the food sector as Irish producers struggle to cope with the slump in sterling. More will follow as Irish business tries to compete with suddenly cheaper British

rivals. The North threatens to become again a Mecca for southern shoppers, and not just for high excise items like alcohol, with the knock-on effect felt throughout the economy.

Even worse as a political headache, the Abortion issue is slinking back. The battle lines are being drawn ("Repeal the Eighth"), and, again, the "Citizens Assembly" will report on the issue in 2017. 2017: Chinese Year of the Rooster – when the chickens come home!



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VOTE YES FOR ALL Retention Judges November 8th

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 Timothy C. Evans #215
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 Kathleen Marie Burke #259
 Kay M. Hanlon #261
 Thomas J. Kelley #263
 Clare Elizabeth McWilliams #265
 Mary L. Mikva #267
 Patrick T. Murphy #269
 Timothy P. Murphy #271
 Jim Ryan #273
 Edward Washington, II #275
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 Daniel J. Gallagher #305
 Sharon O. Johnson #307
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 Terence MacCarthy #311
 Sandra G. Ramos #313
 Susan Kennedy Sullivan #315

- 58 Judges running for retention with a combined total of over a thousand years judicial experience serving the Citizens of Cook County;

- All members have been found Qualified, Well Qualified or Highly Qualified by many various bar associations;

- Retention Judges have been widely praised by the legal community for their excellence on the bench including knowledge of the law, integrity and temperament;

- Members of our retention class have received the highest awards including "Judge of the Year" from our bar associations, Presidential Service Awards from the Illinois Judges Association; many awards for service to our communities including elementary, jr. high and high school criminal and civil law educational seminars;

Our Take on Social Services

By Paul Dowling



and some of the insight learned from the project.

Long Distance Support Networks

Senior groups take place at the Irish American Heritage Center (IAHC) and Gaelic Park. See below for specific details of senior group meetings this month. All senior group meetings begin at 10am. There is no cost and refreshments will be served. All are very welcome. If you need further information, please call our office on 773-282-8445.

Wednesday 2nd November -

Irish American Heritage Center -

Does your Heart Skip a Beat? The symptoms of a cardiac arrhythmia vary, so it can be difficult to tell the difference between something normal and something potentially life-threatening. Dr. Hany Demo, an electrophysiologist with Swedish Covenant Medical Group, will discuss the telltale signs of a heart rhythm disturbance, when to seek medical advice and new advancements in treatment options.

Wednesday 9th November 2016 -

Gaelic Park - How to Stay in Shape by Doing What You Love

Today, we have Andrea Scott, a former collegiate gymnast and former Illinois Amateur Racquetball Champion! Andrea has a passion for fitness and exercise, and with a Master degree in Adult Fitness and Cardiac Rehabilitation, her passion is helping people live long, healthy lives. Join us as Andrea teaches us about how to be fit and healthy, regardless of age and ability!

Wednesday 16th November -

Irish American Heritage Center -

The Gallagher Initiative

The Gallagher Initiative was a wide scale research project run through Hunter University in New York to study the older members of the Irish community throughout the 5 burroughs. Today we will watch a documentary style account of the research

Over the years, this article has given Chicago Irish Immigrant Support an opportunity to share with you all, news and information on a wide variety of topics that pertain to the Irish community at home in Ireland, in the US, and indeed throughout the world. It has been incredible to see the number of imaginative initiatives that have been created to better connect and support the global Irish.

The success and effectiveness of these programs has in no small way been a result of the many technological advances we have witnessed over the past 15 years. What Irish immigrant who left 1950's Ireland could ever have imagined the unprecedented levels of connectivity we have with home today?

Just two months ago, on 10th September, yet another innovative project launched with a mission to support Irish emigrants who are struggling with issues like depression, anxiety and loneliness, or problems with alcohol, drugs or gambling.

Cabhú (the Irish work meaning 'help') is a service that provides free online counselling to those experiencing these problems. According to a recent article published on the Irish Times website and written by Cabhú founder Lochlann Scott 'There are many reasons why emigrants do not seek mental health supports in their adopted countries as much as they possibly would have when they were in Ireland. Some might feel they should be putting on a brave face for those back home and those around them. Others may be put off seeking professional help in their adopted country because of cultural barriers, or a fear their problems might not be as well understood abroad as they would be at home'.

Cabhú's services are provided by professional counsellors in Ireland using a web based platform similar to Skype which allows counsellors and clients to speak with and see one another. Currently this program is only available to the Irish community in Australia but there are plans to extend services to the US and other countries around the world. Cabhú also has plans to roll out an additional service which will offer an emotional support helpline for the Irish diaspora.

To find out more about Cabhú, the services they offer, and how you could support their mission you can visit their website at www.helplink.ie/cabhru.

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Concert Corner

November is filled with concerts, programs, activities and social events. See below to learn how you can get in on the action this month and enjoy all we have to offer.

Four Shillings Short Samhain Concert

World music duo Four Shillings Short perform a family-friendly concert celebrating Celtic New Year traditions, including Samhain, in which Halloween has its roots. The concert showcases songs, poetry, stories and folklore in celebration of the Celtic New Year. Many modern day Halloween celebrations and customs are based on Samhain, including ghost stories, costumes, bobbing for apples, trick or treating and jack-o-lanterns.

The concert is Sunday, November 6 at 2pm. Tickets are \$10 for IAHC Members and \$15 for general admission. Children 15 and under are free.

Galvin/McCarthy/Costello Salon Concert

Salon Concerts Chicago presents Galway fiddle and flute legend Frankie Galvin in concert with Tommy McCarthy and Louise Costello on Saturday,

November 12 at 8pm. Galvin has performed with the Rolling Stones and Elvis Costello, as well as the great contemporary players and singers of traditional Irish music. McCarthy and Costello blend the musical styles of West Clare and North Galway. The concert is Saturday, November 12 at 8pm. Tickets are \$20 for adults, and children 18 and under are free.



Anthony Kearns

Anthony Kearns Concert

Tenor Anthony Kearns returns for a concert featuring classics, folk music and popular tunes.

A Tear and a Smile: Celebrating the Songs of Ireland, Inspirational Music and Beloved Melodies is Sunday, November 13 at 3pm. Tickets are \$35 for general admission and \$30 for seniors 65 and older, or military personnel with current ID. Tickets for VIP seating and a post-show "meet-and-greet" are an extra \$20.



Irish Heritage Singers

Irish Heritage Singers Annual Concert

The Irish Heritage Singers present their annual concert, *Good People All: From Dublin to Wexford and Beyond the Emerald Isle* showcasing choral arrangements of traditional and contemporary Irish songs and Irish Christmas carols. The concert is Sunday, November 20 at 3pm. Tickets are \$20 for adults, children 5-12 are \$5, and children 5 and under are free.

Cathie Ryan Concert

Salon Concerts Chicago presents Cathie Ryan's

The Winter's Heart: An Irish American Christmas this December. Cathie Ryan and her band celebrate and honor Irish Christmas traditions with ethereal hymns and exuberant jigs and reels. Ryan is joined by Patsy O'Brien on guitar and vocals, Patrick Mangan on fiddle and vocals and Kieran O'Hare on uilleann pipes, flute and whistles.



Cathie Ryan

The concert is Thursday, December 8 at 8pm in the Center's Auditorium. Tickets are \$25 for adults and children 18 and under are \$10.

Cultural Corner

Tea with Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Have tea with Elizabeth Cady Stanton at another of our Saturday Morning Teas. Stanton was an American suffragist, social activist and leading figure of the early women's rights movement. Actress and historian Eileen Vorbath portrays Stanton in this one woman performance.

The tea is Saturday, November 12 at 11am. Tickets are \$25 and \$8 for children 12 and under. Reservations are necessary and must be made by November 8.

Social Scene

Trivia Night Fundraiser

Put your knowledge to test at the annual

Trivia Night Fundraiser in support of the Irish American Hall of Fame.

Trivia questions cover the Irish American Hall of Fame categories: Arts & Humanities, Public Service, Business & Industry, Sports, Education, Religion & Science, plus plenty of current events and pop culture.

The fundraiser is Friday, November 18 at 7pm. The cost is \$150 per team, with no more than six people per team. The night features prizes for the top three winners, a silent auction, split the pot raffle and a cash bar. Register at www.iahof.org or call the Center office.

Annual Christmas Bazaar

Get in the holiday spirit with the Christmas Bazaar at the Center.

The annual Bazaar is Sunday, December 4 from 9am to 3pm and features mass, a full Irish breakfast, a craft and bake sale and visit from Santa Claus. Mass is celebrated in the

Auditorium at 10:30am, with music by the Irish Heritage Singers. A traditional Irish breakfast follows in the Erin Room. Tickets for breakfast for breakfast are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children 12 and under. Reservations are required.

There is no charge to browse and shop the craft and bake sale and shoppers can enjoy the craft sale with Chicago artisans. An Irish-American quilt will be raffled off. The Bake Shop sells tea, coffee, juice and baked goods. Santa Claus visits from 1-3pm and the Irish Heritage Singers will sing Christmas carols at 12pm in the Pub.

To purchase tickets for the breakfast, call 773-282-7035,

ext. 10 by November 29.

To purchase tickets for all Center programs, visit www.irish-american.org, call 773-282-7035, ext. 10 or buy at the door.

Join the Center on Sunday, December 4, for Mass at 10:30am, followed by an Irish Breakfast in the Erin Room. Reservations are required.

Adults . . . \$12.00

Children 12 and under . . . \$ 8.00

To reserve tickets, send check payable to: Irish American Heritage Center. Tickets will be reserved for pickup on December 4. Mail check and reservation form by November 29 to: Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 North Knox Avenue, Chicago, IL 60630.

Christmas Bazaar, Mass and Breakfast

December 4, 2016

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Number of Tickets: _____

Adults: _____ Children: _____

President's Message

As we enter Thanksgiving season, we must reflect how lucky we are as a membership to have such an extraordinary building. I am thankful for the many volunteers who gave their time and talent over the years in perfecting this palace. The Center will never be complete as long as there is energy, imagination and enthusiasm in our Irish culture.



I am thankful for our talented musicians who perform here and enrich our tastes for Irish music. It is so nice to hear sounds throughout the building and to hear the tapping of little shoes of young Irish dancers learning the steps of their first lessons.

I am thankful for our members who continue to support us with their participation at the Center. Our Annual Appeal campaign has had a tremendous response this year and the campaign continues through March 2017.

Please take advantage of the programs we have at the Center.

iBAM was a tremendous success as usual; very entertaining and educational.

I wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving and a joyous holiday season. Just a reminder that our Events and Rental Team can assist you in planning your holiday party here at the Irish American Heritage Center.

Eugene M. Cooney, President

Annual Appeal

Below are the names of donors to the 2016 Annual Appeal who have given through October 18.

The campaign runs through March 2017 and donations will be listed in *Irish American News* through the March issue. Each year, Patrick and Peggy Burke generously pledge \$25,000 in matching funds for the Appeal. We thank them, and you, for your generous support.

President's Club (\$5,000 and up)

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IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

NOVEMBER ENTERTAINMENT

11/4 Ceili Mor

11/5 TBA

11/11 Joe McShane

11/12 St. Patrick Father Social

11/18 The Dooley Brothers

11/19 TBA

11/25 Party Music

11/26 Open Mic Night



Thursday Night Irish Music Sessions: Nov. 3, 10 and 17; 7pm-9pm

November 2016

Nov 2	Tara Club Senior Meeting	Room 304	10am
Nov 4	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili Mor	Fifth Province	8pm
Nov 5	New Zealand v Ireland Rugby Screening Party	Fifth Province	1pm
	Shamrock American Club Social	ShamAm Room	7pm
Nov 6	Four Shillings Short Concert	Erin Room	2pm
Nov 10	Tea with Elizabeth Cady Stanton	Fifth Province	11am
Nov 11	Paints and Pints	Fifth Province	7pm
Nov 12	St. Patrick Fathers Social	Fifth Province	8pm
	Gavin/McCarthy/Costello Salon Concert	Room 109	8pm
Nov 13	Library Great Books Club	Library	1pm
	<i>The Temporary Gentleman</i> by Sebastian Barry	Auditorium	3pm
	Anthony Kearns Concert	Room 304	7pm
Nov 15	Celtic Women International Meeting	Room 304	10am
Nov 16	Tara Club Senior Meeting	Erin Room	7pm
Nov 18	Irish American Hall of Fame Trivia Night	ShamAm Room	8pm
	Shamrock American Club Meeting	Room 109	8pm
	Monthly Quiz Night	Erin Room	3pm
Nov 20	Irish Heritage Signers Annual Concert	Erin Room	8pm
Nov 26	Galway Fellowship Club Thanksgiving Social	Fifth Province	8pm
	Open Mic Night	Library	1pm
Nov 27	Genealogy Workshop	Library	1pm

Regularly Scheduled Events

Mon-Fri	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	4pm-8pm
Tues	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	9am-Noon
	Traditional Celtic Art Class	Art Gallery	7pm
	Set Dancing	Room 111	7:30-9:30pm
Wed	Traditional Irish Music Session	Room 311	7pm
	Nimble Thimbles	Room 208	7-10pm
	Na Gaeil Irish Language Class	Library	7pm
	Watercolor Class (through 11/9)	Room 310	6:45pm
Thurs	Taping of The Craic Radio Show	Fifth Province	6pm
	Thursday Night Irish Music Session	Fifth Province	7pm
	Irish Heritage Singers Rehearsal	Room 306	7pm
Fri	Francis O'Neill Club Ceili	Room 111	8pm
Sat	Gift Shop	First Floor Lobby	10am-8pm
	Na Gaeil Irish Language Class	Library	11am

Library Hours:

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

The Heritage Line Staff Kathleen O'Neill, Editor

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- Vincent M. Gaughn #209
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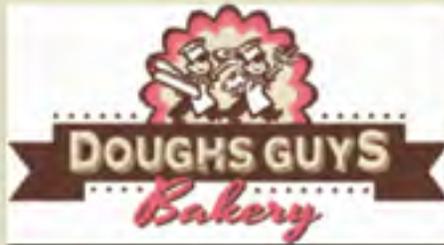
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Resolution: A Delight for the Lovers of Stories

Review by Terence Boyle

With a strong cast of actors, director Diana Raiselis brings

to life Heather McNama and Nancy Nyman's play. The story, though a little incredulous for

the time (late 19th C), requires a suspension of belief that only works if the story is good, and this one is good. Once one gets over the initial hurdle posed by the playwrights, the real action of the play speaks for itself. Highlighting the victimization of those the many who judge love with a blinkered sense of morality,



the playwrights invite us to engage with a theme that is perhaps seems a little dated now, except in very rural areas, which is, who has the right to legislate whom we can love.

It's a story, and it draws us in only because the actors embody each of their characters with enthusiasm and conviction. Edward Fraim, as Harrison, is especially good as husband to his morally conflicted wife, Margaret (Amber Snyder), an Irish housemaid. Together these two characters represent the two ends

of a moral spectrum that remain polarized throughout the play. Aneisa Hicks, as Hannah, and Tiffany Mitchenor, as Jack, are wonderful as the married couple with an alluring secret. Together, they intrigue us, win us over, until we become drawn beyond the confines of their drawing room, and into the intimacy of their bedroom lives.

This is a play that is worth seeing simply because it tells a good story.



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The Irish Rover

By James McClure



Taking the Stage

About two years ago I got the acting bug. I blame Harrison Ford.

As many people know, the son of an Irish American father and Jewish mother was born in Chicago and later grew up in the suburbs before going to Wisconsin for college where he got the acting bug his senior year.

He dropped out weeks before graduation and starting acting professionally at a summer stock theater 90 miles north of Chicago in Williams Bay by Lake Geneva.

When I moved to that town several years ago I did a lot of research on that summer of 1964 while the same time his abandoned theater, The Belfry, was saved from the wrecking ball and reopened just this past summer.

Excitement about that and all the pre-production hype about a new Star Wars movie starring Ford got me thinking about the acting craft and how it might be fun to give it another try after having done community theater once in Wheaton, Illinois back in the 1990's.

I first tested the water by joining the live radio theater troupe at my new radio station in Kenosha (itself the birthplace of Orson Welles), trading in my newsman's persona for the chance to take on several roles that unlike other such groups, is truly live and truly on the radio.

WGTD-FM's 91.9 Players, named for the station's main frequency, has been doing award-winning original radio presentations for more than a decade, running the gamut from drama to comedy to history along with send-ups of famous radio and television productions.

In two years some of my more well-known roles have been playing Bob Hope in a Christmas

variety show, Colonel Klink in a new Hogan's Heroes episode, starring as popular 1950's insurance investigator Johnny Dollar as well as the lead character in The Great Gildersleeve.

Many of the shows are done at the WGTD studios in a large classroom at Gateway Technical College, others are in Delavan, Wisconsin at Lake Lawn Lodge, a location for popular big band national radio shows dating back to the 1930's.

In nearly three years of this newfound avocation I've also appeared in a murder mystery theater at Lake Lawn, portrayed Orson Welles' fiery grandfather in a Kenosha weekend cemetery tour, and done several one-act plays at a coffeehouse in Williams Bay. Getting paid for the Bay gig meant that I too had joined

Harrison Ford as being first professionally paid for acting in that lakeside town!

As for the stage, I've had relatively early success winning parts in auditions in both Southeastern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois, some consisting of two lines, others of two entire acts.

Currently I'm appearing as the judge in To Kill a Mockingbird at Waukesha Civic Theatre through November 13.

The whole process of being in a production has fun parallels to the motion picture process that I observed as the new Star Wars film rolled out.

Auditions are so much fun I wish I could go to them on a weekly basis. Technically one could I suppose, but turning down directors because you were already in another play is a bad career move! The unwritten rule is that you best be a team player and just as happy to receive an ensemble non-speaking role as to be the star of the show.

Great teamwork is involved and there's great fun in meeting fellow-minded people with creativity and talent. Just like



in the movies, after being cast you get to sit in a circle at the "read-through" and go through the script out loud, meeting your new associates for a two-month endeavor along the way.

Having a publicity picture taken for the newspaper and lobby display is ego-boosting as is getting fussed over and fitted out for a costume.

You don't have to put up with the stress or relocation of a full-time acting career but commuting to different cities and towns does give some of the same joys. The thrills of learning a new downtown, studying your script at a little bistro before rehearsal,

seeing the performance space for the first time are all pleasures I've enjoyed in six different areas now, all within an hour's drive time.

There's also of course the experience of performing, with hopefully the same goal that Harrison Ford and other actors speak of—the ability to give something of value and entertainment to the people that came out to see you and your fellow actors.

I've especially enjoyed doing a range of accents on the stage and behind the microphone, from German and British to Brooklyn, Southern and Texan. Who knows? If I keep at this, I may even get to do an Irish lilt or two!



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Eulogy of Edward F. McElroy

October 17, 2016

St. Germaine Church

By *Aderman Ed Burke*

In 1946 Frank Capra produced and directed a motion picture entitled "It's a wonderful life" - It starred Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed- a few of us here this morning have seen that iconic motion picture- If I were to choose a title for my remarks about Ed McElroy

worth retelling today. As many of you know, Ed's neighbor in that building on the Boulevard was legendary Judge John J. Sullivan, a political powerhouse in Chicago and Cook County in the 20s, 30s, and 40s. The Sullivan family lived on the 2nd floor and the McElroy family lived on the first floor. As the story goes, one day Ed knocked on the judge's door with an urgent



Ed and Rita McElroy

today I would borrow that title and adapt it slightly to "What a Wonderful Life."

While we gather here in this sacred place to mourn Ed's passing, in truth we are celebrating his wonderful life and is there anyone here who wouldn't sign on the dotted line if God would grant us 91 years never an illness until the last few days. It was Tom Brokaw the noted journalist and author who coined the phrase "the greatest generation" and indeed Ed was a member of that generation- he was a patriot, brave, trustworthy, faithful and served his nation

so well. He marched off to World War II along with millions of other women and men and they returned to their homes and families to fashion the greatest nation ever known to mankind. While Ed would have the privilege of associating with patriarchs and Presidents, Senators, Judges and Generals and Governors, he was never far removed from his roots in Visitation Parish or his childhood home at the corner of Garfield Boulevard and Morgan Street.

Each of us has an Ed McElroy story, but one which has been told and retold time and time again in our neighborhood might be



request- he needed to borrow a suit for an important event. It just so happened, that Judge Sullivan had a son Jack who was close in age to Ed - however Eddie was about 5 foot 9 and the Judge's son was about 6 foot two -Old Judge Sullivan said go ahead Edward pick a suit from Jack's closet and so he did. Sometime later the suit was returned and the old Judge though no more of it until one day when his son, Jack, had need of the suit and put it on much to his chagrin as he walked into the front room where the Judge was seated, the sleeves came down to the middle of his forearms and the trouser cuffs were up to his shins. Apparently Eddie had the suit altered- But at least he returned it.

In the law there is a term- Sui Generis which translates to "one of a kind." Ed McElroy or "the

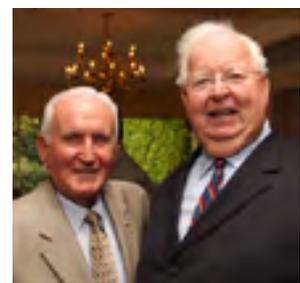
Commander" as I called him was indeed one of a kind. Thousands of radio listeners in the Chicago-land area became familiar with his reassuring voice as he took to the airwaves in the 1950s, 60, and 70s and no political leader of our times didn't know Ed. No one handed the Commander his successes- he worked hard for them and he became a legend in his own time. He refused to dwell on disappointments and always was ready

with a smile and confident handshake. To borrow an old phrase, he never met a person he didn't like. This Chicago legend will be greatly missed but long remembered. One other comment I'd like to share with you was his automobile parking habit. Young Ed told me that years ago he had a conversation with his dad and he asked him if he had ever paid for a parking place in a garage. The Commander hesitated for a minute and then replied-

Yeah I think one time in Cleveland, Ohio- well that leads me to an image I have, if ever we find ourselves at the pearly gates, there will be a big Cadillac parked right in front in a heavenly no parking zone with a Chicago police button sitting in the back window and Illinois license plate 185 proudly displayed for all to see. On Thursday October 13th at Rush Hospital the Commander donned a new suit. One which will never be borrowed or altered and never wear out. He is cloaked in the eternal light of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who said well done my good and faithful servant. You have reaped the rewards of your life so well lived and well served.

What a wonderful life! May God grant you Eternal Rest, Commander, and may your soul and the souls of all the faithfully departed.

Rest in Peace.



He's In Ireland Now

by Cliff Carlson

Upon buying Irish American News in November of 1992, one of my first advertisers was Mr. Edward F. McElroy, who helped judges, and politicians on the Democratic ticket get elected. He had a friendly but stern demeanor, a no nonsense approach to life and it's give and take, and he could come across at times as hard-boiled, and tough as the streets of Chicago. But once you measured up, he was a true friend who looked out for you, even better than you did for yourself! Every election season Ed would get out his huge Rolodex and call me and push me to call so and so and so and so for advertising. That's the kind of guy Ed was.

I met treasurers, comptrollers, secretary of state, mayors, judges, and up and comers like Barack Obama and Barrett Pederson through Ed. I met publishers and editors of other newspapers like Todd Wessel of the Journal and Topics newspaper, Tom Gavin of Southtown News, Inside Publications owner, Ron Roenigk, owner of Inside Publications, and Bob Olszewskii of the Beverly Review. Many of the above were pall bearers at his funeral.

He was a long time radio announcer in the 1950's, through the 1970's, but when that career was over he didn't sit still. Yes, he was a political strategist until the end, but he was also a television personality at Comcast and he kept his show on the air until his final days.

He would call me and ask me to be on the show from time to time, but he would also ask me who I thought would like to appear on his show, and many of them did. The latest was Gene Cooney, President of the Irish American Heritage Center.

The man had style! Those of you who travel in Irish circles know what I mean. We have two Ed's in town who ALWAYS dressed impeccably. McElroy was one. Alderman Ed Burke

is the other! Full suits, neatly folded handkerchiefs, beautifully tied ties, many times with a tie pin involved down to the polished shoes and never a hair out of place!

Ed and his wife, Rita, were the most active couple I know, and i don't know where they found the energy to do all they did. They attended political and publishing functions, plays, and sporting events including the Cubs, The White Sox, and the Black Hawks games. They could run circles around most of us!

Ed would offer me Cubs or Blackhawk tickets once in a while, and I'd go with someone else or meet Rita and himself there. When Ed offered me White Sox tickets, I couldn't tell him I wasn't a huge fan, and from time to time I would accept! Thanks to Ed, I discovered the place was vastly improved from my first disappointing visit there after old Comiskey Park came down.

But his biggest love outside of Rita and his family, I think was golf. He would get his exercise, and he would connect people who could help each other. He put together some great foursomes which might include a retired police superintendent, a publisher, and government officials of every sort.

You needed two things if you golfed with Ed. A telephone and patience! If you were driving around the course in Ed's cart, he would invariably ask to use your phone, and he would purposely leave you somewhere to walk to the next ball because he felt you needed the exercise!

I tried for at least the last five years to get Ed to take Rita to Ireland. He hesitated because he was worried about the rare time that they might have to go to the hospital. As Irish as he was, and he was to the core, he never made it to Ireland.

The golf course and walking probably added ten years to his life. I can't measure what he added to mine. I'd like to think that he's in Ireland Now!



Front Row: (l to r) Lily McElroy, Ed McElroy, Demi Merikas McElroy, Ed McElroy Jr. Rita McElroy, Danny McElroy. Back Row: (l to r) Megan Kirkwood, Jack Kirkwood, Beth Kirkwood, Mike Kirkwood, tim Kirkwood. Other pics: Ed and some of his friends!



Ed McElroy Memorial Golf Outing SAVE THE DATE!

July 20, 2017, Palos Country Club
13100 SW Hwy, Orland Park, IL 60462

In honor of Ed, Irish American News will be hosting a golf outing on Ed's birthday which we hope to make an annual event.

Part of the proceeds will go to support one of Ed's favorite charities, the 100 Club, which supports the families of first responders - police officers, firefighters, and paramedics.

www.100clubchicago.org. For more information or to register for the outing, call cliff at 847-872-0700



An Immigrant's Musings

Michael Leonard



Time to Change and Heal

As I prepare to submit this month's reflection, the blogo-

sphere, Internet and most of the news channels are still dealing with the aftermath of Trump's worst weekend since becoming the GOP nominee for President.

The exodus of a large number of major GOP figures from the Trump supporters club and the silence of the majority of the republican leadership, leave most thinking people with the impression that barring a

major stumble on her part, Hilary Clinton will almost certainly be the winner of the 2016 race for the White House.

This has been a very divisive general election, the likes of which this country has never witnessed before. We have seen candidate trump impress in only one category. Unfortunately, for the country the impression he left to the world was not in a positive one. Trump ran his campaign like an egomaniac that was not clearly the kind of person we want to be our commander in chief. The only title that he was likely to receive was that of "insulter in chief."



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With that in mind, it is now time for our country to move forward. The next four years are going to be interesting to watch. And one of the first tasks of our new President will be the enormous task of trying to both introduce change on the one hand, and, on the other hand to try and bring about healing for a divided country. This is no small task and for Mrs. Clinton, who is now seen as the odds on favorite, it will be a chance for her to convince the skeptics that she can reach out and be a champion for the entire country. In particular, can she work with the Republican leadership to enact common sense policies for the good of the majority? Will she be able to deliver on her election promises? Can she reach across the isle to mend the stalemate in D.C.?

Looking at Hillary Clinton's web site, it is clear that she has a very comprehensive plan for her first term in office. This covers areas from keeping America safe to, working with our allies abroad to, providing support for working mothers, to reforming the criminal justice and tax systems, to comprehensive immigration reform and many others. Let's hope and pray that she is successful in finding pragmatic Republicans in Congress who are willing to leave obstructionism behind and work for the good of all our people.

The Law of the Garbage Truck

One day I hopped in a taxi and we took off for the airport. We were driving in the right lane when suddenly a black car jumped out of a

parking space right in front of us.

My taxi driver slammed on his brakes, skidded, and missed the other car by just inches!

The driver of the other car whipped his head around and started yelling at us!

My taxi driver just smiled and waved at the guy. And I mean, really friendly. So I asked, "Why did you just do that? This guy almost ruined your car and sent us to the hospital!"

This is when my taxi driver taught me what I now call, "The Law of the Garbage Truck."

He explained that many people are like garbage trucks. They run around full of garbage (frustration, anger, and disappointment, etc.). As their garbage piles up, they need a place to dump it and sometimes they'll dump it on you.

Don't take it personally. Just smile, wave, wish them well, and move on. Don't take their garbage and spread it to other people at work, at home, or on the streets.

The bottom line is that successful people do not let garbage trucks take over their day. Life's too short to wake up in the morning with regrets, so... love the people who treat you right & pray for the ones who don't. Life is ten percent what you make it and ninety percent how you take it!

Have a blessed, garbage-free day.

Author Unknown

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



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The Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee's trip to Ireland was enjoyed by all who attended.

1. Kathleen Saccia, Michele and Jim Coyne in Kinsale
2. Loni Kelly steps back in time with a couple of large Irish wolfhounds at Ashford Castle.
3. The entire group enjoyed the Merry Plough Boy Pub/Restaurant.
4. Former Irish Consul General of Chicago, Aidan Cronin (left) with Austin Kelly and James Coyne of the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee at the home of Ireland's President, Michael Higgins.



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Piping It In

Jack Baker



Autumn is here and the outdoor festival season is over. Got to see some tremendous bands play this year. We Banjo 3 seemed to be everyone's favorite, with Socks in the Frying Pan a close second. Runa and Goitse were solidly popular and Gaelic Storm continued to pack folks in. There weren't as many cds released this year as in past years but what was

on my decisions should contact me before 15 November with your views, you won't necessarily sway my decision but I'll give you credit and a shoutout for trying.

Meanwhile I still have new releases to talk about, one arrived as I sat down to type this, gossip to spread and hopes for the future to discuss, so let's get to it.

released was pure gold. As a result I've decided to follow the example of our beloved Uncle Bill Margeon and release a rating of cds from this year in the December column. Anyone wishing to weigh in

(www.greentrax.com) in 1986 it has been the label that produced the absolute best in Scottish music. If you wanted the hottest Scottish releases at any given time, it was a sure bet that the majority would be Greentrax. 2016 marks the 30th anniversary of the label, and to mark the occasion, Greentrax has released "Greentrax 30th Anniversary The Special Projects" a two cd collection of tracks taken from their fine collection of special compilations released over the last 30 years. Ranging from "Far, Far From Ypres", their collection of songs from World War I to "The King Has Landed" their collection of songs from the Jacobite risings and including wonderful bits

from oddities such as "No Pasaran, Scots in the Spanish Civil War" this collection is more than extremely listenable music, it's the history of Scotland and a listing of all the diligently researched and recorded collections still available from this legendary label. I have raved for years that our music, I'm being very inclusive here, con-

sists of more than mere notes and words, but that the history, the feelings, the pain and the joy have to be included to really appreciate and understand. Greentrax Recordings collections are the ultimate in providing the background information for where the music came from so we can understand what's being said and where we are going with it. Nobody does it better than Greentrax and this new 2 cd set is a perfect example of what I'm talking about.

There are uilleann pipers who produce nothing but the finest of recorded music and I'm pleased to say that one of the most adventurous uilleann piper has produced and released another in his long

string of outstanding recordings. John McSherry (www.johnmcsherry.com) has just released "The Seven Suns" and it is a total exercise in pushing the boundaries and examining new ideas in piping. Recording with Niamh Dunne, Michael McColdrick, Seán Óg Graham and Sean Warren, McSherry has created another recording that will inspire some, aggravate others and leave music fans, like myself, with big old smiles on our faces as we listen to the cutting edge of uilleann piping. McSherry has recorded some of the best stuff out there and The Seven Suns is yet another gem in his crown, a very bright gem indeed.

Gossip time brings us to one of my favorite festivals, that I have attended faithfully for over 30 years and that's the Irish American Heritage Center festival in July. It was the talk of the center the other evening as I shared a pint with a few of my cronies. Word has it that you can catch me in the shop they have snagged some of the top musicians in the trade for this years festival. Can't say yet just who but you can bet I'll be crowing from the rooftop if this story turns out to be true! Meanwhile, plan to come to the Christmas Bazaar at the Center on Sunday December 4th. Mass in the morning for those that want it, breakfast in the morning for those that want it (I do!) and a lovely day of shopping and fellowship. I'll be there in my booth.

In the meantime you can catch me in the shop, 630834-8108 or online store@rampantlion.com
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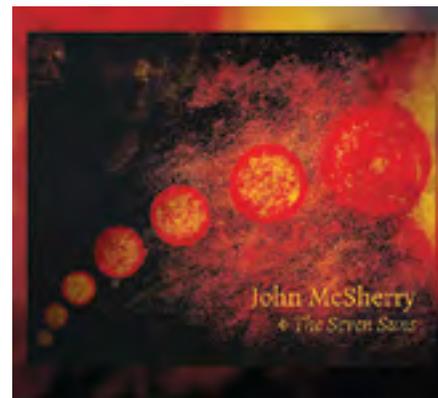
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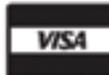
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It Starts With A Song

By Joe McShane



Hello Everyone,
Hope you had a great October and a scary Halloween! I spent most of last month in Galena performing at the Irish Cottage. Great time was had, meeting different people from almost across the globe. Great fodder for writing. Also, I really enjoyed playing music with my son Declan, for the children at the iBam weekend which is held at the Irish American Heritage Center. We brought some shakers, tambourines etc and it was great fun. I believe, children, although we may not always realize it, soak up information and retain it. Congratulations to Cliff and Cathy Carlson and all involved in the iBam weekend. Long may you continue this great work.

Gotta give a shout out to my cousin, Owen Martin, Silverbridge, CoArmagh. After doing the Chicago and Belfast Marathon, Owen has since done the Ironman triathlon seven times. An Ironman Triathlon is one of a series of long-distance triathlon races organized by the World Triathlon Corporation (WTC), consisting of a 2.4-mile (3.86 km) swim, a 112-mile (180.25 km) bicycle ride and a marathon 26.22-mile (42.20 km) run, raced in that order and without a break. Owen, we are all very proud of you.

Back in 2001, I had a visit from a dear friend, who lives in Connemara. His name is Padaig O'Sabhain. Him and I did a road trip to Pine Ridge, South Dakota and Little Big Horn, Montana.

Padraig had befriended some native American Chiefs and we set off to meet up with them. These people are so wise. I was really blown away with their stories and outlook on life. Padraig, spoke very highly of a Lakota Sioux woman, JoAnn Tall. I was lucky enough to meet her on our trip. She is a very natured human being. The best way I can describe my feelings upon meeting her was, it felt like I was meeting another Mother Teresa. She had just lost her son about two months before (from epileptic complications) but still she made us very welcome in her very humble home. Her accommodation was a room inside a

home for the elderly native Americans. JoAnn lives there and cares for her people who love her dearly. I wish I could have stayed there longer. She was such

a graceful person and I was very affected by this wonderful lady. Padraig told me how JoAnn had taken a trip to Ireland, to take part in the annual Famine Walk, from Louisburgh to Doolough. It's where approximately six hundred starving women, men and children walked to a mansion, known as Delphi Lodge. They were in search of help and food. Where within the aristocracy sat and dined and refused to acknowledge the starving people. So they had to start the long walk back in the cold month of February 1849. Over half of them died along their journey home. Some of which rolled down into the lough. I must note here that a lot of politicians take part in the walk. The majority of them seem to think it's important to be seen there. On the other hand, for JoAnn Tall, it was a spiritual experience. I got together with my dear friend Jordan Mogeey and we wrote a song called 'Louisburgh to Doolough' (Pine Ridge To Wounded Knee.) As Thanksgiving is coming up, I thought it fitting to make it this month's song.

I spoke with Declan Nerney on the phone today, he was on tour in Scotland with his band. I will be doing an interview with him for next month's column. Declan is one of Ireland's finest singer / musicians / songwriter and an Irish treasure.

As always be good to one another and a very happy Thanksgiving,
Joe

'Louisburgh to Doolough'

(Pine Ridge To Wounded Knee)

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V1

There's a sacred walk in Ireland from Louisburgh to Doolough
In memory of the perished who fell there long ago
Six hundred starving people, women, men and children
Less than half returned from that mansion to their homes

Chorus

Fifteen miles from Louisburgh to Doolough
Fifteen miles there and back again
On that February day in eighteen forty nine
Three hundred souls were lost there in the glen

V2

She came all the way from the Pine Ridge reservation
To walk the sacred walk of Irish suffering and pain
Her name was JoAnn Tall from the tribe of the 'Lakota'
She knew both our peoples had suffered much the same

Chorus

Fifteen miles from Louisburgh to Doolough
5 miles from Pine Ridge to Wounded Knee
In the year of 1890, December twenty nine
Three hundred souls were lost there by the creek

V3

Before departing Ireland she stopped in County Cavan
Where a man named Philip Sheridan was born
She stood among the rubble of is home of long ago
And forgave him for his savagery and scorn

Chorus

Fifteen miles from Louisburgh to Doolough
5 miles from Pine Ridge to Wounded Knee
In the year of 1890, December twenty nine
Three hundred souls were lost there by the creek

Bridge

So don't forget to smile you politicians
Once a year when the cameras in your face
All you're really after is your picture in the paper
So go back to your mansions in disgrace
Go back to your mansions in disgrace

Chorus

Fifteen miles from Louisburgh to Doolough
5 miles from Pine Ridge to Wounded Knee
In the year of 1890 and the year of 89
Six hundred souls were lost because of greed

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View From Ireland

By Maurice Fitzpatrick



Great Irish Reportage

Ireland has a greater than average proportion of newspaper readers, ranking in the top 30 countries in the world. Walking down the street or sidling up to a bar with a newspaper under one's elbow is a mark of culture and discernment. Yet there is an Irish penchant to dismiss newspapers with the same avidity with which they are read: "there is never anything in this", "I don't know why I bother with this rag". Then there is the endearing newspaper reader who since the particular paper published such and such a story "would never read that again", or the contemptuous public affairs commentator who "only

reads it because I am professionally obliged". The same people will be found outside a newsagent shuffling to keep warm on a winter's morning in advance of the delivery of the dailies and will deeply envy the late night television presenters who get to hold the following day's newspapers on the eve of their publication. Whether the pose against it is dignified or feigned, there is no denying the hunger in Ireland for solid reportage, and John Horgan has done us all a favour by compiling a volume, *Great Irish Reportage*, to attempt to satiate the insatiable.

There are many surprises in this book. Former editor of *The Irish Times*, R.M. Smyllie, in an extended travel piece in 1936 on Hitler's country getaway

in Bavaria, writes lovingly of 'The Fuehrer's Unpretentious Villa'. While he voices misgivings about Hitler's politics, they do not obfuscate a thorough appreciation of the landscape, the customs and manner of the people of Obersalzberg, and of Hitler's taste in locations.

Smyllie cut an unusual figure at the Times: having dictated the day's editorial in Gregorian chant, Smyllie would repair to the pub where he was easily spotted for one distinctive feature of apparel. On her deathbed Smyllie's mother made him vow never to touch another glass of whiskey. He agreed and spent the rest of his life drinking his balls of malt while wearing a white glove.

Smyllie was the editor who first gave Myles na gCopaleen a slot as a columnist. For all the pathos associated with the way na gCopaleen's life developed, still a dimple buttons the cheek to remember that Ireland's greatest journalist opened his publishing career for *The Bell* with the sentence: "In the last ten years there has been a marked change in the decor of boozing in Dublin." No better man to have observed it.

An encounter between the UK's diplomatic representative to Ireland during WWII and the then Taoiseach, Éamon De Valera, provides a surprising source of comedy in this book. John Maffey, who had the unen-

viable task of trying to persuade De Valera of something, relates the substance of the exchange almost as a dramatic dialogue. The conversation, conducted in classical diplomatic fashion, centres on the use of language: whether "representative" can be admissible to refer to a British emissary. On his way out, to ensure that the road would rise to meet Maffey, De Valera points at the Northern part of Ireland on the map and states "that is the real source of all our trouble".

Louis MacNeice covers the President JFK 1963 visit to his ancestral sod with characteristic irreverence. MacNeice's inability to keep up with the White House entourage may have been attributable to his choice of Brendan Behan's brother as his running mate. Yet MacNeice manages to capture something of the awe that the first visit of a sitting US president on Irish soil inspired. MacNeice also registers the wonder of JFK being chopped around at a time when helicopters to most Irish people were more commonly associated with Leonardo da Vinci's notebooks.

A famous article by Conor Cruise O'Brien on 'GUBU', a disparaging acronym for the first government led by Haughey, has not aged well: too much of the Cruiser's sneer and, beneath it, the sour grapes of a politician ousted by Haughey. In a book such as this, Haughey's legacy

deserved a broader focus. By contrast, Con Houlihan is timeless in his creating a verbal opera from Croke Park, describing how Kerry football greats (Eoin 'The Bomber' Liston, Jack O'Shea) repulse Dublin's onslaught.

Olivia O'Leary, who also contributes a Foreword to this volume, gleans an Argentinian point of view on the Falklands invasion. O'Leary wrote for *The Irish Times* while Haughey was Taoiseach—he had made a spectacular stir by backing the Argentinian invasion, embarrassing his diplomats in the year in which Ireland held a seat on the UN Security Council. O'Leary brings a very Irish view on the conflict just as some on Buenos Aires streets challenge her to defend the Irish for their timidity in dealing with Britain.

Cocking her ear as she meanders through the streets of Buenos Aires, O'Leary bears witness to the machismo that animates the war with Britain, and to the rapidly shifting sands of the Galtieri government's policy. The British, not blameless for the contested ownership of the windswept irrelevancies, inflated news sheets so full of patriotic rhetoric that they might have burst open. Witness, for instance, the British ambassador to Argentina whose parting shot as he withdrew from the embassy in Buenos Aires under the cover of the Swiss guard: "They've got to learn that they can't treat a major power like this". What bearing that comment had on Britain is not elaborated. The final word on the British-Argentinian face-off over the Falklands should rest with the Argentinian visionary, Jorge Luis Borges: "Two bald men fighting over a comb".

By the late 1970s and early 1980s Irish journalism underwent an enormous change and began to relentlessly challenge orthodoxies of reportage, finding new fora in which to do so. I will return to great Irish reportage in my next column.

Great Irish Reportage edited by John Horgan is published by Penguin Ireland

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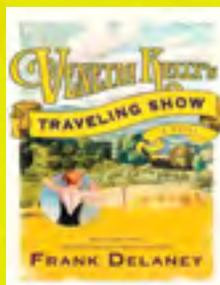
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A Word With Monsignor Boland

The Voice of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Chicago

Reverend Michael M. Boland

Administrator, President and CEO



We at Catholic Charities join all Chicagoans in profound concern about the rising violence in our city, and about the rising boldness and brazenness of perpetrators. Many of Catholic Charities' program sites are located in the very neighborhoods that witness these heinous acts, and we understand all too well the tremendous negative impact of violence, especially on children.

At our 99th Annual Meeting of the Board of Advisors last month, Catholic Charities released a white paper on the impact of violence on children (www.catholiccharities.net/publications). We developed the paper because while there is a great deal of public attention on the violent acts themselves, there is not much attention on the long-term impacts of the violence. It is important that government officials, community leaders, people of faith, and all citizens understand that when children witness or are victims of violence, it can deeply effect their long-term emotional, physical, and academic well-being—and perpetuate the cycle of violence. Understanding these effects is key to developing a comprehensive strategy to mitigate violence.

Catholic Charities' white paper specifically details numerous research studies showing that violence leaves no aspect of a child's life untouched. Violence is linked to impaired school performance and judgment, vulnerability, and high risk for substance abuse, victimization, and emotional struggles. Being exposed to violence as a stressor has been linked to chronic health conditions like heart disease, cancer, asthma, and stroke. Exposure to violence is also tied to mental health problems, like post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, and depression. Additionally, as violence exposure increases, young people can become "desensitized" and emotionally numb to vicious acts.

Witnessing or experiencing violence has also been linked to future involvement in crime. Multiple studies have found that justice-involved youth have experienced significantly higher rates of trauma than youth not involved in the justice system, with an estimated 70-96% of justice-involved youth having experienced at least one traumatic event.

While these studies are frightening, they also provide clear paths for intervention. Any strategy to combat community violence must include a plan to help children positively cope with their experiences, and provide alternatives to life on the streets. And because violence breeds in poor communities where there is a lack of resources and no hope for the future, preventing violence must also go hand in hand with strategies to lift people out of poverty.

Catholic Charities' white paper makes numerous recommendations for mitigating the effects of violence on children, and improving the quality of human life in desperate areas. In addition to enhancing law enforcement and creating partnerships among all community stakeholders, an effective anti-violence strategy should include greater investments in mental and behavioral health services, such as trauma-informed therapy, which teaches youths and their families strategies for coping with negative experiences so they do not have a detrimental impact on future behavior and health; summer and after-school programs that keep youths away from violent activities and provide positive experiences that broaden their perspectives and show another path; vocational training, apprenticeships, job training, and educational opportunities to help youths and adults gain employment and break the cycle of intergenerational poverty; effective early childhood education programs that prepare children for success in school and reduce the chances for drop-outs; crisis-intervention and post-violent response teams that quickly foster healthy responses to violent traumas and re-stabilize communities to reduce retaliation

reactions; and restorative justice programs that strive to change violent patterns in communities.

Taking steps to reduce the impact of community violence on children, and helping to lift their families out of poverty, must be a part of any comprehensive anti-violence plan. As we bring specialized help to troubled areas, we can begin to heal deep-seated wounds and bring the hope of peace and a brighter future to our brothers and sisters in great need.

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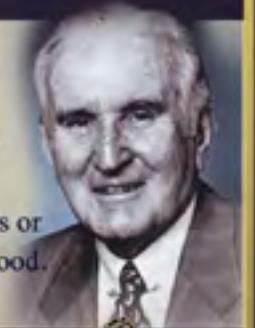
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